

# Assam leaders draft new 15-point plan

GAUHATI, October 27 (UNI).

**T**HE All-Assam Students Union and the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad have submitted a 15-point revised draft proposal to the Centre as a basis for a solution to the foreign nationals issue, it was reliably learnt here today.

The revised draft was drawn up by the joint committee of the two organisations and submitted to the government delegation during the last official level talks in New Delhi on August 23.

The draft says that all foreigners should be detected on the basis of the constitution and the relevant laws, namely the Citizenship Act, 1955, the Foreigners Act, 1946 and the Passport Act, 1952.

It further points out that in doing so the national register of citizens of 1951 and the electoral rolls of 1952 and land records should be made use of.

## PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES

AASU and AAGSP further say in their draft proposal that Pakistani citizens cannot be granted Indian citizenship, except on a purely reciprocal basis, as laid down in section 5 (2) (E) of the Indian Citizenship Act, 1955. Hence, in detecting the foreigners, the Indian citizenship certificates, already issued by different state governments under the said section of the act, shall not be granted citizenship.

They have proposed the deletion of all the foreigner names forthwith from the electoral rolls in accordance with the existing electoral laws.

The draft also says that as the government has expressed practical difficulties in deporting all the foreigners, it was agreed to categorise the foreigners into three groups and the two organisations may allow the stay of these foreigners who entered Assam between January 1, 1951, and Decem-

ber 3, 1962, on humanitarian considerations.

The proposal further says that all tribal belts and blocks should be strictly protected. Foreigners found occupying or possessing land in reserve tribal belts and blocks shall be evicted forthwith. Their possession and occupation of land should thereupon, be vested in the government in accordance with the Assam land and revenue regulations.

It also says the following categories of foreigners should be deported irrespective of their date of entry into India: foreigners detected and declared earlier but not deported, foreigners who were deported earlier but re-entered "illegally," foreigners staying in the country after the expiry of their passport and visas and other travel documents, foreigners who have already been issued a "quit India notice," and those foreigners found in future to have "illegally" re-entered Assam after their deportation.

It has also been proposed that the foreigners who entered Assam between January 1, 1961 and January 1, 1971 be detected, their names deleted from the electoral rolls and the government should settle such foreigners with their families in places outside Assam within a period of not more than six months from the date of detection.

It should be guaranteed that these foreigners after their settlement outside Assam, shall not be allowed to return to the state and any foreigners so settled outside Assam if found to have re-entered the state shall be expelled immediately. To prevent their re-entry, the provisions of the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873 (Regulation 5), shall be fully implemented forthwith.

The foreigners who entered Assam after the above period, shall have to be detected and their name deleted from the electoral rolls, if already included such foreigners should also be deported and pending their deporta-

tion they are to be arrested and interned in camps, specially set up for the purpose.

The draft proposal says AASU and AAGSP will have full monitoring rights as to the implementation of the whole operation to the exclusion of all other individuals, groups and organisations.

The draft also says the national register of citizenship be suitably updated after identification of the foreigners.

This updating should be done with the revision of electoral rolls. After the revision of electoral rolls by deleting the names of foreigners, the voters of Assam will be issued identity cards with their photographs affixed.

The government should recommend to the Election Commission that the next elections in Assam be held after the revision of electoral rolls by deleting the names of foreigners.

The AASU and AAGSP have demanded that harbouring of foreigners be made a criminal offence, punishable by imprisonment and fine under Section 14 of the Foreigners Act, 1946.

It has been demanded that before the two organisations call off their agitational programme, all kinds of "repressive measures" taken by the government should be withdrawn.

Six members of the All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) will leave for New Delhi tomorrow to take part in the talks on the vexed foreigners issue to be resumed on Thursday with a team of central officials, headed by the Cabinet secretary, Mr. Krishnaswami Rao Sahib, according to official sources.

The AASU executive, which met today, decided to send a three-member team for the talks and communicated its decision to the state chief secretary, Mr. Ramesh Chandra,

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