

# Demand to revive Assam press panel

By Our Correspondent

GAUHATI, September 23: The Assam Journalists' Association on Monday urged the Centre to ensure that the Palékar Award was implemented fully by newspaper managements so that part-time correspondents were given a fair deal.

A resolution adopted at the annual conference of the association urged the government to bring pressure on those newspaper managements which had so far failed to implement the award.

Another resolution called for withdrawal of cases registered against the editor and printer of "Dainik Janam-

bhumi", an Assamese daily published from Jorhat and the editor of "Mahajoti", a biweekly published from Tezpur.

The association demanded the revival of the Assam press consultative committee and press accreditation committee, which it said, virtually remained defunct.

Inaugurating the conference, Mr. Harendra Nath Baruah, a veteran journalist, stressed the need for unbiased and fair reporting. Journalists should not identify themselves with any political party or hold any office that had nothing to do with their profession, he said.

The chief guest at the conference was Mr. Satish Chan Kakati, a journalist of Assam. He said journalists should evolve their own code of conduct in order to make the profession more trustworthy and responsible.

Referring to investigate reporting, Mr. Kakati said reporters must not encroach upon one's right to privacy or indulge in character assassination.

The Association president, Mr. Phani Talukdar, said members of his association, an affiliate of the National Union of Journalists (India), had adopted a code of conduct formulated by NUJ.

24 - September - 1981

The Times of India