

## Adivasi Martyrs' Day observed



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Shajid Khan 25 July 2017 Updated 26 Jul 8812 views

“If there is any [community](#) in the State which is exploited and deprived economically and socio-politically, it is none other than the [Adivasi community](#).” This was observed by Rihon Daimari, State Food and Civil Supply and PHE Minister at [Orangajuli](#) market complex ground in [Udalguri](#) on Tuesday. Daimari attended the open session [as chief](#) guest marking the killings of eight protesters who died of bullet wounds during a 12-hour strike to demand [ST](#) status for Adivasis, way back in July 25, 2003.

Daimari said that the sacrifice of those eight protesters would be an inspiration for generations to come. Their sacrifice will not go in vain. The [Adivasi community](#) will reap its fruits, he said. Referring to the long-pending issue of [ST](#) status to [Adivasi](#) people of the State, Daimari said, “BPF has always supported the demand for [ST](#) status to Adivasis. [Hagrama Mohilary](#) has wholeheartedly supported the issue for the cause of Adivasis,” said Daimari.

Lauding the All [Adivasi](#) Students’ Association of Assam (AASAA) for its efforts in uplift of the [Adivasi community](#), he said, “AASAA has always raised its voice and worked for the cause of the [Adivasi](#) people.”

Referring to the inadequate healthcare facilities and poor education scenario in tea gardens of the [State](#), Daimari stated that the government [welfare](#) policies could not reach people living in tea gardens due to the detrimental policies of tea garden management. The schools in tea gardens could not be undertaken by the government due to the policies of tea garden management.

He further stated that Adivasis should empower themselves with the tool of education. He emphasized on need of education and self-sustainability through change in work culture. He also stated that potable drinking water schemes would be introduced in tea garden areas [soon](#). He also stressed on the importance of sanitation and hygiene in tea garden areas.

On behalf of AASAA, Daimari also extended financial aid to the kin of the martyrs. Talking on the sidelines of the programme, Pradeep Na,g president AASAA CEC, said that 14 years had passed but justice was yet to be delivered to the family of the martyrs. The kins of the martyrs have been deprived of government compensations till date. The programme was organized by All [Adivasi](#) Students' Association (AASAA) [Udalguri](#) district committee, in collaboration with Garujhar A/C. Earlier, the day started with the hoisting of the flag by Suresh Tanti, [MCLA](#), 33 No. Nonai Serphang Constituency followed by floral tribute to martyrs plantation a sapling, a procession to mark the event and [felicitation](#) of 80 meritorious students.

The programme was also attended by Shyam Sundi, EM BTC, Kamali Basumatari, MLA Panery, among AASAA activists from various corners of the State.

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### Shajid Khan

Recipient of The Annual Colosseum Awards 2014 & 2015 (by The Assam Tribune group), Shajid Khan is an Independent journalist based in Assam. He has contributed numerous political, socio-political stories for bountiful national,international as well as Assam based publications including The New York Times,Firstpost,The Telegraph. He also pens down analytic commentary on print and web based publications.

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**BY SHAJID KHAN**

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