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Fines Levied On Seven Assam Villages

GAUHATI, Jan. 8.—The deputy commissioner of Nowgong has imposed punitive fines ranging from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000 on seven villages in the district for violent incidents there during the road blockade on December 31 and January 1, report PTI and UNI.

Official sources here said that a fine of Rs 5,000 had been imposed on Solmara, Phulaguri, Babejia, Senchowa and Uriagaon, while a fine of Rs 10,000 had been levied on Panigaon and Bhaowguri.

People at these villages allegedly prevented the movement of vehicles on the national highway and blocked railway tracks, affecting essential services.

Meanwhile, curfew was today relaxed from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Tezpur and adjoining Muratetelia, the scene of mob violence on January 3. The situation in both the places was fast returning to normal, sources added.

Employees of State and Central Government offices and institutions, including semi-Government establishments and banks, in Assam will observe a day's non-cooperation on January 12 in protest against the delay in solving the foreigners issue and the alleged "repression" on people and killing of Government employees during the current phase of the agitation.

This was announced in a Press release issued by the State-level Coordination Committee of the employees here today.

Our Correspondent in Shillong writes: The Public Demands Implementation convention, one of the important political parties in Meghalaya, yesterday condemned the "brutal and unwarranted atrocities" by the police and the Central Reserve Police on innocent people, including children and office goers throughout Assam, last week.

Expressing grave concern over the situation in the State, Mr Martin Narayan Majaw, president of the PDIC sent urgent telegrams to the President, the Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister seeking immediate Central intervention before the situation "goes out of control".

If there was no improvement in

the state of affairs in Assam, and more people were killed in police firing, he feared there might be tension again in other parts of the region.

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