

Ghatowar seeks fresh mandate



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DoNER minister Pawan Singh Ghatowar filed his nomination papers as Congress candidate in Dibrugarh on Friday.

Accompanied by APCC president Bhubneswar Kalita, MLAs Jibantata Ghaotwar, Raju Sahu and Sushanta Buragohain, Ghaotwar arrived in the Deputy Commissioner's office in Dibrugarh and filed the nomination papers before the returning officer at 12 noon.

Before that thousands of party workers took Ghatowar at a huge procession in Dibrugarh town in the morning. his supporters told Assam Times that victory of Ghatowar only requires a formal announcement.

The papers would be scrutinized on Saturday and the last date for withdrawal of nomination is slated for March 23. The polling will take place on April 7.

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Koch-Rajbongshis reiterates demand for Kamatapur, ST status



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Shajid Khan 19 June 2018 34827 views

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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