

Protection Forum for Bengalee Hindus of Assam

Proceedings of the Thematic Convention held on Saturday the 4th December, 2010 at Lakhiram Baruah Sadan, Guwahati-1 under the Chairmanship of Shri Manas Choudhury, MLA, Meghalaya & Advisor of the Protection Forum to discuss and adopt resolutions pertaining granting of natural citizenship to Hindus in India and stoppage of persecution of Bengalee Hindus as foreigners in Assam. List of participants is enclosed in Annexure-II.

Shri Kamal Dutta on behalf of the Protection Forum for Bengalee Hindus of Assam welcome all participants including Dr. Hitendra Nath Goswami, General Secretary, Central Committee of the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP); Shri Ajit Bhattacharjee, General Secretary, State Unit of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP); Shrimati Bakul Ghosh, Secretary, Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (INC); Shri Ajoy Dutta, Ex-MLA, Assam.

In his welcome speech, Shri Kamal Dutta narrated that leading Bengalee Hindu citizens under the banner of Protection Forum for Bengalee Hindus of Assam had submitted Memorandum dtd. 26.03.2010 to Prime Minister, with copy to Union Home & Law Ministers and Governor & Chief Minister, Assam and prominent political parties, individuals of the country, against persecution of Bengalee Hindus as foreigners. It had also drawn attention to the legal and statutory provisions including proviso to Section 2 of the Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act 1950 and commitment of national leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru and others during partition of India in this matter. Specific instances (only deportation and detention in jail in Annexure-II) were also presented on indiscriminate persecution of Bengalee Hindus on being dubbed as foreigners (Bangladeshi) on issuing quit India notices/ or referring to Tribunals, or being deported by the police without any order of the Foreigners' Tribunal or competent authority, or being dumped in the detention camp for years together (a person cannot be detained indefinitely) without verifying their status or giving transparent opportunity to defend self-propelled police notice as foreigner, or caring for the fate of the dependent family members in spite of Supreme Court verdict in favor of Immigrant (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950 in the matter of Sarbananda Sonowal vs Union of India against IMDT Act, 1984. As reported in the press, some people have lost mental balance, committed suicide or women are abused in the detention camp. Most of them have valid records of being Indian citizens. All these are gross violation of the laws of the land, constitutional and human rights. The poor Bengalee Hindus are not able to meet expenses of fighting litigation, engage lawyers, and appear with witness frequently or are occasionally subjected to persecution based on ex-parte maneuvered records. There is no provision for appeal. Only alternative is to approach the High Court in Writ jurisdiction which is expensive. There also they fail to get justice. Some are being deported during pendency of the disposal of justice in the Writ application.

The representatives of the Forum also met individually to Ministers, Governor, officials at Delhi and Guwahati and tried to persuade the state machinery to stop persecution of Bengalee Hindus and to grant natural citizenship. Forum had pointed out that long before 1947; Bengalees have been residing in Assam. They are Indians. A section of Bengalee Hindu migrated to India from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) due to civil disturbances in East Pakistan has been residing in Assam. They are Indians under section 6A of the Citizenship Act. Even if any fraction has migrated to Assam after 1971, they are protected under proviso to Section 2 of the Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act 1950. Bengalee Hindus are not responsible for partition of India. They also have got no secondary home land except India. They fought

for independence too. Fruits of Independence are to be shared by all, as assured by national leaders without any time frame. Forum had demanded that if Hindu migrants from Pakistan could be provided citizenship in Gujarat and Rajasthan, as per Citizenship Amendment Act, 2004, why not Hindu migrants from Bangladesh should be treated at par in India.

At this back drop, Protection Forum has proposed under mentioned two resolutions:

- (1) The Government of India shall be pleased to move suitable legislation conferring citizenship to any Hindu who has migrated and to be migrated to any part of the territory of India due to religious persecution at any time from Bangladesh and uniform laws for grant of citizenship to both East Bengal (Bangladesh) and West Pakistan displaced persons without discrimination.***
- (2) The Government of Assam is requested to stop intimidation, repression, deportation of Bengalee Hindu who were detained in various detention camps, jails and police custody and to release them and withdraw all cases/ suits pending in the Tribunals and High Court unconditionally and to rehabilitate them.***

Shri Sahadev Das introduced few victims, their family members physically and narrated horrible tale of oppression in the name of detecting and deportation of foreigners in Assam. All of them have valid documents of being Indian citizen. Few of them are Mihir Saha of Malda from Guwahati; son (Bijoy Das) of Satyban and Malati Das (both detained in jail for more than last 1 year-one in Goalpara and other in Kokrajhar jail), brother and 6 year old daughter (Susmita) of Kalyani Roy Choudhury of Boko, Kamrup (Rural) at Goalpara Jail, Family member of Jadav Das and Niyoti Das; Son (Biswajit) of Sukumar Das from Khetri, Kamrup detained in Goalpara Jail from January,2010; wife of detained Himangshu Sarkar of Jyotikuchi (Dopolia), Guwahati; Animesh Paul of Lanka, founder teacher and employee of ASEB and others. The list of personnel presence of victims also include Gopal Chandra Saha from Goalpara, Motilal Basak, Montu Sarkar , Promod Saha from Krishnai and others. Shri Sahadev Das explained the details of violation of legal provisions and demanded immediate legal and humanitarian protection.

Shri Ajoy Dutta spoke on the contribution of Bengalees in the all round development of Assam. He also narrated the obligations towards the people, victim of separation of part of Sylhet district of Assam and subsequent exodus of displaced persons to rest part of the same state. He also reminded the role played by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in retaining major part of Assam in India. He supported aforesaid two resolutions. Dr. Hitendra Nath Goswami, in his address pointed that the era of misunderstanding between Assamese and Bengalees is now almost over. He supported the resolution on granting natural citizenship to Hindus in India without any discrimination between migrants of Pakistan and Bangladesh. He pleaded little ignorance on the atrocities towards Bengalee Hindus. As regard withdrawal of court cases against Bengalee Hindus, he expressed reservation, considering sub-judiciary state, and promised to take up the matter at party forum for necessary consideration. Shri Ajit Bhattacharjee spoke on the steps taken by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which includes meeting Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and Shri L.K.Advani by Shrimati Sushama Swaraj, (Leader of opposition); along with Shrimati Bijoya Chakraborty,(M.P. and National Vice-President of the party), Shri Kabindra Purkayastha,M.P. ; Shri Rajen Gohain, M.P.; Shri Ranjit Dutta, (M.L.A & President of the State Unit), Shri Mission Das, M.L.A.

He also informed that as per advice, amendment of relevant laws for granting citizenship had been drafted by the party legal cell and placed before central leaders for placing in the Parliament. He also unconditionally landed his party's support to the resolutions. Shrimati Bakul Ghose in her speech expressed her unpreparedness, as being not timely invited. However she promised that she will take up the issues with the Congress party both at state and national level. Being a member of the Women's Commission, she promised that she will take up the matter at appropriate level, if she receives any complaint in this regard.

Shri Manas Choudhury in his address from chair, handed over press report on atrocities to one woman named Durga at Karimganj Detention Camp to Shrimati Bakul Ghosh. Shri Choudhury lamented the absence of Bengalee Minister of the state, Shri Gautam Roy and Shri Bijoy Krishna Nath, Chairperson of the Sate Linguistic Minorities Board in the Convention, in spite of being cordially invited. He requested them, as being guardian, not to remain indifferent to the cause of Bengalee Hindus and fervently expected that they will attend to the need of the Bengalee Hindu community in future. He urged upon all not to politicalize and dilute the issue and to render humanitarian service in united manner. He pointed out that post-independence 'Assam' includes Nagaland, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh etc. and due to which he volunteered to approach various levels under the banner of the Protection Forum for Bengalee Hindus of Assam. However, he stressed the need for coordination among Bengalee Hindus living in the present North East India.

Shri Jyotirmoy Choudhury presented the aforesaid two resolutions which were accepted. The members wish that the copy of the accepted resolutions be sent to all those concerned for its effective implementation. Various speakers including Sarbashree Pramesh Chakraborty, Bishnu Bhattacharjee, Promila Chakraborty, Tapas Dey, Jagabandhu Das, Madan Ghosh, Hiralal Choudhury, Rajmohan Das, Samir Saha, Nirmalendu Das, Ajit Dey, Kishore Choudhury, Ashim Mitra, Gopal Mazumder, Manindra Roy, Sudipta Bhattacharjee and others participated in the discussions. The meeting also decided to hold a convention encompassing north-east India on 20th February, 2011 and for the purpose Shri Kamal Dutta, Shri Monoj Bhattacharjee, Shri Iresh Bhattacharjee, Shri Kishore Choudhury, Shri Subal Kar, Shri Sudipta Bhattacharjee were requested to act as convenor to sort out preliminary stage of preparation. Shri Arunesh Deb Roy stressed the need for immediate legal steps to counter all sorts of persecution. Various suggestions like visit to jails, rendering humanitarian and legal relief to the family of the victims, formation of legal relief cell in each district, formation of strong network among members of Bengalee Hindu community, sensitization at various levels including human rights organizations. The members also appreciated support of All India Bengalee Udbastu coordination committee led by its President Dr. Subodh Biswas, Nagpur (present in the meeting) and Dr. Richard L. Benin, President, Forcefield of Interfaith Strength, major non-agenda driven human rights organization of USA (vide <http://www.interfaithstrength.blogspot.com/>). Vote of thanks was offered by Shri Iresh Bhattacharjee wherein he gratefully remembered the contribution of Shri Somesh Ranjan Bhattacharjee, the invisible architect of the present move. He also offered vote of thanks to the chair, delegates, victims, media and all those who contributed greatly for holding the thematic convention in a very short notice. The convention ended with thanks from the chair.

Sd/ Chairperson

Annexure-I

Specific instance of extreme persecution (list include only deported or detained in jail)

FT : WP	Name	District	Process stage- Jail/deportation
114/07:1240/10	Profulla Sarkar	Kamrup (Metro)	Goalpara (from 11/09)
443/07: 1069/10	Uma Biswas	Lakhimpur	-do-
90/07: 2745/10	Bali Biswas	-do-	-do-
72/08: 2740/10	Sandhya Rani Biswas	-do-	-do-
599/07	Ganesh Dey	-do-	-do-
:738/10	Satyban Das(Husband)	Kamrup (Rural)	-do-(from 15/1/10)
:733/10	Malati Das (wife)	-do-	Kokrajhar
:3859/10	Kalyani Roy Choudhury	-do-	Goalpara(from 14/11/09)
1063/G/06	Basana Saha Das	Goalpara	Kokrajhar
416/G/06	Benu Kumar Moitra	-do-	Goalpara
327/06	Sefali Saha (wife)	-do-	To be deported
	Kamana Acharjee & family	-do-	To be deported
463/06	Sabitra Das	-do-	Goalpara
:5558/09	Pabitra Saha & family	-do-	To be deported
1064/06	Uttam Das	-do-	Goalpara
606/07	Sadhan Das	Hojai	Deported
MC2780/0:WA143441	Ramal Biswas	Morigaon	Deported before verdict
MC2631/08:WA6326/00	Dinesh Saha	Hojai	Deported before verdict

Annexure-II

Thematic Convention organised by Protection Forum for Bengalee Hindus of Assam at Guwahati (LRB Sadan) on 4 December,2010- Participants with telephone no., as recorded

Manoj Bhattacharjee	Dimapur	9436012078	Monoranjan Saha	Basista	9864187764
S.K.Saha	Dimapur	9436003737	Nirjharendu Bhattacharjee	Dispur	9435113398
Bishnu Bhattacharjee	Dimapur	9436003239	Gopendra Bijoy Pandit	Lalganesh	9707021887
Sishir Bhowmik	Dimapur	9436004495	Ajoy Biswas	Karbi Anglong	9957816899
Bivash Purkayastha	Dimapur	9436003180	Prabhat Roy	Karbi Anglong	9954260856
Tapash Biswas	Dimapur	9436260026	R.N.Bhattacharjee	Udalbhakra	9435406896
Samiran Bishnu	Dimapur	9426014679	N.K.Chakraborty	Rehabari	9864010603
Shiba Prasad Lodh	Lumding	9435366435	Shivajee Bhardwaj	Chandmari	9957079240
Saroj Chakraborty	Lumding	9854982390	Ranendu Bisnard	Shillong	9435522736
Animesh Paul	Lanka	9401678789	T.Bhattacharjee	Shillong	9436101987
Pradip Deb Nath	Hojai	9435168713	D.K.Bhattacharjee	Shillong	9863089897
Sukumar Das	Hojai	9435169090	A.D.Purkayashta	Shillong	9436119814
Mani shankar Das	Hojai	9864365567	Samsher Mazumder	Guwahati	9435106540
Madan Ghosh	Hojai	9435168476	Dipankar Sen	Shillong	9774032052
B. Sarkar	Hojai	9577287618	N.R.Das	Guwahati	9435730990
Subimal Biswas	Odalbhakra	9954011868	S.Sinha	Guwahati	9435558874
Ratan Gopal Saha	Odalbhakra	9435111181	Dipak Sarkar	Guwahati	9864093618
C.R.Dey	Odalbhakra	9956702170	Ranjit Bhattacharjee	Guwahati	9957173728
Hiralal Choudhury	Odalbhakra	9954938374	Shambhu Kundu	Guwahati	
Iresh Bhattacharjee	Guwahati	9435342305	Sudip Sarma Choudhury	Rehabari	9435220070
Rajat Paul	Guwahati	9401449749	Gopal Ranjan Mazumder	Krishnai	
Ranjit Bhattacharjee	Lalganesh	9957173728	Manindra Roy	Guwahati	0361-2471540
Ramkrishna Ghosh		9435100085	Kartik Chandra karmakar	Krishnai	9854701993

Sunil Sikdar	Odalbhakra	9864080526	Bishnu Bhattacharjee	Dimapur	9436003239
Badal Chandra Dey	Rowta	9435921491	Sukpal Mazumdar	Guwahati	9854482740
Bivash Das Purkayastha	Adabari	9435042684	Santosh Kr. Deb	Guwahati	0361-2471317
Ajit Kr. Bhattacharjee	Dispur	9435070213	Pradip Kumar Roy	Guwahati	9435340717
Sumit Das	Kalapahar	9864032518	Nirmalendu Das	Guwahati	9577813394
Bishnupada Dutta	Shillong	9436730440	Paritosh Saha	Krishnai	9854777721
Arunesh Deb Roy	Hengrabari	9435609671	Tarapada Sarkar		
Subimal Chakraborty	Dispur	9435140454	Kama Devi		
H.N.Goswami	Guwahati		Bakul Ghose	Maligaon	9435116050
Dilip Shyam	Kolkata	9674455000	Ajit Das	Karbi Anglong	9435684817
Pranita Chakraborty	Diphu	9954833244	Sushanta Dey	Karbi Anglong	9401165908
Ajit Kumar Dey	Diphu	9435787992	Phani Das	Bakalia	9401179952
Ajoy Kumar Dutta	Guwahati	9435548465	Mintu Das	Bakalia	
Ajoy Majumder	Lumding	9854160003	Khogen Baishya	Kahilipara	9864406844
Jyotirmoy Choudhury	Lalganesh	9864077687	Tribeni Chakraborty	Hedayetpur	0361-2664518
Tapash Das	Lumding	9435366451	Sekhar Dey	Guwahati	9864052052
Dipak Dutta	Nagaon	9864221754	Kushendra Biswas	Karbi Anglong	9678868758
Sujit Das	Nagaon	9864163642	Ajoy Biswas	Karbi Anglong	9957816899
Gopal Krishna Dhar	Dispur	9435553312	Prabhat Namasudra	Karbi Anglong	9954680856
Ashok Sarkar	Diphu	9435315794	Rabindra Barai	Guwahati	9864083099
Pradip Kumar Ghosh	Atgaon	9864051119	Gautam Patikar	Maligaon	9864018180
Sukumar Ghosh	Diphu	7896201417	Debeswar Roy	Karbi Anglong	
Tapan Kumar Deb	Ulubari	9435012012	Rajmohan Das	Karbi Anglong	9678869146
jagabandhu Das	Diphu	9435315993	Sushil Sarkar		
Ajit Dey	Diphu	9435787992	Rabindra Biswas	Karbi Anglong	9957967830
Pramila Chakraborty	Diphu	9859129789	Chandradhar Biswas	Karbi Anglong	
Ajoy Das	Diphu	9401144624	Sudhanshu Das	Guwahati	9957863757
Pratik Bagchi	Ulubari	9706077575	Swapan Kumar Naha	Guwahati	9954396512
Kishore Choudhury	Diphu	9435652084	Dibakar Acharjee	Karbi Anglong	9957340504
Animesh Majumder	Bhangagarh	9864055164	Ajoy Das	Kheroni	9401144626
Radhesyam Das	Basista	9706457288	Sushanta Dey	Karbi Anglong	9401165908
N.Bhattacharjee	Shillong	9436161531	Ajit Das	Kheroni	9435684817
Sahadev Das	Guwahati	9864303208	Papp Namasudra		9954501278
N.Deka	Jhalukbari	9678168046	Jadav Roy	Karbi Anglong	9577358833
Kusendra Das	Karbi Anglong	9678868758	Nikhil Biswas	Karbi Anglong	9678111926
Sudhir Biswas	Karbi Anglong		Gopal Bose	Krishnai	
Alok Roy	Kampur	9706353432	Krishna Saha	Krishnai	
Sanjoy Chandra Das	Guwahati	9954759803	Subal kar	Krishnai	9707670368
Paresh Biswas	Birubari	9401723062	Sunil Paul	Krishnai	9854731224
Khudiram Mandal	Ulubari	9435018901	Ananda Saha	Krishnai	
Sankar Das	Udalbhakra	8876512233	Gopal mazumder	Krishnai	986476017
Rana Sengupta	Guwahati	8011223386	Ganesh karmakar	Krishnai	
Gour Das Roy	Guwahati	9854522976	Jayanta Saha	Krishnai	9859557979
Arabinda Gurka	Guwahati	9435147661	Nirendra Chandra Paul	Kamakhya Col	9854066777
Dilip Roy	Guwahati	9954493380	Gopal Basak	Krishnai	9577716554
Chittaranjan Majumder	Uttar Barbil		Amaresh Roy	Karimganj	9435075864
Pranatosh Roy	Paltanbazar	9864022310	Debabrata Bose	Guwahati	9864104469
K.Sharma	Odalbhakra		Gobinda Dev	Krishnai	9864768773
M.Ghosh	Odalbhakra	9508167174	Ajit sarkar	Krishnai	
T.Biswas	Dimapur	9436260026	kalu Das	Krishnai	

Suman Roy	Guwahati	9707458244	Gopal Saha	Krishnai	9854701993
Biplab Dey	Guwahati	9864035063	Jayanta Saha	Krishnai	9859557979
Rai Mohan Das	Uttar Bill KA		Kanu Saha	Krishnai	9854901438
Birendra Majumder	Uttar Bill KA		Naren Karmakar	Krishnai	9864258808
Chandan Das	Howraghat	9678111179	Paritosh Saha	Krishnai	9854777721
Pijush Das	Uttar Bill KA		Subhash saha	Krishnai	
Chittaranjan Majumder	Uttar Bill KA		Jyotirindra M karmakar	Krishnai	9854701993
Dhaneswar Mazumder	Uttar Bill KA		Shusma Roy	Krishnai	9864346018
Niranjan Mazumder	Uttar Bill KA		Tarpada Sarkar	Krishnai	
Becharam Das	Uttar Bill KA		Mantu Saha	Krishnai	
Manindra Das	Uttar Bill KA		Dulal Bhowmik	Krishnai	
Mihir Majumder	Uttar Bill KA		Kartik Saha	Krishnai	
Sushil Sarkar	Uttar Bill KA		Bura Saha	Krishnai	
Manik Nath	Uttar Bill KA		Uttam Das	Krishnai	
santosh Nath	Howraghat	967841161	Ranjit Das	Krishnai	9854731224
Norottam Mazumder	Howraghat	995766372	Suvash Das	Krishnai	9863526323
Shyam das	Uttar Bill KA		Sabitri Das	Krishnai	
Sushil Nath	Uttar Bill KA		Dr. Subodh Biswas	Nagpur	9422128897
Prankrishna Kar	Hojai	9435369857	Sajal Kumar Mallick	Kolkata	9831021908
Biswajit Ghosh	Hojai	9435169713	Dr. S.K.Biswas	Jalpaiguri	9832383175
Prabir Dutta	Hojai	9435168548	Dr. Hitendra Nath Goswami	Guwahati	9954006502
Kajal Chandra Dutta	Hojai		Manas Choudhury	Shillong	9436103202
Subodh Paul	Hojai		Sudipta Bhattacharjee	Guwahati	9954497322
Partha Ghosh	Hojai	9435568077	Shankar Chakraborty (L)	Guwahati	9613890284
Anil Tarafdar			Kamalaksha Sinha(L)	Guwahati	9435107859
Sousanga Deb Nath	Hojai		Dr. G. Senapati(L)	Guwahati	361-2383172
Sankar Saha	Hojai		Nripati Dhar Choudhury (L)	Guwahati	9954759480
Sujit Chandra Dey	Hojai	9706557980	Media		
Krishna Karmakar	Hojai	9706118062	Biju Phukan Das	Adinor Sombad	9859848530
Dilip Sarkar	Hojai	9957212324	Palash Khaund	Amar Asom	9854906073
Archana Dey	Hojai	9954902372	Monoranjan Das	D. Pratibedan	9707568862
Mithun Saha	Goalpara	9613733015	S.S. Choudhury	Sangbad Lahari	9435220070
Tarini Kalita	S.B.Guwahati	9854350925	Sikhamoni Devi	N.E.TV	9706399659
Subir Sarkar	Guwahati	9435195848	Sasadhar Kalita	N.E.TV	
Mohan Ch. Baruah	S.B.Guwahati		D.J.Dhanantari	D.Janasadharan	9613377687
Shyam Chandra Saha	Krishnai		Rupak Das	D.Janasankha	9854700825
Mantu Kumar Saha	Krishnai	9957881964	Reshmi Paul	Sangbad Lahari	

Proceedings of the Thematic Convention circulated to all concerned for information and necessary action:

Kamal Dutta,

On behalf of the **Protection Forum for Bengalee Hindus of Assam, Guwahati.**

Ph: +91-9435168473, 9435195848, 9864077687, 9435342305

Email: protectionforumhindu@gmail.com