

FROM THE APOSTOLIC SEE OF MALANKARA METROPOLITAN DR. THEODOSIUS MAR THOMA



Circular No. 163

Blessings to you all the Vicars, Resident Clergy, Trustees, Members of the Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam and Members of all the Parishes under our authority.

Dearly beloved in Christ,

The decisions and resolutions of the Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam that met at the Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan Smaraka Auditorium, Tiruvalla on 2nd, 3rd and 4th September 2025 (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) presided over by the Metropolitan, and approved by the Episcopal Synod held on 8, 9 and 10 September 2025, as per Clause 107 of the Church Constitution, are hereby published and given below for the information of all. The approved Constitution Amendments are also appended. It is hereby informed through this Circular that all affairs of the Church, parishes, and institutions are to be implemented and directed in compliance with them.

Grace be with you all.

Dated 13th September 2025 from Poolatheen, Tiruvalla

Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan

**The Decisions of the Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam that met at
Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan Smaraka Auditorium, Tiruvalla
on 2nd, 3rd and 4th September 2025 (Tue, Wed, Thu)**

1. The motion for permission to approve the expenses incurred without or exceeding the budget during the year 2024-2025 in respect of the Church and the institutions was adopted by the Mandalam after explanations and discussions
2. The Annual report and the audited statement of accounts and balance sheet for the year 2024-2025, already printed and published, each in respect of the Church, the Vaideeka Seminary Kottayam, the Sabha Book Depot Thiruvalla, Malankara Sabha Tharaka, M.T. & E.A. Schools Corporate Management, the Episcopal Jubilee Institute Kompady, JMM Study Centre Mannanthala, TMAM Research & Orientation Centre Manganam, MT Industrial Training Centre Cherukole, Easow Mar Timotheos Centre for Evangelism & Rural Development Sihora, Easow Mar Timotheos Memorial Evangelists' Training Centre Hoskote/Shivanapura and J.M. & M.A. Memorial Centre for Holistic Development, Ayroor were unanimously passed by the Mandalam.
3. Certain amendment resolutions related to the Annual Report were accepted.
4. The Mandalam approved the Metropolitan's statement presented in the report of the committee constituted under the 2024 Mandalam decision concerning the Sabha Secretariat.
5. The budget for the year 2025-2026, each in respect of the Church, the Vaideeka Seminary Kottayam, the Sabha Book Depot Thiruvalla, Malankara Sabha Tharaka, M.T. & E.A. Schools Corporate Management, the Episcopal Jubilee Institute Kompady, JMM Study Centre Mannanthala, TMAM Research & Orientation Centre Manganam, MT Industrial Training Centre Cherukole, Easow Mar Timotheos Centre for Evangelism & Rural Development Sihora, Easow Mar Timotheos Memorial Evangelists' Training Centre Hoskote/Shivanapura and J.M. & M.A. Memorial Centre for Holistic Development, Ayroor were unanimously passed by the Mandalam.
6. The motion, "Permission be given to the Sabha Council to spend during the first six months of 2026-2027, an amount not exceeding 6/12 of what would be spent during the year 2025-2026" was unanimously approved by the Mandalam
7. The Mandalam unanimously approved the Sabha Council's resolution to appoint auditors for the year 2025-26.

Appointed Auditors:

1. M/s. Cheriyan & Cheriyan, Chartered Accountants, Miss East Road, Kottayam- 686 001.
2. M/s. Reji John & Co., Chartered Accountants, Near Children's Library, Kottayam.
3. M/s. Kuruvilla & Co., Chartered Accountants, Pathanamthitta - 689 645.
4. M/s. Thomas Mathew & Associates, Chartered Accountants, CVP Tower, T.K. Road -689 101.
5. M/s. Thomas Jacob & Co., Chartered Accountants, Malankara Bldg Complex, Trivandrum.
6. M/s. Koshal & Co. Chartered Accountants, 1507, Wright Town, Jabalpur (M.P).
7. M/s. Jacob Kovoov & Co., Chartered Accountants, Kochi
8. M/s. K. I. Abraham & Co., Chartered Accountants, Tiruvalla.
9. M/s. Jacob Abraham & Co., Chartered Accountants, Chengannur.
10. M/s. Joseph John & Co Chartered Accountants, Thiruvalla
11. M/s Thomas Kenny & Co, Chartered Accountants, Thiruvalla
12. CA Mathew K. Zachariah, Thiruvalla
13. CA Abraham Cherian, Chemarapally, Kottayam

8. Based on the earlier in-principle decision of the Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam to establish a Mar Thoma University, the feasibility study report was discussed, and by majority opinion, the Mandalam resolved to constitute and register the *Mar Thoma Educational Trust*. The Sabha Council was entrusted to apply for the University when the Government invites applications, and to present the details of the Trust Deed in the next Mandalam. It was also resolved that the Trust shall consist of 41 members, and that the possibility of establishing the University outside Kerala shall be considered.
9. With regard to granting autonomous status to the colleges of the Mar Thoma Church, the Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam, after discussion on the study report prepared by the Sabha Council, resolved that each college of the Mar Thoma Church shall function autonomously under a separate society, and that the by-laws of each such society shall be drafted by the Sabha Council.
10. For the preservation of the Church's heritage and for spiritual enrichment, the Prathinidhi Mandalam resolved to renovate and make functional the old Sabha Office building. It was further decided to constitute a committee for this purpose, appointing Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Barnabas Suffragan Metropolitan, as its Chairman, and to earmark an amount of 50 lakhs in the Sabha Budget under contra for this project.
11. Taking into account the dilapidated condition of the existing High School building of the Thiruvalla S.C.S. School (the Golden Jubilee Block of 1954, situated on the northern side of the playground), the Prathinidhi Mandalam approved the official resolution to demolish the building and construct a new one. The Local Advisory Committee (LAC) of the school was entrusted with making the necessary arrangements in consultation with the Sabha Council. The matter is also to be presented before the Managing Committee of the Mar Thoma Voluntary Evangelists' Association. Plans and estimates are to be prepared, norms strictly followed, and the required funds raised under the leadership of the LAC. The construction shall proceed only with the approval of the Sabha Council, and access routes to the playground must be preserved throughout the process.
12. The Prathinidhi Mandalam approved the official resolution to nominate clergy to the Sabha Council under Clause 164(5) of the Constitution, to fill vacancies that arose due to transfers between Dioceses. Accordingly, Rev. Dr. M. O. Umman, who was elected from the Delhi Diocese, was transferred to the Chennai–Bangalore Diocese, and Rev. Thomas K. Thomas was nominated in his place. Rev. Thomas Mathew (Naranganam), who was elected from the Kottarakkara–Punalur Diocese, was transferred to the Adoor Diocese, and Rev. Isaac P. Kurien was nominated in his place. Rev. Dr. T. Johnson, who was elected from the Mumbai Diocese, was transferred to the Niranam–Maramon Diocese, and Rev. George John (Thane) was nominated in his place.
13. In accordance with Clause 113 of the Constitution, the Mandalam approved in principle the resolution recommending that the Sabha Council take urgent steps to make effective use of institutions and other properties of the Church that remain unused in various places. Such institutions may be revived, new projects initiated, or the properties leased out on long-term contracts to generate income for the Church. The Sabha Council was entrusted with undertaking the necessary study on this matter, including the consideration of amendment resolutions.”
14. After discussion, the Prathinidhi Mandalam unanimously approved the amendments to the Constitution of the U.K.–Europe–Africa Diocese.

15. After discussion, the Prathinidhi Mandalam approved the Constitution (Bylaws) of the Australia–New Zealand Zone by majority opinion
16. The Prathinidhi Mandalam accepted the Metropolitan’s statement that further study on the Election Rules should be undertaken before a decision is made.
17. **Study Book:** A study was conducted in the Mandalam based on the topic, “We Believe- contemporary Relevance of the Nicene Creed”. It was decided to hold further studies on this topic.
18. The Mandalam resolved that the resolutions presented under Clause 113 of the Constitution (Agenda Item 24, sub-items 1 and 2) need not be considered at present, after discussion.

Special Mandalam

The constitutional amendments and other decisions presented and approved in the Special Prathinidhi Mandalam held on Wednesday, 3rd September 2025, at the Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan Memorial Auditorium, Thiruvalla.

Constitutional Amendments and Other Decisions:

- a. Section 42: The Mandalam resolved that the term “*Vicars General*” shall fall within the scope of the designation “*Kasseessa*”
- b. The Prathinidhi Mandalam accepted the Metropolitan’s statement that the amendment resolutions proposed by the Sabha Council relating to the Election Rules namely Sections 17(a), 163(a), 293(3), 140(a), 228(a), and 329(a) be deferred for further study. Metropolitan ruled that, after detailed study, these shall be presented again in the Prathinidhi Mandalam along with the recommendations of the Legal Affairs Committee and with the approval of the Episcopal Synod.
- c. With regard to the Co-ordination Committee, the amendment resolutions proposed by the Sabha Council under Sections 65C, 65C(1), 65C(2), 65C(3), 65C(4), and 65C(5) were deemed to require further study. The President ruled that the Sabha Council should study this again and present in the Prathinidhi Mandalam.
- d. Under Clauses 113 and 390 of the Constitution, amendment resolutions were proposed as Sections 9AA, 9(F), 9(D), 55A, and 77A(14), and further amendments were suggested to Sections 189(1), 56(5), 140, 7, and 7A(2). After discussion, since the proposers of these resolutions informed the Mandalam that the original resolutions were being withdrawn, Metropolitan declared that the proposed amendments would not stand.
- e. The amendment resolutions proposed as Sections 9D and 139(B), along with the amendment suggested to Section 106, were put to vote after discussion, since the proposers did not withdraw the original resolutions. By majority opinion, the resolutions were rejected, as declared by the Metropolitan.