



**Manoj Das, famous writer and Sahitya Akademi awardee :**

In a Union Territory, the Lt. Governor and the bureaucracy has a greater responsibility than the elected representatives. In a State, it is the elected representatives who have a much greater role to play. Somehow, I find this thesis not acceptable in its entirety. Both sections have enough responsibilities to discharge, if they are sincere and if they wish to serve the people, irrespective of the

administrative nature of Pondicherry. In any case, it is the quality of the executive, the officers and the elected representatives that matters. Whether, it is State or Union Territory, problems like urban agglomeration and traffic congestion can be solved with imaginative planning. The need for statehood though is dependent on the aspirations of the people.