

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What about 1971 ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we shall take up the next item.

16.09 hrs.

PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY BILL
(As passed by Rajya Sabha)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI K. C. PANT) : Sir, I beg to move.*

“That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University in the Union territory of Pondicherry and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

Before the House begins the general discussion on the Bill, I think it would be useful to give briefly the background of this proposal. Sir, the proposal to establish a University in Pondicherry came up for consideration in 1971 when the Sri Aurobindo Centenary Celebration Committee began its deliberations on various programmes for the Centenary year. At the suggestion of this Committee, this proposal was examined in consultation with the University Grants Commission. The Commission accepted the proposal in principle. The Pondicherry Administration was anxious that the University should be established as a Central University as they have no resources to establish and develop a University on their own. After further examination, the Government approved in principle the proposal to establish a Central University in Pondicherry in January, 1974 and appointed an Export Committee to work out the details for its establishment. The Committee submitted its report in July, 1974. On the basis of this report proposals were formulated for establishment of the University. But due to paucity of resources, the establishment of the University was deferred from time to time.

The decision of the Government to establish a Central University in Pondicherry had aroused great expectations in the Union Territory. The people have been expressing their anxiety over the delay in its establishment. The Government, therefore, felt that any further delay in the matter would be a great source of disappointment for the people of Pondicherry. We have, therefore, come forward with this Bill to establish the University.

The Bill envisages the establishment of a Central University named as the Pondicherry University. It will be a teaching-cum-affiliating University offering facilities for advanced studies and research. The teaching departments of the University will concern themselves with postgraduate education, while the affiliated colleges will be largely responsible for undergraduate education. The Colleges in Pondicherry are at present affiliated to three Universities :

- (1) The University of Madras;
- (2) The Andhra University; and
- (3) The University of Calicut.

With the establishment of the Pondicherry University, the entire Union Territory of Pondicherry can hope to have a unified system of education.

The proposal to establish the Pondicherry University as I said earlier, emanated from the deliberations of the Sri Aurobindo Centenary Celebrations Committee. Sri Aurobindo has left a profound impact on his times, not only in the context of Pondicherry which owes its fame to him, but also in the context of the Indian Renaissance and the advancement of mankind. His contribution to the Indian freedom struggle, the intellectual and spiritual life of the country, and the way in which he projected the many-sided genius of India to the whole world need no reiteration. The vision of Shri Aurobindo, though rooted in the soil of India, transcended the boundaries of the East and the west. We have, therefore, decided that the University should establish a School for studies in Eastern and Western Thought to be named after Sri Aurobindo.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

We have also decided that the University should commemorate Sri Subramania Bharathi, who made monumental contributions to national awakening and national integration. The Pondicherry University will have a School of Studies in Tamil Language and Literature named after Subramania Bharathi, a Tamil poet of the first rank.

As the House is aware, Pondicherry is an ideal centre for the promotion of French studies in the context of its historic past. We have, therefore, made a provision that the University will give particular attention to the development of French Studies.

The University will have jurisdiction over the entire Union Territory of Pondicherry. We have also made an enabling provision under which the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep can, if they so desire, come within the jurisdiction of the Pondicherry University. Colleges in these Territories can seek affiliation to this University, if the Administrations of these territories so decide with the approval of the Central Government. This provision does not imply that the Colleges in these two Union Territories should compulsorily be affiliated to the Pondicherry University.

The structure and organisation of the Pondicherry University are by and large the same as those of other Central Universities. There are, however, some special provisions which are designed to enable the University to give greater attention to certain important areas which have unfortunately remained neglected by most Universities in the country. We have proposed that the Pondicherry University should have Directors specially appointed to organise programmes of educational innovation and rural reconstruction; culture and cultural relations; and physical education, sports, national service and students welfare. We have also made a provision to constitute a Planning Board as a statutory authority to review the educational programmes from time to time, to promote innovation and experiment, to develop new teaching and learning processes and create an environment conducive to the promotion of value orientation in education.

As this is a new University which has to start functioning immediately after the enactment of this Legislation, we have made pro-

visions, as in the case of all new Universities, under which the Visitor, who is the President of India, can appoint the first Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and other officers and to constitute the first Court, Executive Council and Academic Council.

I do hope that the establishment of a Central University in Pondicherry will fulfil the aspirations of the people of the Union Territory. I am sure that Members from all sections in the House will support this measure whole-heartedly.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion movedu :

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University in the Union territory of Pondicherry and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Shri S. M. Bhattam.

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, the suggestion for setting up a university at Pondicherry originally emanated from the Centenary Celebrations Committee of Sri Aurobindo. The idea was well taken but the name was not given. Some reasons were given. Perhaps they are valid from the point of view of the Government, because they have to make compromises at every stage. But may I humbly submit for the consideration of the House, and particularly the Minister, whether it is not a fact that the Government are succumbing at every stage to some pressures, whether valid or invalid, whether correct or incorrect, whether rational or irrational, and giving a go by to the original idea as conceived by the centenary celebrations Committee, and which was taken up by the Government. This is how, compromises made at every stage go against the basic concept and the fundamental ideas.

In the year 1974, the Government took a decision in principle to establish the Central University in Pondicherry, but actually in 1985, the Government is coming before the House with this Bill. They took about 11 years. That is how the educational programme in the country are progressing, and that is the importance that in being given normally to education and matters connected with education.

[Shri S. M. Bhattam]

Sir, I thought that the Minister would be presenting a model Bill. After all, he gave certain ideas recently during the course of discussions on the floor of this House, and, therefore, I was wondering whether it would embody all the high ideals of education for which the Government is now committed. But unfortunately, it cannot be taken as a model Bill and from any point of view is not setting up an example. The Minister may, therefore, have to review the Bill itself after two or three years. There are several defects in the Bill itself.

Firstly, lot refer to the question of autonomy of the Universities in general. As a matter of fact, the Minister has inherited the education system which is full of defects. The educational institutions are in an anarchiac condition, highly disorganised and indisciplined and all sorts of things are happening in these institutions.

Recently, we read in the press how in Bihar, the Governor of Bihar demanded the resignation of Vice-Chancellor of Bihar University for certain reasons. If he did not agree to that, it would have amounted to his vacation of the office under certain Statute of the Universities. Where is the autonomy of the Universities? Not only that, the Governor also contemplated entrusting the entire matter to the criminal investigation Department of the State Government. There may be lapses on the part of the Vice-Chancellor. Certainly, those can be rectified, looked into, enquired into by a competent body in the field of education, but not entrusted to the Criminal investigation Department of the State Government. The details of various corruption charges levelled against the Vice-Chancellor were also given in the Press Communique of the Governor. So, this is the way, the autonomy of the universities is generally being curbed, by the Government. On the one hand this is the extreme position that the Government are taking and on the other, the situation in the universities should also be looked into.

Recently we have seen in the press that in the Delhi University, the Vice-Chancellor appointed a large number of teachers just on the eve of laying down his office and most of

these appointments are considered to be irregular as they do not conform to the regulations of the university. And these things go on increasing in number.

We have again seen in the press today that in Kashi Vidyapeeth similar things have occurred. 37 new teaching departments were created in the year 1983 and 153 teachers were appointed, and all such appointments were against the provisions of the University Statute. So, Sir such things are happening in the universities. What is the remedy? On the one hand we find universities which are resorting to all sorts of things which are unhealthy and on the other, the Government takes an extreme position and tries to curb the autonomy of the universities. There must be something, in between, which the Government must be able to do.

I know a particular case in Andhra Pradesh. In a place called Eluru in the West Godavari District, a post-graduate centre was to be opened. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has given its clearance. The Andhra University in one of its meetings of the Syndicate, has passed a resolution approving the proposal in principle. Therefore, the university could have okayed the opening of the new classes in the post graduate centre which is already in existence. But then it was said that it was necessary for the college to obtain permission from the University Grants Commission. I do not know why. The university agrees, the State Government also agrees, yet the college has to run to the University Grants Commission for approval. And I had also occasion to talk to the concerned vice-president in the UGC. He said that it was necessary that they should approach the UGC. I am very sorry to inform the House that the proposal was turned down and it was not accepted. This is the way in which the UGC behaves, in such a peculiar fashion.

As far as the South is concerned, all the Ministers of Education of the South recently met in a conference and voiced their grievances what the South is being neglected by the University Grants Commission. Therefore, they wrote to the Government of India to set up a regional branch of the University Grants Commission.

Sir, I am only giving expression to rectify certain maladies which have beset the present

educational institutions. Recently, the Government have taken a decision to set up model schools. There again, the medium of teaching would be either in English or in Hindi. Andhra Pradesh has taken objection to that. What happens to the regional languages? In every district we have a centre. In all the district centres, should we necessarily have to impart education only through English medium and not through the regional language? I suppose it is not good and it is not proper. We have accepted the three language formula and that should be in existence and that should continue. Any variation or any choice will not be acceptable to us and it will not be good also. I may here in this connection refer to in Clause 8(1) :

"The University shall be open to persons of either sex and of whatever race, creed, caste, or class, etc., etc."

Sir, in respect of caste, class or race consideration, our people uniformly get equal opportunities for admission to the University, that is the purpose. Now may I humbly ask the Minister whether in the admission forms, where the student is asked to necessarily give out the name of the caste to which he originally belongs? This is the existing practice everywhere and the name of the caste has got to be necessarily mentioned, whether a candidate belongs to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribe. It is but necessary that they should give out the name of the caste. Wherever they do not obtain such benefits from such reservations, they necessarily need not give the name of the caste. Therefore, the Government should make it compulsory on the part of every educational institution to delete that particular portion and no student should be compelled to give the names of the caste to which he belongs. Here again in the proviso, it is stated, "provided nothing in the sections shall be given to prevent the university from making such provisions for the weaker sections of the people and in particular the Scheduled Castes and Tribes," etc.

As far as the weaker sections are concerned, that means other backward classes apart from the scheduled castes and tribes. So, that is one subject which was engaging the attention of the nation. This House should have been seized of the matter; all political parties should have been consulted and

national consensus should have emerged. But we are not seized of the matter. Therefore what is the provision for other backward classes and what is the reservation which is being provided to them here? There are definite instructions from the Government of India, though all the organisations are stating that they have not received these, unless some national consensus has emerged. Therefore this has to be put in cold-storage until such time a national consensus has emerged in this regard.

After having a cursory glance at the various provisions in the Act, we find this is opposite of democracy. Instead of democratisation, we find the reverse of it in this Bill. All are nominated. Everybody is nominated. Of course first set of office bearers will be nominated necessarily; there cannot be any election. But then, I refer to page 7 :

"The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Visitor in such manner as may be prescribed by the Statutes".

Because he has got to be necessarily appointed and there is no other way to go. But, some statutes are made. I refer to page No. 9 :

"Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Statutes may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely :

"the election and continuance in office of the Members of the said authorities and bodies, the filling of vacancies of members, and all other matters relative to those authorities and other bodies for which it may be necessary or desirable to provide."

So, the nominations may continue. This is optional and it is not compulsory that election should be there. And it is no longer there.

At page 11 it is said :

".. (2) The first Ordinances shall be made by the Vice-Chancellor with the previous approval of the Central Government and the Ordinances so made may be amended, repealed or added to at any time by the Executive Council in the manner prescribed by the Statutes."

The first ordinance shall be made by the Vice-Chancellor, with the previous approval

[Shri S. M. Bhattam]

of the Central Government. It means that the Central Government invariably comes into the picture. The first Statutes are those which are set out in this Schedule, apart from those which are made by the Vice Chancellor. They must be approved by the Central Government. So, the hand of the Government can be seen everywhere. Unless Government okays, nothing moves. That is the situation to which the Universities are reduced.

And again, you may find here that these statutes cannot be amended subsequently. They can be amended only subject to the approval of the Visitor. Otherwise they cannot be amended, in future also. So, they are made first only by the Governor, and they cannot be amended; and they can be amended only with the express sanction of the Government. Otherwise, the Vice-Chancellor or the Visitor has to give permission to this. This is the situation to which the Universities are reduced.

Again, coming to democratization of these bodies, the participation of students and their role, both in academic and other matters occupy some importance and significance.

Apart from this, I may point out here that if some disciplinary action is to be taken against a student, opportunities are made available to him to make an appeal to the executive Council or to the Tribunal of Arbitration. If that is the case, what happens? At every stage, no action can be taken by the Vice-Chancellor against any single student. It is impossible for him to proceed with it, because there is an appellate authority. It can ask the Executive Council to look into the matter. So, there must be sufficient safeguards, in-built safeguards for maintaining proper discipline in the Universities. The Visitor has to take into consideration this aspect also.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam) : First of all, I congratulate the hon. Minister of Education, Shri K. C. Pant for bringing in this Bill. To different colleges in the Union Territory of Pondicherry are till date affiliated to the Calicut University in Kerala, to the Madras University in Tamil Nadu, or the Waltair University in Andhra Pradesh. So, these colleges in Pondicherry, as well as in Mahe can now be affiliated to a single University.

It is also commendable that this Central University has taken a decision to start schools in the name of Shri Aurobindo and also in the name of Subramania Bharati. I am sure this will help the students who come to the portals of this University to study about the great cultural heritage of our nation, and the deepest moral values we cherish.

I would like to make certain suggestions regarding some of the important bodies which will be formed in the University. One is the Executive Council and the other is the Academic Council. My submission is that these two important bodies which will determine the functions of the University, the academic quality should not have the said plight of the Senates and Syndicates of our Universities. Look at how the Syndicates and Senates of our established universities are functioning, how the Senate Members and the Syndicate Members are selected or nominated. Many of the Senate or Syndicate members are like *abkari* contractors, those who are connected with criminal proceedings.

Then there are very few fortunate academicians and their academic qualification is that once or twice in their lifetime they have entered the portals of the colleges or schools just to get shelter from a heavy rain or the hot sun! So, this sad plight should not be there when you from the Executive Council or the Academic Council, in the Pondicherry University. It should be those persons who have got an excellent academic character, who have excellent academic record; it should not be any other consideration. Usually the man who can bring more political pressure, he comes to these important offices of the University. When Vice-Chancellors are being selected, not his academic calibre we are counting, but it is the political pressure that he can bring. So, my humble request is that this consideration should not be there. There should not be any political consideration. It should be only on merits.

Another thing which I noted is the formation of a tribunal for arbitration. If there is a dispute between the University and the employees of the University, usually what happens in our country is that they go on strike. Here there is a provision that they can go to a tribunal for arbitration which is formed once a member from the Executive Council or a member of the employees, they

are the persons who are being nominated by the Visitor who functions as an Umpire. This is a very good procedure.

Similarly, if there is any dispute between the students and the University that dispute is also being referred to a similar tribunal. This method, can be used by many of our universities functioning the different States.

Sir, there is another provision also, that is, the Students' Council. Look how they are functioning in the universities and colleges which we have got. If we look at the way our college elections are being conducted or the university elections are being conducted, we will think of the times of William the Conqueror. At that time, when a civil case goes to him, or even a criminal case goes to him, it is not decided on the basis of the merits. But both the people, that is the man who makes the complaint and the accused, they are both asked to fight and whoever wins that man is the gainer. Similar is the case in our colleges and universities. There the people or the students are winning elections not by their merits but by the pressure they can use and see how many people can stand elections there. A few days back I read in the newspapers that the Delhi University was spending Rs. 1 lakh just to conduct the elections. Are the Universities and colleges meant only to train some politicians? Let us think about it.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I commend his objectivity.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS : What I am telling is that universities and colleges should not be used only for that purpose. By doing so, 85 per cent of the students are affected.

Here in the Bill it is said that for forming the Students Councils students of calibre will be taken. This is a better suggestion which can be used by other Universities.

SHRI HARDWARI LAL (Rohtak) : I do not oppose the Bill. We have in the Education Minister a highly persuasive debater and normally I cannot resist his arguments. But he is unable to persuade me to support this Bill whole-heartedly. I think, nobody can if he is aware of the serious handicaps besetting higher education in the country.

From 27 in 1951, the number of Universities has gone upto 140. Some of us delude ourselves and think that this increased number represents a signal achievement in the field of higher education. Actually we have neither the teachers of adequate calibre to man our numerous universities, nor the adequate financial resources to develop them properly.

As to teachers, we must not permit ourselves to be misled by myriads of fake professors in which the Indian educational world has come to abound. Just as every holder of honorary degree of degrees is calling himself a doctor in this country, every teacher, whether he is a tutor, a lecturer or a reader, has chosen to call himself a professor, whatever his rank in the academic hierarchy. So, we think that we are rich so far as professors are concerned, but we are quite mistaken.

About the finances, set apart by the Education Ministry for distribution among various universities of the country and colleges through the UGC, the less said the better. Every State university feels aggrieved because it does not get adequate grants for development. UGC itself is a beleaguered institution, the State universities crowding round it and the Education Ministry being unable to meet its demands.

We have been admitting for many years that we have been permitting undue proliferation of universities and colleges and have been resolving all these years that further proliferation must stop. In actual fact, every year witnesses establishment of new universities and colleges. Today, more than half a dozen universities are awaiting recognition at the hands of the UGC, for Central grants. And here we are rapidly adding to the number of Central universities which, even with their existing strength, are swallowing the bulk of the funds which the UGC gets for distribution among all the universities of the country.

One would not mind the Centre bearing the cost of maintaining a few universities if they were performing any national tasks, if they were centres of excellence, if they were page-setters for State universities. But the Central universities are no better than many

[Shri Hardwari Lal]

State universities. How, for example, is Delhi better than Madras ?

To know the truth about the actual working of the Central universities, we have to refer to the Report of the Committee appointed by the UGC to enquire into the working of the Central universities. In the matter of catering to the needs of the country with regard to higher education, none of the seven central universities is a national institution. Two of them, North Eastern Hill University and Hyderabad University are frankly local institutions, being financed by the Centre, as a result of conscious political decisions. But the other universities which the Centre is financing, are supposed to be national institutions.

Let us start with Banaras Hindu University. In late sixties, there was a committee appointed by the UGC to enquire into the working of this university and that committee said that it is anything but a national institution. The Education Ministry called a meeting of Vice-Chancellors and Education Ministers, and they also thought that the Centre should finance the universities if they performed any national task. It is the same with regard to Aligarh University. The admission policies followed by this University have not been conducive to the maintenance of an all-India character. As regards teaching staff, about 70 per cent of the staff in the case of Banaras University and 81 per cent of the staff in that of Aligarh University is from U. P.

Delhi University has a special position. But the rules of admission restrict the intake of students in post-graduate courses, to its own graduates. In the matter of teaching staff, 40 per cent of it belongs to Delhi, and 82 per cent of the posts of professors and 77 per cent of Readers are filled by internal candidates. This has come to be termed as in-breeding. So, even Delhi cannot claim for itself an all-India character.

About Visva Bharati, the less said the better. The university is actively striving to develop on the lines of traditional universities. 82 per cent of the students are from West Bengal and 80 per cent of the teaching staff also belongs to West Bengal. I submit that Gurudev's soul must be writhing in pain

at all this. He wanted it to be an all-India institution.

Even J.N.U. has to review its admission policy to ensure an all-India character of the student population.

In short, none of the Central universities has an all-India character. I won't quote from the Report because the time is very short, otherwise the Report of the Committee appointed by UGC is very very revealing.

Now I ask one question from the hon. Education Minister. What will the new university—the Pondicherry University—be like ?

A local or regional institution or an institution of national importance; and if the latter, how do we guard against the university being reduced to a local affair ? I have seen the objects of the University as given in the Bill and also as given in Clause 6 of the Bill which mentions the establishment of schools.

Now, so far as integrated courses and interdisciplinary studies are concerned, it is all new terminology being pressed in service to draft the Acts of every new university. Those to whom it falls to operate these Acts, the new terminology means nothing. They are never serious about it at all.

Another significant feature claimed for the new university will be 'special provision for studies in French.' Now, surely, you don't need to establish a university to arrange for studies in French.

Madras university could well be entrusted with the job. In fact, so many of our universities are running diploma course in French. These could be strengthened.

Clause 6 mentions the establishment of schools. One is Tamil school. You already have a Tamil University at Thanjavur. The sole object of it is to promote the study of Tamil and its literature.

I shall read out the Preamble of the Act of that University. It is very revealing.

"An Act to provide for the establishment and incorporation of Tamil University at Thanjavur;

Whereas it is expedient that University should be formed exclusively for the Tamil language which has a glorious and ancient literary and cultural..."

"tradition and heritage and whose contribution in the areas of Prose, Poetry, Drama, Dance, Sculpture, Paintings, Medicines, Philosophy and other allied areas is far more extensive than has been realised by the Indian Scholars till today;

And whereas it is desirable to establish a University of unitary and residential type for furthering the advancement of learning and prosecution of research in Tamil;

Be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Tamil Nadu in the Thirty-third year of the Republic of India."

Now, there is a whole university catering to the promotion of Tamil. As to the second school, it is going to be for study in Eastern and Western thought. The whole thing is intriguing. What studies? Studies of the religious and meta-physical thought of the East and of the West or studies in the oriental and occidental political thought? Now, there is nothing much to study as regards the former, so far as it relates to the West.

So far as comparative political thought is concerned, all the existing universities have arrangements for its study and you don't need a new university to study it. If you have money to spare, strengthen the departments of political sciences of a couple of universities, which can be selected for advanced studies of the subject. The UGC already does it with regard to certain subjects.

As to the creation of environments conducive to study and scholarship, the less said the better. Central Universities are known more for turbulence, attacks on teachers, rustication of students, than for cultivation of intellects or performance of any national tasks. That everybody knows.

According to the UGC committee's report, Central universities are in a state of perpetual crisis.

Then the relationship of the Central Universities with the UGC is emerging as a problem, not in the matter of finances alone, but even as regards academic guidance. Assured of funds, these universities are turning contumacious. One should have thought that while putting up a new university to be financed by the UGC, the role of the

UGC in relationship to it will be clearly defined. But there is no such definition in the Bill.

Sir, I wonder if UGC has been consulted at all in regard to the establishment of this university. There has been the question of the Vice Chancellors' appointment. This also should be looked into. The problem of higher education in the country must be looked into in the context of the situation obtaining in the country as a whole.

Now you are giving a Central University to Assam; the Prime Minister has already promised that. A campus of NEHU at Cachar has also been promised. You are setting up an expensive Open University. Only the other day the Education Minister piloted the Bill. You are seriously mooting the taking over of the Calcutta University. We see that in the papers every day. There is the plan for the universalisation of elementary education. You want every adult to become literate. I myself would advocate the establishment of one Central University in every State. But where is the money for all these ventures? That is the main point.

Sir, a Central University is to be established due to a variety of reasons; there may be national interest to be served or political expediency. It should be made clear just as it was made clear in the case of NEHU. If it is a regional thing it is all right. But if it is a national institution then we should be enlightened about it. Quite clearly the proposed university will not perform any national task. Is it then the Finance Minister's case that 'Political expediency' or 'the need of a Union Territory warrants the establishment of a University at Pondicherry posing this question I resume my seat.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a long-felt necessity to have in Pondicherry. I wholeheartedly welcome this Bill. I would also like to mention that this is the first of its kind in the South of the Vindayas. Sir, any University anywhere in India is welcome.

Only a very few percentage of our schools boys and children go to higher education. And even for that number there are adequate facilities for higher education,

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

A very serious debate is going on in our academic community regarding how universities and centres of learning should function.

I would like to point out that in this Bill, there is no mention about how the officers of the university are to be appointed and how elected bodies should be formed, that is, the Executive Council, Academic Council and such important bodies of the university. The university Grants Commission is supposed to control higher education in this country; its important functionaries regularly air the view that 'there is no need of an elected body and elected academic council or any form of elected bodies in the universities'. Now, the argument which they put forward is that all these elected bodies make the University

17.00 hrs.

politicalised as if a nominated body will function without any influence of politics. I do not know what is their concept about politics. In our State we are proud that the University Board is in our State except the new University. Both the Universities in our State are functioning democratically including the students' representation in the Syndicate. I think the two Universities in Kerala, the University of Trivandrum and the University of Calicut, are the only two universities which allow representatives of students in the Syndicate the highest body of the University.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :
How are they running ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP : They are running as democratically as any other Universities in the country.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :
What about their performance ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Their performance also is very good.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :
That is very bad.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : What I would like to mention to the Minister through you, Sir, is that the Minister should give a categorical assurance that this new

University will be functioning democratically and I would also like to have his opinion about the views of the UGC that there should not be an elected students' body. Already there is a provision in this Act that students' union should be formed, that is left to the discretion of the Executive Council and all that. Here also I would like to stress that a students' body should be formed and it should be an elected body. Because of the students, the teaching community and all other democratic sections in the country, I would request the Minister through you, Sir, that this proposed University should have democratically functioning bodies and that is one important point that I would like to mention.

The second thing is about the name of the University. Sir, you know, the idea of this University was sprouted in 1972 when the Birth Centenary of Shri Aurobindo was celebrated. Generally, people were under the impression that if a new University is going to be started in Pondicherry, it will be named after Shri Aurobindo, and as you know, the name of the great patriot, Subramania Bharati is also very much associated with Pondicherry. So, why not the Government name this University after Sri Aurobindo-Bharati ? *(Interruptions)* Let the people not be under the impression that the fight for freedom was conducted by only one family in the country. All those freedom fighters who gave their life and blood to the country should be properly honoured and it is quite natural that all the patriots in our country expect that when a new University is going to be started in Pondicherry, the very same place where Sri Aurobindo and Subramania Bharati lived, that should be named after them. I, therefore, suggest to the Minister that the new University should be named as Sri Aurobindo-Bharati University.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Why not leave it to their Syndicate ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP : They cannot do. Why can't this august House do that ? We should show the way.

The two or three other minor things which I would like to mention here are that a teaching centre of the new University should be started in Mahe so that the people in Kerala can have an easy access to that

centre, students affiliated to the Calicut University can easily go to the centre that can be started in Mahe.

Another suggestion is that there should be facility for all higher studies in all the South Indian languages, that means, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and all other South Indian languages. There should be proper facilities.....

AN HON. MEMBER : Kannada.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : In Kannada also, there should be proper facility for higher studies.

One other suggestion is that it is mentioned that only teaching facilities will be from post graduation onwards. There should be teaching facility from Degree Class onwards. That is my suggestion.

I think the hon. Minister will consider all these important suggestions.

[Translation]

*SHRI P. SHANMUGAM (Pondicherry): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I extend my whole-hearted support to Pondicherry University Bill, 1985.

The establishment of a Central University in the Union Territory of Pondicherry has been the long-felt need. The decision to set up such a University in Pondicherry was taken in 1974. It has taken 11 years for the Government to implement this decision. Though it has been inordinately delayed, the student community of Pondicherry Union Territory has universally acclaimed this step of the Government of India.

As a member elected from Pondicherry Union Territory I know the problems of student community. The Union Territory of Pondicherry is spread over three States—Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. The students were to seek admissions in University of Madras, University of Calicut and Andhra University, Waltair. The students had to go to these places in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. They had to meet heavy expenditure in pursuing their studies. Many times they were not getting

seats also in these Universities. Now their problems have been resolved by the setting up of this University in Pondicherry. I am also happy to note that the jurisdiction of Pondicherry Central University will be extended to the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. The students of these Union Territories are also beholden to the Education Minister for extending facilities for them in this University. I would like to inform the Education Minister that Pondicherry Union Territory is a backward territory with no job opportunities. The hon. Minister of Education should ensure that job-oriented courses are introduced in this University. Then only the students will be able to derive maximum benefit from the University.

The Committee set up in 1974 had estimated a non-recurring cost of Rs. 8 crores spread over a period of ten years, and recurring cost of Rs. 2.2 crores over a period of five years for the establishment of the University. Now it is 1985. The Bill provides for Rs. 15 crores on non-recurring items spread over a period of ten years and Rs. 3 crores on recurring items for five years. Sir, the prices have soared six times and more in 1985 as compared to 1974. Naturally the provision that has been made is insignificant. I should say that a realistic picture of cost escalation has not been taken into account while providing this sum. I need not tell much about this because our Education Minister is a talented and capable Minister. I request him to provide Rs. 30 crores on non-recurring items spread over a period of ten years and Rs. 5 crores on recurring items for five years. I make this suggestion because the paucity of funds should not stand in the way of setting up this University. Already it has been delayed by 11 years.

The expenditure will be met by the University Grants Commission from its plan allocation. This means that the U.G.C. will provide funds from its 7th Five Year Plan allocation, as sixth Five Year Plan is already over. The Seventh Five Year Plan has not yet been approved by the National Development Council. In other words, there is likely to be delay in the allocation of funds by the U.G.C. for Pondicherry University. I take this opportunity to suggest that the students

* The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri P. Shanmugam]

of Pondicherry Union Territory will not have patience to wait any longer. It must be ensured that immediately the U.G.C. allocates some *ad hoc* money for the setting up of this University. The U.G.C. or the Central Government should give advance Plan assistance to the setting up Central University in Pondicherry. Then only further delay can be averted. I am sure that the hon. Minister of Education will look into this and do the needful.

Before I conclude I would also suggest that all the South Indian languages should be given a place of honour in post-graduate teaching in Pondicherry University.

With these words I once again welcome this Bill and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, several universities have been established in this country on the same pattern. My suggestion is that in future at least, every University has to be a distinct University from the other. If you look at the Act of any University, you will find the same pattern namely, Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Visitor, Statutes, Ordinances, rules and regulations. This is the normal pattern.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yesterday we discussed about Open University.

There is no Chancellor. There is only Vice-Chancellor.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : The same pattern except Visitors has been added in some of the Universities. I am speaking from my own experience. Recently we have opened one University in Goa, hardly three months back. Initially we do not get the grants. We just open the University in some premises. The Goa University has been opened in a small premises in the Medical College complex. They were able to give us some rooms and there, it has been opened with a skeleton staff of Vice-Chancellor and one engineer. On the day when the University was opened, the entire University consisted of one Vice Chancellor and one engineer in charge of the proposed building, and both of them were moving in the complex of

the Medical College; they constituted the University. When some students wanted to enquire about courses, etc., there was nobody to tell them. This problem can be solved, as has been suggested by my friend, Mr. Shanmugham, if in advance some grants are provided by the UGC. (*Interruptions*) The UGC rules say, "Show us the building and a bank account of Rs. 2 crores; then only we will finance you". Initially the UGC does not finance us. Therefore, I agree with the suggestion made by my colleague that some grants at the outset should be given by the UGC.

Also the Universities that we establish must be distinct Universities. In Goa we have a distinct University. In Goa University, subjects like environment, marine science and allied subjects are going to be introduced. Similarly you have to look into this aspect of subjects which are suitable to Pondicherry. Therefore, the UGC and the other concerned authorities will have to lay a special stress on subjects.

Secondly, the same pattern of Statute should not be there everywhere. Even in the Central Act and other Acts, we have the Act, rules, etc. In an institution like University, you have various types of rules. There is an Act, there are rules, then you have Ordinances, then you have, what are known as, Statutes. These internal legislations overlap and, therefore, there is scope for conflicts. Most of the time Statutes and Ordinances conflict with each other. An Ordinance is supposed to be of a temporary nature. But what are the items covered under that? Substantial questions of academic interest are covered under Ordinances. Let us see these items. Admission of students—it is all right. Then, the courses of study to be laid down for degrees, diplomas, certificates, etc., the medium of instruction and examination, the award of degrees, the fees to be charged, the conditions for the award of fellowship the conduct of examinations, including the term of office and of appointment and the duties of examining bodies, examiners and moderators, the conditions of residence of the students of the University, etc., etc.—these are things which have to be covered under a substantial statute to be enacted by the Executive Council. These are not things to be left for 'Ordinances'. There should be only one subsidiary legislation, apart from the Act. You

may call it anything. But there should be only one and not four things like Ordinances, regulations, rules, etc.

Then I would say that you have to create the necessary atmosphere outside also. A little while ago, we had discussed the Bill, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill. If Universities are to be kept clean, the disciplinary powers of the authorities have to be revised. Unless they are made strong with some deterrent punishment—of course, after giving them all sorts of opportunities—a clean atmosphere in the university campus cannot be created. At the same time Government must also have strong legislations for controlling their activities outside the campus. If Government controls the students' activities outside the campus by strong legislations, then the atmosphere inside the campus will be clean. I therefore, humbly submit that—at the end I have given one amendment which will come up when we go to clause-by-clause adoption—we are establishing a university for the people of the union territory of Pondicherry. When we establish a university for Pondicherry, we owe some duty towards the people of Pondicherry. The admissions are open to all the people in Pondicherry. The relevant clause provides for some reservations for ST and SC and weaker sections, it can be there. But should there not be some reservation or some quota for the students of Pondicherry themselves? What will be the fate of the students if people from other universities also go there? What will happen when everywhere people apply to go to Pondicherry. When we are establishing a university for the people of Pondicherry there must be some reservation for the small section of people of Pondicherry. It may be 40% or 50% whatever it is, but there must be some quota.

I have moved an amendment and hope that you accept that.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I welcome this Bill. Sir, this was long overdue. This has been awaited since 1971, the birth centenary of the great saint Sri Aurobindo.

In this connection I would like to make a few suggestions. Whenever a new university is opened, the UGC must make sure

that it gives grant to that university. Because under the present set up, the States have got powers to have any number of universities. They start the universities in anticipation of the grant by the UGC; but unfortunately it has happened in so many instances that the UGC has not been able to give the grant for indefinite period. E.g. in our own State of Karnataka, for two of the universities—Gulbarga and Mangalore Universities—which were started about five years ago, till this date, have not been given a single pie. The State Government has spent nearly Rs. 16 crores over these universities. So, no university should be started without the approval of the UGC, unless you make sure about that. Otherwise they will meet the same fate of Gulbarga and Mangalore universities. Of course, I am happy that the Education Minister and our State Education Minister have sorted out the issue and both the universities will be recognised very soon.

So, Sir from the start itself UGC must be able to finance the universities. The Pondicherry University about which we are discussing now, is a central university. I am happy that it will lay stress on imparting education for post graduation and leaving the under-graduate courses for the affiliated colleges—that is very necessary.

Another point is that here a special study for the French courses is also made. As you know, Pondicherry has its own culture. Another feature is that a school for the eastern and western thought to commemorate the great saint Aurobindo and another School for development of Tamil Language in the name of the Tamil saint great Subramanya Bharati is being started. In this connection I would like to endorse the opinion given by my esteemed colleague Shri Suresh Kurup that it would be very appropriate that a university is named after these two great persons who have not only contributed in the field of education, but also they have contributed a lot for the freedom of our country. They inspired the freedom movement in our country in those days. So it is very appropriate.

Just a few minutes ago, the hon. Minister spoke so high about great Aurobindo.

I would like the hon. Minister to explain during his reply whether this Bill fits in with

[Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer]

the new education policy announced through the Education Report and which is now being kept open for national debate.

I am happy that when I went to my constituency the other day, the educationists there were extremely happy that a revolutionary change is being made in the field of education. They also wanted copies of the detailed report of the education made available to the public. But unfortunately even for the Members it is not made available. So, I request the hon. Minister to make it available.

SHRI K. C. PANT : All of you will get it.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : We find that a practical approach has been made in the field of education delinking degrees from jobs and introduction of aptitude test for entry into Degree course and thrust will be on Vocational Education. All this really deserves to be encouraged. People have welcomed it. I went to know from the hon. Minister whether this Bill fits into with the latest objectives of the Government of India in this matter.

I would like to say that Central universities must be a model for the State universities. I am sorry to say that it has not been so. The condition of many Central universities is worse than that of several State universities. It is very necessary that they should be a model for the other universities. Further you should protect the autonomy of the University at all cost. The essence the functioning of the University lies in the autonomy given to the University. Government should not interfere with the affairs of the university.

In this Bill I find that there is one spoke between the Visitor and the Vice-Chancellor, namely, Chancellor. In the State universities we do not have this procedure. In the Bill you have mentioned that Chancellor will preside over the convocation. What are the powers of the Chancellor? Why do you want one more spoke? There is no need because Visitor is there. Visitor can preside over the convocation. The entire executive power is vested with the Vice-Chancellor. I request the hon. Minister to explain it.

In our State and other States all the bodies of the University are elected bodies. Here it has been mentioned that the statutes will decide about the mode of selection of members of these university bodies. Majority of the members should be elected members. I find in one of the bodies, namely, planning body six members are to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from among the members of academic council. It is wrong. It should be left to the Academic Council. They should be no nomination at all. This nomination element should be the least in the universities.

With regard to the Ordinances the first Ordinance will be made by the Central Government on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor. The first Ordinance should be approved by the Visitor instead of the Central Government. You should not bring the Government in the picture. I know it is the Government which provides funds but the Government should interfere least in the University affairs.

Sir, what is important today is maintenance of discipline in the universities. In every university we find there is lot of indiscipline. We should find the reasons for this indiscipline. It may be because of our moral values having got eroded. At the time of Mahatma Gandhi we attached importance to morality and principles even in politics. Unfortunately, today our national character is at its west ebb. So, special attention must be given to education based on national integration and moral values. For this necessary provision should be made. So, with these words, I commend and welcome this Bill. This Bill also looks like any other University Bill. Each University must have a distinct, character. I hope the hon. Minister will take note of all my suggestions.

[Translation]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill on opening of a Central University in Pondicherry. I welcome it.

Since the present Government came to power it has been observed that the Education Ministry is also active now. The hon. Education Minister has got many Bills passed in this august House. The Indira Gandhi

Open University Bill has already been passed and the Bill regarding opening of a Central University in Pondicherry is being passed. The question of a complete change in the education system itself has been raised and we hope that under the leadership of our hon. Education Minister we can expect to bring about wide reforms.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, just now some hon. Members pointed out that the condition of the Central Universities is worse than the State Universities. I do not agree with this contention. Though the Central Universities may not have achieved the standard it ought to have yet they are much better than the State Universities in many respects. The way the qualified and brilliant students from far and wide compete to get admission in Central Universities like Delhi University, JNU, Banaras Hindu University and Aligarh Muslim University is in itself a proof of the fact that the standard of education and discipline is definitely far better than in many of the State Universities. When the modern education was introduced in our country and Universities were set up, since that time the standard of education in our Universities used to be very high. Some of the Universities were not only famous within country but abroad as well. The Calcutta, Allahabad, Madras and Bombay Universities were some of the Universities which were famous even abroad. All these Universities are closely associated with the history of modern education in India. Without these Universities, we cannot even imagine about the development of modern education in India, but unfortunately we have not been able to accord them the status of Central University. It is very unfortunate that the States were asked to look after these great Universities. The State Governments look after many Universities and it is impossible for them to give priority and allocate more funds to one university and neglect the other university. The University Grants Commission gives grants to the Central Universities, but it provides partial assistance to the State Universities. In the present circumstances the standard of education and discipline is fast deteriorating in these great universities which we have inherited as national legacy. We come across the situation prevailing in Calcutta University through the reports in daily newspapers. The same is the situation in Allahabad University. The standard in Madras Univer-

sity is slightly better but it is not very good as compared to Delhi University. Therefore, it is need of the hour today that the Calcutta, Allahabad, Bombay and Madras Universities be declared as universities of national importance and these should be immediately accorded the status of Central University.

I thought it proper to speak on this Bill, because I wanted to emphasize and appeal that the standard of these universities, which are part of our national heritage and which are closely associated with advancement of modern education in India should not be allowed to deteriorate. These are the universities which have given us great people in all walks of life whether it is politics, social work, administration or education. Eminent personalities, scientists, scholars and administrators are the products of these universities. These universities showered on them the mantle of greatness. The India of today is proud of these eminent personalities who were product of these universities.

But it is very unfortunate that their standard is fast deteriorating because of paucity of funds and negligence on the part of the Government. Therefore, with all the power at my command, I would like to appeal to the hon. Education Minister to introduce a Bill which may declare Calcutta, Allahabad, Bombay and Madras Universities as Central Universities so that they may make progress.

AN HON. MEMBER : Why have you left our the Patna University.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: These universities are our heritage. If you speak of Patna University why do not you speak of the other universities? (*Interruptions*) I would request the Members of CPM party to allow the Calcutta University to become a Central University. Do not bring in politics in this matter. This university has given a new lease of life to Bengal. It has given eminent personalities to Bengal. Dr. Radhakrishnan and Dr. Rajendra Prasad are the products of this university. If I go on counting the names, there will be no end to it.

These great universities are our legacy. We should not hand them over to the States. Therefore, I would request you to introduce a Bill which may confer the status of Central Universities on the Calcutta, Madras,

[Shri Zainul Basher]

Bombay and Allahabad Universities. I believe that everyone in the country will welcome this and it would help in the propagation of modern education in a better way.

[*English*]

SHRI A. E. T. BARROW (Nominated Anglo-India) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the position that I take is that I am not against the introduction of this Bill, as there is increasing pressure on the number of under graduates, on the number of persons entering the Universities, and that in spite of our intentions to delink jobs from the degrees, this will continue for many years.

But, I must express my grave disappointment that it is another stereo-typed measure copied from previous Acts, and that no provisions have been included to ensure that we are not going to produce more and more graduates of poorer and poorer quality. Not provision has been made to ensure that there will be no deterioration in standards.

The Prime Minister has announced that there will be another Central University in Assam.

I think, this was the proper time for the Minister to look to the deficiencies in the other University Acts and being forward a model Bill, so that the other Acts can be amended and the deficiencies removed.

This was also an occasion for the Minister to have examined the aims and objectives of the Central Universities and to give a new direction to these objectives and aims. The original objective of the Central Universities was to be reflected in admissions, appointments on an all-India basis and on the nature of their courses. The Central Universities have failed in the matter of their admissions. I have no doubt that the opening of these Central Universities in other areas will take care of this, so that the admissions of local persons into the Central Universities will be there. But in the matter of courses, there is no uniformity at all and in the matter of standards, these vary from one central university to another.

The new direction should be that such Central Universities will concentrate on

making local admissions, but in doing this, the Central Universities should recruit their staff on an all-India basis and at the first degree level, not at the research and post-graduate level, there should be uniform courses in all these universities, there must be uniform courses in all our Central Universities. There should also be uniform standards set in the examinations. It is, these two things, uniform courses and uniformly high standards that will make our Central Universities model universities in the areas in which they are situated. This should be our aim, that these universities will be model universities in the areas in which they are located.

I want to focus my attention on the omission in this Act and in the Acts of other Central Universities, on the relationship between the University Grants Commission and these central universities. This relationship has not been brought out and made explicit in this Act. The University Grants Commission Act makes it clear that the UGC is responsible for the determination, maintenance improvement of standards of university education and research. Now, there should be no misunderstanding or misconception that because the universities are autonomous, they are not subject to regulation in academic matters. This should be made clear in the Act and therefore I have moved an amendment asking that before courses are prescribed in a university they should and must have the concurrence of the University Grants Commission and in this way we will ensure that our Central Universities have uniform courses. I want to make it clear that there should be no element of doubt in the universities that the University Grants Commission has the legal authority to control and also to regulate their academic work and that they have the right to control and prescribe the qualifications of their staff.

As I see it, the present deterioration in our standards is because of our kept teaching in the universities. I believe this is because at one time, after trying to enter, what was the old Indian Civil Service, persons after leaving university, went in for university teaching, but they try Industry, they go for commerce, Engineering and Medicine and then lastly they enter the teaching profession. But Sir, I believe that even with this poor quality of the persons in the teaching profession and their will, 'not to teach properly',

we can still bring uniformity in our central universities and here I would ask the Minister to kindly pay heed to me in this matter. We should have a Central Body for examining of central universities. There should be a body under the University Grants Commission which will undertake the examination, at the first degree level of all our Central Universities, so that we will produce persons of high quality and of a uniform quality in each area. This can only be done by having a Central Examining Body. Delhi University, at present, is having great difficulty in conducting all its examinations. There is no uniformity in examination. Delhi University examines at the end of the first year, it examines at the end of the second year and it examines at the end of the third years. Other Central Universities do not follow this system. If we have an examining body which examines uniformly at the end of each year, I think then we will be able to have uniformity. This should be done at the first degree level. As regards the post-graduate and research work each university must carry out its own programmes. But at the first degree level, we should have uniform courses in the humanities, uniform courses in Economics, Commerce and Science and then we should have a uniform examination. Then and then only, Sir, we will be able to have uniformly high standards in our Central Universities they can then become centres of academic excellence, and models for the regional universities.

The University Grants Commission should also be given its proper role in deciding the question of prescribing salaries, increments and allowances. Universities and colleges should not be allowed to increase their scales and their allowances and complicate the already confused financial position, as far as education is concerned.

I want to draw the attention of the Minister to Clauses 21 and 22 of the Bill with regard to membership of the Executive Council and Academic Council. I am against the principle of elections to the Academic Councils and to the Executive Councils. I am against this and I am against students being on the Executive council. Where teachers are concerned, if they are to be on these bodies, they should come on by a system of rotation. Where students are concerned, they should be on selected merit. I do not think that students should be on

the executive body where the staff are discussed and where examiners are appointed.

Finally, I think that the Court of the university is an anachronism in this day and age and the court should be abolished. This Parliament is responsible for the funds which it gives to the University. The Court was a mechanism in the old days, by which you had a forum where persons from outside were associated and the view of the public could be gauged in determining the policies of the university. The reports of the University and the accounts of the University have to be placed before this Body Parliament and I think, it is the best form for determining the policies and the direction of the University. I think that the Court should be abolished.

With these words, I will say once again that I am not against this Bill.

17.44 hrs.

LOKPAL BILL

[English]

Re : Motion for reference to Joint Committee

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A. K. SEN) : In the Motion for referring the Lokpal Bill to the Joint Committee of the Houses, the name of Shri H. R. Bhardwaj who is a member of the Rajya Sabha has been inadvertently mentioned. It is therefore submitted that his name be substituted by Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I hope the House will agree to it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS. : Yes. We welcome it.

PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY BILL —Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Dr. Rajhans.

[Translation]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjarpur) : Ms. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while discussing

[Dr. G. S. Rajhans]

the Pondicherry University Bill, our attention is automatically drawn to the new education policy which has been placed before the House by the hon. Education Minister just now. Though all the hon. Members have not received the copy of that report, yet I have secretly gone through it. When that report comes before all of us, you would find that the report contains quite a few interesting things.

It has been started therein that there are many such universities where there are no education activities. The hon. Minister will correct me if I have said anything wrong. There are many universities where the Vice-Chancellor is prisoner in the hands of others and nobody is bothered about studies. One group vies with another to bring the functioning of the university to a grinding halt. The group which can do this for a maximum number of days is hailed a lot. An hon. Member has rightly pointed out that there is competition among the university lecturers and all of them call themselves professors, even though they are teaching or lecturers or readers. Sir, though a detailed discussion on the subject will be held during the next session, I would like to request you that now it is the opportune time to perform surgery on university education which has become rotten.

My friend, Shri Kurup while expressing his views, has said that one should not have allergy against politics. What is politics and why should politics not be allowed to enter the education system. Elected representatives of the people should be associated with Academic Council, Senate or Syndicate etc. But I would like to tell him the meaning of politics as it is understood in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Northern India. Perhaps he does not know as to what is the meaning of politics there. When one uses the word 'politics' in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, people say—

[English]

"Don't do politics with me." That means "don't ditch me."

[Translation]

I would, therefore, appeal to you to keep the politicians away from the universities

and do not allow politics of any kind in the universities for God's sake.

As has been said in Pondicherry University Bill, the task of setting up Pondicherry University was thought as early as 1971 but it took more than 14 years before it could be completed. If we say that it could not be set up due to the paucity of funds, none will believe it. The Bill further states that more attention will be paid on French Language which will be taught as a subject at the university. I think that French is spoken by large number of people in Pondicherry and that is why you want that more emphasis should be laid on the study of French in Pondicherry University, but it is not proper. Along with French, stress should also be laid on the study of other South Indian Languages like Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam etc. I would not speak in favour of Hindi lest I may be misunderstood. If Hindi is also introduced as a subject of study, there is nothing like that.

At one place in the Bill, it has been indicated that more attention will be paid on Inter-disciplinary study and research in Pondicherry University. Our friend, Shri Hardwari Lal has well said that this word Inter-disciplinary teaching has come from America and most of the people in our country do not know what it means, may be, some may understand it. If this method is adopted in the real sense of the term the country can make progress. When I spoke on the Open University Bill I had pointed out that a student of economics should get an opportunity to study Engineering subjects and similiary an Engineering student should be allowed to study Statistics and Medical Science.

On page 3 of this Bill it has been stated that teachers from other universities will be appointed for a specified period. But from my personal experience I would like to say that a Lecturer who is not able to get promotion as Professor or Reader in his own University goes on promotion as a Reader in other University for a specific period of 2 or 3 years, but what actually happens in such a situation is that he manipulates to stay there for a longer period and when he returns to his previous post he demands that as he had gained enough experience of a Reader he should be given a Reader's post. A person

who cannot become a Reader in his own university, manipulates his way to promotion in this manner.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the provision you have made in it about donation is very dangerous. You should make it an academic university. To provide for donation is not proper. Since you have rung the bell, Sir, in conclusion, I would submit that you may make this Pondicherry University an academic university. Make it a University which may prove to be a model university for the entire country and let this University of Shri Aurobindo prove itself an ideal university.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have to say something basically about the education. More than 70 per cent population of the country lives in villages to whom basic education is imparted in the primary schools where neither chalks nor blackboards are available. Nor have they any *tat-pattis* to sit on. The children who come to schools are hungry and poor. If it is raining, the schools are closed and if it is too hot, even then schools are closed. In winter also when there is too much cold, the schools are closed. This is the condition of our villages in our country. I would like to say to the Hon. Education Minister that requisite funds are not being spent on the primary education. Of the total education Budget, only 35 to 40 per cent is being spent on the primary and secondary education. 60 per cent of the Education Budget is being spent on University education and higher education. The result is that thousands of degree-holders are coming out every year from the Indian Universities and roaming jobless, knocking at the employment exchanges but without success. On the other hand, the children of the labourers etc. whom we should provide education are not getting even primary education; they are being deprived of even primary education. You are spending on the education more in urban areas and less in rural areas. From the Report of the Kothari Commission on Primary and Secondary Education we observe that there are schools where there is a single teacher for 200 students. The result is that if the teacher comes, school is opened, otherwise school remains closed.

I would also like to know from the hon. Education Minister as to what is being done

in the Seventh Five Year Plan about the New Education Policy. You are going to establish an Open University in Delhi. There is one in Hyderabad. Kindly tell us what is your policy about education ?

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : I do not know any university in India where primary education is given.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is insisting that instead of spending so much on higher education, more should be spent on primary education.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that for all the new schools you are going to open in the Seventh Five Year Plan, the States will be dependant on the Centre for them and the funds you are spending in urban areas are proportionately more. More money should be spent on primary education. Where population is more, how can a single teacher teach 200 children.

About university education it was stated just now that by imposing conditions of inter-discipline you are enacting this law. We should think about the discipline and other aspects at university level.

In Hyderabad, a Central University has been opened but no college has been attached to it. It is located in an area of about one thousand acres of land but what is the number of the students in it ? Not more than 500. The grant being given by UGC should be properly utilised.

The Education Ministers of the Southern States, in a meeting, said that the money being spent on Southern Universities is less than the money being spent on Uttar Pradesh or North Indian Universities. What is the reason for this ? Matching grants for Southern Universities is less. For this they have demanded a separate UGC. Their demand is not proper. I object to that demand.

The UGC whose HQs are in Delhi should ensure that it gives equal grants to

[Shri C. Janga Reddy]

the Northern and Southern Universities. It should not think on the lines of South and North. Telagu Desam friends are demanding a separate UGC for South India and pleading with the Central Government for it. I lodge my strong protest against such a demand. There should not be a separate U.G.C. for South India but the Southern Universities should get the amount equal to the Northern Universities.

I had told the hon. Education Minister that UGC Chairman was to go to the Convocation of the Kakatia University but she did not attend the function as the State Government did not spend the required amount. Its matching grant is also not being released.

I want to submit that in South there are certain residential universities like the Nagarjuna University and Kakatia University. They should have some colleges also. There is a University in Hyderabad but without affiliation of colleges and without its own colleges. Only research work is being done there. It is not going to be beneficial in any way. My request is that the University you are going to open in Hyderabad or Pondicherry should have colleges also. By merely appointing certain professors, readers and talented persons, you are not going to achieve anything. I request that the Central Government should also open colleges there.

You are doing research on certain new subjects in every University. For them separate schools should be opened. Just now my friend said that in the States the Universities are of better standard or the Central Universities are of better standard. I do not want to go into the dispute as to whether the universities in the States are better or the Universities in the Centre but this much I know that there are two universities in Delhi. One is Jawahar Lal Nahru University where Smt. Indira Gandhi had gone for convocation some 2 or 3 years back but when the students there shouted slogans against her she came back. The tendency developing in this University should be curbed promptly.

Many students study in the J. N. University. It is a Marxist University. The students coming out of this University after completing their studies become Marxists.

People from South do not like their children to study in this University. You should, therefore, control all these things and take strict action in the matter.

With this request I conclude.

18.00 hrs.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, I submit that the time of the House be extended till we pass this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think the House will agree to this.

SOME HON. MEMBER : Yes.

AN HON. MEMBER : How much time it is likely to take ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think within another half-an-hour it will be over. Approximately I am telling. I request the other Members to be very brief and be to the point. Now Shri Sriballav Panigrahi.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very good piece of legislation and I welcome this Bill. In fact, the Government in the Education Ministry and particularly the Education Minister, deserve congratulation for having brought in two Bills within two-three days' time seeking establishment of two universities. One is Indira Gandhi National Open University and the other is this Pondicherry University. The genesis of this proposal traces back to 1971 when the nation was celebrating the centenary of Shri Aurobindo who was a great *rishi* in modern sense of the term. He was a real patriot, a great philosopher and a great educationist and a very dignified personality whose reputation is not confined to the boundaries of our country but is spread all over the world. His philosophy is a happy blending of the two philosophies, eastern and western. It is a welcome feature that under this university there will be a school for the study of eastern and western philosophies or thought which will be named after him. There are some good features in this Bill. It is rather

regrettable that Pondicherry, which was otherwise famous not only in India but in the whole world, is yet to have a university of its own. Its institutions were hitherto affiliated to three universities located in three different States—Calicut University in Kerala, Andhra University in Waltair in Andhra Pradesh and Madras University in Tamil Nadu.

There are certain special features in this Bill and those are the establishment of a school for study and development of Tamil language and literature and also for study of French language. I do not want to dwell at length on these things because of lack of time. There is a planning board contemplated for this university—generally we do not come across such organisations in other universities—to review the educational development from time to time, besides the academic institutions or bodies which are traditionally there in the universities. One thing which is disturbing and which has also been discussed in this House today is about the moral degradation of our students. There are now about 114 universities in the country. So many colleges are being opened every year in different parts of the country. They are really centres of learning and culture. They are supposed to become beacons of light to the society. But in actual practice what is happening? The conduct of some students is very much disturbing. More and more of them are becoming addicts to drugs as was noticed from the discussions in this House during the first hour of today. The figures are also being quoted. I do not want to take the valuable time of the hon. House by quoting the figures here. The main objective of our educational system, particularly the university education is to prepare the man worth the name. The development of all facets of the personality of a child was the highlight of Sri Aurobindo's own education policy, like Shri Tagore and Mahatama Gandhi, Shri Aurobindo was also an educationist. He had his own ideas and thinking about education. As you know he was a great rebel patriot. He was the first rebel patriot in India to give a call for complete independence of the country. He gave such a statement to the famous paper, LONDON TIMES, in those days in the month of September, 1906. But this rebel patriot withdrew subsequently from the freedom movement. According to him, freedom was inevitable and nobody

could check it. He felt that around 1947 India was bound to achieve independence. But what will happen after that? what will happen to the students to the youths, to the human race at large on which everything depends and to the society and the world at large? He was worried about that. That is why he was having his own system of education i.e. development of all facets of the personality of the child, be it physical, be it mental, be it spiritual or be it aesthetic. He took great care to see that with the development of all these aspects of the child's personality, he becomes a real instrument for the social and economic change in the years to come. As I said earlier, his idea was the blending of the Eastern and the Western thought and also a combination of spiritualism together with the scientific advancement. What a wonderful idea he had! We are proud of Sri Aurobindo.

It would have been better if this university would have been rightly named after Sri Aurobindo, who had envisaged an integrated system of education. Today also in this new university some highlight of this system of education should be emphasised. The emphasis should be on the integrated development of the personality of the child so that he does not become a disturbance to the society and to the parents. All this has happened because we have not changed our systems and policies after achieving independence. With slight modifications here and there we are continuing with the same old system.

What is important is not the establishment of universities and colleges. They are welcome being the temples of learning. For the successful implementation of democracy in the country we want to spread education. But what type of education? Is it the type of education that we are at present having or something else? Naturally the ideal type of education should be such as to develop the all round personality of the students to enable them, as the Prime Minister has said, to enter into the 21st Century successfully.

Sri Aurobindo believed in world Family Vasudeva Kutumbkam, and of course with India playing a leading role in it unless our children's personalities are developed properly and unless they become effective instruments in bringing about the desired changes things will become worse. So the

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

moral type of education is also to be emphasised. With moral education the spiritual side should also be taken care of. Education is not only importing the knowledge. It also imports moral values properly shape the students.

Now, the Status Report for a new education policy has been circulated for a debate. These facts should be emphasised in the new education policy.

With these words I support this Bill. I also congratulate the Hon. Education Minister and the Union Government for bringing forward Bills in the course of one or two days for the establishment of two universities.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Bill appears to be a stereo-typed Bill as Bills of other Central Universities, with two specialities, that these will be a School for Eastern and Western Thoughts in the name of late Shri Aurobindo and Subramania Bharati School for Tamil and other languages. There is also a provision for the appointment of Directors for Rural Reconstruction and other subjects.

I just want to give some suggestions. This Pondicherry University may be covering the areas of Andaman and Nicobar and even Lakshadweep. There is a provision for that. So, why not include other subjects also like Oceanography and advanced training in deep sea fishing so that it will be pertinent to that area and also be fulfilling the requirements of the coming generations ?

Now, Sir, some people have demanded that a separate UGC should be set up in Southern India. I would like to suggest that there can be a Zonal Office of the UGC either at Hyderabad or at Bangalore.

As far as the Academic Council and Executive Council and other bodies are concerned I do not agree with the proposal of my hon. friend from Kerala that there should be elections. I say this because bringing politics into universities may create lot of problems. So, the arrangements envisaged in the Bill for nominations are sufficient. Of course, I agree, the powers of the Vice Chancellors should be increased. Also, efforts should be made to see that

whatever amount is invested is used for real, proper training and education in that area and in the surrounding areas.

Sir, there was a suggestion from one hon. Member that there should be some reservation for local people. I also agree with that. I say this because students of merit from other areas might encroach in the Pondicherry university and the local people may be left out.

Then I would like to make one last suggestion and it is this :

In these Central Universities there should be some incentives to the students of the parents who adopt the small family norms. In Up, the Chief Minister has already declared some concessions and some incentives to Government servants who adopt the small family norms. Here also if we can give some concession for such of the students who have got only 2 real brothers or sisters, that is, whose parents have only three children, it will be of great help. In this Central University you can think of giving this concession to such children from small families. With this suggestion of mine I support the Bill although I have some reservations in my mind about the Bill, because, Open University would have covered the purpose of imparting higher education even to the people of Pondicherry, But even then as it is a remote area and you will be covering Andaman and Nicobar and also Lakshadweep, therefore, I support the Bill and I thank the Chair for giving me the time.

[Translation]

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Pondicherry University Bill and I would like to extend my special congratulations to the hon. Education Minister for incorporating a special provision regarding French studies as has been mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. He certainly deserves congratulations for this. I remember that at the time of merger of Pondicherry in Indian Union the then Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had declared that ;

[Shri Aziz Qureshi]

[English]

"French culture and language in Pondicherry shall be preserved, protected and promoted."

[Translation]

I am happy that those words of Panditji seem to be translated into reality through this Bill.

[English]

'To be preserved, protected and promoted.'

[Translation]

In this Bill under Section 32, mention has been made of affiliated colleges. I would like to tell the hon. Education Minister that the Bills are presented by his Minister about the Universities on a routine proforma. I think the Bills are introduced here by merely changing the names. Now that we have a very dynamic and efficient Education Minister, I would like that you should direct your officers that they should change this routine and bring some radical changes and present a revolutionary point of view before the society. I think the officials of his Ministry have still been left with this much wisdom and intellect. I would like to submit that so many sins are committed in these affiliated colleges that these temples of education have turned into vicedens and have become commercial centres. Instead of imparting education these colleges have been reduced to teaching shops. The big wigs of the society have seized them and they are the persons who are instrumental for corruption there. May I hope from our able and efficient Education Minister that through another Bill he will announce that those persons who are in any way related to politics, they or any of their family members will not be allowed to have any connection with the management of any educational institutions. A ban should be imposed on them. May be even the courageous person like our Education Minister is not able to take such a bold step and does not come with this type of Bill. I would like to say that where you have made provision for the affiliated college, this should also be ensured there that the students who

get admission in them, their Governing Body, the teachers are not exploited and the salaries and status of the teachers are fully protected. After that only, you should give affiliation to any college.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have opened hundreds of Universities in the country, but I would like to submit one thing before this House. In Delhi, there is an institute which has been keeping the torch of education lighted in the country for the last 70 years and that is—Jamia Milia Islamia. This Institution was established by eminent persons like Dr. Ansari, Hakim Ajmal Khan and Dr. Zakir Hussain under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. The Institution was set up because Aligarh University had become the centre of activities of Muslim League and to give an answer to their communalism Jamia Milia Islamia was set up, but it is very unfortunate that even after 38 years of independence, Jamia Milia remains a deemed University and the Government has failed to accord it status of a full-fledged University. Who were the persons in the University? They were personalities like Dr. Zakir Hussain, Dr. Abid Hussain, Prof. Mujid who got double Ph.D. Degrees from Germany as well as London in 1920 and gave away their whole life to Jamia Milia Islamia by serving at a salary of Rs. 40 p.m. and awakened the feelings of nationalism among the people. I would request the hon. Education Minister to go through the golden pages of our History which are gathering dust. He should make a declaration granting a status of full-fledged University to Jamia Milia, through which our leaders have served the country. Chairs should be set up in the name of persons like Dr. Abid Hussain and Prof. Mujib who spent their entire life in the University so that the future historians do not throw the very dust on our faces which we have allowed together on the golden pages of our national history.

With these words I support the Bill.

[English]

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : Sir, the establishment of a University in the Union Territory of Pondicherry has been a longfelt necessity. I support the Bill wholeheartedly. I am also supporting all the objects of the Bill.

[Dr. Phulrenu Guha]

I would like to say that even 10% of the population of our country cannot go and do not go for higher education. Even then the present Universities are not able to accommodate them. So, I welcome this new University Bill.

So far, the colleges of Pondicherry are affiliated to three Universities. Now it will have a unified system of education.

There is no uniform pattern of Acts for all the Universities in our country. The time has come when the Central Government and the Education Ministry should give the outlines and the framework of all the Universities of the country so that all Universities of the country work within the framework that will be suggested.

I also suggest that the representatives of the UGC should be in the Selection Committee because UGC gives the grant.

I would not like to go into all the details of this. I suggest that one of the academic representatives of that particular subject should be sent by the UGC.

A University should not be a hot-bed of politics. That should be seen. In this University, from the very beginning, I would like to suggest that the teachers and students should meet periodically and discuss their problems and all the academic problems. It is only then that they will come together and they will be able to produce good results and the students will develop themselves.

There is an alumni association. I was not able to find out what will be the function of the alumni association. I welcome alumni association but I hope that something will be explained to us what will be the function of the alumni association.

I do not know whether it can be done but I feel that the educationists and particularly the hon. Minister should find out that in many Universities, at least in some Universities, a few students do not study. They are in the University for years only to do politics. I am a product of student politics. I do feel that students should do politics. But that does not mean that some people will go from one year to another year from one subject to another subject and continue to

disturb the University. Not only that. They do not allow the education of the University to continue. They do not study. But they create a situation in such a way that the others too cannot study. I do not know what can be done but something should be done because time has changed and according to the change circumstances, the new laws, new thinking must be introduced.

I support this Bill and I welcome this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my thanks to the hon. Education Minister for bringing two Bills in a week. Opening of Pondicherry University is a good step. Today, in our country, education is needed and education is an essential pre-requisite for the development of any country. The present condition of education is not satisfactory. I would not say much due to paucity of time. I would say only this that required change is not taking place in the field of education. Opening of more colleges or universities is not a criterion for improvement in education. The poor remain deprived of education. Arrangements should be made to make education available to them also. The hon. Education Minister has said that a new Education Policy is going to be presented. Had this been done after the presentation of the new policy, that would have been better. The hon. Minister should bring forward a policy which may help the integration of the country. Had he brought a Bill for bringing about uniformity in education, the country would have benefited more by that and that would have helped the country in becoming stronger. Today, the education has turned into a Commercial business and has become very expensive. It is meant only for the rich. The education should be such that more and more people should be benefited from it.

I am not talking on regional lines, but I want to submit that Bihar is the most backward State. Therefore, if a Central University is opened in Bihar, the maximum number of people will be benefited. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to consider this. It should not be said that due to paucity of funds we are unable to do it.

I would also like to say that in developed countries maximum funds are spent on education. Ours is a developing country and it should spend more and more on education. Only then it can stand shoulder to shoulder with the big developed countries.

With these words I conclude and express my thanks to you for giving me a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI K. C. PANT : Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate, and I am also thankful to supporting this Bill. There was no opposition to the Bill as such. The farthest any hon. Member went was Shri Hardwari Lal who said that he could not wholeheartedly support the Bill, but as he expounded his views, it became obvious that he was really dealing with a large canvas and not so much with this particular Bill. He was against setting up of new Universities as such, particularly Central Universities. I will come to that point he made.

But one point which I must touch upon right in the beginning is the one relating to the name of the University. Several hon. friends have said that the University should have been named after Shri Aurobindo. There was a suggestion that the names of both Shri Aurobindo and Shri Subramania Bharati should have been associated with the University. The House is aware of the background; they know that this idea of establishing a University in Pondicherry had its genesis in the recommendation of the Aurobindo Centenary Celebration Committee in 1971, and against that background it is logical to expect that the University would be named after Shri Aurobindo. Besides, as has been so eloquently pointed out by the various hon. Members, Shri Aurobindo occupies a unique position in the development of Pondicherry. His name is not merely associated with Pondicherry, Pondicherry is known because of him. As a patriot, as an intellectual, as a visionary, as a man who achieved great spiritual power, as a freedom fighter, as a writer, I think his place in the history of this country is secure amongst the top people that we have produced in this century, there is no doubt about it.

He is one of our leading personalities and we shall continue to draw inspiration from him. Therefore, I find myself in sympathy with those who have urged that Shri Aurobindo's name should have been associated with the university. Actually "associated" is a wrong word, they should have said that it should have been after Shri Aurobindo.

Unfortunately one of the reasons why this proposal took so long in maturing is the controversy over the name. There were some people—I do not want to mention which parties, or which people—who did not accept the name. Now it find it distasteful even to go into this matter. I personally think that associating Shri Aurobindo's name with the university does honour to the university rather than to him. And so I don't think that one should drag his name into a controversy. Once there was a difference of opinion, then I thought that it might be better to go to the cabinet with the proposal where we keep Shri Aurobindo's name out of the controversy.

There was a demand to associate also Shri Subramanya Bharati's name. That is also legitimate and we have now established two schools named after these two personalities and I think that the House will understand the complication that arose without asking me to spell it out further. This is the reason. Now we have this university and it is in response to a long standing demand and it answers the aspirations of the people of Pondicherry. It is in that spirit that I see that the House has welcomed this proposal and all sections have supported it.

There were several points made with reference to this Bill as well as the larger panorama of education in our country and in fact some speeches went beyond university education and went into school education as well. There was a reference to the document which we produced recently called "Challenge of Education—the Policy Perspective". Hon. Members wanted to look at it. I shall see to it that all Hon. Members receive copies of this Report and I shall welcome their full association with the consideration of this report and the evolution of an education policy.

Sir, the points and suggestions which have emerged during the course of the debate

[Shri K. C. Pant]

covered such a wide area that I don't think I shall be able to deal with all of them. But I would like to assure my friends that we will take note of all suggestions and we will try to benefit from those suggestions. At the same time certain things have been said which must be dealt with.

Shri S. M. Bhattam referred to the establishment of a branch of the UGC in the South and Shri Reddy answered him forcefully. The point is that we must appreciate the purpose for which the UGC has been set up and view the functioning of the UGC in the light of the charter which this Parliament has approved. The hon. Member said that UGC has turned down certain proposals which emanated from Andhra Pradesh. The charter of the UGC requires it to maintain certain standards. Parliament expects it to maintain standards of the university. It is admittedly a difficult task and in the speeches today we saw how concerned Members were about falling standards. The only time when the UGC can exercise some control is when the university comes to it for a certain grant. Then it says I will give you the grant provided certain things are done, provided certain number of teachers are kept so that certain standards can be maintained.

If every time a State university comes to the UGC and UGC raises some objection and if that is looked on as a regional factor then UGC cannot function. Obviously all of us will have to have a certain understanding and tolerance for the restrictions imposed by the UGC provided the restrictions are imposed uniformly on all and the thrust of those conditions is that the standards of education are maintained. This, I think, is logical and necessary and the House will support this proposition. Therefore, basically if you are going to object to the UGC merely on the ground that any proposal of ours is not accepted by the UGC and on that basis we propose a separate branch of the UGC in the South, West or East then that would be unfair and, I think, it would be putting undue pressure on the functioning of the UGC.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : We do not want a branch of UGC but a Commission itself for the South.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I have received a copy of that resolution. I have considerable

sympathy of the point expressed by Shri Hardwari Lal ji that one should try to see that existing universities are allowed to develop, their resources are utilised so that they can upgrade their standards, improve their facilities and so on. I can appreciate that point of view. But if he implies that more universities should not come up at all that we should put a lid on the number of universities that I am afraid would not be a practical proposition because the number of universities in this country may appear large but the population has also grown, the number of educated people coming up in school stream has grown and will continue to grow and, therefore, we cannot put a lid on it. No doubt, we will have to control and regulate it. I would like expansion of higher education to be properly regulated and standards maintained if we try to put a lid on it that no further universities that I do not think would be a practical proposition. In fact, he himself used the word 'undue proliferation' and therefore he and I can agree when we are approaching the problems from different angles. Then, Sir, he referred to the School for Eastern and Western thought and he himself referred to the philosophical aspect of Shri Aurobindo's work in harmonising Eastern and Western thought and some of his writings represent confluence of Western and Eastern thought. He also referred to the political dimension of Eastern and Western thought. Now, it is well-known that this was an area in which Shri Aurobindo made a significant contribution and, therefore, I could not quite understand why he found it difficult to appreciate the setting up of an institution like the School of Eastern and Western thought.

Then, he referred to the functioning of Central Universities. Now, I am not going to defend the Central Universities. I am not going into the details. It is upto us to see that the Central Universities improve. I think some of them are doing fairly well and some of them are having difficulties and we have to bring up their standards all round. But one thing does strike me and one hon. Member mentioned it—I think Shri Zainul Basher mentioned it—that there is a rush of students to the Central Universities and students generally prefer Central Universities to the State Universities. I am not producing the Certificates for Central Universities. But it does indicate that the Central

Universities in the population perspective are doing better than the State Universities. I do not even think that all the State Universities are not doing well. Some State Universities are doing well. It is not a matter of debate or polemics. I wish that all Universities do well and I wish you are happy as I am happy if the Central University as also the State Universities do well. But the other point is also worth consideration, that is, there is pressure not only from Shri Zainul Basher but from so many others who wanted that the whole lot of the State Universities should be made into the Central University and this pressure is mounting. This can only be explained if one again takes cognisance of the population perception and that the Central Universities are somehow better than the State Universities.

AN HON. MEMBER : They get more money.

SHRI K. C. PANT : That is also a relevant factor and the fact is that they get more money because the UGC is asked to finance maintenance and development of Central Universities. Whereas the U.G.C. supplies more to the State Universities which are complementary to whatever the State gives for the maintenance of these Universities for the development of those universities and the functions are different. So, the U.G.C. Act provides for this. You cannot blame the U.G.C. for acting according to its charter. It has its charter and that is the reason why the Central Universities get finances.

Now, there was one small point made by Shri Kurup. He wanted to have a University Centre. That is a matter to be decided by the University bodies as they are to be set up. I will take his point into consideration. Then, Shri Hardwari Lal very briefly referred to another aspect. He asked "what is the justification for the Central University in Pondicherry". Now, I have explained the background of this idea and the only other thing I would like to say is that there were colleges affiliated to three different universities in three different States and it is in the fitness of things that these colleges are now affiliated to one University. It provides for uniformity of higher education within the territory of Pondicherry I think, that is purely an academic ground. There are more grounds also, but that itself

is a fairly strong ground, apart from the fact that there has been a persistent demand in Pondicherry and satisfaction of this demand seemed necessary not only to this Government, but to Governments that went before that.

Shri Krishna Iyer different from some of the other friends, who spoke that no University should be started without the approval of the University Grants Commission, whereas some friends thought that the University Grants Commission was already interfering too much. I appreciate his anxiety, because really speaking, a number of Universities today are coming up under State laws, there are State Universities set up by State Legislatures and we at the Centre really have no way of controlling them. As things stand today, it is possible to establish Universities in the States provided the State Governments and the State Assemblies agree to it. That is the present situation. I personally appreciate the anxiety of Shri Krishna Iyer, but I do not think it is so much a matter of regulation as of a national consensus. I think, we should put our heads together in the context of framing the new Education Policy and decide how many Universities, at what pace, we should have them, what should be the overall objectives of University education and so on and so forth. In that context, we should take a decision, where the States and Centre jointly observe certain discipline in the matter of setting up institutions. That is how these things can be tackled best; it is not a matter of confrontation, but working together for larger objectives.

Then, he questioned the provision for a Chancellor, who presides over the convocations. Well, obviously, he would not like to preside over every convocation of every Central University, but that is a minor point; the major point is that chancellorship may not have an executive functions, but it always associates an eminent personality with the University, which adds to the dignity of the University. A University is not merely a functional body, it has a certain aura, certain atmosphere and that various things are done in the University to produce that aura and atmosphere. I think, a personality well known and dignified and intellectually accepted among the intellectuals that kind of a person would be a

[Shri K. C. Pant]

good person to be selected as a chancellor and that is the kind of chancellors, most of the Universities have.

Then Mr. Barrow made various suggestions and he was obviously concerned about the standard of University education. I fully appreciate his concern and I have made a note of the suggestions he has made. The only point that I will touch upon is and that he mentioned that the court is unnecessary because Parliament can look into the policy and direction of the Universities. While in theory that may be correct, but Mr. Barrow is a very old Member of the House and he knows that the House seldom has time to go into the functioning of individual Universities, and, therefore, the court does perform certain functions and I do not think, this substitute will really work in the practical sense. I do hope that Parliament will find more time for Universities. This Bill provides for placing Statutes etc. before the Parliament, so that discussions can follow and I hope that will be taken advantage of, but you know the problem of time is there, so far as the Parliament is concerned.

A suggestion was made by Shri Patil about the study of oceanography. It is for the University to decide, and I will only personally commend the idea he has put forward. I think, it is a good idea. But it is not for me to accept or reject it; it is for the University to accept or reject it. There were some criticisms that the Bill had no special features. But Shri Panigrahi pointed out the special features contained in the Bill. I would like the hon. friends who referred to this matter to particularly take into account what Shri Panigrahi said in this connection because he has touched in a few minutes on particular features of this Bill which provide for certain special provisions which are different from some of the other Universities. Sir, I wanted to take up a few other points also, but I am fully conscious of the fact that you have been very patient and it has been a very long day and that we must not extend the House beyond what is absolutely necessary. So, if the House is generally satisfied with the reply that I have given, I would like to end here and thank you once again for the support you have extended to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University in the Union territory of Pondicherry and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The Motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are Amendments to clause 2 by Shri A.E.T. Barrow. Are you moving your Amendment ?

SHRI A.E.T. BARROW (Nominated Anglo-Indian) : I am not moving my Amendments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy. He is absent. I shall now put Clause 2 to the Vote of the House.

The question is :

“That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 was also added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are Amendments to clause 4 to this Clause by Shri A.E.T. Barrow. Are you moving your Amendments ?

SHRI A.E.T. BARROW : I am not moving my Amendments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put Clause 4 to the Vote of the House.

The question is :

“That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I may tell Shri Barrow that he has suggested some Amendments with regard to the language and we

shall see to it that wherever necessary, we shall make the changes at the appropriate stage.

SHRI A.E.T. BARROW : So what I want to say is that whenever an Education Bill comes before the House, it has obvious mistakes in the language, which pains me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are Amendments to Clause 5 by Shri Barrow and Shri Munsii. I think they are not moving their Amendments. So I shall put Clause 5 to the Vote of the House.

The question is :

“That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Clause 6—Establishment of Central Schools

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :
I beg to move :

Page 4, line 42,—

“and also a school of classical music to be known as “Ustad Alauddin Khan School of Indian Classical Music” to further train the students in music of India and to preserve the rich heritage of Indian Classical Music.”(22)

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Would you like to say something.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Yes Sir. Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister through you that in this Bill there is a provision for establishment of Schools for studies to be known as Sri Aurobindo School and Subramania Bharti School. It is a nice piece of legislation, I must say. I had already submitted to the hon. Minister through you Sir, that in India, right after Tansen and Bhanubatta, the classical music and its tradition is not being preserved by any University. Since it is the Central University, so after Tansen, Ustad Alauddin Khan, who was the legendary figure and his disciples are trying to preserve the tradition in the best manner like Ali Akbar Khan, Pandit Ravi Shankar and Bismillah Khan, I feel that Pondicherry University will be the only University in India, if that could find some arrangements

to preserve this heritage of Allauddin Khan Ghana through the School of Music. If within the body of the Bill it cannot be accommodated and if the Minister feels that by any other provision of the management, they can find arrangement, it will be a fitting tribute to the Indian classical music which is not there in any University in India. That is my only submission.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Universities can be established in a number of places. The idea for establishment of Schools for Indian Classical music is good and commendable. It should be left to University whether it would like to establish such a School or not.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :
I don't press it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Has Mr. Das Munsii the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment ?

Amendment No. 22 was, by leave,
withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That Clause 6 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Clause 7 has no amendments. The question is :

“That Clause 7 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Clause 8—Mr. Shantaram Naik is not present. Shri Ayyapu Reddy is also not present. The question is :

“That Clause 8 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In Clauses 9 and 10 there are no amendments. The question is :

"That Clauses 9 and 10 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clauses 9 and 10 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Clause 11. Are you moving the amendment, Mr. Das Munsî ?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : No.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Clauses 12 to 19 have no amendments. I am putting Clauses 11 to 19 together to the vote of the House. The question is :

"That Clauses 11 to 19 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clauses 11 to 19 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Clause 20. Mr. Das Munsî, are you moving ?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : No.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 20 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 20 was added to the Bill.

Clause 21—The Executive Council.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Clause 21. Mr. Das Munsî, are you moving ?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Yes; I am moving.

Page 8,—

after line 36, insert—

"Provided that three members of the Executive Council shall be elected by the employees, teachers and students respectively in the Executive Council as their representatives."(25)

I would like to submit to the Minister the reason why I wanted this provision. Many things have been said by the hon. Minister about the democratic character of this

University. Why I insist on this amendment is that when some serious problems start between the teachers and the students, and in the Executive Council the voice of the students is not heard, and that of the elected representatives of the teachers is also not heard, the students suffer. I will cite an example : there is a student of Archaeology in the Delhi University, a very bright student who has stood First Class First all through, by name Mrs. Lahiri. She is the only Research Scholar under the Head of the Department of Archaeology, Prof. Dilip Chakraborty. Because there is politics going on in Delhi University between a group of professors and Prof. Dilip Chakraborty who is the only authority in Archaeology, they have started ruining the career of the students, to create a situation—which is within the knowledge of the Minister—so that the teacher is removed from the Department of Archaeology, and the students also suffer because they are not able to continue with the research scholarship. When such things happen in the Executive Council, who will raise their voice ? This was one of the reasons for which I thought that only such an amendment could protect these students, and teachers also, in the Executive Council.

It is in this spirit that I thought that this amendment would help. But I think the Minister will definitely answer again in his own usual style, viz. that things will be decided by the University. But I think the Minister, with his sympathy for the students, will finally do something and examine how the future of these students can be protected.

That is the only reason why I moved this amendment.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Since the hon. Member knows my answer, as well as his question, I hope he will withdraw his amendment.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : I do not press it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Has Mr. Das Munsî the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment ?

Amendment No 25 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 21 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 21 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In Clauses 22 to 24, there are no amendments. The question is :

"That Clauses 22 to 24 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clauses 22 to 24 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Clause 25. Mr. Barrow, are you moving ?

SHRI A. E. T. BARROW : I am not moving.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 25 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 25 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In Clauses 26 to 30, there are no amendments. The question is :

"That Clauses 26 to 30 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clauses 26 to 30 were added to the Bill.

19.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we come to Clause 31. There is an amendment, No. 15, Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy. The hon. Member is absent.

The question is :

"That Clause 31 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 31 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 32 to 34 were added to the Bill.

Clauses 35 to 41 were added to the Bill.

Clauses 42 to 44 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

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

SHRI K. C. PANT : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The Motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The house stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

19.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 29, 1985/ Bhadra 7, 1907 (Saka).