

Campaign to end for Phase I poll



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Electioneering for the first phase of Lok Sabha polls is all set to end on Saturday. The campaigning will end at 5 in the afternoon.

This phase covers Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Tezpur, Lakhimpur and Koliabor.

With tight security arrangement, the polling will take place on Monday from 7 in the morning to end at 5 in the afternoon.

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Koch-Rajbongshis reiterates demand for Kamatapur, ST status



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UDALGURI: Reiterating its demand of Kamatapur statehood and Scheduled Tribe ([ST](#)) categorization of the Koch-Rajbongshi community, the [Udalguri](#) district committee All Koch-Rajbongshi Students' Union (AKRSU) along with All Koch-Rajbongshi Sanmilani(AKRS) staged sit-in-protest at the DC office premises here in [Udalguri](#) on Monday. The organizations, staged the protest for three hours starting from 11 pm. The protestors came down heavily on the alleged statement made by [Tribal](#) Affairs Minister, Juel Oram , that it takes four decades to [grant ST](#) status to a community, and hence there's little hope for fulfilling the [demands](#) for [ST](#) status. The activists holding placards raised high pitched slogans and rented the air with 'No [ST](#) no rest', 'BJP go back'. [President](#) of [Udalguri](#), AKRSU, Atul Barman alleged that the government has turned deaf ears to the genuine [demands](#) of the community for years.

He also criticized the government for making false promises regarding fulfillment of their [demands](#) within six months from coming into power. The [student leader](#) also alleged that [indigenous](#) Koch-Rajbongshi people have been meted out harassment at various places of [state](#) in the ongoing verification of [National](#) Register of Citizens(NRC). He further stated that if the government doesn't [grant ST](#) status to the community before 2019 Lok Sabha polls,the people will be forced to vote the alternative parties. [President](#) of All Koch Rajbongshi Sanmilani (AKRS), Sunil Kumar Barman also criticized the saffron party and PM Modi for false pre-poll promises. The two organizations also submitted separate memorandums to Prime Minister, [Narendra Modi](#) and Chief Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal through the office of Deputy Commissioner, [Udalguri](#).

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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