

he has got is by way of telephonic communication between the Managing Director and the Minister. The Minister needs to be pulled up on this score.

The statement says that after the commencement of the strike owing to violent demonstrations on the part of the workers, firing took place. I would like to know what was the nature of the violent demonstration. If a few stones are thrown against some people who are passing into the factory in a jeep, can that be termed by any stretch of the imagination to be violence? I would like to reinforce and support the plea that has been made by Shri Umanath that there has to be an independent enquiry, whether it be judicial or non-judicial, into the firing against the workers. Secondly, I would like to know if any compensation has been given to the family of the worker who has fallen victim to the brutal firing.

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : About this unfortunate incident, I expressed my regret. I am not happy. I am not gloating over the death of a poor worker.

I said that at 2.30 a.m. when the policemen were going there was obstruction on the road. When they tried to remove the obstruction, some stones were pelted. The police were injured. So, they opened fire. The management has no authority to ask the police to open fire. It is the discretion of the police. The I.G. and D.I.G were present. They opened fire when they thought it was necessary. The management cannot be blamed. The management can only regret what has happened.

Till today I have not got a written report.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA : Why ?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : Perhaps it is on the way. I have asked them to send it.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : Why do the Maharajas of the management take it so lightly ? We are supposed to give money to the public undertakings, and they take it so lightly. People have died.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA : Are we not within our rights to ask why there is this time-lag ?

SHRI S. KUNDU : They should not take this Parliament so lightly. You are the Speaker, you are the custodian of the people's rights.

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly sit down. Do not lose your temper all the time.

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : You will also appreciate that the Managing Director was busy with the strike situation which was explosive. Till yesterday the strike situation was explosive. You should expect that he was busy in dealing with the situation. I have asked him to send a report. We are not hiding anything. It is for the State Government to order any sort of enquiry.

12.48 hrs.

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