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Hindu

Assam: Cong. (I) sounds Janata

From Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Nov. 7.

The Government today invited the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad and the All-Assam Students' Union for further talks on the foreigners' issue on November 19.

The invitation was apparently intended to preempt any threatening posture the two organisations might take at a mass rally proposed to be held at Gauhati on November 10 to press the case for an early solution of the problem.

The invitation was extended by the Union Home Secretary, Mr. T. N. Chaturvedi, through official channels, but it will be some time before the AAGSP and AASU communicate their acceptance or otherwise.

Before the AAGSP and AASU teams left New Delhi earlier this week after the last round of talks, they had said that their participation in future negotiations would depend on the decision of their respective executive committees.

Opposition leaders' meeting: The Government

will have the advantage of knowing the latest position of various parties on the issue at the meeting of Opposition leaders on Monday.

It was, however, reported tonight that apart from the Bharatiya Janata Party, some others may also stay away from Monday's meeting.

There was some consultation among Opposition leaders in the course of the day. The Lok Dal and Janata leaders were reported to have expressed their reservations about the usefulness of the meeting.

PII reports:

The Congress (I) today sounded the Janata Party leadership whether it will be agreeable to form a coalition Ministry with it in Assam.

The proposal was made by Mr. Zail Singh during talks with the Janata Party president, Mr. Chandra Shekhar.

The Janata leader told the Minister that the proposal could be discussed only if the ruling party was really keen on finding a solution to the problems of the State. If the ruling party's intention was only to be in power somehow, the Janata Party was not interested in it, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, said.

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