

Collective fine on 7 Nowgong villages

GAUHATI, Jan 8 (UNI): The district magistrate of Nowgaong has imposed collective fine on inhabitants of seven villages in the district under the Assam Maintenance of Public Order Act and relevant Government notification for obstructing vehicles on the national highway and trains, official sources said today.

While collective fine of Rs 5,000 imposed in five villages, it was Rs 7,000 for the other two villages, the sources added.

During the road blockade programme called by the Assam agitators on November 30 and December 31 last year and January One this year, the villagers of these villages obstructed the movement of vehicles on the national highway and trains by setting up road blockade and indulging in stone-throwing thus affecting maintenance of supply and services of essential to the life of the community, the sources said.

The name of the villages are:— Toklai, Babejia, Semsowa, Phulaguri, Uria, Panigaon and Bheloguri.

SITUATION PEACEFUL

Our Gauhati office adds: The overall situation in the Brahmaputra Valley districts including greater Gauhati was officially described as "peaceful" and "incident-free" during the last 24 hours.

The situation in curfew-bound areas of Nowgong and Tezpur towns has been reported to be "well under control" and fast returning to normalcy.

Meanwhile, All-Assam Students' Union has renewed its appeal to the people of Assam in general and youths, students, mothers, sisters and freedom-fighters of the State to participate in massive way to the proposed "civil disobedience" programme on January 10 and 11 next.

In a statement the AASU president Mr Prafulla Mahanta and its general secretary Mr Bhriku Kumar Phukan today alleged that the Central Government wanted to crush the "peaceful and non-violent movement on foreign nationals issue" what they described as by lathis and bullets of CRP.

They asked the people to travel without tickets in government buses, trains, and ferries on both the days and also requested to come out in strength by defying

Section 144 Cr PC and face challenges of the government.

During the two days of CD movement, they also asked the people not to buy postal stamps and make no financial transactions. The cine-goers also asked not to pay amusement taxes while seeing the cinemas in two days.

NON-COOPERATION

The co-ordination committee of the All-Assam Karmachari Parishad announced today a day's non-cooperation programme on January 12 to protest against the government's delaying a solution to foreigners' issue, wanton killing of innocent employees and reign of repression let loose on the people.

The Assam Rajyik Freedom Fighters' Association today welcomed the Centre's decision to hold tripartite talks for finding a satisfactory solution to the aliens' issue but urged the Government to withdraw the CRPF and para-military forces from Assam for creating a congenial atmosphere.

The Association at its meeting here adopted a resolution deciding to lodge a complaint before the UNO and the Amnesty International regarding "suppression of civil liberties and democratic rights" by wanton use of the CRPF and others, besides the application of the ESMA on workers and leaders of the movement.

AAGSP TALKS

The central executive committee of the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) discussed today some "important organisational matters."

The Parishad sources who declined to disclose the nature of the discussion said that the question of the proposed tripartite talks on foreigners issue did not figure in the discussion since neither the All-Assam Students Union (AASU) nor the Gana Sangram Parishad had so far received any formal invitation for the talks slated for January 18.

The meeting is also understood to have reviewed the 'preparations for the two-day civil disobedience from January 10.