

ists may not be able to penetrate. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, through you, I want to bring to the notice of the House, dangerous incidence of ethnic violence and violence against women that are going on in Tripura. On 20th February last, tribal villages in Satnala, Manu—Chailengta and Chota Damboor Gaon were attacked and a massive calculated attack was carried on by armed anti-socials. Four villages under Manu—Chailengta Gram Sabha and one from Chota Damboor Gaon Gram Sabha were so severely attacked that all the men fled, leaving their belongings. Those who were caught, were severely beaten up and a number of women were raped and gang-raped.

A group of MLAs and ADC Members visited the villages and met some of the women. Three of them are adolescent unwed girls, raped by more than one man; and another lady who was raped by three men, is now in a state of shock, suffering from phobia against men. The violence went on from 11.30 am to 5.00 pm., although the SDO and BDO Office were within seven or eight kilometres. There was no help from Police and none from the Administration. With this calculated attack on the ethnic minorities, there have been reports in a number of newspapers on sexual terror and violence unleashed on adolescent girls in South Tripura the Sidhunandan Government Orphanage for girls and every night these girls are subject to terror, subject to rape by anti-socials, and by the boys from the male part of the orphanage. Five of the girls have allegedly committed suicide, a few of them have turned pregnant — they have become unwed mothers.

In the Year of the Girl Child, this a very serious thing to happen. We should not just

pay lip service to the Year of the Girl Child. I also bring to your notice, the way in which the security of the ethnic minorities is being jeopardised in Tripura.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Government, and I would urge upon the Home Minister to look into the matter. I would also urge upon this House and on you, Sir, that a parliamentary team should be sent to Tripura to visit places and see for themselves as to what actually has going on there. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed one matter to be raised by one Member so that the other Members may raise some other matters. Supposing four or five Members want to speak on one matter only, then, how do I adjust other Members? (Interruptions) She has done it very ably. You should be satisfied with that.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) is the largest drug manufacturing company of South East Asia engaged in the production of medicines and vitamins, with a workforce of 5,000 and some of the medicines are also exported to various countries. Medicines manufactured at the Hyderabad plant of IDPL are in great demand in the market. This is the only plant in the country which manufactures vitamins B-1 and B-2 and Polio Acid. Though the demand for the products manufactured at the Hyderabad factory is of the order of Rs. 6 crore per month in the market, but unfortunately due to lack of capital the production of medicines is of Rs. 3 crore only. As result of low production and sale it has become very difficult to meet the monthly salary bill of employees which is of Rs. 1.5 crore. If the Government does not stop in by way of

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