

**ARTICLE 153 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF
PAKISTAN AS AMENDED VIDE EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT**

153. (1) There shall be a Council of Common Interests, in this Chapter referred to as the Council, to be appointed by the President.

2. The Council shall consist of -

- (a) the Prime Minister who shall be the Chairman of the Council;
- (b) the Chief Ministers of the Provinces; and
- (c) three members from the Federal Government to be nominated by the Prime Minister from time to time.

3. [Omitted]

4. The Council shall be responsible to {Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)} and shall submit an Annual Report to both Houses of Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament).

**ARTICLE 154 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF
PAKISTAN AS AMENDED VIDE EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT**

154. Functions and rules of procedure.- (1) The Council shall formulate and regulate policies in relation to matters in Part II of the Federal Legislative List and shall exercise supervision and control over related institutions.

2. The Council shall be constituted within thirty days of the Prime Minister taking oath of office.

3. The Council shall have a permanent Secretariat and shall meet at least once in ninety days:

Provided that the Prime Minister may convene a meeting on the request of a Province on an urgent matter.

4. The decisions of the Council shall be expressed in terms of the opinion of the majority.

5. Until [Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)] makes provision by law in this behalf, the Council may make its rules of procedure.

6. [Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)] in joint sitting may from time to time by resolution issue directions through the Federal Government to the Council generally or in a particular matter to take action as [Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)] may deem just and proper and such directions shall be binding on the Council.

7. If the Federal Government or a Provincial Government is dissatisfied with a decision of the Council, it may refer the matter to {Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)} in a joint sitting whose decision in this behalf shall be final.

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Article 155 - Complaints as to interference with water supplies. - (1) If the interests of a Province, the Federal Capital or the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, or any of the inhabitants thereof, in water from any natural source of supply ²(or reservoir) have been or are likely to be affected prejudicially by-

- (a) any executive act or legislation taken or passed or proposed to be taken or passed; or
- (b) the failure of any authority to exercise any of its powers with respect to the use and distribution or control of water from that source;

the Federal Government or the Provincial Government concerned may make a complaint in writing to the Council

(2) Upon receiving such complaint, the Council shall, after having considered the matter, either give its decision or request the President to appoint a commission consisting of such persons having special knowledge and experience in irrigation, engineering, administration, finance or law as he may think fit, hereinafter referred to as the Commission.

(3) Until [Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)] makes provision by law in this behalf, the provisions of the Pakistan Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1956, as in force immediately before the commencing day shall apply to the Council or the Commission as if the Council or the Commission were a commission appointed under that Act to which all the provisions of section 5 thereof applied and upon which the power contemplated by section 10A thereof had been conferred.

(4) After considering the report and supplementary report, if any, of the Commission, the Council shall record its decision on all matters referred to the Commission.

(5) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, but subject to the provisions of clause (5) of Article 154, it shall be the duty of the Federal Government and the Provincial Government concerned in the matter in issue to give effect to the decision of the Council faithfully according to its terms and tenor.

(6) No proceeding shall lie before any court at the instance of any party to a matter which is or has been in issue before the Council, or of any person whatsoever, in respect of a matter which is actually or has been or might or ought to have been a proper subject of complaint to the Council under this Article.

Article 157 - Electricity. (1) The Federal Government may in any Province construct or cause to be constructed hydro-electric or thermal power installations or grid stations for the generation of electricity and lay or cause to be laid inter-Provincial transmission lines.

(2) The Government of a Province may -

- (a) to the extent electricity is supplied to that Province from the national grid, require supply to be made in bulk for transmission and distribution within the Province;
- (b) levy tax on consumption of electricity within the Province;
- (c) construct power houses and grid stations and lay transmission lines for use within the Province; and
- (d) determine the tariff for distribution of electricity within the Province.

(3) In case of any dispute between the Federal Government and a Provincial Government in respect of any matter under this Article, any of the said Governments may move the Council of Common Interests for resolution of the dispute.