

{ **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri N. E. Laskar:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Yallamanda Reddy:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a new public sector concern called **National Aircraft Limited** for the manufacture of the **AVRO-748** aircraft; and

(b) if so, the reasons and details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) and (b). The most appropriate form of organisation for the management of this project is under consideration.

The manufacture of **Avro-748** was initially undertaken in the existing **Air Force establishment** at **Kanpur** as the quickest and the most convenient way of utilising existing resources and technical manpower. One aircraft has been produced and production in series of this aircraft is under way.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: The answer was not clear, but I would like to know whether it is envisaged that this plant will now be separated from the **Indian Air Force Maintenance Command** under which it has been all this time?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): As already stated, this is one of the proposals under consideration, and there may be other points too to be considered.

श्री ए० ला० द्विवेदी : इस बात में क्या सच्चाई है कि एव्रो ७४६ जितना कामयाब होना चाहिये था उतना कामयाब साबित नहीं हुआ है जैसी कि आशा थी और उस को सुधारने के सम्बन्ध में जो भारत सरकार की योजनायें थीं उस सम्बन्ध में क्या विचार किया जा रहा है और वे कब तक कार्यान्वित होंगी ?

Shri Raghuramaiah: The **Avro-748** produced, and which had been to **South-East Asia**, has been a very great success. In fact, I may add, that the **English manufacturers** have paid compliments to our production.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Has it become possible now to start manufacture of the **Avro engines** also, or have these still to be imported from outside?

Shri Raghuramaiah: Yes, Sir. We have at **Bangalore** undertaken the manufacture of **Dart-7 engines**.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Bifurcation of Defence Ministry

*143. **Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the **Defence Ministry** is being bifurcated into two Departments;

(b) if so, the reasons for this move; and

(c) what will be the functions of the two Departments?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) A new Department called **Department of Defence Production** has been created within the **Ministry of Defence**.

(b) Because there is enormous increase in work on account of the present emergency on the side of the **three Services** and there is great need to step up and diversify production in **Defence establishments**.

(c) The functions of the two Departments are as shown in the **Statement** placed on the **Table of the House**. [See **Appendix I, annexure No. 28**].