

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

India <sup>ls</sup>  
16 March, 1981.

UK Passport Holders in India: the Voucher Quota

The Prime Minister has seen the Home Secretary's minute to her of 11 March on this subject and your letter to me of 13 March. The Prime Minister believes that, given the present unemployment figures in this country, the idea of increasing the voucher quota for UK passport holders in India is fraught with difficulties. She is not prepared for any action to be taken with the Indian Government in advance of her visit. However, she will be prepared, if Mrs. Gandhi raises the question with her, to indicate a willingness to see a modest increase in the quota. By this, the Prime Minister would mean, though she agrees that no indication could be given to Mrs. Gandhi about the precise figures, an increase from 600 to 800 heads of family per year, as recommended by the Home Secretary.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Halliday (Home Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

MM