

[English]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh):
Without notice how can he answer, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: No, not like this. The powerful Power Minister is quite capable of powerfully answering the questions on the floor of the House and outside also. You do not help him. He has, in substance, said that the BHEL is not having enough capacity and that is why order is given. That has been said in clear terms. That is all. Yes, Mr. Arvind Netam.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker): Mr. Speaker, Sir, inhuman treatment is being meted out by the police to the agitators who are carrying on a peaceful agitation over rehabilitation issue in the Narmada Valley Area of Madhya Pradesh. They are being put into jails. I would like to draw your attention to the barbaric behaviour of the police towards women and children. A peaceful agitation was going on in Khalghat-Manavar Road on November 23, when police scooped on the agitators and beat them up, especially the women and children. They were taken to the police station, where they were again thrashed. Similarly Adivasi women were raped in Barahedi block. When the Adivasis of the area protested against the police torture, the police beat them mercilessly and put them in jail. People who were put in jail include 6 women, aged more than 60 years. Some women with babies in their arms are being misbehaved. I, therefore, request you to hold an enquiry into the incident and take steps to curb the repressive attitude of the Madhya Pradesh police.

12.23 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Secondly, I would like to submit that the Parliamentary Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be sent to that area immediately. The

people were launching their peaceful agitation over the issue of rehabilitation. There should be a check on the barbaric acts of the police and the administration. It must be stopped.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
Sir, in Gwalior, in a factory owned by one of our large industrial houses, an explosion has taken place taking away twelve lives. In our keenness to hand over the public sector and disinvest in the public sector, it is to such people that we are trying to hand over the public sector. Just now we were talking about GEC. We have not yet learnt our lesson. A few years back, a multi-national company called U.C.C., has almost destroyed the lives of lakhs of people in Bhopal. This is the concern of the private sector for the life of workers in our country.

I want to draw the attention of the Minister concerned and ask as to what are they going to do about such indiscriminate negligence by private sector, the big business and the multi-nationals in our country. Of course, we shall fight and compensation will be paid to the families of the twelve people. Had there been an accident like that in a public sector undertaking, some people would have been dismissed. I want to know from the hon. minister whether or not the owner of this Grasim factory would be hauled up; whether or not any of them will be punished, whether or not all funds given to such large industrial houses from our financial institutions be stopped unless they can assure that such things will never happen again. You must warn them before you hand over all your public sector companies to the private sector. This is all that I wanted to tell and this is the point to which I tried to draw the attention of the House earlier. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY—SPEAKER: There is a list before me. I shall call the names one by one. Kindly limit the speech to one or one-and-a-half minutes. I am taking into consideration the speakers who are to participate in this. Now Shri Dwaraka Nath Das.