

IIT-Bombay students join Citizenship Bill protests

Agency Imphal, Jan 12,

The protests over the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 reached IIT-Bombay campus on Friday with the students of the prestigious institute joining the stir against the controversial Bill. Students demonstrating on IIT, Bombay campus said, "The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill is clearly violating the Assam Accord. If this unsecular and categorically anti-Assamese Bill is passed in Upper House, it will not only destroy the foundation of the Constitution of India but

will make the efforts of Assam Accord and NRC pointless and absurd." The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on January 8, seeks to grant Indian citizenship to the non-Muslims who fled religious persecution in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan and entered India before December 31, 2014. The students of the institute under the banner of Northeast Collective (NEC), has appealed to every conscious citizen of India to oppose the Bill. "This Bill advocates to grant citizenship to illegal migrants on the basis of

religion, which challenges the 'right to equality' (Article 14) provided by Indian constitution. Unfortunately, the Modi Government has been taking peculiar steps to grant citizenship to illegal immigrants on the lines of religion through the CAB," said Kaushik Talukdar, a student of IIT, Bombay, in a statement. He said the Bill has been forcefully passed in the Lok Sabha declining the secular character of our Constitution and also disregarding the historic Assam Accord. "It has the potential to demolish the cultural, social and political identity of the entire

Northeast, especially Assam," Talukdar added. "We fear that it may also ignite communal hatred among citizens of Northeast. The realization of all these factors has forced the conscious citizens of Northeast along with other parts of India to vehemently stand against the bill and oppose it in its entirety," he pointed out. Talukdar further alleged the present government is turning a blind eye to the democratic voices and protests even at the cost of dismantling the constitutional secularism and democratic values of India.

Arrested student leaders begin indefinite hunger strike in Golaghat Jail

Courtesy Ghy, Jan 12,

Three student leaders today started an indefinite hunger strike inside the district jail here demanding scrapping of Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016. Mohen Bora, general secretary of All Assam Chutia Students' Union's (AACSU), Bidyut Saikia, general secretary of Satra Mukti Sangram Samiti (SMSS) and Rajib Laskar, organizing secretary of Asom

Jatiyatabadi Yuba Parishad (AJYCP) were arrested by police on Tuesday for allegedly vandalizing the Golaghat district office of Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). "The BJP led government has shown its fascist colour and if they are thinking that by putting us behind bars they can crush our voice of protest then they are living in fool's paradise" the student leaders said in a press statement issued from inside the jail. On the other hand members of AACSU,

SMSS and various other organizations staged a sit in protest in front of the district jail demanding their immediate and unconditional release. The AACSU activists also resorted to rail blockade at Sarupathar area. They were arrested under various sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC) on the basis of the FIR lodged by Simanta Bora, secretary of district unit of BJP. "Around 8.30 am on Tuesday a group of unidentified miscreants claiming to be bandh supporters came to our district head office and forcefully entered after overpowering the house guard. They set the hoardings of Atal

Bihari Vajpayee on fire, the fatherly figure who became a source of inspiration for lakhs of BJP workers and who was respected and loved by all. The miscreants entered into our office and destroyed computer sets and damaged furniture" said Debajit Bora, district president of BJP said. "We condemned such cowardly acts and it is nothing but a conspiracy of some vested interest groups who are trying to destabilize the smooth functioning of our government. We will not tolerate this type of activity and will not let them succeed in their motive," Bora said.

Assam Rifles Celebrates National Youth Day



IT New Imphal, Jan. 12

Tulihal Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) celebrated National Youth Day with the students of Government Higher Secondary School, Wangoi on 11 January 2019. This day Marks the 156th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. As part of the celebrations the battalion conducted a declamation competition at Government Higher

Secondary School, Wangoi. The students were given opportunity to present their views on contemporary topics including role of youth in combating social problems, drug abuse and nation building. In addition the students of Class IX to XII also expressed their views on role of women in active politics and choosing Indian Armed Forces as a mode of regional development. The event provided a platform to stimulate at young minds, bring awareness amongst the

youth on various social problems and motivate the young generation to assist and accord their valuable contribution towards Nation building. The students and school staff appreciated the effort of the Assam Rifles for organising the competition and the students vowed their contribution for brighter times ahead. The event culminated with prize distribution to the best speakers followed by refreshments for all.

Assam Rifles Seizes Narcotics Worth 92.4 Lakhs

IT New Imphal, Jan. 12

In the series of apprehensions and recovery, Tengenoual Battalion seized drugs worth Rs 92.4 lakhs on 10th January 2019 from Permanent Vehicle Check post, Khudenthabi. On 10th January 2019 at 1900 hours the troops of Tengenoual Battalion were cautiously checking the vehicles crossing through the check post. The team checked a heavily loaded Maruti Van bearing registration number MN 02 B 5817 and found Narcotics items concealed under the baggage. Three individuals including one lady, one driver and one co-driver were travelling in the vehicle from Moreh



to Imphal. The lady during questioning accepted the responsibility of transporting drugs from Moreh to Imphal. The lady was found carrying 324 grams of brown sugar worth Rs 32.4 lakhs and 300 grams of heroin worth Rs 60 lakhs and thereafter was

apprehended and handed over to NAB, Imphal for illegal smuggling of drugs. The Battalion is resolute to prevent smuggling of narcotics contraband items through the area of responsibility and subsequently to prevent youth of the country from digressing on the path of drug abuse.

SP, BSP announce tie-up sans Congress for Lok Sabha polls, to contest 38 seats each in UP

Agency Lucknow, Jan 12

Once-arch rivals Samajwadi Party (SP) and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) announced Saturday their tie-up in Uttar Pradesh for the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, sharing 38 seats each and keeping the Congress out of the alliance. The parties, however, said they would not field candidates in Amethi and Rae Bareilly, represented by Congress president Rahul Gandhi and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi. They also left two seats, out of 80, for smaller allies. Making the announcement at a joint press conference with SP president Akhilesh Yadav here, BSP chief Mayawati said, "This...will rob 'guru-chela' — Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president Amit Shah — of their sleep." "I have full confidence that just as our alliance

defeated the BJP in the Lok Sabha bypolls, we will crush the saffron party in the general elections," she said, referring to the BJP's defeat in Phulpur, Gorakhpur and Kairana parliamentary bypolls. Explaining why the Congress was not included in the alliance, she said that during the Congress rule over the years, poverty, unemployment and corruption grew and there had been scams in various defence deals. She also said that in case of a tie-up with the Congress in the past, the party did not benefit. "In the past I have seen that our votes get transferred to the Congress, but not vice-versa. We do not gain from alliance with Congress, whereas vote transfer is perfect in SP-BSP tie-up," Mayawati said. Drawing a parallel between the BJP and the Congress, Mayawati said

the Congress had imposed the Emergency while the BJP is responsible for an undeclared Emergency. The joint press conference was held at a posh hotel here after top leadership of both the parties had met in New Delhi recently to discuss broad parameters of the alliance to take on the BJP unitedly in the Lok Sabha elections. In 2014, the BJP had won 71 seats in Uttar Pradesh while its ally Apna Dal bugged two. The Samajwadi Party won 5 seats and the Congress two, while the BSP drew a blank. Reacting to the development, senior BJP leader and Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said, "The SP and BSP have allied neither for the country nor for Uttar Pradesh, but for their survival. They know they cannot fight Modi on their own and their opposition to him is the sole base of their alliance.

Head of govt nominated panel on Assam quits

Agency New Delhi, Jan 12

Former Union tourism secretary M P Bezbaruah, who was appointed as the head of a government nominated committee to assess the quantum of seats to be reserved in the Assam Assembly for the Assamese, has declined the offer. Bezbaruah is the fifth member of the high-level panel who has refused to be a part of the committee, which will also assess the quantum of seats to be reserved in the local bodies in Assam for the Assamese people besides providing other safeguards. "I have conveyed to the Home Ministry that it is untenable for me to continue in the committee when the representatives of the civil society refused to be part of the committee. Being head of a committee, without civil society members, does not make any sense," Bezbaruah told Agency.

January 6 under Clause 6 of the 1985 Assam Accord, to protest against the Citizenship Amendment Bill, which they said posed a threat to Assamese culture and identity. Others nominated to be a part of the panel included former IAS officer Subhash Das, former editor of The Sentinel Dharendra Nath Bezbaruah and advocate general of Assam Ramesh Borpatragohain. The joint secretary in the home ministry was nominated as the member secretary.

The Citizenship Amendment Bill, already passed by the Lok Sabha, seeks to grant Indian nationality to people belonging to minority communities — Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians — in Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan after six years of residence in India instead of 12, even if they don't possess any proper document. The facility is available for those who had entered India till December 31, 2014. Is was an election promise of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 2014. The Assam Accord provides for deportation of anyone, irrespective of religion, who had come to the state after March 24, 1971.

Contd. from page 2

"Humane Journey into....."

He also delivered Manipur. Apart from the broad politico-economic framework he also looked for the regional social and cultural factors that facilitated these unique stages of social formations. You will kindly notice that I have so far consciously avoided getting into any theoretical exercise because my immediate purpose in the present narrative was to reflect back on my various field journey from time to time covering almost a period of more than 30 years of engagement in research in cultural anthropology. I need not emphasise before this erudite gathering the important academic alliance between the historians and the anthropologists which is necessary while exploring the common grounds in the

study of human society and culture. If by any chance, even minimally, any such context has emerged out of my narrative, so very loosely portrayed here, and Prof. Kamei's theoretical treatment, imaginatively speaking, giving a shape towards the explanations of these varied social, economic, cultural and political formations pointed out in the preceding pages, Gangmumei would have blessed us from his resting place, for taking up his academic cause with the possibilities of application of this knowledge for a successful and meaningful social transformation. Thank you ladies and gentlemen for kindly lending my your patience. Wish you a very happy New Year 2019.

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Assam University restrict rally, protest and any kind of agitation inside the Unioversty campus