

The Assam Tribune

Meghalaya school teachers demand their jobs be provincialised

Teachers of 4,770 Government-aided schools in Meghalaya have gone on a general strike from today demanding their jobs be provincialised.

The teachers said, the Government has not called them for talks and they would intensify their agitation if the authorities don't meet them.

Deputy Chief Minister in-charge Education, RC Laloo said first the Government has to sit with the Management Committees (MCs) of the Government-aided schools, which appoints these teachers, and then a decision could be taken.

The Government on its part maintain the teachers were appointed by the MCs of these schools and so the question of provincilising their jobs doesn't arise at this moment.

However, ED Nongsiang, chairman of All Teachers' Association of Meghalaya (JACATAM) spearheading the strike, said: "the teachers are appointed in the schools after getting approval from the Education department."

He says, during the interview of teachers in these Government-aided schools an official from the Education department is part of the interviewing board along with members from the MCs.

"So how can the Government say that the MCs only appoint the teachers? The teachers are appointed by the MCs and the Government," he stated.

There are over 14,000 teachers in the 4,770 schools across the State and with the strike classes have been disrupted. Nongsiang added, that they would continue with the strike.

"On September 5, we would meet again and decide on the future course of our action," he stated.