

Gorkhas of Assam extends support to Gorkhaland demand



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Nanda Kirati Dewan 16 July 2008 198602 views

Chief spokesperson of Gorkha Autonomous Council Demand Committee (GACDC) the political wing of All Assam Gorkha Students' Union (AAGSU) in Assam Mr. Purna Chetri speaking as a Special Guest of Honour at the 194th Bhanu Jayanti and 1st Bi-nennial Conference of Bokajan Regional Committee of AAGSU at Talbalijan Birsa Munda Mini Stadium, Sariahajan (Bokajan) in Karbianglong extended full co-operation to the Gorkhaland statehood demand in West Bengal. He added that the culture, tradition and language of Gorkhas no where resemble the counterpart Bengalis so there is no means of staying

within the same geographical entity. For the larger interest of Gorkhas the Govt. of West Bengal and Govt. of India should create Gorkhaland within the territory of West Bengal at the earliest possible without further involving in blood shedding politics. He informed the media and the general people that AAGSU and GACDC two apex bodies of Gorkhas of Assam in a resolution have supported the statehood demand of Gorkhaland. He even called upon the state government to fulfill its promise of providing Gorkha Development Council for the all-round development of Gorkhas of Assam. It needs to mention here that over the past few years after the silver jubilee of 1976 born All Assam Gorkha Students' Union (AAGSU), the student body has been demanding Gorkha Autonomous Council (GAC) within the territory of Assam on satellite basis meanwhile the Chief Minister of Assam Tarun Gogoi declared January 21st in the open session of Assam Gorkha Sammelan at Digboi to provide Gorkha Development Council along with six other agitating communities.

Addressing as Chief Guest Dil Bahadur Limboo, President All Assam Gorkha Students' Union (AAGSU) recalled the contributions of veteran Freedom fighter Babu Chabilal Upadhyay whose contribution went unrecorded in the History of Assam. He said that it was Chabilal Upadhyay under whose presidentship the then Assam Association was converted into now Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) whose product is our CM Tarun Gogoi. But then the ruling Congress has forgotten the contribution of this particular person who is equivalent to Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi. He lamented that the Govt. of Assam refused to even stand a bronze statue of the veteran leader at his birth place in Tezpur meanwhile airport, roads and several statues of his colleague Gopinath Bordoloi has been raised. It is a conspiracy hatched to uproot the identity of Gorkhas in Assam he added

He even reiterated that the Gorkhas of Assam have always been very

loyal to their motherland so they even called Assamese as their mother tongue at the call Ambikagiri Rai Choudhury as there was threat from Bengali language to the existence of Assamese as official language. Socially, economically, politically, culturally and even historically the Gorkhas have contributed for the cause of Assam and at large India. On the august occasion of birth anniversary of a great poet he paid his heartfelt homage and called up[on youth to follow good ideologies of great personalities.

Earlier delivering his keynote address Harkha Bahadur Chetri, President, Gorkha Autonomous Council Demand Committee (GACDC) said that demand of Gorkha Autonomous Council is result of Government failure of resolving our other small demands to identify Gorkhas as 1st class citizen in Assam. He called upon the youth to prepare for democratic protest to achieve their identity of being the 1st class historically contributing Gorkha community in Assam. He said that Gorkhas of Assam are the siblings of those who became a part of sovereign India after the historic 1816 Sagooly treaty between East India Company and Nepal monarch where in a large part of then Nepal upto Goalpara of now Assam was inducted into India for administrative reforms. Technically to divide and rule and always question the citizenship the Gorkhas the Indo Nepal friendship Treaty was signed in 1950 by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru the 1st prime minister of independent India with then Nepal monarch. AAGSU had earlier demanded withdrawal of clauses vi and vii of Indo Nepal Friendship Treaty (1950) and issue passport visa system for reciprocal visit by the citizen of either countries so that genuine Indian Gorkhas citizenship is not questioned and smelt over frequent visit by the foreigners from the neighborhood. GACDC is committed to create Gorkha Autonomous Council to solve all problems and issues, he added. 28 members organization of Peoples Committee for Peace Initiative in Assam(PCPIA) have extended moral and a few have given written assurance in

support of Gorkha Autonomous Council.

The open session thronged by more than 5500 people was attended by Biren Singh Engti the only MP from the Autonomous Hills District K/A and NC Hills, Mangal Singh Engti Chief Executive Member (CEM) Karbianglong Autonomous Council(KAAC) who answered the queries of student leaders , Pitambar Gurung President, Bharatiya Gorkha Parisangha, Assam State Committee and several other dignitaries including representatives of students' union of all communities of Assam. All the leaders echoed in same voice and extended full support to creation of Gorkha Autonomous council in Assam.

Nanda Kirati Dewan

Nanda Kumar Dewan is our Senior Journalist covering Community Development & International Relations. He is a Mass Communication & Journalism graduate from Sikkim Manipal University (SMU). He started his journalism career with UB Photos News agency in 2006 as News Photo Caption Editor and Photojournalist. He has been associated with Assam Times since it's inception and today is a part of our editorial team.

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