



Office of the
MISING AGOM KÉBANG

(MISING SAHITYA SABHA)

Estd. 1972, Regd. No. 663 of 1978

H.O. Karichuk P.O. Dhemaji PIN - 787057 Dist. Dhemaji, Assam

President

Dr. Bidyeshwar Doley

Migom do:lung, Jonai-787060

Dist. Dhemaji, Assam

Phone 9954410053

General Secretary

Dipok Kr. Doley

Lecturer in Assamese

DCB Girls' College, Jorhat-1

Phone 9401117136

Ref. No. MAK/

Date :

To,

Shrijut Tarun Gogoi

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dispur

Guwahati-06

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

Esteemed Sir,

We, the following signatories, on behalf of Mising Community in general and of the Mising Agom Kébang in particular, would like to extend our gratitude to your honour for giving us an opportunity to submit this memorandum amidst your busy schedule. The memorandum itself speaks about our long standing grievances that need your kind perusal and prompt action. It is our great expectation that your sound leadership and political goodwill will help solve our problems within a very short span of time.

Yours faithfully

On behalf of Mising Agom Kébang

<u>Name</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Signature</u>
1. Dr. Bidyeshwar Doley	President	
2. Mg. Dipok Kr. Doley	General Secretary	
3. Mr. Khageswar Pegu	Vice President	
4. Mg. Tuleswar Pegu	Vice President	
5. Mg. Aniruddha Taye	EC Member	
6. Dr. Anil Kr. Pegu	EC Member	
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General Secretary

Dipok Kr. Doley

Lecturer in Assamese

DCB Girls' College, Jorhat-1

Phone 9401117136

Date :

To,

Shrijut Gautam Borah

Hon'ble Education Minister

Assam, Dispur

Guwahati-06

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

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Ref. No. MAK/

Date :

To,

Shrijut Bharat Ch. Narah

Hon'ble Minister

Sports & Cultural Affairs of Assam, Dispur

Guwahati-06

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

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Phone 9401117136

Ref. No. MAK/

Date :

To,

Ms. Pramila Rani Brahma
Hon'ble Minister, WPT & BC, Agriculture
Assam, Dispur
Guwahati-06

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

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Ref. No. MAK/

Date :

To,

Shrijut Rajib Lochan Pegu

Hon'ble MLA

Assam, Dispur

Guwahati-06

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

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Date :

To,

Shrijut Bhuban Pegu

Hon'ble MLA

Assam, Dispur

Guwahati-06

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

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Ref. No. MAK /

Date :

To,

Ms. Sumitra Patir

Hon'ble MLA

Assam, Dispur

Guwahati-06

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

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Ref. No. MAK /

Date :

To,

Ranee Narah

Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)

M- 16, South Extn. Part II

New Delhi- 110049

Subject : Submission of a Memorandum on the problems of introducing the Mising Language as subject language from Class I onwards and other demands of the Mising Agom Kébang.

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**A MEMORANDUM
TO
THE HONOURABLE
MEMBER OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
DHEMAJI CONSTITUENCY**

Submitted by
The Mising Agom Kébang
(Mising Language Society)

In the matter of :

1. Introduction of Mising language as a language subject from class-I onwards.
2. Creation and sanction of 1221 posts of Mising Language Teacher.
3. Creation of three posts of Sub-Inspector of Schools for monitoring and supervision of Mising Language Teaching.
4. Appointment of Instructors of the Mising Language in the Basic Training Centres of Dhakuakhana and Azad in Lakhimpur district and Majuli in Jorhat district.
5. Adoption and declaration of a clear-cut Tribal Language Policy.
6. Creation of a separate Directorate for Tribal Languages with a provision of separate budget allocation.
7. Constitution of districtwise committees for the evaluation of Mising language teaching under the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan.



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1. Introduction :

The Misings, formerly referred to as Miri are one of the aboriginal ethnic groups, who have been schedule as Tribes in the plains of Assam. They constitute the second largest group amongst the scheduled tribes (plains) of the state in terms of population. They are known to have migrated down to the Brahmaputra valley as far back as the twelfth century A.D. from the neighbouring hills of presentday Arunachal Pradesh during the reign of the Chutia Kingdom.

Mising population is distributed in the eight districts of upper Assam, viz. Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Sonitpur, Lakhimpur and Dhemaji with high concentration of their population in the district of Dhemaji and subdivision of Majuli. The Misings also inhabit some pockets of Arunachal Pradesh. According to the census of India 2001, the population of Misings in Assam is 5,87,310 and by now their number may have increased to nearly 7 lakh.

The Mising language is one of the many Tibeto Burman languages by various ethnic groups in North East India. It has its own characteristics of sounds, words and sentences. It may be noted here that the Misings love their mother tongue passionately, which is the reason why they have been able to preserve their language intact in continue to speak it even today, unlike some other ethnic groups in Assam who have lost their mother tongue.

2. The Mising Agom Kébang (MAK) :

The Mising Agom Kébang is a linguistic and literary body, formed in 1972, for the purpose of development of the Mising language in various ways. It is the apex body of the community, and it has been making continuous efforts to promote the cause of Mising language and literature since its establishment.



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3. Our Problems :

3.1:

The Mising language was introduced as an additional subject language in classes III and IV in primary schools in the areas predominantly inhabited by Misings vide Govt. letter No. EDG. 138/84/Pt-1/94 dtd. 30th October, 1985 (copy enclosed) after long negotiations with the then Congress I Govt. led by late Hiteswar Saikia. It was stated in the agreement that the Mising language would be first introduced as an additional subject language for three years, which would be treated as a Preparatory Stage and then upgraded to medium of instruction after three years. It may also be mentioned here that there was a revised agreement between the MAK and the state government in 1986, vide no. Dated

However, nearly twenty five years have now elapsed after the first introduction of the Mising language in primary schools, and the initial arrangement is continuing till this day, with the Mising language being taught in Classes III and IV only. In its meeting held in the 18th General Conference of MAK at Kulajan Patiri, Silapathar on 27/04/2007, the MAK reviewed thoroughly the present status of the teaching of the Mising language in primary schools and decided to urge upon the state government to introduce its teaching throughout the years of primary education right from Class I (copy of resolution enclosed).

It was pointed out during the discussion that the introduction of a language course for only two years at the primary level is not very meaningful, because no primary level student of the language can have a good foundation on the reading and writing of the language within such a short time. Therefore, courses in mother tongues, introduced at the primary level, continue generally at the upper primary, secondary and post-secondary levels also. Thus, in order to make the introduction of the teaching of the Mising language at the primary level a little more meaningful, the MAK urges upon the state government to extend the scope of the initial decision



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and introduce the teaching of Mising in all the classes at the primary level, i.e. from Class I to Class IV.

It may be stated here that, although Article 350A of the Constitution of India has provided for the education of children at the primary level through the medium of their respective mother tongues, and successive National Curriculum Frameworks of the NCERT have also advocated the use of the mother tongues of school children as mediums of instruction, the MAK wouldn't like, at this stage, to press for the use of the Mising language as a medium of instruction, as the language is still at an early stage of development in terms of written literature, including children's literature, and publications of different kinds. It is because of these considerations that the MAK urges upon the state government to provide for the teaching of Mising in primary schools as a language subject from Class I to Class IV without any further delay.

We hope the state government will appreciate our stand and take a favourable decision at the earliest so that the provision of teaching of the Mising language from Class I comes into force with effect from the next academic session, i.e. 2010.

3.2 :

As per the terms and conditions laid down in the agreement referred to above, the Mising Agom Kébang had selected 787 primary schools, but the then State Govt, headed by Shri Prafulla Kumar Mahanta created and sanctioned only 100 posts of Mising language teachers in 1986. However, another 30 (thirty) posts were sanctioned in 1988, which were allotted to 30 additional eligible schools. Later, in 1991, 100 more posts were sanctioned by the State Govt. duly allotted to 100 additional primary schools. But we regret to say that not a single additional post of Mising Language Teacher has been sanctioned by the Govt. since 1991, i.e. during the last 19 years.



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It is important to note in this connection that as per provisions of the agreement of 1985, the reviewed agreement of 1986 and the report of our own census of Mising villages and schools, the number of schools qualifying for introduction of Mising language as an additional subject language increased to 1451 during 1995-96. The number must have increased even more by now. But ironically the Mising language has been introduced in only 230 primary schools till date. We have been repeatedly urging upon each successive Govt. for covering all the 1451 primary schools by creating and sanctioning additional requirement of 1221 posts of Mising language teachers. During the discussion between the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam and representatives of Mising Agom Kébang held in the office chamber of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 19-07-2005, it was agreed that the Director of Elementary Education, Assam would be directed to ascertain the present status of Mising language teaching and to arrange to fill up the vacant posts as and when fresh recruitment of L.P. School teachers take place. It was also agreed that allotment of more posts out of the vacant posts of Primary School teachers would be made. But no positive action has been taken by the Govt. in this regard till today. This indifferent attitude of the Govt. in spite of our repeated appeals has generated a sense of deprivation in the Mising Community, resulting in mass resentment.

3.3 :

It has been observed with grave concern that some teachers appointed for teaching the Mising language were later on regularized as general teachers and engaged in teaching subjects other than the Mising language. In many cases such teachers are have been whimsically transferred to other schools having no requirement of teaching the Mising language, sometimes along with their posts. Such practices have defeated the very purpose of introduction of Mising language teaching in primary schools. As urged upon by the Mising Agom Kébang, the Director of Elementary Education, Assam issued a circular to the field officers concern to stop such practice, but, quite surprisingly, the practice has not stopped altogether.



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3.4 :

No scheme of teaching languages can be successfully implemented without proper supervision of teaching. As there is no provision for supervision of the teaching of the Mising language, the MAK has, time and again, been demanding appointment of at least three Sub-Inspectors of Schools, especially, for supervision and monitoring of teaching the Mising language in primary schools, viz. two posts for the North Bank covering the districts of Dhemaji, Lakhimpur and Sonitpur and the Majuli sub-division and one post for the South Bank covering the districts of Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Sibsagar, Jorhat and Golaghat. But the Govt. has not paid any heed to our demand.

In this regard as per MAK's demand, it was agreed in the discussion held with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam on 19-07-2005 that two posts of Sub-Inspector of School out of the existing vacant posts would be filled up by Mising candidates, who would particularly look after Mising language teaching in primary schools. But it is quite disappointing for us that no appointment of Sub-Inspector of school has been appointed till now as agreed in that discussion.

3.5 :

It has been seen in the earlier years that the preparation, publication and distribution of Mising language textbooks in time suffered great negligence on the part of the authorities concern. This situation needs full rectification in the interest of teaching the mother tongue of Mising students in primary schools.

3.6 :

Training of Mising language teachers, which is of great pedagogic important, is another area of gross negligence. Although these teacher are deputed for Basic Training, they are not provided special training in Mising language teaching. There is an urgent need for providing training in at least two Basic Training Centres with qualified instructors of Mising language.



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Such training may be imparted in the Basic Training Centres at Azad and Dhakuakhana in the Lakhimpur district.

3.7 :

It has been observed with grave concern that the Mising language subject is not included in the evaluation process of Sarba Shiksha Abhiyan. This also shows how the teaching of the Mising language is neglected by the Sarba Shiksha Abhijan and the SCERT authorities. Therefore, there is a need for constituting an independent committee especially for evaluating teaching of Mising language in each of the eight districts of Upper Assam.

Our Demands :

Under the circumstances stated above, we, the Mising Agom Kébang, demand that :

1. The Govt. letter of 1985 vide Govt. letter No. EDG. 138/84/Pt-1/94 dtd. 30th October, 1985 (copy enclosed) should be implemented in letter and spirit by introducing the Mising language as a subject language in all classes from Class I onwards.
2. 1221 Nos. of Mising language teachers' posts should be created and sanctioned immediately for appointment in primary schools eligible for introduction of the Mising language subject.
3. Three posts of Sub-Inspector of schools, especially, for supervising and monitoring Mising language teaching should be created and filled up by candidates will good knowledge of the subject.
4. The Basic Training Centres of Azad and Dhakuakhana in the Lakhimpur should be provided with qualified instructors for the purpose of training Mising language teachers.



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5. A clear-cut Tribal language policy should be adopted and declared by the Govt. of Assam.
6. A separate Directorate for Tribal language of Assam should be created with separate budget provision.
7. A separate evaluation committee, especially, for Mising language should be constituted in each of the eight districts of upper Assam for evaluation of the performance of learners in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
8. A plot of land in Guwahati, already applied for by the Mising Agom Kébang for its office and a cultural complex, should be allotted and settled immediately in the name of the Mising Agom Kébang.

We hope that your good office will take immediate steps for redressal of our grievances. May God grant you a long life for serving the cause of our state and the people.

Yours faithfully

On behalf of the Mising Agom Kébang

(Bidyeshwar Doley)

President

Mising Agom Kébang

(Dipok Kr. Doley)

General Secretary

Mising Agom Kébang