

Homecoming for Padma Hazarika



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The Asom Gana Parishad is considering a soft approach to Padma Hazarika five months after the Sotea MLA was suspended for anti-party activities.

Party leader and former president Prafulla Kumar Mahanta confirmed the development when he addressed a press conference in Guwahati on Tuesday. Mahanta told reporters that he had nothing to object if the suspension of Hazarika is withdrawn.

“I am ready for any approach if it helps the party improve the regional party before the 2016 assembly polls,” said Mahanta.

Party sources told Assam Times that senior leader Phani Bhushan Chaudhury has been trying to bring Hazarika back to the party who was suspended for 6 years alleging that he refused to toe on the party line in the Rajya Sabha polls where the Opposition consensus candidate Haidor Hussian was defeatd. Hazarika’s vote was cancelled.

AT News

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Koch-Rajbongshis reiterates demand for Kamatapur, ST status



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Shajid Khan 19 June 2018 35659 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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