

Busy schedule in Majuli



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Political heavyweights have a hectic schedule in Majuli on Wednesday hardly a week before the Lok Sabha polls.

Chief minister Tarun Gogoi is visiting the river island on Wednesday to woo its voters.

During his day long trip, the chief minister is holding at least three poll rallies to campaign for Lakhimpur candidate Raneer Narah. This is apart from his visit to the Vaishnavite monasteries.

BJP president Sarbananda Sonowal is also visiting Majuli on Wednesday to woo the voters. This river island falls in Lakhimpur Lok Sabha constituency where he is contesting in the first phase of polls slated for April 7.

On the other hand, AGP president Prafulla Kumar Mahanta has also a busy schedule in Majuli on Wednesday.

Accompanied by Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphu Rio, Mahanta is arriving in the river island to campaign for Hariprasad Dihingia who is contesting from Lakhimpur as AGP candidate.

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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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