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GUYANA

REGULATIONS

MADE UNDER

THE GUYANA PANDITS' COUNCIL (INCORPORATION)
ACT, 1967 (No. 13 of 1967)

UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE GUYANA PANDITS' COUNCIL (INCORPORATION) ACT, 1967, THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GUYANA PANDITS' COUNCIL WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTER CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR EDUCATION:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Guyana Pandits' Council Regulations, 1968. Citation
2. In these Regulations — Interpretation.
 - “the Act” means the Guyana Pandits' Council (Incorporation) Act, 1967:
 - “the Board” means the Board of Examiners appointed under subsection (1) of section 13 of the Act.
3. Examinations for certificates of competency under section 14 of the Act shall be held in three parts, that is to say, elementary, intermediate and final examinations in the principles of Shri Sanatan Dharma and the practice of Panditai. Examinations to be in parts.
- 4.(1) Such examinations shall be held in June and December each year and shall comprise examinations in respect of such syllabuses of subjects for the said parts, respectively, as shall from time to time, be issued by the Board. Syllabuses and courses
- (2) The examination in each part referred to in regulation 3 of these Regulations shall be conducted pursuant to such course of not less than one year's training at the College of the Council or at an institution approved by the Executive Committee as the Board may, from time to time, designate; and no person shall —
 - (a) be examined in any part which, in order of such reference as aforesaid, succeeds any other part, unless he has previously passed the examination in such other part to the satisfaction of the Board or
 - (b) be awarded any such certificate of competency as aforesaid unless he has passed his examination in the final part to the Board's satisfaction, including their satisfaction as to his ability to preach the Shri Sanatan Dharma

and perform the functions of a Pandit and as to his fitness to hold a certificate of competency:

Provided that, if the Board is satisfied, upon the application of any person, that he has been lawfully performing any of the functions of a pandit for such time and in such manner as to justify his exemption from any such examination, other than the final examination, the Board may grant him such exemption.

Examination
fee.

5. Every candidate shall pay a fee of five dollars for his examination in each part aforesaid.

Registration
of Pandits.

6.(1) The Secretary of the Executive Committee shall keep a register in which he shall —

- (a) enter the full name and address of every person who —
 - (i) is awarded a certificate under subsection (1) of section 14 of the Act; or
 - (ii) upon his application, satisfies the Secretary that he is a person of good character, referred to in subsection (4) of the said section, and was practising as a Pandit at the commencement of the Act;
- (b) indicate, in the case of every such entry, whether it is made upon any such award or application as aforesaid, and
- (c) enter such other particulars of the qualification of every person registered under this paragraph as the Executive Committee may direct.

(2) Every person registered under the preceding paragraph may apply to the said Secretary for a Certificate of his registration, which shall be issued under the seal of the Executive Committee.

(3) An applicant under sub-paragraph (a) (ii) of paragraph (1) of this Regulation who is aggrieved by reason of his application not being granted may appeal to the Committee constituted under the next following regulation.

Registration
Committee.

7.(1) There shall be a Pandits Registration Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) consisting of twelve Pandits, to which the Executive Committee shall appoint three representative members for each county of Guyana and of which the Dharmacharya of the Council and the President and Secretary of the Executive Committee shall be *ex officio* members.

(2) The Dharmacharya of the Council and the President of the Executive Committee shall be the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, respectively, of the Committee. In the event of there being no Chairman or Deputy Chairman present at any meeting of the Committee, any member thereof may be elected by the Committee to perform the functions of Chairman at such meeting.

(3) The Committee may grant to any representative member leave of absence, whether on the ground of illness or for any other cause the Committee deems sufficient, and shall cause notice of every

such grant to be given to the Executive Committee, which may appoint a Pandit to act as a representative member in place of the member on leave of absence.

(4) A representative member who fails to attend four consecutive meetings of the Committee, or departs from Guyana, without the leave of the Committee shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Committee, notwithstanding that the term, if any, for which he may (without prejudice to paragraphs (6) and (7) of this regulation) have been appointed is unexpired.

(5) The Secretary of the Executive Committee shall perform the duties of Secretary to the Committee and may depute the Assistant Secretary of the Executive Committee to perform such duties at any time.

(6) Any representative member may resign by notice in writing delivered to the Secretary, who shall notify both Committees mentioned in the preceding paragraph of such resignation.

(7) The Executive Committee may revoke the appointment of any representative member.

(8) Six members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Committee.

(9) Subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Committee may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or the absence of any member.

(10) Any question for the decision of the Committee shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members of the Committee present and voting at any meeting thereof at which a quorum is present.

(11) The Committee may, subject to the provisions of these Regulations and to any general or special directions of the Executive Committee, regulate its own procedure.

8(1) A Yajman or other person aggrieved may make a complaint in writing to the Committee of any misconduct by a Pandit who is registered under these Regulations. Cancellation
and suspension
of
registration

(2) Every such complaint shall be made to the Committee by delivering it to the said Secretary with the allegations therein confirmed by a statutory declaration and the Secretary shall notify the Executive Committee thereof.

(3) If, in the opinion of the Committee, no *prima facie* case of misconduct by the Pandit is disclosed upon any complaint, the Committee may dismiss it without hearing the Pandit:

Provided that before so doing, the Committee shall notify the complainant of a time at which he may appear before it and show cause why the complaint should not be dismissed.

(4) Where, in the opinion of the Committee, a *prima facie* case of misconduct by the Pandit is disclosed as aforesaid, the Committee shall fix a time for the hearing of the complaint, notice whereof shall be given by the Secretary to the Pandit and the complainant.

(5) At the hearing of any complaint of misconduct against a Pandit, the Committee shall permit the complainant and the Pandit to appear before it and be heard.

(6) If the Committee is satisfied upon hearing any complaint that a case of misconduct has been established against the Pandit, the Committee may suspend for such period as they think fit, or direct the Secretary to cancel, the Pandit's registration and the Secretary shall make the appropriate entry in, or deletion from, the register established under the Regulations.

(7) Every decision of the Committee under paragraph (3) or (6) of this regulation shall be reported in writing under the hand of the Chairman, or other member performing his functions under paragraph (2) of the preceding regulation, to the Executive Committee.

Appeals.

9. (1) Any Pandit dissatisfied with the decision of the Committee on any complaint against him may appeal therefrom in writing, setting out the grounds of his appeal, to the Executive Committee, which may, after hearing the appeal, affirm or reverse such decision or substitute therefor any decision which was within the competence of the Committee.

(2) The Executive Committee shall fix a time for the hearing of the appeal, notice whereof shall be given by the Secretary of the Executive Committee to the appellant and the complainant.

(3) At the hearing of any appeal, the Executive Committee shall permit the appellant and the complainant to appear before it and be heard.

(4) Subject to the provisions of these Regulations, the Executive Committee may regulate its own procedure on the hearing of an appeal.

Offence.

10. (1) A person who is not registered under these Regulations, or whose registration is cancelled or suspended as aforesaid, shall not, whether directly or by implication, hold himself out or otherwise represent himself as being so registered.

(2) Everyone who contravenes the provisions of the preceding paragraph shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Made by the Executive Committee this 13th day of March, 1968.

PANDIT RAM NARINE SHARMA,
Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Approved this 13th day of March, 1968.

NEVILLE J. BISSEMBER,
Minister of Education.