

# Crucial Meeting Of AASU Executive Today

22/12/81 Assam Tribune

By A Staff Reporter

GUWAHATI, Dec. 21—Considerable significance has been attached to the Executive Committee meeting of the All Assam Students Union to be held tomorrow at Jalukbari and also to the subsequent meeting of the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad on the following day. Because, the AASU and AAGSP will take decision to the Government of India's proposal for the tripartite talks on the foreign nationals issue.

According to a knowledgeable circle here the sponsors of the movement waited last two weeks for announcement of Opposition members' committee which is to join the talks, but so far the composition of the committee has not been announced. The circle has pointed out that the AASU and AAGSP have certain reservations about the left parties originating from and dominated by West Bengal as those parties at no time of history were sympathetic to the cause of Assam. The meeting of the Opposition leaders with the Prime Minister about two years ago, when the "national" consensus was evolved was dominated by the leaders of the left parties hailing from West Bengal. That meeting is said to have suggested that 1971 be taken as the cut-off year. The Government of India has been sticking to that "consensus", although no action is even said to have been taken to implement their consensus. Two years have already passed by.

The AASU at its meeting tomorrow is likely to discuss the implications of associating the left parties in the negotiations and the Prime Minister's suggestion to the opposition to form a "compact committee". The Prime Minister appears to be aware of the reservation of the AASU and AAGSP about the West Bengal-originated left parties. Besides those parties, there will be other Opposition parties who are expected to try dispassionately to find out a solution to the problem of defending the socio-cultural and political identity of the indigenous people of Assam from being swamped by lakhs of foreign nationals. The AASU is likely to thrash out the pros and

cons of implications of the Opposition joining the talks at a time when fourteen rounds have already proved palpably infructuous and AASU and AAGSP were forced by the circumstances to resume the agitation. The sponsors of the movement are said to be reasonably happy to see people responding as spontaneously as did two years ago although the State Government mobilised all the forces at its command. Even at the time of resumption of the agitation, the leaders of the movement have made it clear that they would keep the door of negotiations always open. At a later stage, they said that agitation and discussions will continue at the same time.

The latest proposal of the Prime Minister for tripartite talks, has placed the leaders of the movement in a predicament. The crucial meeting of the AASU and AAGSP tomorrow and the day after will decide whether to join or not to join the talks. Announcement of the opposition committee by this time would have made the decision-making process easier. That was why the AASU and AAGSP wanted to know the composition of the committee of the opposition.

A source close to the leaders of the movement, said the AASU and AAGSP will not make any departure from its declared policy of finding out a solution through talks and as such they are prepared to hold talks with any authority on the basis of their latest revised proposal. Their 17-point proposal centred round details of detection, deletion and deportation of the foreigners on the basis of the Constitution, Citizenship Act, Foreigners Act and other relevant laws of the land.

Meanwhile, Sri Biraj Sarma, Convenor, AAGSP has informed that the Executive of the AAGSP will meet in its central office at 2 p.m on December 23. Besides the members, the Presidents of the respective units have been requested to attend the executive committee meeting.

The Assam Tribune, 22/Dec/1981