

appeared on behalf of the people for 18 months.

Sir, I will convey the sentiments which have been expressed in this House on various issues to the Home Minister, though they may not be directly connected with the Appropriation Bills in relation to the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Some political overtones have been there. I will convey all these sentiments to the Home Minister. I will convey the various demands which have been made like the demand for a judicial enquiry, the demand for compensation and so on. The Vote on Account is only for six months. I am told a direction has been given for the revision of electoral rolls. Most likely, elections will be held before the end of September. Sir, in the end, I thank the hon. Members for the decent co-operation they have given me in piloting these Appropriation Bills today as well as yesterday. With these words, I commend these Appropriation Bills to the House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for the services of a part of the financial year 1979-80, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

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

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

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be returned."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1978-79, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: After hearing you, you should have said 'Mr. Agarwal be returned to the Rajya Sabha.'

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

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

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

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be returned."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

#### RE SPECIAL MENTIONS—Contd.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, before you go to the next item, I would like to know when special mentions are going to be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Members raised this matter little earlier also. They wished that this be taken up earlier. Actually, the Chairman had announced that it will be taken up after the regular business of the House was over. But

there is one problem which has come up after the Chairman's announcement. Some Members feel that by the time the special mentions are taken up, they may have left. So, I want just your guidance.

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:** When the State Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said that this was an Ordinance and they had to pass it, I assured him that we shall sit late in the night and see that this Bill was passed. There will be no difficulty and we are under the impression that after the Bill is over we will take up 'special mentions.'

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Let us take up this Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1979. After that we will take up special mentions.

### **THE INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 1979**

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):** Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill seeks to amend two sections of this IDR Act, 1951. One relates to section 18FB where we are seeking an amendment to extend the period of moratorium from the existing five years to eight years. We had to issue an Ordinance, Sir, in the last week of December because the existing moratorium in respect of some units was due to expire early during next month. We have gained some experience that a five-year moratorium on payment of a number of cutstandings by companies that are taken over after they have been declared sick and abandoned by their

private owners or when these companies are taken over even while they are being run because of the sickness to which they have been led by the private owners, is not adequate enough to nurse these units back to health. And since in respect of one of the units which is currently being run under the IDR Act the five-year moratorium was due to expire in the first week of next month, we had to issue an Ordinance and take immediate steps to extend the period of moratorium.

Another amendment that is sought to be made is consequent upon the new industrial policy of the Government which reserves 807 items for the small scale sector. It has become necessary to come forward with this amendment because there are a few items of manufacture which have not been listed in the schedule to the IDR Act, consequent upon which it becomes difficult to effectively enforce the reservation policy of the Government. Though there are several items that will have to be included in the schedule, we intend to include them when we come forward with a more comprehensive legislation to amend the IDR Act. It became necessary for us to enlist these items of manufacture because there was a press note of the Government in 1974 which specifically excluded these items from the purview of the Act and the schedule.

I submit that both these amendments are not of a controversial nature. One is intended to help the Government to nurse back the sick units to health and the other to protect the small scale sector of the industry.

I commend these amendments to the House and I beg to move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

*The question was proposed*