

No. 215 - T.

Govt. of India P. R. D.

Civil Works (Telegraphs)

To

The Chairman, Chamber of Commerce
Madras

Smile 20 Sept 1894

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th September 1894, advising that the Government of India should issue instructions to the Indian delegate, who will attend the International Telegraph Conference to be held at Baden Baden in 1896, to press for a reduction of the telegraph tariff between India and Europe.

2. In reply I am to point out that in accordance with Section 1, paragraph 1 of Home Department Notification No. 1012, dated the 11th October 1889 (an extract of which is enclosed for convenience of reference) your letter should have been submitted to the Government of India through the Government of Madras. The Government of India are desirous that the procedure laid down in the above Notification shall be adhered to, and I am to request that you will be good enough to submit your
Chambers

Chambers' representation to the Government
of Madras in the first instance.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt. servant

(Signed) N. F. Mackenzie

Under Secy to the Govt. of India

(True Copy)

No. 204. T.

Govt. of India. P. O. D. (Telegraphs).

To

The Chairman,

Madras Chamber of Commerce.

Amala 17th Sept 1894

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt
of your letter, herewith returned, No. dated
8th August 1894, in which you deprecate
the introduction into India of the official
Telegraphic Vocabulary which the International
Telegraph Conference held at Paris in 1890
resolved to adopt in the transmission
of telegrams exchanged within European
limits.

2. In reply, I am to invite your attention to
Section 1, paragraph 1 of Home Department
Notification No. 1012, dated the 11th October 1889
(an extract of which is enclosed for convenience
of reference), and to say that the Government
of India consider it desirable that the procedure
laid down in that Notification should be
adhered to.

3. I am, therefore, to request that you will be
good enough to place the opinions of your
Chamber on this subject before the Government
of Madras for submission to the Government of India.

The Madras Chamber of Commerce
Madras 8th August 1894.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. J. A. Boyson
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce,
Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government of India
Public Works Department, Simla

Sir,

The attention of the Members of this Chamber has been drawn to the Bengal Chamber's letter to the Government of India, dated the 9th ultimo, in which objection is raised to the introduction into India of Official Telegraphic Vocabulary compiled in compliance with a resolution passed at the International Conference in Paris in 1890.

The members of the Chamber all agree that the number of words contained in the vocabulary is insufficient for ordinary Commercial requirements, and further that if its use were rendered compulsory, a heavy and unnecessary expenditure would be thrown upon the mercantile firms who would be obliged to reconstruct and reprint the Codes they now use to suit the new vocabulary.

I beg therefore, on behalf of the members, to urge that its use should not be made compulsory in India.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
(sd) J. A. Boyson.
Chairman

4. I am also to take this opportunity of reminding you that the Note referred to in this correspondence, in which the Director of Traffic Indian Telegraph Department recommended the use of this Official Telegraph Vocabulary has not made its adoption other than optional.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) N. F. Mackenzie

Under Secy to the Govt of India

W!

True Copy

1894

The Chamber of Commerce.

Madras, 8th September, 1894.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. J. A. Boyson
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce,
Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government of India,
P. W. D. Simla

Sir,

The Chamber has from time to time pressed upon Government the necessity felt for a reduction of the telegraph ^{tariff} ~~tariff~~ between India and Europe. A lecture delivered recently before the Society of Arts, by Mr. E. O. Walker, C. I. E., late of the Telegraph Department, has again drawn the attention of the Chamber to the matter and in view of the Approaching International Telegraph Conference which will assemble in 1896, I am desirous to solicit that the Government of India, in furtherance of the object, will use its influence to secure instructions being given to the Indian delegate who will attend the Conference to press for a reduction.

2. Setting aside the probability of an increase of traffic following upon a reduction in charge, which has generally been the case, it is thought that the profits made upon foreign telegrams at

at present are sufficiently large to admit of at least a tentative reduction. For Indo-European messages the share of Indian Government amounts to something like Rs 600,000 per annum. In addition, the tolls in transit of messages to and from the Far East bring in a rather larger amount. These earnings must amply meet the interest on Capital outlay on the Circuits, the cost of maintenance, and the wages of the staff employed to deal with foreign telegrams in India, as well as the expense of check, account and audit; and it is in this view that the Chamber feels that there is a strong case for the consideration of Government. The Telegraph Department may naturally wish to show good results by massing inland and foreign message revenue, charges for railway telegraphs, and receipts from other sources; but the Chamber respectfully submits that when the returns begin to exceed the expenses in any particular direction, the branch of the Community which contributes to those returns should receive some remission of charges. It is believed that this aspect of the case will commend itself to Government.

3. As regards the Financial result to the Telegraph Department, the Chamber believes that

that if the tariff were lowered gradually by 8 annas per word to Rs 2 or even less, there would be no loss. This opinion is strengthened by the fact that it has been possible to reduce, since 1st May, 1891, the rate between England and Australian Colonies (Queensland excepted) by nearly one half, and the additional traffic attracted by a lower charge has at the present time compensated for the estimated loss of revenue. At first it would appear that a sacrifice was made, but this occurred doubtless from too large a reduction in tariff (one half) being effected at one time. The Chamber advocates a gradually descending scale. Again, when the minimum chargeable unit for telegrams with Europe was reduced on the 1st January, 1876, from 10 words to 1 word, in the year following, although the average value of such messages decreased 12 per cent., private senders despatched 22.44 per cent. more messages, and the gross value of the traffic increased by 5.34 per cent. In the year following that again, the number

number of messages increased by 38.11 per Cent. and the gross value 27.28 percent.

4. To take another instance which illustrates the contention of the Chamber up to the 1st January, 1882, a telegram in India cost a minimum of one rupee. On that date the "deferred" class was introduced. In the year 1881-82 private messages in India numbered 1,035,137 and were valued at Rs 13,685; in the year following (when the eight-anna telegram was sanctioned) there were 1,539,975 telegrams valued at Rs 26,182.98. Some years ago, the Chamber is aware, the Indian Government had to consider in connection with foreign tariff the loss accruing from the Persian lines and cables, that is, of the Indo-European Telegraph Department; but that loss has now disappeared.

5. As regards the Eastern Telegraph Company and the Indo-European Telegraph Company, the dividends now being paid are so good, and their reserve funds laid by out of earnings so large (over £ 600,000), that the Chamber thinks that these Companies may with propriety be

be asked to share the risk of a reduced tariff.

I have the honour to be,
Sir

Your most obedient servant
(sd) J. B. Boyson
Chairman.

E. J. M.
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Extract from the Government of India Home Department Notification No. 1812, dated 11th October 1889. ~~xxxxxx~~ .

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Section I.

Rules regulating the submission of petitions to the Government of India by private persons or public bodies.

1. Every petition to the Government of India, whether it bears immediately on a matter of Imperial policy or has reference to the orders, or the general policy and action of a Local Government, should be forwarded through the Local Government under which the petitioner is residing or is employed. But there is no objection to the petitioner's forwarding simultaneously a duplicate copy of the petition to the Government of India, if he so desires, provided that he marks it **as** a "duplicate."

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The Madras Chamber of Commerce,

Madras, 11 October 1894.

FROM

Henry Beauchamp Esq
SECRETARY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
MADRAS.

TO

The Secretary to Government
P. O. D. (Telegraphs)
Ootacamund.

Sir,

In accordance with the request contained in the Government of India's letters, copies of which are enclosed. I have the honour to forward herewith, for your submission to the Government of India, the two letters from the Chamber referred to therein.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Henry Beauchamp
Secretary.

710 23
1800/94

No. 2873 W. d. 10th November 1894

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

*From the Secretary,
Chamber of Commerce
Madras* (H.E. S. - 21st October 1894)

*The letters will be
forwarded to the Govern-
ment of India.*

*To The Chairman
Madras Chamber of Commerce.*

(H.E. S. 2874 W. d. 10th Nov. 1894)

*To The Secretary to the
Government of India
P. W. Department.*

*Sir,
With reference to
your No. 205 I dated 17th
September 1894, I am directed
to forward, for the orders
of the Government of
India, a letter from the
Chairman Madras
Chamber of Commerce
dated 8th August 1894,
protesting against the
introduction*

Recd. 15.10.94. enclosed

introduction into India
of the official Telegraphic
Vocabulary which the
international telegraph
conference held at Paris
in 1890 resolved to adopt
in the transmission of
telegrams exchanged
within European limits.

(A.E. N° 2875 W 210 Nov 194)

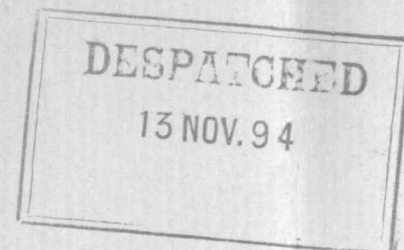
To
The Secretary to the
Government of India
P. W. Department.

Sir,
With reference to
your no. 216 of dated 28th
September 1894, I am
directed to forward, for
the orders of the Govern-
ment of India, a letter
from the Chairman Madras
Chamber of Commerce dated
8th September 1894, ad-
vocating that the
Government of India
should issue instructions
to the Indian delegate,
who will attend the
international Telegraph
Conference

conference to be held at
Buda Pesth in 1896, to
press for a reduction of
the telegraph tariff bet-
ween India and Europe.

I have &c

S
W
18th



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~~#8~~

Letter from the
Chamberlain of Com-
mence on telephone
matters

No: 2873 to 75 W. of 10th Ave 194

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