

[Shri M. Kalyanasundaram]
during the last three years. They suffered for the first two years due to serious drought and this year due to continuous heavy rains. Floods have affected more than 6000 villages in seven districts in Tamil Nadu. There have been heavy losses. According to the Government figure cattle died comes to 20,000 and death of persons to 160. Seven and a half lakh houses, huts have been damaged, eight lakh acres of land have been damaged. There has been a serious damage to crops this year. In that situation, how can they go in for procurement? Irrigation system in our country is so bad that neither we are able to face the drought situation, nor are we able to make use of the heavy rains. So, that is the reflection on the way in which planning has been done for Tamil Nadu. For the bad planning with regard to irrigation and agriculture, the people of Tamil Nadu should not be punished. So, I want the Government of India to come forward to give more rice to Tamil Nadu. Further, the Government does not permit the State Government to rise the price of procurement so that farmers can voluntarily offer whatever surplus is there. So, the situation is becoming every serious. I want the Government of India to intervene.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED DECLINE IN THE TOURIST TRAFFIC IN THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE

SHRI GULAM MOHI-UD-DIN SHAWL (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, through your indulgence I want to draw the attention of the Central Government to the deteriorating condition of the tourism industry in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Tourism is the main industry on which the predominant majority of the people of the State depend, for their livelihood. In spite of the fact that Jammu and Kashmir is a hilly, backward State where roads and other infrastructures lag far behind the other States in the country, the Central Government does not allocate sufficient funds for the State's development. To add insult to the injury, there

is an organised propaganda campaign against the law and order situation in that State. While some baseless allegations about the presence of activities of anti-national and secessionist elements, processions, slogans and burning of houses are levelled by the members of a particular party, the Central Government lends its eager ears to such charges and at times echoes the same charges for unknown reasons. Unfortunately even some journalists given up their high role of objectivity and come out with some subjective version of a peaceful situation. Moreover, some army officers too think it convenient to create a war psychosis.

This vilification campaign creates a scare in the minds of the people outside the State and interested quarters outside the country play up this game for their ulterior motives. This has caused a tremendous damage to our tourism industry and consequently adversely affected our economy. This propaganda makes the private capital to feel shy to invest in the State.

The Central Government should not be indifferent to the economic sufferings of the people of a border and sensitive State, surrounded on three sides by not so friendly countries. Instead it must take positive and effective steps to stem the tide of this nefarious game. I repeat here my suggestion that a Parliamentary Committee consisting of representatives of all sections of this House be constituted to visit the State and study the situation, because that would give a lie to any such propaganda. I request the Central Government to take positive steps immediately to cry a halt to all such baseless charges of lawlessness in the State so that all intending tourists would feel pleasure and joy to visit the happy vale of Kashmir, a paradise on earth, and augment our tourism industry.

I. THE BUDGET (PONDICHERRY), 1984-85—GENERAL DISCUSSION.

II. THE PONDICHERRY APPROPRIATION (VOTE ON ACCOUNT) BILL, 1984.

III. THE PONDICHERRY APPROPRIATION BILL, 1984.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up the Pondicherry Budget and related Pondicherry Appropriation Bills.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry for the services of a part of the financial year 1984-85, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

I also move :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1983-84, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the first Bill arises out of a sum of Rs. 35,09,94,000 voted by the Lok Sabha on 15th March, 1984, and of Rs. 3,46,08,000 charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry to meet its expenditure for the first 6 months of the next financial year. Full details of the provisions asked for are given in the Vote on Account pamphlet circulated along with the Budget papers on 5th March, 1984.

The second Bill is in respect of Supplementary Demands of Rs. 10,43,49,000, voted by the Lok Sabha on 15th March, 1984, and Rs. 2.43 lakhs charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry for the year 1983-84. Full details of the provisions asked for have been given in the Statement of Supplementary Demands laid on the Table on the 5th March, 1984.

Sir, I move that both these Bills to taken into consideration.

"The questions were proposed."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Budget (Pondicherry), 1984-85, the Pondicherry Appropriation (Vote on Account)

Bill, 1984 and the Pondicherry Appropriation Bill, 1984, are now open for discussion. We have to finish this before we adjourn for lunch so that we can take up Punjab after lunch. Shri Ladli Mohan Nigam.

श्री लाडली मोहन निगम (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय मंत्री जी ने जो विनियोग विधेयक सदन में रखा है, मैं इस पर कुछ कहने से पहले एक बात अर्ज करना चाहूंगा कि आपने यह हालत बना दी कि आपको इस तरीके से विनियोग विधेयक लाना पड़ रहा है। मतलब साफ है कि वहां पर एसेम्बली नहीं है तभी तो आप बिल लाये हैं। एसेम्बली होती तो यहां पर बिल लाने की जरूरत नहीं थी। अगर एसेम्बली नहीं है इसका भी कारण खोजिये। मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान में संसदीय संस्थाएँ जिनसे प्रजातंत्र मजबूत होता है दिन पर दिन खंडित होती जा रही हैं और इरादतन योजनाबद्ध तरीके से उनको तोड़ा जा रहा है। चाहे वह ग्राम पंचायत हो चाहे जिला पंचायत हो और अब तो अंधेर और भी हो गया जो कि अंग्रेजों के जमाने में भी नहीं हुआ। शायद दुनियाँ का सबसे अच्छा नगर निगम का कानून अगर कोई था तो वह बम्बई म्यूनिसिपल कारपोरेशन का था। अंग्रेजों ने उसमें प्रावधान रखा था कि जिले की हो या केन्द्र की हो सब पंचायतें खत्म हो सकती हैं लेकिन जब कारपोरेशन भी बनाना हो तो उसको भंग नहीं किया जाएगा उसकी निश्चित अवधि पर ही चुनाव होगा और यह एक आदर्श बन गया था इस देश के सामने। उसको लेकर ही आजादी के बाद जंगह-जंगह चुनाव होने लगे। पंडित जी ने कहा कि नया उदय हो रहा है। राजस्थान में नई पंचायतों की नींव डाली गई और पंचायत राज की शुरुआत हुई। लेकिन धीरे-धीरे

[श्री लाडली मोहन निगम] लोगों ने देखा कि यह बहुत बढ़ती हुई चीज है उससे बढ़ते-बढ़ते हिन्दुस्तान के नौकरशाहों ने सोचा कि यहां कोई बचेगा नहीं। चुने हुए लोगों ने सोचा कि उनका दायरा इतना केन्द्रित हो जाएगा हिन्दुस्तान की राजनीति, जो पीछे रही है उसी का यह परिणाम है। यह परिणाम ग्राज का नहीं। ऐसेम्बलियों का टूटना, ग्राम पंचायतों का टूटना, उसका कारण क्या है? हम मानसिक रूप से तैयार नहीं हैं कि सत्ता का विकेन्द्रिकरण हो। सत्ता का विकेन्द्रिकरण होगा तो सामूहिक नेतृत्व बनेगा वह हम को कबूल नहीं है। इस वास्ते ऐसी संस्थाओं को तोड़ा जिनके गर्भ से प्रजातन्त्र जन्म लेता है। लेकिन दिखावे में है। परसों ही हम ने जो विनियोग विधेयक पास किया मुझे ताज्जुब है कि हर साल वह आता था लेकिन 33 हजार करोड़ से ऊपर आपने मांगा है तो आपका इरादा क्या है? मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार के इरादे नेक नहीं हैं। जो पांडिचेरी का हाल है वहीं इरादा शायद केन्द्र के लिए भी हो गया हो। एक कुशल सचेतक के रूप में हम घटनाओं से ही अंदाजा लगा सकते हैं। मुझे ऐसा लग रहा है कि जितने कार्यकलाप पिछले दो तीन महीनों में रहे हैं वह चुनाव को ही मद्देनजर रखकर ही किए गए हैं। तो मंत्री जी यह भी बता दीजिए कि विनियोग विधेयक की जो रकम आपने इतनी बढ़ी हुई थी है तो आप के इरादे नेक हैं कि नहीं? चुनाव जल्दी कराना हो तो कराइये वह आप की हाथ की बात है। बल्कि मैं तो सुझाव दूंगा कि 31 दिसम्बर तक चलाओं 30 जनवरी तक पालियामेंट डिजाल्व कीजिए उसके बाद 6 महीने तक आपके हाथ में सत्ता रह सकती है आपको रोक कोई नहीं सकता। आज जब मैं आ रहा था तो कुछ संसद

सदस्यों ने मुझे पकड़कर पूछा कि आपको पता है कि नहीं पालियामेंट चलेगा कि नहीं? हम लोग जा रहे हैं 72-75 लोग जा रहे हैं तो क्या हो गया! पालियामेंट क्यों नहीं चलेगी? इसको कौन तोड़ेगा। आपको शाब्द पता नहीं, यह उन्होंने कहा। इस सदन के जो वशिष्ट लोग रहे हैं उनका यह कहना है कि यह डर है कि पालियामेंट खत्म न हो जाए। आप अंदाजा बताइये क्या कर रहे हैं। एक सदस्य ने मजे में एक बात कही कि जिस तरह से परसों हम लोगों ने फोटो खिचाई उन लोगों को सूचना मिली है कि 29 तारीख को आपकी फोटो होगी। मानसिकता कैसी चल रही है कितनी घबराहट है यह इससे पता लगता है। आज विश्वास नहीं रह गया है। मेरा इससे कोई मतलब नहीं है। आप दस बार चुनाव काराये हमें उससे क्या। हम यह मान कर चलते हैं कि रोटी को उलट-पुलट कर सेंकी जाए तो वह अच्छी बनेगी। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि मुझे कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ता। आपके प्यार और सहयोग के बीच में बैठ कर संसद की जो कुछ भी मुझ से खिदमत हुई और जो कुछ सीखने को मिला वह सीखा। संसद मेरी जिन्दगी का मकसद नहीं है। सड़क मेरी तब भी थी और आज भी होगी। संसद और सड़क को मिलाने का काम हमारा है। पांडिचेरी एक छोटा सा राज्य है। इससे बड़ा और क्या मजाक हो सकता है कि आपका बहुमत नहीं है और विरोधी दल के लोग मिलकर वहां सरकार बना सकते हैं लेकिन नहीं बनाने दी गई। उन लोगों ने लिख कर दिया उनमें वे भी हैं जो आपके किसी दूसरे राज्य में साक्षी भागीदार हैं कम्युनिस्टों ने लिख कर दिया है। लेकिन पांडिचेरी में क्योंकि आपका बहुमत नहीं है इस

वास्ते आप यह विधेयक लाये हैं। यह अच्छी बात नहीं है अगर हमारा प्रजातंत्र में विश्वास है तो फिर उन संस्थाओं को जिंदा रहना होगा। अगर इसी तरीके से हम आजादी के मुद्दों को तोड़ने लगे तो कल आजादी भी छिन जायेगी। आज जो अखबारों में आ रहा है कि युद्ध के बाद न मंडरा रहे है, बाहरी खतरा है, तो इससे क्या लगता है देश की आम जनता पिछले 26 वर्ष में दिन प्रतिदिन सामूहिक हिस्सेदार भागीदार रही है। रोजमर्रा के काम में देश बनने में, देश को रोशनी देने में हिस्सेदार रही है। इस वास्ते कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्रजातंत्र में चुनाव उसकी आत्मा है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उसकी आत्मा को जिंदा रखने के लिये यह आवश्यक है कि वहां चुनाव कराये जायें। यह भी आप बता दें कि क्या संसद को भी जल्दी भंग करने वाले हैं क्योंकि पूत के पांव पालने में नजर आने लगते हैं...

श्री आर० आर० मोरारका : राजस्थान यह कैसे बता देंगे ?

श्री लाडली मोहन निगम : यह अंदाजा बता सकते हैं। मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से आपने इसको दिया है उससे ऐसा लगता है कि आपने वह क्षेत्र नहीं देखा।

श्री उसमापति : ठीक है।

श्री लाडली मोहन निगम : दो मिनट बजट पर बोलना चाहता हूँ। अगर आप उस क्षेत्र को देखें तो आप पायेंगे कि मछली पालन वहां का लोकल उद्योग धंधा है। इस पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। बहुत कम रकम इसके लिये रखी गई है। सारी पांडिचेरी की जनता के लिये आध्यात्मिक रोशनी पहले

जमाने में बहुत आवश्यक थी। भारत की प्रधान मंत्री अपनी आध्यात्मिक रोशनी के लिये वहां जाती थी। वहां आज हालत यह हो गई है कि रोशनी तो दूर वहां जो कुछ हम लोगों को बगल में, पड़ोस में मिलता था वह भी टूट रहा है। आज इससे ज्यादा दुर्भाग्य क्या हो सकता है कि कहीं किसी बजुर्ग ने बताया कि वहां श्री अरविन्दो ने सबसे पहले देश की आजादी का अलखा जगाया था। उससे देश को, दुनियां को आध्यात्मिक रोशनी की किरण मिली थी, आज वहां से निराशा मिली। वहां लोग एक दूसरे से मिलकर रहते थे। भाषा का बंधन नहीं था। आज वहां तमिल वाला तेलगु वाले को शक की निगाह से देखता है। तेलगु वाला तमिल वाले को शक की निगाह से देखता है। देशी-विदेशी का झगड़ा है। इसका एक ही कारण है कि वहां बाकायदा चुनी हुई पंचायतों का न होना और उनका सक्रिय न होना। वह एक छोटा सा इलाका है। मुझे अनुभव है। मुझे वहां जाने का मौका मिला था। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप नौजवान हैं। एक मर्तबा जरूर पांडिचेरी जाइये और फिर वहां की जो समस्याएं हैं उनको देखो और फिर अपने दिल पर हाथ रख कर देखो कि यह सही है या गलत है। इसी विश्वास के साथ मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहां का मुख्य धंधा मछली पालन है। वहां के मुख्य धंधे मछली पालन के संबध में, कुटीर उद्योगों के संबध में और दूसरी समस्याओं के संबध में जो झगड़े हैं, रेल और आवागमन का जो मामला है, उस पर अगर इस बजट में तबज्जह दी गई होती तो मुझे खुशी होती। खर में इसका विरोध तो नहीं करता हूँ, लेकिन इसका समर्थन करने की स्थिति में भी नहीं हूँ। इस दृष्टि से आप हमारी निष्पक्षता को गलत न ले लीजिये। इस

[श्री लाडली मोहन निगम]

विनियोग विधेयक पर पुनः आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आज आप यह कहिये कि आयन्दा कभी भी भविष्य में हमारी यह कौशिश होगी कि जो भी हमारे देश के प्रधान संस्थाएं हैं, जो बुनियादी खम्बे हैं, उनको बरकरार रखा जाएगा ताकि बार-बार अलग-अलग राज्यों के विनियोग विधेयक लेकर आपको यहां न आना पड़े।

SHRI K. MOHANAN (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it was a well-established fact that the imposition of President's rule in Pondicherry on the 24th June, 1983 was at the convenience of the ruling party at the Centre and in the Union Territory, as in the case of many other instances of imposition of President's rule in many other States. It was a blatant misuse of the special powers provided in the Constitution and in the Union Territories Act of 1963. The President's rule in Pondicherry was imposed just because the Congress (I) dissociated itself from the DMK Ministry at that time. On the 22nd June, 1983 the Congress (I) decided to withdraw support to the then coalition Ministry in Pondicherry. But on the very same day, the Janata Party, the Indian Union Muslim League and the CPI (M) had extended their support to the Ministry, and the Ministry had a majority of 18 out of 30 members in the Assembly at that time. The Ministry had a clear majority at that time. The Chief Minister was fully prepared to prove his majority either before the Governor or on the floor of the House. But you did not give even two days to him to prove his majority either on the floor of the House or before the Governor. And the Lt.-Governor at that time, who was a former PCC-I President of Kerala, dismissed the Ministry and dissolved the Assembly without any justification. Sir, everybody knows that it was not a decision of the Lt.-Governor alone but it was done only

at the instance of the ruling party at the Centre and he was only a tool in the hands of the ruling party at the Centre.

On many occasions, after the resignation or dismissal of a Ministry, you had kept the Assemblies in suspended animation at your convenience. Sir, I am not going into all the details, but I would like to draw your attention to only one instance. In 1981 after the resignation of the LDF Ministry in Kerala, you kept the Assembly in suspended animation for more than two months with a view to enabling the formation of an alternative Ministry under the leadership of the Congress (I). At that time the Congress (I) had only 17 members in a House of 141. Through all kinds of shameful horse trading, after two months, you formed a Ministry there under the leadership of your party, when you had only 17 members out of 141. Sir, even that Ministry carried on only for 80 days and even that was with the continuous casting vote of the Speaker, something shameful in the history of parliamentary democracy in this country, I would like to point out.

Sir, even now, what is the position in Kerala? You know there is a coalition Ministry in Kerala under the leadership of the great national party, Congress (I). Thirteen parties are there...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: From Pondicherry to Kerala?

SHRI K. MOHANAN: Kerala is an adjoining State. A part of the Union Territory of Pondicherry is inside Kerala, that is Mahe. There are 13 parties under the leadership of Congress-I with all kinds of religious, caste, sub-caste, groups. Out of these 13, 8 are single-member parties in the House. Now, I draw your attention to the double standards you are adopting; you are adopting double standards in many cases. Of these 8 single-member parties three have

ministerial berths. Even then we are all reading in the newspapers everyday what is happening in Kerala. Open horsetrading is going on; it is a *mandi*, it is a market place...

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: What about Karnataka?

SHRI K. MOHANAN: In Karnataka you are playing the horsetrading. If I am correct, under the Industrial Disputes Act after 240 days of continuous service an employee has to be regularised. I would request the Union Government to ask Mr. Karunakaran to regularise these employees after 240 days—all those who are supporting to carry the Ministry there.

In Pondicherry after the imposition of President's Rule, nine months have elapsed. And there is nothing abnormal. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to conduct elections in Pondicherry as early as possible.

(Interruption) I want to bring to your notice one important point. In this context I would like to make it clear that my party is in no way favouring the merger of any unit of the Pondicherry Union Territory with any adjoining State. I want to make it clear because some interested sections are spreading some propaganda that my party is in favour of merging the different units of Pondicherry with the adjoining States. It is for the people of Pondicherry to decide the future of Pondicherry. It is not my party or any other party or even the ruling party to decide. This is the categorical, unequivocal and declared stand of my party.

In Pondicherry the only major industry is the Anglo-French Textile Mills and for the last ten months this has been closed. This issue has been raised on the floor of the House many times and I do not want to go into the details of it. Workers are still in dharna in front of the House. So I urge on the Government to take immediate action to solve the problem of closure of this mill. Actually there is no closure, there is no lockout, there

is no layoff. The mill is open but no work and no payment. This is the peculiar situation which the 7500 families of the workers are facing. I urge upon the Government to take immediate action.

Then about the NGOs in Pondicherry. On 19th January 1982 there was an all-India strike of NGOs and the NGOs of Pondicherry also took part in that strike in a big way. Hundreds of cases were registered against these NGOs for taking part in the strike. Many of them are now facing dismissal. The issue was settled and 2½ years have elapsed and yet these employees are facing charges in courts. They are facing dismissal. I urge upon the Home Minister to take a lenient view on this issue and withdraw the cases against the NGOs for taking part in the January 1982 strike.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, under the guise of Pondicherry Appropriation Bills Nos. 21 and 22 of 1984, ostensibly we are to discuss the financial and economic matters. But it is only a guise in fact for debating politics of the very need for the two Houses of Parliament to debate these Appropriation Bills. My esteemed colleague had earlier said about the political requirements which have brought these two Bills before Parliament. Between the politics of that requirement and the economic which we are to discuss, there is very close nexus. Unless we are clear about that, there is little point in going into the bureaucratic exercise which the Parliament has today been entrusted with.

These two Bills are not reflective of the will of the people of Pondicherry. They are more reflective of certain number of hours spent in the Finance Ministry offices here. I have serious doubts in my mind whether the Minister of State or the Hon'ble Finance Minister has in fact had the time to devote to the requirements of Pondicherry, in arriving at this arithmetic of what is to be spent and what is not to be spent from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India.

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

That only highlights the fact that we can go through this bureaucratic exercise of officials entrusted with the responsibility of completing these papers and bringing them before the House, but the discussion of these by the House becomes a sterile exercise unless we go into the root of this requirement as to why these two Bills have come before us at all. This is reflective of what is essentially and fundamentally wrong with Centre-State relations. Speaking of Centre-State relations, this highlights the misuse of article 356 of the Constitution. It also highlights the misuse of the post of Governor and of his role, his appointment, his movement, his ostensible promotion from Lt. Governor to fullfledged Governor. It highlights the appointment of Governor as a kind of political pensioning off or sinecure so that retired or temporarily unuseable political personalities are siphoned off or stabled or put to pasture so that they are not inconvenient otherwise in regional or local politics or not inconvenient to those who determine the fate of the country being entrusted as they are with the governance of this country.

The role played by the then Lt. Governor of Pondicherry—I desist from taking his name—is part of the total misuse of article 356 of the Constitution of India. It is now part of the current history of India that because of that gentleman's nefarious role, he got promoted from the post of Lt. Governor to that of Governor and the people of Pondicherry were denied their right, for no reason whatsoever, to have a say in the determination of their own political destiny or what they wish to do or how they wish to be governed in their Union Territory.

There is yet another aspect which is part of Centre-State relations. We are concerned with the whole question of financial power. These are two simultaneous exercises which take place. Perhaps it is somewhat of an artificial division between plan and

non-plan expenditure. But the division exists. The Planning Commission is entrusted with the responsibility of deciding what Pondicherry's requirements are going to be in the next phase of the planning process. It becomes a bureaucratic exercise conducted here or by officials appointed by Delhi in Pondicherry. Simultaneously, Parliament is now entrusted with the responsibility of discussing the two Appropriation Bills which are no more than a bureaucratic arithmetical exercise to somehow sing the two Appropriation Bills are instances of the misuse of the powers under article 356. They do not reflect the economic realities which Pondicherry is today faced with. There is no direction in these two Bills in which the Union territory of Pondicherry should move, and there is no indication as to how it should raise its resources and in what fashion it is to utilise those resources. The bureaucrats sitting here or in Pondicherry are hardly capable of articulating the despair or the will or the longing of the people of Pondicherry. Hence my opposition to these two Appropriation Bills.

In one final concluding sentence, Sir, I would like to ask the honourable Minister of State for Finance, who is present here whether he could enlighten the House as to the ethos of these two Bills. Under the guise of these Bills—I have not been able to find it—what is the underlying ethos? The Budget is not merely an arithmetical exercise of income and expenditure. The Budget is quite often used as an instrument of fiscal policy. That the present Government has misused that and has devalued the Budget as an instrument of fiscal policy is quite a different matter. Now, in the case of the Union territory of Pondicherry it gets further devalued. Now, by means of these Appropriation Bills, what fiscal policy are you going to attempt to put across for the Union territory of Pondicherry and what is the underlying ethos of development that you are attempting to articulate?

This I have not been able to determine from these two Bills and I would be happy if the honourable Minister of State for Finance...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will do. Yes, Mr. Era Sambasivam.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I complete my sentence?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I thought I was going to sit down by saying that I would be happy if the honourable Minister of State for Finance would enlighten us on these points. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Era Sambasivam.

SHRI ERA SAMBASIVAM (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir,...

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Sir, this is his maiden speech.

SHRI ERA SAMBASIVAM: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, when I rise to deliver my maiden speech, my thoughts go back to the great tradition and heritage set up by great leaders and genius like Perarignar Anna who adorned this House.

Sir, the rare privilege of addressing this House of elders has been extended to me with the great benevolence of my leader, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR. By invoking the blessings of the two great humanitarian leaders, namely, Perarignar Anna and Puratchi Thalaivar, Dr. MGR, I commence my maiden speech.

Sir, this House is not represented by any member from Pondicherry. However, I am coming from the adjoining district of South Arcot. By virtue of a party post for nearly two decades, I was intimately connected with the problems of Pondicherry. I want to make a few observations on the Budg-

et of the Union territory of Pondicherry. Sir, it may interest the House when I state that Pondicherry is having the highest order in per capita income. This is due to the flow of funds from France by way of pension, etc. to those who had opted to be French citizens. The buoyancy in revenue receipts with Rs. 55 crores is an increase of 25 per cent over last year which is rare in any State in India. This healthy trend should be consolidated with investments in infrastructure. The density of population per square mile on Pondicherry is such that it ranks within three in India. Hence land is the most precious commodity in Pondicherry. But vast areas are increasingly becoming useless due to heavy soil erosion. Urgent scheme should be undertaken for the purpose of soil conservation and environment.

Sir, there is a lot of potential for dairy development. Pondicherry can even supply surplus milk to the adjoining Tamil Nadu. But the outlay of Rs. 3 lakhs is too small for this important area. The most urgent and immediate problem is the opening of A.F.T. Rodier Mill. About 8000 families are suffering due to the closure. The Government should come forward to open the Mill either through IDBI or NTC. This needs urgent attention. More and more industries are becoming sick day after day. This is due to the high cost of inputs like power, water, transport, raw material, etc., when compared to other States. The industries are unable to stand competition from neighbouring States where these industrial inputs are cheaper. As a classic example, I can say the Government of Tamil Nadu gives attractive concessions in power tariff to new industries and power intensive industries. Thereby new industries can avail power at 30 paise or less at Tamil Nadu; on the other hand the new industries have to pay more than 45 paise per unit in Pondicherry. Unless the same concessions as given in Tamil Nadu are extended to Pondicherry in power

[Shri Era Sambasivam]

and water rates, there is no hope for survival of industries. This "No Industry District" also deserves an input subsidy along with investment subsidy. Then only the closure of industries further could be stopped.

Pondicherry economy to a great extent rests on tourist traffic. The recent increase in entertainment taxes on cinema tickets has vastly affected the tourist traffic while depriving the poor man of his cheap entertainment.

Dr. M.G.R., the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, with his humanitarian bent of mind, has given a lead to the country by introducing "Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme" in Tamil Nadu. It is a great success. It is fulfilling the major objectives of education, health and overall well-being of children. It is time that Nutritious Meal Programme should be undertaken in Pondicherry also.

Another revolutionary measure the AIADMK Government has introduced is the insurance scheme for agricultural crops and labour. This should also be extended to Pondicherry.

The Planning Commission has acknowledged the best efforts of Tamil Nadu in implementation of the Prime Minister's 20-Point programme. But the erstwhile Government of Pondicherry, headed by DMK, ignored the implementation of 20-point programme. It is hoped that this area may be given due importance at least by the Governor's rule.

The budget allocation of Rs. 6.37 lakhs for election is a welcome feature. The people of Pondicherry are eagerly awaiting an early election.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, for giving me this opportunity.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri B. Krishna Mohan.

SHRI B. KRISHNA MOHAN (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation Bills moved by the hon. Finance Minister.

As you are aware, Sir, Yaman and Pondicherry, which were formerly French pockets, were merged with India under a treaty entered into between the French Government and the Indian Government. Yaman, Sir, is in which is my home district, and nearly 550 miles away from Pondicherry which is in Tamil Nadu. If the treaty entered into between French Government and the Union Government poses no constitutional problems. I suggest that Pondicherry be merged with Tamil Nadu and Yaman with Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): It is opposed by even Congress (I).

SHRI B. KRISHNA MOHAN: As far as the economy of the State is concerned, two months ago the Lt. Governor visited Yaman had discussions with the Andhra Pradesh Government to start an industrial estate in Yaman and requested the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation to start a joint venture so that more industries with assistance from the Pondicherry Government can be started at Yaman.

As far as the sales-tax levied in Pondicherry and Yaman is concerned, sales-tax levied in Pondicherry and Yaman is comparatively low compared to Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. To get benefit of sales-tax in Yaman and Pondicherry, most of the motor manufacturers like the Tata's Mercedes Benz and others have opened their booking offices in Yaman. So a Leyland or Tata's chassis is Rs. 10,000 less costlier than in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. So I would request the hon. Minister, to improve the economy of the State. Government should see that sales-tax on certain articles is increased on par with Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

As far as the sales-tax levied on liquor also is concerned, that is comparatively low in Yaman and Pondicherry, which is resulting in smuggling of liquor to Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, and liquor dealers have become multimillionnaires by smuggling liquor. I suggest that sales-tax on par with Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh be levied in Yanam and Pondicherry to improve the economy of the State.

With these observations, I support the Bills.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): Sir, at the outset....

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Sir, we have yet to make our points. And because my elder colleague....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is only intervening.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: ... wanted to make his maiden speech...

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: I am only intervening. You can speak afterwards.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: After listening to us, you can intervene.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The other Minister will reply. Let him now intervene.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: I want him to answer about freedom pensioners.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you say about the freedom fighters also.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, at the outset, I would like to put the record straight. So far as the merger of Pondicherry Union Territory with the neighbouring States is concerned, it is not the policy of the Government of India nor of the policy of our Congress Party. Sir when this

Territory became independent, Panditji made it very clear, and it has been followed by our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, that the integrity, the identity of the former French territory of Pondicherry should be kept in tact. As a matter of fact, Sir, during the Janata regime, when Shri Morarji Desai made a statement that Pondicherry will be merged with the neighbouring States, that was resented and resisted by the people, and there was a great resentment. So, Sir, I would like to make it clear that it is not the intention of the Government, and we want to preserve and safeguard the identity of Pondicherry and its composite culture. And every effort is being made to develop that composite culture for which Pondicherry stands. Sir, Pondicherry is a hallowed place because the great revolutionary, Shri Aurobindo, stayed in that territory and also the great Tamil poet, Subramania Bharati, was in Pondicherry rousing the people with his patriotic songs. So, Sir, this territory has got a characteristic of its own.

Sir, coming to the next point, politics makes strange bed-fellow. Sir, I have seen a very sober person, a very knowledgeable hon. Member, Shri Jaswant Singh, making certain uncharitable remarks about the political situation. And he alleged that Lt.-Governor has acted arbitrarily, and that without taking into consideration the support or the facts that were there on that day he arbitrarily took a decision and recommended to the Central Government for dissolution of the House. Sir, I would like to place the facts before the House. Sir, at the time when the Assembly was recommended for dissolution, the strength of the various parties was like this: DMK—13—It was 14 but one Member by name, Mr. Ramalingam, revolted against the DMK Party and he demanded the dissolution of that Ramachandran Ministry, and he joined the AIADMK. The strength of the other parties was like this: Congress(I)—10; Janata—3; Muslim Lea-

[Shri P. Venkatasubbiah]

gue—1; CPM—1; AIADMK which was one became two because of Shri Ramalingam's joining.

Sir, on June 22, the Congress Party decided to withdraw their support from the DMK-led coalition. So Sir, in pursuance of the decision taken by the Congress Party, all the three Ministers tendered their resignation to the Lt.-Governor. And then the Lt.-Governor summoned the Chief Minister on the same day and conveyed to him that his Government no longer enjoys a majority in the Assembly. However, the Chief Minister insisted that they have got a majority and he wanted time to prove it on the floor of the Assembly. A reasonable time was given to him for three days. And then he came about and claimed the support of the three Janata MLAs, one Muslim League MLA, and one CPM MLA. But, Sir, none of these parties, not the MLAs concerned, have conveyed to the Lt.-Governor or to the Government of India till the morning of June 24, 1983 that they would support a Government formed by the DMK.

SHRI K. MOHANAN: They were not given even 48 hours.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH: Sir, he must listen to me first. He spoke on Kerala and I am speaking on Pondicherry. So, he should not disturb me.

Sir, on the contrary, out of the three Janata MLAs, one Janata MLA has written a letter to the Lt.-Governor saying that he was not supporting the DMK and that he favoured the dismissal of the Government. So, 1 P.M.

Sir, these are the facts of the case. When my friend Jaswant Singhji here narrated certain events which are not relevant or which are not correct, I presume, Sir, that he had only the academic knowledge of what was happening in Pondicherry and he does not have the full facts before him.

This point I wanted to make perfectly clear.

Sir, it is not the intention of the Government of India to delay or postpone the elections. This is the democratic process to which the Government and the Constitution is committed. We will not delay it even by a day then it is absolutely necessary and hold the general elections in that Union territory.

Sir, the other matters which are related to the economic development and various other suggestions made by hon. Members will be suitably dealt with by the Minister of Finance who is piloting this Bill.

Sir, the question of Pondicherry freedom fighters receiving pension came up before the non-official advisory committee, and we did invite Shri Munnuswami, who was previously representing Anna D.M.K. He made certain proposals. Sir, there is a proposal to sanction freedom fighters' pension to those people who remained outside Pondicherry and participated in the freedom struggle. Sir, I would assure my hon. friend Shri Ramakrishnan that the matter is very much under the consideration of the Central Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is how to verify their imprisonment. You solve that. That is the biggest problem.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH: We are trying to formulate certain norms whereby we can as far as possible try to help these freedom fighters who actually helped in the liberation of Pondicherry from the yoke of the French Government.

Sir, the new Member who has just now spoken has said that the per capita income of the people of Pondicherry is one of the highest in the

country. That shows that all these years the Central Government has been doing its best to provide adequate financial assistance for the socio-economic development of the people of Pondicherry. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is also because 20 thousand people there receive big French pensions.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: May I tell you, Sir, that in Pondicherry a lot has been done in the matter of irrigation. They had the advantage of having water tapped at very low level and a large number of tubewells have been dug. Many educational facilities have been given. The internationally famous JIPMER college is located in Pondicherry. As a matter of fact, a Central university was to be given to Pondicherry. But the DMK Ministers quarrelled among themselves. They were not in favour of it and they prevented the Central Government from granting a Central university. Now, Sir, I may inform the hon. House that a Central university is being given to Pondicherry and a long-felt need of Pondicherry and the Southern States is being met, because the Government has taken a decision to establish a Central university in Pondicherry.

Then, Sir, some questions were raised about the sales tax and other matters. Our friend, the Finance Minister will reply to those points.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE (Maharashtra): Sir, the Minister has just now stated that the President's rule is there in Pondicherry and the Government will not delay holding the election even by a single day than absolutely necessary. But the point which was raised earlier has not been replied to by him, namely, that there is no break-down of the Constitutional machinery there as such and that there is no law and order problem in Pondicherry warranting delaying of elections. Under article 356 the six-month period is

already over and now we have extended it by one year, which will also come to an end by June 1984. May I know from the Minister when they are going to hold the elections there. Delaying of elections and continuing the President's rule is not necessary because it need not be linked up with the General Elections or the Assembly elections, which are to take place next year. One more point in their favour is that because they are administering well, their income is good and their financial position is also sound. Now I want to say something on the budget and Appropriation Bill. The budget is of about Rs. 55 crores and Appropriation Bill out of Consolidated Fund 1983-84 is of about Rs. 10 crores and 45 lakhs. I want to know the reasons for this excessive expenditure during 1983-84 for this area. Secondly, the budget says that they have provided about Rs. 14 crores for the 20-point economic programme. I would like to know the position of performance of the economic programme in Pondicherry, and how they have made this provision of Rs. 14 crores, and whether they will provide houses for the rural poor under this economic programme.

There is one more point about the textile mill. There was a demonstration here in Boat Club about the closure of the textile mill, and this mill is not properly run. It is a very important unit and the Government should take steps—whether the mill is closed down or not—to see that it is run properly and the workers get the jobs.

So far as the question of industrialisation is concerned, I do not find any proposals of the Government for setting up any new industry in Pondicherry to develop it industrially.

Lastly, this House has no representation from Pondicherry because elections have not been held. Similarly, under Article 244, all Union Territories have not been given representations. Take the case of Goa; it has no representation in Rajya Sabha. I would like the hon. Minister to see

[Shri Shridhar Wasudeo Dhabe]

that all Union Territories have their representation in Rajya Sabha so that their views are also expressed here.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Because of strategic importance and the fact that there is no Member from Pondicherry, we from the neighbouring States want to plead some local causes before you. I welcome and support the Bills. But there are some local points which the Minister may kindly take not of.

One is the long-pending demand for fishing harbour, at Ariyankuppam. Due to natural calamities, fish are being destroyed and, therefore, the fishing harbour has got to be developed.

Secondly, there was a scheme in the Planning Commission for development of Pondicherry Port. This scheme has to be implemented, and that will also relieve the congestion at Madras port. I would request the Minister to kindly attend to it, and if possible, declare it as a free port. This will give Pondicherry lot of revenue and will also help the Government because there is no free port here.

Then, the former Minister for Civil Aviation laid the foundation for an airport; but nothing has been done. Provision of more than Rs. 75 lakhs is already there in the appropriation Bill. Land has not been acquired and nothing has been done and it is only the foundation stone stage like so many other projects in the country. It is absolutely essential that work on the airport at Pondicherry should be started immediately.

Further, Sir, cost of living everywhere is going up and so is the position in this Union Territory. There is inflation and, therefore, I request the Government to declare it as B2 City. This will help the Central Government employees and also others. I request the Minister of Finance to consider this suggestion.

About Anglo-French Textiles, I do not want to go into the details. The

Government is aware of it. Even yesterday people from Pondicherry, belonging to all sections—not only those belonging to DMK or AIADMK or the INTUC—met the Commerce Minister. He has already appointed a committee. Sir, the mill is closed for the last ten months; more than 8000 workers are suffering. The Government was kind enough to intervene and give some amount, like Rs. 300 for Diwali and Rs. 200 for Pongal; but that is not enough. More than 30 to 40 persons have died and committed suicide. I request the Finance Minister to be kind enough, before the process of nationalisation, to re-start the mill and also give at least Rs. 1000 as ex-gratia payment to all the workers to relieve them in their suffering.

Finally, there was a unanimous resolution in Pondicherry Assembly to rename the State as Puducherry as conveyed to the Government of India. I would like the hon. Minister, Mr. Venakatasubbaiah, who is in charge of it, to let us know what is happening to it.

There was a talk about per capita income. About 48 to 50 thousand families have been identified as below the poverty line in Pondicherry.

I also know that the Lt. Governor has taken steps to identify about 10,000 families and do something for them. I am sure, something will be done in this regard.

Then, Sir, there is one problem in the neighbouring town of Karaikkal, which is frequently subjected to the ravages of cyclone. I suggest that some shelters should be provided there so that the destitute people who are uprooted may take refuge in these shelters. I hope, the hon. Minister will look into all these points which have been made by me.

[The discussion on the Budget concluded]

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank hon. Members for devoting some time to the problems of economic development in Pondicherry and also to the needs of the

people who live in Pondicherry. The political angle which has been injected into this debate has been very well taken care of by my distinguished senior colleague, Shri Venkatasubbiah. Sir, the point was made about the twenty-point programme, planning and there was Mr. Jaswant Singh's plea whether this is only a bureaucratic arithmetical exercise, that it is sterile and so on. Well, Sir, the Budget is basically an arithmetical exercise and we are assisted by bureaucrats. I do not know whether there is any Budget in any country in relation to the preparation of which, the assistance of bureaucrats is not taken, who are competent, who have the necessary competence to provide assistance to the Ministers.

If only Mr. Jaswant Singh had gone through the statement which was laid on the Table of the House on 5th March by the hon. Finance Minister, he would certainly have been convinced that some exercise, some thought, has been given to identify the problems, the economic problems, of Pondicherry; not the political problems, and that some efforts have been made to solve these problems.

Sir, the Plan outlay—I am sure, Mr. Jaswant Singh would appreciate and Mr. Ramakrishnan would also appreciate—has gone up by Rs. 7.80 crores for the current year. In 1984-85, we have made an allocation of Rs. 30 crores, which is Rs. 7.80 crores more. What does it indicate? It has to indicate something. This only shows that we have made the necessary exercise and we felt that the economic development of Pondicherry has to be taken care of in the absence of a popular Government there in Pondicherry.

Distinguished hon. Member, Shri Laddi Mohan Nigam, mentioned about the problems of fishermen. Mr. Ramakrishnan did mention about the identification of the families who are below the poverty line and how an exercise has been made by the Government there in trying to bring them above the

poverty line. In regard to the problems of the fishermen, a group accident insurance scheme has been taken up to cover all the 9,000 fishermen who are members of a very big fishermen's co-operative society. The insurance cover is Rs. 15,000 against death or permanent disability. This is one of the programmes which we have taken up apart from various other schemes which we have to take care of the problems which the fishermen are faced with in Pondicherry.

Sir, the point was made about the Anglo-French textile mill. This is a very peculiar problem. In this Mill, 52 per cent of the equity is owned by one Mr. Jatia. He has not been co-opting with the Government to re-open the Mill. The Government of India's stake in this Mill, through institutional finance, is roughly around 8 to 9 per cent.

So, in a peculiar situation which is prevailing in this very unfortunate mill I do realise that there are about 7500 workers who are on the street practically. (*Interruptions*). That is a very easy solution which is being tessed on to the Government that everytime a mill gets into problems, we just get up and take it over. How much can the Government of India take over? The Finance Minister has made it very very clear that on nationalisation of any mill decision will be taken only on economic considerations. We did bring in certain social content into it. Now we do realise that out of the investment of Rs. 30,000 crores in public sector if we do not get a reasonable return, then the time is not too far when people would be just frustrated and they would be disappointed about the functioning of the public sector. So, the question of the Government taking over this mill does not arise at all, but the Pondicherry Government will make all efforts to see that the mill opens.

Sir, there was some mention made about the NGOs. Mr. Mohanan made a reference to this. Out of 19,000 gov-

[Shri S. M. Krishna]

ernment servants only about 400 participated in the strike. Of this 300 suffered break in service. However, they were given a second opportunity to submit an explanation and all except a handful have received condonation of break in service. Some of them who have apologised have come back. Anyhow that point would be looked into and a reasonable decision with reference to them will be taken. (Interruptions) Well those who have apologised for past misbehaviour will certainly be taken back and their interest will be safeguarded.

The Government of India do appreciate the concern that the House has shown for the people of Pondicherry. We will take note of all the suggestions and it is in this spirit that I commend these two Bills for consideration of the House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will now put the motion.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry for the services of a part of the financial year 1984-85, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

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

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

SHRI S. M. KRISHNAN: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we take up the Pondicherry Appropriation Bill, 1984. I will put the motion.

The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1983-84 as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

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

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

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री उमश्यापति : सदन की कार्यवाही रात्रि दो बजे तक के लिये स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned for lunch at twenty minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at eighteen minutes past two of the clock,

Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we take up the Resolution, the Budget (Punjab) 1984-85 and the Punjab Appropriation Bills. The Home Minister.

I. STATUTORY RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF PRESIDENT'S RULE IN PUNJAB FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.

II. THE BUDGET (PUNJAB), 1984-85 GENERAL DISCUSSION.

III. THE PUNJAB APPROPRIATION (VOTE ON ACCOUNT) BILL, 1984