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Demand for OPS instead of NPS raised



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Guwahati: Since 1 February 2005, Assam government has implemented the National Pension Scheme (NPS) for the government employees. All Assam Government NPS Employees' Association terms it an anti-employee policy and a mockery in the name of pension. The Union government, instead of restoring the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), has taken initiatives to replace the NPS with a new one named Universal Pension Scheme (UPS).

The third biennial conference of the association, held on 24 August at Rupnagar in the city strongly opposed this move and demanded the reintroduction of the OPS. President Achyutananda Hazarika and general secretary Apurba Sharma announced that from next month the association will launch a massive democratic movement in favour of their demand across the State.

Attending the Inaugurating the programme, Shri Chandan Kakoti, President of the Assam Secretariat Service Association, assured efforts to extend full cooperation from the Secretariat Association in the future and appealed to other organizations to come forward with solidarity.

Addressing the conference, Professor Jagadish Chandra Goswami strongly criticized the government stating that while the ministers and legislators enjoy benefits of OPS, the government employees are being forced into the uncertainty of NPS.

Participating as a distinguished guest, Rajiv Kumar Bora, former chairman of Assam Administrative Tribunal, observed that if the finance department calculates properly, there should be no difficulty in granting the OPS to employees.

Another guest Dilip Kumar Bora, retired IPS officer, commented that there is a malicious attempt to portray government employees as extremely corrupt and anti-people. He appealed to the employees to give a befitting reply through their dedicated work and services.

The current president and general secretary of the association were also elected for the next two years. The session also resolved to form a welfare fund for ensuring the security and well-being of the employees at their workplaces in the coming days.



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