

AASU Urges People To Resist Census And Poll Preparations

By A Staff Reporter
GUWAHATI, Dec. 18—
The All Assam Students Union has made an earnest appeal to the people of Assam today to be in preparedness to resist census operation and holding of election in the State without solving the foreign national issue.

The AASU President, Sri Prafulla Kumar Mahanta and General Secretary, Sri Bhriku Kumar Phukan, in a joint statement, said that the Government of India assured the people of Assam and the Parliament not to hold election or to carry out census operations till the illegally staying foreigners were detected. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam conveyed to the AASU, the Government of India's assurance in writing after their talks with the Prime Minister on February 2, 1980. Now the evidences with the AASU indicate that the Government has been doing preliminaries for the census and the elections against the solemn assurances given to the people of Assam. It is the duty of every citizen to oppose such an insidious attempt. The AASU is prepared to make any sacrifice to stall the attempts for holding election and undertaking operation in hush-hush manner, the statement said.

Referring to the Guwahati Municipal Corporation's move to carry out census, Sri Mahanta and Sri Phukan said the role of a section of the high officials, who dance to the tune of the men of ruling party, was extremely regrettable. Those officials were making the youths and students of Assam cannon fodder to meet their selfish ends. A group of non-Assamese officials was out to destroy the socio-political identity of the indigenous people of Assam and a section of the local officials were helping those non-Assamese officials. This must be defeated

by the genius, morale and tactics of the indigenous people. As part of the sinister move of a section of the non-Assamese high officials, Bangladeshis were being settled in planned manner in different places of Assam. This is likely to create adverse reaction among the people. The AASU warned the Government that the indigenous people will be compelled to oppose settlement of those foreigners.

Referring to the recent publication of lists of polling centres, Sri Mahanta and Sri Phukan said that it was misleading to hear from the Government that there was no relation between publication of polling centres and preparation of voters lists. Preparation of lists of polling centres was a first step for preparation of voters lists. The AASU made it clear to the Government that it would effectively oppose any preparation for holding election without detection of foreigners. The Government and the political parties which want to win election through foreigners' votes will be responsible for the possible consequences of preparation for holding elections without keeping the promises given to the people, Sri Mahanta and Sri Phukan said.

Karmachari Parishad Warns Govt Against Census Operation

GUWAHATI, Dec. 18—The Coordinatin Committee of all the Karmachari Parishads has expressed deep concern at the "surreptitious" attempt by the Gauhati Municipal Corporation authority evidently under the direction from the Government to undertake census operation inspite of public protest. In a Press release, the Coordination Committee has pointed out 308 enumerators were appointed through letter No. MOG/Census/APP-TT 2/III/655-74 dated 3-12-81 asking the enumerators to report for duty by December 25.

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The Coordination Committee reminded the Municipal Corporation authority that the people of Assam will not tolerate any census operation of holding of election in Assam till the foreigners issue is satisfactorily solved. The Committee warned the Municipal Corporation authority as also the Government to stop such "heinous" attempt and also called upon the officers and employees not to accept any such appointment as enumerators against the interest of the people of Assam, the statement added.

West Bengal Govt List Being Crosschecked By Assam Officials

By A staff reporter
GUWAHATI, Dec 18—
The Government of Assam has been examining a long list submitted by the West Bengal Government of persons who allegedly left for North Bengal at the initial stage of agitation on foreign nationals issue in Assam. The list is being crosschecked by some Deputy Commissioners, according to a spokesman of the State Government.

On his attention being drawn to a report appearing in a section of the Press that 3800 families are being rehabilitated in tribal areas or Kamrup, and some other districts, the spokesman said that no such decision was taken so far on the matter. He denied any meeting with the representatives of the West Bengal Government last month.

The spokesman said that last year an Assam Government official of the rank of additional Deputy Commissioner visited some of the North Bengal camps of people who allegedly were from Assam and took shelter. The West Bengal Government submitted a list of those people to Assam Government officer. And that list is being scrutinised, the spokesman said.

The State Government spokesman appeared to be unaware of an inquiry conducted by a Revenue official from

Dhubri as to the identity of those people who took shelter in North Bengal camps. The then Chief Minister of Assam made a statement on the floor of the State Assembly wherein he maintained that the Government was not sure of those people's identity. It was brought to the notice of the Government that some of the people of Bangladesh left the camp to the notice of the Government that some of the people of Bangladesh left the State for fear of being detected and deported, the Chief Minister told House. Knowledgeable circles at that time maintained that those were the floating people who preferred to live in station slat-forms and maintained a sort of nomadic life in parts of North Bengal. The circles alleged that the West Bengal Government was trying to pass the buck on to the Government of Assam and thus wants to get rid of those unwanted elements.

According to information with the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad, those are the refugees who keep on changing places and they are a big chunk of those who returned from Dandakaranya and are waiting rehabilitation. A large number of infiltrators also took refuge in North Bengal among their kiths and kins. The AAGSP has all along been opposing the 'machinations' of the interested circles to rehabilitate those people in Assam.