

MINUTES.

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KENYA.

NO. 450.



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GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

NAIROBI,

KENYA

April, 1924.

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Sir,

With reference to Kenya despatch No. 187 of February 26th last in which the action taken to resume the alienation of Crown lands in this Colony was reported, I have the honour to transmit for your information and at the request of the Eastern Africa Indian National Congress, a copy of their letter dated March 10th last protesting against the intended sale of farms in the Highlands.

I also forward a copy of the reply which I directed to be sent to their letter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

F. J. C. WILSON,
Secretary.

4072208

RECORDED
IN KENYA GOVERNMENT

J. A. THOMAS, P.O., M.D.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

Downing Street, LONDON, S. E. 1.

INCLOSURE

In Dispatch No. 450 of 16/4/1924.

THE EASTERN AFRICA INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

Executive Committee's Office.

Nairobi, March 10th, 1924.

Sir,

I am directed by my Committee to enter protest against the intended sale by Government of various areas of land in the Highlands at which according to the Notice in the Government Gazette, only Europeans will be allowed to bid and purchase.

I am further directed to point out that the Kenya question has not yet been finally decided and the policy embodied in the White Paper has not been accepted by any section of the local community.

My Committee consider that at present there seems to exist no necessity for hurrying the sale of lands in the Highlands area and are of the opinion that such an hurried action on the part of the Government is likely to seriously prejudice the case of the Indian Community.

In case you are unable to see your way to postponing the sale of the land in question, I should be obliged if you would please transmit this letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for his consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Abd. M. H. Malik.

Secretary General, Geogetary
E.A.I.N.C. Nairobi.

In Departmental No. 47001, 16/2/1924.

THE EASTERN AFRICA INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

Executive Committee's Office,

Nairobi, March 10th, 1924.

Sir,

I am directed by my Committee to enter protest against the intended sale by Government of various areas of land in the Highlands at which according to the Notice in the Government Gazette only Europeans will be allowed to bid and purchase.

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In case you are unable to see your way to postponing the sale of the land in question, I should be obliged if you would please transmit this letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for his consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. M. I. Malik.

Executive General Secretary,
EASTERN AFRICA NATIONAL CONGRESS.

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J.S.
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22nd Augt. 1924.

M.P.

With reference to your letter of the 10th March in which your Congress enters a protest against the sale of land in the Highlands which is advertised in General Notice No. 135 of February 24th last, I am directed to inform you that the terms of the sale are in accordance with the decisions of His Majesty's Command Paper and that His Excellency regrets that he is unable to accede to your request that the sale should be postponed.

2. As you are no doubt aware, the sale of lands has been suspended since 1921 pending the settlement of the Indian question. The schedule of farms now put up for sale includes farms which were advertised in March 1921 and a few farms for which special application has in the meantime been made. There are no grounds for the statement that undue haste has been displayed in the present arrangements for sale.

3. As regards the statement made in your letter that the policy embodied in the White Paper has not been accepted by any section of the local community, I would point out to you that as far as His Excellency is aware, the policy of the Command Paper which His Excellency has been instructed by the Secretary of State to carry out has been accepted by all the Committees in Kenya with the exception probably of that portion

of -

THE HON. GENERAL SECRETARY,
EASTERN AFRICA INDIAN NATIONAL CONFEDERATION,
Nairobi.

(2)

of the Indian Community on whose behalf your Committee submits this representation. I would refer you to the recent enactment of the Legislative Council Amendment Ordinance which carried out the provisions of the Committee Paper with regard to increased Indian representation and which was passed without opposition though the Indian representatives were not present at the time in council.

4. A copy of your letter under reply will be sent as you request to the Secretary of State.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. R. DENHAM,

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

For

25330/ea

Kenya

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DRAFT.

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To Comptroller

MINUTE.

Mr. Brett June 9th 1924
Mr. Holloway to for

M.P.

Sir C. Dinn

Sir G. Ormsby

Mr. H. Read

Mr. J. M. Waddington Smith

and others

Mr. Thomas

23 June 1924.

See,

Answer to a question of you letter No. 450 of the
16th of April, referring to
a protest by the Eastern
African Indian National
Congress against the intended
sale of farms in the
highlands, and to inform