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Punish guilty of Jajpur killings: CPI (M)

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The CPI(M) today sought an immediate intervention of the Central and Orissa governments to ensure that stringent punishment is meted out to those responsible for the "brutal massacre" of at least eleven tribals in the Jajpur district yesterday.

"The Centre and the state governments must take immediate steps to protect the rights of the tribals to their lands and habitats," the CPI(M) Politburo said in a statment here.

Eleven 'adivasis' had been killed in police firing in Kalingra Nagar when the tribals were demonstrating to protest against their displacement and to press for adequate compensation, the Left party said.

The CPI(M) charged the state government with adopting a policy of repression against the tribal people to enable mining companies and industries to operate in the forest areas.

"The killing of three adivasis in the Kashipur firing a few years ago, the repression launched against those opposing the Vendanta project in Kalahandi district, are some instances of the Navin Patnaik government's inhuman attitude showing it has no concern for the basic rights of the adivasis," the Left party added.

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