

[Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi]

accepted and the Legislative Assembly was dissolved on 20-5-1975.

It is gratifying to note that the end of an era of conflict and confrontation is in sight in Nagaland. Talks were held between the Governor of Nagaland, representing the Government of India and the representatives of the underground and an agreement was signed at Shillong on the 11th November, 1975. Under this agreement the underground conveyed their decision, on their own volition, to accept without condition, the Constitution of India to bring out and deposit the arms held by them. The Government of India agreed to allow time to the underground to formulate issues which they may like to discuss subsequently. The implementation of the Accord reached at Shillong on the 11th November, 1975 is progressing satisfactorily.

12.45 hrs

#### PONDICHERRY BUDGET, 1976-77

MR. SPEAKER: It may be laid on the table.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): I lay on the Table a statement showing estimated receipts and expenditure of the Union territory of Pondicherry for the year 1976-77.

#### BUDGET OF THE UNION TERRITORY OF PONDICHERRY FOR 1976-77

As the House is aware, the Union Territory of Pondicherry has been under President's Rule since the 28th March, 1974. Accordingly, with your permission Sir, I lay before the House, as required under Section 27 of the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, the Annual Financial Statement of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for the financial year commencing from 1st April, 1976. The Explanatory Memorandum and the Demands for Grants for the year

1976-77 are also being circulated to the Honourable Members.

#### Revised Estimates 1975-76

2. In the Budget of the Union Territory for the current financial year, receipts on Revenue Account were estimated at Rs. 15.34 crores, including Grants-in-aid of Rs. 5.39 crores from the Government of India. As a result of revision of electricity tariff and also due to buoyancy in revenue collections, it is anticipated that Revenue Receipts in the current year will go up to Rs. 15.99 crores, including Grants-in-aid of Rs. 5.27 crores from the Government of India. There will be an increase of Rs. 1.68 crores in Revenue expenditure over and above Rs 15.34 crores originally estimated. The increase is mainly due to grant of additional dearness allowance, payment of arrears of salaries in the revised scales of pay, payment of arrears of increase in pensions sanctioned to ex-French pensioners from 1.1.1973 and payment of surcharge levied by Tamil Nadu on electricity supplied to the Union Territory. On Capital Account, both Receipts and Disbursements are estimated to be more by Rs 27.53 lakhs.

#### Budget Estimates 1976-77

3. Revenue receipts in the next year are estimated at Rs 10.44 crores as against expenditure of Rs 18.32 crores. The deficit of Rs. 7.88 crores will be met by Grants-in-aid from the Government of India. Receipts on Capital Account by way of recoveries of loans are estimated at Rs 43 lakhs, while disbursements on Capital Account, including Rs. 92 lakhs by way of repayment of loans to the Central Government are estimated at Rs. 4.12 crores. The deficit of Rs. 3.69 crores will be met by loans from the Government of India.

#### Plan Outlay

4. The Plan outlay as envisaged in the Budget for 1975-76 was Rs. 5.14 crores. The Plan outlay for the current year has now been enhanced to

Rs. 5.25 crores consequent on mobilisation of additional resources by the Union Territory Administration. The Budget for 1976-77 contemplates a higher outlay of Rs. 6.97 crores, the sectoral distribution of which is given in the Annexure to the Explanatory Memorandum. In addition, the estimates for 1976-77 also include Rs. 45.66 lakhs for Central and Centrally Sponsored Plan schemes.

#### 20-point Economic Programme

5. In pursuance of the 20-point Economic Programme announced by the Prime Minister, concrete policies and action have been initiated by the Union Territory Government to fulfil those objectives and this has given greater depth and fuller content to the Budget of the Union Territory, particularly on the Plan side. All the schemes and programmes have been reviewed in the light of the 20-point Programme with a view to achieving the objectives quickly. The Plan outlay of Rs. 6.97 crores for 1976-77 includes Rs. 41.66 lakhs for Minimum Needs Programme and Rs. 119.72 lakhs for the schemes specifically and directly covered by the 20-point Economic Programme.

The Union Territory has made rapid strides in the implementation of the 20-point Programme. In the field of Land Reforms, it has been estimated that about 1000 hectares of surplus land would be available as a result of the implementation of the ceiling Act. Distribution of house sites to the landless and to the weaker sections has been taken up as a major programme and so far 4226 house-sites have been distributed, out of which 3380 have gone to scheduled castes. A housing scheme for fishermen has been added in the fisheries sector.

Necessary Regulation has already been promulgated imposing moratorium on recovery of debts from agricultural labourers, small and marginal farmers and rural artisans.

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In the matter of distribution of essential goods, the entire Union Territory has been covered by the public distribution system and the rural areas have been treated on the same footing as urban areas for this purpose. All the 63 fair price shops that have been newly opened, have been allotted to Co-operatives to ensure that the Co-operatives play a decisive role in the scheme of public distribution. Distribution of controlled cloth is now being done through 82 outlets as against 15 earlier. The quantum has also been increased from 40 bales to 60 bales per month and the items now include dhotis and sarees. This step has been widely welcomed by the public. The prices of commodities have registered a steep fall as a result of the measures taken, and there has been conspicuous reduction in the price of food stuffs.

The outlay on apprenticeship training programme for 1976-77 has been increased considerably. Even in 1975-76, the Union Territory has exceeded its target for the number of apprentices to be trained.

Production in the small scale industries sector registered an increase of 50 per cent over last year's level, whereas in the non-small scale industries sector, the increase has been 15 per cent compared to the previous average of 9 per cent. In the Handloom sector 42 per cent of the weavers have already been covered by Co-operatives and the drive will be continued to bring the rest of them into the Co-operative fold. An intensive Handloom Development Project will be implemented in the next year. Two export oriented production units will also be set up.

All the high schools and colleges have been covered under the Book Bank Scheme. Middle Schools will be covered during 1976-77. Text Books have been made available to students at controlled rates.

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6. The other developmental schemes being implemented by the Union Territory are making fast progress and a number of new schemes are also being taken up. In the Agriculture sector the strategy continues to be one of increasing the area under commercial crops without affecting the production of food-grains. Adequate provision has been made under High Yielding Varieties Programme and schemes for development of organic manurial resources, plant protection and minor irrigation to achieve this objective. Food-grains production in the Union Territory has surpassed the target of 1,20,000 metric tonnes by 15,000 metric tonnes. An Intensive Poultry Development Project and a new scheme to assist small and marginal farmers in rearing cross-bred heifers have been included in the Animal Husbandry sector.

The Industries sector will get a new fillip with the establishment of a semi-urban industrial estate and implementation of a Package Assistance Scheme for new entrepreneurs. These will be implemented by drawing upon institutional finances to the maximum extent possible.

Schemes for the welfare of scheduled castes and backward classes have been expanded in coverage and content. A scheme to provide free legal aid to the weaker sections of society has already been started in the Union Territory.

7. Even excluding expenditure on non-Plan schemes and schemes implemented with the assistance of institutional finances, the Plan outlay alone accounts for a per capita level of developmental expenditure of about Rs. 111 in 1975-76. For 1976-77, this will be about Rs. 147. The development programmes are thus being given greater stimulus in the Budget for 1976-77.

12.45 hrs.

# SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1975-76.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): I beg to present a statement showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1975-76.

12.45½ hrs.

# INDIAN LIGHTHOUSE (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Lighthouse Act, 1927, be taken into consideration".

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA (Marmagao): Sir, kindly look at the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill. It is stated in paragraph 2 as follows:

"For the purpose of maintaining or providing lightouses for the benefit of ships, the Act empowers the Central Government to cause light-dues to be levied and collected in respect of every ship arriving at or departing from any port in India. According to section 10 (1) of the Act, as amended in 1959, the maximum rate at which such dues may be levied is fifty paise per ton. This rate is not at all adequate to meet the cost of the services which have to be rendered and improvements in relation thereto. It is therefore, proposed to raise the maximum rate to Rs. 1.50 per ton.