

The Chamber of Commerce,
Madras, 5th December, 1894.

FROM

THE HON'BLE MR. J. A. BOYSON,
CHAIRMAN, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
MADRAS.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
P.W.Deptt. (Civil Works,Telegraphs).
Calcutta.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, Nos. 204 and 215 T., dated the 17th and 27th September last, returning the Chamber's letters of the 8th August and the 8th September, the former referring to the proposed issue of an official Vocabulary for International Telegraphy, and the latter to the reduction of telegraph rates between Australia, India and England, for the reason that they had not been forwarded through the Local Government, as required by the Government of India Notification in the Home Department, No. 1812, dated the 11th October 1889.

I am directed, while thanking you for the extract of the above Notification, to demur at the treatment accorded to the representations in question. The Chamber respectfully submits that its letters of the 8th August and 8th September do not come within the category of the class of "petitions" to which the Notification of the 11th October 1889 was intended to apply, and that as the matters referred to in these were of Imperial rather than local interest, there was no necessity to submit them through the Local Government. It has always been the privilege of this Chamber to communicate direct with the Government of India

when

when it considered it necessary or desirable in the interests of commerce to do so, and on more occasions than one, it has of recent years been in direct communication with other Departments of the Government of India without comment or question. Trade questions frequently arise unconnected with the Local Administration or questions that require to be dealt with expeditiously, and the advantage of direct communication with the Government of India is obvious. This is an advantage which the Chamber highly appreciates and would be very sorry to see in any way restricted, and it, therefore, ventures to respectfully record its protest against the interpretation which has in these instances been placed on the Notification, No. 1812.

In conclusion the Chamber would point out that this treatment of its representations is the more remarkable inasmuch as a recent direct communication from a firm in Madras to the Government of India in respect of a ruling by the Customs officials met with prompt redress.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J.A. Boyson,

Chairman.

All communications
should be addressed to
the Secretary.

No. 137 T.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

CIVIL WORKS.
Telegraphs.

Simla, the 30th April 1895.

The following, with copy of letter replied to, is forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, for information, and for communication to the Chamber of Commerce at Coconada, in continuation of Public Works Department letter No. 205 T., dated the 17th September 1894.

+ Nos: 2873 to 2877
of 10th Nov 1894 and 3180
11th Dec 1894

By order,

N. F. Macdonald

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 136 T., dated the 30th April 1895.

From - The Government of India, Public Works Department.

To - The Chairman, Madras Chamber of Commerce.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 5th December 1894, demurring to the action of the Government of India in having returned your letters, dated 8th August and 8th September 1894, the former regarding the proposed issue of an official Vocabulary for International Telegraphy, and the latter to the reduction of telegraph rates between Australia, India and

England

England

for submission through the Local Government, in accordance with Home Department Notification No.1812, dated the 11th October 1889, and requesting that the Chamber of Commerce, Madras, may be allowed to communicate direct with the Government of India.

2. In reply, I am to explain that communications from Chambers of Commerce have, as a rule, to be referred to the Local Governments concerned for any remarks which these Governments may desire to express thereon, and to point out that direct communication with the Government of India, therefore, both tends to unnecessary correspondence between the Government of India and the Local Governments, and also delays rather than expedites the disposal of the Chambers' representations. The Government of India also believe that no substantial difficulty has arisen in the past, or is likely to arise in the future, from the observance of the existing rules.

3. The Government of India have, therefore, after full consideration, come to the conclusion that the procedure laid down in Home Department Notification No.1812, dated the 11th October 1889, and which was intended to cover the submission by representative or other bodies of memorials and addresses of all kinds should be adhered to, viz., that communications on public business should be forwarded through the Local Government. I am to express the hope that your Chamber will, under the above explanation, concur in the considerations which lead the Government of India to ask for the observance of this procedure in future.

4. I am, at the same time, to assure your Chamber that, at any time when, in the opinion of the Chamber, immediate submission of its representation to this Government is of such urgency or importance as to necessitate such a course,

there

there is no objection to your Chamber forwarding direct to the Government of India duplicate copies of any communication which they may have addressed to, or submitted for transmission to, this Government through the Local Government.

It is believed that in this way all the desired advantages of prompt communication will be maintained, and the additional advantage secured that this Government will so much the sooner be in possession of the opinions of the Government of Madras upon the question submitted by the Chamber.

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N^o 1182 W. dated 16 May 1895.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

Letter from the Govt of India P.W.D. H.E. No 137 J of 30 April 1895

*communicated
as requested by the Govern-
ment of India, to the
Chamber of Commerce
at Coconada.*

*W
12 May*

*S
119*

*CHD
11/5/95*

To.

The Chairman

*Chamber of Commerce
Coconada.*

DESPATCHED

17 MAY 95

*215/5
05. 5% slip*

Recd: 8.5.95

Encl 1

*no 2877 W of 10. 11. 94
" 2876 W of 10. 11. 94
" 2873-4-5 W of 10. 11. 94
" 3180 W of 11. 12. 94
" 207 W of 28-1. 95*

Recd 6.5.95

Encl 1.

~~1/6~~

Direct Communication
between Chambers of Com-
merce & the S. of D. not
permitted.

✓
B

N^o 1182 W. d/16 May 1895.

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