

Asam Sahitya Sabha delegates meet CM over several demands

CORRESPONDENT

TEZPUR, October 14: In a bid to strengthening the base of Assamese language, culture and literature, a delegation from Asam Sahitya Sabha on Tuesday evening met Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and placed a slew of demands.

In a press release, State secretary of the apex literary body, Jadab Sharma, stated here on Wednesday that in the hour-long talks between Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Sabha president Dr Kuladhar Saikia-led delegation, they discussed about the government's language principle, and the Sabha demanded the

government to make Assamese language compulsory not only in government schools but also in private schools.

The team also demanded the use of Assamese language in all India level educational institutions. Besides, the team also demanded to make mother tongue of every ethnic community living in the region compulsory up to Class XII and laid stresses on making Assamese language a communicative language (lingua-franca) for them.

"Moreover, instead of making English an optional language, State language Assamese or other recognised indigenous languages should be given priority of use in any interview or written exami-

nation of any department of the government. Giving example of how State like Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, West Bengal have been successful in giving placement to the locals in government sector because of making their local languages compulsory, the team also demanded the chief minister to ensure hundred per cent guarantee of local's appointment in government sector. Sabha also appreciated the decision of making Assamese language compulsory in Health and PWD departments," the press release stated.

The delegation also discussed about the National Education Policy.