

CHAPTER IV

DISTRICT GULBARGA

In Aland taluka of Gulbarga District eight villages were claimed with a population of 4,978, Marathi-speaking being 68 per cent. According to the Census figures of the Hyderabad State, in Aland taluka Telugu is 1 per cent, Marathi 9 per cent, Kannada 73 per cent and other 17 per cent. Thus, Kannada has an overwhelming majority in this taluka.

4.2. The villages claimed are in the neighbourhood of Aland, the taluka headquarters.

4.3. The State of Maharashtra in their claim reiterated the grounds on which the Bombay Government had demanded merger of these areas in Maharashtra. The claim was resisted by the State of Mysore. I have in Annexure V, Volume II, given the views of the people interviewed by me at Gulbarga, both for or against the merger.

4.4. The impression that I gained during these interviews was that even the Marathi-speaking people of these villages and the Panchayats wished to stay in Karnatak. Alanga village people and Gadlegaon village people came to me and urged for the maintenance of *status quo*. One or two Village Panchayats requested for merger in Maharashtra.

4.5. The total population of these eight villages is 4,978. In Jamga Khandala village 49 per cent are Marathi speakers while in Jawalgi they are 48 per cent. Six villages have absolute Marathi majority. Out of the total population about 1,700 are non-Marathi speakers.

4.6. According to Commission's views given in Chapter III, Part I, of this Report, neither the area nor the population is a sizable one and, therefore, the Commission cannot recommend the transfer of these few villages from the State of Mysore to the State of Maharashtra. These villages are quite close to Aland and have trade relations and communication facilities with Aland. No purpose will be served by transferring these areas to Maharashtra. Most of them seem to be quite happy in Mysore. From administrative point of view, the claim of Maharashtra has to be disallowed.