

64

lieu of such party.

- (2) When a relation, servant, dependant or friend appears in lieu of a party, he shall be furnished by such party with a written authority defining the extent to which he is empowered to act.

90. A Village Judicial Council may, from time to time, adjourn the hearing of any case or suit if such adjournment is, in its opinion, unavoidable or necessary for a just and equitable decision of the case or suit.

91.(1) If the complainant or plaintiff fails to appear after having been informed of the time and place fixed for the hearing, the Village Judicial Council may hear and decide the case or suit in his absence.

(2) A Village Judicial Council may hear and decide a case or suit in the absence of the accused of the defendant, if a summons has been served upon him, in the manner herein before prescribed:

Provided that no sentence shall be passed by a Village Judicial Council on any accused unless he has appeared either in person or by a representative, before the Village Judicial Council and the substance of his statement has been recorded in the prescribed register.

(3) If after the service of summons upon him, an accused fails to appear either in person or by a representative, the Village Judicial Council may apply to the Sessions Judge who shall compel the accused to appear in person or by his representative before the Village Judicial Council as if he were a Court trying the case.

(4) where an accused person has, under sub-section (3) been compelled to appear before a Village Judicial Council, the Village Judicial Council shall forthwith take his statement and thereafter his attendance at the hearing of the case shall not be compulsory.