

Public Works (1899) Department.

G.O., No. 3263 W

DATED 14 Dec 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Mosque in Vallre Fort

Reply to a question re: —
how asked in the Legislative Council
meeting on 19. 12. 99.

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

Circulated to

ORDER.

The following department answer will be forwarded to the Legislative Dept.:

"This building ~~is~~ has been used for secular purposes for some twenty or thirty years, and the Govt. sees no reason for reconsidering a decision arrived at so long ago and since maintained."

(From original)

Def. 14/12/99
To the Legislature
note. The draft answer was
endorsed on the printed copy of

[P. W. 4.
1,000-18-7-99.

Read the following:—

from the Legislative Dept. no 562 of 5.12.28

Mosque at Vellore

Circulated to

H.S. the Governor FOR ORDERS.
 The Hon. Mr. A. T. Annadurai C.S.I.
 The Hon. Mr. H. V. Srinivasan

+ Page 14 of paper at
 Page 13.

At a meeting of
 the Legislative Council
 held on the 9th April 1937
 the Hon'ble Muhammad
 Sheriff Khan Bahadur
 put a question as to
 whether the old mosque
 in the Vellore Fort could
 not be made available
 for its legitimate use
 The answer given was to
 the effect that inquiry
 would be made, & if
 if the Hon. member would
 repeat his question at
 the next meeting of the
 Council, an answer would be
 given.
 2. In G.O. no 1190
 dated 2.5.37, the
 Commandy. the Govt. was

Page D.

asked for his opinion on
the point, & the Dr. asst.
Genl's reply of 2.6.97 showed
that the building had been
used for secular purposes
for very many years, & that
it was not desirable to
hand it over for religious
use.

3. In the note at (C)
this day the Govt. directed
that if the question was
repeated, an answer might
be given to the effect -
that the mosque has been
used for secular purposes
for some 70 or 80 years, and
that it is considered un-
necessary to make any
change.

4. The question was
not repeated, and the
papers have since been
lying over.

5. At the meeting of
the Council to be held
on the 19th inst. the Honble
Sardar Gulab Singh Sahib

Flag by no 6003 of 97

The question enclosed in
Current no 9980, and
the following draft
reply is submitted in
accordance with what
has already been
decided on: -

Draft reply

The mosque has
been used for secular
purposes for some 70 or
80 years, and is considered
unnecessary to make
any change.

Govt is unable
to reconsider its
decision

L. H. S.
F. 12. 97

^{same reply}
The answer previously prepared at C should
be given, and there should be added that the
words: - "and the Govt. sees no reason for
re-considering the decision arrived at so many
years ago and since maintained". The answer
will then stand as follows: - "The building
has been used for secular purposes for many
years."

possibly
very many years and the Govt. has no reason
for reconsidering a decision arrived at so long
ago and since maintained.

A. H.

9.12.99

HA
12.12.99

H.W.
12-12-99

Very Urgent
Public Works (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 9980.

~~9979~~

From
The Legislative Dept.

No. 562.

Dated 5.12.99

Received

Registered } 7.12.99

Enclosures { Plans
Others / in dupl. } Total. 1 in dupl.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Question No. 1:- Forwarding
for the preparation of a
draft answer, copy of—
which will probably put
at the meeting of the
Legislative Council on
the 19th Decr 99.

G.O.	No.	Department.
1190W	7-5-97	
2600	7-4-97	

8-11-97

VERY URGENT.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Memorandum. no 362.

THE accompanying copy of a question,* which will probably be put at the meeting of the Legislative Council to be held on the 19th instant is forwarded to the Public Works Department for favour of the preparation of a draft answer with a note of such other information as may be deemed necessary.

It is requested that the draft answer may be forwarded so as to reach the undersigned before 5 p.m. on Thursday the 14th instant

* Question No. *I* ~~of the Hon'ble~~

FORT ST. GEORGE,

5th December, 1899.

For Secretary to Government.

To The *Pub. Works* Department.

P.S.—It is requested that the draft answers together with the notes, if any, may be written only on one side of the paper.

VERY URGENT.

Public Works Department.

With the permission of His Excellency the President—

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR asks the following questions :—

I. Will the Government be pleased to reconsider its decision as regards the utilisation of the Vellore mosque as a store-house in view of the following sentiments of the late Court of Directors, published in Board's Standing Order No. 139?—

“We think it further necessary to draw your attention to the sentiments conveyed to you in our Despatches of the 23rd February 1813, paragraph 26, and 26th April 1820, paragraphs 131 to 133, viz., that the credit of our administration is connected with the preservation of such a memorial of the former splendour of the Indian Empire, and that it is essential to the character of our Government that the religious prejudices and rights of the natives, whether of the Muhammadan or Hindu persuasion, should, on all occasions, be respected and maintained. We find it difficult to reconcile with these sentiments the idea of Akber's tomb at Secundra being employed as a receptacle for prisoners, and unless you shall be of opinion that there is ample ground for our being satisfied on that point, we desire that such an appropriation of the building may be immediately discontinued.”