

Invoke Article 49: Nazira MLA to Union Min for Culture



Comments 0



Syed Miraz Ahmed 30 December 2016 8609 views

Debabrata Saikia, the [Congress](#) Leader of Opposition called upon Union Minister for Culture Mahesh Sharma. In a letter Saikia drew the attention of Sharma on a recent [training](#) session organized by RSS at the historical Kareng Ghar in Sivasagar district in Upper Assam where participants chanted slogans from the heritage site.

“Kareng Ghar is [one](#) of the very few Centrally-protected monuments in Assam and a symbol of Assam's secular identity. There has been widespread reaction [over](#) the action of RSS, an organization which is known to use religion in politics. [One](#) of the very few existing monuments created during the 600 year Ahom rule, the Kareng Ghar was earlier damaged due to [assault](#) by the British forces after 1826 and also subsequently due to natural calamities. It is now in [danger](#) due to lack of proper maintenance by the Archaeological [Survey](#) of [India](#) and the act of RSS [workers](#) who stormed it in large numbers,” writes Saikia.

People of Assam take great pride in their heritage and heritage sites whether it be the Rong Ghar, Kareng Ghar, Talatal Ghar and the Charaideo Maidam (all created during the 600 year of Ahom rule in Assam), Kamakhya Mandir, Azan-Pir-Dargah, Hayagriva Madhava Temple at [Hajo](#) all of which are proud symbols of the [Assamese](#) identity.

Requesting Sharma to invoke Article 49 of the [Constitution of India](#), Saikia sought a proper legal step from the [ministry](#).

“Given the gravity of the matter and recurrence, I hope you will pass necessary instructions [as](#) per law to the concerned authorities and Assam Government to take proper steps to protect the sanctity of the heritage site/s so that the people who imperiled the monument with their unbecoming conduct are taken to task. Proper steps from your end will also contribute to peaceful coexistence of all communities living in Assam and upholding of the secular credentials [as](#) enshrined in our

Constitution”, stated Saikia in the letter to the Union Minister.

According to the rules of Protected Monuments of Archaeological [Survey](#) of [India](#): (1) Whoever destroys, removes, injures, alters, defaces or imperils a protected monument shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both. (2) If someone misuses a protected monument shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to 5000 rupees or with both. (3) If anyone is [found](#) destroying, imperiling or misusing a protected monument shall be deemed to be a cognizable offense within the meaning of the code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

Syed Miraz Ahmed

Writes, edits and researches. In 2013 he was conferred the Rotary International District 3240 Young Achiever Award for his work in the area of environment and digital journalism. In 2006 he was awarded first in the category of Wildlife Photography by the Department of Environment & Forests and Tourism, Government of Assam.

BY SYED MIRAZ AHMED

Boost for Assam youth entrepreneurship

Karbi outfit expresses ire over TV report

US team in search of NE war martyr

Karbi outfit calls for total shutdown

WWF-India, Capgemini, launches One Planet Academy in Guwahati

ON THIS DAY

Radio Salesian Journalist makes to India Book of Records

Ayushman Bharat cards distributed

Hills scholar bags PhD for study on energy efficient architecture

Husband sets wife on fire

Sankardeb birth anniv gets underway

RELATED

Nazira tension persists after youth leader's killing; police probe alleged drug network

BTC venture teachers seek government support before Supreme Court

ABSU burns copies of 'Hamkoshar Parishista' over Bodo script issue

Tension persists in Bihubar after former paramilitary personnel's killing

A heartfelt tribute to poet Anis Uz Zaman
