



THE SIND CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES ACT, 1925.



CONTENTS

PREAMBLE.

SECTIONS.

1. Short title.
2. Extent.
3. Definitions.

CHAPTER I. PRELIMINARY.

CHAPTER II. REGISTRATION.

4. The Registrar.
- 4A. Power of Registrar to issue search warrant.
5. Societies which may be registered.
6. Restrictions on interest of member of society with limited liability and a share capital.
7. Conditions of registration.
8. Power of Registrar to decide certain questions.
9. Application for registration.
10. Registration.
11. Evidence of registration.
12. Annual general meeting.
13. Special general meetings.
14. Change of name : its effect.
15. Amalgamation or transfer of societies.
16. Amendment of the bye-laws of a society.

CHAPTER III.
RIGHTS AND LIABILITES OF MEMBERS.

17. No rights of membership to be exercised till due payments are made.
- 17A. Special provisions for membership of Resource Societies.
18. Votes of members.
- 18A. Disqualification for being, and for voting at an election of Director, Manager or other officer of the society.
19. Restrictions on transfer of share or interest.

CHAPTER IV.

DUTIES OF SOCIETIES.

20. Address of societies.
- 20A. Provision of information.
- 20B. Provision of information by the Registrar.
21. Copy of Act, etc., to be open to inspection.
- 21A. Updating of records of societies.
22. Audit.
- 22A. Power of Registrar to exercise power under section 50A in the course of an audit.

CHAPTER V.

PRIVILEGES OF SOCIETIES.

23. Societies to be bodies corporate.
24. Prior claim of society.
25. Charge and set-off in respect of shares or interest of member.
26. Shares or interest not liable to attachment.
27. Transfer of interest on death of member.
28. Liability of past member.
29. Liability of the estates of deceased members.
30. Register of members.
31. Admissibility of copy of entry as evidence.
32. Exemption from compulsory registration of instruments relating to shares [etc.] of society.
33. Power to exempt from income-tax, stamp-duty, registration and court fees.
- 33A. Provincial Government may give loans or guarantee interest [or return].

CHAPTER VI.
PROPERTY AND FUNDS OF SOCIETIES.

34. Restrictions on loans.
- 34A. Prohibition on issuance of bearer shares, warrants, etc.
35. Restrictions in borrowing.
36. Restrictions on other transactions with non-members.
37. Investment of funds.
38. Restrictions on dividend.

- 39. Reserve Fund.
- 40. Restrictions on distribution of profits.
- 41. Provident Fund.
- 42. Contribution to charitable purpose.

CHAPTER VII.

INSPECITON OF AFFAIRS.

- 43. Inquiry by Registrar.
- 44. Inspection of books of indebted society.
- 44A. Inspection of books by financing bank.
- 44B. Power of Registrar to exercise powers under section 50A in the course of an inquiry or inspection.
- 45. Costs of inquiry.
- 46. Recovery of costs.

CHAPTER VIII.

LIQUIDATION AND ARBITRATION.

- 47. Winding up.
- 48. Society may be wound up if membership is reduced.
- 49. Effect of cancellation of registration.
- 49A. Records of the society whose registration has been cancelled.
- 50. Powers of a liquidator.
- 50A. Power of Registrar to assess damage against delinquent promoters, etc.
- 51. Bar of suit in winding up and dissolution matters.
- 52. Disposal of surplus assets.
- 53. Surplus assets of housing society.
- 54. Arbitration.
- 54A. Registrar's power to set aside the award and order the dispute to be referred back to arbitration.
- 55. Attachment before award.
- 56. Appeal against award of arbitrator.
- 57. Finality of awards in certain orders.
- 58. Powers to enforce attendance.
- 59. Money how recovered.
- 59A. Transfer of property which cannot be sold.

CHAPTER VIII-A.

DISTRAINT.

- 59B. Definitions.
- 59C. Cases in which application for distraint may be made.
- 59D. Form of application.
- 59E. Procedure on receipt of application.
- 59F. Execution of order for distraint.
- 59G. Service of notice of demand and the grounds of distraint.
- 59H. Right to reap etc., produce.

- 59I. Sale proclamation to be issued unless demand is satisfied.
- 59J. Place of sale.
- 59K. Provisions relating to growing crops.
- 59L. Manner of sale.
- 59M. Postponement of sale.
- 59N. Payment of purchase money.
- 59O. Certificate be given to the purchaser.
- 59P. Proceeds of sale how to be applied.
- 59Q. Certain person may not purchase.
- 59R. Procedure where demand is paid before the sale.
- 59S. Distraint of property which is under attachment.
- 59T. Suit for compensation for wrongful distraint and appeals.
- 59U. Savings.

CHAPTER IX.

OFFENCES.

- 60. Offences
 - Default by a society, officer or member.
 - Wilful neglect or default by a society, etc.
 - Wilful furnishing of false information.
 - Disobedience of summons, requisition or order.
- 61. Penalty for offences not otherwise provided for.
- 61A. Penalty for offences committed under clause (e) of section 60.
- 62. Prohibition of the use of the word "co-operative".
- 63. Cognizance of offences.

CHAPTER X.

APPEALS AND REVISION.

- 64. Appeals.
- 64A. Power of Provincial Government and the Registrar to call for proceedings of Subordinate Officers and to pass orders thereon.
- 64AA. Finality of orders of Provincial Government.

CHAPTER XI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- 65. Recovery of sums due to Government.
- 65A. Power to deduct installment of debt from salaries of members.
- 65B. Officers of societies to be public servants.
- 66. Power to exempt societies from conditions as to registration.
- 67. Power to exempt societies from provisions of Act.
- 68. Companies Act not to apply.
- 69. Branches, etc., of societies outside the Province.
- 70. Notice necessary in suits.

- 70A. Bar of Jurisdiction.
- 71. Rules.
- 72. Saving of existing Societies.[Omitted.]
- 72A. Construction of references to Co-operative Societies Act, 1912 in enactments.
- 72B. [Repealed].
- 73. [Repealed].

SCHEDULE. [Repealed].



THE PAKISTAN CODE

(SIND ACT NO. VII OF 1925)¹
THE SIND CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES ACT, 1925

[4th December, 1925]

An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to co-operative societies in ²[the Province of Sind].

WHEREAS it is expedient further to facilitate the formation and working of co-operative societies for the promotion of thrift, self-help and mutual aid among agriculturists and other persons with common economic needs so as to bring about better living, better business and better methods of production and for that purpose to consolidate and amend the law relating to co-operative societies in ²[the Province of Sind] ; and whereas the previous sanction of the Governor-General required by sub-section (3) of section 80-A of the Government of India Act has been obtained for the passing of this Act : It is hereby enacted as follows :-

³[CHAPTER I.
PRELIMINARY.]

1. **Short title.** This Act may be called ⁴[the Sind Co-operative Societies Act, 1925].
2. **Extent.** This Act extends to the whole of ⁵[the Province of ⁶[Sind]].
3. **Definitions.** In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,
 - ⁷[(a) “beneficial owner” means a natural person who ultimately owns or controls a society, whether directly or indirectly or have ownership thereof by exercising effective control in that society through other means as may be prescribed.]
 - ⁷[(aa) “by-laws” means by-laws registered under this Act and for the time being in force and includes a registered amendment of such by-laws ;
 - (b) “Committee” means the Committee of Management or other directing body to whom the management of the affairs of a Society is entrusted ;

¹For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see B. G.G., 1924, Part V, pp. 46-48; for Report of Select Committee, see *ibid*, 1924, Part V, pp. 108—13 and *ibid*, 1925, Part V, pp. 68-70; and for Proceedings in Council, see Bombay Legislative Council Debates, 1924 and 1925, Vols. XII, XIII, and XV.

²The original words “Presidency of Bombay” have successively been amended” by Sind (adapts) of Laws Order, 1975 to read as above.

³Subs. by Sind Ordinance 5 of 1955, s.7, Sch. III (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for “Preliminary”.

⁴Subs. for “the Co-operative Societies Act, 1925” by the Sind Adaptation of Laws Order, 1975.

⁵Subs. by w.p.ord. VII of 1965 2-4 (w.e.f. 30.04.1965).

⁶Subs. by Sind (adapt.) of laws order, 1975.

⁷Renumb. And ins. by the Cooperative Societies (amendment) Act, 2020, (XXVIII of 2020),s.2 (only for ICT)

- ¹[(ba) “competent authority” means the regulators, oversight bodies for Statutory Regulatory Bodies (SRBs), the financial monitoring unit of the State Bank of Pakistan and the investigating or prosecuting agencies as defined in the Anti Money Laundering Act, 2010 (VII of 2010) ; and]
- ²[(bb) “Financing Bank” means a society the main object of which is to make loans in cash or in kind to any other society or to an agriculturist who is not a member of a society or to both societies and such agriculturists ;]
- ³[(bbb) “loan” includes finance as defined in the Banking Tribunals Ordinance, 1984, and all cognate expressions shall be construed accordingly ;]
- (c) “Member” includes a person joining in the application for the registration of a society or a person admitted to membership after registration in accordance with the rules and by-laws applicable to such society ;
- (d) “Officer” includes a chairman, secretary, treasurer, member of committee or other person empowered under the rules or under the by-laws of a society to give directions in regard to the business of such society ;
- ¹[(da) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act”.]
- (e) “Society” means a society registered or deemed to be registered under this Act;
- (f) “Registrar” means a person appointed to perform the duties of a Registrar of Co-operative Societies under this Act ;
- (g) “Rules” means rules made under this Act ;
- (h) (1) a “Resource society” means a society formed with the object of obtaining for its members the credit, goods or services required by them ;
- (2) a “Producers’ society” means a society formed with the object of producing and disposing of goods as the collective property of its members and includes a society formed with the object of the collective disposal of the labour of the members of such society;
- (3) a “Consumers’ society” means a society formed with the object of obtaining and distributing goods to or of performing services for its members, as well as to other consumers and of dividing among its members and customers in a proportion prescribed by the rules or by the bye-laws of such society, the profits accruing from such supply and distribution;
- (4) a “Housing society” means a society formed with the object of providing its members with dwelling houses on conditions to be determined by its by-laws;
- (5) a “General society” means a society not falling under any of the four classes above mentioned.

The Registrar shall classify all societies under one or other of the above heads and his decision shall be final.

¹ins. by the Cooperative Societies (amendment) Act, 2020, (XXVIII of 2020),s.2 (only for ICT)

²Subs. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 2, for cl. (bb) which was ins. by Sind 16 of 1943,s.2.

³New clause (bbb) inserted by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984 s. 2 and sch.

A society formed with the object of facilitating the operations of any one of the above classes of societies shall be classified as a society of that class.

A list of all such societies, so classified shall be published annually in the ¹[*Official Gazette*].

²[CHAPTER II. REGISTRATION.]

4. The Registrar. ³[The Provincial Government] may appoint a person to be Registrar of Co-operative Societies for ⁴[the Province] or any portion of it, and may appoint a person or persons to assist such Registrar, and may, by general or special order, confer on any such person or persons all or any of the powers of a Registrar under this Act.

⁵[**4A. Power of Registrar to issue search warrant.**— (1) For the purpose of recovering any papers, documents or books of account belonging to a society, the Registrar may issue a search warrant and exercise all such powers with respect thereto as may be lawfully exercised by a magistrate under the provisions of Chapter VII of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and all such searches shall be made in accordance with the provisions of that Code.

(2) The powers under sub-section (I) shall not be exercised by the Registrar before serving a notice on the society and giving it a reasonable opportunity to produce such papers, documents or books of account as are specified in such notice.]

5. Societies which may be registered. Subject to the provisions hereinafter contained, a society which has as its object the promotion of the economic interests of its members in accordance with co-operative principles, or a society established with the object of facilitating the operations of such a society, may be registered under this Act with or without limited liability.

Provided that, unless ³[the Provincial Government] by general or special order otherwise directs—

- (1) the liability of a society of which a member is a society shall be limited ;

¹Subs. by the A.O., 1937, for “B.G.G.”

²Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7, Sch. III, (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947) for “Registration.”

³Subs. by the A. O., 1937, for “Government.”

⁴Subs. by w.p.ord. vii of 1965, s. 5 (w.e.f. 30.4.1965).

⁵Section 4-A ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s.3.

- (2) the liability of a society of which the primary object is the creation of funds to be lent to its members, and of which the majority of the members are agriculturists and of which no member is a registered society shall be unlimited and the members of such a society shall, on its liquidation, be jointly and severally liable for and in respect of all obligations of such a society :

Provided further that when the question whether the liability of a society is limited or unlimited has once been decided by the Registrar at the time of registration his decision shall be final.

6. Restrictions on interest of member of society with limited liability and a share capital.

Where the liability of the members of a society is limited by shares, no member other than a society shall—

- (a) hold more than such portion of the share capital of the society, subject to a maximum of one-fifth, as may be prescribed by the rules; or
- (b) have or claim any interest in the shares of the society exceeding three thousand rupees : provided that if the society is a housing society a member may have or claim an interest in the shares of the society not exceeding Rs. 10,000.

7 Conditions of Registration.—(1) No society, other than a society of which a member is a society, shall be registered under this Act, which does not consist of at least ¹[thirty] persons above the age of eighteen years and, where the object of the society is the creation of funds to be lent to its members, unless such persons—

- (a) reside in the same town or village or in the same group of villages; or
- (b) save where the Registrar otherwise directs, are members of the same tribe, class, caste or occupation.

²[(2) No society formed after the commencement of the ³[Sind] Co-operative Societies (⁴***Amendment) Act, 1943 for the purpose of carrying on business as a banking society or which uses as part of its name under which it proposes to carry on business the word ‘bank’ or ‘banking’ shall be registered under this Act unless its paid- up share capital amounts to rupees 20,000 or more ;

Explanation.— For the purpose of this section the expression ‘banking society’ means a society which accepts deposits of money on current account of otherwise subject to withdrawal by cheque, draft or order.]

¹Subs. by Sind Act no. 6 of 1977, s. 2.

²Subs section (2) and explanation ins. by Sind 16 of 1943. S.4.

³Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), S. 3(i) (w. e. f. 30th May, 1951) for “Bombay”.

⁴The word “Sind” omitted ibid, s. 3 (iii) (b) (w.e.f. 30th May, 1951).

¹[(3)] The word “limited” shall be the last word in the name of every society with limited liability registered under this Act.

8. Power of Registrar to decide certain questions. When any question arises ²[whether for the purposes of this Act] a person is an agriculturist or a non-agriculturist, or whether any person is resident in a town or village or group of villages, or whether two or more villages shall be considered to form a group, or whether any person belongs to any particular tribe, class, caste or occupation, the question shall be decided by the Registrar, whose decision shall be final.

9. Application for registration. (1) For purposes of registration an application to register shall be made to the Registrar.

(2) The application shall be signed—

- (a) in the case of a society of which no member is a society, by at least ³[thirty] persons qualified in accordance with the requirements of section 7, sub-section (1); ⁴[*]
- (b) in the case of a society of which a member is a society by a duly authorised person on behalf of every such society and where all the members of the society are not societies, by ten other members or, when there are less than ten other members, by all of them ⁴[;]
- ⁴[(c) providing information, as may be prescribed, about its members beneficial owners, running affairs of the society, to the Registrar; and
- (d) if the society is run by non-members i.e. officers or employees, information in prescribed manner shall be provided regarding these employees and officers and the reasons for running the affairs by them.]

(3) The application shall be accompanied by a copy of the proposed by-laws of the society, and the person by whom or on whose behalf such application is made shall furnish such information in regard to the society as the Registrar may require.

10. Registration. If the Registrar is satisfied that a society has complied with the provisions of this Act and the rules and that its proposed by-laws are not contrary to this Act or to the rules, he may register the society and its by-laws.

11. Evidence of registration. A certificate of registration signed by the Registrar shall be conclusive evidence that the society therein mentioned is duly registered unless it is proved that the registration of the society has been cancelled.

¹The original sub-section (2) re-numbered as sub-section (3) by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 4.

²Subs. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 3, for “whether for the purpose of the information, or registration or continuance of a society under this Act”.

³Subs. by Sind Act no. 6 of 1977, s. 3.

⁴Omitted, Subs. and ins. by the Cooperative Societies (amendment) Act, 2020, (XXVIII of 2020),s.3 (only for ICT)

12. Annual general meeting. Every society shall within a period of three months after the date fixed for making up its accounts for the year under the rules for the time being in force call a general meeting of its members.

13. Special general meetings. A special general meeting may be called at any time by a majority of the committee and shall be called within one month—

- (1) on the requisition in writing of one-fifth of the members of the society, or
- (2) at the instance of the Registrar.

14. Change of name: its effect. A society may, by a resolution of a general meeting and with the approval of the Registrar, change its name : but such change shall not affect any right or obligation of the society, or of any of its members, or past members and any legal proceedings pending may be continued by or against the society under its new name.

15. Amalgamation or transfer of societies. (1) Any two or more societies may, with the approval of the Registrar by a resolution passed by a three-fourths majority of the members present at a special general meeting of each such society held for the purpose, amalgamate as a single society; Provided that each member has had clear fifteen days, written notice of the resolution and the date of the meeting. Such an amalgamation may be effected without a dissolution, or a division of the funds, of the amalgamating societies. The resolution of the societies concerned shall on such amalgamation be a sufficient conveyance to vest the assets and liabilities of the amalgamating societies in the amalgamated society.

(2) Any society may by a resolution passed in accordance with the procedure laid down in sub-section (1) transfer its assets and liabilities to any other society which is prepared to accept them :

Provided that when any such amalgamation or transfer of assets and liabilities involves the transfer of its liabilities by any society to any other society, it will not be made without giving three months' notice to the creditors of both or all such societies :

Provided further that if a creditor or creditors of any of the societies concerned objects or object to such amalgamation or transfer of assets and liabilities and gives or give written notice to that effect to the society or societies concerned one month before the date fixed for such amalgamation or transfer, the amalgamation or transfer shall not be made until the dues of such creditor or creditors have been satisfied.

16. Amendment of the by laws of a society. ¹[(1) No amendment of the bye-law of a society shall be valid until it is registered under this Act.]

(2) If the Registrar is satisfied that any amendment of the by-laws ¹[made by a society] is not contrary to this Act or to the rules, he may register the amendment.

¹Subs. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 5, for the original sub-section (1).

(3) When the Registrar registers an amendment of the by-laws of a society ¹[under sub-section (2)], he shall issue to the society a copy of the amendment certified by him, which shall be conclusive evidence that the same is duly registered.

²[CHAPTER III.

RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES OF MEMBERS.]

17. No rights of membership to be exercised till due payments are made. No person shall exercise the rights of a member of a society unless or until he has made such payment to the society in respect of membership, or acquired such interest in the society as may be prescribed by the rules or the by-laws of such society.

³**[17A. Special provisions for membership of Resource Societies.** ⁴[(1)] Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act and any other law for the time being in force—

- (i) every application made by any person for membership of an Agricultural Credit Society shall be accompanied by a declaration specifying the immovable property on which he agrees to have a charge created for the dues of the society; and no such person shall be admitted as a member or shall exercise rights of a member of such society unless he makes such declaration;
- (ii) any member of an Agricultural Credit Society may at any time make a declaration as in clause (i) regarding immovable property on which he agrees to have a charge created for the dues of the society of which he is a member ;
- (iii) a declaration made under clause (i) or (ii) may be varied at any time by a member with the consent of the society in favour of which charge is created ;
- (iv) no member of an Agricultural Credit Society so long as he continues to remain such member shall alienate the whole or any part of the property specified in the declaration made under clause (i) or (ii);
- (v) any alienation of any property specified in the declaration made under clause (i) or (ii) by such members shall be void;

¹Ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 5.

²Subs. by Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7 Sch. III (w.e.f 24th April, 1947), for "Rights and liabilities of member".

³S. 17-A ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 6.

⁴numbered. by the Cooperative Societies (amendment) Act, 2020, (XXVIII of 2020),s.4 (only for ICT)

- (vi) subject to the prior claim of ¹[Government] in respect of land revenue or any money recoverable as arrears of land revenue, there shall be a first charge in favour of the society on the property specified in the declaration under clause (i) or (ii) in respect of and to the extent of any debt or other outstanding demand owing by such member to the society;
- (vii) an entry regarding a charge on immoveable property created by a declaration under clause (i) or (ii) or any variation made therein under clause (iii) shall be made in the record of rights maintained under ²[the Sind Land Revenue Act, 1967, notwithstanding anything contained in the said Act].

Explanation.-For the purposes of this section an ‘Agricultural Credit Society’ means a Resource Society of which the Primary object is the creation of funds to be lent to its members and of which a majority of the members are agriculturists and of which no member is a registered society and the liability of which is limited.]

³[(2) Where a society is a member of another society, that society shall nominate any of its members to serve as a director of the society of which it is a member.

(3) The director of a society who is nominated in accordance with sub-section (2) must be natural person who shall provide such information to the society to which he is nominated, in such circumstances and manner, as may be prescribed.

(4) The Secretary of society shall keep an updated record of any nominated directors, as well as provide prescribed information of the nominated directors to the Registrar both annually and from time to time when changes occurs in the prescribed circumstances and manners.

(5) The Registrar shall keep an updated record of the nominated Directors of all societies in the prescribed circumstances and manner.

(6) Other than as set out in sub-section (1), no director shall nominate on his behalf a member of director to perform the membership rights on his behalf.]

18. Votes of members. (1) No member of any society shall have more than one vote in its affairs, provided that in the case of an equality of votes the chairman shall have a casting vote.

(2) A society which has invested any part of its funds in the shares of another society, may appoint one of its members to vote in the affairs of such other registered Society.

⁴[18A. Disqualification for being, and for voting at an election of Director, Manager or other officer of the society. A member of the Society to which the provisions of this section have been applied by the Provincial Government by notification in the Official Gazette shall be disqualified for being, and for voting at an election of, a Director, Manager or other officer of the Society—

- (a) if he has taken a loan from the Society which has been outstanding for six months or more after it has become payable and has not been re-paid up to the day immediately preceding the date of the election, or

¹Subs. by W.P.A.O, 1964, s. 2 and sch. Part IV(C) for “the Crown”. (w.e.f 8.6.1962)

²Subs. by Sind Act 17 of 1975, s. 3, Sch. II, for “Chapter XA of the (Sind) Land Revenue Code 1879, or the relevant provisions of any other Law relating to land revenue in force in the area notwithstanding anything contained in the said chapter.” (Subs. by Sind Act. 17 of 1975 + 2nd Sch).

³Ins. by the Cooperative Societies (amendment) Act, 2020, (XXVIII of 2020), s.4 (only for ICT)

⁴S. 18-A inserted by Sind 18 of 1941, s.2.

- (b) if he has taken a loan from the Society which is re-payable by instalments and the amount of three or more instalments has been outstanding for six months or more from the date on which the amount of the last instalment became payable and has not been re-paid up to the day immediately preceding the date of the election.

Explanation.- The date on which the loan or instalment becomes payable is the date specified in the bond or any other instrument in writing evidencing the loan but does not include any extension thereof.]

19. Restrictions on transfer of share or interest.—(1) The transfer or charge of the share or interest of a member in the capital of a society shall be subject to such conditions as to maximum holding as may be prescribed by this Act or by the rules.

(2) A member shall not transfer any share held by him or his interest in the capital or property of any of any society or any part thereof unless.

- (a) he has held such share or interest for not less than one year; and
(b) the transfer or charge is made to the society or to a member of the society or to a person whose application for membership has been accepted by the society.

¹[CHAPTER IV.

DUTIES OF SOCIETIES.]

20. Address of societies. Every society shall have an address registered in accordance with the rules, to which all notices and communications may be sent, and shall send notice in writing to the Registrar of any change in the said address within 30 days of such change.

²[**20A. Provision of information.**—(1) The Secretary of the society shall provide such information to the Registrar both annually and from time to time when changes occur, as may be prescribed.

(2) The secretary of the society shall provide to competent authorities at any time upon request prescribed information, including but no limited to beneficial owners, members, nominees of the members, officers, employees and managing committee of the society.

(3) The Registrar may at any time by his own or through a person authorized by him seek the prescribed information from the Secretary of the society.

20B. Provision of information by the Registrar.— The Registrar shall provide information to any competent authority upon their request in writing, regarding the members and beneficial owners, officers and employees of the society, assets or shares held by the members in the society, their addresses, nominees of the members, properties and financial condition of the society.]

¹Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s.7 Sch III (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for “Duties of Societies”.

²Ins. by the Cooperative Societies (amendment) Act, 2020, (XXVIII of 2020),s.5 (only for ICT)

21. Copy of Act, etc., to be open to inspection. Every society shall keep open to inspection at all reasonable times at the registered address of the society—

- (a) a copy of this Act,
- (b) a copy of the rules governing such society,
- (c) a copy of the by-laws of such society, and
- (d) a register of its members.

¹**[21A. Updating of records of societies.**— (1) Every society shall, in a prescribed manner, provide the information about its beneficial owners to the Registrar within three months of the commencement of the Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Act, 2020.

(2) The Registrar shall keep an up to date record as prescribed of all the beneficial owners, members, nominees of the members, directors, managing committee and employees of the societies.

(3) If a society fails to provide the information as required under sub-section (1), the Registrar shall, after affording the opportunity of being heard, cancel that society's registration.]

22. Audit. (1) The Registrar shall by himself or by some person authorized by him in writing by general or special order in this behalf audit the accounts of every society once at least in every year.

(2) The audit under sub-section (1) shall include an examination of overdue debts, if any, the verification of cash balance and securities, and a valuation of the assets and liabilities of the society.

(3) The Registrar or other person auditing the accounts of any society shall have free access to the books, accounts and vouchers of such society and shall be allowed to verify its cash balances and securities.

The Directors, Managers, and other officers of the society shall furnish to the Registrar or other person appointed to audit the accounts of a society all such information as to its transactions and working as the Registrar or such person may require.

(4) The Registrar and every other person appointed to audit the accounts of a society shall have power, when necessary .

- (i) to summon at the time of his audit any officer, agent, servant or member of the society who he has reason to believe can give valuable information in regard to any transaction of the society or the management of its affairs, or
- (ii) to require the production of any book or document relating to the affairs of any cash or securities belonging to the society by the officer, agent, servant or member in possession of such book, document, cash or securities.

²**[22A. Power of Registrar to exercise power under section 50A in the course of an audit.** Where, in the course of an audit under section 22 it appears to the Registrar that there exists any such ground as is specified in section 50A he may, of his own motion or on the application of the person authorized by him under section 22, exercise the powers specified in section 50A.]

¹Ins. by the Cooperative Societies (amendment) Act, 2020, (XXVIII of 2020),s.6 (only for ICT)

²Section 22A. ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 7.

¹[CHAPTER V.

PRIVILEGES OF SOCIETIES.]

23. Societies to be bodies corporate. The registration of a society shall render it a body corporate by the name under which it is registered, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and with power to hold property, to enter into contracts, to institute and defend suits and other legal proceedings and to do all things necessary for the purposes of its constitution.

24. Prior claim of society. Subject to any prior claim of ²[Government] in respect of land revenue or any money recoverable as land revenue or of a landlord in respect of rent or any money recoverable as rent,

- (a) any debt or outstanding demand owing to a society by any member or past member ³[or, in the case of a society authorized under sub-section (I) of section 34 to make loans to non-members by a non-member] shall be first charge (i) upon crops or other agricultural produce raised in whole or in part with a loan taken from the society by ⁴[such member, past member or non-member], and (ii) upon any cattle, fodder for cattle, agricultural or industrial implements or machinery, or raw materials for manufacture or workshops, godown or place of business, supplied to or purchased by ³[such member, past member or non-member] in whole or in part from any loan whether in money or goods given him by the society :

Provided that nothing contained in this clause shall affect the claims of any bona fide purchaser or transferee for value without notice of any such crops or other agricultural produce, cattle, fodder for cattle or raw materials for manufacture or workshops, or agricultural or industrial implements; and

- (b) any outstanding demands or dues payable to a housing society by any member or past member in respect of rent, shares, loans, or purchase money or any other rights or amounts payable to such society shall be a first charge upon his interest in the immoveable property of the society.

25. Charges and set-off in respect of shares or interest of member. A society shall have a charge upon the share or interest in the capital and on the deposits of a member or past member and upon any dividend, bonus or profits payable to a member or past member in respect of any debt due from such member or past member to the society, and may set off any sum credited or payable to a member or past member in or towards payment of any such debt.

26. Shares or interest not liable to attachment. Subject to the provisions of section 25, the share or interest of a member in the capital of a society or in any provident fund established under section 41 of this Act shall not be liable to attachment or sale under any decree or order of a court of justice in respect of any debt or liability incurred by such member, and ⁵[neither the Official Assignee under the Insolvency (Karachi Division) ⁶[* * * *] Act, 1909, nor a Receiver under the Provincial

¹Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7, Sch. III (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for "Privileges of Societies".

²Subs. by the W. P. A. O., 1964, s. 2 (c), Sch.(w.e.f. 08.6.1962)

³Ins. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 4(a).

⁴Subs. ibid. s. 4 (b), for "such member or past member".

⁵Subs. by W. P Ordinance 7 of 1965, s. 7, (w.e.f. 30.4.1965)

⁶The words "and Dacca" deleted by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984. s. 2 & Sch.

Insolvency Act, 1920 shall] be entitled to or have any claim on such share or interest.

27. Transfer of interest on death of member.(I) On the death of a member of a society such society may within a period of one year from the death of such member transfer the share or interest of the deceased member to a person or persons nominated in accordance with the by-laws of the society, if duly admitted a member of the society, in accordance with the rules or the by-laws of the society, or, if there is no person so nominated, to such person as may appear to the Committee to be the heir or legal representative of the deceased member if duly elected a member of the society, or may pay to such nominee, heir or legal representative, as the case may be, a sum representing the value of such member's share or interest as ascertained in accordance with the rules or by-laws :

Provided that such nominee, heir or legal representative, as the case may be, may require that payment shall be made by the society within one year from the death of the member of the value of the share or interest of such member ascertained as aforesaid.

(2) A society shall subject to the provisions of section 25 and unless prevented by an order of a competent court pay to such nominee, heir or legal representative, as the case may be, all other moneys due to the deceased member from the society.

(3) All transfers and payments made by a society in accordance with the provisions of this section shall be valid and effectual against any demand made upon the society by any other person.

¹[(4) Where the share or interest of a deceased member is transferred to a nominee or nominees, heir or legal representative, as the case may be, the value of such share or interest as determined by the society shall be disbursed by such nominee or nominees, heir or legal representative among all the heirs of the deceased member according to the personal law to which the deceased was subject.]

28. Liability of past member. The liability of a past member for the debts of a society as they existed at the time when he ceased to be a member, shall continue for a period of two years from the date of his ceasing to be a member.

29. Liability of the estates of deceased members. The estate of a deceased member shall be liable for a period of one year from the date of his decease for the debts of a society as they existed at the time of his death.

30. Register of members. Any register or list of members or shares kept by any society shall be prima-facie evidence of any of the following particulars entered therein : —

¹Sub-section (4) added by Sind Ord. No. XXII of 1984, s. 2.

- (a) the date at which the name of any person was entered in such register or list as a member;
- (b) the date at which any such person ceased to be a member.

31. Admissibility of copy of entry as evidence. A copy of any entry in any book, register or list regularly kept in the course of business in the possession of a society shall, if duly certified in such manner as may be prescribed by the rules, be admissible in evidence of the existence of the entry and shall be admitted as evidence of the matters and transactions therein recorded in every case where, and to the same extent to which the original entry would, if produced, have been admissible to prove such matters.

(2) In the case of such societies as ¹[the Provincial Government] by general or special order may direct no officer of a society shall in any legal proceedings to which the society is not a party be compelled to produce any of the society's books, the contents of which can be proved under sub-section (1), or to appear as a witness to prove the matters, transactions and accounts therein recorded, unless by order of the Court or a Judge made for special cause.

32. Exemption from compulsory registration of instruments relating to shares ³[etc] of society. Nothing in section 17, sub-section (1), clauses (b) and (c) of the ²* Registration Act, 1908, (XVI of 1908) shall apply to—

(1) any instrument relating to shares in a society, notwithstanding that the assets of the society consist in whole or in part of immoveable property; or

(2) any debenture ³[participation term certificate, term finance certificate, musharika certificate, modaraba certificate and such other instrument as may be approved by the State Bank of Pakistan] issued by any society and not creating, declaring, assigning, limiting or extinguishing any rights, title or interest to or in immoveable property except in so far as it entitles the holder to the security afforded by a registered instrument whereby the society has mortgaged, conveyed or otherwise transferred the whole or part of its immoveable property or any interest therein to trustees upon trust for the benefit of the holders of ³[such instruments]; or

(3) any endorsement upon or transfer of any debenture ³[participation term certificate, term finance certificate, musharika certificate, modaraba certificate, and such other instrument as may be approved by the State Bank of Pakistan] issued by any society.

¹Subs. by the A.O., 1937, "for Government".

²The word "Indian" Omitted by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 4 (w.e.f. 30th May, 1951).

³Subs. and Ins. by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984. S.2 and sch.

33. Power to exempt from income-tax, stamp-duty, registration and court fees. (1) The ¹[Federal Government], by notification in the ²[*Official Gazette*] may, in the case of any society or class of societies, remit the income-tax or super-tax payable in respect of the profits of the society, or of the dividends or other payments received by the member of the society on account of profits or in respect of interest ³[or return] on securities held by the society.

(2) The ⁴[Provincial Government] by notification in the ⁵[*Official Gazette*] may, in the case of any society or class of societies, remit—

- (a) the stamp-duty with which, under any law for the time being in force, instruments executed by or on behalf of a society or by an officer or member and relating to the business of the society, or any class of such instruments ⁶[or security bonds executed by or on behalf of officers or servants of a society] or awards of the Registrar or arbitrators under this Act are respectively chargeable; and
- (b) any fee payable under the law of registration and of court fees for the time being in force.

⁴[* * * * *]

33A. Provincial Government may give loans or guarantee interest ⁷[or return]. With such safeguards as may be prescribed by rules in this behalf ⁸[the Provincial Government] may give loans to societies or guarantee the payment of ⁹[the principal of debentures issued by them or of interest ⁷[or return] thereon or both].

¹⁰[CHAPTER VI.

PROPERTY AND FUNDS OF SOCIETIES.]

34. Restrictions on loans. (1) Except with the general or special sanction of the Registrar ¹¹[and subject to such terms and conditions as he may impose] a society shall not make a loan to any person other than a member.

¹Subs. by Sindh (Adaptation) of Laws Ordinance, 1975

²Subs. by the A.O., 1937 "Gazette of India"

³Ins. by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984, s. 2 and Sch.

⁴Subs by West Pakistan Ord. VII of 1965, S.8 (a) (w.e.f. 30.4.1965) [Subs. and Omitted by w.p Ord. VII of 1965, s. 8(a) (w.e.f. 30.4.1965).

⁵Subs. by the A.O., 1937 for "B.G.G"

⁶Ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 8

⁷Ins. by Sind Ord. No. LXVIII of 1984, s.2 and sch.

⁸Subs. by the A.O., 1937 for "Govt"

⁹Subs. by Sind 22 of 1935, s.2 for "interest on debentures issued by them"

¹⁰Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7, Sch. III (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for "Property and funds of societies."

¹¹Ins. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 5 (a)

(2) Save with the sanction of the Registrar, a society with unlimited liability shall not lend money on the security of moveable property.

(3) ¹[The Provincial Government] may, by general or special order, prohibit or restrict the lending of money on mortgage of immovable property by any society or class of societies.

²[(4) Where the Registrar has accorded sanction to a financing bank under sub-section (1) to make loan to non-members, a society which is a member of such financing bank may, subject to the terms of the sanction and such other terms and conditions as the Registrar may impose, act as an agent of the financing bank and as such agent carry out, on or without the payment of any commission, all or any transactions connected with any loans made or to be made by the financing bank.]

³**[34-A. Prohibition on issuance of bearer shares, warrants, etc.—** No society shall allot, issue, sell, transfer or assign any bearer shares, bearer share warrants or any other equity or debt security of a bearer nature, by whatever name called and any allotment, issue, sale, transfer, assignment or other disposition of any bearer shares or bearer share warrants or any other equity or debt security of a bearer nature, shall be void.]

35. Restrictions in borrowing. A society shall receive deposits and loans from persons who are not members only to such extent and under such conditions as may be prescribed by the rules or by the by-laws of the society.

36. Restriction on other transactions with non-members. Consumers' Producers' and Housing Societies may to the extent permitted by their-laws trade with persons who are not members, but the transactions of a Resource society with persons other than members except as provided under section 34 or 35 shall be subject to such prohibitions and restrictions, if any, as ¹[the Provincial Government] may by rules prescribe.

37. Investment of funds. A society invest or deposit its funds—

- (a) in the Government Savings Bank; or
- (b) in any of the securities specified in section 20 of the ⁴[*]Trusts Act, 1882; or
- (c) in the shares or on the security of any other society, provided that no such investment shall be made in the shares of any society other than one with limited liability; or
- (d) with any bank or person carrying on the business of banking approved for this purpose by the Registrar; or
- (e) in any other mode permitted by the rules.

¹Subs. by the A.O., 1937 for "Govt"

²Added. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 5 (b)

³Ins. by Act No. XXVIII of 2020, sec. 7 (only for ICT)

⁴The word "Indian" omitted by Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955) s.4 (w.e.f. 30th May, 1951).

38. Restrictions on dividend. No society shall pay a dividend to its members at a rate exceeding 10 percent.

39. Reserve fund. (1) Every society which does or can derive a profit from its transactions shall maintain a reserve fund.

(2) In the case of a Resource or Producers' society at least $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the net profits of the society each year shall be carried to the reserve fund and in the case of any other society at least $\frac{1}{10}$ th of the net profits of the society each year shall be carried to the reserve fund, and such reserve fund may be used in the business of the society or may be invested, subject to the provisions of section 37, as ¹[the Provisional Government] may by general or special order direct, or may with the previous sanction of ¹[the Provincial Government] be used in part for some public purpose likely to promote the object of this Act or for some purposes of provincial or local interest.

40. Restrictions on distribution of profits. Subject to the provisions of section 38 the balance of the profits of a society after making the prescribed provision for the reserve fund may, together with any available profits of past years be distributed among its members, and in the case of Consumers' and Producers' societies, also among persons who are not members, to the extent and under the conditions prescribed by the rules or by the by-laws of such societies, provided that :—

- (a) in the case of a Resource society on a basis of unlimited liability in which the members do not hold shares, no distribution of profits shall be made without the general or special order of ¹[the Provincial Government] in this behalf; and
- (b) in the case of a Resource society on a basis of unlimited liability in which the members hold shares, no such distribution of profits shall be made until 10 years from the date of registration of the society have elapsed.

41. Provident fund. Any society may establish a provident fund for its members out of contributions from such members in accordance with by-laws made by the society in this behalf and may contribute to such provident fund from its net profits, after the prescribed payments have been made to the reserve fund, provided that such provident fund shall not be used in the business of the society but shall be invested under the provisions of section 37; and provided further, that no part of such provident fund shall be considered as an asset of the society.

42. Contribution to charitable purpose. With the approval of the ²[Registrar] and after the payments prescribed by sub-section (2) of section 39 have been made to the reserve fund, any society may—

¹Subs. by the A.O., 1937, for "Govt."

²Subs. by the Sind 16 of 1940, s.2, for "Bombay Central Co-operative Institute".

- (a) set aside a sum not exceeding 20 percent of its net profits, and
- (b) utilize from time to time the whole of such sum in contributing to any public or co-operative purpose, or to a charitable purpose as defined in section 2 of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890.

¹[CHAPTER VII.
INSPECTION OF AFFAIRS.]

43. Inquiry by Registrar. (1) The Registrar may of his own motion by himself or by a person duly authorized by him in writing in this behalf hold an inquiry into the constitution, working and financial condition of a society.

(2) The Registrar shall hold such an inquiry as is contemplated in sub-section (1) of this section—

- (a) on the requisition of a society, duly authorised by rules made in this behalf to make such requisition, in respect of one of its members, such member being itself a society,
- (b) on the application of a majority of the Committee of the society,
- (c) on the application of 1/3rd of the members of the society,

(3) All officers and members of the society whose affairs are investigated shall furnish such information in their possession in regard to the affairs of the society as the Registrar or the person authorized by the Registrar may require.

(4) The result of any inquiry under this section shall be communicated to the society whose affairs have been investigated.

44. Inspection of books of indebted society. (1) The Registrar may, on the application of a creditor of a society inspect or direct some person authorized by him by order in writing in this behalf to inspect the books of the society :

Provided that—

- (a) the applicant satisfies the Registrar that the debt is a sum then due, and that he has demanded payment thereof and has not received satisfaction within a reasonable time; and
- (b) the applicant deposits with the Registrar such sum as security for the costs of the proposed inspection as the Registrar may require.

¹Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s.7, Sch. III (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for "Inspection of affairs."

(2) The Registrar shall communicate the result of any such inspection to the creditor.

¹**44A. Inspection of books by financing bank.** (1) A financing bank shall have the right to inspect the books of any society which is indebted to it. The inspection may be made either by an officer of the financing bank or by a member of its paid staff certified by the Registrar as competent to undertake such inspection. The officer or member so inspecting shall at all reasonable times have free access to the books, accounts, documents, securities, cash and other properties belonging to or in the custody of the society and may also call for such information, statements and returns as may be necessary to ascertain the financial condition of the society and the safety of the sums lent to it by the financing bank.

(2) The financing bank shall communicate the result of such inspection to the Registrar and the society concerned.

44B. Power of Registrar to exercise powers under section 50A in the course of an inquiry or inspection. Where, in the course of any inquiry under section 43 or an inspection under section 44 or section 44A it appears to the Registrar that there exists any such ground as is specified in section 50A, he may, of his own motion or on the application of the person authorised by him under section 43 or section 44 or section 44A, exercise the powers specified in section 50A.]

45. Costs of inquiry. Where an inquiry is held under section 43 or an inspection is made under section 44 the Registrar may apportion the costs, or such part of the costs, as he may think right, between the society, the members or creditor demanding the inquiry or inspection, the officers or former officers, and the members or past members of the society. ²[Costs may also be awarded by the Registrar to the financing bank in the case of inspection under section 44A of the books of any society other than an Agricultural Credit Society the liability of which is unlimited]:

Provided that—

- (a) no order of apportionment ²[or award] of the costs shall be made under this section unless the society or persons liable to pay the costs thereunder has or have been heard or has or have had a reasonable opportunity of being heard;
- (b) the Registrar shall state in writing under his own hand the grounds on which the costs are apportioned ²[or awarded].

³[*Explanation.*—For the purposes of this section an ‘Agricultural Credit Society’ means a Resource Society of which the primary object is the creation of funds to be lent to its members and of which a majority of the members are agriculturists and of which no member is a registered society and the liability of which is unlimited.]

¹S. 44-A and 44-B ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 9.

²Added and Ins. by Sind Act 16 of 1943, s. 10 (i), 10 (ii).

³The Explanation added *ibid*, s. 10 (iii).

46. Recovery of costs. Any sum awarded by way of costs under section 45 may be recovered, on application by the Registrar to a Magistrate having jurisdiction in the place where the person from whom the money is claimable actually and voluntarily resides, or carries on business, by the distress and sale of any moveable property within the limits of the jurisdiction of such Magistrate belonging to such person, and such Magistrate shall proceed to recover the same in the same manner as if it were a fine imposed by himself.

¹[CHAPTER VIII LIQUIDATION AND ARBITRATION.]

47. Winding up. If the Registrar, after an inquiry has been held under section 43 or after an inspection has been made under section 44 ²[or section 44A] or on receipt of an application made by three-fourths of the members of a society present at a special general meeting, called for the purpose or of his own motion, in the case of a society that has not commenced working or has ceased working or possesses shares or members deposits not exceeding Rs. 500, is of opinion that the society ought to be wound up he may issue an order directing it to be wound up, and when necessary, may appoint a liquidator for the purpose and fix his remuneration.

48. Society may be wound up if membership is reduced. Where it is a condition of the registration of a society that it shall consist of at least then members who are majors, the Registrar may by order in writing direct the society to be wound up, if at any time it is proved to his satisfaction that the membership has been reduced to less than ten such members.

49. Effect of cancellation of registration. When the affairs of a society for which a liquidator has been appointed under section 47 have been wound up, or, where no liquidator has been appointed, after two months from the date of an order under section 47, or after confirmation of such order in appeal, the Registrar shall make an order cancelling the registration of the society, and the society shall be deemed to be dissolved from the date of such order.

³[49A. Records of the society whose registration has been cancelled.— (1) The Registrar shall, for a period not less than five years, keep all the records of a society along with proceeding of liquidation completed whose registration has been cancelled.

(2) The Secretary of the society whose registration has been cancelled shall also keep the records of the society for a period not less than five years and the society shall not dispose of its record after five years without the approval of the Registrar.]

50. Powers of a liquidator. A liquidator appointed under section 47 shall have power with the sanction of the Registrar to do all or any of the following things:—

¹Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7, Sch. III (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for “Liquidation and Arbitration.”

²Ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. II.

³Ins. by Act XXVIII of 2020. S. 8 (only for ICT)

- (a) pay class or classes of creditors in full;
- (b) make any compromise or arrangement with creditors or persons claiming to be creditors or having or alleging themselves to have any claim, present or future, whereby the society may be rendered liable;
- (c) to compromise all calls or liabilities to calls and debts, and liabilities capable of resulting in debts, and all claims present or future, certain or contingent, subsisting or supposed to subsist between the society and contributory or alleged contributory or other debtor or person apprehending liability to the society and all questions in any way relating to or affecting the assets or the winding up of the society on such terms as may be agreed and take any security for the discharge of any such call, liability, debt, or claim and give a complete discharge in respect thereof;
- (d) from time to time to determine the contribution to be made or remaining to be made by the members or past members or by the estates or nominees, heirs or legal representatives of deceased members or by any officer to the assets of the society, such contribution including debts due from such members or persons;
- (e) to institute and defend suits and other legal proceedings on behalf of the society in the name of his office;
- (f) to issue requisitions under section 59 upon the Collector for the recovery as arrears of land revenue of any sum ordered by him to be recovered as dues from members, or as a contribution to the assets of the society or to the cost of liquidation;
- (g) to get disputes referred to arbitration ;
- (h) to investigate all claims against the society and subject to the provisions of this Act as to decide questions of priority arising out of such claims, and to pay rateably according to the amount of such debts, the surplus if any being applied in payment of interest ¹[or return] from the date of liquidation at a rate to be fixed by the Registrar and not exceeding the contract rate;
- (i) to determine by what persons and in what proportion to the cost of the liquidation shall be borne;
- (j) to give such directions in regard to the collection and distribution of the assets of the society as may appear to him to be necessary for winding up the affairs of the society.
- (k) to fix the time or times within which creditors shall prove their debts and claims or be included for the benefit of any distribution made before those debts or claims are proved;
- (l) to carry on the business of the society so far as may be necessary for the beneficial winding up of the same ;

Provided that no liquidator shall determine the contribution, debt or dues to be recovered from a past member or the representative of a deceased member unless opportunity has been given to such past member or to such representative to answer the claim;

²[Provided further that all debts due to ³[Government] shall have priority over all debts which are not

¹Ins. by Sind. Ord. No. LXVIII of 1984, s.2 & sch.

²Ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 12.

³Subs. by W.P. A. O, 1964, s. 2 Sch., Part IV(c), for "the crown".

secured by a mortgage, charge or lien on the property of the society or any part thereof but nothing herein contained shall affect ¹[the provisions of the Sind Land Revenue Act, 1967]²[or any other law relating to land revenue in force in the area].

50A. Power of Registrar to assess damage against delinquent promoters, etc. (1) Where, in the course of the winding up of a society it appears that any person who has taken part in the organization or management of the society or any past or present chairman, secretary, member of the managing committee or officer of the society has misapplied or retained or become liable or accountable for any money or property of the society or has been guilty of misfeasance or breach of trust in relation to the society, ³[or, where the society is acting under sub-section (4) of section 34 as agent of the financing bank, has made any payment contrary to the instructions of the financing bank] the Registrar may, on the application of the liquidator or of any creditor or contributory, examine into the conduct of such person and make an order requiring him to repay or restore the money or property or any part thereof respectively with interest ⁴[or return] at such rate as the Registrar thinks just or to contribute such sum to the assets of the society ³[or of the financing bank] by way of compensation in regard to the misapplication, retainer, misfeasance or breach of trust as the Registrar thinks just.

(2) This section shall apply notwithstanding that the act is one for which the offender may be criminally responsible.

51. Bar of suit in winding up and dissolution matters. Save in so far as is expressly provided in this Act no civil court shall take cognizance of any matter ³[arising out of any proceedings under Chapter VIII-A or] connected with the winding up or dissolution of a society under this Act and when a winding up order has been made no suit or other legal proceeding shall lie or be proceeded with against the society except by leave of the Registrar and subject to such terms as he may impose.

52. Disposal of surplus assets. After all the liabilities including the paid-up share capital of a cancelled society have been met, the surplus assets shall not be divided amongst its members but they shall be devoted to any object or objects described in the by-laws of the society and when no object is so described to any object of public utility determined by the general meeting of the society and approved by the Registrar or the may in consultation with them either be assigned by the Registrar in whole or in part to any or all of the following :-

- (a) an object of public utility of local or communal interest,
- (b) a charitable purpose as defined in section 2 of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890.

¹Subs. by Sind Act 17 of 1975, s. 2, Sch. II, for "the provisions of sections 137 and 138 of the Sind Land Revenue Code, 1879, or any other law relating to land revenue in force in the area".

²Added by W.P. Ord. VII of 1965, s.9 (w.e.f. 30.4.1965)

³Ins. by Sind 20 of 1947, ss. 6 and 7.

⁴Ins. by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984, s.2 and sch.

- (c) the ¹[²[*] Provincial Co-operative Institute], or may be placed on deposit with ³[the Provincial Co-operative Bank] until such time as a new society with similar conditions is registered when with the consent of the Registrar such surplus may be credited to the reserve fund of such new society.

53. Surplus assets of housing society. Where the society directed to be wound up is a housing society, its assets, both moveable and immovable, shall for the purposes of winding up or dissolution of the society jointly vest, subject to all rights and equities, in three persons of whom one shall be nominated by the Registrar, one shall be nominated by the said Society in a general meeting specifically called for the purpose and one shall be nominated by the ¹[²[*] Provincial Co-operative Institute]. Such persons shall, for the purpose of winding up or dissolution of the Society be Joint Liquidators and shall have all the powers of a liquidator under this Act. They may, with the sanction of the Registrar, continue the working of the society, or may, subject to his sanction and in consultation with the members of the society in a general meeting, reconstruct the society or may sell of the premises of the society to the best advantage of all interest concerned, and when all the liabilities of the society are met, may dispose of the surplus assets of the society if any, as provided in section 52.

54. Arbitration. ⁴[If any dispute touching the business of a society (other than a dispute regarding disciplinary action taken by the society or its committee against a paid servant of the society) arises—

- (a) between members or past members of the society or persons claiming through a member or past member, or
- (b) between members or past members or persons so claiming and any past or present officer, agent or servant of the society, or
- (c) between the society or its committee, and any past or present member of the society, or
- (d) between the society or its committee, and any past or present officer, agent or servant of the society, or a surety of such officer, agent or servant, whether such surety is or is not a member of the society, ⁵[or].

¹Subs. by Sind 16 of 1940, s. 3, for "Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute."

²Omitted by W.P. Ord. VII of 1965, s.10 (w.e.f. 30.4.1965)

³Subs. by Sind Ord. 1 of 1985, s. 2, for "a Central Co-operative Bank".

⁴Subs. by Sind 8 of 1944, s. 2, for the first paragraph.

⁵Added by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 8 (a).

¹[(e) between a financing bank authorised under sub-section (I) of section 34 and a person who is not a member of a society.

it shall be referred to the Registrar for decision by himself or his nominee, or if either of the parties so desires, to arbitration of three arbitrators who shall be the Registrar or his nominee and two persons of whom one shall be nominated by each of the parties concerned.]

A dispute shall include ²[the question whether a person is or was a member of a society and also] claims by a society for debts or demands due to it from ³[a member, past member or non-member] or the heirs or assets of a past member ⁴[or non-member] whether such debts or demands be admitted or not.

Provided that if the question at issue between a society and a claimant, or between different claimants, is one involving complicated questions of law and fact, the Registrar may, if he thinks fit, suspend proceedings in the matter until the question has been tried by a regular suit instituted by one of the parties or by the society. If no such suit is instituted within six months of the Registrar's order suspending proceedings the Registrar shall take action as laid down in paragraph I of this section.

⁵**[54A. Registrar's power to set aside the award and order the dispute to be referred back arbitration.** ⁶[(I) In the case of any award made by the arbitrators under section 54, the Registrar, if he is not one of such arbitrators, may of his own motion or on the application of any of the parties to the award, by an order in writing recording reasons therefor.—

- (a) modify or correct the award (i) where it appears that a part of the award is upon a matter not referred to arbitration and such part can be separated from the other part and does not affect the decision on the matter referred; or (ii) where the award is imperfect in form or contains any obvious error which can be amended without affecting such decision; or (iii) where the award contains a clerical mistake or an error arising from an accidental slip or omission; or
- (b) remit the award or any matter referred to arbitration to the arbitrators for reconsideration-
 - (i) where the award has left undetermined any of the matters referred to arbitration or where it determines any matter not referred to arbitration and such matter cannot be separated without affecting the determination of the matters referred, or

¹Ins. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 8(a).

²Added by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 13(ii).

³Subs. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 8(b)(i), for "a member or past member".

⁴Ins. ibid, s. 8(b) (ii).

⁵S. 54A ins. by Sind 10 of 1938, s. 2.

⁶Subs. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 14(i), for the original sub-section(1.)

- (ii) where the award is so indefinite as to be incapable of execution, or
- (c) set aside the award and order that the dispute shall be referred to arbitration in the manner provided in the said section:

¹[Provided that no order referred to in clauses (a) to shall be made—

- (a) after the issue of a certificate under section 59 for the execution of the award; or
- (b) without giving the parties to the award an opportunity of being heard:]

Provided further that no order under clause (c) shall be made unless the Registrar is of opinion that—

- (i) an objection to the legality of the award is apparent on the face of it, or
- (ii) the award has been vitiated in consequence of corruption or misconduct on the part of the arbitrators, or
- (iii) the award is in any way perverse.]

(2) In making an order under ²[clause (c) of] sub-section (I), the Registrar may direct that all or any of the arbitrators who made the award shall not act again as arbitrators for deciding the dispute.

(3) Where a dispute is referred back to arbitration under ²[clause (c) of] sub-section (I), the arbitrators shall make a fresh award within such time as may be fixed by the Registrar. If the arbitrators fail to make a fresh award within the time so fixed, the Registrar or his nominee shall decide the dispute.]

55. Attachment before award. Where a dispute has been referred to the Registrar under section 54 or to arbitration under clause (g) of section 50, the Registrar or his nominee or the arbitrators, as the case may be, if satisfied on inquiry or otherwise, that a party to such arbitration with intent to delay or obstruct the execution of any award that may be made,—

- (a) is about to dispose off the whole or any part of his property, or
- (b) is about to remove the whole or any part of his property from the jurisdiction of the Registrar,

may unless adequate security is furnished direct the conditional attachment of the said property; and such attachment shall have the same effect as if made by a competent Civil Court.

¹Subs. by W.P. Ordinance 34 of 1965, s. 3, Sch. II, for the original first proviso. (w.e.f.2.11.1965)

²Ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 14(ii).

56. Appeal against award of arbitrator.— Any party aggrieved by any decision of the Registrar's nominee made under section 54 ¹[or sub-section (3) of section 54A] or an order passed under section 55 by the Registrar's nominee or arbitrators may within one month of the date of the award or order appeal to the Registrar and the Registrar shall decide the appeal ²[***]

³**[57. Finality of awards in certain orders.**— The award of arbitrators or a decision by the Registrar or his nominee under section 54 or section 54A or an order passed in appeal by the Registrar under section 56 shall, subject to the provisions of section 64 and 64A. Be final conclusive and shall not be liable to be called in question in any civil or revenue court.]

58. Powers to enforce attendance.— Wherever in this Act it is provided that the Registrar or person duly authorized by general or special order in writing by the Registrar in this behalf shall hold an inquiry under section 43 or shall make an inspection under section 44 or shall wind up a society or shall arbitrate, such Registrar, or person authorized, as the case may be, shall have the power to summon and enforce the attendance of witnesses including the parties interested or any of them and to compel them to give evidence, and to compel the production of documents by the same means and as far as possible in the same manner as is provided in the case of a civil court by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

59. Money how recovered.— ⁴[Every order passed by a liquidator under section 50, or by the Registrar under section 50A, or by the Registrar or his nominee or arbitrators on disputes referred to him or them under clause (g) of section 50 or under section 54 or under sub-section (3) of section 54A, every order passed in appeal, under section 56, every order passed by the Provincial Government in appeal against orders under sections 50, 50A, 54 or sub-section (3) of section 54A and every order passed under section 64A shall, if not carried out, ⁵* *—]

⁶[(a) on a certificate signed by the Registrar or a liquidator, be deemed to be a decree of a civil court and shall be executed in the same manner as a decree of such court; or]

(b) ⁷[be executed] according to the law and under the rules for the time being in force for the recovery of arrears of land revenue, provided that any application for the recovery in such manner of any such sum shall be made to the Collector and shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by the Registrar or by an Assistant Registrar to whom the said power has been delegated by the Registrar.

¹Ins. by Sind 10 of 1938, s. 3.

²The word "himself" omitted by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 15.

³Subs. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 16 for section 57.

⁴Subs. by Sind 5 of 1940, s. 4 read with section 5 (w.e.f. 4th December, 1925), for the words beginning with "Every order passed by a liquidator" and ending with "beexecuted".

⁵The words "be executed" deleted by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 17(i).

⁶Subs. *ibid*, s. 17 (ii), for the original cl. (a).

⁷Ins. *ibid*, s. 17 (iii).

¹**[(2) Powers of Registrar to recover certain sums by attachment and sale of property.** The Registrar or any person subordinate to him empowered by the Registrar in this behalf may, subject to such rules as may be prescribed by the Provincial Government and without prejudice to any other mode of recovery provided by or under this Act, re-cover by exercising powers of the Collector under the ²[Sind Land Revenue Act, 1967] and the Rules thereunder—

- (a) any amount due under a decree or order of Civil Court, a decision or an award of the Registrar, obtained by a registered society including a financing bank or liquidator; or
- (b) any sum awarded by way of costs under section 44B and 45; or
- (c) damages assessed in section 22A and 50A; or
- (d) penalty provided for in sections 61 and 62; or
- (e) sums due to ³[Government] under section 65, together with the ⁴[interest or return] if any, due on such amount or sum and the costs of process, by the attachment and sale or by the sale without attachment of property of the person against whom such decree decision, award or order has been obtained or passed.

(3) Registrar or person empowered by him to be a Civil Court for certain purpose. The Registrar or any person empowered by him in that behalf shall be deemed, when exercising any powers under this Act for the recovery of any amount by the attachment and sale or by the sale without attachment of any property, or when passing any orders on any application made to him for such recovery or to take some step-in-aid of such recovery, to be a Civil Court for the purpose of Article 182 of the First Schedule to the Limitation Act, 1908.]

⁵**[59A. Transfer of property which cannot be sold.** (1) When in execution of an order sought to be executed under section 59, any property cannot be sold for want of byers, if such property is in the occupancy of the defaulter or of some person on his behalf or of some person claiming under a title created by the defaulter subsequently to the issue of the certificate of the Registrar, Liquidator or Assistant Registrar under clause (a) or (b) of sub-section (1), the Court or the Collector, as the case may be, may, with the previous consent of the Registrar, direct that the said property or any portion thereof shall be transferred to the society which has applied for the execution of the said order and that the said property or the portion shall be delivered to the society in the prescribed manner.

(2) Subject to such rules as may be made in this behalf and to any rights, encumbrances, charges or equities lawfully subsisting in favour of any other person, such property or portion thereof shall be held by the said society on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the Court or the Collector, as the case may be, and the said society:

¹Sub-section (2) and (3) ins by Sind 26 of 1950, s. 2. The original sub-section (2) was rep. by Sind 22 of 1935, s. 3.

²Subs. by Sind Act 17 of 1975, s. 3, sch. II, for “Sindh Land Revenue Code, 1879, or the relevant law relating to Land Revenue in force in the area”.

³Subs. by W.P.A.O., 1964 s. 2, Sch. Part IV (c), for the “Crown”.

⁴Subs. by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984, s. 2 & Sch. for “interest”.

⁵S. 59-A, inserted by Sind 22 of 1935, s. 3.

Provided that any private transfer or delivery of or encumbrance or charge on the property made or created after the issue of the certificate of the Registrar, Liquidator or Assistant Registrar, as the case may be, under section 59 shall be null and void as against the said society.]

¹[CHAPTER VIII-A.

DISTRAINT.

59B. Definitions. In this Chapter, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

- (a) “Collector” includes an officer appointed by the Provincial Government to discharge any of the functions of the Collector under this Chapter;
- (b) “defaulter” means a person (including his legal representatives if he is dead) from whom any such debt or outstanding demand as is referred to in section 59C is recoverable;
- (c) Words and expressions used herein and not hereinbefore defined shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them by the ²[Sind Land Revenue Act, 1967].

59C. Cases in which application for distraints may be made. Where any debt or outstanding demand is due to a society from any member or past member or is due to a society, which is authorised by the Registrar under sub-section (1) of section 34 to make loans to non-members, from any person who is not a member of a society, the society may, in addition to any other remedy to which it is entitled by law, present an application to the Registrar requesting him to recover the debt or outstanding demand by distraining, while in the possession of the defaulter any crop or other produce belonging to him, whether the same is growing or is ungathered or has been reaped or gathered.

59D. Form of application. (1) Every application under the last foregoing section shall specify—

- (a) particulars of the land on which the crop or produce is or has been grown;
- (b) the name of the defaulter;
- (c) a detailed account of the debts and outstanding demands due to the society;
- (d) the nature and approximate value of the crop or producer to be distrained;
- (e) if the crop or produce is growing or is ungathered, the time at which it is likely to be fit to be reaped or gathered; and
- (f) if the crop or produce has been reaped or gathered, the place where it is kept or such other particulars as may suffice for its identification.

(2) The application shall be signed and verified in the manner prescribed by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, for the signing and verification of plaints.

59E. Procedure on receipt of application. (1) A society shall at the time of making an application under section 59C, file before the Registrar such documentary evidence, if any, as it may consider necessary for the purpose of proving the statements made in the application.

¹Chapter VIII-A (sections 59B to 59U), ins. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 9.

²Subs. by Sind Act 17 of 1975, s. 3, sch. II, for “Sind Land Revenue Code, 1879 or any other law relating to land revenue in force in the area.

(2) The Registrar may, after taking such evidence as he thinks fit, admit the application or reject it :

Provided that the person against whom the application is made shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

(3) Where the Registrar does not at once admit or reject the application, he may make an order prohibiting the removal of the crop or other produce specified in the application, pending a final decision on the application.

(4) Where an order for distraining any crop or produce is made under this section a considerable time before the crop or produce is likely to be fit to be reaped or gathered, the Registrar may suspend the execution of the order for such time as he thinks fit and may make a further order prohibiting the removal of such crop or produce pending the execution of the order of distraint.

(5) An order under sub-section (3) or sub-section (4) shall be served and published in such manner as may be prescribed by rules.

(6) Any person who shall disobey any order made under sub- section (4) prohibiting the removal of any crop or produce pending the execution of the order of distraint, after the same has been published or served upon him, or who shall, within the meaning of the ¹[Pakistan] Penal Code, abet the disobedience of any such order, shall be liable, on conviction after a summary enquiry by the Collector, to a fine not exceeding double the amount due to the society for the recovery of which it is proposed to make the distraint. Such fine shall be recovered as an arrear of land revenue.

59F. Execution of order for distraint. (1) If the application is admitted under the last foregoing section and an order for distraining any crop or produce is made, the Registrar shall send to the Collector for execution a copy of the order together with such particulars as may be prescribed by rules.

(2) Upon receipt of a copy of the order referred to in sub- section (1), the Collector shall depute and officer to distrain the crop or produce specified therein or such portion thereof as the Collector thinks fit and the officer so deputed shall at once proceed to the place where the crop or produce is or is kept, and distrain the same by taking charge of it himself or by placing it in charge of some other person appointed by him in this behalf. The distraining officer shall publish a notification of the distraint in the manner prescribed by rules.

(3) Any crop or produce which from its nature does not admit of being stored shall not be distrained at any time less than twenty days before the time at which it is likely to be fit to be reaped or gathered.

¹Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 4 (w.e.f. 30th May 1951), for "Indian".

59G. Service of notice of demand and the grounds of distraint. (1) The distraining officer shall, at the time of making the distraint serve on the defaulter—

- (a) a notice of demand for the amount due and the costs incurred in making the distraint (hereinafter called the demand amount); and
- (b) a statement of the grounds on which the distraint is made.

(2) The notice of demand and the statement shall be served in such manner as may be prescribed by rules.

59H. Right to reap etc., produce. (1) Subject to such conditions as the Collector may impose in this behalf either in the order of distraint or in any sub-sequent order, the defaulter may tend, reap, gather or store the crop or produce and do any other act necessary for maturing or preserving it; and if the defaulter fails to do all or any of such acts, the distraining officer may appoint a person to do all or any of them, and the costs incurred by the distraining officer for this purpose shall be recoverable from the defaulter as if they were included in the costs of distraint.

(2) The crop or produce reaped or gathered by the defaulter shall remain in charge of the distraining officer or some other person appointed by him in this behalf.

59I. Sale proclamation to be issued unless demand is satisfied. (1) Unless the demand amount is immediately paid, the distraining officer shall issue a proclamation in ¹[the local language of the area] of the intended sale specifying the particulars of the property distrained and the demand amount for which it is distrained and shall further notify that he will, at a place and on a day specified, not being less than three or more than seven days from the date of the distraint, sell the distrained property by public auction :

Provided that when the crop or other produce distrained is capable of being stored but has not been stored the day of the sale shall be so fixed as to allow of its being stored before the sale.

(2) Such proclamation shall be made by beat of drum in the village in which the distrained property was seized and a copy of the proclamation shall be affixed in some public place in the village and in the Mukhtiarkar's office.

59J. Place of sale. The sale shall be held—

- (a) in the case of a growing crop, on or near the land on which such crop has been grown, or
- (b) if the crop or produce has been reaped or gathered, at or near the place where it is kept :

¹Subs. by W.P. Ordinance VII of 1965, s. 11, (w.e.f 30.4.1965), for "Sindhi".

Provided that the distraining officer may direct the sale to be held at the nearest place of public resort, if he is of opinion that the crop or produce is thereby likely to sell to greater advantage.

59K. Provisions relating to growing crops.- (1) Where the crop is a growing one and from its nature admits of being stored, the sale shall not be held until the crop is reaped or gathered and is ready for storing.

(2) Where the crop from its nature does not admit of being stored, it may be sold before it is reaped or gathered, and the purchaser shall be entitled to enter on the land by himself or by any other person appointed by him in this behalf and to do all acts necessary for the purpose of tending, reaping or gathering the crop.

59L. Manner of sale.- The distrained property shall be sold by public auction in one or more lots as the officer holding the sale may determine; and if the demand amount is realized by the sale of a portion of the property, the order of distraint shall not be executed with respect to the remainder.

59M. Postponement sale.- If, on the distrained property being put up for sale, a fair price, in the opinion of the officer holding the sale, is not offered for it, and if the owner of the property or a person authorised to act on his behalf applies to have the sale postponed to the next day, the sale shall be postponed until that date and shall then be completed whatever may be the price offered for the property.

59N. Payment of purchase money.- (1) The price of each lot shall be paid at the time of sale or as soon thereafter as the officer holding the sale directs, and in default of such payment the property shall forthwith be resold.

(2) Any deficiency of price which may happen on a resale by reason of the purchaser's default, and all expenses attending such resale, shall be certified to the Collector by the officer holding the sale, and shall, at the instance of the society or the defaulter, be recoverable from the defaulting purchaser as if they were an arrear of land revenue.

59O. Certificate be given to the purchaser.- When the purchase money has been paid in full the officer holding the sale shall grant a receipt for the same and the sale shall become absolute as against all person whomsoever.

59P. Proceeds of sale how to be applied.- (1) When any property is sold under this Chapter the proceeds of the sale shall be applied to defraying the costs of distraint and sale and to the payment of the amount for which the distraint was made and the surplus, if any, shall be paid to the person whose property has been sold.

(2) The costs of distraint and sale shall be estimated at such rates as may, from time to time, be sanctioned by the ¹[commissioner].

¹Subs. by Sind Act No. XXVII of 1974.

59Q. Certain person may not purchase.- No officer or other person having any duty to perform in connection with any distraint or sale made under this Chapter and no officer or servant of an society shall, either directly or indirectly, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the property

59R. Procedure where demand is paid before the sale.- (1) If at any time after a distraint has been made under this Chapter and before the sale of the distrained property the defaulter or any other person deposits with the Collector or with the distraining officer the demand amount together with such costs as may have been incurred after the service of the notice of demand, the order of distraint shall not be executed.

(2) When the distraining officer receives the deposit he shall forthwith remit it to the Collector.

(3) After the expiration of one month from the date on which the deposit is made under sub-section (1), the Collector shall pay to the society which applied for distraint the amount due to it :

Provided that, if, before the expiry of the said period the Collector receives notice of any suit in which the legality of the distraint order is questioned or compensation is claimed for illegal distraint, he shall withhold payment to the society and shall deal with the money in accordance with such decree¹ [or] order as may be passed in the suit.

59S. Distraint of property which is under attachment.- Where an order of distraint issued under this Chapter and an order made by a civil court for attachment or sale relate to the same property, the order of distraint shall prevail; but if the property is sold under the order of distraint the surplus proceeds of the sale shall not be paid under section 59P to the owner of the property without the sanction of the court by which the order of attachment or sale was made.

59T. Suit for compensation for wrongful distraint and appeals.- No appeal shall lie against an order made by the Registrar or the Collector under this Chapter; but a person whose property is distrained on an application made under section 59C may, institute a suit against the applicant for recovery of compensation if such an application is not competent under that Section.

59U. Savings.- Nothing contained in this chapter shall affect the operation of the provisions of² [chapter VIII of the Sind Land Revenue Act, 1967] in so far as they give priority to claims of the Provincial Government to any moneys recoverable under the provisions of that chapter over any other debt, demand or claim.]

¹Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7, Sch. III, for "of".

²Subs. by Sind Act 17 of 1975, s. 3 and 2nd Sch.

¹[CHAPTER IX.
OFFENCES.]

60. Offences.- It shall be an offence under this Act if —

- (a) **Default by a society officer or member.** a society with a working capital of Rs. 50,000 or more or an officer or member thereof fails without any reasonable excuse to give any notice, send any return or document, do or allow to be done anything which the society, officer or member is by this Act ²[or rules made thereunder] required to give, send, do or allow to be done; or
- (b) **Wilful neglect or default by a society, etc.** a society or an officer or a member thereof wilfully neglects or refuses to do any act or to furnish any information required for the purposes of this Act ²[or rules made thereunder] by the Registrar or other person duly authorised by him in writing in this behalf; or
- (c) **Wilful furnishing of false information.** a society or an officer or member thereof wilfully makes a false return or furnishes false information; or
- (d) **Disobedience of summons, requisition or order.** any person wilfully or without any reasonable excuse disobeys any summons, requisition or lawful written order issued under the provisions of this Act ²[or rules made thereunder] or does not furnish any information lawfully required from him by a person authorized to do so under the provisions of this Act ²[or rules made thereunder] ³[; or]
- ³(e) if a member, employee, director, officer or secretary of the society or the society itself does not furnish information under this Act or does not comply with any provision of this Act.]

61. Penalty for Offences not otherwise provided for.- Every society, officer or member of a society or other person guilty of an offence under this Act for which no penalty is expressly provided herein shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ³[one million rupees].

³[**61A. Penalty for offences committed under clause (e) of section 60.-** Any member, employee, director, officer or secretary of the society found guilty under clause (e) of section 60 shall be punishable with an imprisonment for a term not less than three years and not exceeding five years or with a fine upto two million rupees or with both and, if any society is found guilty under the said clause (e) of section 60 shall be liable to a fine up to a maximum of one-fourth of its working capital or to a fine not exceeding ten million rupees.]

¹Subs. by the Sind Ordinance 5 of 1955, s. 7, Sch. III, (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for "Offences".

²Ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 18.

³Subs. and added by the Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Act, 2020 (XXVIII of 2020), ss. 9-11 (only for ICT).

62. Prohibition of the use of the word “co-operative”.—(1) No person other than a registered society shall without the sanction of ¹[the Provincial Government] trade or carry on business under any name or title of which the word “co-operative” or its vernacular equivalent forms part :

Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to the use by any person or his successor in interest of any name or title under which he traded or carried on business at the date on which this Act comes into operation.

(2) Whoever contravenes the provisions of this section shall be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty rupees and in the case of a continuing offence with further fine of five rupees for each day on which the offence is continued after conviction therefor.

63. Cognizance of offences.— (1) No court inferior to that of ²[* * * *] a Magistrate of the first class shall try any offence under this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, every offence under this Act shall, for the purposes of the said Code, be deemed to be non-cognizable.

(3) No prosecution under this Act shall be lodged without the previous sanction of the Registrar, which shall not be given except ³[after serving a notice on the party concerned and giving him a reasonable opportunity of being heard].

⁴[CHAPTER X.

APPEALS AND REVISION.]

64. Appeals.— An appeal against an order or decision of or sanctioned by the Registrar under section 10, 16, 45, 47, 50, 50A, ⁵[54 or sub-section (3) of section 54A] may be made by any party aggrieved or affected by the order or decision to ¹[the Provincial Government] within two months of the date of the communication of the order.

64A. Power of Provincial Government and the Registrar to call for proceedings of subordinate Officers and to pass orders thereon. ¹[The Provincial Government] and the Registrar may call for and examine the record of any inquiry or the proceedings of any officer subordinate to them for the purpose of satisfying themselves as to the legality or propriety of any decision or order passed and as to the regularity of the proceedings of such officer. If in any case, it shall appear to ¹[the Provincial Government] or the Registrar that any decision or order or proceedings so called for should be modified, annulled or reversed, ¹[the Provincial Government] or the Registrar, as the case may be, may pass such order thereon as to it or him may seem fit.

¹Subs. by the A.O., 1937, for “Govt.”.

²The words “a Presidency Magistrate or” rep by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind V of 1955), s. 6, Sch. II.

³Subs. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 19, for “after hearing the party concerned.”

⁴Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s.7 Sch. III (w.e.f. 24th April 1947), for “Appeals and Revision”.

⁵Subs. by Sind 10 of 1938, s. 6, for “or 54”.

¹[64AA. Finality of orders of Provincial Government. An order passed in appeal under section 64 or in revision under section 64A by the Provincial Government shall be final and conclusive and shall not be liable to be called in question in any civil or revenue court.]

²[CHAPTER XI.

MISCELLANEOUS.]

65. Recovery of sums due to ³[Government].- (1) All sums due from a society or from an officer or member or past member of a society as such to ³[Government], may be recovered according to the law and under the rules for the time being in force for the recovery of arrears of land revenue.

(2) Sums due from a society to ³[Government] and recoverable under sub-section (1) may be recovered, firstly, from the property of the society; secondly, in the case of a society of which the liability of the member is limited, from the members or past members subject to the limit of their liability; and, thirdly in the case of other societies, from the members or past members.

(3) The liability of past members shall in all cases be subject to the provisions of section 28.

⁴[65A. Power to deduct installment of debt from salaries of members. (I) A member of a society may execute an agreement in favour of the society providing that his employer shall be competent to deduct every month from the salary or wages payable to him by the employer such amount, not exceeding the amount prescribed by rules, as may be specified in the application and pay the amount so deducted to the society in satisfaction of any debt or other demand owing by the member to the society;

(2) On the execution of such agreement the employer shall, if so required by the society and so long as such debt or demand or any part of it remains unpaid, make the deduction in accordance with the agreement any pay the amount so deducted to the society;

(3) The provisions of this section shall also apply to all such agreements of the nature referred to in sub-section (I) as were in force on the date of the commencement of the ⁵[Sind] Co-operative Societies (⁶* Second Amendment) Act, 1940, but nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorise the deduction, under any such agreement, of any amount in excess of that prescribed by the rules;

¹S. 64AA ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 20.

²Subs. by the Sindh Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7, Sch. III (w.e.f. 24th April, 1947), for "Miscellaneous".

³Sub. by W.P.A.O., 1964, s. 2, Sch., Part IV (v), for the words "the Crown" which were Subs. by the A.O., 1937, for "Government".

⁴S. 65A Ins. by Sind 27 of 1940, s. 2.

⁵Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 3 (i) (w.e.f. 30th May, 1951), for "Bombay".

⁶The word "Sind" omitted ibid, s. 3(iii) (b) (w.e.f. 30th May, 1951).

¹[(4) Nothing in this section shall apply to persons employed in mines of nuclear fuels, mineral oils and natural gas.]

²**[65-B. Officers of societies to be public servants.]**— Every officer of a society, including a Co-operative Bank, shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860).

66. Power to exempt societies from conditions as to registration.— Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, ³[the provincial Government] may, by special order in each case and subject to such conditions, if any, as may impose, exempt any society from any of the requirements of this Act as to registration.

67. Power to exempt societies from provisions of Act.— ³[The Provincial Government] may, by general or special order to be published in the ⁴[*Official Gazette*], exempt any society or class of societies from any of the provisions of this Act, or may direct that such provisions shall apply to such society or class of societies with such modifications as may be specified in the order; provided that no order to the prejudice of any society shall be passed without an opportunity being given to such society to represent its case.

68. Companies Act not to apply.— The provisions of the ⁵* Companies Act of 1913, shall not apply to societies, registered under this Act.

69. Branches etc., of societies outside the Province.— Every Co-operative Society registered outside the ⁶[Province of Sind] which has or establishes a branch or place of business in the ⁶[Province of Sind] shall within six months from the commencement of this Act or from the establishment of such branch or place of business, file with the Registrar a certified copy of the by-laws and amendments and, if these are not written in the English language, a certified translation in English thereof, and shall submit to the Registrar such returns and information as are submitted by similar societies in the ⁶[Province of Sind] in addition to those submitted to the Registrar of the province where it is registered.

70. Notice necessary in suits.— No suit shall be instituted against a society or any of its officers in respect of any act touching the business of the society until the expiration of two months next after notice in writing has been delivered to the Registrar, or left at his office, stating the cause of action, the name, description and place of residence of the plaintiff and the relief which he claims; and the plaint shall contain a statement that such notice has been so delivered or left.

¹ Subs. by W. P. Ordinance VII of 1965, s. 13, for original sub-section (4) as amended by W. P. A. O. 1964, s. 2, Sch., Part IV (c).

²S. 65-B Ins. by W. P. Ordinance XVII of 1966, s. 2.

³Subs. by the A. O., 1937, for “Government”.

⁴Subs. *ibid.*, for “B.G.G.”.

⁵The word “Indian” omitted by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 4, (w.e.f. 30th May, 1951).

⁶The original words “Bombay Presidency” have successively been amended by Sind Ordinance 5 of 1955, W.P. Ordinance 7 of 1965 and to Sind Adaptation of Laws Order, 1975 to read as above.

¹[70-A· Bar of Jurisdiction.— (1) Notwithstanding anything provided in any other law for the time being in force, but save as expressly provided in this Act—

- (a) Court or other authority whatsoever shall have jurisdiction to entertain, or to adjudicate upon, any matter which the provincial Government, the Registrar or his nominee, any arbitrator or liquidator a society, a financing bank, a Co-operative Bank or any other person is empowered by or under this Act, or the rules or bye-laws framed there under dispose of or to determine,
- (b) the validity of anything done or order passed by the Provincial Government, Society, a financing bank, a Co-operative bank, the Registrar or any other person referred to in clause (a), under this Act or the rules and bye-laws framed thereunder, shall not be called in question in any manner whatever before or by any Court or other authority whatsoever; and
- (c) no Court or other authority whatsoever shall be competent to grant any injunction or pass any other order in relation to any proceedings under this Act or any rules or by-laws framed thereunder before the Provincial Government, a Society, a Financial Bank, a Co-operative Bank, the Registrar or any other person referred to in clause (a).

(2) The provisions of sub-section (1) shall be applicable to proceedings, appeals and revisions pending adjudication or disposal before or in any Court or other authority whatsoever on the date that the Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1966, comes into force, and any order passed in such proceedings, whether before or after the coming into force, and any order passed such proceedings, whether before or after the coming into force of the said Ordinance, in regard to matters referred to in sub-section (i), shall stand vacated and be without any force].

71. Rules. (1) ²[The Provincial Government] may, for the whole or any part of the ³[Province] and for any society or class of societies, make ⁴rules to carry out the purpose of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power such rules may—

- (a) subject to the provisions of section 6, prescribe the maximum number of shares or portion of the capital of a society which may be held by a member;
- (b) prescribe the forms to be used and the conditions to be complied with in the making of applications for the registration of a society and the procedure in the matter of such applications;

¹S. 70-A Ins. by W.P. Ordinance, 12 of 1966, s. 2.

²Subs. by the A. O., 1937, for “Government”.

³Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 3 (ii) (c) (w.e.f. 30th May, 1951), for “Presidency”.

⁴For Rules, see S. L. R and O

- (c) prescribe the matters in respect of which a society may or shall make bye-laws and the procedure to be followed making, altering and abrogating bye-laws and the conditions to be satisfied prior to such making, alteration or abrogation;
- (d) prescribe the conditions to be complied with by persons applying for admission or admitted as members provide for the election and admission of members and the payment to be made and the interest to be acquired before the exercise of the right of membership;
- (e) provide for ascertaining the value of a deceased member's share or interest;
- (f) provide for general meetings of the members and for the procedure at such meetings and the powers to be exercised by such meetings;
- (g) Provide for the appointment, suspension and removal of the members of the committee and other officers and for the procedure at meetings of the committee and for the powers to be exercised and the duties to be performed by the Committee and other officers;
- ¹[(ga)] provide, where all the members of the committee have been suspended or removed, for the appointment of a person ²[or persons] to administer the affairs of the society and for the powers to be exercised and the duties to be performed by such person ²[or persons];
- (h) prescribe the accounts and books to be kept by a society and provide for the audit of such accounts, and the charges, if any, to be made for such audit, and for the periodical publication of a balance sheet showing the assets and liabilities of a society;
- (i) prescribe the returns to be submitted by a society to the Registrar and provide for the persons by whom and the form in which such returns shall be submitted;
- (j) provide for the persons by whom and the form in which copies of documents or entries in books of societies may be certified, and for the charges to be levied for the supply of such copies;
- (k) provide for the formation and maintenance of a register of members, and where the liability of the members is limited by shares, of a register of shares;
- (l) prescribe the payments to be made and the conditions to be complied with by members applying for loans, and the period for which loans may be made, and the amount which may be lent to an individual member;

¹cl. (gg) which was ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 21 (i) re numbered as cl. (ga) by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 7, Sch. III.

²subs.by Sind Act No. VI of 1977, s.4.

- ¹[(m) prescribe the conditions, prohibitions and restrictions subject to which a society may—
- (i) transact business with persons who are not members; or
 - (ii) make loans against the security of moveable property;]
 - (n) provide for the formation and maintenance of reserve funds, and the objects to which such funds may be applied, and for the investment of any funds under the control of a society;
 - (o) prescribe the extent to which a society may limit the number of its members;
 - (p) prescribe the conditions under which profits may be distributed to the members of a society and the maximum rate of divided which may be paid by societies;
 - (q) prescribe the procedure to be followed in presenting and disposing of appeals;
 - (r) provide for securing that the share capital of any society shall be variable in such a way as may be necessary to secure that shares shall not appreciate in value and that necessary capital shall be available for the society as required;
 - (s) provide that persons qualified under the bye-laws of a society shall not be excluded from membership without due cause;
 - (t) prescribe the procedure to be followed by a liquidator appointed under section 47;
 - (u) prescribe the mode of appointing an arbitrator or arbitrators and the procedure to be followed in proceedings before the Registrar or such arbitrator or arbitrators and for fixing and levying the expenses of determining the dispute;
 - (v) provide for the issue and service of processes and for proof of service thereof;
 - (w) provide for the writing off of bad debts;
 - (x) regulate the manner in which funds may be raised by means of shares or debentures² [participation term certificate, term finance certificate, musharika certificate, modaraba certificate and such other instruments as may be approved by the State Bank of Pakistan] or otherwise;
 - (y) provide for the withdrawal and expulsion of members and for the payments to be made to them and for the liabilities of past members;

¹Subs. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 20 (1), for the original cl. (m).

²Inserted by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984, S.2. and sch.

- (z) provide for the nomination of a person to whom the interest of a deceased member may be paid or transferred;
- (aa) prescribe the cases in which an appeal shall lie from the order of a liquidator appointed under section 47;
- (bb) provide for the inspection of documents in the Registrar's office and the levy of fees for granting certified copies of the same;
- (cc) prescribe the procedure to be followed for the custody of property attached under section 55;
- ¹[cca) prescribe the manner in which an order under sub-section 3 or sub-section 4 of section 59E or a notice of demand shall be served or published;
- (ccb) prescribe the particulars to be supplied to the Collector under sub-section (1) of section 59F;
- (ccc) Prescribed the manner in which a notification of distraint should be published under sub-section (2) of section 59F.]
- (dd) provide for the payment of contribution at such rates and subject to such conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by Co-operative Societies to any provident fund which may be established for the benefit of officers and servants employed by them; ²*
- (ee) prescribe the period and terms under which Government aid may be given to Co-operative Societies and the terms under which ³[the Provincial Government] may guarantee the payment of ⁴[the principal of and] ⁵[interest or return on instruments referred to in clause (x)] issued by registered societies;
- ⁶[(ff) prescribing the manner in which any property shall be delivered to, and the terms and conditions subject to which such property shall be held by, a society under section 59A] ⁷[; and]
- ⁸[(gg)] provide that the contravention of any rule or order issued thereunder shall be punishable with fine not exceeding rupees fifty;

¹Cls. (cca), (ccb) and (ccc) ins. by Sind 20 of 1947, s. 10(2).

²The word "and" rep. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 6, Sch. II.

³Subs. by the A. O., 1937, for "the Govt."

⁴Ins by Sind 22 of 1935, s. 5 (1).

⁵Subs. by Sind Ord. LXVIII of 1984.

⁶Cl. (ff) ins. by Sind 22 of 1935, s. 5(2).

⁷Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s.7, Sch. III, for full stop.

⁸Cl. (mm) which was ins. by Sind 16 of 1943, s. 21 (ii) renumbered as cl. (gg) ibid., s. 7, Sch.III.

(3) ¹[The Provincial Government] may, subject to such conditions, if any, as it thinks fit, delegate all or any of its powers to make rules under this section to any authority specified in the order of delegation.

(4) The power to make rules conferred by this section is subject to the condition of the rules being made after previous publication.

(5) ²[* * * * *]

72. [Saving of existing societies]. *Omitted by Sind Act XVII of 1975.*

³**[72A. Construction of references to Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, in enactments.** All references to the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, occurring in any enactment made by any authority in ⁴[Pakistan] and for the time being in force in ⁵[Sind] shall, in the application, to the ⁶said Province of any such enactment, be read and construed as references to this Act and anything done or any proceeding commenced in pursuance of any such enactment on or after the date on which this Act shall have come into operation shall be deemed to have been done or to have been commenced and to have had effect as if the reference in such enactment to the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, had been the reference to this Act, and no such thing or proceeding shall be deemed to have been invalid on the ground that such enactment did not refer to this Act.]

72B. *[Validity of transfer made under section 59 (2) of Sind VII of 1925.] Rep. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 6, Sch. II.*

73. *[Repeal.] Rep. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 6, Sch. II.*

[SCHEDULE.]

Rep. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 6, Sch. II.

¹Subs. by the A. O., 1937, for "Govt."

²Sub-section (5) omitted by W. P. Act 16 of 1957, s. 3 (3), Sch. III.

³S. 72A ins. by the Sind 8 of 1933, s. 2. And then omitted by Sind Act XVII of 1975, Sch.

⁴Subs. by the Sind Laws (Adaptation, Revision, Repeal and Declaration) Ordinance, 1955 (Sind 5 of 1955), s. 3 (ii) (b) (w.e.f. 30th May 1951), for "British India".

⁵Subs. for "the Province of West Pakistan" by Sind A.O., 1975.

⁶The original word "presidency" has successively been amended by Sind Ordinance 5 of 1955, W.P.A..O. 1964 and W.P. Ordinance 7 of 1965, s. 16 to read as above.