

## PRESS RELEASE

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## CM holds meeting with Santhal organizations

State Govt to provide funds for construction of hostel and guest house in Guwahati: CM

**Dispur, August 25**: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today held a meeting with the representatives of All Santhal Students' Union, Santhal Sahitya Sabha and Santhal Language Teachers' Association at Assam Administrative Staff College. He also received memorandums containing various demands from them.

Saying that the state government has been taking steps to bring equal development to all big and small communities in Assam, Chief Minister Sonowal stated that the previous governments failed to solve the issues afflicting various sections of the society. He also said that the present state government has been moving forward positively in the matter of granting ST status to six communities taking the views of all stakeholders and the group of ministers would hold meetings with different organizations during the forthcoming assembly session to send final report to central government in the matter.

The Chief Minister also assured that the state government would provide funds for construction of a hostel and a guest house for the Santhal community in Guwahati and he said steps would be taken for developing Santhal language and literature under Bhasha Gaurab Achoni.

Speaking at the meeting, Minister of Welfare of Plain Tribes and Backward Classes Department Chandan Brahma stated that there would have been lots of lacunas in the process of granting ST status to six communities if the group of ministers was not set up for the matter. He also said the process would have had gained further momentum if the COVID-19 situation had not delayed it.

Media Adviser to the Chief Minister Hrishikesh Goswami, Legal Adviser to the Chief Minister Santanu Bharali, Commissioner and Secretary of WPTBC Dr. M Angamutthu were also present in the meeting.

BB/PKB/Swakkhyar/25.8.2020

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