

LOCAL NUISANCES ACT 1841

ACT No. XXI. OF 1841

(Rep., Act 17 of 1862)

[6<sup>th</sup> September, 1841.]

*Passed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, On the 6<sup>th</sup> of September, 1841.*

AN Act for the better Prevention of Local Nuisances.

I. It is hereby enacted, that it shall be lawful for any Magistrate, when the public benefit and comfort are in question, to cause unlawful obstructions and nuisances to be removed from thoroughfares and public places, and to suppress or cause to be removed to a different place, trades or occupations injurious to the health or comfort of the community, and to prevent such construction of buildings and such disposal of combustible substances as may appear to him likely to occasion conflagration, and to cause the removal of buildings in such state of weakness, as, by the probability of their falling, may appear to him to expose individuals to danger.

II. And it is hereby enacted, that, in exercising the authority conferred by the above Section, the Magistrate shall after holding such enquiry as may satisfy him of the necessity of proceeding under this Act, issue an injunction, which, if practicable, shall be served personally on the parties concerned ; but if such service shall be impracticable or very inconvenient, the injunction shall be notified by oral proclamation and a written notice thereof shall be set up at such place or places as may be best adapted for conveying information to the parties concerned. And in case such injunction be not obeyed, the Magistrate may compel observance thereof by force, and punish disobedience by fine not exceeding 200 Rupees, or by imprisonment without labor for any period not exceeding one month, and if the Magistrate finds it necessary to incur expense in removing noxious or dangerous articles or buildings, it shall be lawful for him to sell the same or their materials by public auction in order to defray the charge, delivering any surplus that may remain to the owner. And it shall be lawful for the Magistrate to compel, under the like penalty, the owners of tanks or wells adjacent to any public thoroughfare to fence the same in such manner as to prevent danger to the public arising therefrom.

III. And it is hereby provided and declared, that it shall be lawful for any person affected by such injunction or written notice as is above described, if he shall object thereto, to claim, by written petition to be presented to the Magistrate within the period of ten days if reasonably practicable, if not, within the shortest reasonable further time from the receipt of such injunction or the publication of such notice, that a Jury or Panchayet may be appointed to try and decide the question; and the magistrate shall, on receiving such petition, pass order thereupon for the appointment of a Jury or Panchayet, which shall consist of not less than five persons, whereof the President and one-half of the other Members shall be nominated by the Magistrate from the residents in the vicinity, and the remaining Members shall be nominated by the party petitioning. And the Magistrate shall suspend the further execution of the injunction or order pending such enquiry, and be guided by the decision of the said Jury which shall be according to the opinion of the majority. Provided however that if the petitioner shall by neglect or in any other way prevent the appointment of such Jury or Panchayet, or if, from any cause the Jury so appointed shall not decide and report within a reasonable time to be fixed in the order for their appointment, their functions shall cease from the date of the expiration of such period, unless they be continued by special order of the Magistrate, and if from any of the above causes no decision be made by a Jury or Panchayet, the Magistrate's order shall take effect as if not opposed.

IV. And it is hereby provided, that all the proceedings of Magistrates under the authority of this Act shall be subject to the like appeal as other orders of Magistrates according to the Regulations of the respective Presidencies.

V. And it is hereby enacted, that this Act shall not be applicable within the local limits of Her Majesty's Courts of Justice.

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