

AASU's Appeal To People To Join Mass Rally

GUWAHATI, Nov. 3—The All Assam Students' Union in a statement has appealed to the people of Assam to join the mass rally to be held on November 10 at the Judge's Field here and to re-assert their support to the peaceful constitutional movement of Assam. The Government must be proved wrong in every aspect regarding the continued extent of genuine support for the national cause demonstrating their extreme patience, exemplary courage and uninstinted association and perfect discipline of supreme Gandhian ethos, the statement says.

In the statement, Sri Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, the AASU President and Sri Bhri-gu Kumar Phukan, its General Secretary, have stated that on November 2, 1981, while the discussions with the AASU and AAGSP delegations were in progress, the Chief Secretary of Assam, Sri Ramesh Chandra, had verbally agreed to permit to hold the rally, in compliance to the instruction conveyed by the Union Home Secretary, Sri T. N. Chaturvedi, in presence of the other three high officials of the Union Home Ministry including the Additional Home Secretary, Sri M. L. Kampani.

"But the District Magistrate of Kamrup has been allowed to arrogate arbitrary powers to him defying the instructions by the Home Secretary in the name of the so-called public interest." This has really touched the nadir of the credibility of the Government officials' verbal assurances if the Government shudders to allow the exercise of the democratic rights to assemble peaceably and without arms, in public premises how the AASU can expect to reach solution on the basis of verbal and unrecorded negotiations.

The AASU had already sought the permission in writing from the Adviser to the Governor of Assam, Sri V. Natarajan and the Chief Secretary, Sri Ramesh Chandra, the statement says.

The statement further says: "It is beyond comprehension of ordinary souls of AASU cadre that whereas the Union Government has extended invitation to the AASU and the AAGSP to attend talks on November 19, 1981, the Government of Assam have deem-

ed it fit to prohibit the peaceful mass rally of citizens of the country".

The statement says: "The AASU is constrained to conclude that some deep-seated vicious controversy is fomenting such conspiracy to defeat the democratic rights of the people of Assam".

"The Union Home Secretary has already acknowledged through the Chief Secretary, Assam, the receipt of his invitation letter and the deep concern and grave anxiety of the AASU at the denial of permission to hold the mass rally on November 10. It has been clearly pointed out that denial of the necessary permission will betray the sincerity of the Government".

The student leaders concluded by reiterating their appeal to the people of Assam to "join the mass rally peacefully and conduct the proceedings with supreme discipline to give a fitting reply to the malicious propaganda of the mercenaries of democracy".

PTI adds: The All Assam Students' Union and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad today urged the Union Home Secretary to issue permission for holding their planned mass rally at Guwahati on November 10.

In a joint letter sent through the Chief Secretary to the Assam Government, the two organisations said that the Government's permission to hold the rally would prove that it was sincere to solve the foreigners problems in the State.

The Executive Committee of the AAGSP tonight inconclusively discussed the arrangement for the rally.

Earlier, the convenor of the Parishad, Sri Atul Bora, apprised the meeting of the receipt of the Centre's invitation for the November 19 talks.

The Executive of the AASU is also scheduled to discuss the Centre's communication on November 11.

Meanwhile, a delegation of the AASU and AAGSP today met the Adviser to the Governor, Sri Natarajan and the Chief Secretary, and urged for a "rethinking" on the matter of giving permission to hold the rally.

According to a spokesman of the AAGSP, the delegation also told them that the agitation leaders were "helpless" if

the Government wanted a "confrontation".

SUPPORT TO RALLY

Several organisations have extended their support to the rally. All Guwahati Students' Union has appealed to citizens and students to join the rally in large numbers. In a joint statement, the General Secretary, Sri Ram Kumar Das, and the conveners Md. Matiur Rahman and Sri Nagen Goswami of the Union have asked the General Secretaries and Assistant General Secretaries of the Schools in the city, to assemble at the Cotton College at 11 a.m.

The West Guwahati Anchalik Gana Sangram Parishad, All Guwahati Students Union, All Kamrup District Students Union, All Guwahati Gana Sangram Parishad, Co-ordination Committee of AASU, All Karbi Anglong District Students Co-ordination Committee, Gauhati University P G Students' Union, Gauhati Medical College Students Union have also extended support to the rally.

In a joint statement, Sri Nibaran Bora and Sri Khanindra Ranian Barman, Chairman and the Secretary respectively of the Purbanchaliya Loka Parishad, have once again appealed to the citizens, women, youths, students, workers, peasants and employees to join the rally in large numbers.

The Bharatiya Janata Party while supporting the rally stated that denial of holding the peaceful rally is against all principles of democracy, a statement by Sri L. Gohain, State Convener of the Party said.

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