

1922

KENYA

79

34042

JUL 22 1922

From

INDIA

DATE

14TH JULY 1922

To

SUBJECT

POSITION OF INDIANS

151

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Grindle

Sir H. Wood

Sir H. Read 13/7/22

Sir J. Masterlon Smith 14

Mr. Wood 14

Mr. Churchill

Two copies of two telegrams from India on the position of Indians overseas generally. Considers that it is highly desirable that an early settlement of Kenya question should be reached.

Previous Paper

MINUTES

Sir H. Read.

Two telegrams were produced at the discussion today. In the present state of the negotiations between the two Offices Council is perhaps unnecessary.

I understood that the National Party is the more anxious of the two parties which would have been indicated.

C.S. 13/7/22

Sir H. Read  
Mr. Wood

Part 2?

CV 13/7/22 H. R.  
18/7/22

Subsequent Paper

Part 2

C.O. 533  
287  
RE REPRODUCED FROM  
ALL WIND-UP PAPERS  
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

MINUTES.

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

S of S (longer side) / (shorter side)

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for S of S for India, on  
Kanya Guesstion.

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see from telephone

9. 14. 7.

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EA Dec 6

Copy of Telegram from Mr. Jannadas Dwarakadas  
to the Secretary of State for India, dated 8th July 1922.

On behalf of National Party of Indian Legislature  
respectfully but emphatically protest against the  
Colonial Secretary in regard to acquisition of  
question. We reluctant to state our opinion  
settlement on other aspects. The question of  
declared approval of policy of the Government  
of land in Highlands. This policy if approved by  
would be inconsistent with Government of India's  
to people as illustrated by recent unanimous  
of Legislative Assembly accepted by Government following  
on Mr. Churchill's West African dinner speech in February.  
In National Party's opinion this would imply  
of India's status in Empire. This policy is  
Imperial Conference Resolution last year  
violation of rights of Indians to  
in Empire fraught with serious consequences.  
We urge importance of settling  
and will secure India promised equality.  
policy will destroy India's faith in her position  
member of British Empire.

JANNADAS DWARAKADAS  
Secretary

Copy of Telegram from Mr. Jammadas Dwarkadas  
to the Secretary of State for India, dated 8th July 1922.

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In National Party's opinion this would imply  
of India's status in Empire. This  
Imperial Conference Resolution has  
violation of rights of Indians in  
Empire brought with serious consequences.  
importance of settling questions  
will secure India promised equality.  
policy will testify India's faith in her position  
member of British Empire.

JAMMADAS DWARKADAS

Secretary

Paraphrase of Telegram from Viceroy, R. & A. Dept.,  
8th July 1922.

A long statement has been issued to the Press by Messrs. Palsk and Andrews appealing to the Indian people to take up the cause of Indians abroad with greater determination and energy, and urging that unity with the Government of India of all thinking people in India is essential on this question. Statement reviews the position in Kenya, South Africa, Fiji and Uganda, and strongly attacks the Colonial Office attitude as compared with the Resolution of the Imperial Conference of last year. Statement concludes as follows:— (Begins) "The time appears to us to have come for Indian Government itself to declare that there is no possibility of people of India being willing to remain permanently within British Commonwealth of Nations except on terms of actual, and not merely theoretical, racial equality. Such a declaration should clear the air. It would show more plainly than anything else to Colonial Office in London, and to South Africa Union Government that, by these perpetual humiliations and disabilities to Indians abroad, they are forcing an issue from which they themselves may well recoil". (R Ends).

2. Accuracy and force of the whole statement cannot be gainsaid. Statement has attracted wide attention at a time when Indian internal situation is fairly calm, and we apprehend that the above-quoted passage will create a great impression even on moderates and on others who have been hitherto well-disposed to the British connection. Intense indignation has been aroused by the three recent Ordinances. In regard to Kenya the tense anxiety will be rendered more acute by Reuter's summary of the 4th July of Mr. Wood's introducing Colonial Office estimates in the House of Commons. The reliance of the Colonial Office on Rahimtulla's assent

assent of 1919. Segregation scheme in Kampala cannot be seriously advanced. With regard to Fiji, though the interim recommendations of our deputation have not yet been published by us, recent agitation for white Fiji is bitterly resented, and it is known that the conditions there are most unsatisfactory. The extremist Press discounts Mr. Sastri's success in Australia and describes his attitude as cringing. Though the difficulties of the Colonial Office vis-a-vis the self-governing Dominions are fully recognised by us it is well-known here and urged repeatedly that Colonial Office has direct responsibility regarding Crown Colonies, and its action there is justly regarded in India as true test of the sincerity of the British Government. We trust that you will endeavour to impress these considerations as strongly as possible on His Majesty's Government, for the challenge to us in the above-quoted passage is a symptom of a trend which will gain strength if we are unable to convince His Majesty's Government sincerely intend to bring the Imperial Conference into operation.

31st AUGUST, 1922.

3400. (1) Franchise. A common electoral roll for all British subjects and protected persons male or female of the age of 21 possessing qualifications which are to be prescribed

(2) Qualifications. Either a complete or a test census of the Indian population in Kenya will be held in order to determine a method of adjusting qualifications which will result in the admission of approximately ten per cent of the Indian population to the franchise. To obtain ten per cent it might be necessary to adopt alternative property or educational qualifications instead of the combined qualification. Should the census show that in order to obtain this percentage the standard would obviously be unreasonably low, reasonable standards will be laid down irrespective of resulting percentage. Qualifications to be settled in sufficient time to enable the Indian electorate to vote at the general election to be held next March. European voters now on list would be admitted to new register, but as from the date of the completion of the new register all applicants whether Europeans not registered under the Legislative Council Ordinance, 1919, or Indians would be required to possess these qualifications.

(3) Constituencies. The official majority will be retained. Alternative proposals (a) Seven constituencies, three returning one member each and four returning two members each. In the former only European candidates would be qualified for election. In the latter one seat would be reserved in each constituency for Europeans and one for Indians thus giving seven European and four Indian members.

(b) Four constituencies each returning three members or three returning three and one two members. One seat in each constituency to be reserved for Indians, the remaining seats to be for Europeans. Government of Kenya is being asked to examine and report as to possibility of giving effect to

franchise. It is agreed that Indians

representation

agreed to

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

agreements entered by

(7) Immigration. An announcement to be made that in present circumstances no change is contemplated in the existing regulations.

(8) Highlands. The terms of the announcement will be:-

"Having regard to past policy and commitments the Colonial Office cannot contemplate any change in the existing



(b) Four constituencies each returning three members or three returning three and one two members. One seat in each constituency to be reserved for Indians, the remaining seats to be for Europeans. Government of Kenya is being asked to examine and report on this proposal.

(4) Municipal franchise.

It is agreed that the subject of municipal franchise has been dealt with by the Secretary of State in an early convenient confidentially and observations.

Directly passed

No. 3400.

(7) Immigration.

As the Government of Kenya has not yet made any proposals in the existing regulations.

(8) Highlands.

The terms of the announcement are:-  
"Having regard to past policy and commitments the Colonial Office cannot contemplate any change in the existing

law and practice. The India Office note this view but are unable to accept it and they reserve the right to re-open the question at some future date if need be."

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1922.

KENYA

C O  
45902

FROM

DATE

India Office

Secret

(10) September 1922

REC'D

10 SEP 22

FOR CIRCULATION :-

SUBJECT

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Grindle 1/5

Sir H. Lambert

Sir H. Read

Sir J. Austerton-Smith

Mr. Wood (Assoc.)

Mr. Churchill

Position of Indians

Enclosed copy of tel. from India

dated 11 September

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Previous Paper

MINUTES

45060/2 Secret

Shows that Mr. Wood  
knew he was yesterday. He  
thought it "was too bad"

Ask S.O. & say that we  
will communicate a copy of  
the Kenya Act as soon as it is  
passed & will then arrange a  
meeting of the committee to the effect

10. 10. 22  
L. ...  
10. 10. 22

Subsequent Paper

No. 47177/22 Kenya  
Secret