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# AASU terms may be rejected

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NEW DELHI, Dec. 29—The Centre is not inclined to accept the conditional offer by the agitationists of suspending the agitation in Assam if it stopped taking the necessary measures for maintenance of law and order.

The leaders of the Assam agitation who have been here for the past few days to canvass support for their cause among the leaders of the Opposition, today made it clear that they would create a congenial atmosphere for the combined talks if the "repressive" measures were withdrawn.

Mr Bhrigu Kumar Phukan said there was no question of withdrawing the agitation specifically for the purpose of the talks. He alleged that the Government lacked the political will to solve the problem of foreigners in Assam.

Meanwhile, it is understood that the next round of talks which the Government is holding with the leaders of the AASU and the AAGSP and Opposition groups in Parliament will take place here on January 12 or 14. So far, the Opposition parties have nominated BJP leader M. Atal Behari Vajpayee, CPI leader Mr. Inderjit Gupta, Janata leader Ravindra Varma and CPI-M leader Mr. Harisharan Singh Surjeet to participate in the talks.

The Opposition parties have to nominate two more leaders who will be associated with the next round of discussions.

At the same time, adequate pre-

parations are being made to meet any challenge to law and order likely to arise from the proposed blockade movement to be started by the agitationists. Any threat to law and order and orderly movement of traffic and goods will be firmly resisted, it is stated.

Meanwhile, Mr Phukan accused the Government of detracting from its earlier stand. He pointed out that while the August 23, 1981 official draft on resolving the foreigners' issue accepted the use of the 1951 National Register of Citizens and 1952 electoral lists in identifying foreigners, during the discussions last month, the Government not only avoided mention of these but also wanted ration cards, school certificates and birth and death registers, apart from the Constitution and relevant laws, being made use of.

He said the AASU and the Parliament had expressed in unambiguous terms that in detecting a foreigner no principle might be determinant and conclusive unless the NRC and conclusive electoral rolls were made use of.

Mr Phukan said right at the start of discussions, the AASU and AAGSP sought to clear the confusion created by the Government that the August 23 draft as prepared by the Government, was accepted and approved by the negotiating team. The fact was that the Government draft was taken to Gauhati and considered by the executives of the two organisations

A modified draft was later sent to the Government on September 23.

Reacting sharply to Prime Minister Indra Gandhi's statement, echoed by Government spokesman in and outside Parliament, that the agitation leaders agreed to certain things during discussions and later changed their stand, Mr Phukan said this was baseless and an attempt to mislead the people of the country.