

EAST AFR. PROT.

N° 19351

18351

REG'D
REG'D 50 MAY 06

Well

(Subject)

1906

May

as Paper

Importation of Indian Labourers ^{Indians}

Question of allowing, by Companies and private
 individuals or management of the concerns Objec-
 tions to let Indians would not be directly or indirectly

(Motives)

Mr. Read

This despatch refers to the application
 of the East African Cotton Syndicate
 (5944) to be allowed
 to import Indian labourers for
 their estates on the Tana River
 - by which they meant indentured
 Indian labourers.

The reply of the Comr. is as under
 (1) He is not wholly favourable
 to the allowing private firms
 to have indentured Indians, owing
 to the difficulty of controlling
 their treatment.

Closed / copy received

Subsequent Page

23-4-19

I think it very doubtful if the
Code of India would allow the
imposition of Indian indented
labour by private firms or companies
or firms as proposed.



R
211 C.O.
19354

Commissioner's Office, 30 MAY 06

Nairobi,

May 8th 1906.

LAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Confidential (22).

My Lord,

I have the honour to reply to Your Lordship's
mu/9
5044 despatches, Confidential, of the 8th March and 1st April
July 4 last. The question of allowing Companies and private firms
to import labour from India under indenture would depend
to a great extent on the management of the concerns; the
objection would be that the Indians would not be directly
under our control.

It is very doubtful whether the Tana River would be
suitable for Indian families - certainly the lower reaches
which I have visited would not - and in the case of Mr.
Watson under whom it is proposed to employ Indian families,
I may mention that arrangements have already been made to
supply

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

London, S.W.

Supply him with a certain amount of labour from the Kikuyu district of this Protectorate. A number of complaints were received from the men when they left, and the experiment is not one that is likely to be repeated.]

3. The question of encouraging a certain number of Indian families to take up land and cultivate in the Protectorate is quite another matter and on this I am shortly addressing Your Lordship.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My. Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

Thos. H. C. L.

1935!

DRAFT.

The Secretary

SA Ottawa Synodical

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1
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Sir,

MINUTE

Mr. Lobb F.

Mr. T. J. ...

Mr. ...

Mr. Cox.

Mr. Lucas.

Mr. Graham.

Sir M. Ommanney

Mr. Churchill

The Earl of Elgin

[Copy of draft to
Canner conf 47]

25 June 1906

W^rft to your letter
of the 19th of April, last
re the subject of the
proposed introduction of
Indian labourers into the
E.A.P., I am directed
by the Earl of Elgin to
inform you that if it
be your desire of the E.A.
Est^r Synodical to

25 June 1906
that
a despatch has been received
from the Comr^r of the
E.A.P. from which it
appears that the
neighbourhood of the

The River is not
suitable for the residence
of Indian natives.

2. In my case however
you had ~~been~~ ^{had} advised
as at present advised
prepared to meet ^{the} ~~intend~~ ^{intend} to the service of your Government
to introduction of
indentured labourers
from India, ~~which~~ which
~~you allude~~ in the
first para of your
letter abrogated.

which, it appears, was
the intention of your
original application

3. I am to add that
it seems ^{doubtful} questionable,
according to the info
still ^{has received} has arrived
to his disposal,
whether prior to the ~~date~~
representative ^{the} ~~of your~~
~~your Colon by~~
~~Deputy in the Port~~
he made use of the
~~native labour~~ ^{and he}
~~opposite place~~
~~applied to~~
the last mentioned
late P.M.