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Title: Regarding agitation launched against the setting up of Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project in Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (TRIPURA WEST): Thank you, Madam. I would like to draw the attention of the Government with regard to the agitation launched against the setting up of the Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project at Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra. This will seriously affect the livelihood of farmers and fishermen, and unleashing of repression on peaceful movement. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (TRIPURA WEST): I along with my colleague former MP Subhasini Ali visited the affected areas of the Central Government nuclear power project site in Jaitapur on March 12, 2011. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record. Please do not interrupt the hon. Member who is speaking.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (TRIPURA WEST): We met the farmers and fishermen including women from Mitgavne, Madhban and Sakhari villages. I was amazed that every single man and woman is willing to sacrifice his or her life to stop the project. Not a single person has come forward except a few absentee land owners even after the State Government having announced hugely enhanced compensation.

Madam, the serious impact of this plant has not been scientifically conducted. According to some eminent scientists, it will threaten the marine life, horticulture and bio-diversity of the region. The livelihood of the fishermen will be lost. We must learn the lessons from the terrible events in Japan which have been termed as the nation's darkest hour since World War II. Nuclear emergency was declared in Japan. Nuclear crisis in Japan should be a wake-up call for India.

Our Party is objecting to the installation of European Pressurized Reactor Technology as it is not commissioned for operation anywhere in the world.

I was also shocked to hear the extent of repression let loose by the administration on those who have been voicing their opposition to the project on scientific and environmental grounds. More than 250 people including 80-90 years old have been declared habitual offenders and asked to furnish exorbitant sureties. Many people including women were arrested and kept for several days in filthy and unhygienic police lock-up. Seven persons have been served with exterminate orders. Persons like former Judges have been prevented from visiting the site. My Party leader, Dr. Vivek Monterio, was sent an SMS by the District Magistrate, Ratnagiri, prohibiting him from entering the district.

I would urge upon the Central Government to heed the united voice of the people of the region and stop the project. All the cases against the farmers and women must be withdrawn and the land that has been taken away from them without their consent must be returned.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Madam, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has stated on this issue.