

## **SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS.**

1. Letter from the Right Hon'ble the Earl of Donoughmore, Sir William Duke, Mr. B. N. Basu, and Mr. Charles Roberts, to the Secretary of State, dated the 3rd May, 1918.
2. Government of India's despatch no. 6, dated the 31st May 1918.
3. Minute by the Council of India, dated the 18th June 1918.



## Supplementary Paper no. 1.

H. M.'s SHIP "DUFFERIN,"

*May 3rd, 1918.*

DEAR MONTAGU,

You have communicated to us who formed part of your mission to India the scheme of Constitutional Reforms proposed in the system of government in British India which has been worked out and agreed upon between His Excellency the Viceroy and yourself.

The scheme is the outcome of discussions in which you have given us the privilege of taking a continuous part and it embodies the conclusions arrived at in those discussions. We need only say therefore that we unitedly support your recommendations and are prepared to recommend their adoption to public opinion both in England and in India. In our view, while safeguarding Imperial interests and providing for the proper maintenance of law and order, they carry out His Majesty's Government's announcement of August 20th last by providing at once for such an instalment of self-government as is at present practicable and safe, together with statutory machinery for its development at subsequent stages.

We would further submit an urgent plea for publication of these proposals as soon as can be arranged. It is impossible now to avoid discussions on Constitutional Reforms in India whatever may be the objection to having such discussions in war time; but we are convinced that there would be serious inconveniences and even risks unless the further discussion of these subjects is guided by regard on the one hand to the substantial measure of reform that is now practicable and on the other to the limits within which reform at this stage must necessarily be confined. We would therefore wish to represent to you our strong view of the desirability of publishing the proposals for consideration both in England and in India without any undue delay.

We have only in conclusion to express to you our sense of the readiness with which you have throughout taken into consideration any suggestions which we have from time to time placed before you and to assure you that if at any later stage we can give any assistance towards the passage of these reforms into law we shall gladly do whatever is in our power.

Yours sincerely,

DONOUGHMORE.

F. W. DUKE.

BHUPENDRA NATH BASU.

CHARLES ROBERTS.

To

THE RIGHT HON'BLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

## Supplementary Paper No. 2.

No. 6 of 1918.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

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(PUBLIC)

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To

THE RIGHT HON'BLE EDWIN MONTAGU,

*His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.**Simla, the 31st May 1918.*

SIR,

WE have the honour to inform you that we have been furnished with copies of the Report on Indian Constitutional Reforms drawn up by His Excellency the Viceroy and yourself for submission to His Majesty's Government.

2. Though this most important document represents views for which the signatories thereto are alone responsible we desire to record the fact that it was framed after prolonged discussion with us. There are no doubt detailed recommendations on which some of us hold divergent views but we wish to convey our cordial support to the general policy which the report embodies.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servants,

CHELMSFORD.

C. C. MONRO.

W. S. MEYER.

C. H. HILL.

C. SANKARAN NAIR.

G. R. LOWNDES.

G. S. BARNES.

W. H. VINCENT.

## Supplementary Paper no. 3.

## Minute recorded by the Council of India.

WE have read carefully the Report on Constitutional Reforms in India. This report is the outcome of the announcement made by the Secretary of State on August 20th, 1917, that Government had decided that substantial steps were to be taken as soon as possible towards increasing the association of Indians in every branch of the administration and gradually developing self-governing institutions with a view to the progress of real responsible government in India.

Having these ends in view, the general policy of the report meets with our unanimous support. We are of opinion that on the whole it recommends the measures best adapted to ensure safe and steady progress in the desired direction and, while reserving to ourselves freedom to reconsider the details of the various important measures suggested when public criticism has been received, we heartily support the policy as a whole.

We consider that in connection with the publication of the report the various addresses and schemes put before the Secretary of State in India should be published or, if the bulk of the documents in question is so great as to render a complete reprint undesirable, that a very careful selection should be made from them embodying all shades of opinion.

L. CURRIE.

F. W. DUKE.

M. HAMMICK.

CHARLES S. BAYLEY.

W. D. SHEPPARD.

MARSHALL REID.

E. G. BARROW.

S. AFTAB.

P. D. PATTANI.

BHUPENDRA NATH BASU.

*Dated London, June 18, 1918.*

Sir Arnold White and Mr. J. B. Brunyate were prevented by ill-health and absence from England respectively from considering the report.

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