

The Minister Shri Jacob wants to make a statement now.

18.00 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Sangrur district shooting incident  
on 10th March 1992

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Sir, I rise to inform the House of a sad incident that occurred near the premises of Indian Acrylics Fibre Plant near Sangrur on 10th March, 1992.

According to report received from the Government of Punjab, terrorists about six in number struck at the premises of Indian Acrylics Fibre Plant near Sangrur on March 10 after sunset and shot dead 15 non-Punjabi engineers and experts hailing from Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. They were engineers and experts and representatives of various firms i.e. Siemens, ICB Empower PTPL and Grasin. The 200 crore Acrylic Plant is in an advanced stage of construction and was likely to be commissioned shortly. These experts of various firms were helping the Principals of the Acrylics Plant in construction, installation of machinery and equipment and imparting of technical know-how. The terrorists segregated non-Punjabis from the Punjabis and shot them dead with Ak 47 after accusing the Management of not observing bandh as and when such bandh calls were given by the Punjab terrorists.

Sangrur Police had duly warned Indian Acrylics Limited about the security requirements and has even volunteered to set-up a police picket at the premises. Arms were also supplied to the management but these were not made use of as the management

refused to accept any security cover. A copy of the letter written by the management refusing security cover and suggesting withdrawal of the Arms and ammunition sent by the police to the Centre, is with the Government. The Principals has refused security on the ground that the U.S. based foreign collaborators Dupont had opposed stationing of armed securitymen on the campus. The firm had engaged 20 unarmed security personnel who could not render any assistance.

Sardar Beant Singh, Chief Minister Punjab, alongwith senior officers visited the scene of crime on the morning of March 11 and ordered immediate diversion of 12 PMF Coys. from other parts of the State to district Sangrur so as to restore confidence among the Industrial Units in district Sangrur. An army unit has also been stationed near the Campus for extending security cover in the neighborhood. *Ad-hoc* compensation at the rate of fifty thousand to the victims was announced by the Chief Minister on behalf of the State and another *ad-hoc* compensation at the rate of fifty thousand to each victim will be paid by the Indian Acrylics Limited. Further appropriate relief to the victims will be worked out and paid by the respective firms.

The State Governments have been alerted to take due precautions to maintain peace and communal harmony and prevent any reprisal incidents from taking place.

I am sure the Members of this august House will join me in condemning the incident and in conveying our heart felt sympathies to the bereaved families.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 A.M. on Monday.

18.11 hrs

*The Lok Sabha adjourned till*

*Eleven of the Clock on Monday,  
March, 16 1992/Phalguna 26, 1913 (Saka)*