



Just

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

12 February 1982

I know that towards the end of last year you rang Caroline Stephens here about the possibility of the Prime Minister attending the Opening of the Indian Science Exhibition at the Science Museum on 24 March.

I am afraid it has not been possible before now to say anything definite to you but I can now say that the Prime Minister is indeed very willing to open the Exhibition. The Indian Government have made it plain to us that they would like her to do so. Mrs. Thatcher is very much looking forward to the occasion.

A. J. COLES

Dame Margaret Weston, D.B.E.

MW

India

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SCIENCE MUSEUM  
LONDON SW7 2DD

22nd February, 1982.

Mr. A.J. Coles,  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister,  
10, Downing Street,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

A.J.C. <sup>26</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
h.a.

Dear Mr. Coles,

Thank you for your letter of 12th February telling me that the Prime Minister will attend the opening of the 'Science in India' exhibition here on 24th March.

We are very pleased that the Prime Minister is to open our exhibition and will now try to draft a suitable programme.

Yours sincerely,

*Margaret Weston*

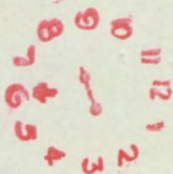
Margaret Weston.

SCIENCE MUSEUM

LONDON SW7 2DD



26 FEB 1982





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NOTE FOR THE FILE: FESTIVAL OF INDIA

Dame Margaret Weston rang this morning about the possible attendance of the Prime Minister with Mrs. Gandhi at the Science Museum on Wednesday, 24 March. John Coles confirmed that he had written to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office asking them to get us a full programme of the Prime Minister's commitments regarding the Festival of India by 3 January. I rang Dame Margaret's office and told them we would be in touch in the New Year, but that the Prime Minister would have to look at her whole programme for the week, and that I could not give them a definite reply about a visit to the Science Museum.

J.

22 December, 1981.



NOTE FOR THE RECORD

Festival of India

I spoke yesterday to a Dame Margaret Weston, the Director of the Science Museum (telephone 584 1628 or 589 3456 ext. 601). She told me that the Science Museum were expecting the Prime Minister and Mrs Gandhi at 1730 on Tuesday 23 March to open the Festival of India Exhibition at the Science Museum. I told her that we knew nothing of this engagement and that it was not in the Prime Minister's diary. On checking the file it transpired that Michael Alexander had, in consultation with the Prime Minister, committed the Prime Minister to three engagements during Mrs Gandhi's visit (which incidentally has still not been confirmed). The engagements are:

1. Attend a gala concert
2. A visit to the Science Museum.
3. A visit to the Hayward Gallery.

I rang Dame Margaret Weston back and explained to her that it was in fact true that the Prime Minister had agreed in principle to the above three engagements but that no timing had been discussed. She was going to have a word with Sir Michael Walker and be in touch with this office again. MODBA made it quite clear to me that these engagements would have to be undertaken.

*es.*

1 December 1981