

State Governments who are working on deputation on this project are to be retained for operation and maintenance works. These employees demand that as Beas Construction Board as well as Bhakra Beas Management Board, both are instruments of the Government of India, the 1600 quasi-permanent Central Government employees should have a preferential right than the deputationists to work on the post₃ of Beas Project, when these po't-T are t ansferrel alonr with the Beas Construction Eoard tj the Bhakra Beas Management Hoard.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government that all the deputationists from State Governments should be sent back to their parent departments concerned so that these" quasi permanent Central Government employees can be retained on the project which is otherwise also their legal right as per various rules, regulations and administrative instructions of Government of India

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE CARDAMOM BOARD

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Cardamom Act, 1965 (42 of 1965) read with rule 5(2) of the Cardamom Rules, 1965, this House do pre-ceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one member, from among the members of the House to be a member of the Cardamom Board in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Shri Jagjit Singh Anand from the membership of the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd April, 1980."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE RUBBER BOARD

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:

"That in pursuance of clause (e) of sub-section (3) or section 4 of the Rubber Act, 1947 (24 of 1947) read with rule 4(1) of the Rubber Rules, 1955, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one member from among the members of the House to be a member of the Rubber Board constituted under the said Act."

The question was put and the motion was adopted. LLL

3 P.M.

(I) STATUTORY RESOLUTION SEEKING DISAPPROVAL OF AU- ROVDLLE (EMERGENCY PROVI- SIONS) ORDINANCE, 1980

(II) THE AUROVnXE (EMERGEN- CY PROVISIONS) BILL, 1980

श्री साखन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
श्रीमन्, मैं आपकी अनुमति से यह संकल्प
उपस्थित करता हूँ कि :

"यह सभा राष्ट्रपति द्वारा 10 नवम्बर,
1980 को प्रख्यापित आरोविल (आपात
उपबंध) अध्यादेश, 1980 (1980 का
सं० 19) का निरनुमोदन करती है"

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मंत्री जी . . .

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर
प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, पिछली बार ऐसा हुआ
था, मैंने मूव कर दिया था और बाद में यह
बताया गया कि साथ ही बोलना चाहिए
तो पद्धति यह है आप सेन्ट्रियेट से भी पूछ
लीजिए। मूवर मूव करता है, उस पर बोलता
है फिर मिनिस्टर मूव करता है और फिर
डिस्कशन होता है।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, प्रोसीजर तो यह है लेकिन ऐसा होता रहा है, दोनों पर डिस्कशन होता रहता था, मिनिस्टर बोलता था और फिर सब पार्टियों के मैसेम्बर...

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : मैंने तो आपका ध्यान आकर्षित किया है।

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA (Orissa): The practice is that the Statutory Resolution is moved, the Bill is moved and both are discussed together. In fact, in the List of Business you will kindly see "May be discussed together" is noted. This is the usual practice.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us follow the same procedure.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Sir, on a point of clarification. Does it mean that after the Minister moves, the Minister will speak on that and then he will speak on his Motion and then the discussion will begin?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, after the Minister's speech, the discussion will start.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: When will the mover speak?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When his turn comes.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: No, that is different. यही तो हैं जो मोशन मूव कर रहा है, जितना अधिकार उसको मूव करते समय बोलने का है उसी तरह से उसको राइट टू रिप्लाई भी है।

श्री उपसभापति : आप ठीक कहते हैं लेकिन सदन में समय का सदुपयोग करने के लिये अधिक से अधिक मैसेम्बर बोल सकें। यह परम्परा हम अभी तक फालों करते रहे हैं, दोनों पर एक साथ विचार होता है और

मैसेम्बर का जब टर्न आता है तो वह अपनी टर्न पर बोलता है।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : टर्न नहीं आता है। मूव करने वाले को बोलने का अधिकार है। बाद में जवाब देने का भी अधिकार है। यही अधिकार मंत्री को बोलने का है और बाद में जवाब देने का है। तो मैं सदस्यों के बोलने का जो अधिकार है और बाद में जवाब देने का अधिकार है उसको खत्म नहीं करना चाहता क्योंकि बाकी बिल्स भी यहां पर आने वाले हैं उनमें भी आप यही प्रोसीजर

The mover has two rights.—to move the motion and then to reply to the debate.

श्री उपसभापति : वह तो है लेकिन ऐसा होता नहीं है। अभी नन्दा जी ने जैसे कहा नियम तो यही रहा लेकिन हमारे सदन में अक्सर यही होता है। दोनों मूव हो जाते हैं मिनिस्टर बोलता है और फिर पार्टीज के स्पीकर अपने हिसाब से बोलते हैं।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : यह नहीं होता है। मुझे याद है, हाउस में वोटिंग हुई थी और फिर मैंने डिबेट का जवाब दिया था। मूवर का जो अधिकार डिबेट का जवाब देने का है उसको आप खत्म कर रहे हैं। यह नहीं हो सकता।

श्री उपसभापति : मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : आपत्ति मुझे इसलिए है कि आप उसके अधिकार को छीन रहे हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, डिबेट का जो रूल है उसके हिसाब से चला जाएगा।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : ठीक है, बाकी पाबंदी जैसे आप चाहें लगाएं, लेकिन मूवर का जो अधिकार है, उस अधिकार को नहीं छीना जा सकता।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, श्री लाखन सिंह ।

श्री लाखन सिंह : उपसभापति महोदय, आप यह बता दीजिए कि मुझे कितना समय दिया गया है ?

श्री उपसभापति : आप 10 मिनट बोल लीजिए ।

श्री लाखन सिंह : उपसभापति महोदय, हमारी सरकार अध्यादेशों के माध्यम से इस देश पर राज करना चाहती है । ऐसा लगता है हमारा सरकार अध्यादेशनेनिया से पीड़ित है । 10 नवम्बर, 1980 को यह अध्यादेश लाया जाता है जबकि 17 नवम्बर, 1980 को यह सदन शुरू होने वाला था । इसलिए हम को ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार की नीयत साफ नहीं है । इस कारण से अध्यादेशों के माध्यम से सरकार काम करना चाहती है । आरौविल एक सांस्कृतिक नगरी है । महर्षि अरविन्द के आदर्शों और उनके द्वारा परिपादित सिद्धांतों को लागू करने के लिए यह नगरी बनाई गई थी । लेकिन जब से वहाँ पर विदेशियों को आने जाने की छूट दी गयी है तब से यहाँ पर गड़बड़ी पैदा होना प्रारम्भ हो गयी है । उस गड़बड़ी के कारण सरकार ने एक कमेटी बनायी कि गड़बड़ी चाहे जैसी हो वह कमेटी लिखेगी, उस कमेटी का नाम था कुलकर्णी कमेटी । उस कमेटी से पहले एक रिजोल्यूशन गृह मंत्रालय ने पास किया था वह इस प्रकार है :

"The township of Auroville has been founded on the basis of a Charter announced by the Mother on the 28th February, 1968. The Government of India and a number of State Governments have contributed substantially to the Project of development of Auroville. The Auroville project was also sponsored at the initiative of the Government of India by UNESCO held at Paris in 1966, 1968 and 1970. The Govt. of

India have therefore, a special responsibility in regard to the foundation and development of Auroville as a township of international importance. During the last one year, a number of problems of varied nature have arisen affecting the smooth running of the said township which call for urgent solution. These problems cannot be tackled piecemeal on an ad hoc basis. The Govt. of India have therefore, decided to set up a Committee to consider the problems of Auroville in depth and in their entirety and help in their solution with view to promote the objectives set forth by the Mother in the Auroville Charter. This Committee will also evolve an appropriate procedure about the clearance for entry into and stay in Auroville of foreigners.

The Committee will consist of: —

1. Shri B. T. Kulkarni, Lt. Governor, Pondicherry—*Chairman*.
2. Shri V. Katikeyan, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu—*Member*.
3. Shri S. S. Siddhu, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs—*Member*."

श्रीमन, इस रिजोल्यूशन में कहीं पर भी यह बात नहीं दर्शायी गयी है कि सरकार किसी प्रकार से टेकओवर में दिलचस्पी रखती है । यह जो आरौविले का प्रबंध सरकार अपने हाथ में लेने जा रही है, यह अलोकतांत्रिक है, असंवैधानिक और गैर-कानूनी भी है । संविधान के अनुच्छेद 25 और 26 का हनन हुआ है । यह एक धार्मिक संस्था है और धार्मिक संस्था होने के नाते सरकार ऐसी संस्था में हस्तक्षेप नहीं कर सकती है और न उसे करना चाहिए था लेकिन बड़े खेद की बात है जैसा कि श्री आडवाणी जी ने अभी कहा था कि कुलकर्णी की रिपोर्ट अभी तक सदन के पटल पर नहीं रखी गयी है और मंत्री जी ने कह दिया कि लाइब्रेरी में है, लाइब्रेरी में तो बहुत कुछ है । उस रिपोर्ट

[श्री लाखन सिंह]

के आधार पर इस ओरविले का टेकओवर किया जा रहा है और रिपोर्ट अभी तक सदन के पटल पर नहीं है।

दूसरी बात, यह मामला उच्चतम न्यायालय के विचाराधीन है। उच्चतम न्यायालय ने एक स्थगन आदेश दिया है, उस आदेश के अनुसार उनको न सोसायटी को काम करने का अधिकार होगा कुछ शर्तों के साथ। लेकिन मेरी बात समझ में नहीं आती है कि एक ओर तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट का स्टे आर्डर है और दूसरी ओर उस पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। वैसे तो कई बार निर्णय हो चुका है कि धरती के ऊपर आकाश तक का कोई भी सबजेक्ट हो, कोई निर्णय हो उसको सदन में लाया जा सकता है, उस पर विचार विमर्श किया जा सकता है, लेकिन इस बार में अंतर है। अंतर यह है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने स्टे दिया हुआ है। स्टे के रहते हुए क्या हम यहां विचार कर सकते हैं। तो यह प्रश्न हमारे सामने खड़ा है।

उपसभापति महोदय, हमारी सरकार ने यह काम उन निहित स्वाधियों के बहुकावे में आकर के किया है जो आरोविल सोसायटी में अपना दखल रखते थे। ऐसे व्यक्ति का नाम श्री तीर्थ जोशी है जो पहले यहां पर रजिस्ट्रार के पद पर काम करते थे। आजकल शिक्षा विभाग में एडवाइजर के पद पर काम कर रहे हैं। मैं नहीं समझता कि ऐसे निहित स्वार्थी व्यक्ति को किस प्रकार यह काम सौंपा गया और उसकी एडवाइस पर, उसके कहने पर आरोविल के प्रबन्ध को सरकार अपने हाथ में ले रही है।

मुझे यह भी जानकारी है कि जब वे वहां पर रजिस्ट्रार के पद पर काम करते थे तो उन्होंने 'आरो-मित्र' संस्था बना ली और उस संस्था के माध्यम से पैसा इकट्ठा किया गया और उस पैसे के माध्यम से विदेशी लोगों को भड़का कर, उनको गुमराह करके वहां

पर झगड़े-टंटे खड़े किए गए और उन झगड़ों-टंटों से जो गड़बड़ पैदा हुई है, उसके लिए यही व्यक्ति जिम्मेदार है और आज उसी व्यक्ति के कहने पर सरकार यह कार्य कर रही है।

भूतपूर्व राज्य शिक्षा मंत्री श्रीमती रेणुका देवी बरकटकी ने भी प्रधान मंत्री जी को पत्र लिख कर मांग की कि इसको सरकार अपने हाथ में न ले। आवश्यकता इस बात की थी कि सरकार एक इन्वैस्टिगरी कमीशन बिठाए जो सारे मामले की जांच करती और इस मामले में आरोविल सोसायटी की भी मांग थी। लेकिन उसको पक्ष नहीं बनाया गया। (*Time bell rings*) और उसकी कोई बात नहीं सुनी गई। जब मंत्री जी 30 अक्टूबर को मद्रास एयरपोर्ट पर पहुंचे तो उन्होंने उन विदेशियों से बातचीत की। यह वही विदेशी थे जो गड़बड़ मचा रहे थे, ऐसे लोग थे जिनके डिपॉजिशन के आदेश हो गए हैं, बीसा की तिथि समाप्त हो गई है, लेकिन वहां पड़े हुए हैं।

ऐसे लोगों को सरकार निकालना नहीं चाहती। आज सारे देश में विदेशियों का कहीं न कहीं गड़बड़ी पैदा करने का असर रहता है और इस गड़बड़ी में इनका हाथ है, यह सबको पता है। लेकिन सरकार इतनी श्रीहीन और शक्तिविहीन हो गई है कि ऐसे लोगों के खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही नहीं करना चाहती, जिसके कारण आज यह स्थिति पैदा हुई है। (*Time bell rings*) तो मान्यवर, इस संबंध में मेरा कहना यह है कि जब तक सुप्रीम कोर्ट में यह मामला विचाराधीन है और जो दूसरा पक्ष है सोसायटी का उस पक्ष की अभी बात नहीं सुनी गई, इस कारण से मैं चाहूंगा कि यह मामला सिलैक्ट कमेटी को सौंपा जाए।

मैं सदन से और सम्माननीय सदस्यों से नम्र निवेदन करूंगा कि मेरे इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister to move the Bill.

SHRI SHIV CHANDRA JHA (Bihar): What about the Statutory Resolution?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The discussion will be together. The discussion on both the Resolution and the Bill will be together.

SHRI SHIV CHANDRA JHA: There is the Statutory Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. You will have your chance.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the taking over, in the public interest, of the management of Auroville for a limited period and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I take this opportunity to present before this House the Auroville (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1980, as passed by the Lok Sabha, for the takeover of the management of Auroville, an international cultural township, for a limited period. As the House is aware, the President promulgated an Ordinance in this regard on the 10th November, 1980.

Sir, I would first briefly explain the background of this measure. At the initiative of the Government of India, UNESCO, being of the opinion that the Auroville Project would contribute to international understanding and promotion of peace, sponsored the project by adopting a unanimous resolution to this effect at its General Conference in 1966. By a further resolution passed in 1968, UNESCO, invite^d its member-States and international non-governmental organisations to participate in the development of Auroville as an international cultural township designed to bring

together the values of different cultures and civilisations in a harmonious environment with integrated living standards which correspond to man's physical and spiritual needs. In 1970, UNESCO, had directed its Director-General to take such steps as may be feasible, withiⁿ the budgetary provisions, to promote the development of Auroville as an important international cultural programme.

Sri Aurobindo society which is a non-governmental organisation constituted in 1960, registered in Calcutta and having its office in Pondicherry has been the channel of funds for the setting up of Auroville. This Society is completely distinct from the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, and we, refer here only to the Sri Aurobindo Society and not to the Sri Aurobindo Ashram. The Sri Aurobindo Society received large funds in the shape of grants from different organisations from India and abroad for development of this township. The assistance includ. ed contributions from the State Governments of the value of Rs. 66.50 lakhs and Central Government of the value of Rs. 26.14 lakhs.

On receipt of complaints about, mismanagement of the Project and misuse of funds by Sri Aurobindo Society, a Committee was set up under the chairmanship of the Lt. Governor of Pondicherry with representatives of the Government of Tamil Nadu and of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to look into the matter. The Committee had a detailed scrutiny of the accounts of Sri Aurobindo Society relating to Auroville and found instances of serious irregularities in the management of the Society, misutili^{'a}-tion of its funds and their diversion to other purposes. Various other serious difficulties have arisen plaguing the management of Auroville and rendering thereby any further growth of the township almost impossible. As such, the take-over of the management of Auroville became imperative to

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ensure a growth of the township in tune with its objectives.

Keeping in view the international character of the Project and considering the Government's involvement in actively sponsoring the project through UNESCO, the growth and management of the project has become the primary responsibility of the Government of India. The ideals of the project confirm India's highest aspiration, which could not be allowed to be defeated and frustrated. Sri Aurobindo Society had lost complete control over the situation, and the Members of Auroville approached the Government of India to give protection against oppression and victimisation at the hands of the said Society.

In the recent months, there had been fresh complaints from members of Auroville. There are also internal quarrels between the various factions of Sri Aurobindo Society. There have also been law and order problems on a number of occasions.

The financial management of the project has not been sound. Several instances of mismanagement, diversion of funds have been revealed. It has also been brought to the notice of Government that a large sum of money was given by Sri Aurobindo Society to AURO construction—an agency whose status is not at all defined, whose functions and capabilities for taking up large construction has also not been made known.

Sir, in the circumstances, Government could no longer be a silent spectator to the mismanagement of the project and to internecine quarrels among its members, which if not checked, could lead to the destruction of the project so nobly conceived. The matter was, therefore, examined by Government at length and it was decided to issue a Presidential Ordinance, which is now sought to be replaced by an Act of Parliament. I sincerely hope that the House will appreciate the

gravity of the situation and share the concern of the Government in setting right the affairs of Auroville.

There are three important features of the Bill to which I would like to draw the attention of the House. First, this Bill seeks to vest the powers of management of the property of Auroville in the Central Government only for a limited period of two years. There is also a provision that if before two years, the management of Auroville is put on the right rails, the Government would relinquish the management. In case any extension is needed beyond two years, the same has to be only for one year at a time, for a maximum total period of five years. This will show that the Government has been motivated solely by the idea of securing proper management in public interest and nothing else.

The second feature of the Bill brings out clearly that the Government's function will be that of a protector of the members of Auroville. While there will be an Administrator for the management of Auroville on behalf of the Central Government, there will also be a Council called the "Auroville International Advisory Council" which will consist of eminent persons who are devoted to the ideals of human unity, peace and progress. This Council will be entitled to advise the Central Government either on its own motion or on a reference made to it by the Central Government on any matter concerning the management of Auroville. And in tendering any advice to the Central Government, the Council shall endeavour to secure that the deals for which Auroville has been established are encouraged, and the members of Auroville are allowed freedom to grow and develop activities and institutions for the fulfilment of the aspirations and programmes envisaged in the Charter of Auroville. It will be noted that the entire emphasis is upon the fulfilment of the ideals of Auroville, and the Government is determined to help the members of Auroville and give them the

freedom necessary for them to work out the programme envisaged in the Charter of Auroville. This provision will ensure that nobody is allowed to work in such a way as to disturb the freedom of the members of Auroville or be an obstacle to the fulfilment of the programmes envisaged in the Charter of Auroville.

The third feature of this Bill is that there will be a tribunal for the adjudication of any dispute or doubt that may arise as to whether any asset, right or property forms part of, or is relatable to Auroville. It would be noted that Government themselves do not wish to be the arbitrator in such disputes. Section 9 clearly provides that such disputes will be referred to a tribunal consisting of a person who is or has been a judge of a High Court, to be appointed by the Central Government. If any person is aggrieved by the decision of the Tribunal, he can prefer an appeal to the High Court. These provisions ensure a fair deal in the matter of takeover of the management of Auroville.

Sir, before I conclude, I would also like to clarify one or two constitutional and legal issues concerning this measure. One issue is whether this legislation is within the competence of Parliament. The actual position is that the matter is relatable to entries 10 and 13 of the Union List because it is UNSECO which has passed the resolutions in its three sessions about the promotion of this township and the Government of India has a commitment to UNESCO to implement these resolutions, to continue the work of this township and to see that the objects for which this has been created by the Charter of Auroville are fulfilled. Over and above this, article 253 of the Constitution confers full power on Parliament to legislate on this subject. Article 253 reads as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this chapter, Parliament has power to make any

law for the whole or part of the territory of India for implementing any treaty, agreement or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body."

The other is the issue as to whether the provisions of the Bill are *ultra vires* articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution which guarantee freedom to manage religious affairs. In this regard there are decisions of the High Court under which it has been clearly held that rights which are guaranteed under articles 25 and 26 are available to conventional religions. These articles are not attracted in the case of Auroville because Auroville is not a religious institution. This is a non-religious organisation, as Auroville is an international cultural township.

With these words, Sir, I move.

Now, Sir, the hon. Member while speaking here raised a point about the matter being *sub judice* and a stay order having been granted by the Supreme Court and asked whether this House can proceed with the consideration of the Bill. Sir, I think the powers of Parliament to legislate are not subject to any rulings given either by a High Court or by the Supreme Court. The plenary powers of legislation of Parliament are only subject to the constitutional provisions. No Supreme Court or no High Court can possibly give any order by which discussion in the House can be scuttled, Sir. Moreover, even the stay order which has been given by the Supreme Court is a conditional stay in which the present society has been allowed to spend certain amount of money for their day-to-day functioning and it that amount is to be exceeded, then it will have to be with the sanction of the Administrator who has been appointed under the Ordinance which has been issued by the President. So, it is a conditional stay which has been given. Even accepting that the stay has been granted that

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is not a bar on the consideration and passing of any legislation in this House.

Sir, the hon. Member was pleased to make a reference about one officer of the Education Ministry. I am really sorry about it. The normal practice in this House has been that—if I have understood it correctly—those who are not present to defend themselves should not be mentioned. If allegations are made against persons or officers who cannot defend themselves in the House, then that will be a very unhealthy practice and I do not think that this House would entertain any allegation of this nature. To keep the record straight, I must point out that it is not at the instance of any particular officer that the Government was pleased to take this kind of action. The Kulkarni Committee was appointed. They went through the entire proceedings and got the entire thing audited through the Auditors. Thereafter certain irregularities regarding misutilisation of funds were brought to the notice of the Government. It is not at the instance of one particular officer that the Government has taken this action. The Government considered all aspects of the question. It is not only one officer or not only one Minister. There have been many Ministers who were Education Ministers who have considered this matter. It was referred to the Law Ministry and they also applied their mind. Thereafter, the entire Cabinet considered the whole issue. When the President signed the Ordinance, he also applied his mind to it. Therefore, it has gone through all the processes. Thereafter, to say that it is one officer who is responsible for taking this kind of action seems to be rather uncalled for. That is the only clarification which I wanted to give. There was one more point which was referred to. It was about my visit to Pondicherry. The hon. Member was pleased to say that the trouble-shooters were invited by me. In fact

I had gone there and the Chairman of Shri Aurobindo Society was also travelling in the same plane. So, he was aware that I was going to Pondicherry. I did not invite anybody there. If some foreigners come and see me, I cannot stop them from seeing me. The Aurobindo Society people were also aware of my visit. So, both of them had the information. One section approached me. The other section, for reasons best known to them, did not think it fit to come and meet me. These are some of the points that the hon. Member raised while moving his resolution. I have given clarifications. Now, I would request the House to take the Auroville (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1980, into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is one amendment of Dr. Bhai Maha-vir on it,

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I move;

"That the Bill to provide for the taking over, in the public interest, of the management of Auroville for a limited period and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following Members, namely:—

1. Shri V. B. Raju
2. Shri Lai K. Advani
3. Shri Ghanshyambhai Oza
4. Shri Bishambhar Nath Pande
5. Dr. Bhai Mahavir

with instructions, to report by the first week of the next session of the Rajya Sabha."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Have you taken the consent of all the Members whose names have been given? Have the Members given their consent?

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: I presume so, Sir. When it comes to voting, it will be known.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to know before that.

मुझे जो नाम आपने दिये हैं उन की कंसेंट आप ने ले ली है यह जानना चाहता हूं ।

डा० भाई महावीर : वास्तविकता यह है कि सब की कंसेंट है, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि जिस वक्त यह बात आप उन के सामने रखेंगे तो Their consent would be forthcoming.

श्री उपसभापति : यह नाम मैं पढ़ देता हूं, कोई होगा तो बता देगा । वह नाम इस प्रकार हैं—श्री वी०बी० राजू, श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी, श्री धनश्याम भाई ओझा, श्री विश्वम्भर नाथ पांडे और डा० भाई महावीर ।

The questions were proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Namda.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): I am not wanting to intervene in the debate. I merely wish to ask one question. With your permission, end that will facilitate this discussion. The hon. Minister has been pleased to say that there have been serious irregularities which have been reported by this Committee which went into it . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Kulkarni Committee.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: But we have been told by various people who met us that there have been no irregularities reported by the audit team. Would the Minister be good enough to place on the Table of the House the irregularities that might have been mentioned by the audit team.

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SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: The Kul-karni Committee's report as well as the audit report have already been placed in the Library. It was on Saturday that five copies of these were placed in the Library. If hon. Members go through them, they can draw their own conclusions.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: The point is not that...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That matter is now over.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Let the hon. Minister be fair to the House. What has been said is whether those irregularities or charges were placed before the Society and their explanation obtained. It is no use placing it in the Library.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That part of the criticism will be replied to later on.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: If it is brought to their notice, it is all right.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He said that the reports are in the Library for the last one week

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: My point is whether it has been brought to the notice of the Society.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can raise that point and the Minister will reply to it. Mr. Nanda.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : श्रीमान्, मेरा प्वायंट आफ आर्डर है ... (Interruptions)

श्री उपसभापति : कहिये क्या प्वायंट आफ आर्डर है ?

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : स्टेच्युटरी रेजूलेशन में जो नाम हैं आपके लिस्ट आफ बिजिनेस में उसमें मेरा भी नाम है । तो कायदा यह होता है कि पहला नाम उनका था वह बोल गये, तो मेरा अधिकार होता है कि मैं उस पर बोलूं ... (Interruptions)

श्री उपसभापति : यह जो प्रस्ताव पेश करते हैं वही बोलते हैं और बाकी जो नाम उनके साथ लिखे हुए हैं वह सब नहीं बोलते । इसमें कोई प्वायंट आफ आर्डर नहीं है । श्री नंदा ।

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: In the normal circumstances, I would not have participated in the discussion on a Bill of this kind. I have got very strong views about the functioning of institutions of this type. But it would be unfair to my integrity, if I do not stand up to make certain points against this Bill.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Dinesh Goswami) in the Chair.]

I am very sorry that a very sensible person like Mr. Chavan, who has just taken over...

Mr. Chavan, who has just taken over...

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE (Karnataka): Your presumption may not be correct.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: ... had to take up a Bill of this type and rush through this Bill without properly examining whether it affects certain fundamental values and whether it raises certain basic questions.

Sir, I will make a few points and that will show why I decided to participate in this discussion.

We were told that there were some irregularities. I do not know how Shri Aurobindo and the Divine Mother would have taken this Bill if they were alive today. Of course, some gentlemen or some people find it very easy to blow hot and cold in the same breath. I know people going to Shri Aurobindo and the Divine Mother when they were alive and seeking their blessings for achievement of political objectives. Now both of them are not there. This Auroville was founded on the 28th February, 1968 by a charter of the Divine Mother for the realisation of three ideals

They are:—

- (1) Individual perfection,
- (2) Social transformation; and
- (3) Human unity in rich diversity through service to the Divine.

I have not been able to understand how the take-over of the management of this institution by the Government, which is going to function certainly through a bureaucratic machinery, will help in achieving individual perfection. I cannot understand how, by bureaucratising this institution, whether it is for two years or for a limited period or for a period of five years as the honourable Minister has just now said, this objective of individual perfection can be achieved. How can it be achieved through the process of bureaucratisation in this institution? I cannot understand how the objective of social transformation can be achieved by just changing over the management from the Aurobindo Society to some top bureaucrats. Obviously, the Minister will not go there and sit there and manage the entire affairs of the Auroville. Lastly, Sir, I cannot understand how they are going to achieve human unity in rich diversity through service to the Divine by this process. We notice everyday how the ruling party is behaving with the other political segments or political parties or factions in the country and how they are creating a situation of confrontation. I cannot understand how, by taking over the management of this institution they will achieve the basic human unity which was the objective for which it was founded.

Now, Sir, the basic question is whether by the Government takeover of the management of the Auroville the purpose for which the Auroville was founded would be served or whether the cause would be enhanced. I have very grave doubts about it, Sir. I do not think that the

cause can be served by the mere takeover by the Government. This appears to me to be like this solution: "If a person is having headache, you simply chop off his head". This is not the way to solve it. I know that the Kulkarni Committee Report was submitted in 1977. But the honourable Minister says that five copies ^{or} ^{that} Report are available in the Library. From what date is it available? From this Saturday only. That too, after the Lok Sabha passed this Bill and all these things were pointed out in the Lok Sabha; Sir, between 1977 and 1980, you will find enormous correspondence on this issue. The Society people have written a number of letters to the Ministry and they have made certain concrete proposals. Even Mr. Raju who happens to be a Member of the Executive of the Society and a member of the ruling party in the Lok Sabha, has written letters both to the Prime Minister and the Education Minister suggesting concrete measures. I do not know whether any alternative was available to the Government. I do not know whether any alternatives were available to the Government even while taking over this institution because of mismanagement and other things which the Minister is alleging on the basis of a Report which is not yet before us and which we have not had the opportunity of discussing. They have suggested putting a Reconciliation Officer from the Tamil Nadu Government; they have suggested that on the Committee itself you can appoint three officers, nominate three officers; they have suggested that you can depute one of your IA&AS officers, accounts officers, on deputation for the financial management of the Auroville, if there was any mismanagement; and all kinds of constructive suggestions were made. But, instead of responding to those suggestions, they have taken it over. It is a voluntary organisation and it had a purpose with which certainly the Government is not so much concerned. The Government deals always with mundane af-

fairs and not with spiritual affairs. It does not interfere with the spiritual Or religious affairs of the people. The basic purpose for which this institution was founded is said to be spiritual. If that is so, how is the Government, which deals with mundane matters only, concerned with spiritual matters.

Sir, what are the main charges against the existing management? Misuse of funds and their diversion to other purposes, serious difficulties which have arisen with regard to management—these serious difficulties have not been spelt out. What are the serious difficulties for which it became necessary for the Government to take over the management? About the misuse of funds and their diversion to other purposes specific instances could have been brought. In fact, when the Kulkarni Committee Report contained all these serious allegations, they could have been placed before the House, and we could know about it. *(Time bell rings)*.

Sir, I have taken Chairman's permission to take at least 25 minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): The problem is that for this Bill only one hour has been allotted.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Chairman was there, you were not there, Deputy " Chairman was there; I have taken his permission. Mr. Ramamurti was there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): That is true. But you can take more time if one hour is extended to two hours. I am prepared for two hours, but you cannot extend it beyond that. I have to ¹ put a time-limit. *(Interruptions)* The difficulty is that these matters come before the Business Advisory Committee. The Business Advisory Committee fixed one hour, if more time was necessary, it ought to have been decided.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Quite right. That is why it creates difficulties. I took the permission of the Chairman. Mr. Rama-murti was there, Several other Members were there. Mr. Sitaram Kesri, Minister in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs was there. I pleaded for more time. He agreed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): If you take 25 minutes, it will take about five hours. My request is that you finish within 15 minutes. Try to speak as briefly as possible.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: I speak very briefly, as briefly as possible. The point is that they are making all kinds of generalised and vague allegations, for which they do not afford an opportunity to the Society; you are condemning the Society without even giving an opportunity to it. You should not condemn it without giving an opportunity of fair trial. Even Billa and Ranga were tried in a court, they were found guilty and then only they were convicted. You are convicting the Society without giving it an opportunity to explain. You have said, well, the Kulkarni Report has... (*Interruptions*) You are trying to call somebody a dog and hang him. This goes against our basic concept of justice. Well, I do not know whether these allegations are true. If these allegations are true according to the Government, you could have provided these allegations to the Society and said: These are the serious charges against you, what have you to say about this. If they could not have offered a satisfactory explanation, well, you hang them. I have no objection. But without a chance or opportunity to the Society to explain their conduct, you are coming forward before the House... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: May I intervene for a minute? I think the en-

tire argument is based as if the Society has not been given a copy of the Audit Report and the objections raised in the Audit Report. It is not a fact. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Did you furnish a copy of the Kulkarni Committee Report? You are referring to the Audit Report. All these charges about misuse and irregularities, were based on the so-called Kulkarni Report. He is now introducing an element of Audit Report. He cannot jump from one to the other. I want to know whether a copy of the Kulkarni Report has been furnished to the Society?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): You have made your point.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Kulkarni Report is also based on the Audit Report and that is why both the copies have been placed in the Library for the hon. Members.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: I am talking about the Library.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Please try to understand me. It is not that we are springing a surprise on the Society. Even the Society was asked to explain their conduct in certain matters which had been pointed out by the Kulkarni Committee.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: I know that the Minister is saying that they were asked to explain their conduct. You have been keeping us in the dark about these things. You could have brought it in the open. These things should not have been allowed to remain in the dark. One so-called strong argument was put forward by the hon. Minister and it is that there is a commitment to the UNESCO. They had a Resolution in 1966, another Resolution in 1968 and the third Resolution in 1970. Therefore, the Government of India stands committed to

the UNESCO to take over the management. Are you committed to take over the management of this Society? Did the UNESCO direct the Government of India to take over the management of Auroville? What is your commitment? Your commitment is to help it grow as an international centre of peace and understanding which are the very basic things about which I have said and which I don't want to repeat. Therefore, there is no point in speaking about this commitment. You know that out of Rs. 3,26,20,000 the contribution of the UNESCO was only Rs. 40,000. This was the UNESCO contribution to Auroville. With this contribution. I don't think the UNESCO could have directed the Government of India to take over the Society. Why is he taking protection under the cover of UNESCO direction? I would like to know whether there is any such direction from the UNESCO that this management of Auroville should be taken over.

I would make one more point and then finish. About the entry and exist of foreigners to the Auroville Society, the Government could have made some arrangements in consultation with the Society. But no arrangements were made by the Government in, spite of the fact that the Society reported against 80 foreigners their indulgence in various activities, i have a complete record of those 80 foreigners who were indulging in these activities and deportation orders were served on them by the Government. Why were these deportation orders not implemented? Who helped the foreigners? Certainly ~ not the Auroville Society? Who will be blamed for the negligence of the Government? If you take over the management, you will also start favouritism.

The bureaucrats will take control of the management of the Society. They will start a de« of favouritism. They will bring in all kinds of people and it may not be in national interest. My point is that it should not

be done. May I give a sound piece of advice to the Government?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): You may give the advice. Whether it is sound or not will be judged by the Government.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Don't kick the beehive. Leave the beehive alone. Otherwise, it will sting all of you and sting in such a manner that you will not be able to resist that thing and you may collapse. Therefore, please take care. This is not a warning from me. This may as well as be a warning from the Divine Mother whom I have not met in my life.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Again I come to the question of time. The Business Advisory Committee allotted one hour for this Bill. But I am told that the Chairman extended the time...

AN HON. MEMBER: We were told.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): I don't know what the Chairman's assurance was. If it is to be extended, instead of one hour, it may stretch to two hours. Therefore, let us hope that we will be able to finish within one and a half hour or at least within two hours. And I am told that the Leader of the House has requested Mr. Ramamurti and some of the leaders for a meeting. So, if the House has no objection, I give the floor now to Mr. Ramamurti.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am really placed in a dilemma whether to support this Bill or to oppose this Bill. Sir, very gradiose aims were proclaimed by this Society when it was formed. And my friend. Mr. Advani, said that the Government should have nothing to do with religious societies. But we know that

[Shri P. Ramamurti]

under the garb of religion, all sorts of atrocities are committed in this country. Just now we know what is being done by the Mahant of Bodhgaya.

AN HON. MEMBER: In the birth place of the Buddha.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: That is not the birth place of the Buddha. It is the place where the Buddha got the divine light. We know what is happening there. Therefore, we know that all sorts of activities, all sorts of malpractices, all sorts of immorality is going on in the so-called religious societies. Religion has become a garb for committing all sorts of antisocial activities. And as far as I know as far as my knowledge goes—and my knowledge is personal because I am coming from that place and I have moved with the people there—this particular Society of late has become a den of vice. I am not talking of corruption alone, not of monetary corruption alone. It is a den of vice, the vice of the worst type. Sex crimes, smuggling and then what you call the drug-peddling are there. The students of the college there are getting corrupted. As a result of that, all sorts of things are emanating from that Society, from that particular spot. You go to Pondicherry and talk to the people of Pondicherry. They will tell you all these things. Apart from these things, Sir, there is another important thing which concerns the security and the integrity of the country as a whole. This Society which is supposed to bring people of diverse religions together for the unity of mankind, has got a number of people there, the resident foreigners, who indulge in all sorts of anti-national activities. I would like to ask the Government of India one thing. Is it not a fact that in 1978, as many as 45 foreigners were asked to be deported? One month's notice was given to them that they should get out of this country. Is it not a

fact that in April, 1980, ten foreigners were asked to go? But none of them left the country. Is it not a fact that many people are residing there whose visas have expired? I want to know what the attitude of the Government was towards this.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Negligence of the Government.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: Is it that the Society is responsible or is it the incompetent Government that is responsible for it? Or, either you are incompetent to carry out your own orders or there must be somebody high up in the Central Government who is protecting these anti-national elements who have been found to be indulging in anti-national activities. Therefore, when such things are taking place, how will the Government takeover help it? How will it help, this is what I want to know. If you have not been able to deport these people in spite of the deportation orders because of the people of very high status in the Government, may be, bureaucrats or, may be Ministers, I do not know, they are interfering in the process of law and protecting these anti-national elements who have become risk to the security of the nation, who are spies and do all sorts of things, how is this taking over going to help you now? As a matter of fact, a coded communication from a foreigner, from an American, was actually seized by the Government of India and it was decoded and on the basis of that decoded message he was ordered to get out of India. All these things are happening there. This is the position. Therefore, just by the Government of India taking over this institution, what is the objective that they are

going to achieve. Taking over the management for two years, what is the objective that is going to be achieved. Are they, going to achieve the objective of the unity of the human

ity. You are not able to unite your, own party. In every State, party meetings are held with the help of

the police and you are saying' that this Government is capable of uniting the entire humanity. What is this nonsense? I do not know what purpose it is going to serve. Therefore, some suspicion naturally arises that some people who are interested in utilising this money and some people who are interested in promoting these anti-national activities that are going on there, their hands are behind this. This suspicion naturally arises. You cannot do away with that suspicion. It arises precisely because you have not carried out the duties cast upon the Government all these years. You have refused to deport them. You have refused to act on the advice of your own police and security forces. Therefore, Sir, that is the reason why I find myself in a very difficult position. My advice to the Government would be not to take over but to dissolve this society once and for all. Dissolve it once and for all. Let not the soil of our country be used in the name of religion for the importation and residence of spies, of people who spread a completely decadent culture. Let it not be used as a soil in the grandiose name of building up of humanity, spiritualism, this, that and all sorts of other things. All sorts of anti-national and anti-social activities pervade in the society. Therefore, Sir, I do not know what to do now. You want to take it over. I do not want that society to remain as it is. I do not want you also to take over. That is why I said. I am in a dilemma. Therefore, I say, I would be very happy if this society was dissolved and; we, at least the residents of Pondicherry town and Pondicherry State, and the whole of Tamil Nadu, not only Pondicherry, but the people of the whole of Tamil Nadu, would be happy, if the Government dissolved the society, because they are the people who are witnesses to what is happening there. The people sitting here are just taken by the grandiose words of aims and objectives. They do not know what is happening there. But the entire people of Tamil Nadu

and particularly the people of Pondicherry and Cuddalore know what is happening there. They are sick of the institution. The sooner that institution is finished, the better for the country and better for the world. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Smt. Pratibha Singh.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: Sir, one more thing I want to mention. I have got so many cases. I have got information about a number of cases which have been filed against these foreigners. Information on these cases is due for the last four years. This is the administration there.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH (Bihar): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the question before the House is whether the stagnation that has gripped all of us should be allowed to continue or whether the Government must come forward to do its duty and ensure in public interest proper management of the Auroville and pave the way for the fulfilment of a great dream of Shri Aurobindo and the Mother.

Sir, Shri Aurobindo's role in the freedom movement is known. It was he who gave the Bande Matram, which he took from Bankim Babu's

book the *Anand Math*. He 4. P.M. came to Pondicherry in 1910

from Chandranagore jail and remained there till 1950 when he left his body. Sir, Mother later on joined him in 1914. Then she left for France in 1916 as was going on and she again came back in 1920. After that, she stayed on till she left her body. She in her whole life kept on trying new experiments for the advent of new consciousness, supramental consciousness. And while doing this, she had the vision of a new city of light, Auroville, the city of light, the great concept of collective living based on

[Shrimati Pratibha Singh]

universal principles of brotherhood and human unity.

Sir, since 1966, UNESCO has passed three unanimous resolutions—I have got copies of those resolutions, but I would not like to take the time of the House—declaring its support to Auroville, asking member-States to support Auroville. In 1970, UNESCO went further and made an appeal to all the member States to give financial assistance within their budgetary provisions, to Auroville. It said:

“...invites the Director General to take such steps as may be feasible within the budgetary provision to promote the development of Auroville as an important international cultural programme.”

It was thought that appreciation of eastern and western cultural values gave a pioneer start and this idea is not being pursued only in India; it is being experimented in other countries also. So we cannot say that these things are only for that place. In fact, what Mr. Ramamurti has said, justifies the Government's stand of taking it over. It was in the context of UNESCO's resolutions that India gave the lead and gave more than Rs. 90 lakhs to Auroville. This includes the contribution of the Centre as well as of the States. Other nations would also have come forward, but in the meantime, difficulties arose and Sri Aurobindo Society mismanaged its affairs after Mother left her body.

What happened, Sir, was that from 1968 to 1973, things developed rapidly and the bright promises were becoming a reality day by day. As soon as Mother left her body in 1973, suddenly things took an adverse turn. There began internecine conflicts in the Ashram in Sri Aurobindo Society and in Auroville—in the three organisations. Sri Aurobindo Society which is distinct from Sri Aurobindo Ashram began to show in particular signs of malpractices. Complaints were received

that public funds were being misused by the new managers of the society. And, Sir, what Mr. Nanda has mentioned, let me refer to it that his own party man, Dr. Karan Singh, as you know, in Lok Sabha, under Rule 377, had himself pressed the Government for the takeover sometime back. The Government took steps to enquire into the matter. Audit report was obtained and this confirmed the apprehensions of misutilisation of funds given by the Central and the State Governments. There is a big question mark there about the missing vouchers for Rs. 25 lakhs. Construction work has already come to a halt. Managers of Sri Aurobindo Society came into conflict with the residents of Auroville. The residents of Auroville complained of harassment and victimisation at the hands of the Society. Sir, Government should take action against the culprits. But there were other innocent people also who had come to see the light in that place, i.e. Auroville. Now, Sir, Government cannot, in these circumstances, be a silent spectator of the deteriorating situation. It is duty bound to implement the decisions of the UNESCO which were themselves sponsored by it and it should also safeguard that the money of the taxpayers is spent for the approved purposes and that it is not allowed to be misused. Hence, it has to ensure that the residents of Auroville are given protection against any oppression. They first tried to find a solution through negotiations. But this did not work. Sri Aurobindo Society took the view that it had the supreme authority to administer Auroville, not only its properties, but even the lives of the citizens of Auroville. These citizens are from different lands of the world. This was unacceptable to the citizens of Auroville. The members of Auroville declared that they were neither the members of the Sri Aurobindo Society nor were they the employees of the Sri Aurobindo Society. They were manhandled, harassed, beaten, bones were broken. They wanted freedom to pursue the ideals of Auroville given to them by Mother through a Charter which said:

1. Auroville

belongs to nobody in particular. Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole. But to live in Auroville, one must be willing servitor of the perfect consciousness; 2. Auroville will be the place of unending education¹ of constant progress and youth that never ages; 3. Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future. Taking advantage of all the discoveries from without and from within, Auroville will boldly spring towards future realisation; 4. Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual research for a living embodiment of an actual human unity. This is the real background. A high-powered Committee was appointed by the Government under Chairmanship of the Lt. Governor of Pondicherry, Mr. Kulkarni. This Committee had also recommended that the take-over of Auroville by the Government under article 31 A. 1(b) for a limited period was a preferable course of action. I have a copy of the report here. This was in 1977. Thereafter, the situation worsened further. The audit report was studied thoroughly by the Government. The audit reports since 1977 had been thoroughly studied. Explanations were sought for from the Shri Aurobindo Society. Explanations given by them were evasive. Doubts arose and not intensified that the Shri Aurobindo Society might further misuse the funds if any delay was allowed. Besides, the take-over is only for a limited period of two years; to be extended year by year, for five years, which is the maximum. Building construction etc., which has come to a halt can be given a push. The confidence of Aurovilleans can be restored. The image of Auroville which has been tarnished can be regained and may shine again. The most important thing is,—this Bill seeks to do it—under section 6(1). the Government is empowered to constitute an International Advisory Council because one of the previous speakers had said that it is the Government officers who are going to be the whole and sole authority on everything in Auroville. It is not that. "This is going to be a very powerful International Advisory Council which

I will ensure that the ideals of Auroville are encouraged and the members of Auroville are given freedom to develop their activities and the institution in accordance with the Charter of Auroville and thereby fulfil the dream of the Mother.

It has been argued that Auroville is a religious organisation. Sir, nothing is far from truth. The Mother herself has declared that Auroville is for human unity, irrespective of religion, caste, creed, dogma, rituals and ceremonies. In fact, Auroville has been conceived on lines that fulfil the highest ideals of secularism as understood in India under our Constitution. As the hon. Minister has very kindly pointed out, A.I.R. 1976, Page 207 says:

"The meaning of the word 'religion' in article 31 is confined to the well-defined religions of India such as Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Christianity."

j This ruling was given by the Delhi High Court. Besides, the tax exemption given under section 80G of the Income Tax Act also shows that it is not a religious organisation. UNESCO too is interested in Auroville as an institution which is working for the highest evolution of mankind and not

I as a religious organisation.

| Therefore, Sir, it is no interference by the Government. Neither it is an infringement of articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution.

Sir, what Sir Aurobindo and the Mother wanted, can, to some extent, be understood by referring to the book Jonathan Livingston's *Seagull* by Richard Bach which says, "Excellence, perfection, evolution is the goal of mankind". It is there we want to reach and it was this dream which the Mother sought Auroville to achieve and the present position is just the opposite. That is why the Government had no option except to take it over.

[Shrimati Pritbha Singh]

Since several years Auroville has remained stagnant and this bill opens the gates of a new beginning. We may, therefore, while supporting this Bill, repeat the invitation that the Mother gave on the foundation day of Auroville on 28th February, 1968, i.e., "Greetings from Auroville and all men of goodwill are invited to Auroville all those who thirst for progress and aspire to a higher and truer life." Thank you, Sir.

डा० भाई० महावीर : अच्छा लिखा है, जिस ने भी लिखा...

श्रीमती प्रतिभा सिंह : लिखा नहीं, मेरी फीलिंग है, इस लिए मैंने उस का जवाब दिया है। नन्द जी, आप की पार्टी में जब कर्ण सिंह जी थे तभी उन्होंने कहा था और उन की पचीसों चिट्ठियाँ सरकार के पास हैं जिनमें उन्होंने सोसायटी के बारे में कहा है।

श्री नरसिंह प्रसाद नन्द : यह क्या मेरी स्पीच का जवाब है ? मिनिस्टर, साहब को जवाब देने का मौका दीजिये आप क्यों जवाब दे रही हैं ?

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I do not know why Mr. Chavan agreed to be willing instrument to the destruction of a great dream, a great ideal and a great mission that was envisaged by great saga Aurobindo and the Mother. This Bill is the product of a conspiracy among a high-level Government servant, a Governor, a Lt. Governor and certain foreign nationals who have absolutely no right to stay a moment longer in this country. I am sorry for Mr. Chavan that this sin is being committed by him either ignorantly, or I do not know, under the influence of some people. Sir, the Bill says in the Preamble;

"And whereas pursuant to the complaints received with regard to the misuse of funds by Sri Aurobindo Society, a Committee was set up under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant-Governor of Pondicherry with representatives of the Government of Tamil Nadu-----"

Sir, the Committee has been set up after the Audit Report which allegedly revealed that there was a great deal of misuse of funds and a lot of irregularities. May I read out for the benefit of the hon. Minister, Mr. Vice-Chairman, the most crucial part of the Report which pertains to the financial management. Whatever irregularities are supposed to have been committed, or whatever funds have been misapplied or misused must have been covered under this paragraph. The paragraph is named "Financial Management". It is paragraph No. 151 on page 84:

"We have already seen the drawbacks of the system of maintenance of accounts. Apart from this, we also found that the system of financial management is not organised on a sound footing. Important financial decisions are being taken without adequate data, thinking and analysis. Perhaps the experience of the institution not handling such a large scale project is the reason behind this. However, we believe that it should not be difficult for them to organise financial management on a reasonably sound footing. All the sub-projects undertaken must be preceded by a proper assessment of the resources position. The elements of proper anticipation, planning and Periodical review must be integrated in the new system of financial management. If a proper system had been prevalent, the instance of the various building remaining unfinished half-way and Bharat Nivas facing the paucity of funds and other problems of similar nature in the course of construction would have perhaps been avoided."

This is the total indictment contained in the audit report. May I ask, does it warrant such a drastic action as taking over the management? Does it justify such a step through the issue of an ordinance which is immoral and unconstitutional? What was the great hurry in issuing the Ordinance, even supposing under his wise judgement there was some ground to interfere in the management? Sir, I may tell you that several years ago, Sri Aurobindo Society had requested the Government—not once but repeatedly—to nominate Government representatives on the Managing Body. Why didn't the Government do it? The Minister, says, a lot of money was given. Sir, I was one of those Ministers, when I was in the Government who gave this laudable project, this noble project substantial financial help on behalf of the Karnataka Government. Therefore, I am interested in the development of this project. He mentioned as if lakhs and lakhs of rupees have been given by UNESCO. What is the total amount received from UNESCO? I, he not aware that it is hardly Rs. 40,000? And he takes the name of UNESCO to justify the issuing of an ordinance and taking over the management saying—by quoting articles of the Constitution—that if a decision of any international body or organisation has to be implemented, then the Central Government has the jurisdiction. That is what perhaps he meant. The total sum received from UNESCO is Rs. 40,000. The Government had appointed a Committee under Mr. Kul-karni. If I have had sufficient time, I would have given the whole story. May I ask him if he is aware that after this Committee was constituted, this Committee borrowed money from the Tata Trust? For what purpose and on what grounds? With the Government's permission or not? The terms of reference of this Committee are very limited. Sir, here are the terms of reference:—

"That Government of India have, therefore, decided to set up a Com-

mittee to consider the problems of Auroville in depth and in their entirety and help in their solution with a view to promote the objectives set forth by the Mother in the Auroville Charter. This Committee will also evolve an appropriate procedure about the clearance for entry into and stay in Auroville of foreigners."

Sir, it did not require any money. Even if this Committee needed some financial assistance, it could have approached the Government. Why did this Committee approach the Tatas, of all people? Is the Government aware of this? I can produce the photostat copy of a letter of the Tata Trust in this regard. I can place it on the Table of the House. Is the hon. Minister also aware as to how many crimes have been committed by foreign nationals who have been residing in Auroville by force, without any right whatsoever? The other day I have received a cyclo-styled letter signed by four people. They are: Prem Mallik, Yusuf Khasim, Major-General Krishna Tiwari and Frederic. Sir, let him put his hands on his conscience and honestly tell us the background, the antecedents of these four gentlemen. Everyone of them is a criminal. Everyone of them is being prosecuted. And there are ten people who are illegally residing in India. Sir, when a Committee has been formed to regulate the visas and the entry of foreign nationals, may I ask the Government whether that Committee made any recommendation in regard to that? The Government cancelled the visas and ordered deportation of those people. Some of them were forcibly deported. They have come back to India and they are staying in Auroville. They have committed theft, they have committed dacoities, they have committed atrocities, they forcibly entered the Matru Mandir. What sort of crime have they not committed? And you are now turning your guns against Shri Aurobindo Society, is it? You have no guts, you have no moral courage

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to take action against these foreign nationals. What action have you taken?

Sir, I am sorry to bring in the name of a Governor of the previous days. I want to read two letters. One is written by the great Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Kulkarni, who was hand in glove with these foreign nationals. He writes this letter which is dated October 29, 1979 to a foreign national:

"My dear Dr. Spanier,

Thank you for your letter dated 15th October, 1979. I am glad to know"

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
Can he bring in his name? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: He is no more a Governor*

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
You can mention anything about him. I do not say that. Unless anybody...
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: The hon. lady Member need not be oversensitive. I do not know why she thinks the cap fits her. I didn't put it on her. If she thinks the cap fits her, I shall have no objection.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): I think you are being unfair to the hon. lady Member. She made a valid point. *(Interruptions)*

* Expunged 33 ordered by the Chair.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: I can also retort and give you . . .
(Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): She, as any other Member, is entitled to raise the point of order that you are not entitled to bring in the Governor. I shall look through the discussion and see as to how you brought him in. It is not that the Governor's name may not be mentioned. He can be brought in. If it comes within the purview in which discussion is not permitted...

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: I did not say which Governor. I did not mention his name. The lady Member made it obvious. What can I do?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): I think you are being unfair. *(Interruptions)* This will not go on record and may I point out that the reference to the hon. lady Member will not go on record. Please continue.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Am I right in understanding you that the Governor's name cannot be brought in?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): No. I have not said that. What I have said is different. The hon. lady Member like any other hon. Member_____

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: Her objection I understood, but your ruling is like that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): No, I have not given any ruling. What I said is that the hon. lady Member like any other hon. Member is entitled to raise a point of order. Mr. Hegde made certain observations. I said that will not go on record. What I am saying is not that the Governor's name cannot be taken. Obviously when Mr. Hegde will be referring to the Governor, if there is anything which comes and which is not permitted under the rules, I will look into it. I have taken note of the point of order. It is still time for me to look into the point. Please continue.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: I have not uttered a single word in my speech—I have not done it in my entire Parliamentary life—which is either derogatory or uncalled for or insulting to any sitting Member. I never do it. I have never done it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): I have not allowed that to go on record; therefore, it is no use saying this. Please continue.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: She herself made it obvious. What can I do?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): No, she did not. I think you are being unfair. The lady Member as any other Member is entitled to raise a point of order. I do not think it would be proper for somebody to impute motives to the Member. Please continue.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: No, I did not impute any motive.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Please continue.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: I was reading a letter written by Mr. Kulkarni:

"I am glad to note that you and Mrs. Spanier are doing Herculean

work for the noble cause of Auroville.

Of late, Shri Navajata has increased his destructive activities and is trying to see that some of the Aurovillians will be expelled from Auroville and India. As Chairman of Auroville Committee, I have already written to Government of India and the hon. Home Minister, Shri Chavan, that all such activities should be discouraged. I have also requested that for the coming few months no resident of Auroville should be disturbed whether his visa is valid or not. I am quite sure that the Government of India will respond to my letter favourably.

You may show this letter of mine to anybody who is sympathetic to the cause of Auroville in the States as well as other places."

Sir, this letter shows that the head of the Committee that was appointed by the Government to look into the affairs of the Auroville Society and regulate the entry of foreigners is so highly prejudiced against the Chairman of Sri Aurobindo Society. Can you expect any justice from such a person who has already shown partiality? Sir, what I would ask my friend Mr. Chavan is this. In reply to some point raised by Dr. Bhai Mahavir, he said that he went to Madras and it was true that he was received by certain foreign nationals. He said that the Chairman of the Sri Aurobindo Society was also travelling by the same flight to Madras, but neither he nor other members of the Society cared to meet him. Now, I would like to ask him one thing. For what purpose did he go to Pondicherry? Was it with the intention of understanding the problem so that he could do justice, he could take proper action? If so, I want to know whether he informed the Sri Aurobindo Society of his coming, of his programme and whether he had informed the foreign nationals directly or through somebody. It is not a mere accident that those foreign nationals happened to be at the airport

[Shri Ramakrishna Hegde]

in a sufficiently big number to receive him. Sir, he is the Minister. He has to do justice, and unless he knows both the sides, how can anybody expect him to do justice? May I ask him this question?

Sir, this is not a matter which can be dealt with in a routine manner. This is a world-famous institution, and the way the Government has proceeded so far, does not bring credit either to itself or to our country. And regarding the issue of the Ordinance, actually I might mention here that from 1977 this matter was pending before the Government. The Audit report was submitted in 1977 and the Kul-karni Committee Report was also in the hands of the Government by 1977. If at all they thought that there was justification to take any action, what was the Government doing over these three years and how does it justify that all of a sudden it woke up to the necessity and the urgency of the problem and issued the Ordinance? Sir, I oppose this Ordinance tooth and nail.

डा० भाई महावीर : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आरोविल के बारे में सरकार का जो निर्णय है, इस निर्णय को लेने के कारणों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए मंत्री जी ने जो कुछ बातें कही हैं, मैं नहीं समझता कि इतने अनुभवी और सज्जन हृदय मंत्री दिल के अन्दर उन बातों के ऊपर विश्वास करके ये कारण बता रहे थे। ऐसा लगा कि जो निर्णय लिया गया उस को लेने के बाद इस विभाग का मंत्री होने के कारण उनके लिए इस प्रकार की सफाई देना जरूरी था। मेरे मित्र ने बताया कि आरोविल के बारे में आरोप लगाये गये थे कि वहाँ पर मिस-एप्लीकेशन है, मिस-यूटिलाइजेशन है और सीरियस इर्रेगुलरिटीज हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में क्या न्याय का पहला तकाजा यह नहीं था कि यदि किसी के ऊपर आरोप लगाये गए हों तो पहले वे आरोप उसके पास भेजे जायें और उन के बारे में उससे जवाब तलब किया

जाय ? क्या न्याय का तकाजा यह नहीं था कि किसी निर्णय पर पहुँचने से पहले उनसे यह पूछ लिया जाता कि क्या आप इन दोनों को ठीक करने का इरादा रखते हैं या नहीं और सोचते कि उनको ठीक करने का कोई उपाय हो सकता है या नहीं ? मैं यह नहीं कहता कि उन्होंने एकाउन्ट्स का जो डंग रखा या उनका जो लेखा एकाउन्ट है वह परफेक्ट फॉर्म में होगा। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि परफेक्ट फॉर्म में एकाउन्ट किस का है ? पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी की... (Interruptions)

श्रीमती सरोज खापर्डे (महाराष्ट्र) : आप यह कैसे कहते हैं कि उनको कागजात नहीं भेजे गये थे ? उनको सब कागजात भेजे गये थे... (Interruptions)

डा० भाई महावीर : श्रीमन्, मैं यह कह रहा था कि पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट्स आप देख लीजिये... (Interruptions) महोदया, आप मुझे इस तरह से डिस्टर्ब करती रहेंगी या कुछ बोलने भी देंगी ?

श्रीमती सरोज खापर्डे (महाराष्ट्र) : हम तो सुनना चाहते हैं... (Interruptions)

डा० भाई महावीर : अगर आप सुनना चाहती हैं तो बीच में नहीं बोलिये। श्रीमन्, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी की किसी साल की रिपोर्ट को उठा कर देख ले, मंत्री महोदय किसी रिपोर्ट को उठा कर देख लें, वे उसे देख कर इसी निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचेंगे कि इन आरोपों से भी अधिक भयंकर और अत्यन्त गम्भीर आरोप सरकार के विभिन्न महकमों के ऊपर लगते रहे हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में आपके पास ऐसी कौन सी पद्धति है, कौन-सा उपाय है जिसके अनुसार ऑडिट रिपोर्ट के आधार पर आप इस प्रकार के निर्णय लेते हैं और उनके ऊपर स्ट्रक्चर पास करते हैं ? अगर किसी के ऊपर कोई स्ट्रक्चर पास किया जाता

है या किसी के ऊपर कोई गम्भीर आरोप होते हैं तो पहले केस बनाया जाता है। यदि आप कानूनी तरीके से चले होते तो वह दूसरी बात होती। आपने ऐसा कुछ नहीं किया है। आज तीन बार इधर से मंत्री जी से साफ तौर पर पूछा गया और जिसका जवाब मंत्री जी ने साफ नहीं दिया कि क्या कुलकर्णी जी की रिपोर्ट श्री अरविन्द सोसायटी को भजी गई थी या नहीं? और अगर नहीं भजी गई थी तो क्या...

श्रीमती सरोज खापड़ें : कौन से कुलकर्णी? ... (Interruptions)

डा० भाई महावीर : इसका जवाब मंत्री जी देंगे।

श्रीमती सरोज खापड़ें : वी० टी० कुलकर्णी या ए० जी० कुलकर्णी के बारे में आप कह रहे हैं।

डा० भाई महावीर : श्री ए० जी० कुलकर्णी का आपको इतना ज्यादा ध्यान है तो वे तो खुश हो जायेंगे। लेकिन इस तरह सदन का समय बरबाद मत कीजिये। तो महोदय...

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI; Sir, I only seek your protection from my dear friend, Saroj Kha-parde, because I am a poor hon. Member sitting here quietly. I did not indulge in any discussion.... (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI); I think there are many matters in which not to seek protection may be advantageous.

डा० भाई महावीर : महोदय, उनको दिन रात टेलीफोन आते हैं। महिलाओं की उन पर इतनी कृपा दृष्टि रहती है कि कई लोगों के मन में ईर्ष्या पैदा हो सकती है।

महोदय, मैं निवेदन कर रहा था कि यह रिपोर्ट 1977 के अन्दर दी गई और तीन

साल तक उस सोसायटी ने बार-बार पूछा इस रिपोर्ट के बारे में, लेकिन सरकार ने इस बारे में कोई जानकारी देने की तकलीफ गंवारा नहीं की। आज जो फैसला किया गया है इसके ऊपर कार्यवाही करने के लिये, इसके बारे में मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि यह फैसला एकाएक नहीं हुआ। मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सच नहीं कि आज से लगभग एक साल पहले, 13 माह पहले, 1979 के अक्टूबर-नवम्बर में सरकार के सामने बड़े ऊंचे स्तर पर यह मामला आया था, विचाराधीन था और अधिकारियों की उस कमेटी की मीटिंग में यह अनुभव किया गया कि मैं खाली अपनी बात कर रहा हूँ, मैं किसी आफिशियल डाक्यूमेंट का हवाला नहीं दे रहा हूँ। जो उसमें अनुभव किया गया वह यह था :

(1) There are no legal grounds for the take-over, and neither is the Government interested.

(2) The question of visas should be dealt with separately and should not be linked with the general question of management of Auroville.

(3) Eight people should be deported immediately.

(4) Three month's visas will not be extended unless Sri Aurobindo Society issues financial guarantees and recommends the cases, short-term visas also will not be issued without the recommendation of Sri Aurobindo Society.

(5) A committee will look into the visas of people who arrived before.... wtf*_{fi} ;

महोदय, ये फैसले किये गये। लेकिन उन फैसलों पर अमल नहीं हुआ और सरकार ने जिनके खिलाफ डिपोज़िशन के आर्डर दिये, — जैसा हमारे मित्र श्री हेगडे ने जिक्र किया—वे आज भी कायम हैं वहाँ पर, और वे बड़ी सीता-जोगी के साथ कायम हैं, और उनको भरोसा है कि उनको कोई हटा नहीं

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Arvind Ganesh Kulkarni) in the Chair]

सकता, उनको कोई देश से निकाल नहीं सकता। इतना ही नहीं, सरकार के एक ज्वाइंट सेक्रेटरी 10 अक्टूबर, 1980 को वहाँ गये और वहाँ की विजिट के बाद उन्होंने जो रिपोर्ट गृह मंत्री को दी, उस के अनुसार भी, महोदय, मेरी जानकारी के अनुसार, यह निष्कर्ष था :

All along the view of the Ministry of Home Affairs has been that **there** is no case to take over the administration of Auroville. This is an internal matter and the Government need not interfere. The Government of Tamil Nadu should be asked to depute two officers to **help** Sri Aurobindo Society in administering the finances and the administration.

महोदय, यह एक महीने पहले की स्थिति है। लेकिन फिर भी एकाएक सरकार को इस आर्डिनेंस को जारी करने की नीयत क्यों आई, वह न इस सदन के सदस्यों के सामने स्पष्ट है, न देश के लोगों के सामने। कहानी जैसे शुरू होती है मैं उसका थोड़ा-सा जिक्र करूंगा। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने कहा, 1964 में इस आरोविल की कल्पना की गई और प्रारम्भ करने के बाद बहुत सारे लोग बाहर से भी आये। कभी कभी ऐसा भी दिखाई दिया कि कुछ लोग गलत किस्म के आ गये हैं उनके ऊपर जब तक श्री मां रहीं उन्होंने आपत्ति भी उठाई और कहा कि यहां जो लोग रह रहे हैं वे मनुष्यों को अति-मानव बनाने के रास्ते पर ले जाने के बजाय वे जानवरों का सा जीवन बिता रहे हैं। लेकिन महोदय, इसके बाद भी तब तक कोई तकलीफ नहीं हुई जब तक 1976 में कोई बीजा श्री अरविन्द सोसाइटी की रजामंदी के बगैर नहीं जारी किया जाता था। 1976 में भारत सरकार ने सोसाइटी से पूछे बगैर विदेशियों को वहां पर आने के लिये ईजाजत देना शुरू कर दिया।

और इसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि ऐसे ऐसे लोग आते गए जिनके बारे में सोसाइटी के पदाधिकारियों के मन में सन्देह था। महोदय, इसके बारे में बहुत आपत्तियां उठाई गईं, श्री अरविन्द सोसाइटी की ओर से। यहां तक कि वहां पर झगड़े होने लगे। क्रिमिनल केसेज फाइल हुए। मेरे पास वह लिस्ट है जिसका जिक्र श्री राममूर्ति जी कर रहे थे। 80 लोग ऐसे हैं जिनके खिलाफ क्रिमिनल केसेज पैडिंग हैं और उन में 40 लोग ऐसे हैं जिनके खिलाफ डिपोर्टेशन आर्डर पैडिंग हैं। लेकिन यह सब होते हुए भी सरकार इतनी निष्प्रभावी है बल्कि यह कहना चाहिए कि निकम्मी साबित हो रही है कि उनके खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई। कुछ थोड़े से लोगों के प्रभाव के कारण, वे लोग कौन हैं, मैं उनका नाम नहीं लेना चाहता क्योंकि इससे किन्हीं सदस्यों को तकलीफ हो जाती है, आपत्ति होती है...

श्री नामेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तर प्रदेश) : क्यों नहीं लेना चाहते ?

डा० भाई महावीर : इसीलिए नहीं लेना चाहता। नाम लिए भी गए हैं। मैं इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि पुलिस को भी काम करने की ईजाजत नहीं दी गई। डिपोर्टेशन को रोका गया और यहां तक हुआ कि सरकार के काम को, सरकार की न्याय-व्यवस्था को खिलवाड़ बना कर रख दिया। लेकिन महोदय, 80 लोग ऐसे वहां पर आज भी बैठे हैं। मेरा कहना यह है कि सरकार के कुछ अधिकारियों की मेहरबानी से प्रश्रय मिलने के कारण ये वहां पर जमे रहे और शराब, तोड़-फोड़ तथा फसाद जारी रखा। लेकिन इस सब के बावजूद उनको हटाने के लिए सरकार की तरफ से कोई प्रभावी

कदम नहीं उठाए गए । 1976 में आरोगिल को राजनीति से जोड़ा गया । जब कुछ लोगों की तरफ से यह आवेदन भेजा गया कि उनका प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए एक विशिष्ट व्यक्ति दिल्ली के अन्दर रहे । उस व्यक्ति का नाम मैं नहीं लूंगा । पर उनका प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए एक खास व्यक्ति का नाम क्यों इन विदेशियों ने लिया इसका रहस्य मैं अभी तक ढूँढ नहीं पाया हूँ । श्रीमन्, वहाँ से जो हमारे पास दो चिट्ठियाँ आई हैं वहाँ के कुछ निवासियों की ओर से हैं । एक चिट्ठी महोदय, ऐसी है जिसको पढ़ कर मैं दंग रह गया हूँ । यह किस तरह की बात वहाँ पर हो रही है । यह गवर्नमेंट टेक-ओवर के बाद की चिट्ठी है जो वहाँ के कुछ निवासियों ने भेजी है । श्री चव्हाण जी वहाँ पर गए । उन्होंने कहा कि मैं वहाँ पर गया था और मेरे साथ समिति के श्री अरविन्द सोसाइटी के प्रधान भी थे । वे भी जानते हैं कि यह केवल एक संयोग ही था कि आप दोनों ने एक ही फ्लाइट में सफर किया । लेकिन इस के अलावा वहाँ पहुँचने के बाद सोसाइटी के लोगों ने आशा रखी थी आप वहाँ जा कर सब लोगों से मिलेंगे, सम्पर्क करेंगे, लेकिन दो तीन घंटे के निवास में आप शायद यह कर भी नहीं सकते थे । तो भी उस थोड़े-से समय के निवास के आधार पर आपने यह निर्णय कर लिया कि यह टेक-ओवर होना चाहिए, सरकार को आरोगिल को अपने कब्जे में लेना चाहिए । वहाँ पर किस तरह के लोग आपसे मिलने ढलाई अड्डे पर आए थे वे जानते हैं, लेकिन मेरे पास 15-20 लोगों की ओर से मैम्बरज आफ पार्लियामेंट के नाम भेजा गया एक पत्र है, मैं इसमें से कुछ पंक्तियाँ पढ़ूँगा :

"We, the Indians, are employed in Auroville, some of us for several

years, Even though we have joined as employees we have been attracted to Auroville by the ideals and by our wish to serve the Mother whom we worship and adore.

But during the last four years we have faced grave hardships due to some violent foreigners in Auroville who had 'disrupted our work and sometimes even beaten us. They still continue to threaten us but no action is ever taken against them by the Government."

महोदय, आगे कहा है :

"However, We have continued to work with the Sri Aurobindo Society because we have felt that it was trying to fulfil the Mother's vision and that our interests were safe with them and they have always treated as one of them."

अब जो एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर हैं, उसकी तारीफ हो रही है :

"In fact, the Administrator appointed by the Government immediately gave us instructions that we should take our orders in future from some of the foreigners."

एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर साहब का पहला फरमान यह है कि कुछ विदेशियों से अब आपको हुक्म सुनना पड़ेगा ।

"He has also announced openly that our future employment may be considered by the foreigners only."

हम नौकर रहेंगे या निकाल दिये जायेंगे, ये वे विदेशी ही तय करेंगे ।

"We have therefore been compelled to form a union to protect ourselves named 'AUROVILLE WORKERS' UNION."

महोदय, इसी के साथ यह दूसरा पत्र है । यह कुछ विदेशियों की ओर से है, इसमें उन्होंने कहा है :

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी) : आप बहुत टाइम ले रहे हैं ।

श्री लाडली मोहन निगम (मध्य प्रदेश) : यह बहुत जरूरी है ।

डा० भाई महावीर : हमने महोदय डिस्पूबल का प्रस्ताव दिया है, क्योंकि दोनों का डिस्कशन इकट्ठा हो रहा है, इस वास्ते हमें इतना हक रहने दीजिए । महोदय, यह कुछ दूसरे विदेशी लोगों की ओर से है, यह भी मेम्बर आफ पालिया-मेंट के नाम है ...

E VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI); Please conclude.

डा० भाई महावीर : यह चार लाइनों में खत्म हो जायगा ।

"We, the residents of Auroville, have been extremely shocked and pained with the recent developments concerning Auroville and with the action of the Government. We are writing to you with the hope that, in this land of India, justice and truth will not be allowed to be crushed. Most of us have left our countries, families and our past associations because we feel that Auroville is the only place where we can fulfil our highest aspiration and serve humanity in the best way possible by living according to the teachings of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother and practising the *sadhana* of the Integral Yoga. We have all been admitted in Auroville through the correct procedure; many of us have been admitted by the Mother herself and have been living here for several years. One of the purposes of Auroville is to realise human unity and that implies the will to live and work in harmony with all. This is what we have been trying to do but there is a small fraction in Auroville, formed mostly of other foreign nationals, who do not believe in or practise the teachings of Sri Aurobindo. This group has for the last four years, unleashed a wave of terror and violence.

They have intimidated and threatened us, they have forcibly broken into our houses and physically assaulted us. The roads have been blocked, our movements hampered and the schools for our children closed down. We have been compelled to take shelter in the outlying and isolated areas of Auroville and in Pondicherry."

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महोदय, इस तरह से शांत लोगों को कष्ट देने वाले और आतंक का राज्य चलाने वाले जो थोड़े से लोग हैं, उनके कहने पर और वे लोग वहां पर डिपोर-टेशन आर्डर के बावजूद रह रहे हैं, उनके आग्रह पर सरकार यह कदम उठाये, यह कितने अन्याय की बात है । मेरा निवेदन है कि सरकार किसी झूठी प्रतिष्ठा के ऊपर खड़ी न रहे । अगर वहां कुछ कार्यवाही या इन्क्वायरी होनी है तो आज ही सरकार अपने दो ऊंचे अधिकारियों को वहां भेज कर सारी जांच करवाये जिसमें सोसाइटी के लोगों से भी पूछा जाये कि जो आरोप उनके ऊपर लगाये गये हैं उनके बारे में उनका क्या जवाब है और फिर निर्णय किया जाय । सरकार टेक-ओवर कर रही है, पर आप ने इस देश के अन्दर जो ला एण्ड आर्डर व्यवस्था बना रखी है, अगर यह आदर्श है तो मैं समझता हूं कि जहां कहीं इससे कम गड़बड़ होगी उसको आप कब्जे में ले लेंगे । यहां पर दिन रात जो तोड़ फोड़ हो रही है, पुलिस लोगों को अंधा बना रही है, क्या यही व्यवस्था आप आदर्श समझते हैं जिसके लिए आप समझते हैं कि आरौविल का प्रबन्ध अपने हाथ में लेना चाहिए । बड़ा दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण होगा कि सरकार एक सांस्कृतिक संस्थान को अपने कब्जे में ले ले, जबकि वह दावा यह करती है कि वह सेक्यूलर है, केवल इसलिए कि कुछ लोग जो वहां बिठा दिये गये हैं कुछ अधिकारियों का, खिलौना बना कर, उन्होंने इसकी भूमिका

बनाई है और . . . (Interruptions)
 सोसाइटी के काम को रोकने का प्रयत्न
 किया है। महोदय, इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ
 इस सरकार के संकल्प का मैं विरोध
 करता हूँ और चाहता हूँ कि सारा सदन
 विरोध करे और सरकार को सही निर्णय
 करने का तथा इसे वापस लेने का
 परामर्श दे।

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am at a loss to understand what this Bill seeks to achieve with regard to the administration of Auroville, not that I am agreeing with many hon. Members who attacked the Bill. There should be no mixing up or confusion about the Aurobindo Ashram and Auroville. The Aurobindo Ashram is separate and its organisation, its location and its functioning are all separate, and it is functioning. This Bill does not seek to interfere with the functioning of the Ashram. But Auroville is separate from the Ashram. The major portion of that area called Auroville is part of Tamil Nadu and a small area is inside the territory of Pondicherry. I am familiar not with its functioning, but with the area. I do not know why the Members here should try to feel angry about this Bill. After all, what is this Bill? It is a harmless Bill. Even in the Societies Act there is a provision to appoint a Committee and hand over the management. Perhaps the Members are anxious that this is an erosion of the authority of the Ashram. No. Although this also bears the name of Sri Aurobindo "Auroville" means "Aurobindo Village". It is in the abbreviated form. "Aurovindo Village" is called in the abbreviated form, "Auroville". The way in which the Aurobindo Society has been managing its affairs, Sir, I do not think the Auroville will bring any credit either to Sri Aurobindo or the Mother. They are burying his teachings and his philosophy, however Utopian they might be. I am not enamoured either of the Charter nor his philosophy. They can not sue-

ceed because they are all Utopian and that is why this crisis. Although these people carry the name of Sri Aurobindo, although they carry the banner of the Charter of the Mother, they are all hypocritical. I am only sorry that the Government, instead of acting under the laws of the land, against those criminals, who have brought discredit to the name of Sri Aurobindo and to his philosophy, has done this. He is a great man. Although I do not agree with his philosophy, I will say he is a great man. His philosophy was Utopian and all Utopian revolutionaries will meet the same fate. But, Sir, who can forget how he was hunted by the British and how he took shelter in Pondicherry which was a French settlement, where, either because of the mutual rivalries between the colonialists or because the French people, in their homeland, had more democratic rights, the Indian revolutionaries took shelter. In Pondicherry, in those days the Indian revolutionaries took shelter. Not only Sri Aurobindo, but also the great poet, Bharati, and other revolutionaries took shelter in Pondicherry and they have made it great. But that is a different matter. But why should we shed tears over this? If the Auroville is dissolved, the people will be happy and I do not see any other solution, and, as was pointed out by my friend, Shri Ramamurti, it should be dissolved. The "Blitz" has described it as a snake-pit and not a word that has appeared in the "Blitz" is wrong. If it is wrong, let them proceed against Mr. Karanjia for defamation. Every word of it is correct. So, the Government has now taken a very harmless action in taking over its management and that too for two years. After two years, they may extend it three times that is, for a total period of five years. What are they going to do after that? Will they be able to clear all this dirt and filth, all the dirty and filthy acts that are being perpetrated there in the name of Sri Aurobindo? No. I challenge this Government. I say this because they have not been able to do anything. Here is a list, Sir, containing the names of

[Sh.] M. Kalyanasundaram] persons who had infiltrated there and resided there without proper visa and there are several criminal cases registered against them. What is the action taken by the Government? They have all escaped. Is the Government so incompetent that it cannot take any action or am I to infer that the Society called the Aurobindo Society was running like a parallel Government? What right has that Aurobindo Society got to criticise the Government for this harmless action? Without their permission, nobody can be given the visa. Everything was done by this Government depending upon the recommendation of the authorities of the Aurobindo Society. So they have no right, either moral or legal, to criticize the Government. They alone must be held responsible for this state of affairs.

Now, Sir, coming to the point, most of the lands were acquired from tenants they were evicted. If the Auroville is dissolved and if the land is restored to the tenants, many tenants will be very happy. The tenants also parted with lands, as it was thought that a good thing is coming up there. The promise was: Human Unity—very high sentiment.

AN HON. MEMBER: Universal Brotherhood.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: universal Brotherhood, International Brotherhood, Human Unity, Peace and Progress, and so on. But the very basis has now been knocked. We are having the problem of foreign nationals in our own land, against our own brethren. The Auroville was conceived bring people from all nationalities, to live together, to live in harmony. What happened? Now they are saying that these foreigners are giving trouble. I ask these people of the Aurobindo Society, what is the purpose for which the Auroville was formed? To bring in people from different nationalities, from different countries, from different races, to live together in harmony. Please admit that your

philosophy has failed, your ideals have failed. Why? Because you are quarrelling for material things. The quarrel is not spiritual. The quarrel is there for the crumbs available there. That is now they have brought disgrace. (Time bell rings) They have brought disgrace to the name of Aurobindo.

Sir, I won't take much time. I do realise that the time is running out.

How to tackle this problem? The Bill only empowers the take-over. It is no solution. The Government must learn. Why have they given a lot of money? They have advised State Governments also to contribute—perhaps in good faith. I do not question their motive, because the Government is interested and even an international institution like the UNESCO was sympathetic to it; they gave prestige to the Society and to the project. So funds came. Shouldn't the Government even at this stage think of an Act to regulate how that project should be conducted? Can you leave it at this stage? Even now it does not think about the future. It does not provide anything about the future conduct of the institution and its project. Sir, I would only appeal to the Government not to be misled by the criticism against this Bill and those who criticise the intervention of the Government. I feel that the existence of Auroville is an insult to the name of Aurobindo, and the earlier it is dissolved, earlier the name of Aurobindo will be saved.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी) : मिस्टर लाडली निगम ।

संसदीय कार्य विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सीताराम केसरी) : लाडली मोहन हैं, खाली निगम नहीं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी) : मोहन आपके हैं ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : लाडली भो हैं वह ।

श्री नगेश्वर प्रसाद शर्मा : लाडली भो हैं, मोहन भी हैं, निगम भी हैं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी) : किसी के मोहन ज्यादा प्रिय हैं—मोहन धारिया, मोहन निगम ।

श्री लडली मोहन निगम : मैं बहुत अदब के साथ यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जिस तरीके से आजादी के बाद इस लम्बे असें तक हिन्दुस्तान का एक हिस्सा विदेशी नासूर से पीड़ित रहा, लगातार इस अवस्था में एक विदेशी के कब्जे में वह हिस्सा रहने के बाद पाण्डिचेरी, कराएकल व माहे हिन्दुस्तान का हिस्सा बने ।

5.00 P.M.

मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार फिर कोई ऐसी गलती करने जा रही है कि उस विदेशी नासूर को हिन्दुस्तान की सरजमीन पर बरकरार रखा जाय । जब इस अरविन्द ग्राम की कल्पना की गयी थी और हिन्दुस्तान की विभिन्न सूबायी सरकारों ने अपना योगदान उसमें दिया, उसकी आधारशिला रखी जाने के बाद मुझे कुछ दिन वहां रहने का मौका मिला है । जिन उद्देश्यों की कल्पना उस वक्त की गयी थी उन उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति अभी तक नहीं हो पायी । अरविन्द के इतिहास के साथ देश की आजादी का इतिहास तो जुड़ा ही हुआ है, साथ ही साथ वहां से जो भी आध्यात्मिक दर्शन दुनिया को रास्ता दिखाने के लिये देने की कोशिश की गयी उसके तहत इस बात की परिकल्पना की गयी थी कि वह क्षेत्र इतना पवित्र और अच्छा रहेगा कि वह देश को ही नहीं बल्कि सारे विश्व को कुछ न कुछ नयी मानवता की रोशनी देगा । लेकिन मानी परिकल्पना व्यावसायिक बन गयी ।

उसको व्यावसायिक बनाने के लिये जिम्मेदार कौन है, इसका जब तक आप नहीं पता लगायेंगे, आप असली चोर को पकड़ नहीं सकते । यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि अरविन्द आश्रम का प्रबन्ध और आरोगिल का प्रबन्ध अलग-अलग है, लेकिन दोनों में एक अन्योन्य सम्बन्ध भी है । कल्पना का सम्बन्ध आश्रम से है । उसको साकार रूप देने की दूसरा आदमी कोशिश कर रहा है । । इससे ज्यादा गन्दी बात और क्या हो सकती है कि एक तरफ हिन्दुस्तान में हम लोग पीड़ित हैं विदेशी जामूसी और दूसरी चीजों से और हिन्दुस्तान की धरती पर ही कोई विदेशी आकर हिन्दुस्तान के काली चमड़ी वालों को बेइज्जत करे और वह बेइज्जती चलती रहे । इसके लिए भी मैं सरकार को माफ नहीं कर सकता । अगर इस का उद्देश्य खाली इतना ही होता कि वहां का सारा प्रबन्ध जिन लोगों ने अरविन्द ग्राम की परिकल्पना की थी, उन्हीं के हाथ में सौंपने की योजना होती और यह भी देखा जाता कि उस प्रबन्ध में कोई विदेशी नागरिक लोग नहीं रहते तब तो मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं था । लेकिन मुद्दे का सवाल यह है कि मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि हिन्दुस्तान के चन्द नौकरशाह—छोटे लाट से लेकर छोटे-मोटे कारकून नार्थ-साउथ ब्लाक में बैठने वाले इन्होंने साजिश बनायी है कि वह इलाका—आबोहवा और मौजमस्ती की दृष्टि से तो वह अच्छा है ही—इन लोगों की ऐशगाह बन जाये । अरविन्द ग्राम अपनी शैशवावस्था में है, वहां कुछ बन रहा है और यह बात मैं आप से कह देना चाहता हूं कि वहां पर खेती के जितने अच्छे प्रयोग हुए हैं उतने हिन्दुस्तान में नहीं हुए । उन प्रयोगों को देश में फैलाया जा सकता है । लेकिन खेती के प्रयोगों को एक तरफ रख दिया गया । औद्योगिक प्रयोगों की भी जो परिकल्पना की गयी थी वह भी साकार नहीं की गयी । ऐसा क्यों नहीं हुआ ? इस का एक ही कारण

[श्री लाडलो मोहन निगम]

है कि चन्द विदेशियों का वहाँ पर निहित स्वार्थ है। वह विदेशी स्वार्थ हिन्दुस्तान के पैसै वालों के स्वार्थ से जुड़ गया है और आज कोशिश की जा रही है कि येनकेन-प्रकारेण इस सारी संस्था को हड़प लिया जाये। इस वास्ते, उपसभापति जी, मैं बहुत विनम्रता से कहना चाहूँगा कि यह साजिश हिन्दुस्तान की धरती पर अब पनपने नहीं दी जानी चाहिए। हमारी विभिन्न सूबायी सरकारों का और केन्द्र सरकार का बहुत बड़ा पैसा इस में लगा है। मैं उस हक को नकारता नहीं हूँ जिस के तहत जहाँ सरकार का या जनता का पैसा लगा हो वहाँ सरकार को हस्तक्षेप करने का अधिकार है। मैं इस अधिकार को नकारता नहीं, लेकिन इस के साथ ही साथ जब इस अधिकार को मैं मानता हूँ, तब यह भी मानता हूँ कि जब कोई किसी के अधिकार क्षेत्र में अतिक्रमण करता है तब मुझे उस की नीयत को भी देखना है। और मैं उसी नीयत से कि क्या नीयत है इस सारे बिल को जो आप ले रहे हैं इसको और इसके साथ जुड़ी हुई एक चीज मैंने पहले कही है या मेरे पहले विद्वान साथियों ने कही है, उस में अपनी राय जोड़ते हुए कहना चाहता हूँ कि मारी परिकल्पना को खराब होने से बचाने के लिये जरूरी है कि जिन लोगों ने इस अरविन्द ग्राम की परिकल्पना की थी, जिन आश्रमवासियों ने की थी उन्हीं के हाथ में इस का सारा काम काज साँपा जाये। मैं यह भी मनाता हूँ कि आश्रमवासियों के हाथ में अधिकार हो और उन की मर्जी से सब कुछ आये जाये, लेकिन यह कोई नयी दुनिया बनाने की बात नहीं है कि जब तक उस संस्कार में आदमी डल न जाये, तब तक वह वहाँ रह नहीं सकता। इस के पीछे विश्व-बंधुत्व की भावना है, दुनिया के भाई चारे की भावना है और इस को मद्देनजर रखते हुए मैं चाहता हूँ और समझता हूँ कि यह बिल अचूरा है, लंगड़ा है, नाकाफी है और इस लिये सरकार अगर इस को लेना चाहती है उस के इंतजाम को

दुरुस्त करने के लिये तो उस को दो बातें करनी चाहिए। छः महीने के लिये आप लो। तत्काल वहाँ की एक कमेटी बनाओ, वहाँ के आश्रमवासियों की कमेटी बनाओ और अच्छा यह हो कि सूबाई सरकारों के, वहाँ की सूबाई सरकार के तमिलनाडु की सरकार को उसमें रहने या नुमाइन्दा का हक दे दिया जाये। केन्द्रीय सरकार को उस में नहीं आना चाहिए। अगर आप उस को देवस्थान की तरह से मानते हो कि जिस तरह से दूसरी जगहों पर देवस्थानों के कानून हैं और उन के लिये वहाँ की स्थानीय सरकारों के, सूबाई सरकारों के नुमाइंदा उन के इंतजाम के लिये रहते हैं, मुतजिमकार की तरह से, उस तरह से आप यहाँ भी उन को रखें। लेकिन यह नहीं होना चाहिए कि यहाँ बैठे हुए कुछ अफसर अपनी हविस को ले कर कोशिश करें कि वहाँ के इंतजाम में उनकी मदाखलत जारी रहे और उस को वे अपना हक समझें। इस वास्ते मैं किसी तरह के इस के केन्द्रीयकरण के खिलाफ हूँ और मैं नहीं चाहता कि कोई ऐसी संस्था जो राजनीति, धर्म, समाज से अलग हट कर कुछ करना चाहती है उस में सरकार अपनी मदाखलत करे। वैसे होना तो यह चाहिए कि स्वतंत्र समाज में किसी भी संस्था में किसी की दखलंदाजी नहीं होनी चाहिए, लेकिन जैसा कि मैंने आप से अर्ज किया कि जहाँ जनहित का तकाजा हो और जहाँ जनता का पैसा लगा हो, वहाँ सरकार को भी हक है कि मदाखलत करे इस नाते कि वह जनता के पैसों की पहरेदार है। उसे देखना चाहिए कि जनता के पैसों का वहाँ सदुपयोग हो रहा है या नहीं हो रहा है।

अब रहा सवाल घोटाले का। वहाँ कुछ घोटाले की बात की गयी है। अब सवाल उठता है कि यह घोटाला किस ने किया। आश्रम वालों ने किया या उस प्रबंधक कमेटी ने किया जो आरौविल गांव के नाम से बनायी गयी थी। और अगर उन लोगों ने घोटाले किया है और आप मुतमईन हैं कि वहाँ घोटाला

हुआ है तो अच्छा हो कि एक निष्पक्ष आदमियों की कमेटी वहाँ भेजी जाये जो जांच कर ले और सरकार प्रजातांत्रिक तरीके से वहाँ का सारा काम-काज चलवाने का प्रबंध करे। मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि आश्रम के मठाधीशों के हाथ में सारा काम-काज आप सौंप दें। क्यों नहीं अरविन्द आश्रम की संस्था को जो अपना पूरा जीवन उस के लिये समर्पित करने को तैयार है, यह भार दें, यह मेरी प्रथम बात है लेकिन उस में विदेशी नहीं होने चाहिए। उन के हाथ में, चुनी हुई पंचायत के हाथ में वहाँ का सारा काम-काज सौंपे और अगर आप चुनी हुई पंचायत के हाथ में सारा काम-काज सौंपने को तैयार हैं और अंतरिम व्यवस्था के रूप में अगर आप वहाँ की व्यवस्था को अपने हाथ में लेना चाहते हैं तो मैं आप का समर्थन करूँगा। लेकिन अगर आप खाली उस के हस्तांतरण के लिये उसको अपने हाथ में लेना चाहते हैं तो मैं आप का विरोध करूँगा। मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह एक विदेशी जासूसी, गंदगी, अन्याय, पाप ऐसी जितनी भी चीजों की परिकल्पना कर सकते हैं उन का झुंडा बन चुकी है और इसलिये उस को खत्म करने के लिये जरूरी है कि वहाँ की चुनी हुई पंचायत के द्वारा वहाँ का काम-काज चले, और सरकार उस में जितनी हिस्सेदारी दे सकती है दे और राज्य सरकारों के नुमाइन्दे उस में रखे, केन्द्रीय सरकार के नहीं और जो भी कमेटी बने उस में कोई विदेशी नहीं होना चाहिए, तब तो मैं इस को मान सकता हूँ, लेकिन किसी भी संस्था को दो, चार, पांच वर्ष के लिये अपने हाथ में लेना मैं उचित नहीं समझता। मैं इस की मुखालफत करता हूँ और इन बातों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक की जो मंशा है उस का विरोध करता हूँ। इसके अमल के लिये भी सदन से दरखास्त करूँगा कि वह इस को नाकाम करे।

SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY (Pondicherry):
Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, before expressing my views on this Bill, it would be more appropriate if I say

a few words on the Aurobindo Ashram and the Aurobindo Society, otherwise there will be no relevance to the subject that we are discussing on the floor of the House.

The Aurobindo Ashram in Pondicherry founded by Shri Aurobindo in 1920 and later nurtured by the Mother until her death in 1973 was conceived and developed as a training ground for those who aspired to reach higher stage of human evolution. Since then the Ashram has grown with several affiliated institutions to meet the collective requirements of the Ashram. Several industrial and business ventures were also started by those who were in one way or the other associated with this Ashram. As long as the Mother was alive, she was able to have overall control over all the matters happening within the Ashram. One of the several institutions which sprang up like this was the Shri Aurobindo Society. This Society was in existence even before the foundation for the Auroville was laid and, in fact, the Aurobindo Society was in the forefront of the Auroville project.

Sir, in the course of the last 20 or 30 years, the Ashram in Pondicherry has changed a lot. A good lot of self-seekers have got into its body-polity. Apart from a few Europeans, the rest of the inmates hail from North India, mostly from Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Orissa. A variety of businessmen and undesirable elements have found the Ashram a proper cover for carrying on their activities. Devotees of the Ashram right from the Ministers down to the level of petty income-tax officers and made it a point to visit the Ashram and such visitors are lavishly treated and pampered with the result that they are able to extract in return any kind of favour from them. Naturally, the local Government, I mean the Pondicherry Government and its officials, are really afraid of the Ashram people. So much so the Ashram in Pondicherry functions like a State with a State. The real State functions like a shadow State while the Ashram functions like a real State.

[Shri V. P. Manusamy]

Sir, it may be recalled that great revolutionaries like Shri Subrahmanya Bharati, Shri V.V.S. Iyer, Shri Aurobindo and others took refuge in Pondicherry, which was then under the French rule. Thus the early patriots who had sought asylum in Pondicherry were rightly indebted to the French. The Ashram had in its fold people who had a sneaking admiration for the French and they were able to extract a great deal of concession from the French-Indian Government. Some of the best buildings in the town are now in the possession of the Ashram. With a large amount of money that was flowing into the Ashram, they were able to acquire many private buildings and take on lease lands belonging to the Government as well as from private parties.

There are several centres of power and influence within the Ashram itself. There is a genuine disappointment among some genuine Ashramites about the bickerings going on between different institutions and personalities. All these differences did not surface so long as Mother was alive but soon, after Mother's death, there appears to have been a power struggle in the Ashram. (*Time bell rings.*) Sir, I represent Pondicherry and I am directly concerned. The Chairman must give sufficient time to me.

It is necessary, Sir, to view the happenings now with regard to Auroville against the background that I mentioned. Many of those who are associated with the building of Auroville have not at all been happy at the working of the Society and the handful of persons who control the Society. These few persons have been almost dictatorial in their dealings with others. I must also mention here that very few of the Ashram institutions are open to public. Even entry to many of these premises is restricted for the public. Even the press is formally not allowed and very little information is made available to the press. Only on rare occasions, the press

is called and provided with only a brief.

Many distinguished persons who had once come to live in the Ashram left it with disillusionment. I may mention here the name of late Dilip Kumar Roy and Swami Suddhananda Bharathi.

The hon. Members here must remember that the work in Auroville has been carried on for more than five years now. What has happened to the funds which were received by the Society for this purpose? The public has every right to know the dealings of the Society. How much of the money has been diverted for purposes not connected with Auroville? The veils of secrecy must be pulled down once for all. The Government of India has a special responsibility because it is not merely the money of the Government of India but quite a lot of money from other countries is also involved in this project. The UNESCO has commended the project to all its member countries and it is the responsibility of the Indian Government to maintain the fair name of this country in the eyes of the world.

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I may mention that the work in the project has come to a standstill for more than 5 years and those in Auroville, mostly foreigners, and the Society have been carrying on with legal battle. How long is this legal battle to go? There is no such evidence during the last five years. Are we to allow this state of affairs to continue indefinitely? What would then be the fate of Auroville? What would happen to the project if the Society goes into liquidation? Viewed from any angle, the Government is right in passing the Ordinance and appointing the administrator. Let us remember that it is meant only for a short period. Let us give a chance and watch the happenings in the course of these two years and then pass our judgment. My contention is that it is too early to find fault with the action of the Government. Let us give them a chance and see whether it is possible to retrieve the edifice of Auroville.

'city of dawn'. With these words, I support this Bill. Thank you.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you that you have afforded me this opportunity at this eleventh hour to speak something on this pious subject. In fact, I had not given my name earlier, and only certain irresponsible utterances of some of my friends in the Opposition, especially the most absurd suggestion of Comrade Ramamurti, to abolish the Society, have provoked me to speak something. I have been provoked to give vent to my own views on the subject. Sir, it is not merely a question of taking over a Society. Shri Aurobindo Society is much more than a society. Auroville is not just another village of India. It is, in fact, a miniature India. It is a world in a village. It is a symbol of international integration and world brotherhood. Here lives the divinity, with which politicians do not have much to do. That is why, most of us do not attach much importance to such institutions forgetting God is the highest common factor of all of us and he will certainly punish us for our irreligious stand on the subject. I wonder why our Opposition friends should oppose this takeover. Auroville has received hundreds of lakhs of rupees from the donors within the country and outside, including about Rs. one crore as grant from the various Governments of the country themselves. If its management has gone into disarray after the death of its creators, Shri Aurobindo and Mother, why can't the Government intervene and set things right? Setting things right which have much to do with lakhs and lakhs of individuals and the Society is the ultimate duty of the Government. If questions of embezzlement, defalcation and misuse of millions of rupees of the people and public order are involved, it is all the more necessary that the Government should hasten to intervene and ensure improvement in the situation at the earliest. But since the Opposition wants this Government to fail and fall out of its existence, it wants that the Government fail in its duty towards the inhabitants of Auroville

also. Auroville is, in fact, a challenge to us. It is a question of our willingness and our ability to safeguard the fundamental freedoms of some persons to worship in their own chosen way. Can't a secular and voluntary establishment like Auroville approach ill for help and donations? This is what our friend, Shri Hegde, just told us. He says 'No'. He asked: 'Should this Society have gone to the Tatas to get money?'. We, politicians, can go to them. Political parties can go to the Tatas, Birlas and other companies all-right, to get money for our election campaigns. But a secular organisation, a pious institution and an international centre of brotherhood like Auroville, cannot go to the Tatas. Birlas and others for donations. Auroville gets donations from ordinary people as well as from the Tatas, Birlas and so on. What is wrong about it? I wonder why our Opposition friends, who say they are so responsible, so national, should object to this? How can they be so anti-national in their approach? Of course, it is anti-national. As I said, in Auroville, live people from all the lands of the world. They live there only to worship God and to do nothing else. As Comrade Ramamurti has said, if gangsters live in Pondicherry, it is not the fault of Auroville. Why should the Shri Aurobindo Society be allowed to peter out of its existence in such a way? I do not propose to take much of your time. I would only like to say that the entire suggestions of the Opposition are wholly untenable to our age-old and ancient stand, for which India stands, namely, secularism, international brotherhood and national integration. Sir, we would like to have more foreign exchange. But we would not like lakhs and lakhs of people to come from abroad to India and to do all that and help us. I think, in this Session, this is for the first time, that I have been provoked to speak. In this Session, the behaviour of the Opposition as we have seen so many times, has simply flabbergasted me. The stand of the Opposition, in regard to Auroville, I should say, is wholly incongruous and unfit for people like us. I support this Bill and I hope this

[Shri P. N. Sukul]

House would reject all the amendments of the Opposition.

श्री लाखन सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मंत्री जी का यह कहना कि कदम जल्दी में नहीं उठाया गया, गलत। यह बात अपनी जगह सत्य है कि आरोविल में जो विदेशी नागरिक रहे हैं उनको बाहर भेजे जाने के सम्बन्ध में सरकारी आदेशों की जो अवहेलना हुई है। लेकिन इसके साथ ही जो सरकार ने यह कदम उठाया है, इस कदम से हमारे देश में अल्पसंख्यकों के मन में एक आशंका पैदा हुई है और ऐसी असुरक्षा की भावना जागी है कि इस प्रकार से अगर सरकार धार्मिक संस्थाओं को अपने हाथ में ले लेगी तो इससे न तो उस संस्था का भला होने वाला है और न ही सरकार का, क्योंकि सरकार ने जिन जिन संस्थाओं को अपने कब्जे में लिया है वह डूबी हैं, वह फूली नहीं हैं, यह आज तक का, ऐसी संस्थाओं का, जिन्हें सरकार ने अपने अधिकार में लिया है, उनका इतिहास है। महोदय, सरकार का एक अधिकारी 8-10 अक्टूबर को पाण्डिचेरी गया। उसने जो अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है, उस रिपोर्ट की भी अवहेलना हुई है। मैं इस सम्बन्ध में इसका उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ: It is said:

'All along the view of the Ministry of Home Affairs has been that there is no case of take-over of the administration of Auroville. This is an internal matter and the Government need not interfere. The Government of Tamil Nadu should be asked to depute two officers to help this Aurobindo Society for administering the finances and the administration.'

इसके अतिरिक्त नवम्बर के प्रथम सप्ताह में गृह मंत्रालय के एक सचिव तथा शिक्षा विभाग के एक सचिव की बैठक हुई। उन्होंने भी कहा कि सरकार को अरविन्द आश्रम, अरविन्द सोसाइटी के

प्रबन्ध को अपने हाथ में नहीं लेना चाहिए क्योंकि यह उनका आन्तरिक मामला है। इसी प्रकार सरकार ने हाई कोर्ट में काउंटर एफिडेविट दिया जिसमें उन्होंने स्वीकार किया है कि सरकार सोसाइटी का प्रबन्ध अपने हाथ में लेने नहीं जा रही है और यह भी कहा कि हमने अभी तक इस बारे में कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है। इन सब बातों से ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार ने यह कदम जल्दी में उठाया है। संविधान के अनुच्छेद 25 और 26 के अन्तर्गत सरकार को इस बारे में एटार्नी जनरल को बुलाकर उसकी राय लेनी चाहिए थी ताकि वह आश्वस्त हो सके कि वास्तव में सरकार कोई ऐसा काम करने नहीं जा रही है जिसके कारण कोई असंवैधानिक संकट पैदा हो। लेकिन सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में एटार्नी जनरल को बुलाकर उसकी राय नहीं ली। इसी के साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि जो यह कहा गया है कि युनेस्को का रेजोल्यूशन था। युनेस्को ने केवल 40 हजार रुपये दिये हैं और उस 40 हजार रुपये में, जो भेरी जानकारी में बात आई है, इसमें बहुत सा रुपया उस संस्था के अनुयायियों और कुछ अन्य ऐसी ही संस्थाओं ने दिया है और जिसको युनेस्को ने अपने इस हिसाब में जोड़ दिया है। 40 हजार रुपये के कारण और बात को इधर उधर टालकर सरकार यदि यह कहना चाहती है कि केवल हम युनेस्को के रेजोल्यूशन के कारण ही अरविन्द सोसाइटी का प्रबन्ध अपने हाथ में लेना चाहते हैं तो यह बहुत गलत बात है और गलत बात का जो नतीजा होता है वह कभी अच्छा नहीं हो सकता। तो मैं इस सम्बन्ध में यह कहना चाहूंगा कि आप गलत दिशा में जाकर कभी भी अपने उद्देश्य की पूर्ति नहीं कर सकते। आज अरविन्द का महा-निर्वाण दिन भी है और उनकी दिव्य चेतना और दिव्य

संदेश से हमारे सभी माननीय सदस्य-गण
अनुप्रेरित हों और इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा जो
संकल्प है उस संकल्प का वे समर्थन
करें, यही मैं कहना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: I am thankful to Members on both sides of the House for partaking in the discussion and contributing in their own way as to how they feel, about the Bill which is before the House for consideration I do not think I can blame the hon. Members for putting a different point of view here because I am aware of the kind of literature which is being distributed, of the kind of people who are going round and how they are trying to give information to hon. Members. And the proof was, I think, provided by one of the hon. Members by reading the memorandum which was submitted to him by 13 or 14 people.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: It was a circular letter sent to all Members of Parliament.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Very well. I do not blame you for that; that is what am telling you. It is but natural that they should go round, circulate this kind of information and if no positive action is proposed, at least they should be able to create some kind of a confusion in the minds of the hon. Members. That seems to be the main purpose why this literature on such a huge scale is being distributed by them. Anyway, I am not interested in that.

Sir, I would like to touch three or four important points which the hon. Members have referred to in their speeches. First, hon'ble Shri Rama-murti suggested that he would be very happy if the Auroville is also dissolved. If that is dissolved, the point does not survive and I would not like to clarify anything more. But I would like to request my friend, Mr. Hegde—he seems to be under the impression that it is merely a question of keeping proper accounts—that if that be the position, we will be the last to take such kind of action. If he wants, I

have enough proof with me, which I can point out to hon. Members, as to how serious irregularities have been committed. And I am calling them "irregularities" because only when the investigation is completed and enough evidence is brought forth by which mala fides are established of those who are supposed to be responsible for this kind of thing, can further action be contemplated". So before coming to that conclusion, it will not be proper for me to say that they have misappropriated the amount, or they have done this or that. I would like to level that charge, but certainly we are...

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Just one point. CBI had also raided the Auroville office and seized the same books and accounts as have been examined by the team of auditors. May I know whether any new irregularity or a case of misappropriation has been found? That is number one. Number two, I would like to know whether the CBI has also enquired in the affairs of the so-called Auromitra Trust, of which the managing trustee happens to be a Government servant.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: This is a new point you have raised. I think, after the CBI completes the enquiry, whoever is found responsible—whether he is a Government officer, or an officebearer of the Society or anybody else—for misappropriation certainly action will be taken against all those who are found guilty, I can assure you to that extent.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gujarat): What about action against the Society?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: I think you have to hear with me. I have heard you with full patience. I did not interfere. After I have finished, if you have any questions, I will be here to clarify the position.

Here is the internal "auditor who has given his report in which he has pointed out—I will not read the entire thing: "Thus we have an unutilised deficit of Rs. 10 lakhs at the end of 31.12.74 and about 12 lakhs at the end

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of 1975 or upto 31-3-76. The situation has not improved up till now.

"Activities of the construction have almost come to a close after 31-12-74. Further, there are heavy bank overdrafts apart from the reduction in the O.D. facilities and the freezing of the monies in due accounts. Therefore, in these circumstances, it is clearly seen that the Government monies received for the specific purpose of Bharat Nivas have been diverted for other purposes and there are no more free liquid resources either as cash or in bank accounts. So, we cannot explain saying that the monies are immediately available for construction and that the construction activities are being continued without stop. This is really a serious matter that calls for proper solution."

This was laid in the Library. This is in Appendix 'N'.

One of the hon. Members referred to Mr. P. V. G. Raju, a very honest, very straight forward gentleman. He had come to me. He is also one of the members of the Society. But, unfortunately, because of his health he is not able to regularly attend the meetings. So he was under some kind of misapprehension. I said I am prepared to submit the entire thing to you I have nothing to hide from you: I believe in you. I assured certain things. But I can well appreciate his point of view that because of his health it won't be possible for him to go through the enormous literature which he will have to go through. I can quite appreciate the point. But those of you who, without knowing the complete background, merely because somebody seems to have approached you have to express your views here, things will really become very difficult. The entire thing is placed here. You can yourself go through it and draw your own conclusions as to whether there is a *prima facie* case of taking action against the Society or not.

Sir, one of the hon. Members asked the question about the objectives for which Auroville has been created and by taking it over how are you going to discharge this responsibility? I do not think it is the claim. Or does the hon. Member who suggested this point means to suggest that the Aurovindo Society was in fact discharging the responsibility which Aurobindo had in mind? They were merely in charge of construction. It was merely a channel of collecting funds from different State Governments, from international authorities. They collected the money, did the construction and the rest of, what we call the kind of infrastructure which was required. The Aurovilleans should be left undisturbed. Nobody should try to disturb them. They are fit enough to have their objectives achieved. Neither the Society can, claim that they are trying to discharge the obligations or discharge the same teachings which Aurobindo or Mother had in mind. It is not the claim of the Government that we are going to do this. We are merely saying that we will see that proper accounts are kept, constructions which have been stopped should be allowed to go ahead. It is not as to how much amount has been given by UNESCO. I am really surprised that hon. Members of this House and, of all the persons the hon. Member Shri Lakhan Singh, should say that they have just contributed Rs. 40,000. I do not think that UNESCO's contribution can be measured by us in terms of money. The international goodwill and the support that they gave made this a really international township. Otherwise I do not think we can say merely Rs. 40,000 have been contributed and why should Government take so much notice of it and we can brush it aside and leave matters at that. In spite of the fact that I quoted the rulings here, again he was at great pains to say that articles 25 and 26 are being attracted and we do not know how many religious institutions are going to be taken over. This is merely with a view to create confusion amongst the people in spite of the fact that the organisers themselves say that it

is a non-political, non-religious body. They approach the Education Ministry with an application to sponsor the re* solution in which the UNESCO clearly state that it is a non-religious body. They approach the Finance Ministry for getting help under section 80(g) and section 35 of the Income-Tax Act asking for exemptions. They themselves have applied and said that "we are a non-religious body, a non-ooU-tical body and we are interested merely in furthering the noble objectives of Sri Aurobindo" and still the won. Members continuously and consistent.lv go on saying "No, no, it is a religious body and we do not know how many religious bodies are going to be taken over by the Government". I think it is not correct. I would like to make it absolutely clear that the Government does not believe in interfering in anybody's religion. This is merely a cultural institution and we are involved in this because of the UNESCO and the international commitment that we have and that is why we have to take over this Society for good management. Sir, after getting the accounts if the whole thing can be streamlined and everything can be brought (in prooer lines within six months, certainly the Government would not be interested in continuing for two years. We have provided for two years with the proviso that if things get better, certainly we can relinauish this responsibility; but if things continue as they are after two years, then we will be asking for extension for one year at a time, and not more than five *in toto*. Sir, I have made this point absolutely clear that the Societv was asked to explain their conduct continuously for two years the correspondence was going on. I can show you the letter. Even after that, if the replies given by the Society evasive if the replies given by them are creating more, confusion rather than clarifying the whole thing, that was the only inevitable result and I do not think the Government could help in the matter.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIRf.Mr. Chavan...

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: One more point. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN 'SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Let him finish. You can ask that later on.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: I do not know how the hon. Member is trying to com-pare the Public Accounts Committee's comments on the accounting of the Government with the accounts of the Society, if the Society is so accountable as the hon. Member feels—I can understand his pleading of their cause all right and so he would like to compare them with the PAC—I do not think it is fair to compare the Government accounts and the working of .he Public Accounts Committee. If any audit objections are raised, how pre the Government and the Department held responsible ? You know better than I do. I do not think that the accounts were weil maintained by them. And i: after a very liberal kind of accounting which was being done we find this kind of strictures being passed against them, at least the Government feels that there is a *prima facie* case for take-over. As I have said, after the CBI inquiry is completed and if after the inquiry we find that there are serious charges' wherein sufficient evidence is forthcoming and their mala *fides* are established I think there would be a good case for proceeding against the culprits concerned.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: I want to ask one point. (Interruptions)

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Let me finish I do not like such a thing. Sir, one more point and I have done.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI I: Dr. Bhai Mahavir, wait.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: This point was discussed in the Lower House also: Why not call for the Attorney-General's opinion ? That' is one of the points which was mentioned here. The Government finds that the legal and the Constitutional position is absolutely clear. I do not "think that there

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is any confusion, unless you would like to create one yourself. The point is absolutely clear. There is no confusion, there is no ambiguity, there is no legal and Constitutional difficulty. So the Government does not feel that the question of inviting the Attorney-General to give his advice should arise.

With these few words I request the House to pass this Bill.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: I would ask him one thing. (*Interruptions*). He has promised to reply. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): He is asking a question. Why do you worry?

• SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: The Minister himself has said it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Please hurry up. (*Interruptions*).

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: It shows how little confidence they are having in their Minister's capacity to answer a simple question. (*Interruptions*) Are you going to run the House or it is the Chairman who is going to run it? (*Interruptions*).

श्री रामानन्द यादव (बिहार) : यह आपका कौन सा रूल है जिसमें आप उन को परमिशन दे रहे हैं ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The Minister has asked him to ask a question after he has finished his reply. Why do you object to it? (*Interruptions*) Just wait. Yes, Dr. Bhai Mahavir.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: I am thankful to the Deputy Leader for once asking his partymen to behave. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: You just read the rules and then behave.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Mahava-I shtra): My partymen are very well behaved.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: All right. If not to "behave" but to "maintain the decorum of the House". If you have objection to it, let it be that he has requested you to maintain the decorum of the House. (*Interruptions*) Now you are showing how much respect you have for your Deputy Leader.

My question simply is: Is it a fact that the Society repeatedly requested the Government that some financial expert should be asked to sit on the management of the Society so that accounts were maintained properly as required by the auditors, as also some administrative officer who could help in proper management of other affairs? If this offer was being made again and again, did anything stand in the way of the Government in accepting this offer?

Shri S. B. CHAVAN: I will find the record. I, do not know. Orally the hon. Members might say so. But if I have to react immediately, certainly I can be hauled up for giving a wrong information. Unless I see the record, it will not be proper on my part to clarify this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I now put the Resolution moved by Mr. Lakhan Singh to vote.

The question is:

"That this House disapproves the Awoville (Emergency Provisions) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 19 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 10th November, 1980."

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I shall now put the amendment of Dr. Bhai Mahavir to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the taking over, in the public interest, of the management of Auroville for a limited period and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following Members, namely:—

1. Shri V. B. Raju
2. Shri Lai K. Advani
3. Shri Ghanshyambhai Oza
4. Shri Bishambhar Nath Pande
5. Dr. Bhai Mahavir.

with instructions to report by the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha."

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I shall now put the motion moved by Shri S. B. Chavan to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the taking over, in the public interest, of the management of Auroville for a limited period and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. Clause 2. There are no amendments.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): We shall now take up clause 3. There are eight amendments, 1 to 4 by Dr. Bhai Mahavir and 6 to 9 by Shiva Chandra Jha. You move them together. Then you will not be called

for the third reading. Yes, go ahead, Dr. Mahavir.

Clause 3 (Management of Auroville to vest in the Central Government for a limited period).

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Sir, I move:

1. "That at page 3, line 17, for the words 'two years' the words 'one year' be substituted."
2. "That at page 3, line 23, for the words 'two years' the words 'one year' be substituted."
3. "That at page 3, line 25, for the words 'one year' the words 'four months' be substituted."
4. "That at page 3, line 27, for the words 'five years' the words 'two years' be substituted."

SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Sir, I move:

6. "That at page 3, line 17, for the word, 'two years' the words 'six months' be substituted."
7. "That at page 3 line 23, for the words 'two years' the words 'six months' be substituted."
8. "That at page 3, line 25, for the words 'one year' the words 'two months' be substituted."
9. "That at page 3, line 27, for the words 'five years' the words 'one year' be substituted."

The questions were proposed.

डा० भाई महावीर : श्रीमन् अब ज्यादा समय लेने की मैं गुस्ताखी नहीं करूंगा क्योंकि मेरे माननीय मित्र काफी बेचैन हो रहे हैं। जो विधेयक सदन के सामने लाया गया है अच्छा होता यह एक आर्डनेंस के द्वारा पहले न लाते, जिसमें पार्टी के सदस्यों को भी यह मौका नहीं मिल सका कि वे अपने मन की खुली राय अपने दल में या इस सदन में कह सकें (Interruptions) आपको

इस तरह के अधिकार की जरूरत नहीं है, यह मैं जानता हूँ। आप को कोई इच्छा नहीं रहती अपनी राय देने की, यह भी आप ने जाहिर कर दिया लेकिन कम से कम आप के दल में कोई लोकतांत्रिक पद्धति है यह भ्रम तो बनाये रखिये। (Interruptions) महोदय दुर्भाग्य की बात है...

SHRI HARI SINGH NALWA (Haryana): Point of order.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI, ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI) What is the point of order now?

श्री हरी सिंह नलवा : भाई महावीर ने अपने दल का तो भट्टा गोल किया, अब हमारा भी गोल कराना चाहते हैं। इन्हें कोई और काम नहीं है तो हमारे ऊपर कमेंट करने चले आये। आप अपने गिरेवान में मुंह डाल कर देखिये। हमारी चिन्ता क्यों कर रहे हैं? हम सुबह नाश्ता कर के आते हैं और काम करते हैं (Interruptions) आप को एक बजे फिर खाना चाहिए। आप अपनी फिक्र करिए, हमारी फिक्र मत करिए।

डा० भाई० महावीर : यह जो पोटेंट आफ आर्डर है उस के बारे में मुझे इतना ही निवेदन करना है जैसा श्री राममूर्ति जी ने अपने भाषण में कहा था कि... जो पार्टी अपने वर्क्स की मीटिंग शान्ति-पूर्वक नहीं कर सकती वह बाकी जगह जो गड़बड़ हो रही है उस को सुधारने की जिम्मेदारी लेने चले यह कितने उप-हास की बात है। (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SIBTE RAZI (Uttar Pradesh): You are very much afraid of us. That is why you are saying such things here. This is not good.

You should behave yourself. (Interruptions) You have no right to comment on us. (Interruptions).

डा० भाई० महावीर : यही डर है कि जिन लाठियों से आप आपस में लड़ रहे हैं वह लाठियां ले कर दूसरों पर न पिल पड़ें। (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SIBTE RAZI: Your allegation is baseless. (Interruptions)

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप इतनी तेजी से लड़ते हैं कि इधर बैठने की जगह उधर बैठ गये।

डा० भाई० महावीर : आप भी इधर आ जायेंगे। मुझे अधिक कुछ नहीं कहना है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अरविन्द गणेश कulkarni): आप कहते कुछ नहीं हैं, खाली प्रोवोक करते हैं।

डा० भाई० महावीर : प्रोवोक होने के लिए वे तैयार बैठे हैं मैं बिलकुल निर्दोष बात कहता हूँ तो भी उन को जोश आ रहा है, मैं क्या करूँ। यदि किसी एक आर्डिनेंस के बारे में इस देश में सर्वमत हो सकता था कि इसकी आवश्यकता नहीं थी तो वह यह अध्यादेश था। इस के बाद भी इस सरकार ने इस अध्यादेश को लाने की जरूरत समझी, आर्डिनेंस के जरिए फैसला करने की कोशिश की। इसका कारण सिवाय इसके कुछ नहीं हो सकता कि सरकार को संसद के लोगों की राय सुनने और उसके ऊपर विचार करके निर्णय करने के लिए भी पर्याप्त धीरज नहीं है। महोदय, मुझे इस पर बहुत खेद है और मुझे आशा है कि आगे यह प्रवृत्ति नहीं दिखाई देगी।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपने संशोधन पर बोल रहा हूँ, लेकिन उस से पहले मैं एक-दो बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। बहुत सी बातें इस विधेयक के भुताल्लिक आ गयी हैं। इस विधेयक से साफ है कि इस सरकार का मानस डिवाइडेड है। इस बिल के जरिए वह इस संस्था को ले रही है। लेकिन 5 साल से ज्यादा नहीं। आप जानते हैं कि इस सदन में हम लोग राष्ट्रीयकरण की बात बराबर करते रहते हैं कि उद्योगों को सरकार अपने हाथ में ले, लेकिन किस को लेना चाहिए और किस को नहीं लेना चाहिए, सरकार का विवेक ही इस के लिये खत्म हो गया है। सरकार को दिशाभ्रम हो गया है। आज अगर आप टाटा को लेने के लिये बिल लाते हैं तो हम उस का स्वागत करेंगे। विरला को लेने के लिये अगर आप बिल लाते हैं तो हम उस का स्वागत करेंगे। जूट मिल के लिये आप का जो विधेयक आ रहा है उस का हम एडवांस में ही स्वागत करते हैं। आने के पहले ही स्वागत कर रहे हैं, लेकिन यह संस्था एक ऐसी संस्था रही है जिस के लिये सरकार को सोच विचार करके कोई कदम बढ़ाना चाहिए था। अब इस में फाइनेंशियल इर्रेगुलैरिटीज हुई, या गड़बड़ियां हुई, घोघलिया हुई यह ठीक है लेकिन पहली बात तो यह है कि यह सारी बदमाशी है उस अफसर की जो वहां आश्रम में 12, 13 साल से था और अब वह यहां आ गया है मंत्रालय में और अब वह तिकड़म करता है, मैनीपुलेशन करता है। सारी बदमाशी उसकी है और वह सरकार झट से उस की रीडिंग पर उसके मैनीपुलेशन पर झुक जाती है। मानता हूँ कि पैसे की इर्रेगुलैरिटी है लेकिन यही एक जगह है जहां आप मीडियेशन कर सकते थे; यह गांधी का देश है। आप जानते हैं कि जब कारखानों में स्ट्रगल होता था तो गांधी जी पहले मीडियेशन की बात करते थे। आप जानते हैं कि पैसे को लेकर वहां आश्रमवासियों के बीच में मतभेद है तो आपकी जो कमेटी

बनी थी कुलकर्णी कमेटी, उसके बाद आप ट्राइब्यूनल बिठाते। (Interruptions) आप ट्राइब्यूनल बिठाते जा रहे हैं कलाज 9 में। उसके लिये आप ने व्यवस्था की है। वहां के असेट्स को लेकर, बुक्स को लेकर जब विवाद होगा, इस संस्था को आप को लेने के बाद तो वह मामला ट्राइब्यूनल के पास जायेगा। तो मालिक होने का बावजूद आप ट्राइब्यूनल की व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं। तो इर्रेगुलैरिटीज जब वहां थी तो उन को आप किसी ट्राइब्यूनल के पास भेजते आप वहां मीडियेशन की भावना पैदा कराते और यहां यह बात उठायी गयी है कि आप को पहले से लिखा जा रहा था कि आप अपना एक फाइनेंशियल अफसर वहां भेजें उनके एकाउन्ट्स को ठीक कराने के लिये, लेकिन आप ने उस को इग्नोर किया और एक-एक आप चढ़ गये उस के ऊपर। व्यक्तिगत रूप से मैं उस संस्था के प्रति आक्रुष्ट नहीं रहा लेकिन जो एक्सपेरीमेंट वहां हो रहा था एक नया मानव बनाने के लिये, एक सुपरमैन के लिये वह अच्छा एक्सपेरीमेंट था और वह होना चाहिए। इसके लिये उसकी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जमातों में इज्जत होती है। मैं भले ही उसके प्रति आक्रुष्ट नहीं हूँ लेकिन इस तरह का एक्सपेरीमेंट होना चाहिए लेकिन आपको दिशा भ्रम हो गया है, आप विवेकहीन हो गये हैं।

मेरा संशोधन यह है कि यह आप पांच साल के लिये ले रहे हैं और पहले दो साल के लिये ले रहे हैं और फिर जरूरत पड़ने पर एक एक साल के लिये बढ़ायेंगे। मैक्सिमम 5 साल के लिये यह होगा। मैंने कहा है कि आप डूब तो रहे हो हैं दरिया में, जब डूबने के लिये तैयार हैं और मूसाइड करने के लिये तैयार हो हैं और जब उसे लेना ही चाहते हैं तो पहले 6 महीने के लिए लीजिए और मेरा संशोधन इस प्रकार से है कि जहां पर दो साल है वहां 6 महीने जोड़ा जाय और जब एक-एक साल बढ़ाने की बात आती है वहां दो दो महीने बढ़ाया जाय और मैक्सिमम पीरियड एक

[श्री शिव चन्द्र झा]

साल का हो। एक साल के अन्दर यदि आप इस इरिगुलैरिटीज को दूर नहीं कर पायेंगे तो आप नाकाबिल हैं। इस देश में जो गड़बड़ियाँ हो रही हैं उनसे ही पहले साफ हो जाता है कि आप नाकाबिल हैं, उनको आप दुरुस्त नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, इस लिये इस संस्था को आप एक साल से ज्यादा किसी भी हानत में अपने हाथ में न लीजिए। पहले 6 महीने के लिये और फिर दो महीने के लिये बढ़ाया जाय उस समय को। यही एक बीच का रास्ता हो सकता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इसका जवाब दें कि पहले ट्राइब्यूनल क्यों नहीं बिठाया गया और दूसरे दो साल की जगह 6 महीने हो और फिर जहाँ एक एक साल आ रहा है वहाँ दो दो महीने रखा जाय और वह पीरियड मैक्सिमम एक साल के लिये हो। इससे ज्यादा उस संस्था को न लिया जाय। अगर 6 p.m.

ऐसी संस्था को आप लेते हैं तो इसकी कारोलेरीज में यह आ जाता है और हम लोग कहेंगे कि किसी भी ऐसी संस्था का आप टेक ओवर करते हैं, अगर आप में हिम्मत है तो मेरा संशोधन है कि ऐसी संस्थाओं को आप निश्चित समय के लिए ले सकते हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी को जवाब देने दीजिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The Minister is not interested in replying. I am putting amendment Nos. 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 to vote. The question is:

1. "That at page 3, line 17, for the words 'two years' the words 'dinted'."

The motion was negated.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The question is:

2. "That at page 3, line 23, for the words 'two years' the words 'one year' be substituted."

The motion was negated.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The question is:

3. "That at page 3, line 3, the words 'one year' the words 'four months' be substituted"

The motion was negated.

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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The question is:

1. "That at page 3, line 27, for the words 'five years' the words 'two years' be substituted."

The motion was negated.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The question is:

6. "That at page 3, line 17, for the words 'two years' the words 'six months' be substituted."

The motion was negated.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The question is:

7. "That at page 3, line 23, for the words 'two years' the words 'six months' be substituted."

The motion was negated.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The question is:

8. "That at page 3, line 25, for the words 'one year' the words 'two months' be substituted."

The motion was negated. I

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The question is:

9. "That at page 3, line 27, for the words 'five years' the words 'one year' be substituted."

The motion was negated. >

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI) The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4 Was added to the Bill.

Clause 5 (Administrator of Auroville)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI) There are two amendments—Nos. 5 and 10—in the names of Dr. Bh'ti Mahavir and Shri Shiva Chandra Jha, respectively. Are they moving their amendments?

DR. BHAI, MAHAVIR: Sir, I move:

5. "That at page 4, line 22, after the word 'Administrator' the following be inserted namely:

'who shall not be an officer of the Government but a member of the judicial service not below the rank of a District Judge'."

SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Sir, I move: i j

10. "That at page 4. line 22, after the word 'Administrator' the following be inserted, namely:

P 'who had been in public life for a long time with an undisputed record of integrity and social prtstige"

The questions were proposed.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने कहा है कि जब सरकार ऐसी संस्थाओं को अपने हाथ में लेती है तो ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर जो उस पर बहाल करेगी उनके मुनालिक मेरा संशोधन है कि सरकार किसकी ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर बनाकर भेजे। क्या वही अफसर, उसी तरह के अफसरों को बनायेगी जिसने खुराफात की और यहां आकर आपको पानी में डूबा रहा है।

इसी तरह के सिविल सर्वेन्ट्स भेजेगी जो फिर खुराफात करेंगे। तो मेरा संशोधन है कि आप इस संस्था को ले रही हैं तो पब्लिक लाइफ में जो आदमी रहे है, जिनका रेकार्ड विदआउट स्टिग्मा रहा है, अन-क्लैमिड रहा है, ऐसे आदमियों को आप ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर बनाइये। आप गवर्नर बनाते हैं, ऐम्बेसेडर बनाते हैं। हमारे यहां परम्परा रही है। पोलिटिकल आदमी उसमें होते हैं। तो आप पब्लिक लाइफ के आदमी को और जिसकी इटीग्रिटी सर्वोत्तम हो उसको आप वहां का ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर बनाइये तो अच्छा होगा वनिस्वत इसके कि आप उसी अफसर को बनायें जो दल-दल में आपको ले जायेगा। इसलिए मेरा यह संशोधन है। इसका जवाब देने दीजिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI) He is not replying. The question is:

5. "That at page 4, line 22, after the word 'Administrator' the following be inserted namely:

'who shall not be an officer of the Government but a member of the judicial service not below the rank of a District Judge'."

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI) The question is:

10, "That at page 4, line 22, after the word 'Administrator' the following be inserted namely:—

'who had been in public life for a long time with an undisputed record of integrity and social prestige'."

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI) The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 6 to 18 were added to the Bill.

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

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Sir, I move: "That the Bill be passed." The question was proposed

SHRI. SHRIDHAR "WASUDEO DHABE (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, there is no reply by the Minister to one point. When the matter is pending before the Supreme Civil Court and a partial stay order is granted and the administration has been given to the Society itself, what is the use of hurrying up this Bill at this stage? Secondly, Sir, there is no charge of misappropriation. Only some irregularities are there, and the CBI has to investigate and find out and all these formalities are still have to be gone into. Then, Sir, my last objection is this: The arbitrary biased drastic powers have been taken. The administrator can dispose of the property. The persons liable for criminal action are given unusual protection implying that it is only civil action and all the will have to go to the Tribunal. All the guilty officers have been given protection under section 9 because the matters will have to go to the Tribunal. Such a Bill has been forwarded and it is a disgrace to the country. Such an institution has been taken over and I am certain that the Supreme Court will give its decision. We cannot be a party to this Bill and, therefore, we all walk out in protest. Sir.

(At this stage, some hon. Members left

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Sir, we would like to register our protest. We regard this Bill as improper and unwarranted and we would like to register our protest and walk out of

the House when this Bill is being passed.

(At this stage, some honourable Members left the Chamber)

SHRI. NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, we all are against this Bill and we want that our protest 'should be registered' (Interruptions). One minute.. Sir. We protest this Bill and We want to register our protest. (Interruptions), 000

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : क्या आप वाक
आउट नहीं करते ? (Interruptions)

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : वाइस चैयरमैन
साहब, मंत्री जी को इस बात का अनुभव है . .
(Interruptions)

श्रीमती सरोज खापड़ : इस खुशी में आप
बैठ जाइये ।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : जहाँ भी
किसी संस्था का प्रशासन सरकारी अफसरों
के हाथ में सौंपा गया वहाँ हालत और बिगड़ी,
बनी नहीं

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : वाक-आउट
मत करिये । (Interruptions)

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : प्रशासन
अपने हाथ में ले करके प्रशासक को सौंपने
के बजाय जिन लोगों ने यह मिसप्रप्रोप्रियेशन
किया, घोटाला किया या गड़बड़ी की उनके
खिलाफ कार्रवाई करते तो उसका अपना बहुत
बड़ा असर होता । वहाँ सरकारी अफसर बैठा
करके यह सरकार अपने भ्रष्टाचार को वहाँ भी
फैलाना चाहती है । (Interruptions) इस
संस्था में फैलाना चाहती है । उनके भ्रष्टाचार
का सब को मालूम है । उस संस्था को भी यह
भ्रष्ट बना देना चाहते हैं (Interruptions)

हम लोगों के कहने पर यह लोग मुनने को तैयार नहीं इसलिये हम भी वाकआउट करते हैं।

(At this stage the hon. Member l

the Chamber)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI) The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Now, we go to the next item.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no, Sir. (Interruptions).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): You do not want the next item to be taken up now? Let us see what the Minister says. Yes, Mr. Kesri, do you want to go to the next item now?

SHRI SITA RAM KESRI: No, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): All right. The House stands adjourned till 11-00 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at nine minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 10th December, 1980.