
Tea garden locked out after attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Jalpaiguri: The management of the Huldibari tea estate in Banarhat announced a lock-out in the garden from Thursday, a day after a section of workers had assaulted the manager and paraded him with a garland of shoes for around 5km.

The lockout has left around 1,150 permanent workers and 1,000-odd temporary labourers jobless.

"..in a situation where the management is unable to carry out its administrative function in a normal and peaceful manner, and there being serious apprehension of threat to the life of the managerial personnel and damages to the company's property, the management is left with no other alternative but to declare lock out of Huldibari tea estate with immediate effect," reads the notice.

Jyoti Munda, a trade union leader of the garden, said the manager's misbehaviour had led to the situation.

"He always insults the workers and misbehaves with them. That is why the workers got agitated. We don't want the garden to close down but want the management to bring in a new person to the manager's post," said Munda.