

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1982 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We shall now take up clauses.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOU-DHURY : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

19.53 hrs.

**PONDICHERRY BUDGET, 1984-85—
GENERAL DISCUSSION,
DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS ON
ACCOUNT (PONDICHERRY),
1984-85,
AND
SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS* FOR
GRANTS (PONDICHERRY),
1983-84**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We shall now take up Pondicherry Budget—General Discussion, Demands for Grants on Account—Pondicherry and Supplementary Demands for Grants (Pondicherry) together.

Motions moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1985, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands 1 to 31."

"That the respective Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1984 in respect of the heads of the demands entered in the second column thereof against :

Demand Nos. 1, 4 to 31."

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

*Demands for Grants (on Account) (Union Territory of Pondicherry) for 1984-85
 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on Account submitted to the Vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2		3
1.	Legislative Assembly	10,35,000	—
2.	Administrator	10,000	—
3.	Council of Ministers	7,0 ,000	—
4.	Administration of Justice	17,65,000	—
5.	Elections	3,19,000	—
6.	Revenue and Food	95,76,000	11,000
7.	Sales Tax	8,90,000	—
8.	Transport	11,1,000	—
9.	Secretariat	32,32,000	—
10.	District Administration	1,59,43,000	11,25,000
11.	Treasury and Accounts Administration	20,13,000	—
12.	Police	1,06,67,000	—
13.	Jails	4,38,000	—
14.	Stationery and Printing	25,86,000	—
15.	Retirement Benefits	53,49,000	—
16.	Public Works	3,38,00,000	2,87,96,000
17.	Education	5,68,30,000	20,000
18.	Medical	2,74,92,000	—
19.	Information and Publicity	24,04,000	—
20.	Labour and Employment	29,34,000	—

1	2	3
21.	Social Welfare	1,72,82,000 —
22.	Co-operation	53,14,000 66,04,000
23.	Statistics	6,01,000 —
24.	Agriculture	1,20,99,000 1,34,000
25.	Animal Husbandry	35,88,000 —
26.	Fisheries	40,88,000 26,87,000
27.	Community Development	13,45,000 6,00,000
28.	Industries	56,79,000 30,00,000
29.	Electricity	3,54,38,000 3,52,01,000
30.	Ports and Pilotage	4,72,000 12,50,000
31.	Loans to Government Servants	— 65,44,000

*Supplementary Demands for Grants (Union Territory of Pondicherry) for 1983-84
submitted to the Vote of the House*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant to be submitted to the Vote of the House
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1	2	3
		Revenue Rs. Capital Rs.
1.	Legislative Assembly	1,59,000 —
4.	Administration of Justice	4,51,000 —
5.	Elections	2,56,000 —
6.	Revenue and Food	59,08,000 9,000
7.	Sales Tax	2,34,000 —
8.	Transport	2,23,000 —

1	2	3
9. Secretariat	7,60,000	—
10. District Administration	1,10,27,000	—
11. Treasury and Accounts Administration	4,92,000	—
12. Police	41,64,000	—
13. Jails	94,000	—
14. Stationery and Printing	2,36,000	—
15. Retirement Benefits	23,08,000	—
16. Public Works	—	51,07,000
17. Education	1,14,21,000	5,000
18. Medical	82,63,000	—
19. Information and Publicity	1,28,000	—
20. Labour and Employment	5,41,000	—
21. Social Welfare	32,84,000	—
22. Co-operation	14,34,000	80,97,000
23. Statistics	2,10,000	—
24. Agriculture	40,35,000	9,000
25. Animal Husbandry	8,24,000	—
26. Fisheries	10,39,000	19,56,000
27. Community Development	1,35,000	3,00,000
28. Industries	30,15,000	40,00,000
29. Electricity	1,84,56,000	50,04,000
30. Ports and Pilotage	65,000	—
31. Loans to Government Servants	—	7,00,000

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasaragod) : Now we are dealing with important matter. In ordinary course this Parliament is not expected to discuss this because the ruling party, the Congress Party, without any proper and reasonable justification dismissed the Pondicherry Government and dissolved the Pondicherry Assembly. In the course of that even after the dismissal and dissolution of the Assembly, had the Government or the Election Commission taken necessary steps to conduct the elections, this Budget would have been introduced in the Pondicherry Assembly and not here in this Parliament. Unfortunately or fortunately for the ruling party, we are now compelled or obliged to deal with the Pondicherry Budget.

Now, what is Pondicherry? We know this Pondicherry is not one unit.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : This is cherry. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI : You know some cherry because some part of the State is in the East Coast of India, and some is in the West Coast of India. This Pondicherry State was constituted as Pondicherry—Karaikal, Mahe and Yenam. Mahe is in the midst of Kerala. It should have been part of Kerala. Actually it has now become a part of Pondicherry. In Yenam the majority of people speak Telugu. Pondicherry and Karaikal should have formed part of Tamilnadu because the people there speak Tamil. The distance between one unit and another unit is very far. For example, to reach from Mahe to Pondicherry if you travel by train, it takes more than 24 hours. Such is the distance. Formerly, we were laughing, that one unit of Pakistan is on the western side, another is on the eastern side. That could not be helped. But here as far as Pondicherry State is concerned, this can be rectified. There is no use of keeping the State as such. So, my submission in this case is we can finish this State if Parliament wants by merging the particular portions. For example, Mahe can be merged in Kerala, Karaikal and Pondicherry can be merged in Tamilnadu and Yenam can be merged in

Andhra. So, it can be considered.

What is the economy of this State? The main economy of this so-called Pondicherry State is by selling foreign liquor. Foreign liquor is the main business. The income of the State is somehow by dealing with foreign liquor. What the other source of income is can be presumed.

20 hrs.

Now we are dealing with this States Budget. The main question is why Pondicherry Assembly was dissolved; why was the Ministry dismissed? At that time it was argued by the ruling party that the Ministry lost majority. But even at that time the political parties in this country, who had representatives in the Pondicherry Assembly came forward to contradict that the Ministry lost majority. Simply because the Congress (I) withdrew its support to the then Ministry, it cannot be presumed that the Ministry lost its majority.

The majority should be tested in the Assembly itself. So, the Party which got their representatives in the Pondicherry Assembly at that time vehemently protested against the dissolution and at the same time requested the Governor to invite them to form the Ministry there itself instead of the Assembly being dissolved. But it was not done. You know why. The Rajya Sabha candidates were to be filled up by the Pondicherry Assembly just at that time. There was an alliance between the Congress-I and the D.M.K. and on the question of which Party should have the Rajya Sabha candidature and which Party should put up the candidate there, there was a dispute and they fought with each other. At that time, the Congress-I realised that the candidate put up by them was not going to win and therefore they decided to dissolve the Assembly. Now, the other side may say anything. But that is the truth and this is the tradition of the Congress-I. Whenever it is inconvenient for them, they dissolve the Assembly or dismiss the Ministry. Now, for example, you see what has happened in Punjab. In Punjab, the Ministry was removed but the Assembly was kept under suspended anima-

tion. Why could the same thing not be done in Punjab? In Pondicherry, without waiting, without hearing and without any justification, not only the Ministry was dismissed but the Assembly was also dissolved. So, wherever it is convenient for the ruling Party, they adopt one method and wherever it is inconvenient for them, they adopt another method.

Anyhow, as you know, Pondicherry Assembly was dissolved in the month of June last. Now, many months have passed. Why was the election not conducted there? If the Government is particular, if the Government is interested in seeing the democracy properly functioning in this country, without any difficulty, the elections could have been held there. But it was not conducted because the ruling Party was not interested.

Now, coming to some aspects of the Budget, I would like to mention some thing. We know, Pondicherry is a small Union Territory. There is a textile mill in this Union Territory called the Anglo-French Textile Mill. Now it is under dispute whether it is closed or it should be opened and whether the workers should be given job or not. The fact is that since last 10 months, workers are not given the job. But every day, early in the morning, siren is given. The workers go to factory. Their attendance is taken. After taking their attendance, they are asked to go home. Why? No raw material is available. No other facilities are available. So, the workers are asked to go home. This is the position. Now can you say that the factory is closed? The factory is not closed. Now it is open but it is not functioning. This is the thing that is going on in Pondicherry since last 10 months.

This fact was brought to the notice of the Government by the workers' representatives and the Central trade unions both of the Congress and the Opposition. Our leader Mr. Samar Mukherjee had put in a representation to the hon. Minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, recently. Today, the workers' representatives have assembled at the Boat Club for a *dharna*. What is the Government going to do in this case? I do not know whether

the Government is aware that the workers' representatives have come and assembled at the Boat Club. I doubt very much. At the same time, there is a conciliation meeting between the workers' representatives and the Government. The hon. Minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, is fully convinced about the demand of the workers. There is no demand for wage rise or bonus, nothing like that. The demand of the workers is to open the Mill. They realise that the management is not going to open the Mill. So, their demand is that if the management is not going to open the Mill, it should be nationalised and it should be entrusted to the National Textile Corporation.

It is the duty of the Government to take this step and save 7500 workers from starvation and death. Why is the Government not coming forward to take this step? The Government must come forward at least now and save the workers from starvation and death.

Further, it will be noted that the mill is not a sick mill. The Anglo-French Mill was started about hundred years ago. What is the production of this Mill? This Mill produces textile for export. The foreign exchange earned on this account is about 8 to 9 crores per year. As this Mill is not a sick mill, it is the duty of the Central Government to see that the Mill is opened and, if necessary, to nationalise the Mill and entrust it to the National Textile Corporation. This is absolutely necessary. The Government must come forward not only to save the workers but also to save the country and save the foreign exchange.

Pondicherry is a coastal area. Therefore, another demand of the people of Pondicherry is for a fishing harbour. A fishing harbour is a necessity and is very helpful to the fishermen of that area and also to the people of Pondicherry.

Another demand of the people there is that they require one airport.

The State of Pondicherry is very much industrially backward. So, the people of

Pondicherry demand that some industries should be started by the Central Government in the public sector.

My submission is that since Pondicherry is now under President's rule, it is the duty of the Central Government to come forward to help the people of Pondicherry in all these matters and, particularly, the Central Government must take immediate steps to hold the elections as early as possible.

With these words, I request the hon. Minister to take necessary action in all these matters to help the people of Pondicherry and, at the same time, I oppose the Budget proposals.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, The genuine grievances of the forgotten areas which go by the name of Union Territories are so many that I could here list them the whole night but in view of your suggestion I am limiting myself to a few words.

I do not know whether the Hon. Member who just now spoke represents the Union Territory of Pondicherry because if he does not, his initial pronouncement that this or that part of Pondicherry must be merged in this or that State.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You must know that many of his people are staying in Pondicherry. The Hon. Member knows through them.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Yes. Many of his people are staying in Pondicherry.

The point I would like to make here is that the political future of Pondicherry is to be decided by the people of Pondicherry themselves. This is their birth-right. They have been liberated from French colonialism. It is not for anybody else to decide the future of the people of Union Territories which have been liberated from the French and from the Portuguese colonialism, for that matter, like the territory which I now represent in this House.

It is always an extraordinary situation when the Budget of a State is discussed and passed by Parliament. But when it comes to the Budget of the Union Territories being discussed in Parliament, then, you will appreciate that the situation is not extraordinary at all! It is because through some of the Union Territories have some camouflaged type of Assemblies, the Assembly of the Union Territory of Pondicherry or, for that matter, of the Union Territory of Goa or, for that matter, of the Union Territory of Arunachal or Mizoram, are not Assemblies in the sense which the Constitution contemplates! They have not been created by the Constitution at all as in the case of the States. They have been created by an Act of Parliament and do not have any substantial powers at all. In the case of the States, the Assemblies are entitled and have exclusive jurisdiction to legislate on all matters in List II which is the State List. But, there is no such thing as State List for Union Territories' Assemblies! All legislation is initiated by the Government of India and all legislation, after being passed by the Assemblies of those Union Territories must be ratified by the Government of India.

I would respectfully submit—and even it pains me a lot to say so—that these Assemblies of the Union Territories are sham. The entire provision of the Union Territory in the Constitution is an anomaly. It is an obnoxious provision and it puts the people of the Union Territory on a different footing of citizenship than that enjoyed by the people in the States.

I had the opportunity at the time of the election of the Hon. President of India to raise in this House this point as to why when all the Members of the State Assemblies are entitled to vote in the election of the President of India, the Members/MLAs of the Union Territories are not so entitled. This is just one example of the inferior state of the MLAs of the Union Territories which ultimately is the inferior status of the people of this territory. In this country, nobody is deliberately discriminated against, no people, no region, no creed, caste, is deliberately discriminated against in this free and demo-

cratic country of ours. But unwittingly sometimes, the discrimination comes and then it is incumbent upon the Government of India and upon the sovereign Parliament of this nation, to take note of this discrimination and anomaly and to correct it before people resort to extra-constitutional methods. I would just like to say that in the Union Territories there is no such institution as Assembly in the real sense of the term. Not only this. The Chief Minister and the other Ministers of the Union Territories are at the disposal, as it were, of the Lt. Governor.

But in the States, the Governor is just the honorary Head of the State.

Unlike in the States, in the Union Territories, the Lt. Governor is the authority who wields the real power. The Chief Minister and the entire Cabinet of a Union Territory are just at the mercy and at the disposal, as it were, of the Lt. Governor. This is a very anomalous situation. The people of this country have not helped to liberate the people of Pondicherry and Goa, they have not participated in this historic and heroic moment in the life of the people of those Territories, so much so these people remain in the position of Union Territories. 30 years have passed since these Territories became free and independent. The time has come for them to get the same status to be at one and in tune with the States themselves. I am making here a very respectful— but with all the force at my command— demand the Statehood be granted to the Union Territory of Goa. Problems may arise, as my hon. friend had said, that in the case of Goa, Daman and Diu are such long distances, so far away. Even States and separate nations which are so divided cannot remain together. History has shown in the case of our neighbour. But then without prejudice to whatever are the feelings of the people of Daman and Diu— it is for them to decide whether they should merge with Gujarat or not.— I would demand that the people of Goa must be given Statehood ; this should be immediately conceded and

this is the birth-right of the people of that area.

There are many other problems. But I limit myself to making only these submissions in view of your request, Sir, and in view of the advanced hour now.

*SHRI N. SELVARAJU (Tiruchirapalli) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for the last four years the Budget of the Union Territory of Pondicherry used to be discussed in the Pondicherry Assembly. It is unfortunate that the Pondicherry Budget should be discussed in this House and for that the Central Government is responsible. The popularly elected Government of Pondicherry was unceremoniously dismissed. The people's DMK Government has been substituted by the autocratic rule of the Centre in Pondicherry. The Centre is administering the territory through the handpicked Governor. I wonder how democracy will take deep roots in our country with this kind of anti-people approach by the Centre. After Pondicherry was liberated in 1954, till 1969 the Congress Party was in power. There were only short-duration Governments during this period and many times the Governments of the day were replaced and substituted by the Centre. After 1969 when D.M.K. came to power in Pondicherry, for 5 years there was a stable and welfare Government in the Union territory. The D.M.K. Government in Pondicherry Union Territory for these five years has been written in letters of gold. After that the AIADMK Government ruled the territory for 1½ years for the first time and then for 21 days. The AIADMK Government was then dismissed. In 1980 General Elections, the D.M.K. and the Congress-I joined hands giving a commitment to the people that a stable and welfare Government would be given to them. Pondicherry's special status was given due recognition by the United Front of DMK and Congress-I. The Congress-I M.P. came to this House and the DMK-Congress-I Government was installed in Pondicherry.

As the D.M.K. Government in Tamilnadu under the illustrious leadership of Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi had dedicated itself for the welfare of the downtrodden, Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the D.M.K.-Congress I Government in Pondicherry implemented similar policies for the common weal for a period of 3½ years. Thousands of people were taken above the poverty line. Welfare schemes were implemented with verve and vigour. Suddenly one fine morning the Congress-I withdrew its support to D.M.K. After this also the D.M.K. in the Assembly of 30 Members had the majority of 18 members, with the alliance parties like Janata, Muslim League and Communist Party. We presented our majority to the Governor of the Territory and petitioned to our President and to the Prime Minister. All our pleas fell on deaf ears. The D.M.K. Government was dismissed and the Assembly was dissolved. The President's rule has been imposed in the territory.

I would like to enumerate one or two welfare schemes among the scores of such schemes implemented by the DMK Government just by way of example to prove DMK's commitment to common cause. One light in every hut, Destitute pension, financial assistance to the marriage of daughters of widows, financial assistance to the dependents of fishermen who die on the high seas and assistance to the families of peasants who die in natural calamities, insurance to fishermen, scholarship to Harijan students, insurance to Riksha pullers and cycle riksha pullers are only an indication of hundreds of welfare schemes successfully implemented by D.M.K. Government. It is really disappointing that there is no such scheme in this Budget under discussion.

I do not know what happened to the opening of Central University in Pondicherry for which the foundation-stone was laid. Similarly, Ariyankuppam fishing harbour scheme has been the long standing demand of the people of Pondicherry. The D.M.K. Government had initiated proposals for this. What happened to this? Similarly, the setting up Harijan Financial Develop-

ment Corporation was announced. But this has not yet come about. No Harijan welfare scheme has been implemented. I would like to know what happened to Pondicherry Port development which has been accepted by the Central Planning Commission.

Sir, another challenging question to the Administration under the President's rule is the continued closure of Anglo-French Textile Mill, commonly known as Rodier Mill, in Pondicherry for the past ten months. The next day after the dismissal of DMK Government in Pondicherry started with the closure of AFT Mill. 7000 workers are prowling like beggars as they are threatened with hunger and starvation. The Government could not tackle Mr. Jatia, the proprietor and there is no private entrepreneur willing to take over this unit. The Governor and the Chief Secretary issue statements in the Press and over the Radio that this Mill would be opened in ten days, in the next 15 days and so on and so forth. All the Trade Unions are agreed on this one point that this Mill should be re-opened, after the National Textile Corporation takes it over. Even the Congress-I Trade Union has held meetings, demanding the taking over of AFT Mills by the NTC. The Governor, who was making statements that the AFT Mills would be taken over by the NTC, has now left it to the tender mercies of God. He says that God alone should bestow his benevolence on this Mill. Demonstrations, agitations, hunger-strike, dharnas are being held by all the trade unions including the Congress-I trade union. The people of Union Territory are greatly distressed over the continued closure of AFT Mills, because the economy of the territory will be in shambles if this is allowed to continue any longer. Law and order in the territory will be the victim of such inept handling of the situation by the Administration. The people of the territory are losing slowly but steadily their faith in the Administration of the Territory. I demand that NTC should take over AFT Mills.

The Administration is holding now 20-Point Exhibition on a grand scale. The achievements of DMK Government have

also been included in the form of exhibits here. The Administration is taking credit for DMK Government's performance. The ruling party at the Centre wants to take advantage of this for promoting the election prospects.

Sir, for the 102nd time the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced local body elections in the State of Tamil Nadu. Many times he had invited the leaders of political parties for discussing about the dates of local body elections. This time the leaders of political parties refused to attend such a meeting because they have no faith in the pronouncements of the Chief Minister. If by any remote chance, the local body elections are held in Tamil Nadu, I suggest that local body elections should be held in Pondicherry Union Territory also. In fact, for quite some time there is President's rule in the territory and it is time that General Elections are held in the Union Territory of Pondicherry.

With these words I conclude my speech.

*SHRI P. SHANMUGAM (Pondicherry) : Hon. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to say a few words in respect of 1984-85 Budget of the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Since I am the sole representative of this Union territory I request that some time may be given to me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How much time you require ?

SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : I will conclude quickly. At the outset I extend my full support to the 1984-85 Pondicherry Union Territory Budget.

I would like to clarify certain issues that have been raised by my hon. friend who preceded me. I have to say that his assertions are far from truth. He alleged that the Central Government has dismissed the popularly elected DMK Government in Pondicherry against all democratic tenets. He also mentioned about the autocratic rule

that has been imposed on this territory. I have to counter his arguments with the facts in my possession. Firstly there is no autocratic rule in Pondicherry. The Administration has been geared to function effectively for implementing the welfare schemes. In order to ensure that democracy takes deep roots in the country, the Centre was compelled to dismiss the DMK Ministry which was unable to prove its majority inspite of horse-trading of MLAs.

The hon. Member from Communist Party (Marxist) in his speech was advocating the merger of different parts of the Union Territory with the neighbouring States. I am reminded of what happened in 1962 when the Pondicherry Union Territory Bill was introduced in this very House by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. I was sitting in the Visitors' Gallery. While introducing this Bill, Pandit Nehru was referring to the cultural heritage of Pondicherry territory. At that time from the Opposition Benches, Shri P. Ramamurthy belonging to Communist Party (Marxist) got up and urged the then Prime Minister to take back the Bill, as he was opposed to the special status being given to Pondicherry. Then, the hon. Member from Cuddalore, Shri Krishnamurthy, belonging to D.M.K. took up the same standpoint. They wanted that Pandit Nehru should not proceed with the consideration of the Bill. But Panditji was not perturbed over this stance of CPM and DMK Members. When the Bill came up for voting, Shri P. Ramamurthy stated that he would not accept separate statehood for a tiny territory with 3 lakhs of people and he was also opposed to the independent status being given to the territory. As pointed out just now by the CPM Member, Shri P. Ramamurthi wanted the merger of Pondicherry and Karaikkal with Tamil Nadu since this area was populated by Tamil-speaking people, Mahe where the Malayalam speaking were living to be merged with Kerala—to reach Mahe one had to undertake a journey for 24 hours—and Yenam with Andhra Pradesh, since it was 500 miles away from Pondicherry and

Telugu-speaking people were inhabiting the area. This view was expressed in 1962 by the CPM Member in this House. This view was supported by the then D.M.K. Member in this House.

Today, after 22 years, the hon. Member from CPM and the hon. Member from D.M.K. have reflected similar views about Pondicherry Union Territory. Overtly they express their sympathy for the lot of the people of Pondicherry and they demand that welfare schemes should be implemented for their upliftment. Covertly they want that different parts of Union Territory of Pondicherry should be merged with the neighbouring States. They do not like Pondicherry to remain as a separate Union Territory.

SHRI N. SELVARAJU : Sir, I did not say that Pondicherry should be merged with the neighbouring States.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Selvaraju did not say that. It was mentioned by the CPM Member.

SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : My hon. friend Shri Selvaraju was waxing eloquent about the remarkable progress made by Pondicherry under DMK Government from 1969 and about the political stability established by his Party Government in the Union Territory for five years. His former colleague M.P. from DMK in 1962 echoed the sentiments of CPM in regard to the merger of Pondicherry with the adjacent States.

Sir, in 1954 Pondicherry was liberated from French rule. From 1951 to 1969 the Territory was ruled by the Congress Party, without any crutches from any other political party. Really it was golden era in the history of Pondicherry. During this time municipal elections were held for four times. Out of 16 Municipalities, 12 Municipalities were captured by the Congress Party. All the villages in the Union Territory got electricity. All the villages were connected with roads. Drinking water facilities were

provided in all the villages. The rural areas of the Territory did make tremendous progress during this period. At the time of liberation Pondicherry was a deficit State in foodgrains. With the untiring efforts of the Congress Government during this period, Pondicherry became self sufficient in the production of foodgrains. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru by giving the internationally renowned JIPMER Medical College to Pondicherry proved by action his abounding love for the people of this Territory. During this period the Anglo-French Textile Mill was functioning profitably. Many welfare schemes for the upliftment of downtrodden, Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were implemented successfully during this period of Congress rule in the Territory.

In 1967 the DMK came to power in Tamil Nadu and in Pondicherry the DMK assumed Office in 1969. From 1969 to 1980 the Congress Party was not in power in the Territory. Though Shri Selvaraj in his speech claimed that political stability was established by his Party Government in Pondicherry I have to contradict him with facts of political instability during this non-Congress rule of 11 years.

Shri Selvaraju was talking about the achievements of DMK Government from 1969 to 1974. I know personally what was happening then, as I was the Leader of Opposition in the Assembly.

During the rule of Congress Party in Tamil Nadu under the Chief Ministership of late Shri Kamaraj one industry was coming up every day in the State. After DMK came to power in 1967, one industry was getting closed every day in Tamil Nadu. Similarly, Pondicherry was making all round progress from 1954 to 1969 under Congress Government. From 1969 under DMK Government the economic development of the State came to a grinding halt. Only one industry was set up by the DMK Government and that was the liquor-bottling plant unit, which was closed after 3 years. Otherwise, no industry came up during the 5 years from 1969 to 1974. About political stability the less said, the better. The DMK

Chief Minister and the D.M.K. Home Minister was at logger-heads. The Central Government gave the Central University to Pondicherry. The DMK Chief Minister announced over the Radio and newspapers that after his party assumed office, the Central University had been given to the territory. He did not say that under Congress rule for 15 years the State had made progress in educational progress to the extent of getting a Central University. Even allowing some credit for this, what happened later on is worth mentioning. The naming of this central University became an issue of controversy between the Chief Minister and the Home Minister. While the Chief Minister wanted to name the University as Aurobindo University, the Home Minister wanted it to be named as Anna Central University. This internecine quarrel was dragged to the streets by instigating the students and other forces. The whole territory was enveloped in this kind of unnecessary agitation. All the political parties were compelled to participate in this unseemly wrangle. Then the Central Government rushed the former Minister late Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam to the territory. He met the Chief Minister in this connection. The Chief Minister openly admitted to him that he was not able to do anything because his party Members were working at cross-purposes and were opposed to him. He threw his hands up in desperation. Then an unprecedented thing happened. I don't think that such a thing would have happened anywhere in the world. The DMK Government did the greatest harm to the Territory. Even today the people are repenting. The Cabinet met, passed a resolution for the postponement of the setting up of Central University in Pondicherry which was gifted by our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi to the people of Pondicherry, and forwarded that resolution to the Centre. Today Shri Selvaraju is asking what happened to the Central University. His audacity seems to be outside the turn of events in the Territory on account of DMK Government's foolhardy step of stalling the setting up of Central University.

From 1954 to 1969 there was political

stability because of honest and clean Congress Government in the Territory. For 4½ years from 1969 there was DMK Government in which the Chief Minister and the Home Minister were at the throats of each other. The administration was corrupted and the people lost their faith in the DMK Government. From 1969 to 1980 three times the Government fell not due to the manipulations of Congress Party but entirely due to their own political bickerings. Two DMK Ministers joined the AIADMK and brought down the DMK Government. Was not democracy murdered then? The AIADMK Government was in power for 18 months at the first instance and again for 21 days. Who brought down the AIADMK Government? Not the Congress Party and not by any upsurge among the people, but by the internal political rivalry of these parties. I am sure you will agree that this was not a sign of political stability ushered in by DMK Government.

Shri Selvaraju referred to the withdrawal of support by Congress-I from the United Front forged in 1980 and he said that the dismissal of DMK Government was against all democratic ethos. I would like to tell you what happened. Congress-I joined hands with DMK with the objective of giving a stable Government to the people of Pondicherry. There were 3 DMK Ministers and 3 Congress-I Ministers in the Coalition Government. After assuming office, the Chief Minister started functioning independently. The DMK Ministers began to work independently. We brought this to the notice of the leaders of DMK, but no action was taken to set right the things. Even then we wanted to be in the Front in the interest of the people of Pondicherry.

Shri M.A. Shanmugam, leader of DMK Legislature Party led the revolt against the Chief Minister. He charged the Chief Minister and the DMK Ministers with exercising their authority for the benefit of their relatives and friends. This group of dissidents were with the Governor with a signed petition and requested him to dismiss the DMK Chief Minister against whom they levelled charges of

corruption. The Governor said that he could not do anything of that sort because it was a democratic set-up and they could as well raise it on the floor of the Assembly. The CPM and Janata Members were in the Assembly. This flag of protest was raised on the floor of the Assembly by the DMK Members, demanding the dismissal of corrupt Chief Minister Ramachandran. Then these Members also joined the fray. There was agitation within the Assembly and outside it for the dismissal of corrupt DMK Government. There were long marches, demonstrations, protest marches, hartals, strike etc. for the dismissal of corrupt DMK Chief Minister. We endeavoured to bring about a sense of unity in the whole thing. But we were disenchanted. Our three Ministers resigned and 10 Congress-I members came out of the Front. We went to the Governor and apprised him of our disassociation with DMK. We gave it in writing to him. We were not running after Office.

Then the Governor called the Chief Minister and asked him to prove his majority to him so that he could invite him to form the Government. He gave three days' time to him. With twenty elected Members, the DMK could have proved its majority. But they could not do so. The DMK contacted the Janata President Chandrasekhar and the Janata leader in Karnataka, Mr. Hegde requesting them to direct the Janata M.L.A.'s to support the DMK. No doubt in the newspapers there was a report that Janata would support the DMK in Pondicherry. There were 3 Janata M.L.As in Pondicherry. They held meetings for three days and they could not come to an agreed solution regarding the support to DMK. One Janata MLA openly advocated the dismissal of corrupt Ramachandran, the CM. He said that he would not abide by the directive of Chandrasekhar and Hegde. The Janata MLAs openly said that by associating themselves with Shri Ramachandran, they would lose their face in the minds of the people of Pondicherry. They refused to support DMK Chief Minister Ramachandran.

What happened within the DMK party,

which had 14 Members at that time? The DMK Legislature Party leader came out in violent protest against Shri Ramachandran. Another member, Shri Ramalingam issued a public statement that he would not support the corrupt DMK regime. Another Member ran away to a foreign country. The DMK then had 11 Members. They could not prove the majority before the Governor, who wanted them to bring their supporters so that he could count the heads. The DMK failed miserably to prove its majority. The Governor was compelled by circumstances to send a report to the Centre for the dismissal of the DMK Government and also to dissolve the Assembly.

Should this be described as the murder of democracy by Shri Selvaraju, our DMK Member here?

He wanted that municipal and panchayat elections should be held during the Governor's rule in Pondicherry. You must know, Sir, that during 11 years from 1969 to 1980 when DMK was holding its sway over the territory, no Municipal or Panchayat elections were held. During this period the Centre did not show any partisanship towards the people of Pondicherry. The Centre continued to give grants and aids in substantial quantity to Pondicherry. All this money were diverted to party coffers. The people of Pondicherry were deceived outright. Their hopes and aspirations were belied. The charges of bribery and corruption were made by DMK men, and not even by the people outside.

Under the President's rule, the administration has been functioning fearlessly and freely without political interference for the good of the people. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru declared that Pondicherry is the real window of the composite Indo-French culture of more than 2 centuries. He gave the solemn assurance that so long as the people of Pondicherry wanted to remain independent they would be allowed to remain so. Our Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi shows the same degree of love and respect for the people of Pondicherry. During Janata regime, she was the only and one

national leader who raised her voice against the merger proposition of Pondicherry with the neighbouring States initiated by Shri Morarji Desai. The people of Pondicherry erupted like a volcano protesting the merger proposition. Shri Morarji Desai was refusing to meet the anti-merger leaders of Pondicherry. No Janata Minister or Shri Morarji Desai visited Pondicherry. During Janata regime Pondicherry was utterly neglected. Pandit Nehru visited Pondicherry. Mrs. Indira Gandhi visited Pondicherry and endeared herself to the people of Pondicherry. Today the same parties who were supporting the stance of Shri Morarji Desai are raising the slogan of merger of Pondicherry with the neighbouring States. All the while they are shedding crocodile tears for the welfare of the people of Pondicherry. They are adopting the policy of running with the hare and hunting with the hound. This is not good for themselves. The people of Pondicherry have unflinching faith in the leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. They will get their legitimate rights under her benign rule.

I will now come to the Pondicherry Budget for 1984-85. Pondicherry had become self-sufficient in foodgrains but for the last three years when the vagaries of weather had destroyed crops and fertile fields. Pondicherry has fulfilled 95% of the plan targets. Its revenue has been doubled. The programme for eradication of poverty has been taken up for implementation. 48000 families have been identified as living below the poverty line. Efforts are being made to uplift 10000 families above the poverty line. In five years all the 48000 families would be taken over the poverty line. I demand that sufficient money should be provided for this scheme of Administration.

Pondicherry has been divided into four zones for electricity supply. Pondicherry, and Karaikkal depend upon Tamilnadu for electricity; Mahe on Kerala and Yenam on Andhra Pradesh. There is acute paucity of power in Pondicherry territory. A thermal station should be set up here. This is the long-standing demand of the people of Pondicherry. Then only industries can

come up here. Till then power from the Super Thermal Stations in the neighbouring States should be supplied to Pondicherry Territory.

The Police in Pondicherry is the guardian of law and order. The Police Department has been doing excellent job in this direction. I want that funds should be provided for modernisation of Police Force in the Territory. For many years the Police Force has been neglected. This must be looked into. The Pondicherry Administration has identified about 5000 destitutes in the area who deserve pension, out of which provision has been made for 250 destitutes at the rate of Rs. 50/- per head. After all a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs would be required to cover all the destitutes. This fund should be made available. The Central Planning Commission had approved the development of Pondicherry Port. A token sum of Rs. 1 crore has been provided in 1984-85 budget. Madras Port has become highly congested and to relieve this congestion, Pondicherry Port must be developed fast. During French rule, it was a free port. In Southern States there is no free port like Kandla. I suggest that Pondicherry should be declared as a free port. This will give incentives for the industrialists to come to Pondicherry port.

Fishing is the mainstay of this territory. In November and Decembers, every year this coast is subjected to cyclone and storms. The fishing boats are washed away and the fishermen suffer very much. Ariyankuppam deep sea fishing harbour should be developed fast so that the boats get protection from the natural outbursts. Karaikkal and Mahe also should receive attention in this matter of giving protection to the boats of fishermen. The former Civil Aviation Minister had laid the foundation-stone for an aerodrome in Pondicherry. In 1984-85 a sum of Rs. 75 lakhs has been provided for acquiring the land for this purpose. Expeditious steps should be taken to complete the work of aerodrome in Pondicherry. The question of Central University is under the examination of the Central Government for quite some time. I request the hon. Minister that this Central University must be given to

Pondicherry Territory at the earliest.

As I mentioned earlier, the farmers have suffered heavily during the past 3 years on account of vagaries of monsoon. Drought in two years and flood in one year have destroyed agriculture in the Territory. I suggest that the nationalised banks and cooperative societies should be directed not to insist upon the repayment of loans from the agriculturists as per terms; the recovery of loans should be postponed for a year. Similarly, land revenue in the case of peasants whose lands have been affected by floods must be repealed.

21 hrs.

Pondicherry is the capital of Union Territory with a population of 1.5 lakhs. Five thousand French-pensioners are living here. They get huge sums as pension. We have Central and State Government officers, besides JIPMER, the Asia's premier medical college and hospital. We have Aurobindo Ashram. The cumulative effect of all this is that the cost of living in Pondicherry is very high. The fish, mutton, vegetables etc. cost very much. The house rent is skyrocketing. I demand that Pondicherry should be declared as B-II city, so that the Government servants get some relief. The criterion of population should not be made applicable to Pondicherry in this matter. Similarly, Karaikkal, Mahe and Yenam should also be categorised as B-II cities giving relief to Government servants in these places.

In Pondicherry there are about 400 to 450 freedom fighters. While the French left the place, they burnt all the certificates of freedom fighters and other Court records. In 1966 the Pondicherry Administration prepared a sort of WHO's WHO about freedom fighters and a certificate of honour was also given to them. But for this there is no other proof for getting entitlement to freedom fighters' pension. I appeal to the hon. Minister that freedom fighters' pension should be sanctioned to these 450 freedom fighters before they leave this world. Some attention must be paid immediately to this

question.

I will now come to the question of closure of AFT Mill - Anglo-French Textile Mill in Pondicherry. Shri Selvaraju said that the Mill was closed on the next day of dismissal of DMK Ministry. Who is responsible for this? The blame squarely rests on the shoulders of DMK trade union and other trade unions. In 1982 the workers demanded 50% Diwali Bonus but the Mill management offered only 12%. These trade unions incited the workers to go on strike. The mill remained closed for 2½ months. The workers lost their wages. The Mill management struck to the ground. Later the workers accepted the 12% bonus. There are 27 trade unions here. None of them succeeded in their struggle. In no agitation they have succeeded so far.

Now in order to blame the President's rule here in the Territory, the DMK trade unions and the left and right communist party unions are instigating the workers to continue with the strike. They want to make political capital in the elections. For them the misery of workers is also to be exploited for political advantage. But 7500 workers, though they are on the verge of starvation and though 20 to 30 workers have committed suicide, have not lost faith in the Central Government. They know that the Centre will give succour to them. When the DMK and other trade unions convene a meeting, not even 500 workers attend the meeting. Ten parties have come together to exploit the misery of the workers. But when the Congress-I trade union convenes a meeting, thousands of them attend.

Sir, the fact remains that the Mill is closed for the past ten months. 7500 workers are in distress. Out of a population of 1.5 lakhs, 40000 people's livelihood is dependent on this Mill. They cannot for long carry on this distress. In 1981 and in 1982 this Mill was making profit. By taking over this Mill, NTC will not lose.

Only one section of this Mill is old and the other two sections are new units. I request that the hon. Minister should order the taking over of this Mill by the NTC.

This Mill should be re-opened and the misery of 7500 workers should be ended forthwith. If this is delayed, the economy of this territory will be in shambles. I once again appeal to the hon. Minister to take personal interest in this matter and come to the rescue of 7500 workers.

Our Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi has equivalent amount of love and affection for the people of Pondicherry, like her father Pandit Nehru, who gave JIPMER to Pondicherry. The people of Pondicherry have full faith in her leadership and they are looking to her for the redressal of their genuine problems. I am sure that their hopes and aspirations will not be belief under the leadership of our Prime Minister.

With these words I conclude my speech.

21.07 hrs.

[SHRI F.H. MOHSIN *in the Chair*]

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna) : Sir, first of all, I support the demands of freedom fighters for granting pension. Their claims are just but the Government is delaying their cases. So, I will request the concerned Minister to expedite their cases as soon as possible.

Secondly, opposing the dismissal of Government of Pondicherry and the budget presented to the House, I want to raise only one point and that is about the Anglo-French Textile Mill, Pondicherry. About 7,500 employees have remained unemployed for over ten months now. The Anglo-French Textile Mill and its two annexure mills with modern machinery were producing export-pattern cloth earning about Rs. 7 crores to Rs. 8 crores annually in terms of foreign exchange to the Government of India.

This mill was originally bounded by a British concern about hundred years ago and earned reputation for its export of fine varieties. This is an export-oriented mill, changing frequently its pattern of production to the needs of the foreign market.

After the death of the previous owners, the Anglo-French Mill was purchased by Shri G.N. Jatia of Bombay in July 1981. Ever since, the management of Jatia, far from applying his mind for improving the enterprise, acted with the pernicious object of siphoning the wealth of this mill to his business concern in Bombay through various foul methods. He has raised loans from the UCO Bank to the extent of Rs. 5.10 crores, from IDBI Rs. 39 lakhs and further credits from a few more banks and private enterprises.

Shri G.N. Jatia has misappropriated the sum deducted from the workers' provident fund and ESI contribution, dues towards provision stores and labour credit societies, besides the arrears of wages. All these together amount to Rs. 2 crores due to labour. Over and above this, he owes Rs. 1 crore to the State Government towards electricity charges.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you quoting something ?

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : I am quoting from a memorandum of the Action Committee of AFT, which the INTUC leader had also signed, though he was denying his signature here.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad) : He has supported the opening of the mill.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : He was complaining that we are instigating the workers.

This condition of the AFT Mill and its unemployed labour was adequately brought home to the Government of India ever since. In August 1983, the representatives of 8 trade unions of this mill, led by Shri V. Subbiah, former Minister of Pondicherry, and CPI Group leader Shri Indrajit Gupta, called on the Commerce Minister, Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh on 12th and 18th and represented the problem of the AFT Mill. In the second meeting of 18th August 1983, the Commerce Minister constituted a five-

member committee headed by IDBI, UCO Bank, a representative of his Ministry, the Chief Secretary and the Law Secretary of the Government of Pondicherry with the assignment to prepare a package proposal and start the resumption of the mill within four weeks. But, for reasons best known to the Commerce Minister, Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh, this did not work out, though the Committee is reported to have met. At this stage, on 22nd September 1983, Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri V. Subbiah called on the Commerce Minister, as the time schedule of four weeks expired, to urge upon the Minister for speedy action. At that moment, the Commerce Minister, after having fully understood the implication of the problem and the soundness of the mill, expressed his view for consideration of take-over of the mill by NTC. Incidentally, the Anglo-French Textile Mill is not a sick mill and junks, but a fairly modern mill worth taking over by NTC.

There are 7,500 families of employees eagerly waiting every day with poignant anxiety that NTC would take over the mill and their right for work would be ensured. But, to their utter disappointment, only starvation deaths are increasing every day in their families. It is a tragedy that the Government of India still remains a silent spectator to all these hurdles and undue interventions for prolonging the closure of the mill.

Agitation after agitation in a peaceful manner went on during this period of nine to ten months. Hundreds of men, women and children courted arrest.

Since the Government of India has not taken any step so far to solve this problem, the Action Committee of the workers decided to send its leaders to Delhi to stage a Dharna for some days before Parliament House today which they have started at the Boat Club.

In view of this I would request the Minister to get problems solved immediately for the satisfaction of the workers.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): Sir, at the fag-end of the day this discussion on Pondicherry has started. Now, the Members are impatient, but this is a very important matter that is being discussed in this House.

Sir, the Members who have participated in this debate, have put forward certain problems. Some of them have also accused the Central Government for acting arbitrarily and for dismissing the Government at Pondicherry and in dissolving the Assembly. The hon. Member representing Pondicherry has effectively rebutted the arguments put forward in this connection. I don't want to go into this matter, as he has very clearly and categorically stated the condition prevailing in that part of the country.

Pondicherry has got a very historical significance in the scheme of things. It was liberated from the French and our great Prime Minister, Panditji, wanted its identity and its composite culture to be kept. It has been kept and is being maintained. It is a Union Territory and the Government of India has been giving all possible assistance to develop the personality of Pondicherry and also to better their socio-economic prospects.

It has also another historic significance in view of the fact that the great revolutionary, Sri Aurobindo has chosen Pondicherry as his place of action. That is why Pondicherry is known everywhere and the famous devotees of Aurobindo are coming there.

The great Tamil poet Subramaniam Bharati was also in Pondicherry. Because of him also Pondicherry has acquired international importance.

Sir, I would like only to express a few things, because many of the points would be made by the Hon. Minister who is dealing with the Pondicherry Budget.

Shri Ramavatar Shastri has mentioned

about the freedom fighters of Pondicherry. An Hon. Member also has mentioned in this regard. This matter was discussed at length. A demand has been put forward that freedom fighters, who had left Pondicherry in order to fight for its freedom from outside should be granted Pension. Shastriji is in the non-official Advisory Committee and he knows that at one time we had invited the Members from Pondicherry to give their views. This matter is very much under the active consideration of the Government.

Another important factor that was made out was about the Central University. Shri Shanmugam was telling you how the Central University, which was sanctioned by the Central Government, because of the internecine quarrels among the DMK Ministers, has not been established there. I am very happy to inform the august House that the proposal had been revived by the Ministry of Education so far as the Central University is concerned.

Sir, it is under process and I hope ere long—as the Education Minister is here and is saying that it has been also cleared, so I can very confidently say that this Central University is going to be established soon in Pondicherry.

Another important factor is about the harbour, the project that has been mentioned. Because there is a vast potential of fish in this area, there is a combined port and fishing harbour scheme. This scheme is also under the process from various Ministries and I hope this will also come to be realised as soon as possible.

Another important thing is about the textile mills which have been mentioned by the hon. Members. The Lt. Governor of Pondicherry has been taking a very keen interest in this matter. He has met me several times and he has also met the Commerce Minister with regard to this matter. 7,500 families of workers are involved in this thing, an agitation is going on, and I can only recommend to my hon. friend, the Finance Minister, to look into

this matter carefully. Also, if I say anything, Shastriji, a veteran freedom fighter and an hon. Member of this House would be thinking that I am indulging in politics. It is not like this. The whole thing has started because the workers were not allowed to have their own say, people from outside are interfering in not making this government or these workers come to a sort of settlement. I will only leave it at that, and I request Shastriji to use his good offices in helping the Government to solve this problem.

With these few words I again reiterate that since Pondicherry is a Union Territory and it comes directly under the Home Ministry, we are sparing no efforts so far as providing necessary financial assistance is concerned. People of Pondicherry must have their social and economic development. As a matter of fact, much progress has been made, there are a large number of tubewells dug in that area and there is a vast area in Pondicherry that has been brought under irrigation, there are several factories that have been established there and Pondicherry, as Mr. Shanmugam has pointed out, has been given the necessary assistance financially so that that area may prosper. We know that the identity of Pondicherry must be protected and so their identity is being kept up.

With these few words, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak.

आचार्य भगवान् देव (अजमेर) : सभापति महोदय, पांडिचेरी का नाम आते ही उस महान योगी महर्षि अरविंद का चित्र सारे संसार के लोगों के सामने खड़ा हो जाता है। पांडिचेरी की मुक्ति के पश्चात् पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू का और इस समय श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी का जो प्यार वहां की प्रजा को मिला और मिल रहा है और वहां की प्रजा का जो प्यार इनको मिल रहा है उस का उल्लेख अभी हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने किया। यह एक हकीकत है जैसा कि विरोधी पार्टी के लोगों की बातों से मालूम पड़ता है, इनके मसूबे

बहुत अपवित्र हैं, ये चाहते हैं कि पांडिचेरी छिन्न-भिन्न हो जाय। उसमें तमिलनाडू, आन्ध्र और केरल के लोग गिद्ध की दृष्टि से पांडिचेरी को देख रहे हैं और उसका विकास होने नहीं देते। यही बात मिल के सम्बन्ध में है। मैं विस्तार में जाना नहीं चाहता क्योंकि समय बहुत कम है। पांडिचेरी का विकास करने के लिए उस महान् योगी ने अरोविल की एक बहुत बड़ी कल्पना की थी और उसे संसार का एक आदर्श स्थान वह बनाना चाहते थे। यह हकीकत है कि जनता पार्टी के टाइम में कुछ इस देश के जयचंद जैसे स्वार्थी तत्वों ने जिस में बड़ी-बड़ी हस्तियां थीं, जिसमें तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री भी शामिल थे, उन्होंने कुछ विदेशी ताकतों के साथ मिल कर के ऐसा षड्यन्त्र रचा कि उसके अस्तित्व को मिटाने की योजना बनी और आज भी वहां विदेशी तत्व ऐसे बैठे हुए हैं जो उस को बरबाद करने पर तुले हुए हैं जिसके सम्बन्ध में मैं गृह मंत्रालय को नाम भी लिखकर दे चुका हूं, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि उन लोगों के सम्बन्ध में आपने क्या कार्यवाही की है? शिक्षा मंत्रालय ने लाखों रुपये उस अरोविल के विकास के लिए दिए जिसमें बहुत बड़ा गबन हुआ, लाखों रुपये लोग खा गए। जिसकी जांच हुई और सरकार को वहां एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर बिठाना पड़ा। एडमिनिस्ट्रेट के वहां जाने के बाद कुछ सुधार हुआ है। भौगोलिक स्थिति को देखते हुए कि वह महान तपस्वी अरविन्द की भूमि है और मैं भी योग के सम्बन्ध में कुछ लिखता-पढ़ता रहता हूं, गत 30-35 साल से मुझे बड़ा लगाव है, मैं कई बार वहां गया हूं, जब अरोविल की समस्या थी तब भी मैं वहां गया था और उसके सम्बन्ध में मैंने, माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री यहां पर बैठी हुई हैं, उनसे भी प्रार्थना की थी कि वहां पर अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय षड्यन्त्र का अड्डा बन रहा है जिससे हमें सावधान रहना चाहिये। इस समय वहां सुधार हुआ है और मेरी भारत सरकार से विशेष मांग है कि वहां की भौगोलिक स्थिति को देखते हुए अरोविल में एक महान योगी की जो कल्पना थी, पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू भी चाहते थे और श्रीमती इन्दिरा

गांधी भी चाहती हैं कि उसका विकास हो, उसके रास्ते में बाधा खड़ी की जा रही है तमिलनाडू सरकार की तरफ से। वहां ऐसी परिस्थितियां खड़ी की जा रही हैं जो वहां के कार्यकर्ताओं के लिए बड़ी कठिनाई का कारण बन रही हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि भारत सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में गंभीरता से सोचे। अरोविल का एरिया जो तमिलनाडू के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है, उस एरिया को कम से कम, मेहरबानी करके—चाहे उसके लिए कानून ही क्यों न बनाना पड़े—पांडिचेरी के साथ मिला दिया जाए।

ये सारे विरोधी पार्टी के लोग पांडिचेरी के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व को छिन्न-भिन्न करना चाहते हैं। मेरी मांग है कि तमिलनाडू के साथ जो एरिया जुड़ा हुआ है उसको पांडिचेरी के साथ मिला दिया जाए।

यह भी एक हकीकत है कि जितने भी केन्द्र शासित एरियाज हैं वह यदि स्वतन्त्र रहें तो उनका विकास नहीं हो सकता है—चाहे वह दिल्ली हो, गोवा हो, पांडिचेरी हो या अण्डमान निकोबार हो। केन्द्र के साथ जुड़कर ही उनका अधिक विकास हुआ है, होता रहा है और आगे भी होता रहेगा। यदि वे स्वतन्त्र रहें तो उनका विकास नहीं हो सकता है। मैं अभी अण्डमान निकोबार गया था। बंगाल में जितने भी जहाज बन्दरगाह पर खड़े होते हैं, वहां बड़ी भीड़ होती है, जहाज खड़े नहीं हो पाते हैं और वहां की सी०पी०एम० की सरकार बहुत बड़ी कठिनाई खड़ी कर रही है। मैं भारत सरकार से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि वह बन्दरगाह के विकास के सम्बन्ध में विकास योजनायें बनाए। अण्डमान से जो जहाज आते हैं उनके लिए वित्त मंत्रालय ने मद्रास बन्दरगाह के विकास के लिए योजनायें बनाई हैं। यदि पैसा न हो तो मैं चाहूंगा कहीं और कटौती करके पांडिचेरी का विकास अवश्य किया जाना चाहिए। मछली के पालन के सम्बन्ध में भी विकास किया जा सकता है।

यूनिवर्सिटी का नाम जो पहले निश्चित हो चुका था, उसमें डी०एम० के लोगों ने अडंगा लगाया, उस पवित्र योजना को बनने नहीं दिया। उस यूनिवर्सिटी को बना दिया जाए और उसका नाम उस महान योगी अरविन्द घोष के साथ जोड़ा जाए दूसरा किसी का नाम रखने का कोई औचित्य नहीं है। डी०एम०के० के लोगों ने जो पहले मिनिस्ट्री में थे और मेम्बर थे उन्होंने वहाँ पर जमीनों पर नाजायज ढंग से कब्जा किया है और नाजायज ढंग से अनुचित लोगों को प्रोत्साहन देने की कोशिश की। स्वार्थ के कारण ही वे लड़े-भिड़े जिससे उनका पतन हुआ। कांग्रेस चाहती है कि वहाँ विकास हो, वहाँ के गरीब लोगों का भला हो और उसके लिए कई योजनाएँ बनाई गई हैं। जो बजट यहाँ पेश किया गया है उसके सम्बन्ध में विस्तार से बोलने के लिए टाइम नहीं है। जो मिल चालू करने की बात कही गई है उसके मजदूर मुझे मिले थे और उन्होंने बताया कि इन लोगों की यूनियन के जो अलग-अलग अधिकारी हैं, जिनका मंत्री जी ने उल्लेख किया है, वे यही चाहते हैं कि झगड़ा बना रहे और अगले चुनाव में उनको चौधराहट करने का कोई मौका मिल सके। उनके इरादे साफ नहीं हैं। नेशनल टैक्सटाइल कॉर्पोरेशन उस मिल को टेक ओवर कर सकती है। वहाँ से जो प्रतिनिधि हमारे कांग्रेस (आई) के यहाँ पर हैं वे सारी बातें विस्तार से कह चुके हैं। यह आक्षेप किया गया कि वहाँ से राज्य सभा में हमारा दूसरा कांग्रेस (आई) का प्रतिनिधि नहीं आ सकता है इसलिए विधान सभा भंग कर दी गई लेकिन यह बिल्कुल निराधार है। वहाँ से जो कांग्रेस (आई) के प्रतिनिधि हैं, वे वहाँ की जनता से मिले हैं और वहाँ की जनता बड़ी खुश है कि इस तरह से विधान सभा को भंग कर दिया गया। वहाँ पर स्थिति यह थी कि वे लोग रोज आपस में मिलते-जुलते थे, कोई सिनेमा बना लेता था कोई किसी दूसरी जमीन पर कब्जा कर लेता था, कोई रिक्शे वाले को लोन देता था, कोई किसी और को देता था अपने घर वालों को, चले चाटों को। अंधा बांटे रेवड़ी, अपने-अपने को दे—यह डी०

एम० के० वालों की हालत थी। इसलिए यह वहाँ बहुत अच्छा कार्य हुआ है और जनता इससे बहुत खुश है और यहाँ पर जो बजट पेश किया गया है उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): I do not want to touch the points already raised.

I do not agree with Shri Educardo Falciero saying that the Chief Minister had no powers there. But as a matter of fact the Chief Minister had powers. He had gone to conclave on his own and that was within his power.

Sir, during his period, a lot of harm was done to the Union Territory. During this Governor's rule, a lot of improvement is there. One sugar factory was promoted by myself and the other sugar factory was by the Home Minister. You know, what is the difficulty in starting. But during this short period, I was surprised to see that the sugar factory has gone into production. Now, they are producing sugar in their own area. They are also helping the adjoining State of Tamil Nadu sugar-cane growers to grow more cane so that the factory may have full-time work.

Now, Shri Ramavatar Shastri has said that the *dharna* and agitation was peaceful. No. Sir. It was not peaceful. The Lt. Governor and the administrators have taken preventive steps. Even to create trouble in any place, a big number is not required. Even 50 to 60 people can create trouble, and those people were there. Fortunately the Government has taken preventive steps and they have kept them as "State guests" and, therefore, there is no trouble.

Yesterday, I was there. The land is fertile. The people are hard-workers. I want that more electricity should be supplied and irrigation wells should be dug in a big way by the Government to help the farmers so that they may grow more food-grains and feed the sugar factories and other factories. Just now, he had said that they

have now appealed to the Prime Minister. Appeal is very good, Sir. At the same time, what is the threat? This threatening part is not acceptable to the Congress-I. If at all, they want, let there be an appeal and settlement and that can be discussed with the Lt. Governor. As a well-known freedom fighter and a man who has sacrificed a lot for the country and a very knowledgeable person, he can decide the issue. They need not come all the way. The poor people are only misguided by the Opposition to show that they have got strength. Fortunately, they have got no strength. The sole representative, Mr. P. Shanmugam is here. He is very popular in that area. I had an occasion to go to that place 3 or 4 times this year.

With these words, I support the Budget.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me thank all the hon. Members who participated in this debate and made certain constructive suggestions in order to make the Union Territory of Pondicherry prosperous. My burden has been lightened by the intervention of my distinguished colleague, the Minister of State for Home and the sole representative of the Union Territory, hon. Thiru P. Shanmugam who has given us bloy-by-blow account as to why the President's rule had to be clamped and ultimately the Assembly had to be dissolved.

The Budget proposals and the statement which the Minister of Finance has placed here on the 5th March, 1984 present a very promising outlook for 1984-85. The Plan outlay would be around Rs. 30 crores which would be Rs. 7.80 crores higher than the current year. And the allocation for social and community services, transport, irrigation which was mentioned by Shri Ram Gopal Reddy, and power has been substantially stepped up, for the coming year. In the annual plan for 1984-85, special thrust is given to the programmes to improve the living conditions of the economically weaker section in the Union Territory of Pondi-

cherry and special attention is being given. This includes construction of low cost houses through participation of beneficiaries and strengthening of the public distribution system.

The hon. Member representing the DMK Party did raise and pose the question as to what has been done by the Central Government after they took over. I can go on reeling off various programmes which have been initiated after the State came under the President's rule. In the light of the fact that he is not here, that only shows how serious he was in trying to make out his points.

One particular reference which has been made by almost every hon. Member who participated in the debate is about the Anglo-French Textile Mill. It has had a chequered history. The hon. Member, Shri Ram Avatar Shastri, did take us through certain aspects of it. Some of it is modern; some of it is junk and some of it needs modernisation. There are 7500 workers. That means, multiplied by four or five, it would come to a substantial number of family members. The targedy of this Mill is that 52 per cent of the equity is owned by one Mr. Jatia. He is playing ducks and drakes

MR. CHAIRMAN: What about 43 per cent?

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: It is owned by various other people. I made it a point to find out how much is the equity owned by the Government of India institutions. I was told that it is about 7 or 8 or 9 per cent, subject to correction. I was only hoping that good sense will dawn upon the workers to cooperate. The Mill was doing fairly well and, as Shri Ram Avatar Shastri said, it was export-oriented. I thought that the workers who are working there would volunteer their cooperation in order to see that the Mill is re-opened.

I was told that at one point of time there were 27 unions. They have now been reduced to 15 unions. With due respect to

the CPI-led union, I believe, he was nominated as the Chairman of the negotiating committee. The Chairman of the negotiating committee twice walked out of the negotiating table. When this is the attitude of some of the responsible trade unions, how do you expect that the Mill will be re-opened? There must be some determination on the part of those who are representing the labour unions to see that the Mill is re-opened.

I think, the point was very well made by my hon. colleague, Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah, when he said that it is the interference from outside, that is, the back-seat driving from outside, which has led this Mill to be closed and which has created a situation whereby, unfortunately, the Mill continues to be closed. But the Government have not become oblivious of their responsibilities. They have taken certain steps for the welfare of workers of the Anglo-French Mill. They have given financial assistance to the suffering workers at the rate of Rs. 75/- per month for two months, an advance of Rs. 300 for Diwali, an advance of Rs. 200 for Pongal and, more recently, Rs. 75 worth of rice to all the families of the workers.

Nationalisation is now being demanded. The Minister of Finance, in his Budget speech, has made it very clear that nationalisation will be considered only when all other avenues fail and if the administrative Ministry is convinced that the Unit is economically viable then only the Government of India can step in to take over the mill. We do not believe that all avenues are exhausted.

I think the Lt. Governor of Pondicherry will make efforts.

I would only appeal through this House to the workers to come back to the path of sanity, reasoning and sobriety.

Dharnas being staged in the Boat Club need not necessarily be the avenues to impress on the Government of India or on the Government of Pondicherry to reopen the mill. On the other hand, they could have

gone back to Pondicherry and then united all the workers to come and give a helping hand to the Lt. Governor so that the negotiations could have brought about some reasonably good results. Even now, it is not too late and political interference, whether it is by DMK or by AIDMK or by CPI or CPI (M) has got to cease.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since how long is it closed ?

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA : It is closed for about ten months. We are really concerned. We are not very happy that a mill of this nature should be closed. It means loss of production, and a great loss to the entire national economy.

Effective mobilisation of additional resources has been made which led to substantial increase in the Plan outlay. The mobilisation of additional resources during 1982-83 was of the order of Rs. 20 crores, in 1983-84 it was Rs. 22 crores and in 1984-85 it is expected to be Rs. 30 crores.

Mention has been made about power scarcity. In order to overcome this scarcity of power, Pondicherry is now geared up to get power from Neyveli Project so that it does not have to depend on Tamilnadu for power supply. In the Budget statement, we have made a provision of Rs. 4.45 crores for power sector. That means, Pondicherry should be in a position to receive adequate and sufficient power from the Neyveli Power Project. This Rs. 4.45 crores is intended to strengthen the base.

A reference has also been made about the free trade zone. Now and again this demand is being made. I will certainly convey this demand to the Ministry of Commerce. But I am given to understand that there are already two cent per cent export-oriented Units which are coming up in Pondicherry and this should serve as an additional incentive for the Ministry of Commerce to consider this demand.

Government has taken note of the various other points which have been raised in the course of the debate.

आचार्य भगवान देव (अजमेर) : यूनिवर्सिटी क्व बना रहे हैं ?

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA : The University has also been set up. An Engineering College has been sanctioned. The Government of India have communicated to the State that the Engineering College has been sanctioned.

A Consumer Cooperative Federation has been set up and the public distribution system has been strengthened. Apart from adding more fair price shops, more commodities have also been added.

These are some of the progressive measures which have been initiated by the Central Government after the President's Rule was imposed on Pondicherry.

I seek the support of this House so that the good work that has been done under the President's rule can continue.

With these words, I commend the Budget.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Will the Minister let this House, and through this House, the country and the people of Pondicherry, know by which time democratic processes there will start and, secondly, by which time the Anglo-French textile mill will resume production, whether by nationalisation or having control over it or any other method? Can the Minister give some idea to the country and to this House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : I may assure the hon. Member that we do believe in democratic process and I will also assure him that not even one day will be lost, when we take the decision at the appropriate time, to establish democratic process in that Union Territory.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Demands for Grants on Account in respect of the Budget for the Union territory of Pondicherry for 1984-85 to the vote of the House.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Let him

give some idea.

MR. CHAIRMAN : - He has stated that it all depends on the cooperation of all.

The question is :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1985, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands 1 to 31.”

Those in favour will please say 'Aye'.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : 'Aye'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Those against will please say 'No'.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : 'No'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, the 'Ayes' have it, the 'Ayes' have it.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : The 'Noes' have it, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, there are only one or two on this side.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Let there be a division. Let there is be a quorum.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : I appeal to the hon. Member through you, Sir, that he may not insist on division at this odd hour. It was agreed by the Opposition parties that they would cooperate when we decided that we would forgo the Friday.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : You say, that the DMK is creating the mischief, the CPI is creating the mischief, the mill will not be opened. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you pressing for the division ?

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Yes, Sir ; I am pressing.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let it go on record. He is pressing.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : I make an appeal to the hon. Member not to press. This was to be taken up and finished today because tomorrow is a holiday. That was the agreement reached.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : It has been agreed by the Opposition Parties that they will cooperate. Originally Friday was a working day.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : I make an appeal to the hon. Member, Shri Bhogendra Jha, not to press.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : You say that the mill will not be reopened. You are ruling Pondicherry.

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA : Let me make it very clear. I did not say that we are not going to reopen the mill. I only sought the cooperation of the workers and the cooperation of all the political parties in Pondicherry to strengthen the hands of the Lt. Governor so that negotiations could take place and a chance may be given for the mill to be reopened. I also appeal to those who are sitting in dharna at the Boat Club to go back to Pondicherry and strengthen the hands of the Lt. Governor so that he can make earnest efforts to reopen the mill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you convinced now ? I hope you are not pressing now.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Alright.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not pressing. I will again put it to the vote of the House.

The question is :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1985, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands 1 to 31.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget for the Union territory of Pondicherry for 1983-84 to the vote of the House.

The question is :

“That the respective Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1984, in respect of the heads of the demands entered in the second column thereof against :

Demands Nos. 1, 4 to 31.”

The motion was adopted.