PROCEDURE FOR PASSING OF RESOLUTION(S) THROUGH POSTAL BALLOT

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{Section 110 of the Act read with Rule 22 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014}

Relevant Sections, Rules and Forms at a Glance

Particulars	Section(s), Rule(s) and Name of e-Form(s)
The Companies Act, 2013	Sections 109, 110, 111, 118 and 173
The Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014	Rules 22 and 25
Secretarial Standard-2 of ICSI	Clause 16 and Annexure

14.1 PROCEDURE WITH MAJOR CHECK POINTS

S. No.	Procedure	
1.	Ensure that—	
	• if the company is a listed company other than the listed on SME exchange or if the company having more than the 200 members, the following business shall be conducted only through postal ballot:-	
	(a) alteration of the object clause of the memorandum and in the case of the company in existence immediately before the commencement of the Act, alteration of the main objects of the memorandum;	
	(b) alteration of articles of association in relation to insertion or removal of provisions which, under section 2(68) of the Act, are required to be included in the articles of a company in order to constitute it a private company;	
	(c) change in place of registered office outside the local limits of any city, town or village as specified in section 12(5) of the Act;	
	(d) change in objects for which a company has raised money from public through prospectus and still has any unutilized amount out of the money so raised under section 13(8) of the Act;	
	(e) issue of shares with differential rights or otherwise section 43(a)(ii) of the Act;	
	(f) variation in the rights attached to a class of shares or debentures or other securities as specified under section 48 of the Act;	
	(g) buy-back of shares by a company under section 68(1) of the Act;	
	(h) election of a director under section 151 of the Act;	
	(i) sale of the whole or substantially the whole of an undertaking of a company as specified under section 180(1)(a) of the Act.	

S. No.	Procedure
	(j) giving loans or extending guarantee or providing security in excess of the limit specified under section 186(3) of the Act. [Rule 22(16) of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014]
	• any aforesaid items of business required to be transacted by means of postal ballot, may be transacted at a general meeting by a company which is required to provide the facility to members to vote by electronic means under section 108 of the Act, in the manner provided in that section {First proviso to Rule 22(16) of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014}
	• one person companies and other companies having members up to 200 (two hundred) shall not be required to transact any business through postal ballot {Second proviso to Rule 22(16) of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014}.
	• the business to be conducted through postal ballot is not an ordinary business {Section 110(1)(b) of the Act}.
	• the business to be conducted through postal ballot is not any business in which director or auditor have a right to be heard at the meeting {Section 110(1)(b) of the Act}.
3.	Search a person who can be appointed as a scrutiniser who shall not be in the employment of the company and obtain his consent for the same.
4.	Complete formalities regarding calling of board meeting in the following
	manner:
	• Prepare notice of board meeting along with draft resolution(s) to be passed in the board meeting.
	Send notice of board meeting to all the directors
	 at least 7 days before the date of board meeting or in such manner as prescribed under section 173(3) of the Companies Act, 2013 and clause 1 of the Secretarial Standard-1
5	Prepare a draft notice of postal ballot with explanatory statement including following contents as per Rule 22 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Secretarial Standard-2:
	• a draft resolution explaining the reasons therefore and requesting them to send their assent or dissent in writing on a postal ballot;
	• day, date and time and venue where the results of the voting will be announced and the link of the website where such result will be displayed;
	mode of declaration of result of the voting by postal ballot;
	• date of commencement of voting (postal and e-voting);
	• date of end of voting (postal and e-voting);
	 statement that any postal ballot form received from the Member after thirty days from the date of dispatch of Notice will not be valid;
	• statement to the effect that Member who has not received postal ballot form may apply to the company and obtain a duplicate thereof; and
	 contact details of the person responsible to address the queries/ grievances connected with the voting by postal ballot including voting by electronic means, if any.



For the detailed procedure, please refer Company Law Procedures & Compliances by Dr. Sanjeev Gupta, 2nd edn, 2021. You can buy from your bookseller or online at www.bharatlaws.com

COMPANY LAW Procedures & Compliances (in 2 vols.)