

# NE region CMs for non-political UF

SHILLONG, Sept. 1 (UNI)—The Chief Ministers of the north eastern region are toying with the idea of having a non-political United Front to press the future Central leadership to fulfill the region's special economic and political needs.

Some of the Chief Ministers who met here informally yesterday at

the conclusion of the Northeastern Council (NEC) meeting felt that the economic needs and political aspirations of the people of the region were different from those in the other parts of the country.

Informed sources said the proposed front, which should not be mistaken as a political party, would drive home this fact to any Central leadership which emerged after the mid-term poll. The region needed more Central allocation and a special treatment at all levels, the sources said.

The Chief Ministers also stressed the need for effective steps to control jhum (shifting) cultivation, fill intra-State communication gap and develop and share the vast power potential of the region.

The meeting also discussed the problem of infiltration of foreign nationals into the region, especially from Bangladesh. The States and Union Territories of the region had reached a saturation point and could not accommodate any more infiltrators. Some Chief Ministers, however, agreed that infiltration was decreasing.

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