

ORDINARY, MS.

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When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Emigration to Sarawak

Informing the Govt of  
Sarawak that it is not  
desirable to allow  
to take place from  
any other port than  
Kuching.

only at Kuching.

1894.  
GOVERNMENT OF H  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AN  
EMIGRATION

File No. 59.  
Serial No. 2.

To

THE HON'BLE THE COLONIAL SECRETAR  
STRAITS SETTLE

No. 1793.  
59

*Dated Simla, the 11th July 1894.*

SUBJE  
Opening of Emigration to Sarawak.

No. 1793  
59

FROM

SIR E. C. BUCK, Kt., C.S.I.,

*Secretary to the Government of India,*

TO

THE HON'BLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Dept. of Rev. and Agri.  
*Emigration.*

*Simla, the 11th July 1894.*

SIR,

WITH reference to your letter No. 4864-94, dated 12th June 1894, intimating the desire of the Raja and Council of Sarawak to introduce Indian immigration, I am directed to inform you that before taking steps for the legalisation of emigration to Sarawak the Government of India would desire to be satisfied on certain points.

2. In the first place I am to ask that His Highness the Raja may be requested to forward, for the information of this Government, a draft of the law which he proposes to introduce for regulating immigration into Sarawak. The Indian Government would be prepared to accept a law based on the Proclamation No. IV of 1891 recently issued by the Governor of North Borneo.

3. The Government of India desire further to be informed of the name and qualifications of the officer whom the Raja would propose to appoint as Immigration Agent to hold the position indicated in Part II of the North Borneo Proclamation. They would prefer that the officer in question should, if possible, be an English medical man.

4. It is presumed that the emigration will, as in the case of North Borneo, be entirely from the port of Negapatam on the Madras Coast, but further enquiry will be made on this point from the Government of Madras. The recruiters should be approved by the Straits Government, and the coolies should be subjected at the port of embarkation to exactly the same rules as coolies enlisted for the Straits. Previous to embarkation the emigrants will be mustered before an official appointed by the Madras Government in order to ascertain whether they are willing to emigrate and understand what is expected of them. It is requested also that the Raja will arrange for a thorough medical examination of the recruits

at the depôt before they are embarked ; seeing that if no medical examination is made till the emigrants arrive in Sarawak much unnecessary expense may be incurred in medicines and return passages for those who are found physically unfit for the work for which they have been engaged.

When His Highness the Raja has approved of these arrangements and has arranged for the appointment of a suitable Immigration Agent and has issued a law approved by this Government, the Government of India will be prepared to publish a notification under section 102 (2) of the Indian Emigration Act, XXI of 1883 to legalise emigration to Sarawak and will request His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to issue the necessary notification under section 32 of the Straits Ordinance, V of 1884, to authorise Indian emigration to Sarawak from the Straits.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

E. C. BUCK,

*Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 2238, dated Simla, the 17th August 1893.

FILE No. 60  
OF 1893.

From—E. D. MACLAGAN, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of India,  
Department of Revenue and Agriculture, SERIAL No. 1.

To—The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 11388, dated the 7th November 1889, I am directed to inquire whether the Government of Sarawak are desirous of resuming the negotiations opened in 1888 for the supply of labour from India to that country, or whether it is wished that the subject should be left in abeyance.

No. 9134-93, dated Singapore, the 22nd September 1893.

FILE No. 60  
OF 1893.

From—A. V. TALBOT, Esq., Acting Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture. SERIAL No. 2.

I am directed by the Acting Governor of the Straits Settlements to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2238-60 (Emigration) of the 17th ultimo, and to inform you in reply, that the Government of Sarawak would wish that the subject of the supply of labour from India to that country should still be left in abeyance.

No. 4864-94, dated Singapore, 5th June 1894.

From—WILLIAM MAXWELL, Esq., C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements,  
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with my letter No. (9184-93) of the 22nd September last, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the Raja of Sarawak desires to re-open negotiations with a view to obtaining the sanction of the Government of India to emigration from India to Sarawak. I am to forward for the consideration of the Government of India, a copy of a letter which has been addressed by the Raja of Sarawak to the Governor, together with a copy of a Resolution of the Sarawak Supreme Council dated the 5th June 1894.

2. In previous correspondence the Raja has intimated his willingness—

(a) to guarantee proper treatment of labourers and conformity on the part of the Government of Sarawak to any necessary regulations;  
Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, October 28th, 1888.

(b) to pass an enactment similar to that which (at the instance of this Government) has been passed in Johore and to enforce its provisions;  
Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, November 12th, 1888.

(c) to "acquiesce and comply in any arrangement for the Government of Singapore to enquire into the general state of these coolies."  
Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, September 30th, 1888.

3. As stated in my letter of the 27th November 1888 (12146-88), the State of Sarawak is under British protection, the Governor of the Straits Settlements being High Commissioner and Consul-General for Borneo. It will be possible, therefore, in case of need, to exercise reasonable control from Singapore over the main incidents of any system of emigration to Sarawak. The Governor is not, however, able to undertake that estates in Sarawak shall be periodically inspected by the Indian Immigration Agent of this Colony, and probably this will not be considered by the Government of India to be necessary.

4. The circumstances of Sarawak in relation to the Straits Settlements are precisely the same as those of British North Borneo, to which State the emigration of Indian labourers has been permitted by the Government of India. I am, therefore, to express His Excellency's hope that the Government of India may see fit to sanction the recruitment of Indian labour for Sarawak on such conditions as have been required in the case of British North Borneo.

Dated Kuching, the 5th June 1894.

From—His Highness Raja C. BROOKE, Raja of Sarawak, G.C.M.G.,  
To—His Excellency Sir CHARLES MITCHELL, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c., Governor of the Straits Settlements.

I have the honour to enclose for Your Excellency's information an Order passed in Supreme Council this morning, and I hereby trust that Your Excellency may be pleased to further our desire to obtain coolies from India through Singapore to be employed by Contractors residing in the Sarawak territory.

I am prepared to appoint a Tamil speaking Agent in Kuching on this, our request, being granted, and also in any other way to arrange, in order that the terms of the Indian Immigrant enactment may be enforced.

## SUPREME COUNCIL.

THE ASTANA.

Tuesday, 5th June 1894.

*Present :*

His Highness the Raja, G. C. M. G.  
 The Hon'ble the Resident, F. O. Maxwell.  
 The Hon'ble the Treasurer, C. S. Pearse.  
 The Datu Bandar, Hadji Bua Hassan.  
 The Datu Emam, Hadji Metaim.  
 Abang Mohamed Kassim.  
 Hadji Sudin.

The Supreme Council was convened this fifth day of June, when His Highness the Raja stated to the members that owing to representations from the principal coffee and tea planters in this country he had now to bring to their notice the desirability of obtaining Indian immigrants.

His Highness now proposes that the Sarawak Government should make an application to the Government of Singapore that it may be allowed the privilege of obtaining Indian coolies from Singapore or India.

The Sarawak Government would undertake to follow any rules regarding inspection and surveillance that might be required by the Indian enactment, in order that this scheme may be carried out in good faith and put in force with as little delay as possible.

His Highness explained to the members that it would entail some responsibilities, and he left it to them to decide in favour of or against this proposal. The responsibilities, he believes, are that the coolies shall be well treated, and all terms of their contracts strictly carried out, that they shall be well housed, and have medical attendance when required, be restricted to this country, and not allowed to leave for the purpose of taking engagements beyond the territory. They would be allowed to return to their own country, only when the term of their contract had expired; should they become unfitted for work through ill health, or turn out bad characters or criminals, then the employer would be bound to send them back to the country in which they were recruited at his own expense; all these provisions the Government of Sarawak would have to see faithfully performed.

The Sarawak Government would, moreover, have to appoint a Tamil speaking Agent in Kuching to superintend and otherwise supervise the coolies on their arrival, to visit the Estates periodically and to hear any complaints made by them.

The members unanimously approve of the proposal.

CHARLES S. PEARSE,

*Recorder of Supreme Council.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

EMIGRATION.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

No. 1794.  
 59

*Dated Simla, the 11th July 1894.*

SUBJECT.

Opening of emigration to Sarawak.

FROM

E. D. MACLAGAN, Esq., C.S.,  
*Under-Secretary to the Government of India,*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Depts of Rev. and Agri.  
Emigration.

*Simla, the 11th July 1894.*

SIR,

With reference to Mr. Price's letter No. 91, dated 25th January 1889, I

To Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, No. 2238, dated 17th August 1893.  
From Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, Nos. 9134-93, dated 22nd September 1893.  
From Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, Nos. 4864-94, dated 12th June 1894.

To Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, No. 1793, dated 11th July 1894.  
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am directed to forward a copy of the correspondence marginally noted regarding the proposed opening of emigration to Sarawak, and with reference to paragraph of the letter to the Government of the Straits Settlements of this date to enquire whether it is desirable that emigration from Madras should proceed from any port other than that of Negapatam.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. D. MACLAGAN,

*Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.*

GOVERNMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

Serial No. 3

EMIGRATION

*Repts 683 hds  
18-9-94*

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

No.  $\frac{1794}{59}$ .

*Dated Simla, the 11th July 1894.*

SUBJECT.

Opening of emigration to Sarawak

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*Under-Secretary to the Government of India,*

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THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Dept. of Rev. and Agr.  
*Emigration.*

*Simla, the 11th July 1894.*

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*L. Secy. to the Govt. of India.*

1894.

File No. 59.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Serial No. 3.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

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THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

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THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

No.  $\frac{1794}{59}$ .

*Dated Simla, the 11th July 1894.*

SUBJECT.

Opening of emigration to Sarawak.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 323 R. & A. D.—12-7-94—62.

No. 1794  
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*Under-Secretary to the Government of India,*

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I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

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*Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.*

No. <sup>2238</sup>/<sub>60</sub>, dated Simla, the 17th August 1893.

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DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND  
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Opening of Emigration to Sarawa

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2. In the first place I am to ask that His Highness the Raja may be requested to forward, for the information of this Government, a draft of the law which he proposes to introduce for regulating immigration into Sarawak. The Indian Government would be prepared to accept a law based on the Proclamation No. IV of 1891 recently issued by the Governor of North Borneo.

3. The Government of India desire further to be informed of the name and qualifications of the officer whom the Raja would propose to appoint as Immigration Agent to hold the position indicated in Part II of the North Borneo Proclamation. They would prefer that the officer in question should, if possible, be an English medical man.

4. It is presumed that the emigration will, as in the case of North Borneo, be entirely from the port of Negapatam on the Madras Coast, but further enquiry will be made on this point from the Government of Madras. The recruiters should be approved by the Straits Government, and the coolies should be subjected at the port of embarkation to exactly the same rules as coolies enlisted for the Straits. Previous to embarkation the emigrants will be mustered before an official appointed by the Madras Government in order to ascertain whether they are willing to emigrate and understand what is expected of them. It is requested also that the Raja will arrange for a thorough medical examination of the recruits

from the depot before they are embarked; seeing that if no medical examination made till the emigrants arrive in Sarawak much unnecessary expense may be incurred in medicines and return passages for those who are found physically unfit for the work for which they have been engaged.

When His Highness the Raja has approved of these arrangements and has arranged for the appointment of a suitable Immigration Agent and has issued a law approved by this Government, the Government of India will be prepared to publish a notification under section 102 (2) of the Indian Emigration Act, XXI of 1883 to legalise emigration to Sarawak and will request His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to issue the necessary notification under section 32 of the Straits Ordinance, V of 1884, to authorise Indian emigration to Sarawak from the Straits.

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Hadji Sudin.

The Supreme Council was convened this fifth day of June, when His Highness the Raja stated to the members that owing to representations from the principal coffee and tea planters in this country he had now to bring to their notice the desirability of obtaining Indian immigrants.

His Highness now proposes that the Sarawak Government should make an application to the Government of Singapore that it may be allowed the privilege of obtaining Indian coolies from Singapore or India.

The Sarawak Government would undertake to follow any rules regarding inspection and surveillance that might be required by the Indian enactment, in order that this scheme may be carried out in good faith and put in force with as little delay as possible.

His Highness explained to the members that it would entail some responsibilities, and he left it to them to decide in favour of or against this proposal. The responsibilities, he believes, are that the coolies shall be well treated, and all terms of their contracts strictly carried out, that they shall be well housed, and have medical attendance when required, be restricted to this country, and not allowed to leave for the purpose of taking engagements beyond the territory. They would be allowed to return to their own country, only when the term of their contract had expired; should they become unfitted for work through ill health, or turn out bad characters or criminals, then the employer would be bound to send them back to the country in which they were recruited at his own expense; all these provisions the Government of Sarawak would have to see faithfully performed.

The Sarawak Government would, moreover, have to appoint a Tamil speaking Agent in Kuching to superintend and otherwise supervise the coolies on their arrival, to visit the Estates periodically and to hear any complaints made by them.

The members unanimously approve of the proposal.

CHARLES S. PEARSE,

*Recorder of Supreme Council.*

From—WILLIAM MAXWELL, Esq., C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements,  
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

FILE No. 59  
OF 1894.  
SERIAL No. 1.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with my letter No. (9134-93) of the 22nd September last, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the Raja of Sarawak desires to re-open negotiations with a view to obtaining the sanction of the Government of India to emigration from India to Sarawak. I am to forward for the consideration of the Government of India, a copy of a letter which has been addressed by the Raja of Sarawak to the Governor, together with a copy of a Resolution of the Sarawak Supreme Council dated the 5th June 1894.

2. In previous correspondence the Raja has intimated his willingness—

(a) to guarantee proper treatment of labourers and conformity on the regulations; Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, October 28th, 1888. part of the Government of Sarawak to any necessary

(b) to pass an enactment similar to that which (at the instance of this Government) has been passed in Johore and to enforce its provisions; Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, November 17th, 1888.

(c) to "acquiesce and comply in any arrangement for the Government of Singapore to enquire into the general state of these coolies." Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, September 30th, 1889.

3. As stated in my letter of the 27th November 1888 (12146-88), the State of Sarawak is under British protection, the Governor of the Straits Settlements being High Commissioner and Consul-General for Borneo. It will be possible, therefore, in case of need, to exercise reasonable control from Singapore over the main incidents of any system of emigration to Sarawak. The Governor is not, however, able to undertake that estates in Sarawak shall be periodically inspected by the Indian Immigration Agent of this Colony, and probably this will not be considered by the Government of India to be necessary.

4. The circumstances of Sarawak in relation to the Straits Settlements are precisely the same as those of British North Borneo, to which State the emigration of Indian labourers has been permitted by the Government of India. I am, therefore, to express His Excellency's hope that the Government of India may see fit to sanction the recruitment of Indian labour for Sarawak on such conditions as have been required in the case of British North Borneo.

Dated Kuching, the 5th June 1894.

From—His Highness Raja C. BROOKE, Raja of Sarawak, G.C.M.G.,  
To—His Excellency SIR CHARLES MITCHELL, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., Governor of the Straits Settlements.

I have the honour to enclose for Your Excellency's information an Order passed in Supreme Council this morning, and I hereby trust that Your Excellency may be pleased to further our desire to obtain coolies from India through Singapore to be employed by Contractors residing in the Sarawak territory.

I am prepared to appoint a Tamil speaking Agent in Kuching on this, our request, being granted, and also in any other way to arrange, in order that the terms of the Indian Immigrant enactment may be enforced.

THE ASTANA.  
Tuesday, 5th June 1894.

*Present :*

His Highness the Raja, G. C. M. G.  
The Hon'ble the Resident, F. O. Maxwell.  
The Hon'ble the Treasurer, C. S. Pearse.  
The Datu Bandar, Hadji Bua Hassan.  
The Datu Emam, Hadji Metaim.  
Abang Mohamed Kassim.  
Hadji Sudin.

The Supreme Council was convened this fifth day of June, when His Highness the Raja stated to the members that owing to representations from the principal coffee and tea planters in this country he had now to bring to their notice the desirability of obtaining Indian immigrants.

His Highness now proposes that the Sarawak Government should make an application to the Government of Singapore that it may be allowed the privilege of obtaining Indian coolies from Singapore or India.

The Sarawak Government would undertake to follow any rules regarding inspection and surveillance that might be required by the Indian enactment, in order that this scheme may be carried out in good faith and put in force with as little delay as possible.

His Highness explained to the members that it would entail some responsibilities, and he left it to them to decide in favour of or against this proposal. The responsibilities, he believes, are that the coolies shall be well treated, and all terms of their contracts strictly carried out, that they shall be well housed, and have medical attendance when required, be restricted to this country, and not allowed to leave for the purpose of taking engagements beyond the territory. They would be allowed to return to their own country, only when the term of their contract had expired; should they become unfitted for work through ill health, or turn out bad characters or criminals, then the employer would be bound to send them back to the country in which they were recruited at his own expense; all these provisions the Government of Sarawak would have to see faithfully performed.

The Sarawak Government would, moreover, have to appoint a Tamil speaking Agent in Kuching to superintend and otherwise supervise the coolies on their arrival, to visit the Estates periodically and to hear any complaints made by them.

The members unanimously approve of the proposal.

CHARLES S. PEARSE,  
*Recorder of Supreme Council.*

110. 2007-89, dated Singapore, 13th June-18  
From—WILLIAM MAXWELL, Esq., C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements,  
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture.  
File No. 59  
of 1894  
SERIAL No. 1.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with my letter No. (9134-93) of the 22nd September last, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the Raja of Sarawak desires to re-open negotiations with a view to obtaining the sanction of the Government of India to emigration from India to Sarawak. I am to forward for the consideration of the Government of India, a copy of a letter which has been addressed by the Raja of Sarawak to the Governor, together with a copy of a Resolution of the Sarawak Supreme Council dated the 5th June 1894.

2. In previous correspondence the Raja has intimated his willingness—

(a) to guarantee proper treatment of labourers and conformity on the part of the Government of Sarawak to any necessary regulations;  
Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, October 28th, 1888.

(b) to pass an enactment similar to that which (at the instance of this Government) has been passed in Johore and to enforce its provisions;  
Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, November 17th, 1888.

(c) to "acquiesce and comply in any arrangement for the Government of Singapore to enquire into the general state of these coolies."  
Raja of Sarawak to Sir C. Smith, September 30th, 1889.

3. As stated in my letter of the 27th November 1888 (12146-88), the State of Sarawak is under British protection, the Governor of the Straits Settlements being High Commissioner and Consul-General for Borneo. It will be possible, therefore, in case of need, to exercise reasonable control from Singapore over the main incidents of any system of emigration to Sarawak. The Governor is not, however, able to undertake that estates in Sarawak shall be periodically inspected by the Indian Immigration Agent of this Colony, and probably this will not be considered by the Government of India to be necessary.

4. The circumstances of Sarawak in relation to the Straits Settlements are precisely the same as those of British North Borneo, to which State the emigration of Indian labourers has been permitted by the Government of India. I am, therefore, to express His Excellency's hope that the Government of India may see fit to sanction the recruitment of Indian labour for Sarawak on such conditions as have been required in the case of British North Borneo.

Dated Kuching, the 5th June 1894.

From—His Highness Raja C. BROOKE, Raja of Sarawak, G.C.M.G.,  
To—His Excellency Sir CHARLES MITCHELL, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., Governor of the Straits Settlements.

I have the honour to enclose for Your Excellency's information an Order passed in Supreme Council this morning, and I hereby trust that Your Excellency may be pleased to further our desire to obtain coolies from India through Singapore to be employed by Contractors residing in the Sarawak territory.

I am prepared to appoint a Tamil speaking Agent in Kuching on this, our request, being granted, and also in any other way to arrange, in order that the terms of the Indian Immigrant enactment may be enforced.

Wednesday, 5th June 1894.

*Present :*

His Highness the Raja, G. C. M. G.  
 The Hon'ble the Resident, F. O. Maxwell.  
 The Hon'ble the Treasurer, C. S. Pearse.  
 The Datu Bandar, Hadji Bua Hassan.  
 The Datu Emam, Hadji Metaim.  
 Abang Mohamed Kassim.  
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The Supreme Council was convened this fifth day of June, when His Highness the Raja stated to the members that owing to representations from the principal coffee and tea planters in this country he had now to bring to their notice the desirability of obtaining Indian immigrants.

His Highness now proposes that the Sarawak Government should make an application to the Government of Singapore that it may be allowed the privilege of obtaining Indian coolies from Singapore or India.

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The Sarawak Government would, moreover, have to appoint a Tamil speaking Agent in Kuching to superintend and otherwise supervise the coolies on their arrival, to visit the Estates periodically and to hear any complaints made by them.

The members unanimously approve of the proposal.

CHARLES S. PEARSE,  
*Recorder of Supreme Council.*

Jgr 1894 June 1894.

ILE NO. 59-1

OF 1894.

SERIAL NO. 1.

From—WILLIAM MAXWELL, Esq., C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements,  
 To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

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THE SARAWAK.  
Tuesday, 5th June 1894.

*Present :*

His Highness the Raja, G. C. M. G.  
The Hon'ble the Resident, F. O. Maxwell.  
The Hon'ble the Treasurer, C. S. Pearse.  
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CHARLES S. PEARSE,

*Recorder of Supreme Council.*

No. 9134-93, dated Singapore, the 22nd September 1893.

From—A. V. TALBOT, Esq., Acting Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements,  
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

FILE No. 60  
OF 1893.  
SERIAL No. 2.

I am directed by the Acting Governor of the Straits Settlements to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2238-60 (Emigration) of the 17th ultimo, and to inform you in reply, that the Government of Sarawak would wish that the subject of the supply of labour from India to that country should still be left in abeyance.

No. 9134-93, dated Singapore, the 22nd September 1893.  
From—A. V. TALBOT, Esq., Acting Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements,  
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