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Crucial Assam Cong meet on unity

Our Staff Correspondent

GAUHATI, Dec 15.

A THREE-DAY political conference of the Assam Congress is beginning here today under the shadow of the CWC's resolution on unity.

This will naturally be the main issue before the conference which is expected to support the CWC resolution but not without a determined opposition from the anti-unity group.

Mr Sarat Chandra Sinha and many others who are against any abject surrender to Mrs Gandhi which the CWC resolution amounts to, have reconciled themselves to the prospect of an eventual unity on Mrs Gandhi's terms. They will however not leave the party but will continue their fight against authoritarianism and for internal democracy "until we are expelled".

Mr Sinha, however, is firmly convinced that the so-called unity will not bring the desired strength to the united party for which unity is being ostensibly championed.

Quoting an Assamese proverb which says that a split bamboo can never be as strong as an unsplit one, says that the two parties will continue to exist and function as two distinct factions after the merger.

Mr Sinha also feels that the real problem unity will create will be to reconstitute the various

committees from the pradesh to the mandal level. And in each such dispute, he was sure, the ultimate decision will be taken and imposed by the central leadership of the party.

Mr Sinha said he was in full agreement with the Sibsagar district Congress political conference resolution on unity which has requested the CWC to "take the DCCs' into confidence before exploring unity.

YC supports equi-distance line

Our Staff Correspondent

GAUHATI, Dec 15—The executive of the Assam Youth Congress meeting here today on the eve of a political conference of the Congress unanimously supported the resolution of 21 November to maintain equi-distance from the Janata and the Cong-I.

Reiterating its firm determination to maintain the separate identity of the Congress, the executive decided to oppose any move for surrendering the Congress to undemocratic and authoritarian forces.

A spokesman of the APYC said their representative would fight on this line at the Congress political conference.