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Assam Tribune

Call For 36-Hour Assam Bandh From Nov 19

Opposition May Meet Governor On Monday

GUWAHATI, Nov. 12—The non-Congress (I) Left and Democratic Alliance, which claims a "comfortable legislative majority" has tentatively decided to meet the Governor, Sri Prakash Mehrotra, here on Monday, November 16, to stake its claim to form a Ministry in Assam, now under President's rule, reports PTI.

Spokesman of the allied parties told a Press conference here to-day the Alliance has a strength of 63 members and he expected seven more legislators to extend their support.

The 126-member Assam Assembly now has an effective strength of 119, seven seats being vacant.

The Left and Democratic Alliance formed earlier this month on the basis of a 12-point minimum programme consists of Janata, CPI (M), CPI, RCPI, Assam Janata Dal, Congress (S), Progressive Democratic Front and Lok Dal.

Besides, the SUCI, with two of its members in the Assembly, is considering extension of support to the Alliance, while the RSP with no member in the House has joined it to help it take up common minimum programme, according to the alliance leaders.

The alliance, according to minimum programme announced by it will endeavour in close co-operation with all sections of the people to find a satisfactory solution to the foreigners problem on the basis of constitution, relevant laws, international agreement and national commitments.

It will also work for the protection of democratic rights of working people and restoration of civil liberties.

The use of force in solving the Assam problem, as well as NSA and ESMA will be avoided by the alliance which will take steps to curb price rise and to create more employment opportunities, the spokesman said.

GUWAHATI, NOV. 12
—THE ASSAM MOVEMENT LEADERS TODAY ANNOUNCED THEIR DECISION TO REVIVE THE AGITATIONAL PROGRAMMES WITH A CALL FOR A 36-HOUR 'ASSAM BANDH' BEGINNING AT 17-00 HRS. ON NOVEMBER 19 AND ENDING AT 17-00 HRS. ON NOVEMBER 20, AS PART OF THE NOW OVER TWO-YEAR-OLD MOVEMENT TO PRESS THE GOVERNMENT FOR AN EARLY SOLUTION TO THE FOREIGNERS ISSUE IN ASSAM, SAYS PTI.

Announcing the "revival" of the two-year-old agitation, which was suspended for the last few months during the several rounds of talks between the Centre and the Assam movement leaders, Sri Brighu Kumar Phukan, General Secretary of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU) and Sri Atul Bora, Convenor of the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad, told pressmen here today that the "bandh" would be followed by State-wide rallies from November 22 to 29.

The two organisations, spearheading the anti-foreigners movement, will also launch a dawn-to-dusk "Rasta Roko" programme on November 30. The rail, air and water transport services will however be exempted from the purview of the programme, they said. So also will be the police, CRPF, milk, water-tank lorries and fire brigade vehicles.

The AASU and AAGSP leaders said they were forced to take this decision in view of what they described "the Centre's apathy and lack of seriousness" in resolving the foreigners problem.

As part of the strategy to

continue the agitation and the discussions a letter of behalf of AASU and AAGSP was being sent to the Union Home Secretary tomorrow urging the Central officials to have the proposed next round of talks, suggested earlier by Centre for November 19, held at Guwahati on November 22, Sri Phukan and Sri Bora said.

The AASU and Sangram Parishad leaders said that the Guwahati talks should be "normal" and both parties should issue joint statements on agreed points, which practice was not adopted earlier after the round of talks.

Today's decision, which comes in the wake of the failure of the Assam movement leaders to hold a public rally in the State capital on November 10, was taken at a joint meeting of the Central Executives of the AASU and AAGSP here.

Asked why they are going for a fresh agitational programme when the Centre has invited them for talks, Sri Bora and Sri Phukan said the movement and discussions would continue simultaneously.

"We have not closed our doors for discussions, it is the Government's apathy which has forced us to launch fresh agitational programme", they added.

The meeting, condemned the "use of brutal force" by Government to "terrorise the people not to join the rally on November 10."

Meanwhile, Sri Prafulla Mahanta and Sri Brighu Kumar Phukan, President and General Secretary respectively of AASU in a statement demanded unconditional release of all arrested student leaders including some executive members of the Union immediately.

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Industrial Security Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 12— With a view to helping provide security in industrial undertakings the Industrial Security Bureau, a private agency headed by Sri R C Dutt, Retired Inspector General of Police and assisted by some senior retired Police Officers and approved by the Government of Assam has been set up with its headquarters at Gauhati. It is the first of its kind in the North Eastern Region of India.

The Bureau has since trained and provided quite a few unemployed indigenous youths and rendered service to a good number of industrial units including tea gardens. It has also made several enquiries involving huge loss of property through its experienced investigating staff with success and recommended preventive measures.

Sri Dutt, the Director has of late visited some western countries and studied the security arrangements in some vital industries.

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