

**THE AZAD JAMMU & KASHMIR LOCAL COUNCILS
(ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE) RULES, 1961**

(Passed under Government Order No. 41/61 Dated 19-1-1961)

In exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 20, 21, 24 and 86 of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Basic Democracies Act, 1960, the Azad Government of the State of Jammu and Kashmir is pleased to make the following rules, namely :-

1. **Short title and commencement:-** (1) These rules may be called the Azad Jammu, and Kashmir Local Councils (Assumption of Office) Rules, 1961.

(2) They shall come into force at once.
2. **Interpretation:-** In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, 'Presiding Officer' means the officer authorised to preside at the first meeting of a Local Council.
3. **Notification of members:-** Every election, nomination, resignation or removal of a member of a local council shall be notified by the Controlling Authority in the Official Gazette.
4. **Date for the Assumption of Office:-** As soon as may be, after the notification of the names of the members of a Local Council, the Controlling Authority shall appoint a date for the assumption of office by the local council :

Provided that the date so appointed shall not be later than thirty days from the date on which the names of the members are notified.

5. **Notice for the first meeting:-** The Controlling Authority shall at three clear days' notice in the case of a Union Council, Union Committees or Town Committee and seven clear days' notice in the case of other local councils, addressed to all members of the local council convene, the first meeting on the date appointed under rule 4.
6. **Presiding Officer:-** The first meeting of a local council shall be presided over by:
 - (a) the Collector in the case of a District Council ;

- (b) the Tensil Officer in the case of a Tehsii Council ; and
- (c) such gazetted officer as may be appointed by the Controlling Authority in this behalf in the case of a Union Council, Union Committee or Town Committee.

7. **Oath of Office:-** (1) At the first meeting of a District Council and a Tehsil Council, the Presiding Officer shall take the oath of office in the form specified in the Schedule, and hereafter administer the oath of office to all members present at the meeting turn by turn.
- (2) At the first meeting of a Union Council, Union Committee or Town Committee, the Presiding officer shall administer the oath of office in the form specified in the Schedule to the members, turn by turn.
- (3) When the oath of office has been taken by all members present at the meeting the local council shall be deemed to have assumed office.
- (4) If any member of a Local Council is unable to be present at the first meeting of the local council, the Chairman of the local council, at a subsequent meeting of the local council, shall administer the oath of office to such member. When such member has taken the oath, he shall be deemed to have taken his seat on the local council.

SCHEDULE

I ,..... having been elected/appointed a member of do solemnly affirm/take an oath that will bear true faith and allegiance to the Azad Government of the Stats of Jammu and Kashmir and that will faithfully perform the duties of my office to the best of my ability, knowledge and judgment.

Dated the 19 Member.
