

Speech of His Excellency The Governor of Jharkhand, Shri M.O.H. Farook on the occasion of inauguration of Seminar on Spiritual Discourse at Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Doranda, Ranchi on 19.12.2010.

I am delighted to be your midst today which has the feeling of home coming for me. I consider myself truly fortunate to have actually met the Divine Mother of Sri Aurobindo Ashram at Puducherry. Since I lived in Puducherry from the very beginning of my life, I had the opportunity to come in contact with the Ashram and know the methodology of Integral Yoga followed there. I have tried to adhere to the yogic principles even in public life ever since I was the Chief Minister of Puducherry. I thank the organizers for inviting me to inaugurate this seminar devoted to finding solutions to the present day crises of humanity.

Sri Aurobindo had been a freedom fighter and a master patriot who later became a master yogi, which is a unique phenomenon in human history with significance for the whole world. Although at the beginning of his life, his main objective was to liberate India from the foreign yoke, his real work started when he wrote, "Trust the Divine Power, She will free godlike elements in you and shape all into an expression of the Divine Nature".

Sri Aurobindo's yoga is beyond religion. He disclosed to the mankind a new way of life which is wonderful and worth attempting but it will take time for the masses to understand because their mind-set is not yet ready for the yogic adventures. People are prone to follow

ritualism. Sri Aurobindo's contribution to humanity will be remembered by posterity for his discovery of yogic methods of following Divine Life without any need to renounce the worldly life.

I am pleased to see the beautiful and serene atmosphere of Sri Aurobindo Ashram Cottage campus here. I hope Sri Aurobindo Society will be able to deliver good work for the people of Jharkhand State. My good wishes will always be with you.

Thank you.