

Condition Of AJD, PDF Of Joining In Any Ministry

By A Staff Reporter

GUWAHATI, Dec. 17—The Asom Janata Dal and the Progressive Democratic Front are of the opinion that the solution of the foreign nationals issue in the present context is more urgent and immediate in the national interest than the exercise of the Ministry making in the State.

In a joint statement, here today, Sri Jogendra Nath Hazarika, leader of the AJD and Sri Premodhar Bora, leader of the PDF, have said the question of their support to or participate in any Ministry would depend on a clear cut stand on the cut-off year for the detection and dispersal of the pre 1971 stream of foreigners in the State, by the Congress (I) and the Left and Democratic Alliance.

The statement pointed out that both the Congress (I) and the Left parties in Assam continue to advocate 1971 as the cut-off year, this meant that they would not yield to the popular demand for a compromise with regard to the foreigners, who had entered Assam between 1961 and 1971, nor have they finally spelt out their respective stand as to whether they would agree to implement in letter and spirit the agreement that might be arrived at between the Government of India and the leaders of the movement on the foreign nationals issue.

Efforts To Form Ministry In Assam

From Our Special Representative

NEW DELHI, Dec 17 — The Janata Party President, Sri Chandra Shekhar has deputed the party's General Secretary, Sri Ravindra Verma to visit Assam to explore the possibilities of the left and democratic nine-party alliance to form a Government in the State.

Sri Verma is leaving for Guwahati on Saturday with this mission. He will have discussions with party members on the day individually to find out a formula to form an alliance with the other Opposition parties and have joint discussions on the strategy to be formulated to achieve the objective.

In the meantime Congress (I) leaders have also gathered here for a final decision to form the Government with an alternative leader of the ACLP.

Sri Keshab Gogoi who is rated as the leader was due to arrive here on Tuesday but had to return home from Calcutta on the receipt of a message that his son had been involved in an accident leading to fracture of the collar bone.

The Governor of Assam, Sri Prakash Mehrotra and his two advisers are also here on separate official duties. It is presumed the Governor will discuss the political situation of the State also vis-a-vis installation of a popular Ministry. He will also acquaint the Home Minister of the situation in the State following the 36-hour Rasta Rukho' and ticketless travelling programme as part of the agitation.

The Home Ministry is also preparing for a tripartite discussions between Government Opposition and movement leaders.

AATSU Resents Move To Settle Bangladeshis In Tribal Block

By A Staff Reporter

GUWAHATI, Dec. 17—The All Assam Tribal Students' Union has expressed its grave concern and resentment at the move to settle Bangladeshis from Baranigaon P.L. Home in the Dimoria Tribal Block near Kamarkuchi village.

In a memorandum submitted to the Chief Secretary of Assam, the AATSU said to protect tribal land and thereby their culture, language and heritage, Tribal Blocks and Belts had been formed by enacting laws which had been incorporated in Chapter X (Protection of Backward Classes) of Assam Land and Revenue Regulation.

While calling for the immediate withdrawal of the Bangladeshis from the Dimoria Tribal Block, the AATSU said if a settlement is to be given, only landless tribals should be settled in the Tribal Block exclusively meant for the tribals of the State.

The memorandum while requesting the Chief Secretary to give protection to the tribals in accordance to the laws of the States, warned that the tribals may be forced to revolt against such injustice perpetrated on the community by the Government.

One Labourer Killed In Clash In Namrup

GUWAHATI, Dec 17—One labourer was killed and four others were seriously injured in a clash between two rival groups of labourers at the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation factory at Namrup in Upper Assam last night.

Official sources here said that the injured have been admitted to hospital where the condition of two of them is reported to be critical.

The administration has intensified security measures within the factory complex following the clash, the sources said and added a number of persons had been arrested.—PTI

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