L. & M.
10—10-8-96.

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1063 M

DATED 22nd June 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Licences under the Places of Public Resort Act.

Issuing a notification making certain alterations in the rules for the granting of ---- and sanctioning, with remark, the grant of a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall Calicut.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[1]

6.105

INDEXED.

PRESS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 22·6·96
No. 1063·M

First copy sent to Press. 23-6-96
Returned for signature. 11-7-96
Despatched in print. 16-7-96

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Issuing a notification making certain alterations in the rules for the granting of —, and sanctioning, with remark, the grant of a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, Calicut.

[illegible] 8/9/15

Back Paper, [redacted] of 18

Read again Order of Government, dated 18 , No.

6

Further Paper, No. of 18

Enclosures A/

Current No. 1259 M/96 A

~~Pass~~ [illegible]

[illegible] 22/6

Statement with ditto.

Order, &c., of Government—A.

Papers kept out of File for despatch in original (not paged).

Number of copies required.
- Order complete. 260
- Letter only.
- Order complete with Letter.

N.B.—
- A = Print in full.
- B = Not to be printed.
- P = Print abstract only.
- Q = Print heading only.
- R = Print, but not for monthly volume.

No. 1063 M., 22nd June 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

From J. HEWETSON, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Calicut, 22nd April 1896, Ref. on C. No. 141-Munl.

I have the honour to forward a memorial from the Managing Committee of the Victoria Town Jubilee Hall at Calicut.

2. The history of the hall is given in the memorial, and after its completion it seems to have been used for entertainments without objection until May 1895. The municipal committee then asked the managing committee to take out a license under Madras Act II of 1888. After some correspondence the enclosed memorial to Government has been sent in.

3. The difficulty lies in No. 5 of the rules published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* for 1891, Part I-A, page 204. This rule lays down that there must be two main entrances of not less than ten feet wide and additional special exits not less than eight feet wide when the enclosure exceeds 1,000 square feet. The Jubilee Hall would require three such special exits. Now, the hall has been built with doors only five feet wide, but there are seven of these on each side and two at the end, thus giving eighty feet of door space against fifty-four required by the rules. The doors at present do not open outwards, but can be made to do so without much difficulty or expense. To alter the hall so as to make two ten-feet doors and three eight-feet doors would spoil the appearance of the hall and might endanger the safety of the building. The question is, whether Government is willing to relax Rule V so as to enable a license to be granted without altering the size of the doors and subject only to their being made to open outwards.

4. The accompanying plans (sent separate) will enable Government to understand the structure of the hall. I think there can be no doubt the hall will be perfectly safe if the rule is relaxed as proposed, but I am more doubtful as to the policy of allowing exceptions to general rules of this nature.

Enclosure.

Memorial from the Managing Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Calicut, to His Excellency the Governor of Fort St. George (through the Collector of Malabar), dated Calicut, 19th April 1896.

May it please Your Excellency,—Your Excellency's humble memorialists respectfully beg to bring the following facts to your Excellency's notice for kind consideration :—

1. At a meeting of the subscribers to the Jubilee Celebration Fund at Calicut on the 20th January 1888, it was resolved that, as a permanent memorial of the Jubilee of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, a Town Hall should be established at Calicut, the head-quarters of the Malabar district.

2. The Government of Madras, on the recommendation of the then Collector, Mr. Dumergue, was pleased to make a free grant of the necessary site (*vide* G.O., No. 797, Revenue, dated 10th October 1890).

3. With the balance of subscriptions raised for the Jubilee celebration, supplemented by subsequent contributions, a commodious and permanent hall measuring 75 feet × 30 feet, with a side room on the north and a verandah on the remaining sides, was constructed at a cost of Rs. 7,068. The accompanying two plans show its situation and other particulars.

4. The hall was completed and opened for public use in October 1892, when the management of the hall was, at a meeting of the subscribers, vested in a committee of seven members including a President and a Secretary, and a set of rules was also passed for the guidance of the committee.

5. The hall was since then very useful for dramatic and other performances, concerts, theatricals, balls and dances as well as for public meetings in connection with the Revenue Settlement and other matters of general importance. On the occasion of His Excellency Lord Wenlock's visit to this town, an exhibition of the agricultural and other products of the district was got up in the hall, and, while viewing the various articles that had been exhibited, His Excellency was struck with the commodiousness of the hall and made enquiries as to the origin, maintenance and the use of the hall.

6. The hall continued to be useful in several ways until May 1895, when the Calicut Municipal Council, on the suggestion of the Chairman, Mr. T. Varada Rao, took exception to the use of the hall for any public purpose without a license being obtained under the Madras Places of Public Resort and Entertainment Act II of 1888.

7. As the managing committee was of opinion that the Act was inapplicable to the hall in question, the municipal council referred the matter to the Government, and the Government, agreeing with the then Collector, Mr. Moberly, ruled that a license was necessary (*vide* G.O., Mis. No. 1453 M., dated 7th September 1895).

8. As the Town Hall building does not satisfy the structural conditions necessary under Rule V of the Rules published under section 7 of the said Act (vide *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 13th October 1891, Part I-A, page 204), in that there are no "main doors" and "special exits," the managing committee, in applying to the Chairman for a license, made the following proposals:—

> "As regards the structural conditions necessary for the granting of a license, it will be seen from the accompanying plans that the hall is provided with sixteen doors in the external walls, each five feet wide, thus giving a total exit of eighty feet. As the leaves of these doors at present open *inwards*, the committee is prepared to make them open *outwards* only, thereby rendering all possible facilities for exit in the event of any panic or other disturbance. It will be noted that the two main doors and the three special exits, as per the Government rules, will give a total exit of forty-four feet *only*, while the existing sixteen doors already give eighty feet of *exit*."

9. On this application for the license being referred by the Chairman to the Executive Engineer of the West Coast Division, the latter officer observed as follows:—

> "In my opinion if the seven doors on the eastern side and the two on the southern were made to open outwards and were fastened during performances so as to admit of being opened outwards on slight pressure and at the same time steps were constructed round the southern and eastern sides, then the building would be safe for the public.
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> "However, I notice that in Rule V (*a*), page 6 of G.O., No. 2148, Judicial, dated 20th October 1891, it is laid down that no place of public resort shall be licensed unless it has not less than two doors, each double, with leaves at least five feet wide, opening outwards only. Then to comply with the rule, *if it is absolutely necessary*, I should construct a door at A and C, respectively (in the centre of the southern and eastern side walls). For the rest, if the remaining doors on the eastern side were made to open outwards then these would supply the necessary additional special exits."

The Chairman—the licensing authority under the Act—approved of this view (*vide* Executive Engineer's letter, No. 438 M., dated 1st April 1896, and the Chairman's endorsement thereon, No. 379, dated the 6th idem).

10. It will be seen that the Executive Engineer's suggestion, agreed in by the Chairman, regarding the "necessary additional special exits" is not in perfect compliance with Rule V (*b*); for, this rule requires that the "special exits" should be of a width of not less than eight feet while the existing doors are only five feet wide, and that there need be only three special exits (the area of the hall being 2,250 square feet) while all the remaining six doors are proposed to be converted into special exits.

11. It is, however, clear that the Executive Engineer and the Chairman are decidedly of opinion that the safety of the public would be secured by making the existing sixteen doors on the external walls to open outwards, but that they are confronted with the imperative Rule V, clauses (*a*) and (*b*), in acting upon that opinion, and that they are insisting on the "main doors" and "special exits" being provided by reason of the existence of the rule in question, rather than the necessity for them.

12. The object of insisting upon at least two "main doors" and the "special exits" being evidently to afford facilities for exit in the event of any panic or other disturbance, the alteration of the existing sixteen doors, each five feet wide, so as to make them open outwards only, would provide a total exit of eighty feet, while the two "main doors" and the three "special exits" under Rule V, clauses (*a*) and (*b*), would give only an exit of forty-four feet.

13. The breaking open of the side walls to put up the main doors and the special exits would considerably impair the integrity of the walls and would unnecessarily cost a large expenditure on the hall, which has no funded capital.

14. Ever since the interference of the Calicut Municipal Council in May 1895, the Town Hall has been shut up, and the Calicut public has been put to the greatest inconvenience for want of a suitable place for public meetings or entertainments—a grievance which is shared in by all classes of the community.

In these circumstances, your Excellency's humble memorialists humbly and respectfully beg that your Excellency may be graciously pleased to direct that a license be granted for the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Calicut on condition of the existing sixteen doors on the external walls being made to open outwards only—being a relaxation of Rule V, clauses (*a*) and (*b*)—the remaining conditions required under the Act and the Rules not being relaxed; for which act of charity and kindness your Excellency's humble memorialists shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

ORDER—No. 1063 M., dated 22nd June 1896.

The following notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATION.

Under the provisions of section 14 of Places of Public Resort Act II of 1888, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to make the following alterations in the rules for the granting of licenses under section 7 of the said Act, published in G.O., No. 1460 M., dated 10th September 1891:—

Rules IV and V.—Insert at the beginning of each the words "except with the special permission of Government."

2. In accordance with the terms of the above notification, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the grant of a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, Calicut, under section 7 of Act II of 1888, provided that all the doors in the building are made to open outwards.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar (with plans returned).
,, all other Collectors.
,, all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
,, the Judicial Department.
Gazette.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Gazette Part I-A

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., No. 1063 M., 22nd June 1896.

JUNE.

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2601

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3. With the balance of subscriptions raised for the Jubilee celebration, supplemented by subsequent contributions, a commodious and permanent hall measuring 75 feet × 30 feet, with a side room on the north and a verandah on the remaining sides, was constructed at a cost of Rs. 7,068. The accompanying two plans show its situation and other particulars.

4. The hall was completed and opened for public use in October 1892, when the management of the hall was, at a meeting of the subscribers, vested in a committee of seven members including a President and a Secretary, and a set of rules was also passed for the guidance of the committee.

5. The hall was since then very useful for dramatic and other performances, concerts, theatricals, balls and dances as well as for public meetings in connection with the Revenue Settlement and other matters of general importance. On the occasion of His Excellency Lord Wenlock's visit to this town, an exhibition of the agricultural and other products of the district was got up in the hall, and, while viewing the various articles that had been exhibited, His Excellency was struck with the commodiousness of the hall and made enquiries as to the origin, maintenance and the use of the hall.

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for Chief Secretary.

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„ all other Collectors.
„ all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
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Gazette.

Exd. A. Raitt.

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(True Extract.)

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for *Chief Secretary.*

To the Collector of Malabar (with plans returned).
,, all other Collectors.
,, all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
,, the Judicial Department.
Gazette.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

A.S.

For approval.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., No. 1063 M., 22nd June 1896.

JUNE.

Please strike off

Licenses under the Places of Public Resort Act.

Issuing a notification making certain alterations in the rules for the granting of —, and sanctioning, with remark, the grant of a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, Calicut.

Ref on C.No. 141/rural of 96.

Malabar Collector's Office
Calicut 22nd April 1896

Local and Municipal Dept
CURRENT No. 1259 M.

From,

J. Hewetson Esq ICS.
Ag Collector of Malabar

To,

The Chief Secretary to Government.
Local and Municipal Deptt.
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a memorial from the Managing Committee of the Victoria Town Jubilee Hall at Calicut.

The history of the hall is given in the memorial, and after its completion, it seems to have been used for entertainments without objection until May 1895. The Municipal Committee then asked the managing Committee to take out a license under Madras Act 2 of 1888. After some correspondence the enclosed memorial to Government has been sent in.

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The accompanying plans+ will enable Government to understand the structure of the hall. I think there can be no doubt the hall will be perfectly safe if the rule is relaxed as proposed, but I am more doubtful as to the policy of allowing exceptions to general rules of this nature.

+ sent separate.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your most obdt servant,

J. Hewetson
Ag Collector

H.D.W.
23.4.96

O.E. 23.4.96

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 1257 M

1453 Pub 7-9-95
1918 Pub 11-12-94
685 L 21-5-94
2147 Pub 20-10-91
1460 L 10-9-91
797 Rev 10-10-90
1133 L 16-11-84
802 L 21-7-86

1896

From

The Collector of
Malabar

To

The Chief Secretary to Fort
Madras

Dated 22-4-96

Desp'd
Recd 27 APR. 96

No. (A)

Encls 2 plans

Subject

Forwarding memorial from the managing Committee of the Victoria Town Jubilee Hall at Calicut.

L

To,

His Excellency Sir Arthur Elibank Havelock, G. C. M. G., G. C. I. E.,
Governor of Fort St. George.

Through,

The Collector of Malabar.

THE humble memorial of the MANAGING COMMITTEE of the VICTORIA JUBILEE TOWN HALL at Calicut.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Your Excellency's humble memorialists respectfully beg to bring the following facts to Your Excellency's notice for kind consideration.

1. At a meeting of the subscribers to the Jubilee Celebration Fund at Calicut on the 20th January 1888, it was resolved that as a permanent memorial of the Jubilee of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, a Town Hall should be established at Calicut, the head-quarters of the Malabar District.

2. The Government of Madras, on the recommendation of the then Collector Mr. Dumergue, was pleased to make a free grant of the necessary site. (*vide* G. O. dated 10th October 1890, No. 797 Revenue).

3. With the balance of subscriptions raised for the Jubilee celebration, supplemented by subsequent contributions, a commodious and permanent Hall measuring 75 ft. x 30 ft. with a side room on the north and a verandah on the remaining sides, was constructed at a cost of Rs. 7,068. The accompanying two plans shew its situation and other particulars.

4. The Hall was completed and opened for public use in October 1892, when the management of the Hall was, at a meeting of the subscribers, vested in a committee of seven members including a President and a Secretary, and

a set of rules was also passed for the guidance of the Committee.

5. The Hall was since then very useful for dramatic and other performances, concerts theatricals, balls and dances as well as for public meetings in connection with the Revenue Settlement and other matters of general importance. On the occasion of H. E. Lord Wenlock's visit to this town, an exhibition of the agricultural and other products of the district was got up in the Hall and while viewing the various articles that had been exhibited, His Excellency was struck with the commodiousness of the Hall and made enquiries as to the origin, maintenance and the use of the Hall.

6. The Hall continued to be useful in several ways until May 1895, when the Calicut Municipal Council on the suggestion of the Chairman Mr. T. Varada Rao, took exception to the use of the Hall for any public purpose without a license being obtained under the Madras Places of Public Resort and Entertainment Act II of 1888.

7. As the Managing Committee was of opinion that the Act was inapplicable to the Hall in question, the Municipal Council referred the matter to the Government and the Government agreeing with the then Collector Mr. Moberly, ruled that a license was necessary (*vide* G. O. dated 7th September 1895, No. 1453 M. Mis.)

8. As the Town Hall building does not satisfy the structural conditions necessary under Rule V of the Rules published under Section 7 of the said Act (*vide* Fort St. George Gazette dated 13th October 1891, Part I A, page 204) in that there are no "main doors" and "special exits," the Managing Committee, in applying to the Chairman for a license, made the following proposals :—

"As regards the structural conditions "necessary for the granting of a license it will "be seen from the accompanying plans, that "the Hall is provided with 16 doors in the "external walls, each 5 feet wide, thus giving "a total exit of 80 ft. As the leaves of these

"doors at present open *inwards*, the Committee "is prepared to make them open *outwards* only, "thereby rendering all possible facilities for "exit, in the event of any panic or other "disturbance. It will be noted that the two "main doors and the three special exits as per "the Government Rules, will give a total exit "of *44 ft. only*, while the existing 16 doors "already give *80 ft. of exit*."

9. On this application for the license being referred by the Chairman to the Executive Engineer of the West Coast Division, the latter officer observed as follows :—"In my opinion if "the 7 doors on the eastern side and the two on "the southern were made to open outwards and "were fastened during performances so as to admit of being opened outwards on slight pressure "and at the same time steps were constructed "round the southern and eastern sides, then "the building would be safe for the public.

"However I notice that in Rule V (*a*) "page 6 of G. O. dated 20th October 1891 "No. 2143, it is laid down that no place of "public resort shall be licensed unless it has "not less than two doors, each double, with "leaves at least 5 ft. wide, opening outwards "only. Then to comply with the rule *if it is* "*absolutely necessary*, I should construct a door "at A and C respectively (in the centre of the "southern and eastern side walls). For the "rest, if the remaining doors on the eastern "side, were made to open outwards then these "would supply the necessary additional special "exits." The Chairman the licensing authority under the Act, approved of this view. (*Vide* Executive Engineer's letter No. 438 M. dated 1st April 1896 and the Chairman's endorsement thereon No. 379 dated the 6th idem.)

10. It will be seen that the Executive Engineer's suggestion, agreed in by the Chairman regarding the "necessary additional special exits" is not in perfect compliance with Rule V (*b*); for, this rule requires that the "special exits" should be of a width of not less than 8 ft. while the existing doors are only 5 ft. wide, and that there need be only 3 special exits

(the area of the Hall being 2250 sq. ft.) while all the remaining 6 doors are proposed to be converted into special exits.

11. It is however clear that the Executive Engineer and the Chairman are decidedly of opinion that the safety of the public would be secured by making the existing 16 doors on the external walls to open outwards, but that they are confronted with the imperative Rule V clauses *(a)* and *(b)* in acting upon that opinion and that they are insisting on the "main doors" and "special exits" being provided by reason of the existence of the rule in question, rather than the necessity for them.

12. The object of insisting upon at least two "main doors" and the "special exits" being evidently to afford facilities for exit in the event of any panic or other disturbance, the alteration of the existing 16 doors, each 5 ft. wide, so as to make them open outwards only, would provide a total exit of 80 ft. while the "two main-doors" and the three "special exits" under Rule V clauses *(a)* and *(b)* would give only an exit of 44 ft.

13. The breaking open of the side walls to put up the main doors and the special exits would considerably impair the integrity of the walls and would unnecessarily cost a large expenditure on the Hall which has no funded capital.

14. Ever since the interference of the Calicut Municipal Council in May 1895, the Town Hall has been shut up, and the Calicut public has been put to the greatest inconveniance for want of a suitable place for public meetings or entertainments, a grievance which is shared in by all classes of the community.

In these circumstances Your Excellency's humble memorialists humbly and respectfully beg that Your Excellency may be graciously pleased to direct that a license be granted for the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Calicut on condition of the existing 16 doors on the external walls being made to open outwards only

(being a relaxation of Rule V clauses *(a)* and *(b)*) the remaining conditions required under the Act and the Rules not being relaxed; for which act of charity and kindness, Your Excellency's humble memorialists shall, as in duty bound,

Ever pray.

Calicut
19th April 1896

1. D. Maneckji
2. P. A. Krishna menon
3. K. R. Ramaswami Aier
4. (C. T. Koyotti Haji)
5.
6. Othamchund Ramchund
7. P. V. Karunakara menon

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. 1259 M. of 1896, dated 22nd April 1896, from the Collector of Malabar

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

FOR ORDERS.

The facts of the case are clearly set forth in the memorial & the Collector's letter.

× In G.O. No. 802 M., dt 21.7.88.

The question of exempting the Hall from the operation of Act II× of 1888 came up before Government in 1895 and it was then ruled that the Hall should be licensed under the Act (G.O. No. 1453 M. dt 7th September 1895).

The case is doubtless a very hard one, as the Hall is ~~as it is~~ unless a license is granted perfectly useless for the purposes for which it was intended, and the alterations that should be made before it can be licensed under the Act are likely to spoil its appearance & might possibly endanger the safety of the building.

× In G.O. No. 1460 M., dt 10th Sept 1891.

The language of rule V×

Seems

seems to be absolute & Government would seem to have no power to relax the rule in any case.

S.A.
7/5/96.

There is one argument in favour of relaxing the rule, & that is that, although the building was not opened for use, yet its construction was sanctioned & begun before the rules under Act II of 1888 were promulgated. Even if the difficulties that would arise had been noticed as soon as the rules were issued, it would probably have been difficult to alter the structure of the building to suit the requirements of Govt. If it is considered that the rule may be relaxed, the Executive Engr's proposals, as quoted in para. 9 of the memorial may be approved, as in part supplying the exact requirements of the rule, as he thinks apparently that the construction of these two big doors wd. not endanger the building, or presumably he wd. not have made the suggestion.

WWD
9.5.96

I submit that the two ten feet doors should be required & the others being ~~[illegible]~~ made to open outward and [illegible] up

I think the building will be quite safe if all the existing doors are made to open outwards. As the rule stands, however, a license cannot legally be granted even if this alteration is made. I would amend the rule by inserting "Except with the special permission of Govt." at the beginning of Rule V

21/5/96

I agree but I wd insert the sentence in Rule IV also

. Very well
12/6/96

5/6/96

I fully concur, and I think the rule being thus altered, the desired license may issue.

AGH
10.6.96

Yes

of ~~these requirements~~ conditions are complied with the grant of a license may be permitted. The two ten feet doors will not cost much: it is rubbish talking about spoiling the structural appearance of a barn such as this. The petrs. seem to forget as does the Colr. that the object of having 10 foot doors is to prevent a crush and jam in the doorway. This would be fairly safe to occur with a five foot door

19/5/96

C.S.

~~Order.~~

~~The grant of ~~the~~ a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall is sanctioned on condition that all the doors are made to open outward~~

~~2. The following notification will be published in the Fort St George Gazette~~

~~Notification~~

~~Under the provisions of sec. 16 of Mad. Act II of 1888 H.E. the G.-in-C. is pleased to make the following alteration in the rules for the granting of licenses under sec. 7 of the said act~~

~~In Rule V: at the beginning ~~between "licensed and the~~~~

~~"[illegible]" insert "Except with the special permission of Govt."~~

(from order)

WWD
~~10~~.6.96

[illegible]

The grant of the license [illegible] Calicut Town Hall [illegible]

2. The following notification will [illegible] be published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

Notification

Under the provisions of sec. 14 of the Act II of 1888 H.E. the G. in C. is pleased to make the following alterations in the rules for the granting of licenses under sec. 7 of the [illegible]

Licensing of the Victoria Town Jubilee Hall. Calicut Municipality

FOR ORDERS.

Resubmitted to Hon. Mr. Bliss with reference to Hon Mr. Grose's note of 5-6-96

WWD
10-6-96

HB
11/6/96

N. B.
Plans packed outside box.

C 12/3 R 13/3

$\left[\frac{G.}{24.}\right]$
1,000—15-11-95.

DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O dated 189 , No.

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

1 22nd April, from Collector of Malabar.

, „

, „

WAS

Act II of 1888 [illegible] 22 [illegible] Municipal Act

HB
17/6/96

Please see the notification (marked in blue pencil) in G.O. which is now modified by this order.

WWD
18.6.96

ORDER. No. 1063 M dated 22-6-96

The following notification will be published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

Notification.

Under the provisions of sec. 14 of ~~Municipal~~ Places of Public Resort Act II of 1888 H.E. the G.-in-C. is pleased to make the following alterations in the rules for the granting of licenses under sec. 7 of the said Act, published in G.O. No. 1460 M. dated 10th Sept. 1891.

Rules IV & V. Insert at the beginning of each the words "Except with the special permission of Government."

2. In accordance with the terms of the above notification H.E. the G.-in-C. is pleased to sanction the grant of a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall Calicut, under ~~and~~ section 7 of Act II of 1888

provided that all the doors in the building are made to open outwards.
(from orders)

WWD
13.6.96

17/6/96

Jubilee Town Hall, Calicut

FROM ORDERS.

C. S.

Plans for office

To
The Collr. of Malabar (with plans returned)
" All other Collrs.
" All chairmen of ml. cls.
The Judicial Deptt.
Gazette 14/7/96
Despd 15/7/96

+ sent separately

No. 1063 M., 22nd June 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

From J. HEWETSON, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Calicut, 22nd April 1896, Ref. on C. No. 141-Munl.

I have the honour to forward a memorial from the Managing Committee of the Victoria Town Jubilee Hall at Calicut.

2. The history of the hall is given in the memorial, and after its completion it seems to have been used for entertainments witho 895
municipal committee then asked the managing en
Madras Act II of 1888. After some corresp
ernment has been sent in.

3. The difficulty lies in No. 5 of the rules
for 1891, Part I-A, page 204. This rule la
entrances of not less than ten feet wide and
eight feet wide when the enclosure exceeds
would require three such special exits. Now,
five feet wide, but there are seven of these
giving eighty feet of door space against fifty-
at present do not open outwards, but can be
expense. To alter the hall so as to make two
would spoil the appearance of the hall and mi
The question is, whether Government is willing
license to be granted without altering the size of
being made to open outwards.

4. The accompanying plans (sent separate) w
the structure of the hall. I think there can be
safe if the rule is relaxed as proposed, but I am
allowing exceptions to general rules of this natur

—

Enclosure.

Memorial from the Managing Committee of t
Calicut, to His Excellency the Governo
Collector of Malabar), dated Calicut, 19th

May it please Your Excellency,—Your
respectfully beg to bring the following facts to
consideration :—

1. At a meeting of the subscribers to the J
on the 20th January 1888, it was resolved that
Jubilee of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majes
Town Hall should be established at Calicut,
district.

2. The Government of Madras, on the reco
Mr. Dumergue, was pleased to make a free gran
No. 797, Revenue, dated 10th October 1890).

provided that all the doors in the building are made to open outwards.

(from orders)

WWD
13.6.96

17/6/96

Jubilee Town Hall, Calicut

FROM ORDERS.

Plans in office

C. S.

To

the Collr. of Malabar (with the plans returned)
" All other Collrs.
" All chairmen of ml. cls.
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ENCLOSURE.

Memorial from the Managing Committee of t
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Collector of Malabar), dated Calicut, 19th

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3. With the balance of subscriptions raised for the Jubilee celebration, supplemented by subsequent contributions, a commodious and permanent hall measuring 75 feet × 30 feet, with a side room on the north and a verandah on the remaining sides, was constructed at a cost of Rs. 7,068. The accompanying two plans show its situation and other particulars.

4. The hall was completed and opened for public use in October 1892, when the management of the hall was, at a meeting of the subscribers, vested in a committee of seven members including a President and a Secretary, and a set of rules was also passed for the guidance of the committee.

5. The hall was since then very useful for dramatic and other performances, concerts, theatricals, balls and dances as well as for public meetings in connection with the Revenue Settlement and other matters of general importance. On the occasion of His Excellency Lord Wenlock's visit to this town, an exhibition of the agricultural and other products of the district was got up in the hall, and, while viewing the various articles that had been exhibited, His Excellency was struck with the commodiousness of the hall and made enquiries as to the origin, maintenance and the use of the hall.

6. The hall continued to be useful in several ways until May 1895, when the Calicut Municipal Council, on the suggestion of the Chairman, Mr. T. Varada Rao, took exception to the use of the hall for any public purpose without a license being obtained under the Madras Places of Public Resort and Entertainment Act II of 1888.

7. As the managing committee was of opinion that the Act was inapplicable to the hall in question, the municipal council referred the matter to the Government, and the Government, agreeing with the then Collector, Mr. Moberly, ruled that a license was necessary (*vide* G.O., Mis. No. 1453 M., dated 7th September 1895).

8. As the Town Hall building does not satisfy the structural conditions necessary under Rule V of the Rules published under section 7 of the said Act (vide *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 13th October 1891, Part I-A, page 204), in that there are no "main doors" and "special exits," the managing committee, in applying to the Chairman for a license, made the following proposals:—

> "As regards the structural conditions necessary for the granting of a license, it will be seen from the accompanying plans that the hall is provided with sixteen doors in the external walls, each five feet wide, thus giving a total exit of eighty feet. As the leaves of these doors at present open *inwards*, the committee is prepared to make them open *outwards* only, thereby rendering all possible facilities for exit in the event of any panic or other disturbance. It will be noted that the two main doors and the three special exits, as per the Government rules, will give a total exit of forty-four feet *only*, while the existing sixteen doors already give eighty feet of *exit*."

9. On this application for the license being referred by the Chairman to the Executive Engineer of the West Coast Division, the latter officer observed as follows:—

> "In my opinion if the seven doors on the eastern side and the two on the southern were made to open outwards and were fastened during performances so as to admit of being opened outwards on slight pressure and at the same time steps were constructed round the southern and eastern sides, then the building would be safe for the public.
>
> "However, I notice that in Rule V (*a*), page 6 of G.O., No. 2148, Judicial, dated 20th October 1891, it is laid down that no place of public resort shall be licensed unless it has not less than two doors, each double, with leaves at least five feet wide, opening outwards only. Then to comply with the rule, *if it is absolutely necessary*, I should construct a door at A and C, respectively (in the centre of the southern and eastern side walls). For the rest, if the remaining doors on the eastern side were made to open outwards then these would supply the necessary additional special exits."

The Chairman—the licensing authority under the Act—approved of this view (*vide* Executive Engineer's letter, No. 438 M., dated 1st April 1896, and the Chairman's endorsement thereon, No. 379, dated the 6th idem).

10. It will be seen that the Executive Engineer's suggestion, agreed in by the Chairman, regarding the "necessary additional special exits" is not in perfect compliance with Rule V (*b*); for, this rule requires that the "special exits" should be of a width of not less than eight feet while the existing doors are only five feet wide, and that there need be only three special exits (the area of the hall being 2,250 square feet) while all the remaining six doors are proposed to be converted into special exits.

11. It is, however, clear that the Executive Engineer and the Chairman are decidedly of opinion that the safety of the public would be secured by making the existing sixteen doors on the external walls to open outwards, but that they are confronted with the imperative Rule V, clauses (*a*) and (*b*), in acting upon that opinion, and that they are insisting on the "main doors" and "special exits" being provided by reason of the existence of the rule in question, rather than the necessity for them.

12. The object of insisting upon at least two "main doors" and the "special exits" being evidently to afford facilities for exit in the event of any panic or other disturbance, the alteration of the existing sixteen doors, each five feet wide, so as to make them open outwards only, would provide a total exit of eighty feet, while the two "main doors" and the three "special exits" under Rule V, clauses (*a*) and (*b*), would give only an exit of forty-four feet.

13. The breaking open of the side walls to put up the main doors and the special exits would considerably impair the integrity of the walls and would unnecessarily cost a large expenditure on the hall, which has no funded capital.

14. Ever since the interference of the Calicut Municipal Council in May 1895, the Town Hall has been shut up, and the Calicut public has been put to the greatest inconvenience for want of a suitable place for public meetings or entertainments—a grievance which is shared in by all classes of the community.

In these circumstances, your Excellency's humble memorialists humbly and respectfully beg that your Excellency may be graciously pleased to direct that a license be granted for the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Calicut on condition of the existing sixteen doors on the external walls being made to open outwards only—being a relaxation of Rule V, clauses (*a*) and (*b*)—the remaining conditions required under the Act and the Rules not being relaxed; for which act of charity and kindness your Excellency's humble memorialists shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

ORDER—No. 1063 M., dated 22nd June 1896.

The following notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATION.

Under the provisions of section 14 of Places of Public Resort Act II of 1888, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to make the following alterations in the rules for the granting of licenses under section 7 of the said Act, published in G.O., No. 1460 M., dated 10th September 1891:—

Rules IV and V.—Insert at the beginning of each the words "except with the special permission of Government."

2. In accordance with the terms of the above notification, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the grant of a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, Calicut, under section 7 of Act II of 1888, provided that all the doors in the building are made to open outwards.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar (with plans returned).
,, all other Collectors.
,, all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
,, the Judicial Department.
Gazette.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., No. 1063 M., 22nd June 1896.

JUNE.

Licenses under the Places of Public Resort Act.

Issuing a notification making certain alterations in the rules for the granting of —, and sanctioning, with remark, the grant of a license to the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, Calicut.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED. { Order complete. / Letter only. / Order complete with Letter.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. DATED 189 .

CURRENT NO.

ENCLOSURES TO C. NO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
F = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			

2-9-07

[Ref. / 4]
8,000-1-4-04.

DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press / Miscellaneous / ~~Routine~~ No. 1063. dated 22/8/96 190 .

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
6/1/05	M	4137	/04	[illegible]	24-2-05	[illegible]
2.9.07	M	3565	/07	[illegible]	11-11-07	MA

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			

2-9-07

[Ref. / 4]
8.000-1-4-04.

DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press / Miscellaneous / ~~Routine~~ No. 1063. dated 22/6/96 190 .

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
6/1/05	M	4137	/04		24-2-05	
2 9 07	M	3565	/07		11-11-07	

[illegible]

[Ref. / 4]
8.00 -1-4-04.

DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press / Miscellaneous / Routine No. 13646. dated 23-6 190 4.

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
15-2-05	M	645 M	/05		22-3-05	