

Govt. set to face stir in Assam

By Our Special Correspondent

SHILLONG, November 29.

THE army was alerted in Assam today to aid civil authorities to maintain law and order and, if necessary, to keep the major highways open in the state in view of the proposed 12-hour "rasta roko" programme beginning from 5 a.m. tomorrow.

This step was taken following a high-level conference at Dispur in the wake of the call given by the All-Assam Students' Union (AASU) and the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) for the programme. Civil, police and military officials attended the conference.

The Assam chief secretary, Mr. Ramesh Candra, said the government had taken measures to maintain law and order and to keep the highways open during the proposed "rasta roko" programme aimed at pressing the demand for an early solution to the foreign nationals issue.

He said adequate number of security forces would be deployed wherever necessary. Armed escorts would be provided in all buses and other public transport.

Meanwhile, the AASU and the AAGSP have appealed to the people of Assam to make the programme a success "to demonstrate once again their determination to uphold the sanctity of the constitution and the sovereignty of the nation and also to press the government to evolve an acceptable formula to solve the foreign nationals issue."

In a statement, Mr. Atul Bora, convener of the AAGSP, said the programme would cover all vehicles except those directly connected with the maintenance of essential services like milk, water, electricity, fire-fighting and CRP.

Meanwhile, several bomb explosions were reported from different parts of Assam today.

New leader for Assam Cong.(I)

By Our Special Correspondent

SHILLONG, November 29: The

election of a new leader of the Congress(I) legislature party in President-ruled Assam is likely to be formally held on Wednesday.

The new party leader will stake a claim to form a popular ministry in the state on the same day.

The change of Congress(I) leadership in the state has become necessary in view of the overwhelming opposition by the party legislators to the continuance of the former chief minister, Mrs. Anwara Taimur, as leader of the legislative party.

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