

ment burning not only in India but outside the borders of India, in Canada, America, Japan, Afganistan and Turkey. Now when you have brought this Bill, I would like that we should value the sentiments and the objectives for which Pondichery Ashram was founded by Shri Arvindo Ghosh and subsequently the Ashram was given the shape of foundation by the Mother. There is a shrine of Shri Arvindo Ghosh in the Ashram which is a place of worship for the new generation and where they go and pay their homage. I will like to say in this connection that when you are going to establish it, we should establish as a centre of French culture there because the place where this ashram existed was under the possession of French.

We have a tradition where we have accommodated various religions and cultures and have provided full opportunity for flourishing them. Not only this, we have kept them safe. Due to this, I would like to say that Auroville Foundation should be made a centre of French culture and language. I would also like to say that the French culture should be continued and protected by the Government. I want that we should not forget those great revolutionaries of France who showed the path of revolution to the entire world. French revolution has influenced every thinker and has added a new chapter in the history of the world. French is a beautiful language and the French people are civilised people. We pay our homage to the people of the country who fought bravely against facism in the second world-war and faced Hitler valiantly. I want that the culture of such a great country should be preserved here and we should provide facilities for its further development.

I congratulate the Indian Government and the Hon. Minister for bringing the Bill related to Auroville Foundation. There have been clashes regarding the foundation, its property and the society a few days back and the way things were propagated is really a matter of shame for us. It is really unfortunate that the people involved in infighting do not know the spirit behind the foundation of Pondichery Ashram and Auroville Founda-

tion. This Foundation is getting funds from Government of India, State Governments, Foreign countries and even from UNESCO. You should keeping thing in mind that the elements detrimental of to the interest of India and the nation should find no place here. The Government should be vigilant in this regard. The spirit and the sentiments behind establishing this Foundation are still alive in India and will continue to do so till the man's dreams, are fulfilled.

This foundation is built on the dreams of man, which get shattered and broken and are also dashed to the ground many a times. But still one cannot stop dreaming of bright future, because a person has every right to see dreams and no one can deprive him of it. So I want that Government should ensure nourishment of the sentiments on the basis of which this Auroville Foundation, this the Pondicherry Ashram was established.

with these words, I support this Bill.

---

16.06 hrs

STATEMENT RE: PROCUREMENT/MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES OF RABI CROPS OF 1988-89

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): Mr. Chairman, the Government have fixed the procurement/minimum support prices of Rabi crops of 1988-89 to be marketed in 1989-90 season.

2. The procurement price of wheat of fair average quality has been raised from Rs. 173 per quintal during 1988-89 marketing season to Rs. 183 per quintal for the 1989-90 marketing season.

3. For barely of fair average quality, the minimum support price has been raised by Rs. 10/- per quintal and fixed at Rs. 145/- per quintal for 1989-90 marketing season.

4. The minimum support price for gram

[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

of fair average quality has been fixed at Rs. 325/- per quintal for the 1989-90 marketing season marking an increase of Rs. 35/- over the price fixed for 1988-89 marketing season.

5. The minimum support price of mustard of fair average quality has been raised from Rs. 430 during the 1988-89 marketing season to Rs. 460 per quintal for 1989-90 marketing season. The minimum support price of safflower for the 1989-90 season has been fixed at Rs. 440/- per quintal marking an increase of Rs. 25/- per quintal over the price fixed in 1988-89 season. The minimum support price of Toria would be announced separately on the basis of its normal market price differential with rapeseed/mustard.

[English]

AUROVILLE FOUNDATION BILL - *Contd.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We now resume the discussion on the Auroville Foundation Bill. Now Prof. Ranga.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): It is a happy co-incidence that during the same Session, almost within the same fortnight, we have had before us the Bill dealing with *Jamia Millia Islamia*, and now this Bill about Auroville. We hope that *Jamia Millia Islamia* would rise to the same status, with regard to its special religious characteristics, as that attained by the institution in Egypt, from which Abdul Kalam Azad himself had drawn his inspiration.

I have had the privilege of visiting Auroville, and I bear witness to the fact that from out of a rocky jungle and useless area of land, we have raised a wonderful area of greenery, with trees, foliage and flowers. It is an achievement indeed, for human effort. But most unfortunately, like all other human institutions, it has also gone into the ways of struggle and strain, leading to bloodshed also, as between the adherents and follow-

ers of Aurobindo Ghosh and the Mother.

From the days of Upanishad seers and sages always differ from each other; sometimes they used to quarrel and fight; and the same thing had happened here also. But, at the same time, we are very happy that this Auroville was conceived and had been brought into existence as a great institution especially in India, because from all over the world, these students of philosophy and Aurobindo Ghosh School of thought gather there to carry on their researches into Indian philosophy as well as Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist and all other Asian philosophical studies. So, it is a matter of honour for India to have these people coming, highly educated, speculative seers, from all over the world in order to carry on their own researches in practical life as well as intellectual sphere. Therefore, it is the duty of the government to ensure proper, progressive, peaceful and happy environment for these people and then help them also not to get at each other's throats not to see each other's blood, but, learn to live together in harmony with each other through fraternal discussion and debates and in that way make their own contribution as the ancient seers had done to the philosophy of life, philosophy of humanity.

Aurobindo started his life as a nationalist and went to the extent of being a terrorist and having found that terrorism was of limited use, nationalism also was not so very universally acceptable and agreeable and useful for humanity as a whole, he came to the conclusion that the whole world had got to be treated as one unit and the whole humanity to be served, and enlightened, had got to be educated and helped to live within itself in peace. He believed, therefore, in world peace and then seers and sages of world peace had sent spiritual messages from all corners of the world with the result that come over here to Auroville to carry on their researches and studies.

I have learnt that the government has taken up the responsibility of affording them the necessary physical atmosphere of peace and harmony and mutual coopera-