

GRAND LODGE OF INDIA



RW Bro. AJAY BHARGAVA
Grand Secretary



Freemasons Hall, Janpath, New Delhi-110001
☎ +91-7827000157; 7827008300
Email: grandlodgeofindia1961@gmail.com

No.530
Circular No.22/18)

29th November 2022

To

Secretaries of all daughter Lodges

Dear Sir and RW/VW/W/Brother,

This is to inform you that in the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of India held at Kolkata on 26th November 2022, Rules 119A, 119B, 87, 67g and 67h were considered and the same has been approved. Copies of the amended version of abovementioned Rules as well as the previous Rules are enclosed for your perusal.

Kindly read these amendments in the first rising of the next Regular Meeting of your Lodge.

With best wishes

Yours fraternally

AJAY BHARGAVA
Grand Secretary

Copy to: **MWGM**
Regional Grand Secretary, RGL of EI/NI/SI/WI
All Board Members

Existing Rule 119A

The books, papers, jewels, clothing and Paraphernalia, all funds and all other immoveable and moveable assets of any Lodge are inalienable except to Grand Lodge, or with the permission of the Board of General Purposes of the Grand Lodge.

Proposed Amendment

The books, papers, jewels, clothing and Paraphernalia, all funds and all other immoveable and moveable assets of any Lodge are inalienable except to Grand Lodge or with the permission of the Board of General Purposes of The Grand Lodge.

Explanation: For the purpose of this Rule and Rule 119B, the word "property" shall include immoveable Properties owned by daughter Lodges, or possessed by way of lease or otherwise, whether in its name, or in the name of any office bearer of the Lodge, or in the name of any Society or Trust or in any other manner.

New Rule 119B

Without prejudice to the general powers of the Grand Lodge under Rule 4 of the Book of Constitutions, the Grand Lodge shall have the power to issue instructions, guidelines or directions with regard to administration, maintenance and managements of the land and the building, preservation of the building and records, and finance of the property, to ensure that the properties are properly managed and their funds are utilized for charitable purposes or such other purposes the Grand Lodge may determine from time to time, and such instructions, guidelines or directions shall be binding on all daughter Lodges, their Trusts and Societies, and violation of any of them shall warrant disciplinary action against all concerned.

Existing Rule 87

Proposed Rule 87(addition
of last paragraph)

Every Master Elect, including a Brother nominated to be the first Master of a new Lodge, must also be a subscribing Member of a Royal Arch Chapter under the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and a subscribing Member of a Mark Lodge under the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of India, unless specially Exempted from this qualification by a Dispensation from the Grand Master.

Explanation: Many of our Brethren are not showing much interest to join our superior degrees such as Chapter and Mark, consequent to which the membership and growth of our superior Degrees, namely, the Royal Arch Chapters coming under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India, and the Mark Lodges coming under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of India, are seriously affected. Masters of Lodges after completing their Master ship more often than not lose interest in further pursuit of Masonic knowledge. If candidates for the Master's Chair are already enrolled as Members of the Chapter and Mark prior to taking up office, it will serve as an impetus for them to seek further research into the superior degrees. Hence it is felt that the basic qualification for a Master Elect be enhanced accordingly.

EXISTING RULE 67	PROPOSED AMENDMENT 67	REASONS
<p>Power to determine complaints</p> <p>67 a) b) c) d) e) f)</p> <p>THE GRAND MASTER SHALL HAVE IDENTICAL POWERS UNDER THIS RULE</p> <p>g) In case where the Grand Master assumes his power, the Regional Grand Master shall not proceed in that matter and shall cause to immediately send the relevant papers to the Grand Lodge.</p>	<p>Power to determine complaints</p> <p>67 a) b) c) d) e) f)</p> <p>g) The Grand Master shall also have identical powers under this rule, which however may be exercised only with the prior approval of the Board of General Purposes. In case the Grand Master assumes his power under this Rule, the Regional Grand Master shall not proceed in that matter and shall cause to immediately send the relevant papers to the Grand Lodge.</p> <p>h) Any Lodge or Mason aggrieved by any ruling of the Grand Master under this Rule may make a written representation to the Board of General Purposes within three months thereof, and the decision of the Board of General Purposes on the matter shall be final. If any decision of the Board of General Purposes results in recommending erasure of a Lodge or expulsion of a Brother, such decision shall be placed before the Grand Lodge for a final decision under Rule 4. Sub Rule f) of this Rule shall not apply to rulings of the Grand Master under this Rule.</p>	<p>The Sub Heading to the existing Rule 67 g) is causing confusion. Hence it is felt that it may be integrated with the Sub Rule.</p> <p>It is also felt that the Grand Master should exercise his power under this Rule only with the prior approval of the Board.</p> <p>It is felt that any person aggrieved by a ruling of the Grand Master should have a right of appeal. Since the Appeals Court is appointed by the Grand Master, it would be inappropriate for the Appeals Court to consider the matter. Hence it is felt that the power to hear any such appeal may be vested with the Board of General Purposes.</p>