

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: I say repeatedly that the present shortfall is about ten per cent, of the target laid down. I think the target is low in present circumstances, but whether it should be increased is a matter of policy which one has to consider. But during the last two or three years there have been larger shortfalls, which have been made up and we have brought it down to ten per cent. I have repeatedly said that.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: In the report it is ten per cent, and the Minister says it is seven per cent. May I know, Sir, which is correct?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: The figure at present is ten per cent.

**FACILITIES FOR REPAIR AND OVERHAUL OF
NAVAL AIRCRAFT**

*216. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to page 13 of the Report of his Ministry for the year 1960-61 wherein it is stated that "the Navy should set up its own repair and overhaul facilities, particularly with regard to airframe and major components", and state where and when do they propose to establish such facilities for naval aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON) : A nucleus organisation was established at Cochin on the 5th February, 1960 to undertake the repair and overhaul of the airframe and major components of Sealand aircraft. These facilities will be progressively expanded to meet the requirements of the Navy as they occur.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I assume that this establishment will be at Cochin?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: It is always at Cochin. The only difference is that formerly it was done by the Hindustan Aircraft Factory, who are busy doing other things and for other reasons also the Navy has taken over this establishment. The naval base is at Cochin.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, when this project will be taken up?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: It is working. It was established on the 5th February, 1960.

**HIGH POWER COMMISSION TO STUDY THE
PROGRESS OF WORK ON THE REMOVAL OF
UNTOUCHABILITY**

*217. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri L. M. Shrikant, Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, has recently demanded that a high-power commission be set up to study the progress of work on the removal of untouchability and to draw up plans in the light of its recommendations; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government on this suggestion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA) : (a) Government has not received any such proposal from the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have read the news that he has spoken at Ahmedabad that this suggestion would be taken up by the Government?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Anyway, it has not come to the Government. That is the answer.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: After all the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is under the Government. So, he is part of the Government. May I know whether the Government is aware of the declaration made by the Commissioner?

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Government is not bound to take any action on such demands made in press conferences. Besides, no formal recommendation has come to us.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Is the Government aware that the All-India Harijan Sevak Sangh has demanded recently the appointment of a high power commission?

SHRIMATI-VIOLET ALVA: I do not think we had any memorandum from the Commissioner.

श्री पी० ना० राजभोज : असुस्थता निवारण कानून पिछले दशक वर्षों से लागू है । तो क्या सरकार कोई इस प्रकार की कमेटी नियुक्त करने की सोच रही है या नहीं कि उस कानून की बर्किंग कैसे हो रही है ?

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes himself presents his report to the House about the work and, also, he himself does the evaluation of the work.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: And we are discussing it today.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: I wanted to know whether Government are aware that the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has referred to the matter raised in this question in his Report.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: He may have raised it in his Report, but such a recommendation has to be made to us before we go into this. We have no intention of appointing a commission of this sort.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: It is quite clear from the reply that Government are not aware of what is written in the Report. We condemn this, the studied inaction of the Government in not taking action on recommendations relating to the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Government are not aware of what is written in the Report of their own Commissioner.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Recommendations are made by the Commissioner from year to year and those recommendations which are capable of implementation we take up.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Minister is aware that the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes visited the Andamans and studied the whole problem with all carefulness and then he has made these recommendations which he has incorporated in the Report?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This question does not relate to the Andamans.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: There is no Harijan problem in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The hon. Member has visited it. I have also visited it and the Commissioner has also visited the Islands, but there is no such problem of Harijans there.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

JARWAS LIVING IN THE ANDAMANS

•218. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jarwas, a most primitive people in the western part of the South and Middle Andaman Islands have developed and are exhibiting hostility towards other people of more civilised disposition; and

(b) if yes, whether Government are taking any action to reform them, and if so, with what results?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA) (a) and (b) The Jarwas have always been hostile to strangers or intrude into their areas and continue to be despite the continuous efforts of the Administration to befriend them to wean them away from their hostile attitude.