

DEPUTATION TO EUROPE OF PROFESSOR J.C. BOSE OF THE PRESIDENCY COLLEGE

(No 30-31)

(File 2D/1-9)

No. 390, dated Calcutta, the 21<sup>st</sup> November 1900

From – H.J. McINTOSH, Esq., Depy Secy. to the Govt. of India, Home Dept.,  
To – The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Dept.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 2259, dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1900, regarding the deputation to Europe of Professor Bose of the Presidency College, Calcutta, I am directed to forward a copy of a telegram from the Secretary of State, dated 20<sup>th</sup> November, and to enquire whether His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor agrees to the period of Dr. Bose's deputation to Europe being extended by one year. The favour of a very early reply is requested

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Telegram, dated the 20<sup>th</sup> November 1900

From – London To - Calcutta  
From – Secretary of State To – Viceory.

Your Educational Despatch No. 6, dated 16<sup>th</sup> August last. Bose asks for extension of deputation one year required to complete important research. If you agree, telegraph the one word "yes"

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(No 32)

(File 2D/1-10)

No. 3231, dated Calcutta, the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1900

From – F.A. SLACKE, Esq, Secy to the Govt. of Bengal, General Dept.,  
To- The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your office letter No. 390, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> November 1900, enquiring whether this Government agrees to the request made by Dr J.C. Bose to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India that the period of his deputation to Europe may be extended by one year to enable him to complete certain important researches.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor has no objection to the proposed extension being given to Dr. Bose, if the Secretary of State is satisfied that the research which Dr. Bose intends to carry on is important enough to warrant his request being granted, that

Dr. Bose has the requisite facilities to carry on the research, and that the extension asked for is not more than is actually needed for the work.

3. If it is decided by the Secretary of State to grant the extension applied for, the Lieutenant-Governor would propose that it be granted on the same terms as those on which Dr. Bose's present deputation has been sanctioned, viz., that he be allowed two-thirds of his pay of Rs 600 a month, a 10s 6d a day for hotel expenses during his one year's stay in Europe.

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No. 3232

COPY forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction for information

(No. 16-20)

(File 2-D/1 – 1-2)

No. 51 T.G., dated Darjeeling, the 26<sup>th</sup> April 1900.

From – F.A. Slack, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Dept.,  
To – The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with your office No. 378, dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 1896, I am directed to submit, for the favourable consideration and orders of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of an application, dated the 8<sup>th</sup> March 1900, from Dr. Jagdish Chandra Bose, M.A., D.Sc., Professor of the Presidency College, Calcutta, in which he requests to be deputed to Europe to attend the ensuing Conference of Scientists at Paris, with a view to the furtherance of his investigations and to procure instruments for his scientific researches which promise to be of an extremely valuable nature. The Lieutenant-Governor strongly recommends that his deputation for a period of nine months may be sanctioned, with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1900, and that while on deputation he may be permitted to draw under Article 103 of the Civil Service Regulations, 2/3rds of his pay of Rs 600 per mensem. If Dr. Bose's deputation is sanctioned, it is proposed to grant him in addition to 2/3rds pay, the following concessions: -

- (1) A 1<sup>st</sup> class passage from and to India (Rs 1,270)
- (2) Actual travelling expenses for the journey from London to Paris and back (Rs 142-8-0)
- (3) An allowance of 10s. 6l. a day for hotel expenses during his stay in Europe (Rs 1,772-4)

The total concessions will therefore amount to Rs 3,184-12 together with 2/3rds of his pay of Rs 600 for 9 months, and Rs. 3,600 or in all Rs. 6,784-12. His work will be done by a substitute on Rs 150 a month, who will be required for 8 months only. Thus the excess expenditure arising from the deputation will be (Rs. 7,984-12 – 5,400=) Rs 2,584-12 which can be met from savings in salaries on the current year's Educational budget.

The terms are similar to those granted by Dr. Bose by the Secretary of State in 1896. The Lieutenant-Governor believes that the visit of Professor Bose to Paris will be of great advantage to the singularly original researches on which he is engaged, and is anxious to encourage a native of India who has distinguished himself in a field which for Indians is novel. He trusts therefore this his proposal will be accepted by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, and that he may receive early order on that matter.

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No. 52T G.

Copy forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, for information and communication to Dr. Bose.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,  
E. LISTER,  
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

DARJEELING:

*The 26<sup>th</sup> April 1900*

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Dated Calcutta, the 8<sup>th</sup> March 1900.

From – JAGADIS CHANDRA BOSE, Esq, Professor, Presidency College,  
To- The Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

IN carrying out investigations on a new phenomenon discovered at the Physical Laboratory, Presidency College, I obtained results which may prove of importance in several branches of science. These results may throw much light on the Periodic Law in Chemistry, the theory of vision in Physiology, and on the theory and practice of Electricity.

They may also lead to a new line of investigation on the relation between ether and matter, a subject of fundamental importance both in chemistry and physics.

These results being of a novel character, and in several instances contrary to the views hitherto held, it is of importance that they should be submitted (supported by experimental proofs) to the leading scientific man.

At the International Congress of Science to be held in Paris, there will be assembled the most eminent scientific men from different parts of the world, a conference with whom will be of invaluable help to my work. An opportunity like this is not likely to occur again.

There are certain stages in my work beyond which I am unable to proceed here. This is owing to the want of facility for constructing locally instruments of higher precision. New apparatus has after many experiments to be specially devised with the help of the best instrument makers. I shall then hope to be able to make further progress in a line of investigation which is entirely new, and the prosecution of which promises to hold out results of great importance in physical science.

For the reasons given above, I pray that the favour which the Government was pleased to confer on me on last occasion by deputing me to Europe, may now be extended to me, and that I may be deputed for a period of nine months similar to the last occasion, within which time I will strive my utmost to bring my work to a successful conclusion.

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## Appendix

From Sir Michael Foster's Presidential Address at the last meeting of the British Association.

The following reference occurs about the International Science Congress in Paris:-

'The closing year of the nineteenth century, in which science has played so great a part, may at Paris during the great World's Fair- which promises to be an occasion not of pleasurable sight-seeing only, but also by its many international congress, of international communing in the search of truth – witness the first select Witenagemote of the science of the world.

Vide Nature, 14<sup>th</sup> September 1899, page 470.

I have, unfortunately, mislaid the letter of invitation I received, a duplicate of which I could if necessary obtain in the course of five weeks. I enclose the reply post-card which was sent to me for sending an answer to the invitation.

Govt. of 1900 Bengal

General Dept.

Education

File 2D/1

K.W. – A PROGS. FOR AUGUST 1900, No. 5-12

Subject – Deputation of Dr. Jagadis Chandra Bose, Professor of the Presidency College, Calcutta, to attend the Conference of Scientists at Paris.

Notes and Orders.

PLEASE SEE India's telegram of 20<sup>th</sup> June, communicating sanction of the Secretary of State to Mr. Bose's deputation as recommended in our No. 51T.- G, dated the 20<sup>th</sup> May 1900. Copy may be forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, in continuation of endorsement No. 52T-G., dated 20<sup>th</sup> May, for information and communication to Mr. Bose.

Copy, with copy of our letter, may also be sent to the Financial Department for information and communication to the Accountant-General.

C.E.- 21-6-1900

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Secretary.

E. LISTER – 21-6-1900

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To His HONOUR –

Below is India's telegram, saying that Secretary of State sanctions His Honour's proposals, with reference to the deputation of Professor Bose. With His Honour's permission, the Director of Public Instruction and Financial Department may be informed, and to save time, Professor Bose can be informed direct.

F.A. SLACKE – 21-6-1900  
J. WOODBURN – 22-6-1900

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Under-Secretary – Please comply  
F.A. SLACKE – 22-6-1900

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Under-Secretary –

What arrangements will have to be made to enable Professor Bose to draw his pay and travelling allowance (that allowed) at home?

F.A. SLACKE – 29-6-1900

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Office – What was done last year?  
E. LISTER – 29-6-1900.

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O.I. No. 747-49, dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1900.

DARJEELING  
*The 29<sup>th</sup> June 1900*

My DEAR SLACKE,

I have just sent down a telegram to be sent off to Accountant-General, Bengal, asking him to kindly pass Dr. Bose's advance bill for rail and steamer passage, and debit to savings Education budget. I have also sent telegram to Dr. Bose, advising him that I have done this.

I do not think anything more can be done, for he cannot, I think, draw any advance pay.

Yours sincerely,  
A. Pedler

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Telegram, dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 1900.

From – Darjeeling,  
From – Asst. in charge

To – Calcutta,  
To – Registrar, Bengal, General.

What arrangements will have to be made to enable Professor Bose to draw his pay and travelling allowance (that allowed) at home?

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Please the telegram, dated the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1900, from the tour office and the demi-official letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> June 1900, from the Accountant-General's office.

2. There appears nothing further to be done than to ask the Government of India to arrange for the payment to Dr. Bose of his traveling expenses from London to Paris and back, ....

For orders.

H.D. Basu – 30-6-1900  
E.L.M- 30-6-1900

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D.O. No. 269

The Secretary of State has, on the terms stated in this Government's letter No. 51T.G., dated the 26<sup>th</sup> April 1900, to the address of the Government of India (copy enclosed) sanctioned the deputation of Dr J.C. Bose, Professor, Presidency College, Calcutta, to Europe to attend the ensuing Conference of Scientists at Paris. A copy of the orders has already been communicated to your office through the Financial Department of this office,

2. Dr. Bose proceeds to Europe immediately. I shall be obliged, if you kindly let me know what arrangements it will be necessary to make with a view to enable him to draw his pay and travelling allowance, which he will be allowed here, and during his stay in Europe.
3. The Revenue Secretary has telegraphed for the above information from Darjeeling, and I shall be obliged by your giving me this information by the bearer.

Yours faithfully,

E.L. MARTYR

To- The Chief Supdt,

Office of the Accountant General, Bengal

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CALCUTTA,  
*The 30<sup>th</sup> June 1900*

DEAR SIR,

Your demi-official No. 269, dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 1900. Dr. Bose has been verbally instructed to present a bill here for his allowances up to the date preceding the date of his sailing, and he will be provided with a last pay certificate, which will enable him to draw his allowance in Europe at the Home Treasury, London.

We will likewise advance to him the cost of a first class passage to London, but I think it will be necessary to arrange for the payment of his travelling expenses from London to Paris and back at the Home Treasury.

Yours truly,  
V. Smith

To – The Registrar,  
General Department, Bengal Secretariat

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This information was asked for by Secretary on Mr. Pedler's letter of 29<sup>th</sup> June 1900, in the preceding page. India may be written to as suggested, and the file shown to Director of Public Instruction.

C.E.- 2-7-1900

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Secretary –

Please see the demi-official letter of the office to the office of the Accountant General and the reply of that office.

We may obtain from the Accountant General a statement of pay and travelling allowance advanced to Dr. Bose and what he will be entitled to receive at home, and then ask India to arrange for the payment of the amount at the Home Treasury.

E. Lister – 2-7-1900

YES, and ask them to let us know as quickly as possible.

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F.A. SLACKE – 3-7-1900

O.I. No. 2200-01, dated the 20<sup>th</sup> July 1900

Please see letter No. 588 G.A. dated the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1900, from the Accountant-General Bengal. This is the letter which the Under-Secretary refers to in paragraph 2 of his note on the preceding page.

2. The amounts advanced to Dr. Bose are in accordance with the scale sanctioned in Government order No. 51T-G, dated the 26<sup>th</sup> April 1900. The cost of a first-class passage from and to India was at Rs 1,270 in this letter, while the amount actually given is Rs. 1,262-8.

3. Dr. Bose has got what he ought to have got according to the Government orders above referred to, except the allowance for his hotel expenses during his stay in Europe, which was estimated at Rs. 1,772-4. He has been furnished by the Accountant-General, Bengal, with a last pay certificate, which will enable him to draw his pay in England.

4. The question raised in paragraph 3 of the Accountant-General's letter whether Dr. Bose should receive railway fare from Calcutta to Bombay, is for orders. In 1896, when he was in England, the Secretary of State of granted to him the cost of his passage from and to India (*vide* his Despatch No. 98, dated the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1896). This may be the authority by which he was able to draw his travelling allowance by rail from Calcutta to Bombay and back. This time a definite sum, viz., Rs 1,270, has been sanctioned for his passage from and to India. A reference to Mr. Pedler's note of the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1900 in page 3 of the notes in Education file 2D/1 of 1900 will show that this sum was intended to cover his passage from Bombay to London and back, and his railway fare from Calcutta to Bombay and back, provided he took return tickets for his journey to Europe.

5. It will now be necessary to forward to the Government of India, for the information of the Secretary of State, a statement showing what has been actually given to Dr. Bose in this country and what he is still entitled to receive during his stay in Europe. What he is entitled to receive in Europe is shown in the Accountant General's letter No. 602 G.A. dated the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1900, viz his pay Rs 422-3, a month converted at 1s 6d. to the rupee in addition to 10s 6d. per diem for hotel expenses.

For orders –

H.D. BASU – 16-7-1900

E.L.M.- 16-7-1900