

Agitators keep off R-Day fete

SHILLONG, Jan 25 (UNI):

Agitators in Assam and Manipur are dissociating themselves from tomorrow's official Republic-Day celebrations, according to reports from Gauhati and Imphal.

The agitators in Assam have called for a "people's curfew" from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. while in Manipur, certain students' and

other organisations have called for "bandhs" of various durations.

The AASU and the AAGSP are founding off a month-long agitation programme with the "people's curfew" to press the Central Government to solve the foreigners issue early.

In Manipur, the all-Manipur students union has called for a boycott of tomorrow's celebrations with a "bandh" from 3 a.m. to 12 noon.

Mr Y Yaima Singh, Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly, is reported to have written a letter to the Deputy Commissioner (Manipur Central) a few days ago asking him not to invite him to any official function except religious ones.

Republic-Day celebrations will also be boycotted by the all-Manipur high and higher secondary students union, the Kuki National Assembly (KNA), and the Manipur committees of the CPI and the CPI(M).

The all-Manipur social reforms and development samaj has called for a 12-hour Manipur bandh from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Hundreds of women have been demonstrating almost every day in front of the Chief Minister's house complaining about the "misuse" of the security forces by his government against innocent people.

About 1,000 women assembled yesterday in front of the Chief Minister's house in this connection.

Meanwhile, preparations for the Republic-Day celebrations in Manipur have been completed by the government.

Manipur Minister's car set ablaze

IMPHAL, Jan. 25 (PTI): In a series of violent incidents five government vehicles, including the car of Manipur Education Minister, Mr K Vungzalian, were set on fire by some unidentified youths at different places here today, according to police.

The cause of the incidents was not immediately known, the police said.

14 hurt in derailment

GAUHATI, Jan. 25 (PTI): Fourteen persons were injured following the derailment of the engine and five bogies of the 10 down Arunachal Express at a place between Harmati and Tilabhar stations in the north Lakhimpur-Rangapara metre-gauge section of the N. F. Railway, around 7 a.m. today.

The accident might be the result of an act of sabotage, according to official sources here.

A relief train with medical van rushed to the accident site.

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