

Public (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 127

DATED 21-1-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Comg: to the Govt Astronomer with remarks.
letter from the G.O. enclosing copy of
Correspondence between the India Office
and the Seismological Investigation
Committee of the British Association
respecting the establishment of the
relative Greenwich Mean Time and
Civil Time in India.

21.98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C no 757798 C no 1278/99 (240)							

FILE No. 70 of 1897.

SERIAL No. 2.

1898.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

METEOROLOGY.

To

Circular No. 1—70-2.

Dated Calcutta, the 6th January 1898.

SUBJECT.

ESTABLISHMENT of the relative Greenwich Mean Time and Civil Time in India.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 910 R. & A.—7-1-98.—414.—J. W. D'B.

No. 32, Public (Records), dated India Office, London, the 4th November 1897.

From—Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India,

To—The Government of India.

File No. 70 of
1897.
Serial No. 1.

Letter from Professor Milne, dated 9th October 1897, and enclosure.

Letter to Professor Milne, dated 21st October 1897.

Letter from Professor Milne, dated 25th October 1897, and enclosure.

I forward herewith for your Excellency's information a copy of correspondence between this office and the Seismological Investigation Committee of the British Association respecting the establishment of the relative Greenwich Mean time and Civil time in India.

2. The copies of the letter of enquiry

* Sent by Book Post.

referred to in the letter from Professor Milne dated 25th October 1897, are also enclosed herewith, and I shall be glad if your Excellency will order their distribution in accordance with the list which accompanied that letter.

I have etc.,

GEORGE HAMILTON.

Dated Shde Hill House, Newport, I.-W., the 9th October 1897.

From—Professor JOHN MILNE, F. R. S., Secretary, British Association Committee,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

I AM directed by the Seismological Investigation Committee of the British Association for the advancement of Science to state that they are anxious to obtain the assistance of the Secretary of State for India with a view to ascertain the difference between Greenwich Mean time and the Civil time employed in various parts of India and her dependencies.

To obtain this information the Seismological Committee desire to forward to various parts of India and to each of her dependencies a letter like the enclosed, which I may mention is being sent by the Foreign Office to various parts of the world. Should the Secretary of State for India be pleased to grant the assistance of Her Majesty's Government in forwarding such letters, I shall have the honour to send copies of the specimen now enclosed.

Dated India Office London.

From—Professor JOHN MILNE, F.R.S., Secretary, British Association Committee.

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

It is, I think, remarkable that there appears to be no publication which shows the corresponding value, in Greenwich Mean time, of the local time employed throughout the world.

Such a table is indispensable in order to determine accurately the instant of occurrence of earthquakes, sea waves, magnetic phenomena, the despatch of telegrams, and many other events, the sequence of which in absolute time has to be determined.

Although application has been made to the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, to the Royal Geographical Society, to the Central Telegraph Office in London, to the Offices of Cable Companies, and to other possible sources of information, very little has been obtained.

As a Secretary of the British Association Committee whose names are appended, I desire to publish in their forthcoming report a table showing the differences between Greenwich Mean time as used in England and Scotland and that of the Civil times used in various parts of the world.

By Civil time I mean the time used by railways, telegraphs, and for ordinary public affairs.

If different times are used in various parts of your country, I trust that you will be able to give information relating to the same.

Feeling assured of the value of the table it is intended to compile, I sincerely trust that you will favour me with a full and explicit statement of the time generally employed in your country. If it is Mean time, state the meridian; the observatory, or the place to which this refers; and also, as a check against any misunderstanding, please state distinctly the equivalent of December 1st, 9 A.M. G.M.T. in the local time or times adopted in your own country.

Seismological Investigation Committee, British Association.

Lord Kelvin, F.R.S.
Dr J. T. Bottomley, F.R.S.
Professor G. H. Darwin, F.R.S.
Major L. Darwin.
G. F. Deacon.
Professor C. G. Knott.
Professor R. Meldola, F.R.S.
Professor J. Perry, F.R.S.
Dr. Isaac Roberts, F.R.S.

Professor W. G. Adams, F.R.S.
Sir F. J. Bramwell, Bart., F.R.S.
Horace Darwin.
Dr. C. Davison, Secretary.
Professor J. A. Ewing, F.R.S.
Professor G. A. Lebour.
J. Milne, F.R.S., Secretary.
Professor J. H. Poynting, F.R.S.
G. J. Symons, F.R.S., Chairman.

No. R. & L. 1700, dated India Office, London, the 21st October 1897.

From—SIR A. GODLEY K.C.B., *Under-Secretary of State for India*,
To—The Secretary, *British Association Committee*.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th October, and in reply to inform you that His Lordship will be pleased to grant to your Committee such assistance as may be in his power in the establishment of the relative Greenwich Mean time and Civil time in India.

I am accordingly to request that, when forwarding to this office the copies of the explanatory letter for transmission to the Government of India, you will also submit a list of the various localities in that country to which the copies should be respectively addressed.

No. R. & L. 1700, dated Shide Hill House, Newport, I. W., the 25th October 1897.

From—Professor J. MILNE, F.R.S., *Secretary, British Association Committee*,
To—The *Under-Secretary of State for India*.

IN reply to your letter of October 21st, I am directed by the Seismological Investigation Committee to offer their thanks to the Secretary of State for India for his kind offer of assistance with a view to determine the nature of the Civil time used in India and her dependencies.

In accordance with your request I have now the honour to enclose copies of the letter* of enquiry, together with a list of localities to which it seems desirable they should be addressed.

* In print and sent by Book Post.

List of localities with which the Seismological Investigation Committee desire to communicate respecting Civil Time.

Madras.	Bombay.	Bengal.
North-Western Provinces.	(Allahabad and Lucknow).	Punjab (Lahore).
Central Provinces.	(Nagpur).	Burma (Rangoon).
Assam.	Berar (Hyderabad).	Ajmere-Merwara.
Coorg.	British Baluchistan.	Sikkim.
Pondicherry.	Karikal.	Marmugao.
Aden.	Muscat.	Bahrein Islands.
Nepal.	Afghanistan.	

Dated Burlington House, London, W.

From—Professor JOHN MILNE, F.R.S., *Secretary, British Association Committee*,
To—

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SEISMOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lord Kelvin, F.R.S.	Professor W. G. Adams, F.R.S.
Dr. J. T. Bottomley, F.R.S.	Sir F. J. Bramwell, Bart., F.R.S.
Professor G. H. Darwin, F.R.S.	Horace Darwin.
Major L. Darwin.	Dr. C. Davison, <i>Secretary</i> .
G. F. Deacon.	Professor J. A. Ewing, F.R.S.
Professor C. G. Knott.	Professor G. A. Lebour.
Professor R. Meldola, F.R.S.	J. Milne, F.R.S., <i>Secretary</i> .
Professor J. Perry, F.R.S.	Professor J. H. Poynting, F.R.S.
Dr. Isaac Roberts, F.R.S.	G. J. Symons, F.R.S., <i>Chairman</i> .

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 911 B & A.—8-1-98.—470.—J. W. D'B.

Circular No. 1—70-2.

FROM

E. MACONCHIE, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Dept. of Rev. and Agriculture.
Meteorology.

Dated Calcutta, the 6th January 1898.

SIR,

THE Seismological Investigation Committee of the British Association for the advancement of Science are anxious to obtain assistance in ascertaining the difference between Greenwich Mean Time and the Civil Time employed in various parts of India and her dependencies. The information desired by the Committee is indicated in the enclosed letter* and circular from

* Dated 9th October 1897.

Professor Milne, and the localities from which this information is required are mentioned in the list appended.

2. I am to request that the Association's wishes may, as far as possible, be complied with and replies to the circular sent direct to Professor Milne.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. Maconchie
Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

In Orders

The Secy has written
on the letter from India
"Repts Govt Astronomers"
Orders are requested
whether a report should
be called for from
J.W. Murchie Smith,
and his reply sent
to Professor Milne,
or whether the report
itself may
be told to reply
direct to Professor
Milne, sending
copies of same
to Govt for information

yes
recd
20/8

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Order No. 127 of 21. 1. 78.
uns
Could be the Govt Astronomer
who will be requested to
briefly direct to Professor
Milne. A copy of his reply
may be submitted for

~~For~~ information
of Govt.

recd.
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20.1.58

For Astronomical
Note If no spare copies have
come, send enclosure in
original to be returned

When given for copying 21/1
When copied 24/1
When examined 24/1
When signed _____

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READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BRING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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