



JANASANYOG, ASSAM
CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No. 129/2022

CM Dr. Sarma attends 61st Annual conference of Bodo Sahitya Sabha
Hails the role of literary body in enriching Bodo language and literature
Announces financial assistance for Bodo Sahitya Sabha

Dispur, May 4: President of India Ram Nath Kovind, Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma graced the 61st Annual Conference of Bodo Sahitya Sabha held at Gwjwn Fwthar in Tamulpur today.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma termed the 61st annual conference of Bodo Sahitya Sabha as very glorious occasion because for the first time in the history of the Bodo Sahitya Sabha, the President of India had graced it. He said that the presence of the President to the annual conference is the testimony of Government of India's importance to all the languages of North East. Expressing his gratitude to the President for having graced the annual session, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma thanked him for his painstaking role in getting the Bodo language enlisted in the 8th schedule of the Constitution of India.

The Chief Minister on the occasion also paid his tributes to the first President of Bodo Sahitya Sabha Jaychandra Hagjer, its first General Secretary Sonaram Thaosen and all other stalwarts for their role in establishing Bodo Sahitya Sabha on 16 November 1952 which over the years has become an important organisation for the promotion of Bodo language and literature.

The Chief Minister also said, "Our state is home to different ethnic groups. The beautiful languages of these ethnic communities have not only enriched the larger Assamese society but also given a unique dimension to our overall being. Without the development of language and literature of every small ethnic community, our progress as a unified entity will not be successful. Therefore, for preserving, enriching, professing and propagating the language and literature of each of these ethnic groups, we must move at a more systematic manner. The responsibility of Assam Sahitya Sabha, Nikhil Bodo Sahitya Sabha as well as other organizations associated with enriching the language and literature of our state is huge. Sahitya Sabhas must contribute to the development of language and literature and transformation of society by spreading cultural, literary and humanitarian ideals in the public domain".

On this occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma referring to the statements made by Krishna Kanta Handiqui as the President of Asom Sahitya Sabha in 1937, said that 'literary experience is a major part of national life and the literature of a place should reflect the aims and aspirations of the people inhabiting the area.

Considering the immense role played by Bodo Sahitya Sabha and the number of people in Assam speak the Bodo language, State government has already made the Bodo language an associate official language. Moreover, he announced that Bodo language will be introduced as a medium of instruction in Class XI and Class XII. Gradually it will be replicated in graduation and post graduation level.

Chief Minister Dr. Sarma announced that Government of Assam will provide Rs. 50 lakh to each district dominated Bodo speaking people for setting up of the office of Bodo Sahitya Sabha. His government will also give Rs. 5 crore as revolving fund to Bodo Sahitya Sabha to help it to intensify its activities for the enrichment and promotion of Bodo language and literature by professing and propagating them.

Chief Minister on the occasion also released a book, 'Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly' in Bodo language.

President of Bodo Sahitya Sabha Toren Boro gave the welcome address in the programme which was also addressed by Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma, Chief Executive Member of BTC Promod Bodo.

First lady and wife of the President Savita Kovind, Chief Minister Sikkim Prem Singh Tamang, Speaker Assam Legislative Assembly Biswajit Daimari, Minister for Welfare of Bodoland U.G. Brahma and host of other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

SD/ May 4, 2022.