

Cong-I hopes to form Assam Govt

Hindustan Times Correspondent

GAUHATI, Dec. 2 — The Congress-I High Command's emissary, Union Labour and Industry Minister N. D. Tewari, indicated here today that the prospect of the party coming to power in Assam, now under President's rule, was "bright".

The Opposition camp, however, reiterated that its claim to form a Government was "constitutional".

Mr Tewari told newsmen prior to his departure for Delhi after a four-day fact-finding tour to Assam that he would submit his report to Mrs Gandhi tomorrow.

He said that during his visit he had met at least 51 Congress-I legislators and had been assured that the decision of the High Command on the change of leadership of the Congress-I Legislature Party would be accepted by all.

Mr Tewari said he had been assured of support for the formation of a Congress-I Ministry by the Plains Tribal Council of Assam (PTCA), the Asom Janata Dal led by Mr Jogendra Nath Hazarika, the Progressive Democratic Front and the five-member Tea Labour Group.

Discussions with the PDF MLAs' in the State Assembly, mostly Independents, were continuing, Mr Tewari added.

AASU plans 'civil disobedience'

GAUHATI, Dec. 2 (PTI) —The All-Assam Students Union (AASU) is contemplating "civil disobedience" as the next phase of the movement against foreign nationals in the State.

The nature and date of the "civil disobedience" movement would, however, be finalised only after the meeting of the central executive committee of the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) here tomorrow, Mr Prafulla Mahanta and Mr Bhriagu Phukan, president and general secretary of the AASU, told PTI after AASU's Executive meeting today.

The AASU Executive's decisions would be placed in the Parishad's meeting for final approval, they said.

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