

4.

The relevant part of an email from official in London to officials in New Delhi and London – 08 August 2006

Just to clarify - we should not interpret the policy too narrowly, i.e. we should provide support (including accommodation) for a reasonable number of DC/GO's support staff e.g. PA/Private Secretary, just as we would for a Ministerial party.
Apologies for any confusion caused by my earlier email,

5.

The relevant part of an email from official in London to official in New Delhi - 8 August 2006

Grateful if you would check with whoever is organising the Cameron/Osbourne trip to see if there any overlaps etc or plans for them to meet with [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

6.

The relevant part of an email from official in New Delhi to official in London - 8 August 2006

I'm organising the DC/GO trip; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is doing [REDACTED] [REDACTED].
There is currently no overlap planned (though given that DC's programme changes at least daily I wouldn't rule it out).
They might bump into each other at the Residence. DC/GO are staying at the Residence the night of 6 Sept, and I believe [REDACTED] [REDACTED] arrives there very late that night also. The following morning DC/GO are currently planning a trip to Rajghat and the Red Fort, before flying out of Delhi at lunchtime. This is presumably not the sort of thing that would usefully go into [REDACTED] [REDACTED]' programme, though I suppose they might meet over breakfast on 7th.

7.

The relevant part of an email from official in London sent to officials in New Delhi – 22 August 2006

Please see the attached briefing I've put together for the Cameron/Osbourne visit. I'm still awaiting India wide figures re visa applicants.

Grateful for any comments/suggestions (in particular if you think briefing on a particular issue has been missed. Doc is currently restricted.

Attachment at Annex A

8.

The relevant part of an email from an official in New Delhi to an official in London – 23 August 2006

Thanks. I appreciate that these portmanteau documents are a huge effort to keep up to date and useful. I've made a few changes to the economic bits, and strayed a bit off my territory in other areas too. [REDACTED] will also send you some up to date figures.

We've just updated our core script on UK-India trade/economic relations, which I'll send you from my other account. I don't suppose we can expect opposition leaders to be briefed from a core script, but at least I'm sure that all the trade figures etc in it are up to date as of this week. Anyway, it should be a useful source of info for this briefing.

One suggestion, and maybe not for this time around, but I think there ought to be a short section on EU-India in it, especially since last year's adoption of the Joint Action Plan with various interesting workstreams under it, from climate change to transport dialogues.

Finally, I note that you only seem to have sent this to [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and me. I think my sending you the core script will take care of the commercial side of this. But I don't think any of us are well placed to comment on the development stuff in it. There may be a summary of the programme on DFIDI's website that would suffice.

Attachment at Annex B

9.

The relevant part of an email from an official in New Delhi to officials in New Delhi and London – 23 August 2006

I promised David Cameron a scenesetter. Here is a first draft (some of it is taken from earlier scenesetters this year). I do not think it is too long because I am told that he likes to read stuff.

I will have another look at this on my return tomorrow night, aiming to get it off on Friday.

Grateful for any general comments, or tracked changes.

I assume the FCO will produce the standard country brief, I have got biographies for key interlocutors etc.

Can [REDACTED]/[REDACTED] please let me have the lists of recent background policy briefs that have been written by [REDACTED]/[REDACTED] etc (or one of the edited versions) perhaps we might offer to the Cameron/Osborne team.

In classifications terms, this letter can be published as advice such as we might give to a Minister - on privy counsellor terms. But not technically classified (ie not restricted).

Could [REDACTED]/[REDACTED] please insert a short snappy paragraph after Domestic Politics before India International, just summarising the current economic statistics.

Growth/inflation/FOREX numbers/eleventh plan timing and targets/bullish Mumbai markets/and a sentence on rural employment guarantee schemes.

Attachments at Annexes C and D

10.

The relevant part of an email from an official in London to officials in New Delhi – 24 August 2006

Many thanks for copying me your draft scenesetter. SAG is indeed producing a country brief (unclassified but for DC and GO only: [REDACTED] please copy to Delhi).

You touched on India's role in the region in your second paragraph tire(v) (it might be better to amend "handful" to "small number" to read better), but you might want to add another two or three of sentences on the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] on Kashmir, and on India's influence on many other regional issues and threats.

You might include energy security and water in this (India sixth in the world in terms of energy demand, economy vulnerable to supply disruptions, water crisis could be on the horizon, [REDACTED]).

You could also add a brief element on climate change and sustainable development, given Cameron's interest in this (much played up in the media here) and the strengthening of your team and work in Delhi in this area including the climate change workshops. Worth highlighting the PD initiative in the context of the special relationship.

It might be tactful and helpful to mention [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and the Round Table, and the forthcoming FAC enquiry.

No doubt DC will pick up in your brief comment on more trade opportunities, which could be helpful, in the context of the recent TISC report.

Apologies this is not in the form of tracked changes.

11.

The relevant part of an email from an official in New Delhi to an official in London – 28 August 2006

sorry not to have replied earlier - hectic here with Cameron and much [REDACTED] activity I've been working till midnight sometimes. Possibly too late to comment but in any case fine by me, except that at the end of the human rights section there is repetition of the "sikh PM, muslim president..." line which has already appeared in the political section.

I've had a query from Osborne's office asking when they'll receive the briefing - please could you drop me a line to my UBS account just saying when it went/will go and who it was addressed to?

12.

The relevant part of an email from an official in London to an official in New Delhi – 30 August 2006

Thanks - only just seen your e-mail (out of office yesterday due to train strike).

Briefing just about ready and will go to Cameron's office today. I've left a message with Osbourne's office but no response yet. Do you have a contact/e-mail that I could use?

13.

The relevant part of an email from an official in London to an official in New Delhi – 31 August 2006

Thanks - briefing now sent to both offices.

See copy attached for info

Do you have a latest version of the programmes I could see?

Attachment at Annex E

14.

The relevant part of an email from an official in London to an official in New Delhi – 4 September 2006

Do you have a copy of the Cameron/Osborne programme(s) you could let me have?

15.

The relevant part of an email from an official in New Delhi to an official in London – 4 September 2006

attached - still evolving but we're more or less there

Attachment at Annex F

16.

The relevant part of an email from an official in London to officials in New Delhi and Mumbai – 5 September 2006

TRANSCRIPT

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Programme(s) | <i>The Today Programme Radio 4</i> |
| Date & time | <i>Tuesday 5th September 2006 0749</i> |
| Subject / interviewee | <i>Relationship between India and the UK – David Cameron</i> |
| Prepared by: | Irene Blake and Ellie Persse |
| Contact numbers: | 020 7276 1080 - Pager 07659 137 572 – 24hrs, every day |

Sarah Montague: *David Cameron is in India talking among other things about building a special relationship with the country and he joins us from Mumbai now, good morning.*

David Cameron: Good morning Sarah.

SM: *What do you mean by a special relationship with India?*

DC: What I think Britain and India do have a, a very strong relationship already, there are the ties of history and language and culture, there's the large Indian population in Britain that makes such a huge contribution to our country. We're both democracies, India's the largest democracy in the world, we have a common interest in free trade and, and the benefits of globalisation and we've got a common interest in fighting terrorism and also in protecting the environment.

So I think for all those reasons there's a case for a special relationship between Britain and India as we, in, in this century 'cause there are so many things we need to do together. And I think British foreign policy need, we need to remember that you know that of course the relationship with Europe and with America is important but actually a strong relationship with countries like India and China is a very important part of our future.

SM: *So what would a Conservative Government do with its foreign policy that would be different from this Government?*

DC: Well I think we need to look at how Britain and India can both benefit from more trade and more involvement and there are steps that I think we could take in Britain, we could actually encourage our universities to be more aggressive in, in attracting bright Indian graduates to come to Britain and compete effectively with America that's doing so much in that area. And also I think there are things that we can encourage the Indian Government to do. They have opened up their economy and liberalised and that's brought them benefits but in an area where Britain is particularly strong, banking, insurance and, and legal services we want the Indian Government to go further and to do more, and we think there's a mutual benefit there.

SM: *Because there, there is a tremendous ...*

DC: So there are many, yeah ...

SM: *... amount of investment coming from India in to Britain but the barriers for British investment in India are high so will you be having a go at them to do something about that?*

DC: That's right well I'm having meetings tomorrow with the Indian Prime Minister and with other senior political figures including Sonia Ghandi and this will be one of the things on the agenda. I mean India has opened up its economy bravely and has liberalised and that's why it's got such a fast growth rate because you know there are two Indias. There's the, the fast growing, successful economy but there're also the terrible slums and the poverty. I've just been sitting in, in a slum in the middle of Mumbai watching a, a very successful NGO training young Indians on computers to, to try to help them get on and, and we need to make sure that that side of India benefits from globalisation as well.

SM: *Of course ...*

DC: So yes I will be raising those things with the Indian politicians I meet tomorrow.

SM: ... of course the phrase you use, special relationship, is typically used of America, are you saying that the relationship with India should be of equal importance?

DC: Well they're different countries so it would be a different relationship but I think it, it should be a special relationship for the reasons that I give. There are so many things we want to do together in terms of trade and economics, we do have the, the shared culture, history and language and then when you look at India's place in the world and the important relationships it's got with Pakistan and Nepal and Afghanistan, areas of great strategic importance, there are many things that Britain and India can do together.

SM: Now the man that you appointed to review economic competitiveness for the Tories, John Redwood, has told us just a short while ago and has published this pamphlet from the No Turning Back group that he wants a commitment to lower taxes. Will you give that commitment?

DC: Well we have a very clear commitment which is to say when it comes to economic policy that stability must come first because we want to show to people that we'll keep their mortgage rates down and interest rates down but as the economy grows we'll share that growth between public spending on the one hand and tax reduction on the other. And that approach I think is much better than Gordon Brown's who hasn't shared the proceeds of growth he's taken all of the proceeds, spent the money but all too often wasted it. So you can see ...

SM: Okay ...

DC: ... with a Conservative approach that taxes would be lowered over the course of an economic cycle, yes.

SM: ... but his argument is that the thing to get everything going is to lower taxes, that it's almost, it's the first thing that you should do because that's the way to get everything going well. You're talking about over an economic cycle.

DC: Well stability has to come first, that is what we've set out in our policy review ...

SM: Yes but forgive me for interrupting ...

DC: ... in our document Built to Last ...

SM: ... his argument is that you get the stability from lower taxes, do you agree with that?

DC: No what I'm setting out the policy as it is very, very clearly that if you have a choice then stability must come first that (indistinct) absolute guarantee ...

SM: And does that mean lower taxes ...

DC: ... yes over time we will lower taxes because we'll share the proceeds of growth but I don't think it makes sense to make big promises about up front tax cuts. I've said that's an approach that we've taken in the past, an approach that I don't think is sensible because you've got to explain to people that stability, that making sure you have a stable economy where interest rates and mortgage rates are low, that must be the first priority.

Then as the economy grows you share the proceeds of that growth and get your tax rates down. And actually being in, in India is a good reminder of those twin goals, we need a competitive tax system in order to compete with the countries like India and China, the countries of tomorrow but we also need good infrastructure, education and training to make sure that when we have globalisation people aren't left behind 'cause all too often some people are left behind by globalisation.

SM: But we've also heard from the Conservatives this weekend of, the, the phrase used by Oliver Letwin is a un, unambiguous, well it was supported by him, is in unambiguous commitment to higher spending on public services. Can I just first

clarify that the Tories will go in to the next election with an unambiguous commitment to higher spending on public services?

DC: Well there, there's no real contradiction between the two positions that you put. If you have an approach of sharing the proceeds of growth that means that as the economy grows you can expand spending on public services, yes and you can also reduce taxation, that's what sharing the proceeds mean. It's a, you know there are choices in politics, you can either take all of the proceeds of growth and spend them and that's what Labour has tended to do wasting a lot of money in the process or you can take all of the proceeds of growth and cut taxes, that's a, another extreme approach.

I take a balanced approach, a moderate approach which is to share the proceeds of growth which means that you can have that extra public spending in the areas that you need but over time yes you can reduce taxes so that we can have a competitive economy and compete with the rest of the world ...

SM: *But it's a ...*

DC: ... it's an approach that is right for our time.

SM: ... *well, but not according to The Telegraph which accuses you of behaving like an inept general fighting the last war.*

DC: Well I obviously don't agree with that and you know in, in politics and political leadership you have to set out what you believe is the right course for your Party. I've done that, it's in Built to Last, members have got an opportunity to vote on it. As far as I can see although obviously we don't comment on opinion polls, as far as I can see from the opinion polls there have been where we've led in the last seventeen and from the, the results in those local elections where we hit forty per cent, that the Conservative Party's got a clear and sensible and moderate approach and that is actually winning support right across the country at a time when the Labour Government is fighting amongst itself, unsure about its leadership, completely unsure about its direction. So I think we're beginning to show people that we can offer them the change that they want to see in this country.

SM: *David Cameron thank you.*

James Naughtie: *Mr Cameron preparing to address the annual conference of the young campanologists of Mumbai by the sound of it.*

End

Attachment at Annex G

17.

The relevant part of an email from an official in New Delhi to officials in London – 11 September 2006

Please see the attached letter from the High Commissioner.

Attachments at Annexes H, I and J