

**Chapter - IV****Election of President and Vice-President of the Council under sub-section (1) of section 4****23. Election of President -**

1. The President of the Council shall be elected by the members of the Council present at the time of election from amongst themselves.
2. The date, time and place of election shall be intimated, to each of the members of the Council by the nominated President of the Council.<sup>1</sup>
3. Any member present shall be entitled to propose the name of any other member present for election as the President and that proposal shall be required to be seconded by a member other than the proposer or the one whose name is proposed :  
Provided that one member shall be entitled to propose or second only one name.
4. Any candidate may withdraw his candidature before the actual election.
5. If the name of only one candidate is duly proposed and seconded, the Returning Officer shall forthwith declare in Form No.VIII such candidate as duly elected.
6. If the number of candidates duly proposed and seconded exceeds one, an election shall be held by secret ballot.
7. Before the commencement of the election, the Returning Officer shall invite the members of the Council to inspect the ballot box, in case they like to do so, and he shall then lock the box.
8. At the time of actual election, the members present in the meeting shall, one by one, sign against their names in the list containing the names of all the members in alphabetical order and placed along side the ballot box.
9. After a member has signed his name in the said list, he shall be given a ballot paper in Form No. VII which he shall drop into the ballot box after affixing there on a cross (X) mark against the name of the candidate of his choice.
10. As soon as the members present and wishing to exercise the right to vote have done so, the Returning Officer shall open the ballot box and take out from it all the ballot papers, examine them and reject as invalid such of them:
  - a. on which the vote has been given in favour of more than one candidate; or
  - b. on which vote mark is placed in such a manner as to make it doubtful as to which candidate the vote has been given.
11. The Returning Officer shall then proceed to arrange the valid votes according to the candidates in whose favour they have cast and count them separately for each.
12. After the counting is over, the Returning Officer shall make an announcement in the meeting about the votes secured by each of the candidates and the Returning Officer shall also declare in Form No. VIII the candidate securing the largest number of valid votes as duly elected to be the President of the Council.
13. In the event of two or more candidates securing the same number of votes and that number being more than the number of votes secured by any candidate other than the two or more securing the same number of votes, the determination as between such candidates shall be by draw of lots and the candidate on whom the lot falls, shall be declared elected.

- 24. Election of Vice-President -** For the election of the Vice-President, the provisions of rule 23 shall apply as if for the expressions "President" and "Nominated President" occurring therein, the expressions "Vice-President and "Elected President" were respectively substituted.