

# Assam agitators plan bandh on Nov 19

Hindustan Times Correspondent

GAUHATI, Nov 12 — The Assam agitation leaders today announced a new phase of action on the aliens issue by calling a State-wide 36-hour bandh from 5 a.m. on Nov 19.

The schedule of the new phase of agitation was drawn up jointly by the executives of the All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) following three and half hours of review of the situation after the inconclusive round of the talks with the Union Government officials in New Delhi recently.

AASU General Secretary Bhriгу Kumar Phookan told newsmen

that the proposed talks with the Centre would be joined by them only if the 15th round is held at Gauhati on Nov 22.

He said that all necessary formalities like signing of joint statements on the outcome of the proposed talks and minutes should be maintained strictly on the points agreed upon by the agitation leaders and the Government.

Mr Phookan said that besides the Assam bandh on Nov 19 and 20, it had been decided to organise blockade of roads in the State from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov 30. Mass rallies will also be organised from Nov 22 to 30 at district and sub-divisional levels.

Sources close to AASU said tonight that despite the agitation leaders steadfastness on a negotiated settlement of the foreigners issue and the non-violent course of the prolonged movement, Government's "coercive tactics" in dealing with the mass rally at Gauhati on Nov 18 had created misgivings among the AASU and the Sangram Prishad circles about the Government's attitude towards the Assam issue. The banning of the rally at Gauhati, the source added, had virtually sealed off the peoples freedom of expression and demonstration on the vital issue for which many lives had already been sacrificed.

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