

PRIME MINISTER

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f.a.
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Visit by Mrs. Gandhi

You approved an outline programme earlier. This has since been discussed with the Indians and there have been one or two other developments. The latest draft programme is attached. It would be helpful if you could now take decisions on the following points.

Talks

We have allowed two hours for talks on 22 March, followed by lunch. Mrs. Gandhi has said she would fall in with your wishes about the format but would prefer a tete-a-tete session with no officials present. You may think that a tete-a-tete for two hours would be a bit hard to sustain.

Agree that we should suggest:

- a) tete-a-tete for one hour ✓
- ~~b) Private Secretaries to be present for a)~~
- c) then Plenary talks with Foreign Ministers and officials present? ✓

Festival Hall Concert

This will begin at 2000 hours and end at 2215. The Prince of Wales will attend. Caroline is asking Mr. Thatcher whether he wishes to accompany you. It is proposed that the concert should be followed by a Government reception at the Festival Hall, mainly for those concerned with the Festival of India. You will have given a large lunch for Mrs. Gandhi earlier in the day.

Agree that:

- a) Mr. Channon, as Minister of Arts, should host the reception (he is very willing to do so)

b)

Yes

Yes
b) you and, if she is willing, Mrs. Gandhi should attend the reception briefly before leaving the Festival Hall

Yes
c) Passage deleted and closed, 40 years, under
FOI Exemption. *Wayland, 27 Sept. 2012*

Dinner given ^{by} for Indo/British Association

You originally agreed to attend this dinner, together with Mrs. Gandhi, on 24 March and the FCO were so informed. Mr. Swarj Paul, the Chairman of the IBA who as you may know is a bit inclined to go his own way, has in fact arranged the dinner for 23 March instead and has invited a large number of guests. This is irritating but it would mean that the bulk of your involvement in Mrs. Gandhi's visit during what is going to be a very busy week would be completed on the Monday and Tuesday. You are free on the evening of 23 March except that you have an Audience at 1830. You would have time to change after the Audience and get to the Dorchester by 2015.

Agree to attend the dinner, together with Mrs. Gandhi, on 23 March on the understanding that both Prime Minister's arrive at 2015? *Yes*

Indian Science Exhibition at Science Museum

The Indians attach much importance to this event and Mrs. Gandhi has expressed a particular wish that you should open the Exhibition on 24 March (a Wednesday) at 1600 hours. The Duke of Edinburgh will now not be able to attend owing to absence abroad.

Yes
Agree to open Exhibition and to spend a little time immediately afterwards at the Indian Government reception which will be held at the Science Museum?

Departure

Mrs. Gandhi plans to stay on privately on Thursday 25 March and leave at about 2200 hours. The FCO have suggested that Mr. Hurd

/should

should see her off.

Agree that I should ask whether, in view of Indian sensitivities, a Cabinet Minister should not do this?

Speeches

I should do it. The P.R. later speak that a Cabinet Minister should do this. Add 1/2

You agreed earlier to make a speech at the Indo/British Association dinner. This should probably be about 20 minutes long. I am still working on the problem of Mr. Foot - Douglas Hurd is talking to Eldon Griffiths.

In addition, a brief speech will be required at the opening of the Science Exhibition.

I shall let you have some ideas for the speeches in due course.

A. J. C. 7

10 February 1982