

Shastri, Shri Ramavatar  
Shetty, Shri K. K.  
Shinde, Shri Annasaheb P.  
Shivappa, Shri N.  
Shivnath Singh, Shri  
Shukla, Shri B. R.  
Shukla, Shri Vidya Charan  
Siddayya, Shri S. M.  
Siddheshwar Parasad, Prof.  
Singh, Shri Vishwanath Prataap  
Sinha, Shri Dharam B'ir  
Sinha, Shri R. K.  
Sohan Lal, Shri T.  
Sokhi, Sardar Swaran Singh  
Stephen, Shri C M.  
Subramaniam, Shri. C.  
Sudarsanam, Shri M.  
Sunder Lal, Shri  
Suryanarayana, Shri K.  
Swaminathan, Shri R. V  
Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwar  
Swaran Singh, Shri  
Tarodekar, Shri V. B.  
Tayyab Hussain Shri  
Tewari, Shri Shankar  
Thakre, Shri S B.  
Thakur, Shri Krishnarao  
Tiwari, Shri Chandra Bha! Mani  
Tiwari, Shri R. G.  
Tiwary, Shri D. N.  
Tombi Singh, Shri N.  
Tulsiram, Shri V.  
Uikey, Shri M. G.  
Unnikrishnan, Shri K. P.  
Vekaria, Shri  
Verma, Shri Balgovind  
Vidyalankar, Shri Amarnath  
Vijay Pal Singh, Shri  
Vikal, Shri Ram Chandra  
Virbhadra Singh, Shri  
Yadav, Shri Chandrajit

Yadav, Shri D. P.  
Yadav, Shri Karan Singh  
Yadav, Shri R. P.  
Zulfiquar Ali Khan, Shri

NOES

Shamim, Shri S. A.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The result\* of the division is:

Ayes: 342;

Noes: 1.

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.

*The motion was adopted.*

15.21 hrs

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (PONDICHERRY),\* 1975-76.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the next item, namely, discussion and voting on the Demand's for Grants in respect of the Budget for the Union territory of Pondicherry for the year 1975-76.

DEMAND NO 1.—LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MR CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,88,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Legislative Assembly'."

Shri Genda Singh, also recorded his vote for AYES.

\*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

**DEMAND NO. 2.—ADMINISTRATOR**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Administrator'."

**DEMAND NO. 3.—COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,25,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Council of Ministers'."

**DEMAND NO. 4.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,51,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Administration of Justice'."

**DEMAND NO. 5.—ELECTIONS**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,58,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in

course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Elections'."

**DEMAND NO. 6.—REVENUE**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,02,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Revenue'."

**DEMAND NO. 7.—SALES TAX**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,46,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Sales Tax'."

**DEMAND NO. 8.—TAXES ON VEHICLES**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 94,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Taxes on Vehicles'."

**DEMAND NO. 9.—SECRETARIAT**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,23,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union

Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Secretariat'."

**DEMAND No. 10—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 25,48,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 6,01,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'District Administration'."

**DEMAND No. 11—TREASURY AND ACCOUNTS ADMINISTRATION**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,21,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Treasury and Accounts Administration'."

**DEMAND No. 12—POLICE**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,08,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Police'."

**DEMAND No. 13—JAILS**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,35,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Jails'."

**DEMAND No. 14—STATIONERY AND PRINTING**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,30,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

**DEMAND No. 15—MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE GENERAL SERVICES**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,11,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Administrative General Services'."

**DEMAND No. 16—RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,94,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course

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of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Retirement Benefits'."

**DEMAND NO. 17—PUBLIC WORKS**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,22,76,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 79,62,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Public Works'."

**DEMAND NO. 18—EDUCATION**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,93,49,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 19,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Education'."

**DEMAND NO. 19—MEDICAL**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 99,59,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Medical'."

**DEMAND NO. 20—INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,02,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete

the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Information and Publicity'."

**DEMAND NO. 21—LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,31,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Labour and Employment'."

**DEMAND NO. 22—SOCIAL WELFARE**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,86,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 17,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Social Welfare'."

**DEMAND NO. 23—COOPERATION**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,50,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 7,45,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Co-operation'."

**DEMAND NO. 24—MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL ECONOMIC SERVICES**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,85,000 on Revenue Account be

granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Miscellaneous General Services'."

DEMAND No. 25—AGRICULTURE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 51,81,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 3,40,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Agriculture'."

DEMAND No. 26—ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,06,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 1,17,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Animal Husbandry'."

DEMAND No. 27—FISHERIES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 26,26,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 30,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Fisheries'."

DEMAND No. 28—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,31,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 49,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Community Development'."

DEMAND No. 29—INDUSTRIES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,28,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 7,29,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Industries'."

DEMAND No. 30—FOOD AND NUTRITION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,72,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Food and Nutrition'."

DEMAND No. 31—ELECTRICITY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,18,75,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 53,43,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray

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the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Electricity'."

DEMAND NO. 32—PORTS AND PILOTAGE.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,64,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 1,71,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Ports and Pilotage'."

DEMAND NO. 34—LOANS TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,72,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1976 in respect of 'Loans to Government Servants'."

The demands for Grants are now before the House. Shri Kathamuthu may continue his speech.

\*SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU (Nagapattinam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the principal reason for the Budget of Pondicherry being discussed again and again on the floor of this House is that there is no elected Assembly in the State of Pondicherry. After the proclamation of Emergency, it has become a matter of doubt whether the election will be held soon in Pondicherry. All the pertinent problems of Pondicherry can be discussed in great depth and detail if an Assembly is constituted there after holding the elections. After the proclamation of Emergency and

\*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

after the announcement of the economic programme by the hon. Prime Minister, I do not think it would be possible to implement the economic programme efficiently and effectively by the Lt. Governor of Pondicherry. I doubt whether this economic programme would be implemented as vigorously as it should be by the bureaucrats:

The economic programme announced by the Prime Minister in substance refers to six salient points concerning the development of rural areas. I doubt very much whether the Lt. Governor of Pondicherry will be able to implement effectively the Land Reforms Act, the Cultivating Tenants Protection Act the abolition of bonded labour and such other serious rural development programmes adumbrated by the Prime Minister. In this connection, I have to say that the Land Reforms Act being implemented in Pondicherry is an exact copy of the Tamil Nadu Land Reforms Act. You know, Sir, that the Tamil Nadu Act has not yet been incorporated in the 9th Schedule of the Constitution on account of the fact that the Tamil Nadu Act does not conform to the guidelines laid down by the Central Government in this matter, particularly with reference to the concept of ceiling on the family holdings. Naturally, when a similar Act is implemented in Pondicherry, there will be the same drawbacks as are to be found in Tamil Nadu. There is no doubt that the economic programme which requires constant mass contact can be implemented successfully by the elected representatives of the Assembly. In the absence of such an elected Assembly in Pondicherry, it becomes all the more necessary that the Central Government should get all the required amendments to the existing Acts passed by this House, so that unwarranted lapses do not occur in Pondicherry at the time of implementing the statutes.

Sir, the problems of agricultural labour are getting multiplied day by day in Pondicherry. There is the ques-

tion of minimum wages to the agricultural labour. The issue of abolition of bonded labour is there. If these problems are to be resolved for the benefit of the common people, either the elections should be held as early as possible in Pondicherry or the necessary amendments to relevant legislations should be got passed by this House so that they are effectively made applicable to Pondicherry in the absence of an elected Assembly. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to give serious thought to this urgent necessity for solving the problems of the people of Pondicherry.

Coming now to the question of irrigation facilities, Pondicherry is dependent upon Cauvery waters: Karaikkal is part of Pondicherry: 27000 acres of land under cultivation are dependent upon Cauvery waters: But, as this House is aware, there is the Cauvery Water dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. When negotiations are taking place for resolving this dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, I regret to point out that no representatives of Pondicherry are associated with such negotiations. While the representatives of Kerala, where only 5000 acres of cultivated land are dependent upon Cauvery waters, are associated with the negotiations being conducted about the sharing of Cauvery waters, it is highly regrettable that no representation has been given to Pondicherry in these negotiations. Similarly, there is no representation for Pondicherry in the Cauvery Valley Authority also. The agricultural problems have become acute in Pondicherry because agriculture in Pondicherry is dependent upon under-ground water resources. I have to painfully point out that the moneys allocated for minor irrigation are getting reduced year by year in Pondicherry. Added to this is the problem of acute shortage of power in Pondicherry. The people of Pondicherry have been demanding for many years now the establishment of a Thermal Power Station there. In March last when the Pondicherry Budget was

being discussed in this House, the same hon. Minister assured this House that the thermal power project in Pondicherry would be taken up in the current financial year. I have to say that no preliminary steps even have been taken in the matter of establishing a Thermal Power Plant in Pondicherry. I request the hon. Minister to ensure the establishment of the Thermal Power Plant in Pondicherry before the close of this financial year itself.

Sir, the administration of the Lt. Governor in Pondicherry has converted the single-point sales tax into multiple-point sales tax. This has inevitably led to a steep rise in the prices of essential commodities and the people of Pondicherry have been undergoing untold hardships on this score. The hon. Minister should look into this question also because Pondicherry is firstly a Union Territory and secondly there is President's rule there. The people of Pondicherry cannot ventilate their grievances through their elected representatives. It becomes the responsibility of the Central Government to look in to the problems of the people of Pondicherry.

In March last when Pondicherry Budget was discussed in this House, the hon. Minister assured that the question of pension to Freedom Fighters in Pondicherry will be settled quickly. He stated that 400 applications had been received, out of which decisions had been taken on 140 applications. He assured this House that the remaining applications for pension would be settled expeditiously. But, actually no progress has been made in this direction. One of the arguments advanced for the inordinate delay is that there are some criminal cases instituted by the erstwhile French Government against these freedom fighters. Sir, this argument is untenable because these freedom fighters had fought relentlessly against the French Imperialists and sacrificed their everything for the purpose of integrating Pondicherry with the Indian Union. The problem of these freedom fighters should be settled expeditiously.

[Shri M. Kathamuthu]

In conclusion, I would like to emphasise the need for getting the required amendments to the principal Acts passed by this House so that the economic programme announced by the Prime Minister can be effectively implemented in Pondicherry. There is the question of abolishing bonded labour; there is the question of implementing land ceiling Act in Pondicherry. There is the question of transforming the rural areas into fertile fields of development. The Government of India should bestow their personal attention in the development of Pondicherry.

With these words, I conclude.

**DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam):**  
Mr. Chairman, I thought of this brief intervention in this discussion because territory-wise the territory of Pondicherry is not a homogenous unit; a part of Pondicherry is included in the geographical area of Kerala. Because of this peculiar geographical situation that enclave which is in the geographical area of Kerala has been, by and large, neglected. Since most of my political activities for organisational purposes are concentrated on the areas adjoining this area, namely, Mahe I know the problems there. For instance, some of the most heroic battles or struggles waged during the freedom struggle were in Mahe, which was then a French enclave. Long before Pondicherry and other places were free, the French foothold on the Malabar coast was wrested from foreign domination. Mahe was liberated from France and declared independent; then it was ceded to Pondicherry. I just want to highlight one or two problems concerning the territory as a whole and Mahe in particular.

Speaking generally, I would say that any serious student or observer of the developmental process in this country would know that the smaller the State the better. It is for the purpose of economic development. That

has been the case of Haryana or Himachal Pradesh or Punjab or the eastern States. I am mentioning Haryana because it was largely a backward portion of the erstwhile prosperous Punjab State. After bifurcation, Haryana has almost come up to the level of Punjab and it is model of development today. So, the fact that Pondicherry is a small territory should not deprive it of an opportunity to develop at a faster rate.

I think Pondicherry is increasingly becoming associated with the international effort to evolve a composite culture. Though not in Pondicherry itself, in its vicinity is the rising city of Auroville on which world attention is being focussed. People, who start believe in common brotherhood irrespective of caste, creed, religion or country live there in harmony and people are looking forward to the success of the experiment being made there with the blessings of UNESCO. Now that the Central Government is incharge of the administration of Pondicherry, it should also have an interest in the future of Auroville. This opportunity should be utilized to give whatever financial or other aid that is necessary to make Pondicherry itself a model State. The city of Auroville and the activities of the Aurovindo Ashram give a new dimension to Pondicherry. These aspects apart, improvement of the lot of the people of Pondicherry, 90 per cent being poor, should receive the main focus for purpose of development of Pondicherry.

I would say that the Central Government should immediately launch relevant projects, connected with 20-point programme announced by the Prime Minister, in Pondicherry. Let us make it show-case territory. Let us make it a small model State where there is all-round economic development; where a composite culture thrives. That would be an ideal thing. You can project it as a show-piece.



Coming back to Mahe, there is a textile mill in Mahe which is clamouring for expansion. I would request the hon. Minister to look into the problem. After all, Mahe is a small enclave, the total population of which is below 10,000. If that mill is expanded, at least some of the many unemployed can get employment. I am glad the Minister is assuring me that it would be looked into. I thank hon. Shri B. P. Maurya for this assurance.

Even for the purpose of representation of their grievance they will have to travel about 600 miles to reach Pondicherry. How many of the people of this enclave of Mahe can afford to travel 600 miles from Mahe to Pondicherry to represent their grievances.

There is a good fisheries harbour with a lot of mechanised boats in Mahe. If that harbour is developed, a lot of improvement can take place in that area. Since the bulk of the population of Mahe are miserably poor, the development of the Mahe Textile Mill and the fisheries harbour will go a long way in solving the acute unemployment problem.

There is also the problem of sea erosion. Sometime back I had occasion to go that way and see the problem for myself. Every year during the monsoon season there is terrible encroachment by the sea. After all, this is a small enclave.

**SHRI K. MANOHARAN** (Madras North): Suggest its inclusion in Kerala.

**DR. HENRY AUSTIN:** Although we are land-hungry people, we do not want to rob a small State of its territory. We will see it later. The current problem is that the sea is eating away land from the already small Mahe region. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that anti-sea erosion work is launched because, after all, the sea coast area of Mahe would

hardly be about a mile or so. That land should be protected because now valuable land is being eroded by the sea every year.

In Pondicherry we have to ensure that the French culture is preserved and protected. Late revered Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru wanted to maintain the identity of Pondicherry largely to preserve the French culture, which is quite different from French imperialism; French culture, as is well known, has a special place in the mosaic of world culture. Indo-French cultural interaction will certainly evince world interest.

Then I come to the question of freedom fighters. A number of people of Mahe have suffered long period of incarceration during the freedom struggle and yet many of them have not been paid political pension. They had to fight against French imperialism and sacrifice much and now they have no means of livelihood. Most of them are very old. They deserve the nation's gratitude and recognition.

These are some of the points that I would like to highlight and I would request the hon. Minister to look into them.

**SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR** (Pondicherry): Mr. Chairman, I do not know what to speak on this occasion. I am sure that this Appropriation Bill will be passed in some twenty minutes. Last time when I tried to speak something on Pondicherry, many members who were then present raised number of technical points and about four or five hours were spent on that. Today I do not see anyone of them to discuss those points,

In this Bill, people of Pondicherry and their welfare is directly concerned. I am thankful to the CPI member and Dr. Henry Austin, who spoke about the needs of Pondicherry.

The day I entered this Parliament I had to speak on this subject. Do you know the reason? Because, the legislature in Pondicherry was dissolved.

[Shri Aravinda Eela Pujanor]

Every time I am repeating the same demand, namely, for a legislature in Pondicherry. I am sorry to say that nothing is being done, so far the emergency is there.

On the first occasion itself I asked for the extension of the Succession Act. I do not know what has happened to that. Shri Kathamuthu referred to the Ariankóppam project, the sugar mill and so many other things. But I do not find anything concrete being done in respect of those things.

When the emergency was proclaimed and the 20-point programme was declared, we thought that this programme will reach the people. The media to reach the people is meetings and certain other communications. I am sorry to tell you that in Pondicherry a different version is given to the people by the present administration there. We are not permitted to assemble in five or six people and speak about it. I do not understand what is the meaning of the emergency if the emergency is to curb even explaining the 20-point programme to the people. I do wonder what the administration there is going to do in transforming the society in the new spirit announced by our beloved Prime Minister.

Sir, last week, people who possessed in excess of 10 bags of paddy were arrested. Hundreds of small landowners were arrested. I tell you that they got a wrong notion that this emergency is to harass and suppress the common man. If that is the case, I am afraid, the noble ideas of our Prime Minister, the common cause for which we all stand, will not reach the common man. So, at least, this must be done and, I hope, the Home Ministry will take it up seriously and act. I may tell you that if you continue this, the image of the Prime Minister in my territory will go down.

Now, when the Prime Minister visited Pondicherry last time, I made a personal request to him to meet the

people there. I said, "We are all happy that you have come to our place." Proper meetings were not arranged for the Prime Minister to meet the people. It would have been better if it had been done. I agree on one thing. She might belong to a party. But that is not the case. She belongs to the nation. She belongs to the people of Pondicherry also. If proper meetings had been arranged, it would have been better. The things would have been appreciated much better. It would have given a different picture of the situation to the people of Pondicherry. She said, "during my next visit, I will do it." I am afraid, she may be very busy now with other matters in other parts of the country. I hope, a day will come when she will come to Pondicherry and understand the feelings and the spirit of the people of that place.

I am thankful to my hon. friend, Dr. Henry Austin, who spoke about the French culture. The culture is deteriorating. I am not one who asks for the French culture. But we are the people who adopt good things from others. Our windows are always open to adopt good things from others and adopt them as our own. From the French people, what we learnt in those days was the generosity and adaptability. Now, the bourgeois mentality is getting into the administration. I am not going to blame anybody for this. But the British system somehow or other had that mentality. When the Prime Minister explained it immediately after Emergency that we must get out of this and go to the people in direct action, I thought that would be extended to Pondicherry also which enjoyed it under the French rule. But I am sorry to say that now the powers of the officers, and others, by this Emergency, have increased. I wish now under Emergency, if they fail to understand the people and work for the people, we will miserably fail in our task.

Everyday, I am getting hundreds of letters. There is only one Member of Parliament representing the territory

of Pondicherry. Dr. Henry Austin referred to Pondicherry as a State. It is not even a State. It is under the direct control of the Central Government. This is an opportunity for you to apply your mind and spirit on action also. If you want to develop the country, you have to develop it from every corner. You can start from Pondicherry. The territory of Pondicherry does not fall in one State. Some parts of it lie in Kerala, some in Andhra Pradesh and some in Tamil Nadu. Therefore there is a chance to develop the national spirit from this small State.

Last time, when I made a number of points, the Finance Minister congratulated me for explaining these things. I am thankful to him. I know he has got only limited resources. But if you see the list of items here, you see it is a prototype of the same things for the third time being repeated in Parliament. Most of the expenditure, out of Rs. 13 crores over a period of one year is spent on overheads. Pondicherry is declared as a backward area. But the backward area is getting only the overhead expenses. You are paying the officials; you are paying the clerks; you are paying the tehsildars and so on and so forth. But if you take the proportion of development, the real development is not going to the people of Pondicherry. The people are living in the same style. Dr. Henry Austin referred to the poor people of Mahi. There are poor people in Karaikal; there are poor people in Pondicherry; there are poor people in Yanam. This is the condition of the people there. In comparison to other States, the Central allocation for Pondicherry is very much lower. If there is an allocation under a particular head, there must be development proportionate to that allocation. But in Pondicherry all these things are, I am forced to say, wasted on overheads. The administration is eating away the entire money. The people are not benefited. You have to think of some solution to solve this problem.

Now, the Governor is in Pondicherry and he is having a certain number of Secretaries with him. As the Doctor explained, it is 600 miles to Mahe, 400 miles to Enam and 100 miles to Karaikal and Pondicherry. I am informing this House every month but you say the popular Government is there, money is being wasted on Legislatures and Ministers and so on. We have had these discussions a number of times. But now the Governor has to do the same followed by the Secretaries to Mahe, Enam and Karaikal three or four times in a month. So money is being wasted like before. I can tell you that people can never approach them. They go and give out publications that 'we are with the people, we are part of the people' and so on. But, rightly or wrongly, we were ruled by foreign people and ours is a foreign system; we still function under that system. At least for twenty or thirty more years people will not approach these officers and unless the officers approach the people the problems will not be solved. This is the reason why we are having an elected democracy and we are having Legislatures, Councils and so on. But nothing is done in Pondicherry and people still think that somebody is ruling. They say that once upon a time the Frenchman ruled and now somebody else from somewhere is ruling. I am sorry to say that that though we are governed by our own people, they don't realise that it is we who are governing; they feel that foreigners are still ruling this country. On this shore, I can show some letters if you want. They think we are still Maharajas or that we are still foreigners—why?

Shri Kathamuthu referred to those who worked for independence—the freedom fighters—that they are not given due respect. This is a problem I had raised on the very first occasion as also on the second and third occasions and I am again raising it; but you don't seem to have any interest. All of you are interested in the Ashram. I don't know how many people visited the Pondicherry Ashram—and

[Shri Aravind Bala Pajanor]

I invite them to come and visit the Ashram—but, apart from the Ashram, let us talk about Pondicherry. You must understand the people who are outside the Ashram also. As I told the Prime Minister, of course, the Ashram is an interesting place in Pondicherry, but the people of Pondicherry are much more important than the Ashram. I am not against the Ashram, but the Ashram is not everything and Pondicherry is not surrounded by the Ashram alone. If I should say that Aravind Bala is everything I would be a fool. I would not say that because I only represent the people of Pondicherry, you should consider the people of Pondicherry more than the institution. We must give due proportion to the interests of Pondicherry people.

Then, the Member referred to the Cauvery Valley Authority. I think the Member should be aware that the Authority is not functioning now. So far as water distribution is concerned, we have to go with a begging bowl to Tamilnadu; so far as the University is concerned, we have to go to Tamilnadu. So far as administration is concerned, we have to come to Delhi. So is our dependence.

I shall mention a specific instance now. When the transfer took place in 1954 it was assured by our late beloved Prime Minister, Panditji, that Pondicherry people will be given seats in proper proportion in the administration. Subsequently they evolved a solution and they said that out of 65 16 seats will be provided for the people of Pondicherry. I would like to Minister to enquire into the matter. They make use of the rules to find certain loop-holes. People from outside were allowed to get admission but people from Pondicherry could not get the allotted seats. Even last year they were not able to get that number. Out of the 16, they provided three seats for French graduates. That is the main grievance of the people of Pondicherry. They don't have a University and no Engineering

College is there. When I told the Health Minister, he said he will look into it. I don't know whether he has looked into it or not. Even this year, admissions are practically over and I don't find that the proportion that was assured in letter is given spirit in execution.

If I go on speaking like this, some of them will say "Pajanor, you speak well; you have expressed the feelings of your people". I can tell you honestly in this House that though I am happy that we are able to express ourselves freely without any disturbance, I am not a person to be elated or pleased by this kind of expressions and complements. I am happy about such comments and congratulations, but that is not the end of the job. I must say this at this stage, after the 26th of June, 1975 we have taken it into our heads that we will work for the people. If you are really sincere, you start with the small institution, with small things, and then only our sincerity will be appreciated by our people otherwise, posterity will curse us and that will go deep down in history. I hope that this will be the last time when this kind of pleasing words will be expressed in this House. Next time, when an opportunity comes to me, I must get up and tell you, 'I am thankful to the Central Government; I am thankful to them for the 21-point economic programme of which we have accomplished 20 or 10 or 5 and Pondicherry is benefited'. When I said that within 20 minutes we could finish this Bill, though one hour was allotted to it; because it looks a blank paper to me. Let it not be a blank paper next time also. I want all the members to take some interest, study the problems and discuss Pondicherry with statistics from Government side. I will be a person interested in discussing Nagaland with statistics.

This morning I told the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, 'I do not find any Bill for the extension of the President's rule in

Pondicherry whereas I find a similar Bill so far as Nagaland is concerned, and I am given to understand that it is a mistake. The President's rule in Pondicherry expires on the 28th September whereas in the case of Nagaland it expires on the 26th September. But they have not introduced any Bill. I thought that they might have elections there some time in August or September. But that may not be possible. I may be wrong if I ask for election there now. It is upto you to consider and do what is best for the country and for Pondicherry. But, before that, I only make this request to you. There are so many Ministers here. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs is in direct charge of Union Territories. After all, there are only nine Union Territories. He can pay a visit once in two or three months to understand our difficulties. Do not leave the entire administration in the hands of certain individuals. That is not safe. I am not saying anything against the person who is at present governing there. Today during the discussion on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, you spoke about Administrator and his satisfaction. But his satisfaction is misinterpreted in other ways. MISA may be misused in many ways. Ultimately the common people are harassed, the villagers are harassed, the small shop-owners are harassed. Now they are trying to take away the right to approach the courts for the encroachments during Emergency. The other day in Pondicherry some police officials were telling four or five persons who were standing, 'I can make use of MISA and send you to prison'. That might have been a joke, but that is not to be expressed as a joke. The Prime Minister has said that the whisper campaign is the worst campaign that will demolish democracy in this country. The bureaucracy, the people in power, are thinking that they can misuse the powers that are given under Emergency. We should strike at the proper moment; otherwise, the danger will eat away this country and we will be sorry for it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. members for making brief but very valid observations so far as the Budget of Pondicherry is concerned. Frankly speaking, when I come forward with this Budget, I come before the House with some limitation. The limitation is that, practically, it is a repetition of the arguments which I had to put forward when I presented the Budget and Vote of Account last March. Therefore, when the hon. Member from Pondicherry expressed his displeasure regarding repetition of the same items and almost the same type of expenditures, I appreciate his feelings. But, at the same time, I cannot but express my helplessness. At the same time it is also a fact that, compared to 1974-75, it has been possible for us to make some additional allocations so far as the Annual Plan of Pondicherry is concerned, so far as certain developmental projects, which are Centrally-sponsored, are concerned. It has been possible—and I would like to place on record our appreciation for the State administration—to mobilise additional resources within the very limited scope.

The Governor has been criticised. Some of the officers there have been criticised. I do not feel that each and every action taken by the officers there under the overall administrative control of the Governor is all right. But, at the same time, it has to be kept in mind that, so far as developmental aspect is concerned, so far as restoration of normalcy from the unprecedented drought is concerned, Administration can deserve some credit for the period which is under review.

In so far as the reduction of prices in that particular territory is concerned, perhaps it is less than the all-India index. A large number of fair price shops have been started there

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

and informal type of rationing has also been introduced.

It is to be kept in mind that in the Union Territory there is not much to be done so far as the internal resources are concerned. Almost for every developmental project which is of some magnitude, it has to depend upon the Central assistance. On the other hand, hon. Members are well aware so far as the resource position is concerned, we are equally in a very tight position. Therefore, within these constraints we have to work and there may be certain omissions and commissions either on the part of the Central Administration or the local Administration, but it should be our endeavour to see that we can do away with these types of omissions and commissions.

Two Central projects have been specifically mentioned by the hon. Members and they have said that no progress has been done. No progress has been done in the sense that the projects have not yet come up and have not yet started functioning. But so far as the official progress is concerned, I mean, the progress on paper I can tell that certain progress has already taken place. The project reports have been finalised. Now it is awaiting clearance from the Government of India. On the last occasion also, I mentioned that a project like thermal power or a project like port, which requires substantial investment cannot be done merely by the States own resources. It is to be financed by the Government of India and that too is being looked into.

Regarding the freedom fighters' pensions and problems of the students of getting accommodation in the medical colleges, training etc. and certain other things which have been mentioned and which relate to other departments, I can only submit, as is the usual practice while discussing the supplementary grants and Appropriation Bill, that I would pass on the same to the concerned Ministries.

15.59 hrs.

[SHRI G. VISWANATHAN in the Chair.]

I take the opportunity of congratulating you, Sir, for occupying the chair.

Sir, it would be our endeavour to see that the points which have been mentioned here are looked into a due consideration is given to them.

I agree with the friend from Pondicherry that sometimes when we speak of Pondicherry, the illustrious institution of Pondicherry overshadows our mind and we forget that apart from that institution, the people of Pondicherry have their own problems and those problems have to be sorted out in that context and in that perspective. After all, the institution is not identical with the people and with the territory of Pondicherry. People have their own problems and those have to be sorted out. Definitely, Ashram has created an impact and it has made Pondicherry popular throughout the world on various angles.

16.00 hrs.

But, at the same time, mere development of the Ashram would not sort out the problems of the people of Pondicherry. It has been mentioned why we should not make Pondicherry an experimental step for implementing the Prime Minister's 21-point programme. My esteemed colleague, Dr. Austin has suggested why we should not make it some sort of a model. It would have been an ideal objective. But, at the same time, we shall have to keep in mind that so far as the economic programmes are concerned, perhaps we cannot take that type of approach. Each and every part of the country which is backward is to be developed. To have some sort of a show-piece may give some psychological satisfaction, but, to confront the problems, socio-eco-

nemically in the real sense of the term, it would not have that much effect.

Another very interesting point has been highlighted. Of course, it requires a detailed discussion—whether for the development, particularly, for the economic development of the State, the size of the State should be taken as a relevant factor and very correctly my friend over there quoted some of the instances which can corroborate this argument. But, at the same time, there are other instances also. Sometimes, we find that fragmentation of the areas does not lead to economic development unless the other contributory factors remain there and we can exploit those contributory factors to the fullest extent.

Certain other steps have also been mentioned which do not strictly concern me. I would draw the attention of my colleagues in other Ministries and see that the problems are sorted out.

Before I conclude I can assure my hon. friend—also I have told him informally that I do not know all this—that I would take the earliest opportunity to be in Pondicherry and I would like to be acquainted with the problems over there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March,

1976 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof—

Demands Nos. 1 to 32 and 34.”

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I want that the money should not be paid in cash because it will add to the inflation.

16.63 hrs.

PONDICHERRY APPROPRIATION  
(NO. 2) BILL\*, 1975-76

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): 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 1975-76.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 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 1975-76.”

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I introduced 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 1975-76, be taken into consideration.”

\*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 23-7-1975.

†Introduced/moved with therecommendation of the President.