

necessary assistance for optimum utilisation of capacity of the factory, then it will most likely close down. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government to make available necessary assistance to the factory at the earliest to save it from imminent closure. With this the Government can save an important pharmaceutical factory engaged in meeting the requirements of medicines and vitamins of the common people in the country.

[*English*]

**SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA** (Silchar): Sir, the power supply in the Barak Valley of Assam has become totally nil. Against a total requirement of 45 MW, the Valley is getting 6-10 MW. The activities of the Assam State Electricity Board are discriminatory and deliberate. This has caused a sense of resentment and that may take ugly shape if such condition continues.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Power Minister to advise the Assam Government to arrange supply of power from the Eastern Rid as a stop-gap arrangement and work of construction of gas-based power plant in the Valley by utilising the gas available from Adamtilla and Bashkarki of the Valley should be started immediately for removal of power crisis in the Valley. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Madam, this is a State matter. I allowed you to raise it. I allowed you to speak at length.

**SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA:** I am thankful to you. There must be some reaction from the Government.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I cannot force a reaction from the Government.

(*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN**

(*Chirayinkil*): Sir, it is a tribal question. (*Interruptions*) It cannot be left to the State Government alone. Twenty-three people, including five women, have died after this ministry came into power. Every day, they are being killed. We have taken up such instance here in this House. When people were attacked in Andhra Pradesh, delegation was sent. Why can't we send a delegation from here because 23 people have died?

**MR. SPEAKER:** You decide about delegation. We will send delegation.

(*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:** Something should be there. What else is the remedy? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI** (Gandhi Nagar): I think, this is a matter about which the Government has to give a statement. In similar situations, invariably the Home Minister has secured the House that he will ascertain the facts from the State Government and make a statement in this House.

This is a serious matter where tribals have been attacked. Cases of gang-rape have been reported. Therefore, it is incumbent on the Government to ascertain the facts and come to the House with a statement.

The Home Minister, Mr. Jacob, is here. He can certainly assure the House. (*Interruptions*)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB):** I did not hear. In fact, I was coming. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:** This does call for