

EAST AFR. PROT.

21798

N^o. 21798

REC. 18 JUL 06

Comms
Sadder Conf
27

(Subject)

1906

May 21

Indian Immigration

Last previous paper

Considers Kilos, Voi, Makindu & Malindi suitable for £500 is available this year & 15 families can be settled. Suggests India Govt be consulted & that Mr. Walter be sent to India to select families. Does not consider Indians would migrate into white area & thinks these are excellent prospects for agriculturalists.
(Minutes)

Mr. Read
These arguments against giving Govt. aid to Indian immigration into the E.A.P. are stated in Mr. Lythall's report of the 25th Oct (36,356). In the Comm. here adds the further argument that the white settlers might complain of assistance being given to Indian settlers & not to white settlers.

The Comm. however does not regard these arguments as especially weighty. In regard to the proposal, nor did Lord Elgin

Ans. d. Conf. 6 July
copy to Comm. & Files

Next subsequent paper

40

26954

211 his invoice on 9734

Send copy of this dep. yonks
to W. and ask them to ascertain
from the Indian Govt. whether
they can sell you Mr. Walker
furniture for obtaining suitable
settles, and ask for an answer
in two good time, as it is desired
that the settles shall arrive in
September. And tell Comr.
that the P.P. appears to be among
the Indian Govt.

W.W. 21/6

H. Walker

So proceed?

H. J. R.

22/6

W.W. June 28.

7540

30/6

27793

Commissioner's Office,

10/06

Nairobi,

528

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

May 21st 1906.

Confidential (29)

(Incl. 1.)

My Lord,

I have the honour to reply to Your Lordship's despatch (Confidential) of the 25th October and subsequent communications. As I intimated in my telegram No. 51 of April 5th I was anxious to have some opportunity of studying the question of Indian immigration in the localities likely to be suitable before giving expression to my views.

I have seen the country about Kibos where some Indians have already been settled by Mr. Waller and are doing well. I have also visited Makindu and Voi, part of the country behind Malindi, and the lower reaches of the Tana, besides other places on the coast between Mombasa and Kisumu. I consider Kibos, Voi, Makindu and Malindi suitable for the purpose, Kibos and Malindi for preference. Equally good localities would also probably be found in

Kavirondo

H. J. Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies,
Downing Street,
London. S. W.

Kavirondo which I have not yet had an opportunity of visiting. All these places are outside the area opened up for white settlement, to which the settlers hold themselves to have exclusive rights.

3. I do not think there would be any fear that any of the Indian immigrants of the class I should be disposed to encourage, would migrate into the white area; and at the most they would only come to the Municipal Township limits. There are already so many Indians in Nairobi for instance, that with the few Indians of the agricultural class with whom we should commence the experiment this question need hardly be taken into consideration. The Indians at Kibos show no inclination to leave their holdings to engage in trade elsewhere.

4. We may, however, expect criticism on the general principle that we are assisting the Indians to immigrate and not the whites. This, I think, will be answered by the fact that such encouragement would be given with a view to develop lands in the tropical parts of the Protectorate which European settlers would generally not care to treat, and to afford the natives object lessons in cultivation. As a matter of fact we could not well give this inducement to white settlers as we should not know whom we are getting;

but with the Indians we do know.

5. On the whole I do not think that we should be deterred from encouraging Indian immigration to a small extent - by such a consideration as that just noted - in view of the help it is likely to give to native cultivation. Nor am I of opinion that the influx of a few Indian immigrants would be detrimental to the natives. I take rather the opposite view that they will assist the natives to raise paying crops, and they are far more likely to employ native labour themselves later on when they are in a position to do so, than to work for Europeans.

6. We are now trying to promote cotton cultivation in the Protectorate, and the Indians whom I should encourage to immigrate would be specially selected for the purpose.

7. We have £ 500/- available this year for Indian immigration and with this we could settle 15 families, ten say at Kibos and five at Malindi, on the terms noted in the enclosed Memorandum, with which I am generally in accord.

8. It is of course a question whether we should allow Indian cultivators to come of their own accord or move the Indian Government in the matter. In either case we should probably have to address the Government of India, and I

think it would be best at the outset to move through the Indian Government and send Mr. Waller to India to select 15 families from amongst the cotton cultivators of a suitable district. Afterwards, when the experiment has proved a success, these people will of themselves attract others without further intervention on our part. The best time for them to come would be in September, as it is now too late for the spring rains.

9. Should this proposal meet with Your Lordship's approval, I venture to ask that the India Office be addressed so that we may know their views before the time comes for sending the Protector of Immigrants to select the cultivators. Personally I think there are excellent prospects for Indian Agriculturists here.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

COPT.

MEMORANDUM

C. O.
21798
Recd
18 JUN 06

INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

A Commission appointed by the orders of the Acting Commissioner, and comprising Mr. John Ainsworth, C.M.G., Sub-Commissioner, Nairobi, Mr. Barton Wright, Land Officer, and Mr. D. D. Waller, Protector of Immigrants, sat at Nairobi on the 10th of November 1905 to report on the above.

Mr. A. Linton who was to have been on the Commission was unavoidably compelled to leave for the Coast before it sat. The Commission considered that Indian Immigration should be encouraged, as in their opinion, it would be most advantageous that certain areas, unsuited to Europeans on account of climatic conditions, should be developed by Indian agency, and that reasonable inducement be offered to secure the proper class of Indians.

The following inducements are suggested:-

- (1) Specified areas (should) be allotted for Settlement, the country lying between the Coast and Kiu, and Fort Ternan and the Lake, being considered most suitable and the Village Community System should be established.
- (2) The price of land must be fixed at Rs. 2/- per acre outside the Railway Zone, and a settler be entitled to buy land up to 50 acres, pre-empting 150 acres more, for which he would require to qualify, by bringing at least 30 acres of his original holding into a state of or fit for cultivation or for cultivation, in three years after date of occupation. Provided always, that the land, in the opinion of the officer in charge of the scheme, is productive.

- (3) The land should be surveyed in blocks, and intending settlers will receive their allotments consecutively in order as the applications are received, at least six months notice being required by the Land Officer for preparation of the survey.
- (4) For a period of five years from date of occupation the land to be free of all taxation, and on the introduction of taxation, the Bengal system of "permanent assessment" should obtain.
- (5) Irrigation works, where practicable, to be carried out by the Government, and a reasonable charge for supplying water to be made to the settler.
- (6) The following assistance should be given by the Government to intending settlers: a refund of the cost of which, together with the price of the land bought, and all fees payable, to be made by the settler within five years, and pending the said refunds and payments the land and implements to remain the property of the Government.
- (a) Passages for a settler and his family from their homes to place of settlement with food allowances.
- (b) A sum, say Rs. 5/- per head, per mensem, until the first crop is harvested.
- (c) Four oxen for ploughing.
- (d) Agricultural implements.
- (e) Assistance in case of failure of crops.
- (7) In no case should the assistance given exceed Rs. 300 per settler.

Sd/- John Ainsworth.
Sub-Commissioner, Nairobi.

Sd/- R. Barton Wright.
Land Officer.

Sd/- Desmond D. Waller.
Protector of Immigrants.

Comms. EAP
21798

524

(3)

DRAFT Confis
(3)

6 July 1906

EAP

Comms

Sir,

MINUTE.

- Mr. Lill
- Mr. Pies
- Mr. Anrobie
- Mr. Coe
- Mr. Lucas
- Mr. Graham
- Sir M. O'Malley
- Mr. Churchill
- The Earl of Elgin

When the honour
to see the receipt
of the confis sup 2 (29)
of the 2 of my list
relative to human
immigration into the
EAP, and to inform you
that I approve of
your proposal to
expend £500 in
settling 15 human
families who will
be selected in India
by Mr. Waller

Co. E.S.O. 6 July
(S) E. Linnell

2 Jfr

anxiety from the Govt
of India whether they
will have any objection
to affording the Bill
facilities for obtaining
valuable settlers.

As this is desirable,
for the reasons given
— para 8 of the
enclosed rep, that
the settlers should
reach the Port
not later than
September next,
I am to request
the favour of your
early reply to
this letter.

Yr
(Sd) R. L. A.