

Nomination filing ends for Phase I



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Filing of nominations for the first phase of Lok Sabha polls slated for April 7 has ended on Friday.

Prominent among those who have field nomination on the last day include BJP president Sarbananda Sonowal in Lakhimpur, his Congress rival Ranee Narah, Union minister Pawan Singh Ghatowar, BJP candidate Rameswar Teli, AGP candidate Anup Phukan in Dibrugarh.

Independent candidate Mani Kumar Subba filed nomination from Tezpur while Kamakhya Prasad Tasa has filed nominations in Jorhat. AGP candidate Dr Arun Sarma filed his nomination before the returning officer in Nagaon.

The scrutiny of these nomination papers would take place on Saturday by the returning officers. The last date for withdrawal of nominations is Sunday. The first phase of Lok Sabha poll is slated for April 7. This phase includes Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Kaliabor, Tezpur and Lakhimpur.

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Koch-Rajbongshis reiterates demand for Kamatapur, ST status



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Shajid Khan 19 June 2018 34818 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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