

**Higher Secondary Schools in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

**1983. Shri E. K. Sinha;  
Shri K. R. Ganesh;**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals to start Higher Secondary Schools in Rangat and Diglipur in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands from the ensuing academic session will be implemented;

(b) whether Bengali will be introduced as the medium of instruction in these proposed Higher Secondary Schools upto the higher secondary stage;

(c) whether Government are aware that delay in the matter is causing discontentment among the people;

(d) whether the matter has been repeatedly raised in the Advisory Committee for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands associated with the Home Minister; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Shri Bhagwat Jha Aazad): (a) to (e). The question of starting higher secondary schools in Rangat and Diglipur was raised in the meeting of the Home Minister's Advisory Committee for Andaman and Nicobar Islands held on 28-10-1966. The Administration has already taken action to upgrade the Senior Basic Schools at Rangat and Subashgram (Diglipur) to higher secondary schools w.e.f. the academic year 1967-68. For the present Hindi will be the medium of instruction but Bengali is proposed to be introduced as medium of instruction gradually, depending on the number of students.

**'May Day' Holiday in Andaman Islands**

**1984. Shri E. K. Sinha;** Will the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that May Day (1st May, 1967) was declared a

public holiday by the Andaman Administration on a request from the Andaman Trade Unions;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of the 1st May being a holiday, workers belonging to the Andaman Labour Force and Marine Afloat Establishment were forced to work on that day;

(c) whether Government are aware that workers refused to work and the departure of 'M.V. Nicobar' had to be cancelled; and

(d) if so, whether the responsibility has been fixed for the inconvenience caused to the public?

The Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). The 1st of May, 1967 was declared by the Andaman Administration as a holiday in accordance with the general practice that if a substantial number of workers in an industrial establishment ask for a paid holiday on the 1st May and agree to work on some other paid holiday in lieu thereof, the request is allowed. Accordingly the Administration permitted all Government industrial establishments in the Territory to declare 1st May, 1967 as a paid holiday subject to these conditions. Afloat Establishment labour in their meeting held on 30th April, 1967 desired that May Day should be declared as a holiday and that they would work in lieu thereof on one Sunday namely 14th May, 1967. The departure of 'M.V. Nicobar' scheduled to sail on 1st May, 1967 had, therefore to be postponed as 1st May was declared a holiday. In order to maintain certain essential ferry services during day and night, however, some crew voluntarily agreed to come to work so that the community did not suffer any hardship.

(d) Does not arise.