

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1422m

DATED 15/8/98

DESPATCHED

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Rules. Ordering with remarks the publication of a notification substituting certain rules for Nos 4 & 5 of the — for the election of Vice Chairmen of Municipal Councils and stating that any objection or suggestion which may be made in respect of these rules will be considered on or after the 15th Oct. 1898.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
In 5009/1898.							

Government (1898) of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Proof for approval

Passe
strike off as amended
11/12/98

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1898.

Spare copies

No. 1422 M., 15th August 1898.

AUGUST.

Rules.

Ordering with remarks the publication of a notification substituting certain rules for Nos. 4 and 5 of the — for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils, and stating that any objection or suggestion which may be made in respect of these rules will be considered on or after the 15th October 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 61 M., dated 11th January 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Confirming, with remarks, the rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils, and ordering the publication of the necessary notification in the Fort St. George and all the District Gazettes.

ORDER—No. 1422 M., dated 15th August 1898.

The Government considers it desirable that the difficulty which may be experienced by candidates for the office of Vice-Chairmen in obtaining the absolute majority of votes required for a valid election under No. 2 of the rules issued in the Government order read above, should be removed by providing that a candidate may withdraw his candidature at any stage, with or without the consent of his nominators, ~~and that he shall thereafter~~ be competent to take part in the ballot, and by eliminating at each successive ballot the candidate who obtained the fewest votes at the preceding ballot. The following will, therefore, be substituted for rule 4:—

“4. (a) On the day of the election, the Chairman, or the councillor elected to the chair, shall read out the names of the candidates nominated for the office and at once proceed to the election, which shall be conducted in the following manner:—Every councillor wishing to vote shall, at the meeting, write on a slip of paper the name of the candidate he wishes to be elected to the office of Vice-Chairman, and place the same in a box so constructed that papers may be placed therein but not extracted without the box being opened. The Chairman shall then open the box and count the votes in the presence of the council. The candidate having the largest number of votes, or, if only one candidate has been nominated, such candidate, shall be considered to have been elected to the office, subject to the condition laid down in rule 2 above.

(b) If no candidate has secured the absolute majority of votes required by rule 2, the ballot shall be repeated.

(c) At each successive ballot the candidate who obtained the fewest votes at the preceding ballot shall be eliminated and he shall then be eligible to vote. If two or more candidates lowest on the list have obtained equal numbers of votes, a separate ballot shall be taken in order to decide which of them should be eliminated. The elimination shall, if no candidate secures an absolute majority of votes, be made until two candidates only are left and if even the last ballot fails to produce the required majority of votes in favour of any one candidate, the meeting shall be adjourned.

(d) No candidate nominated for the office shall take part in the ballot; but a candidate may withdraw his candidature at any stage with or without the consent of his nominators, ~~and thereafter~~ he shall be competent to take part in the ballot.”

2. It seems also desirable to modify rule 5 so as to make it clear that notice of adjourned meetings should be given by the Chairman and that the notice so given should be sufficiently long to enable the requirements of rule 3 being satisfied. The words “of which at least seven days’ notice shall be given by the Chairman” will accordingly be inserted after “for every adjourned meeting” in the first sentence of this rule, and with reference to the alteration proposed in rule 4 in paragraph 1 *supra*, the second sentence will be modified as follows:—

“At every adjourned meeting the ballots shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of rule 4.”

3. The following notification will be published in the Fort St. George Gazette and in all the District Gazettes:—

NOTIFICATION.

The following rules, which it is proposed to substitute for Nos. 4 and 5 of the rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils framed under sections 14 (3) and 250 (1) (n) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, IV of 1884, as amended by Act III of 1897, are published under section 256 (1) of the said Act; and notice is hereby given that any objection or suggestion which may be made in respect of these rules by any person interested therein will be considered on or after the 15th October next:—

“4. (a) On the day of the election, the Chairman, or the councillor elected to the chair, shall read out the names of the candidates nominated for the office, and at once proceed to the election, which shall be conducted in the following manner:—Every councillor wishing to vote shall, at the meeting, write on a slip of paper the name of the candidate he wishes to be elected to the office of Vice-Chairman, and place the same in a box so constructed, that papers may be placed therein but not extracted without the box being opened. The Chairman shall then open the box and count the votes in the presence of the council. The candidate having the largest number of votes, or, if only one candidate has been nominated, such candidate, shall be considered to have been elected to the office, subject to the condition laid down in rule 2 above.

(b) If no candidate has secured the absolute majority of votes required by rule 2, the ballot shall be repeated.

(c) At each successive ballot the candidate who obtained the fewest votes at the preceding ballot shall be eliminated and he shall then be eligible to vote. If two or more candidates lowest on the list have obtained equal numbers of votes, a separate ballot shall be taken in order to decide which of them should be eliminated. The elimination shall, if no candidate secures an absolute majority of votes, be made until two candidates only are left, and if even the last ballot fails to produce the required majority of votes in favour of any one candidate, the meeting shall be adjourned.

(d) No candidate nominated for the office shall take part in the ballot; but a candidate may withdraw his candidature at any stage with or without the consent of his nominators ~~and thereafter~~ he shall be competent to take part in the ballot.”

“5. Nominations made for the original meeting shall hold good for every adjourned meeting, of which at least seven days’ notice shall be given by the Chairman; but fresh nominations may also be put in, provided the conditions of rule 3 are complied with. At every adjourned meeting the ballots shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of rule 4.”

4. The required number of copies of this notification in English will be printed at the Government Press, and supplied to the Collectors for circulation with the District Gazettes.

(True Extract.)

for Secretary to Government.

To all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
„ all Collectors.
„ the Superintendent, Government Press.
Gazette.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Amendment of the Rules for the Election of Vice-Chairmen
of Municipal Councils. LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. *61 M.*, dated *11 January* 189*8*.

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

P.S. Order. *No. 1422 m d 15/8/98*

The Government considers it desirable that the difficulty which may be experienced by candidates for the office of Vice-Chairmen in obtaining the absolute majority of votes required for a valid election under No. 2 of the Rules issued in the Government Order read above, should be removed by providing that a candidate may withdraw his candidature at any stage, with or without the consent of his nominators, and that he shall thereafter be competent to take part in the ballot, and by eliminating at each successive ballot.

the candidate who obtained the fewest votes at the preceding ballot. The following will, therefore, be substituted for rule 4:-

"4. (a) On the day of the election, the Chairman, or the councillor elected to the chair, shall read out the names of the candidates nominated for the office and at once proceed to the election, which shall be conducted in the following manner:—Every councillor wishing to vote shall at the meeting write on a slip of paper the name of the candidate he wishes to be elected to the office of Vice-Chairman, and place the same in a box so constructed that papers may be placed therein but not extricated without the box being opened. The Chairman shall then open the box and count the votes in the presence of the council. The candidate having the largest number of votes, or, if only one candidate has been nominated, such candidate, shall be considered to have been elected to the office, subject to the condition laid down in rule 2 above.

(b) If no candidate has secured the absolute majority of votes required by rule 2, the ballot shall be repeated.

(c) At each successive ballot the candidate who obtained the fewest votes at the preceding ballot shall be eliminated and he shall then be eligible to vote. If two or more candidates lowest on the list have obtained equal numbers of votes, a separate ballot shall be taken in order to decide which of them should be eliminated. The elimination shall, if no candidate secures an absolute majority of votes, be made until two candidates only are left and if even the last ballot fails to produce the required majority of votes in favour of any one candidate, the meeting shall be adjourned.

(d) No candidate nominated for the office shall take part in the ballot; but a candidate may withdraw his candidature at any stage with or without the consent of his nominators and thereafter he shall be competent to take part in the ballot."

2. It seems also desirable to modify rule 5 so as to make it clear that notice of adjourned meetings should be given by the chairman and that the notice so given should be sufficiently long to enable the requirements of rule 3 being satisfied. The words "of which at least seven days' notice shall be given by the chairman" will accordingly be inserted after "for every adjourned meeting" in the first

sentence of this rule, and with reference to the alteration proposed in rule 4 in para 1, supra, the second sentence will be modified as follows:-

"At every adjourned meeting the ballots shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of rule 4."

3. The following notification will be published in the Fort St. George Gazette and in all the District Gazettes:-

Notification

The following rules, which it is proposed to substitute for nos. 4 and 5 of the rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of municipal councils framed under sections 14(3) and 250(1)(n) of the Madras District Municipalities Act IV of 1887, as amended by Act III of 1897, are published under section 256 of the said Act; and notice is hereby given that any objection or suggestion

which may be made in
respect of these rules by
any person interested
therein will be considered
on or after the 15th October
next.

"4. (a) On the day of the election, the Chairman, or the councillor elected to the chair, shall read out the names of the candidates nominated for the office, and at once proceed to the election, which shall be conducted in the following manner:— Every councillor wishing to vote shall at the meeting write on a slip of paper the name of the candidate he wishes to be elected to the office of Chairman, and place the same in a box so constructed, that papers may be placed therein but not extracted without the box being opened. The Chairman shall then open the box and count the votes in the presence of the council. The candidate having the largest number of votes, or, if only one candidate has been nominated, such candidate, shall be considered to have been elected to the office, subject to the condition laid down in rule 2 above.

(b) If no candidate has secured the absolute majority of votes required by rule 2, the ballot shall be repeated.

(c) At each successive ballot the candidate who obtained the fewest votes at the preceding ballot shall be eliminated and he shall then be eligible to vote. If two or more candidates lowest on the list have obtained equal numbers of votes, a separate ballot shall be taken in order to decide which of them should be eliminated. The elimination shall, if no candidate secures an absolute majority of votes, be made until two candidates only are left, and if even the last ballot fails to produce the required majority of votes in favour of any one candidate, the meeting shall be adjourned.

(d) No candidate nominated for the office shall take part in the ballot; but a candidate may withdraw his candidature at any stage with or without the consent of his nominators and thereafter he shall be competent to take part in the ballot."

"5. Nominations made for the original meeting shall hold good for every adjourned meeting, of which at least seven days' notice shall be given by the Chairman, but fresh nominations may also be put in, provided the conditions of rule 3 are complied with. At every adjourned meeting the ballots shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of rule 4."

4. The required number
of copies of this notifica-
tion in English will be
printed at the Government
Press and supplied to the
Collectors for circulation
with the District Gazettes.

/ From orders/

JP
13 8 98

+ drafted on notes in the accompany-
ing file.
To All Chairmen of M. Councils
Collectors
The Superintendent Govt Press
Gazetted 6/9/98
5/9/98

Government (1898) of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Regd.

1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 61 M., 11th January 1898.

JANUARY.

Election Rules.

Confirming, with remarks, the rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils, and ordering the publication of the necessary notification in the Fort St. George and all the District Gazettes.

which may be made in
respect of these rules by
any person interested
therein will be considered
on or after the 15th October
next.

"4. (a) On the day of the election, the Chairman, or the councillor elected to the chair, shall read out the names of the candidates nominated for the office, and at once proceed to the election, which shall be conducted in the following manner:— Every councillor wishing to vote shall at the meeting write on a slip of paper the name of the candidate he wishes to be elected to the office of Chairman, and place the same in a box so constructed, that papers may be placed therein but not extracted without the box being opened. The Chairman shall then open the box and count the votes in the presence of the council. The candidate having the largest number of votes, or, if only one candidate has been nominated, such candidate, shall be considered to have been elected to the office, subject to the condition laid down in rule 2 above.

(b) If no candidate has secured the absolute majority of votes required by rule 2, the ballot shall be repeated.

(c) At each successive ballot the candidate who obtained the fewest votes at the preceding ballot shall be eliminated and he shall then be eligible to vote. If two or more candidates lowest on the list have obtained equal numbers of votes, a separate ballot shall be taken in order to decide which of them should be eliminated. The elimination shall, if no candidate secures an absolute majority of votes, be made until two candidates only are left, and if even the last ballot fails to produce the required majority of votes in favour of any one candidate, the meeting shall be adjourned.

(d) No candidate nominated for the office shall take part in the ballot; but a candidate may withdraw his candidature at any stage with or without the consent of his nominators and thereafter he shall be competent to take part in the ballot."

"5. Nominations made for the original meeting shall hold good for every adjourned meeting, of which at least seven days' notice shall be given by the Chairman, but fresh nominations may also be put in, provided the conditions of rule 3 are complied with. At every adjourned meeting the ballots shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of rule 4."

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tion in English will be
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with the District Gazettes.

/ From orders/

J P
13 8 98

+ drafted on notes in the accompanying
file.
All Chairmen of M. Councils,
Collectors
The Superintendent Govt Press
Gazetted 6/9/98
5/9/98

Government {1898} of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd. } 1898. Enclosures
Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 61 M., 11th January 1898.

JANUARY.

Election Rules.

Confirming, with remarks, the rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils, and ordering the publication of the necessary notification in the Fort St. George District Gazettes.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 1473 M., dated 24th June 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Ordering the publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and all the District Gazettes, for information and criticism, of the draft rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils, framed under clause 3 of section 14 and clause (n) of sub-section (1) of section 250 of the Madras District Municipalities Act IV of 1884, as amended by Act III of 1897, and stating that any objection or suggestion which may be made in respect of them will be considered on or after the 1st August next.

READ—also the following papers:—

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Cuddapah,	dated 22nd July 1897, No. 919.
" " " " Madura	" 23rd " " " 35.
" " " " Palghat	" 24th " " " 2397.
" " " " Bellary	" 24th " " " 3389.
" " " " Nellore	" 26th " " " 926.
" " " " Ongole	" 26th " " " 312.
" Joint Secretaries to the Kistna Dist. Assoen.	" 28th " " " Dis. No. 44.
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Vellore	" 29th " " " No. 876.
" " " " Srivilliputtur	" 30th " " " 394-I.
" " " " Cocanada	" 30th " " " 577.
" " " " Madura	" 31st " " " 40.
" " " " Negapatam	" 2nd Aug. " " 306.
" Collector of South Arcot, dated 3rd August 1897, No. 632-Eng.	
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Tirupati,	dated 5th Aug. 1897, Dis. No. 419-M.
" " " " Vizagapatam	" 7th " " " No. 1003.
" Collector of Tanjore, dated 14th August 1897, No. 4017-Rev.	
" Pleader, Dindigul, dated 26th August 1897.	
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Kumbakonam, dated 17th Sept. 1897, No. 605.	

ORDER—No. 61 M., dated 11th January 1898.

In the Government Order read above, the draft rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils, framed under sub-section (3) of section 14 and clause (n) of sub-section (1) of section 250 of the Madras District Municipalities Act IV of 1884, as amended by Act III of 1897, were published for information and criticism. The letters read above are the replies received.

2. The Municipal Councils of Madura, Nellore, Ongole, Cocanada, Bellary, Tirupati, Vizagapatam and Kumbakonam approve of the proposed rules or have no remarks to offer. The remarks and suggestions made by the others will now be considered.

3. (i) *Rule 1.*—The Municipal Council of Srivilliputtur states that the object of providing in this rule that the notice of the meeting for the election of Vice-Chairmen should be given by the Collector is not apparent, and suggests that it would be enough if the Chairman gives the necessary notice, sending at the same time a copy of it to the Collector for information. The Government, however, is unable to adopt this suggestion, as it is desirable for many reasons that the initiation of the proceedings for these elections should be in the hands of the Collector and the copy of the notice might often be so late for the Collector to interfere, should he consider such interference necessary.

(ii) *Rules 2 and 4.*—With reference to the objection which has been taken to Rule 2 on the ground that its working is unnecessarily difficult and cumbrous in requiring an absolute majority of votes for the election of Vice-Chairmen, whose powers and duties can be strictly limited and will be much the same as those of a Chairman-delegate, it is observed that, considering the official position, powers and duties of a Vice-Chairman, it is essential that the person elected for the office should be one who commands the confidence of a majority of the councillors and that for this purpose the procedure laid down in this rule should be followed. For the same reason, the suggestion made by the Vellore Municipal Council that it would be sufficient if the candidate obtains the votes of the majority of the councillors present at the meeting held for the election cannot be approved, as this would allow the election of a person who has got the support of only a little more than one-sixth of the total number of councillors. The Negapatam Municipal Council suggests that, in determining the absolute majority of votes for a successful election, the candidate should be excluded from the existing total strength of the council and points out that as, under Rule 4, a candidate cannot vote for himself, he cannot be included in the available voting strength. It is, however, observed that, although the provision in Rule 4 prohibiting a candidate from voting for himself is a good one, it is of little practical value. Under the system of voting laid down in this rule, it is impossible to find out whether a man has voted for himself. The only test which can be relied on for this purpose is the hand-writing of the candidate, but this cannot lead to any correct conclusion, as the hand-writing of two or more members may be very similar or a man may write a feigned hand. Nor is the Government prepared to provide that a voting councillor should attach his signature to the voting paper as suggested by the Municipal Council of Srivilliputtur, since such a provision would be inconsistent with the system of voting by ballot contemplated by this rule. In these circumstances, the best course seems to be to exclude the candidates from voting altogether. The following will therefore be substituted for the last sentence of Rule 4:—

“No candidate nominated for the office shall take part in the ballot.”

(iii) *Rule 3.*—It has been suggested that, as the provision in this rule requiring that nominations of candidates for the office of Vice-Chairman should be sent to the Chairman at least six days before the date of the election is not only unnecessary but possibly dangerous, it would be sufficient if written nominations are handed over to the Chairman immediately before the election, seeing that in the case of nominations by Taluk Boards to District Boards the nominations are verbally made at the meeting by two of the members. In the first place, it has to be observed that the election of a Vice-Chairman is not on all fours with that of a District Board member. The qualifications of a Taluk Board member are presumably sufficient for a member of the District Board, but a municipal councillor may be amply qualified as such without having the requisite qualifications for the official position with its duties of a Vice-Chairman. It is therefore very desirable that the Chairman should have some notice of the nominations, so that he may make such inquiries as he thinks proper regarding the nominees and place facts respecting them before the council. Moreover there should be some time to canvass their qualifications for so important an office. Rule 3 will therefore be retained as it stands.

(iv) *Rule 5.*—His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that for an adjourned meeting the Collector's notice under Rule 1 is not necessary. It is desirable that the Collector should initiate the proceedings for the original meeting, so that he may have full notice and in the public interests take any action that may be requisite. But once the proceedings have been started, further reference to him about the adjourned meeting seems to be unnecessary. It will also be provided that at the adjourned meetings a second ballot may be taken as in the original meetings. The following will therefore be substituted for the second sentence of this rule:—

“At each adjourned meeting a second ballot shall be taken, the procedure being that provided in Rule 4.”

(v) *Rule 6.*—The Collector of South Arcot suggests that, if after two meetings have been held no candidate has obtained the majority of votes required by Rule 2, the Chairman should be empowered to eliminate the name of the candidate who got

the least number of votes at both the preceding meetings, obtaining, if necessary, the approval of the Collector for so excluding him. The Government, however, does not consider it necessary or desirable that the Chairman or the Collector should interfere after two unsuccessful elections, for if the result of the third election is also unsatisfactory, the Government can pass such orders in the matter as it deems fit. In the opinion of Government, therefore, this consequence of three unsuccessful meetings will be ordinarily sufficient to induce the members to come to a fructuous vote.

(vi) *Rule 8.*—As regards the suggestion that the minimum number of councillors required for making an objection to the validity of an election should be one-fourth of the total number of councillors then on the council, or three members when such number is less than twelve and not merely three as fixed by this rule, it is observed that the rule which requires objections to be made by three councillors is the rule prescribed for the election of Chairmen of Municipal Councils and of Vice-Presidents of Taluk Boards and the Government sees no reason to modify it. Nor can the Government approve the suggestion made by the Cuddapah Municipal Council that the words, "either by himself or by the Divisional Officer in charge of the division in which such municipality is situated," should be omitted. As the Divisional Officer has the duty of reporting upon the municipal administration generally in all its branches and may also intervene either on his own initiative in emergencies or on the orders of the Collector, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that he can be trusted to report on election petitions. This he has always done heretofore in the case of municipal elections and there seems to be no objection to the continuance of this practice. The proposal to substitute the words "in reference to" for "at" in clause (a) of the *proviso* to this rule in order to give the rule a more liberal construction is also unnecessary, as the rule in its present form covers everything that is required.

(vii) *Rule 9.*—It has been suggested that the Collector may be empowered to allow, in anticipation of the orders of Government, the elected candidate to assume charge of the office of Vice-Chairman, after the expiration of seven days fixed by Rule 8, if no objection has in the meantime been put forward to his election or if, after inquiry, the Collector considers the objection to be frivolous or unfounded. As the Vice-Chairman is not an essential official, there is no need for particular hurry about his appointment and the suggested alteration seems therefore to be unnecessary.

4. The draft rules, as now revised, are confirmed, and the following notification will be published in the District Gazettes in English and in the vernacular language of the district:—

NOTIFICATION.

Under sub-section (3) of section 14 and clause (n) of sub-section (1) of section 250 of the Madras District Municipalities Act IV of 1884, as amended by Act III of 1897, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to make the following rules for the election of Vice-Chairmen of Municipal Councils. These rules shall come into force one month after their first publication in the District Gazette in English and in the vernacular language of the district:—

RULES.

The election of Vice-Chairman in any municipality shall take place at a meeting of the council specially held for the purpose, of which at least fifteen days' and not more than thirty days' notice shall be given by the Collector.

2. No election under these rules will be recognized as valid unless the successful candidate obtains the votes of more than half the total number of members then on the council.

3. Every candidate for the office of Vice-Chairman shall be nominated by at least two councillors in the following form, which shall be sent to the Chairman at least six days before the date of the meeting at which the Vice-Chairman is to be elected:—

Municipality of _____

We, the undersigned, nominate _____, a councillor, as a candidate for the office of Vice-Chairman at the election to be held on the _____ day of _____ 189 .

Date _____.

(Signed) _____.

4. On the day of the election, the Chairman, or the councillor elected to the chair, shall read out the names of the candidates nominated for the office, and at once proceed to the election, which shall be conducted in the following manner:—Every councillor wishing to vote shall at the meeting write on a slip of paper the name of the candidate he wishes to be elected to the office of Vice-Chairman, and place the same in a box so constructed that papers may be placed therein but not extracted without the box being opened. The Chairman shall then open the box and count the votes in the presence of the council. The candidate having the largest number of votes, or, if only one candidate has been nominated, such candidate shall be considered to have been elected to the office, subject to the condition laid down in Rule 2 above. If no candidate obtains the absolute majority required by Rule 2, a second ballot shall be taken in the same manner, and if this also fails to produce the prescribed majority in favour of any one candidate, the meeting shall be adjourned. No candidate nominated for the office shall take part in the ballot.

5. Nominations made for the original meeting shall hold good for every adjourned meeting, but fresh nominations may also be put in, provided the conditions of Rule 3 are complied with. At each adjourned meeting a second ballot shall be taken, the procedure being that provided in Rule 4.

6. If, after three meetings have been held, no candidate has obtained the majority of votes required by Rule 2, the fact shall be reported (through the Collector) to Government, who shall pass such orders on the matter as they may think fit, and all such orders shall be final.

7. Immediately after each meeting, the proceedings shall be submitted to the Collector with the names of all the councillors who attended the same. No election shall be considered valid until fifteen days after the meeting at which it shall have been held.

8. The validity of any election may be questioned by a petition signed by three or more councillors and submitted to the Collector within seven days after such election. Upon the receipt of such petition the Collector shall proceed to inquire, either himself or by the Divisional Officer in charge of the division in which such municipality is situated, into the matters alleged therein.

Provided that the validity of an election shall be contested only upon one or more of the following grounds, viz.:—

- that fraud, intimidation or bribery was practised at such election;
- that the person whose election is questioned was, on the day of the election, not qualified as a candidate;
- that he was not duly elected by a majority of votes;
- that the election was not held in accordance with the rules.

9. When seven days from the date of the election have expired, or if any such petition as is described in the last preceding rule has been received, then upon the conclusion of the inquiry into the matters alleged therein, the Collector shall report the proceedings, together with his opinion, to Government, who shall pass such orders as they may think fit, and all such orders shall be final.

5. The Translators to Government will furnish the necessary translations of the above notification, and the Superintendent, Government Press, will print the required number of copies in English and in the vernaculars and forward them to the Collectors concerned for publication. Each Collector will report the date of publication in the District Gazette.

(True Extract.)

H. TREMENHEERE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.

" all Collectors.
" the Tamil Translator to Government.
" the Telugu "
" the Malayalam "
" the Canarese "
" the Superintendent, Government Press.
Editors' Table.
Gazette.

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

First copy sent to Press. 16-8-98
Returned for signature. 26-8-98
Despatched in print. 31-8-98

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED. 200
Order complete. Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 61-M DATED 11th January 98 P

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. A ..

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

Showproof please
CA
15/8/98

N.B.—
A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.