

# Assam Janata Party split

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Patriot

Our Staff Correspondent

GAUHATI, May 31

**T**HE Assam Janata Party has practically split.

Two parallel State executive committees are now functioning from two separate offices within half a kilometre of each other.

The executive committee of the dissident group, with Gauri Shankar Bhattacharyya as president and Mr Biswa Goswami as general-secretary, is meeting here tomorrow. The rival committee of the official group, as re-constituted by party president Chandra Shekhar, is meeting on 9 June. Mr Robin Kakoty, MP, is the president of this committee. ....

Mr Goswami today confirmed that he and Mr Bhattacharyya had met Chief Minister Golap Borbora yesterday at the latter's instance. Mr Borbora requested them to postpone tomorrow's meeting, but they declined to do so as, according to Mr Goswami, "Mr Borbora could not give any reason why the meeting should be postponed."

Mr Robin Kakoty said Mr Ram Krishna Hegde, one of the general-secretaries of the party, had sent a telegram from Delhi to the other side requesting them to postpone their meeting, but "it seems they are bent on going ahead". Mr Kakoty felt the dissidents action would do incalculable harm to the State Party.

Patriot, 2 June 1978

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