

Alliance Criticizes 'Partisan Act' Of Assam Governor

By A Staff Reporter
GUWAHATI, Jan. 21—The Left and Democratic Alliance has urged the President of India to dismiss the Governor of Assam for his failure to discharge duty as enshrined in the Constitution.

In a statement, Sri Sarat Chandra Sinha, leader of the Alliance, said in a meeting of the general body of the Left and Democratic Alliance held here today with Sri Golap Barborra in the chair, the "partisan act" of the Governor of Assam was vehemently criticized.

In a resolution adopted unanimously in the meeting, Sri Prakash Mehrotra, Governor of Assam was criticised as having acted as an instrument of the Congress (I). And in spite of the majority of the Left and Democratic Alliance having support of 65 members, substantiated before him, a minority Congress (I) Ministry was installed, the statement said.

It may be recalled that when the representatives of the Left and Democratic Alliance called on the President

of India at Kaziranga, on October 24 last year, the Governor, who was present there, gave the Alliance a solemn assurance in the presence of the Rastrapati that a minority ministry would never be installed and subsequently, on a number of occasions, he reiterated his assurance, the statement added.

But suddenly, throwing to the winds all his assurance, the decency and decorum of the office he holds and violating all Constitutional and Parliamentary practices, norms and conventions, the Governor stealthily installed the minority ministry at the dictation of two Central ministers who were deputed here for the purpose by the Congress (I) leadership the statement said.

The Left and Democratic Alliance strongly feels that the Governor failed to discharge his duty as Governor in term of the Constitution. He became partisan and acting as an activist of the Congress (I), exceeded his Constitutional power to install the Congress (I) ministry.

PTI adds: The President, Sri Sanjiva Reddy, has said that he would enquire from the Prime Minister about the complaint of Assam Governor, Sri Prakash Mehrotra, playing a "partisan role", Sri Dulal Chandra Barua, Deputy Leader of the Assam Janata Legislature Party, said here today.

Sri Barua said on his return from New Delhi that he along with three other leaders of the Left and Democratic Alliance met the President on January 19 and explained to him the manner in which a "minority Government" was installed in the State by the Governor.

Other members of the delegation were Sri Sarat Chandra Sinha, Sri Golap Barborra and Sri Premode Gogoi.

Sri Barua said leaders of opposition parties, whom they met in Delhi, also termed the Governor's action as "highly condemnable" and assured them that the matter would be raised at the appropriate forum.

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High Court Releases Three Employees Leaders

GUWAHATI, Jan. 21—The habeas corpus petitions filed on behalf of Sri Dinabandhu Kuntala Deka, Smti Usha Bha-Choudhury, Sri Bhairab Prasad Das and Sri Kamal Nayak were heard by a Division Bench of the High Court consisting of Sri Justice Kiran-moy Lahiri and Sri Justice Tarun Chandra Das on January 19 and 20. The High Court by judgment dated January 20 has allowed all the three habeas corpus petitions by directing the detaining authority to release the petitioners forthwith.

The cases on behalf of the petitioners assisted by Srimati on behalf of Sri Dinabandhu Kuntala Deka, Smti Usha Bha-Choudhury, Sri Bhairab Prasad Das and Sri Kamal Nayak and Smti Pritee Das. The State Government was represented by Sri Abdul Muhim Majumdar, Advocate General assisted by Sri Dhires Narayan Choudhury, Senior Government Advocate.

The cases of the petitioners have been conducted by the Citizens' Civil Liberties Association, Assam.

The High Court has held that the grounds of detention were irrelevant and had no nexus with the objection of detention. Most of the grounds were not based on the dossiers maintained by the Police authorities. It has been observed that the dossiers produced in Court did not contain any signature of any Police Officer and that the dossiers appeared to be prepared in a single sitting. It was also found that one incident mentioned in the grounds of Sri Choudhury did not appear in the dossiers.

Oral application was made on behalf of the State Government in all the three petitions for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court. The High Court has rejected the said prayer by holding that no substantial question of law of general importance arise in any of these cases.

Sri Surendra Nath Medhi ar-

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