FROM COLONIAL FOR CIRCULATION Mr. Mr Mr. Asst. U.S. of S. Perm! U.S. of S. Part U.S. of S. Secretary of State. Previous Paper 73304 No. 1525 & lat Nor 2 231

DATE

1ST NOVEMBER 1983

POSITION OF INDIANS

Dft tel. to Govr giving extract from P.H's entibles. forwarding copies of speeches made at the metring of the Imperial Confee at which the position of the Indians in the Empire was discussed.

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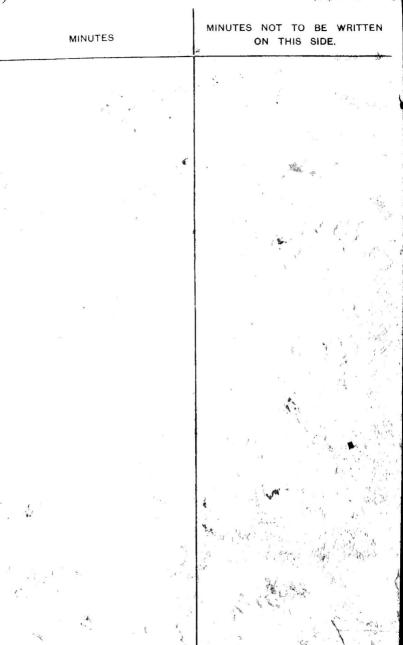
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The Secretary of State

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The Secretary of State for the Colonies, on some of this Majesty's Government, cordially accepted the proposal of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru that there should be full consultation and discussion between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and a Committee appointed by the Government of India upon all questions affecting British Indians demiciled in British Colonies, Protectorate and Mandated Territories. At the same time the Duke was careful to explain that before decisions were taken as a result of discussions with the Committee, consultations with the local Colonial Governments concerned, and in some cases local enquiry, would be necessary.

Purther, while welcoming the proposal the Duke of Devonshire reminded the Conference that His Majesty's Government had recently come to certain decisions as to Kenya, which represented in their considered view the very best that could be done in all the circumstances. While he saw no prospect of these decisions being modified he would give careful attention to such representations as the Committee appointed by the Government of India might desire to make to him.

Sir Tej Bahadun Sapru, while taking note of the above statement of the Duke, desired to make plain that the recent Kenya decisions could not be accepted as final by the people of India.

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