

it will be marginal, that is, one or two points. As far as agricultural commodities are concerned, it is 288.3. This is the latest figure, that is, last month. In respect of individual commodities, I cannot say whether in terms of trade, it is in favour of agriculture or in favour of manufactured goods. The general index position is that it is still marginally in favour of producers. So far as the procurement policy is concerned—it is an All India policy—we have to apply it to the country as a whole including Tripura and Assam.

1244 hrs.

PONDICHERRY BUDGET, 1976-77—
GENERAL DISCUSSION AND
DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS 1976-77

MR SPEAKER We now take up discussion on the budget and also the Demands for Grants of the State of Pondicherry.

DEMAND NO 1—LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 3,32,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Legislative Assembly' "

DEMAND NO 2—ADMINISTRATOR

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 10,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Administrator' "

DEMAND NO. 3—COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,19,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of Council of Ministers' "

DEMAND NO 4—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 16,18,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of Administration of Justice' "

DEMAND NO 5—ELECTIONS

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,97,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of Elections' "

DEMAND NO 6—REVENUE

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 63,95,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.
2752 LS—6

(Mr. Speaker)

of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Revenue'."

DEMAND No. 7—STATES TAX

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,63,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Sales Tax'."

DEMAND No 8—TAXES ON VEHICLES

MR. SPEAKER Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,10,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Taxes on Vehicles'."

DEMAND No. 9—SECRETARIAT

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 25,69,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Secretariat'."

DEMAND No. 10—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 60,56,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 15,00,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondi-

cherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'District Administration'."

DEMAND No. 11—TREASURY AND ACCOUNTS ADMINISTRATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,83,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Treasury and Accounts Administration'."

DEMAND No. 12—POLICE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 94,69,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Police'."

DEMAND No 13—JAILS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,01,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Jails'."

DEMAND No. 14—STATIONERY AND PRINTING

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,16,000 on Revenue Account be

granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Stationery and Printing' "

DEMAND NO 15—MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE GENERAL SERVICES

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 23,58,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Administrative General Services' "

DEMAND NO 16—RETIREMENT BENEFITS

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 31,96,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Retirement Benefits' "

DEMAND NO 17—PUBLIC WORKS

MR SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 2,73,84,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs 1,52,12,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Public Works'."

DEMAND NO. 18—EDUCATION

MR. SPEAKER Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 3,84,51,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs 50,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Education' "

DEMAND NO. 19—MEDICAL

MR. SPEAKER Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 2,21,78,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Medical' "

DEMAND NO 20—INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

MR SPEAKER Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 10,34,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Information and Publicity'."

DEMAND NO 21—LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

MR SPEAKER Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 14,98,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Labour and Employment'."

DEMAND NO. 22—SOCIAL WELFARE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,27,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 1,70,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Social Welfare'."

DEMAND NO. 23—COOPERATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,62,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 21,73,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Cooperation'."

DEMAND NO. 24—MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL ECONOMIC SERVICES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,33,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Miscellaneous General Economic Services'."

DEMAND NO. 25—AGRICULTURE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 82,60,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 6,85,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending of 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Agriculture'."

DEMAND NO. 26—ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 22,41,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 2,50,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Animal Husbandry'."

DEMAND NO. 27—FISHERIES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,78,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 15,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Fisheries'."

DEMAND NO. 28—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 44,58,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Community Development'."

DEMAND NO. 29—INDUSTRIES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,24,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 36,00,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Industries'."

DEMAND NO. 30—FOOD AND NUTRITION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,31,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Food and Nutrition'."

DEMAND NO. 31—ELECTRICITY

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,29,37,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 1,41,85,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Electricity'."

DEMAND NO. 32—PORTS AND PILOTAGE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,53,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 1,14,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Ports and Pilotage'."

DEMAND NO. 33—LOANS TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,20,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977 in respect of 'Loans to Government Servants'."

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA

(Marmagao): Sir, I want to raise a point of order. Sir, if you look at the statement made on 8th March by the Deputy Minister of Finance, you will see that in paragraph 3 a deficit of Rs. 7.88 crores will be met by grants-in-aid by the Government of India and further on a deficit of Rs. 3.69 crores on capital accounts will be met by loans from the Government of India. As you are aware, Pondicherry is a Union Territory and as a Union Territory distinct from a State, it is not open for it, not having separate personality, to have any public debt. It must always have a balanced budget and the manner in which that balance is achieved is by funding, the source of which is the Central Budget.

We have not yet either received, considered or passed the Central Budget. My submission is, it would be financially improper, in fact illegal, for the budget of a Union territory to be passed before the Central Budget is presented and before the Consolidated Fund of India is operated. If you look at the Pondicherry Account in the Explanatory Memorandum, you will find that at the end of the revised estimates for 1975-76 the balance in the Consolidated Fund is nil. This is how it is every year in a Union territory because whatever deficit there is, it is made up by the Central Government and that is how you come to 'nil'. By its very definition, the budget of a Union territory is deficit. So, it would be improper, illegal and financially impossible for us to appropriate any money out of a fund that has no money to begin with until such time as our own fund is operated and that money accrues to the Union territory.

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing for the Speaker to say. It is for the House to decide. There is nothing illegal and improper. The House is sovereign and it can decide everything. There is no infringement of any rule.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Let the minister clarify it.

MR. SPEAKER: The submission made by the hon. member is that it is improper and illegal for a union territory budget to be considered before the Central Budget is presented. There is no question of illegality. The House is seized of the matter. I have given any ruling.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: You have ruled and I have to bow to it!

***SHRI JAGADISH BHATTACHARYYA** (Ghatal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while rising to speak on the budget of Pondicherry I would like to put a question to the hon. Finance Minister. I would like to know from her how many returns of this unfortunate day will fall to her lot when she will have to come before this House for securing approval for the budget of Pondicherry. I may remind you Sir, that President's rule was imposed in Pondicherry on the 24th March, 1974. In other words it is almost two years now since the State is under the President's rule and during this period the people have been denied the right to express their views about the nature of economic development that they require or the amount that they would like to be sanctioned for such activities. They have also been denied their say in this administration of their State. It appears to be very strange to me that we the Members of Parliament coming from the different States should be called upon to vote a budget which will benefit the people who are nearly a thousand miles away from us. It is also very unfortunate that the Minister while introducing the budget could not give an indication as to when elections would be held in this State. The whole situation remains as uncertain as before. I cannot really understand why elections are being postponed. After all it is a very small State. The total area covered by the State is little over 400 sq. kilo-

metres and the population is little over 4 lakhs. Needless to say that administrative difficulty cannot be the ground for postponing the elections. It only indicates the contempt with which this Government deal with the principles of democracy and show their lack of faith in people's verdict.

Now, coming to budget proper we find that the total receipts would be to an order of Rs. 10.44 crores and the expenditure would be to a tune of 18.32 crores. Thus there will be a deficit of Rs. 7.33 crores. This will of course be met by the Central Government as grants-in-aid. I cannot help mentioning in this connection that this policy of the Central Government to meet the deficit of the State Budget has never remained consistent. If any State has a deficit budget and has at the same time a non-Congress Government the deficit is hardly met by loans not to speak of grants-in aid

Coming to the specific provisions in the budget I find that an expenditure of Rs. 89.45 lakhs has been made for agriculture while under the head Police we find that an allocation of Rs. 94.69 lakhs have been made. For a small State like Pondicherry the expenditure on Police is rather extraordinary and it is indeed pitiable that it should be given priority over agriculture which means priority over food articles. I am reminded of a sarcastic remark of a friend of mine who describing the situation stated that when these people wanted for eating they certainly got it with an additional 'b' before it. That is they got "beating" for "eating"

Let us have a look at the provisions made for education. Under this head we find that a sum of Rs 76.94 lakhs has been made for Government Higher Secondary Schools while the non-Government schools have been given only Rs. 2.50 lakhs. It is not only in Pondicherry but in almost all the States ruled by the Congress Party the private

*The original speech was delivered in Bangall.

schools are given this raw treatment I had the opportunity of meeting the Lt Governor of Pondicherry some time back. During the course of conversation he was supporting the cause for the development of Sanskrit education in our country and the same feeling was reciprocated by the President of India recently while addressing a meeting. Unfortunately, the budget provisions have nothing to spare for propagation of Sanskrit. I was really surprised while going through the different heads of expenditure. In all most every demand a sizable amount has been shown under the head other expenditure. To quote an example a sum of Rs 16 lakhs has been allocated under this head under the main demand of Education. I do not understand why this expenditure cannot be specified and why this is being left in a state of uncertainty. This naturally gives rise to a doubt that either the amount is not being spent properly or not spent at all.

He who has gone to Pondicherry or has visited other coastal regions will find that the fishermen live in a state of human habitation. While I am glad that for the first time the Central Government has realised the necessity of improving the situation by making some provision under the Department of Fishery yet I cannot restrain the feeling that the action could have been initiated much earlier. I do not really know how far even this related action will help to improve the condition of the fishermen because if the Government was really keen they should have made a separate budget provision for a special housing scheme for the fishermen. Since this has not been done I am afraid that the project will not get as much attention as it deserves and it is not rare when even the budget provisions are diverted for other purposes also. I would also like to draw the attention of the Central Government to another matter of importance. While regulation has been made imposing moratorium on debts of agricultural labourers, small marginal farmers, artisan etc nothing has

been done for the poor fishermen. I do not understand why this class of people who are no better than those who work in the fields have been exempted from the provisions of the law which has granted freedom from indebtedness to millions of rural village workers. I would therefore urge that even now a suitable provision should be made to rectify the above defect and since the budget does not uphold the cause of these poor people and denies the people of the State their right to vote to choose a representative Government I find it difficult to extend my support to the budget proposal. With this I conclude my speech.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a pity that the Union Territory of Pondicherry has been under President's Rule since 28th March 1974 that is, about two years ago. I would like to record a protest about the manner in which region after region in this country is being denied its basic democratic right of local self-government. Whereas in the case of States which are taken over under President's Rule it is customary for us to appoint a Parliamentary Committee to ensure that the Government discharge their functions we have not been doing the same in the case of the Union Territories. So my first demand would be that Government should come forward and constitute a Committee which can ensure that some check is kept on the executive from the parliamentary side about the administration of this area.

None of us know any reason why elections in Pondicherry should continue to be postponed. There is no report whatsoever of any problem of law and order in that area or any crisis of any nature that justifies the continuation of President's Rule. Therefore I would also like to demand that the elections in Pondicherry should be held at the earliest possible moment.

If you look at the explanatory memorandum to the Budget, you who have had so much experience

MR SPEAKER He can continue after lunch.

13 00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Forteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

PONDICHERRY BUDGET, 1976-77—
 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND DE-
 MANDS FOR GRANTS, 1976-77—
contd

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA (Marmagao) When Mr Speaker was in the Chair I was saying that, with his considerable experience in financial matters he would understand how important it is for us to have some details of the budget that has come to the House to be able to appreciate what is contained in the budget. But now that you have assumed Chairmanship may I mention, so that we can count on your objectivity—as you may not have as much experience of the Government—that if you look at it, you will see the manner in which the budget is presented to us. First of all, we are dealing with the budget of an area with which we are not supposed to be familiar as Members of this House. It is only because there is unfortunately President's Rule there that we have to deal with it. Please read what is called the Explanatory Memorandum. You will see that no explanation has at all been given to us and no details have been given to us which would enable any kind of an appreciation as to what the budget is all about. In fact in respect of Capital Account if you look at p 12 it reads

"The estimates include provision for acquisition of site for the proposed Central University construction of buildings to accommodate colleges expansion of hospitals at Pondicherry and Karaikal, construction

of staff quarters for Government servants and housing for police personnel as a so comprehensive water supply schemes for Pondicherry and Karaikal"

That is all the explanation that we are given in the entire budget on Social and Community Services. It is for this reason that I keep repeatedly complaining in this House that while the Government keep saying that they believe in following the substance of the law the truth of the matter is that the substance is being completely forgotten and it is only the procedure that is ostensibly being followed. Because, if it be that we are the custodians of public money and if it is we who have to discuss the manner in which expenditure is being incurred and the revenue that is accruing, then we must have the details because with the details a discussion in this House is nothing more than the mere rubber stamping of the Executive's action—and against this I protest in the most emphatic terms.

Even in regard to the figures that have been given to us this Government keeps saying all the time that it is the States who are not doing enough to see that they keep charge or control but if you look at p 9 in the estimates for Pondicherry Agriculture which in the 1975-76 Budget had on investment of Rs 80 77 lakhs has come down in 1976-77 to Rs 59 70 lakhs

Pondicherry is a coastal area, and look at the outlay on Fisheries. In 1975-76 it was Rs 45 48 lakhs and in the current budget it has come down to Rs 32 83 lakhs. That is the hall-mark of the Government which preaches one thing to mislead the country and practices something completely different.

Since I do not find enough details in the memorandum presented here to go into any further appreciation of whether what they are doing for Pondicherry is right or wrong, let me mention some fundamental problems that affect the Union Territory. For example, the first thing is that it is laid

down by law that the deficit of Union Territories is to be met by a grant-in-aid from the Centre and by loan from the Centre. Now, every year, in the Central budget we have to make a provision to meet the deficit of Union Territories and the strange thing about it is that from year to year we keep charging the Union Territories interest for the loan that we give, making another provision to pay the interest back to ourselves. This is ridiculous because it distorts the whole financial picture. The Centre has accepted that the Union Territories are deficit and has accepted the responsibility for making these territories surplus; and under these conditions, to my mind there is no sense at all in giving money to the Union Territories only as loans. They should give it as grants until such time as the Union Territory becomes either self-sufficient or surplus.

One of the big problems in the Union Territories is the matter of how people are hired for Government jobs. As you know, each one of the States in this country has got a Public Service Commission.

As a result of this, it is within the State; a young man who wants job from the Government can go and get himself interviewed and can get a job; in that, there is always the preference that naturally exists for a local, domiciled person. Against this, in a Union Territory, the interviews are done by the UPSC in Delhi, and whether from Pondicherry or from Goa or from any other Union Territory, every candidate for a job has to come all the way to Delhi at his own cost and face an all-India competition as against the State competition where the jobs are in a State. As a result of this, you will find that many young men who deserve jobs within their own Union Territories where they are living, in the first place, are unable to compete for these jobs because they do not have the money to go to Delhi and, secondly, are required to face an all-India competition for Union Territory jobs. The percentage of people from the State to get jobs in their own territory is much less. In

fact, I am sorry to say this; it is not a nice thing to say this; but the truth of the matter is that, in Goa today, there are less Goans employed by the Government in top jobs than there used to be when Goa was a colony. This is a very strange situation. This is something which Government must correct. I would, therefore, insist that, even if Government feels that a State Public Service Commission should not be constituted in the Union Territory—but I feel that there should be a State Public Service Commission in the Union Territory itself—, even if they insist that the UPSC is going to continue to select people for those jobs, they should at least ensure that the UPSC Selection Board sits in the Union Territory; secondly, they should ensure that the competition that is held for these jobs is held within the territory just as a competition is held within a State. The difference is this; the advertisements in the case of States are published in the vernacular papers circulating in the State concerned whereas the advertisements of the UPSC are published in all-India papers. This makes all the difference. Once the advertisements are published only in the local vernacular papers, then automatically there is a restriction because the information does not get disseminated.

The same thing applies to purchase. So many sanctions are required from Central bodies and from Central institutions for the administration of the Union Territory, to purchase anything or do anything; whereas a Union Territory, in order to overcome its under-development requires a much faster and quicker action as far as implementation is concerned, in view of the procedures that are being followed now, that action or implementation is retarded. This is another area in which Government must have a very close look to see that, whoever is in charge of a department in a Union Territory is in a position to have at least the same authority, as far as implementation of Budget is concerned, as is available to an officer in a State.

[Shri Erasmo de Sequeira]

There is, as we all know, a cell for Union Territories in the Home Ministry, and I would like to question what this Cell is doing. I do not like Goa being a Union Territory; I think, it should be a State. Pondicherry should also be a State. And the reason is that, by keeping them Union Territories, the burden on the Central Budget is neither more or less. We have all the trappings of a State. Let Government discontinue this second-class citizenship and make them a State immediately. I have no quarrel. But, as long as they remain Union Territories, the Central Government has, by law, certain responsibilities to ensure that the financial propriety is observed in those areas, to ensure that the administration is properly carried on. For this reason, it has a Lt Governor in each Union Territory; it has a Cell in the Home Ministry. I do not know whether they have one in the Finance Ministry also. I will give two examples from Goa.

There was a memorial constructed to a departed Chief Minister and lakhs of rupees of public money were spent. There was neither a Budget provision to start with, nor was there any Budget provision for the tremendous escalation that there has been since the original investment was made. I have not heard a single word being said by the Central Government about this gross impropriety.

There was another case. A theatre, a Rs. 5 crore project, was supposed to be built at a particular site. That site was chosen without preliminary investigation. Then somebody discovered that the site was not suitable. So, without any further investigation, the site was changed to another site on which, again, no investigation was conducted. Fortunately, the theatre has not yet been built, but I am sure, as soon as it is built—the site is just in front of my house, very close to it—it will be washed away by the river, and

that would not surprise me at all. Therefore, ..

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola). Then, perhaps, you would not be coming to Parliament; you may mostly be in the theatre.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA. If my friend promises to perform, I will certainly be there, but with the kind of performances that we are getting in Goa, I am sure I will run away to Parliament very quick.

My submission is that as long as these areas are Union Territories, these areas are Union Territories, this Government must ensure that its must keep a close eye specially on how money is spent and where there is mismanagement like there is in Goa right now from one end of the Government to the other, then it should not hesitate to step in and straighten it out.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR (Pondicherry). Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I must thank Mr Sequeira for bringing to the notice of this House so many points in a very general manner because he also hails from a Union Territory. I think, this is the third time that you sit or preside over this House when I take part in the discussions as far as Pondicherry is concerned.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, I have the pleasure of listening to you.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR: I do not know, whether it is a pleasant or an unpleasant task for you, but I am not very happy about it, and I have seen three Ministers dealing with this subject. First, Shri K. R. Ganesh was there, last time it was Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee and I am happy that after the International Womens' Year, I have a lady Minister before me. I hope, this time my demands will be considered and conceded. At least this time I hope, I would not get the same

verbal assurance that is being given in this House and not cared about later on.

Mr. Sequeira was mentioning about the Union Territory Services; I have a number of facts here, but at the same time in certain tragic things, we have some good things also. For example, because of these Territories under the President's rule, many of you, my colleagues and my friends here, are able to understand, at least hear about Pondicherry once in a way. I am happy that prior to lunch hour, we had here only 20 Members, we have now more than fifty or sixty members. If the Pondicherry Assembly had continued, I think, there would have been only thirty members, but at least we are having so many members now. I think, I am able to propagate because as far as my State is concerned—I do not know about other States—propaganda has made its impact so far as 20-Point Programme is concerned. Only by propaganda we live and not by actions.

I will tell you the state of affairs in Pondicherry, if the Deputy-Speaker allows me time. I think, two hours are there for this discussion. I am the solitary man coming from that particular State and the only man who is there and who is not able to do anything there. One great thing is that for three years, the same person has remained there. It is good.

When we asked for elections earlier, they said, they would consider, the time was not ripe. I do not know how far I will be correct in demanding the elections now during this emergency. Unless the emergency is lifted, we cannot have elections, that may be the answer. As Mr. Sequeira said and some other speakers said, we are centrally ruled and directly ruled from here. What prevented you to direct your administrators at Pondicherry to conduct the local elections for so many years. The present local bodies that were suspend-

ed for a year and then revived last year for reasons best known to you have those people who were elected ten years back prior to the DMK rule and prior some time to the defecting Ministers of that particular place. I am sorry to tell you that this is the state of affairs that is existing there. The people in these local bodies were elected ten years back, the vacancies are not filled up and these people are now trying to associate themselves with the 20-Point Programme to take the people from below. This is how, you are implementing the 20-Point Programme, and that is how, my State is sending first class pamphlets like 'Pondicherry vigorous implementation of the 20-Point Programme'. I leave it there as far as elections are concerned.

Constitutionally you also know pretty well that beyond three years you cannot extend the term of the President's rule. Rightly or wrongly that is a fortunate thing. Now you can say, 'It is emergency. You cannot apply that particular provision of the Constitution.' So you cannot seek any remedy. But what is the reason? If you allow these people to continue to be associated with the administration in Pondicherry without proper supervision from here or without authority to supervise over there, the malady is that the bureaucrats are crushing the needs of the people there. I am sorry to tell you this. All the time I used to be soft in my statement but I am sorry instead of the Chief Minister, somebody is the Chief Minister. Instead of other Ministers, some officials are the Ministers enjoying the benefits that the politicians used to reap in the past which we are dead against. That is the case in Pondicherry. They know pretty well. They say, 'It is President's rule. We have nothing to say.' But I am not happy about it. I cannot move a pin there. They were telling, 'What this man can do?' They have a wrong notion. Perhaps they do not understand the relations we have with the Prime Minister, how

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the Prime Minister is interested in hearing the Members of Parliament, how she will listen to them and all that. I am not saying this as a warning to the people at my place. I am only giving vent to my feelings in an open place so that it may reach them in the proper fashion. I know how many times the Prime Minister expressed her feelings about it. I know the Ministers also expressed their concern. But the simple reason is that we do not have the time to look into all these matters. I would request whether there is any provision in the Constitution or not, whether you have contemplated legislation or not, create a cell, not of officials, but of Parliament Members, to supervise first those Union Territories that are under President's Rule—of course, Nagaland is a State and that is a different matter—as also other Union Territories. These people at least can review it and see what is really taking place. I am sorry to tell the Deputy Finance Minister that I am in full agreement with Mr. Sequeira and at times I used to feel that there is no point in taking part in these discussions. The material you have supplied to us—I went through it very carefully. I do not know whether it is not something which even a Third Standard boy would not have written. I do not want to waste your time. Everytime we speak about it. Take agriculture. You say, 'We are going to spend this much' What is agriculture? For education and for University and all that—in general terms that we get from the English dictionary, whether from Oxford or Cambridge. You put out that these are the things on which you are going to spend. Madam, just for an example . . . (Interruptions) Yes, I have to address her through you. Mr. Chairman, last time they said about the University. Here also it is mentioned—revenue expenditure for University education and all that. But what is the progress you have made about University? What is the real work

that you have done? Who is supervising or who is examining or are you aware of it or at least cannot you give some material to the Members present here so that they can understand what is happening in Pondicherry? When they think of Pondicherry, they only think of the Aurobindo Ashram. I am happy about it. I tell you that if you come to Pondicherry, you visit the Ashram and go back and you say, 'Everything is beautiful. Everything is fine there. You go there for meditation. Of course, it is good for you to meditate these days to work hard. But have you ever heard of the people who are living in Tiruvethigudi? Have you ever heard of the people living in Viritigudi? Have you ever heard of the people living in Mahe? Have you ever heard of the people living in Yenam which is part and parcel of Pondicherry? This morning our Agriculture Minister was making a statement. I thought he would give a verdict on the cost-benefit ratio when some of the friends raised about it. What is the position of Agriculture in Pondicherry this year? Last year, they were very strict. The administration was very strict in procurement. They had a levy and collected a lot. This year they do not want it from the poor farmers. I have also written to the Agriculture Minister on the subject. The price that you have fixed there is very low, much less than the price in the neighbouring State of Tamil Nadu. So also the case with regard to prices in Karaiikal. When we raised the matter last time, they gave some sort of solatium or pension. But this time they do not give that even. They said, nothing doing. Even with the lower prices we are not able to sell it because the merchants are not prepared to take the paddy there.

I tell you, Government may come with this 20-point programme in which everything is being talked about. But the real fact is that the poor farmer is suffering. Every evening he takes paddy in the cart,

brings it back and sell it for half the price. That is the position in Pondicherry. I say this because I do not know how Centre is dealing with this problem.

Three months back, when Kerala problem was over, our Government, I understand, wrote to the Central Government to permit the rice that is lying there to be sold to some other State—a State that is willing to take it away, i.e. Kerala State. Unfortunately, we cannot sell it in Tamil Nadu because the price over there is not attractive or not equivalent to it. From there they have enough of paddy. They do not require rice from our place. 2,000 tonnes were lying there. Kerala Government was prepared to take it up. Then we wrote to them and we got a letter from the Agriculture Minister. He said, "It is not possible to send it to Kerala because that is a different zone." The highest price was given by the Government of Pondicherry and it is not in tune with the price of All-India level. You cannot sell it. You have to keep it there. What is the meaning of such a letter? You cannot take away extra rice that is lying there with the rice men who are in possession of that or the co-operatives that are possessing that; if you cannot take it away, do you mean to say that the very same people will purchase the bumper crop? That is the reason why they do not have voracity to produce. They are keeping it and refusing it and the result is that the poor farmer is suffering. That is how the Central Government is reacting towards the Union Territory and they say it is being administered. Every time Supplementary Grants are coming. Major Grants are coming and Budget is coming. I say and request that if there is a Committee consisting of some Parliamentary Members, some officials and the Minister, then you will understand every problem. you will take the trouble to visit the particular territory and react. That would be better.

I would like to intervene for the same point which Mr. Sequeria and—you do not realise the difficulties of the Union Territory. You do not care about the service conditions in a particular place. Recently, U.P.S.C. held selection for the doctors in our territory. Our Health Minister is not available. I cannot put everything to the Finance Minister. The only thing is that she might pass it on to those people. If that particular Minister is also available or his Deputy is available, I can represent and they will realise our difficulty because our territory is governed entirely by the Centre. They selected 30 doctors—more than what is required there. In this Union Territory in the past two or three years, doctors were recruited by the local authorities there. They advertised the posts in the paper. They had a proper selection. A number of doctors were taken and they are serving in the Primary Health Centres. Now the U.P.S.C. has selected 30 doctors from Mizoram, Assam, Himachal Pradesh and all these 30 doctors were given quit notice. A month's notice was given because they were temporary. Do you know the fate of these doctors? These doctors do not know where to practise. The anomaly is that you treat them in a technical fashion. You do not go to the root of the problem. This is a territory in the South of the country. You post a person or persons from the North. I do not have any grudge. I wish they come and do something there also. For a person from Mizoram there is a problem of language. You know, he has to deal in allopathic medicines. He has to go to the villages where the Primary Health Centres are located. It creates problem for such persons.

Secondly, there is a human problem. These doctors are recruited by the Union Territory Government. You refuse to call it a State Government, your own officials or your own authorities. These people are selected and posted for two years. All of a sudden, 30 days notice is given to

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these doctors and they are sent out of service. This problem deserves human consideration under the 20-point programme that is being extended to my territory.

When this problem was represented to the authorities concerned, they simply casually said: "All right, we will look into it." 20 days have passed, only 10 more days are left with these people, I think after ten days they will be in the States. "I am sorry for the doctors." I hope they will do something for the people also.

In the medical field I would like to say something more, as to how the bureaucratic administration is functioning there. I am not giving it as a matter of attack on them. The doctors who are trained by the French or had French qualifications, who had put in 25 or 30 years of service are there. The new entrants had the privilege or misfortune of being trained. They want to get rid of these people. What do they do? A person who had been in Karaikal for 20 years, and was serving in Pondicherry is transferred to another station or place. He is given promotion. He writes to the authorities saying I don't want promotion, please permit me to remain here for 3 months or 4 months or 5 months. I have got various details. I don't want to dilate on all these things because I do not have much time. They say: You please write to me saying that you don't want promotion. They take this sort of letter from him but then they transfer him from there the very next day. This is what happens. He submits his resignation. There is another case in Pondicherry. I have five doctors in respect of whom I can say this. After 15 or 20 or 25 years of service they have been compelled to get out of their profession. The feeling is growing that there is no proper supervision or check on these people. I used to approach them and whenever I did that they treated me

in a way not expected of them. Of course I never recommended any case in my whole life so far. But if I say something in the interest of justice, they will say oh yes, we will look into it and so on. But nothing will happen. They are only servants of the people and I used to tell them that they have no right to receive garlands. I told them; You are not politicians, you are paid servants, you are to serve the public. Sir, I am not against the bureaucracy as such. Politicians must go back to the people after every 5 years. But in respect of these people, it is not so, they are there permanently. Therefore, I said to them that they have no right to receive garlands. You now come to Pondicherry and see things. There is function there every day. You see the great names of officials; I have a big bundle of such invitations. If that is the situation here, I don't know what will be the situation in neighbouring Tamil Nadu also which has come under President's rule now. I have great respect for the Prime Minister and I know her well. She visited Pondicherry. She was happy. I wished she could attend more functions. I hope she could find some time for this when she comes next time. I request Members to come there and see for themselves how things are moving there. There is a proverb in Tamil that if you say things again and again stones also will melt. I will repeat it for the n-th time.

Animal Husbandry Department is mentioned in your Budget. What have you done to the Animal Husbandry Veterinary Surgeons? I have written several letters about this. I have asked these people to make their representations to you. These people, doctors, others in the Veterinary Department, etc. cannot approach these officials. They do things in their own way. I don't know how the situation can be remedied. That is why they all feel annihilated. If they are intelligent enough and keep the ad-

ministration in proper working order and running efficiently I do welcome it. Take the land reforms introduced in Pondicherry. This comes under Prime Minister's 20-point programme. They don't know the ABCD of law. There is provision for appeal. There are various exemptions. They are given various ways how to take shelter under the law which has been passed by the Government. But these people are not legally qualified people.

The only ambition for them is this. Just because a particular land has been notified, you must surrender that. An absolute surrender is expected of that land. I may tell you that there are benami transfers of land also. It is good for them to look into that. I know a number of cases in which the people have explained those matters to them ten years back or twenty years ago. The karnam took note of this notification and on that basis the surplus lands available are to be surrendered. They have to submit to that. If in one line they say that that has been rejected, then they have to go to the court or the tribunal. What is wrong in it? What is wrong in going to the court and getting a stay from it? After all three months back only you introduced this measure. You must just hurry this up. The other day while speaking here I said that justice hurried was justice buried. That is the reason why this complaint is made that the laws are not implemented because the High Court has given a stay. I do not want to tell the untruth here. The big landlords are taking shelter under the guise and protection is being given. At the same time I am sorry to tell you this thing. I hope I won't be mis-understood if I tell the very sorry tale so that my friends on the other side might realise that. I used to tell that as a Member of Parliament I was unable to do anything there. This sorry tale has happened because of certain bosses who toppled the former elected Government earlier, and who are able to do

these things. Even to-day I have received a letter from a particular fisherman who is the head of a co-operative society of that particular place who says that he cannot get it unless he goes and sees that particular boss. I booked a trunk call to my person at Karaikal who also got that confirmed. I do not want to name that boss who is not here. He was an ex-minister who was defeated in the election but who is able to do it. There are two or three people like him. I need not name them. That is not good for our Prime Minister because she is against this thing and the people who are spoiling her name and the name of the Central Government. I sincerely believe in this Government. Our Prime Minister is simply interested in the welfare of the people and not in these small bosses who have been creating these troubles. There are a number of telegrams and hundreds of letters about this bureaucrat. I do not know why this Government is yielding to this bureaucrat boss. This boss probably pleases by putting in somebody in all the Committee. Once I also had to tell him that I was not there by his mercy and that I was here as a Member of Parliament elected by the people and of course, at the pleasure of our President and our Prime Minister and not because of all these people. I am against these people who have been rejected and defeated by the people some of whom have even lost their seats because they have toppled the government there. They must have the mercy of the people. During 1974 somehow when the Government was there, speaking about the roads I said that there were a number of villages which were being neglected because they did not have any connection with the main road. Whenever the labour force were to be taken, specially the lady labour, it looked as if they were taken to the place of work in a procession, during the rainy season due to flood water it is very difficult to go there for lack of roads. It is high time that a road is provided and is connected to the main road. There was a P.W.D. Minister who was known to me. He and the concerned bureaucrat

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had agreed to have a plan for the road but for two years not even the gravel had been placed or moved and nothing of that sort had been done. A budget for Rs. 11 crores had been presented at that time and the figure has gone up to Rs. 13 crores and, perhaps, it might even go up to Rs. 21 crores and odd only on overheads and unnecessary expenditure such as printing of invitation cards, publications etc. just to tell the people that they have done something for them. This is how the programme is being implemented and even in my village, they have distributed pattas to harijans numbering 20 or 25. They were given pattas about two years ago. Everytime I go there I used to ask them where is their plot. They simply told me that it is only on paper. Kudiruppa law is there and it has not been implemented at all. If this is the way we are going to implement the law, how are we going to implement the Twenty-Point Programme. I tell you that if this is the case with a small territory of mine, I am afraid I do not know what is going to happen to the entire country. We must take a serious note of this matter. When I speak here I am not speaking for my territory only but I speak for the country also. So, when you are going to implement the 20-point programme by mere propaganda and giving false information, the people will reject us and we will be rejected from the present position. We should not be complacent about the propaganda that is going on in the country.

We once again request you to realise the real difficulties of the people who want to come up and who want to contribute to the development of this country. I know that in this budget you have made provision for apprenticeship and provision for employment. If I were to discuss each and every item in the budget it will take me two or three days. I tell you that the people who have got themselves registered with the Employment Exchange as long back as 1969, are yet to get

their first interview cards in Pondicherry. I have a number of them. You said that you have completed the 20-point programme in a very efficient manner. Because when we go to the real truth if something is entirely different what will happen. There is already a saying that politics is the last resort for the scoundrel. I want not become a fact. As far as my party is concerned or the ruling party is concerned, we would like it to remain a saying and not a fact. I am very sincere and serious about it.

Pondicherry is a Union territory and this budget is only a loan granted by the Centre. This is not going to help us, namely, simply taking the loan from the Central Government and paying it back. You want to subsidise something but you must remember Pondicherry is not getting only loan but it is contributing to the foreign exchange of our country and towards the exchequer of our country. Every year we receive Rs. 4 crores by means of salary and also another Rs. 4 crores from France. So, Pondicherry deserves much more. You are not able to look into Pondicherry properly. I am sorry to say that whenever people visit Pondicherry they just visit the Ashram over there and then come back. You are not interested in the people of Pondicherry. You have never bothered to go and see the villages of Pondicherry. Sir, this is at least the fourth time I am making the demand for Aryanakuppam River Project and a thermal plant. Whenever I raise these issues the reply I get is that the investigation is taking place and plan is being proposed. Today I find there is no mention about these two things. What does it mean Sir, I am bored of the procedures in the court and now more so here in Parliament. We are not for procedures. They are for the French and the Britishers. We are for practical action. If we cannot do that we do not deserve to be here. When I tell my people that about certain things I will meet the Prime Mi-

nister or the Finance Minister or the Home Minister and nothing comes out or we are not able to do certain things then what is the purposes. Time lag is a very important matter.

We talk and condemn the justice being delayed in the courts but what is the position here. So, Sir, I am taking this opportunity of making a serious and fervent appeal and hope that at least during this year of Emergency and the year of 20-point programme something will be done for Pondicherry. I appeal to all the Ministers—only Mrs. Rohatgi is present—to do something for Pondicherry. Now, I do not get the same reply as I used to get in the past. At least if you give me these two things which I have been demanding, I would have been grateful. There is no mention of the things achieved during the last year or of the things planned to be achieved during this year. If you really love the people of Pondicherry then there should be mention about it. Is it not the responsibility of the other Members to know about it? Is there no necessity to know about it? Similarly, I expect the same thing for other States like Goa, Himachal Pradesh, etc.

We are all interested in these things. If you cannot create a sense of common feeling, I tell you we will not be serving the cause of the unity of this country. I am very serious about it. Simply by having one language, one type of dress and one type of food, you cannot bring about the unity of this country. You must make the people live in this country by loving Ganga and Kaveri, you must make the people love the Himalayas and Kanyakumari, you must make everyone love everyone else. How can it be done unless you make them understand what is taking place in every corner of the country. You must also be aware of what is taking place everywhere. Only now you are aware of what has been taking place in Tamil Nadu for three years, though we have been saying this all these years. I

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appreciate that at least now you have understood it. Many members yesterday gave many more facts than we had given earlier.

Why has this situation arisen? It is because of a basic lack of understanding in us. If you are not going to understand these things and the needs of this country, I tell you posterity will punish us, not in the very long future, if will punish us in the near future.

So I am not going to make any further demand. I tell this to the hon. Minister who is here; of course, the other Ministers are not available here because they are very busy elsewhere because for two or three days they have been sitting here. I will make my demands through my letters, through petitions. But I will only request you and pray to you to give serious consideration to it. I do not want a simple one-line reply saying that 'it will be considered'. We have had this kind of reply from our school days and college days and when I was a professor. We shall not be satisfied with that. I make this appeal to you. If you are serious about what our Prime Minister is doing, if you really believe in our Prime Minister, if you have faith in the country's progress, if you have faith in the progress of the people then let us not betray her and betray the people. I hope this will evoke the proper response. On this note, I conclude.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tiruchirappalli): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, in another two weeks, President's rule over Pondicherry will have run for two years. For the last two years, we have been legislating for that Territory, budgeting for that Territory. What are the improvements, what are the results, that have taken place? The Member representing that Territory, budgeting for that Territory, called described the conditions there. Now he has made several demands. Those demands are the demands of the people of Pondicherry. Other political parties also have made similar de-

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mands. If the concerned Ministers or the Deputy Finance Minister who is here cannot answer all the points and suggestions made by the Members, I would suggest that all the suggestions that we make here now should be noted and replies sent to the Members concerned in detail so that we can follow them up.

First, if elections could not be held now, I want to know the reasons. Even without lifting the emergency for the Territory of Pondicherry, it should be possible to hold elections because it is just as small as, or smaller than a Corporation. Its Assembly Constituencies are smaller than wards of a Municipal area. Although it is called an Assembly, 30-member strong, it is a big municipality—that is all. So elections can be held. So many bye-elections are held. So elections can be held without any difficulty.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad) Panchayat elections have been held in Gujarat.

SHRI M KALYANASUNDARAM I am coming to that.

I do not say that a relaxation should be made in the policy of emergency. The only thing is that if elections are held, some public meetings will have to be allowed.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA To all.

SHRI M KALYANASUNDARAM Not to—those who do not believe in elections.

SHRI G VISWANATHAN (Wandiwash) Shri Bhattacharyya.

SHRI M KALYANASUNDARAM Similarly elections to the municipalities and local boards. Formerly they were called communes on the French pattern. Now their towns are called municipalities, and the Panchayat Act and the Municipal Act are in force.

Last time our complaint was that elected councils were dissolved and special officers were appointed. Now they have restored the old council. That is an improvement. I should suggest that elections for the local bodies and the Pondicherry Assembly could and should be held without any difficulty. With regard to administration, I do not know what my friend Pajanor will think of my view, but for historical reasons, Pondicherry and Karaikal will have to continue as separate territories.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALAJANOR. I am in full agreement.

SHRI M KALYANASUNDARAM. Otherwise, no political party however strong it may be, will get support. But is it necessary to continue Mahe and Yenam as separate territories? Mahe is at a distance of 800 miles from Pondicherry, Yenam is 200 miles away. Yenam can be merged with Andhra Pradesh and Mahe can be merged with Kerala and they will then be better looked after than far off Pondicherry and Karaikal. As I said, Pondicherry and Karaikal should continue with their separate identity until the people of those areas themselves—in fact Pandit Nehru gave that assurance—demand and decide for merger with Tamil Nadu. That is the view of the Communist party.

If elections could not be held, kindly constitute a committee here. Does it require any amendment in the Constitution? No. Only an executive order is necessary. I request the hon. Deputy-Speaker and Shri Raghu Ramiah to move in this matter and take this up with the Prime Minister and the Home Minister so that a committee could be constituted to advise the Home Ministry in administering that territory during President's rule. We should get adequate opportunities to explain the difficulties faced by the people of Pondicherry.

Pajanor referred to land reforms. Therefore some problems in regard to their implementation. I request him

to take them up. There are several lacunae in the tenancy legislation, thousands of eviction petitions are pending and evictions are being ordered. Yesterday I referred to the Ordinance issued by Tamil Nadu to stay all evictions. The same should be done in regard to Pondicherry also. Otherwise thousands of tenants will be losing their lands. Because of the Ceiling Act and the threat of implementation of radical land reforms, land owners resort to all sorts of methods to evict tenants. There should be an Ordinance in Pondicherry also banning eviction of tenants. In the mean time, executive instructions must be given to the Lieut. Governor to direct the police and other machinery of the government not to aid the land owners in evicting tenants but protect the tenants. Implementation of land reforms is one of the points in the twenty-point programme. The government machinery should not help in sabotaging the twenty-point programme. Executive instructions must be given on this point of it is not possible to undertake legislation immediately. The ceiling on land according to the present Act is 15 standard acres, that is 22 acres of first class wet lands or 30-35 acres of dry lands

If a family consists of more than 5 members, the area will be 30 standard acres. So, there will not be much surplus even if the Ceiling Act is implemented as it is now. There is no purpose of implementing such a Ceiling Act. Ceiling must be reduced if the land reforms have to be effectively implemented. So, that also must be considered.

Another point which I would like to mention is about the development of the Pondicherry port. It has been a very important and historical port. As I said earlier, Pondicherry itself is a historical town. It is an important tourist centre. Whatever may be our criticism about Auroville, etc., the Centre must see that no spies enter there. Our Home Ministry must be vigilant. But still in the name of development, foreign spies should not

be allowed to enter and have their own free-play. But, nevertheless, it is becoming an important tourist centre.

During our freedom struggle, several national revolutionaries took asylum there. National revolutionaries like the great poet, Suoramanya Bharati, took asylum there and they were helping the freedom movement. So, it is historically an important place for us. It should be developed. After its independence, that is since 1954, what are the developments that have taken place there? The same old three textile mills are there, they are still becoming old. For most part of the year they are closed. Industrial development is not taking place. There is one sugar factory. But sugar-cane is not available for this factory because the price fixed for this commodity is so low that the cane growers will not grow cane for that factory. But the only saving point is that there is no prohibition there. There the people can live on today, that is tappers and Pondicherry being on the sea-shore, fishermen are living on fishing. For the poor agricultural labourers, there is no full employment. There are several thousands of families which cannot get even one meal a day. They take 'kanji', that is, gruel and that is their meal. Mr. Bala Pajanor was complaining that the Parliament Members are not visiting Pondicherry. But my point is that the Members of the various Committees, when they visit the Tamil Nadu, do visit Pondicherry and Aravind Ashram but they do not visit the people there. Now, Pondicherry requires special attention. So, from that point of view, the port should be developed. We do not say that it should be developed as a major port because there will be an objection from the other side. It should at least be developed to some extent. When Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam represented that constituency, he made a proposal that court should be established in Pondicherry. There was also a proposal that a thermal power station should be located there by bringing coal from other parts of the country

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and using it for the thermal station and the power produced by this station should be used for Pondicherry and other neighbouring areas. Indirectly it will benefit Tamil Nadu. Why I am mentioning this is that there is a proposal to have big giant thermal stations only near coal-fields.

15 00 hrs.

Scientifically it is correct but every rule has an exception. Areas like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are far way from coalfields. Like Tuticorin, Pondicherry is an ideal place for bringing coal by sea and locating a thermal power station. Because of the bigger master plan, this proposal should not be dropped. Government should pursue this proposal, especially because Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam was associated with it.

About the services, Mr. Sequeira and Mr. Pajanon have made some suggestions. Just as the judiciary of Pondicherry is looked after by the Madras High Court, for selection of the service people except the Secretaries, the Tamil Nadu Service Commission may be utilised. Then the local people will be given preference and many of the problems can be avoided.

Mr. Pajanon said that the assignment of house-sites has been done only on paper. Provision of house-sites and construction of houses for Harijans is one of the important features of the 20-point programme. Whenever the Lt. Governor of Pondicherry goes to a village, he visits the Harijan cheri first. Every Governor should do it, because once a person becomes a Governor he should not recognise any caste or community. So, he is doing it as a Governor, not because he belongs to the scheduled caste. I appreciate his anxiety to do good to the Harijans, but in spite of his sincerity and efforts, there is not much progress. May I know how many

[Shri M. Kalyanasundaram]

house-sites have been allotted to Harijans and how many houses have been constructed for the Harijans during the last six months or one year? I agree with Mr. Pajanon that all this is mere propaganda. The people should really get the houses. Why should such failures take place when it is administered from here for the last two years? Is it not a reflection on the Home Ministry and other Ministries here? There must be some more seriousness in implementing the 20-point programme in a small territory like Pondicherry, make it an experiment to determine the sincerity for the 20-point programme and give us the results at least within 3 months; not on paper but show us results as to how it is being implemented. There also, all the political parties which have pledged support to the 20-point programme must be involved in the implementation. Mr. Aravinda Bala Pajanon would then have an opportunity to explain most of the grievances which he expressed here. Why should these officials behave like Ministers? In fact, Ministers must behave better. The Prime Minister has said that there should be no arches. I have advised my party against putting up arches and other things. But now officials want welcome arches, garlands and invitations for opening ceremonies. The officials are replacing the Ministers. It is a very bad habit which they are learning. Of course Tamil Nadu was leading in these things also earlier. After the Ministers have gone, officials have started doing it. Please instruct officers to avoid all this waste. With these words I conclude.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam): Whenever we think of Pondicherry, we, at least those of us who are culturally disposed, become culturally involved mentally. I recall the statement made by the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru wherein he said that one of the main reasons why the State was retained as such, instead of being

merged with the neighbouring State of Tamil Nadu, was the expectation that that pocket would be preserved as an area for the development of French or Indo-French culture. When such a decision was taken, the people of Mahe, an enclave in Kerala, Karaiikal and other places cut off from the main area of Pondicherry, were apprehensive that their regions would not be properly developed. For instance, Mahe, an enclave about 600 miles away from Pondicherry and lying in the heart of Kerala, is by and large neglected.

I just intervene to highlight the problems of the people of Mahe, because they feel that their grievances are not being adequately looked into. Even to make a simple representation, they have to travel about 600 or 700 miles. They feel that much of the budgeted amount is spent in Pondicherry proper. People of Mahe feel neglected; and that place is a completely neglected place. I am not concerned whether more money is devoted to the main Pondicherry itself but due interest should be shown in regard to the detached or cut-off areas like Mahe.

Mahe is on a river-mouth. There is tremendous possibility for Mahe being developed as an important fisheries harbour. These days, Kerala has seen a Blue Revolution, a revolution which now has seen the emergence of a big fleet of over 5,000 mechanized fishing boats; and in the 6th Five-Year Plan it is proposed to launch deep sea finishing boats and in the Five-Year Government had taken interest in Mahe, it could also have caught up with the rest of Kerala in the development of deep sea fishing. I would request the hon Minister to see that the Mahe region catches up with the mainstream of socio-economic development that is taking place all around.

Pondicherry is being developed as a cultural centre. Auroville that has

been founded, the city of light, is attracting international attention though it is just outside Pondicherry. I had the privilege of being present there when the foundation stone for this great city of Auroville was laid. It aroused much hope and expectation in those people who are interested in a composite world culture. I do not know what is the present situation there. Subject to other things, if the Central Government feel that the development is in tune with the development of our culture, I think we should devote some money for the further development of the city of Auroville.

The main cultural centres of Pondicherry are very stimulating and enlivening. But, at the same time, I would say that just a few miles or even a few furlongs away from the main areas of cultural activity, we find areas embracing the chillness of poverty, which is most distressing. We see hutments after hutments there. I do not think any attempt has been made to elevate the people, who form the bulk of the population there. Every tourist or every other person coming to the Pondicherry ashram is preoccupied with seeing the ashram and spending a few hours there. They ignore 80 to 90 per cent of the people who live a little bit away from the ashram. Even those who meditate for hours do not care to spend a few minutes to bring a little cheer to these poor people.

Now Pondicherry has attracted wide attention. Those who have watched the political experiments in this country would no doubt know the fact that Pondicherry has emerged as a model for secularism. The representatives of minorities have become Chief Ministers in that State. That is a tribute of the State in the matter of its adherence to secularism.... (Interruptions). You may not believe in it, but it is a cardinal principle of our policy to encourage the minorities,

[Dr. Henry Austin]

provided they do not go against the mainstream of national life. If we go into the history of Pondicherry, we will find that they had been given an opportunity to contribute their share towards the national mainstream, and that is mainly because of the spirit of secularism which is stimulating the people there.

As Shri Kalyanasundaram has very rightly pointed out, the economic development of that State is at a very low ebb. Of course, the ashram is running some small scale industries I will not go into the chauvinistic approach of some local people to this problem of Ashram's work but I will say that it is the bounden duty of the Government to see that the State of Pondicherry is helped in its economic development.

The Central Government has started a medical college in Pondicherry. It had roused hopes in the people that it would be developed as a regional college. I do not think it is receiving the attention it deserves. I think it can be developed as a regional centre for medical research on the lines of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, because a lot of students are coming there from different parts of the country.

Pondicherry is a beautiful State from the point of view of tourism. We can develop it further. I do not think this aspect is given as much attention as it deserves. A lot of people from all over the world, particularly from Western Europe, are coming there, because of the late Mother, the Ashram and the Auroville city. So, an integrated plan for the all-round development of Pondicherry should be adopted.

I would submit that the development of Mahe which forms an integral part of the State of Pondicherry, should not be neglected. My area of

political activity is adjoining the region of Mahe. Every time I pass through Mahe, the people come and tell me that Mahe is being neglected. If I were a chauvinist, I would have argued that Mahe should be detached from the State of Pondicherry and be merged with Kerala. Perhaps, that is the best solution. But I do not want to sound a discordant note. So, I will say, let us develop Pondicherry; but, in the process, let us not neglect Mahe.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-
MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): At the very outset I would like to thank the hon Members who have participated in this discussion. By and large, they have carried it to very logical and lively conclusions.

Shri Bala Pajanor made a very impassioned and relevant speech, and I think he voiced with great anguish some of the things which need consideration there. I am not in a position to make any comments on them, but I can certainly assure him that they will be taken note of. I would request him to point out cases where immediate action is necessary so that it becomes easier for us to act, because, as he himself has pointed out, it is the Prime Minister's wish and the wish of the Government that these things are implemented, and implemented in the shortest span of time and with fairness and justice to all concerned.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR: I would be grateful if the hon Minister visits Pondicherry early so that these things can be solved easily.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I accept the invitation, but I will not confine my visit to the Ashram only, so that, apart from its spiritual value, I can contact the people who are the real wealth of life.

Shri Kalyanasundaram has suggested the constitution of a committee. I do not know whether that can be done, but certainly that has to be taken into consideration. I am, however, informed that there are some informal committees which look into various matters. I am sure they meet every month and they do take some decisions and the Member of Parliament is also associated with them. Whether that is sufficient or whether it is possible to set up a consultative committee for a union territory are matters which will be considered.

Shri Sequeira, who has chosen not to be present here, made many points which were political as usual. I need not go into them, but his complaint about bureaucracy and complacency should be looked into immediately provided instances are pointed out to us.

Regarding land ceiling, there have been about 25 cases pending, but the stay orders were vacated two or three days back and now I think it should be possible to implement them at a faster pace, so that ceilings can really take shape.

About the thermal station. I have tried to collect as much information as possible, but I am sorry to say that there has not been much advance on the information provided last time. The matter is being examined from the techno-economic angle, and we will see that things are expedited. The port project, however, I am told, is linked with the thermal project. Even if it is geared up, it will depend on the thermal project, and, therefore, they have to be taken up together.

With regard to the university, the situation is just the same as it was some time back, but I am told that things have crystallised or are nearing crystallisation, and very soon a decision may be expected.

The Government of India is already considering measures so that Pondicherry does not suffer loss in its rice dealings. They have also informed Pondicherry that it can give its entire rice surplus to the Central Pool.

It was mentioned that the provision for agriculture looked less and this had agitated some Members. I have had it clarified. This provision looks less because, as explained in the explanatory memorandum, the amount realised from the farmers is now adjusted as recoveries taken in accounts as reduction of expenditure and it has resulted in a lower net expenditure.

Secondly, Rs. 15 lakhs originally shown in the Budget for marginal farmers and agricultural labourers has been taken from "Agriculture" and the MFAL agency is now getting this money from the Central Government directly. Therefore, that does not affect the totality of the provision available to the Union territory under 'Agriculture'.

About fishery also, I think, the same position stands. There has been change in the policy regarding purchase of boats. According to the present policy, the Agricultural Refinance Corporation will be giving finance for this purchase and Government has only to provide the margin money. Therefore, the overall picture, more or less, will not suffer.

As far as Education is concerned, this point was raised by Mr. Sequeira and that was one of the few relevant points which he had to confine to. I think he had said that it had considerably been reduced. I am told that for 1975-76, the plan outlay was only Rs. 58.73 lakhs and this is being increased to Rs. 100.46 lakhs for 1976-77. This shows how importance is given to Education, and therefore, that argument is nullified.

[Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi]

About housing scheme also, I was told—probably it was expected—that we had arrived at some conclusion, and I would like to take the House into confidence. About housing scheme, the allocation for 1976-77 is more than it was provided in 1975-76. A Housing Board has been constituted which will draw finances from the institutions and implement the housing scheme, particularly for the weaker sections of the society. I think Mr. Kalyanasundaram wanted to have some details about some of these schemes. I may tell him that as far as Government servants are concerned, 60 Type II flats are under construction, 48 Type III flats are nearing completion; 36 Type IV and 12 Type V, 4 Type VI quarters have been completed. Scheme exists to construct 100 Type I and 120 more Type II quarters for the lower categories of the Government servants. These are some of the break-ups which I tried to collect. The only assurance that I would like to give to the hon. Members is that we fully share their concern and anguish by saying that it should be part and parcel of the country. What happens in a particular corner has vital reflections upon the rest of the country. It is a body politic; it is a body organ. If there is a weak corner somewhere if there is a sick child or if there is a sick part, naturally, it not only affects that part but the entire body. It has been the endeavour and policy all along of the Government to give some attention to those areas, to those States and to those parts which do not come up to that standard, and to provide them as much assistance as possible.

We are glad that the Government of Pondicherry has been doing well. We are sure that in course of time, it will be coming up much further in the development, as it is doing now. The only point that remains is about elections, and I think, a couple of days back, the President's rule in

that Union Territory was extended by one year. Why? Because we know that it was on the basis of the Administrators' Report and I do think that Members will agree that we will have to take into consideration all these things; and hence I say that all the Members will withdraw any objection if they had and give their unanimous support to the Budget.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: The point that Mr. Kalyanasundaram mentioned in his speech was that there is no Parliamentary Committee on Pondicherry and the Minister has not replied to that point. I think that this is a serious point. When any territory of the Union, whether it is a Central or Union Territory or a State, comes under President's Rule, don't you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, think that the said area should be served by a Parliamentary Committee? Why is there no Parliamentary Committee?

(Interruptions)

AN HON MEMBER: That is not under the Constitution.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am not saying that the setting up of such a Committee is a constitutional requirement. My point is if any part of India is going to come under President's Rule, should there not be a Parliamentary Committee constituted for the purpose of going the benefit of the views and experienced advice of the Members of Parliament to the Home Minister and to the Government in general for guidance in the matter of that particular state or Union Territory administration?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: All I can say is that we have taken note of that point, and if possible under the Constitution or under anything certainly, it will be considered.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have to realise that a Union Territory stands on a different footing from a State under President's Rule and so.

all that the Minister can say is that the point has to be examined, I think we should be satisfied with that for the moment. That is the position because, as it is, I think a Union Territory is an extension of the Home Ministry.

Now, 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, out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1977, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof—

Demands Nos. 1 to 33".

The motion was adopted.

15.25 hrs.

PONDICHERRY APPROPRIATION
(NO. 2) BILL,* 1976

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1976-77.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of

Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1976-77."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Sir, I introduce† the Bill.

I beg to move †:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1976-77 be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1976-77 be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up clause by clause consideration.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, section 2, dated 11-3-76.

†Introduced/moved with the recommendation of the President.