

J. N. Hazarika Resigns From Janata Party

By A Staff Reporter

GAUHATI, Aug. 28—Sri Jogendra Nath Hazarika, Speaker of the Assam Assembly, today resigned from the Janata Legislature Party as well as the primary membership of the Janata Party.

Sri Hazarika, in a letter to the leader of the AJLP, Sri Golap Barbor, observed that it became increasingly difficult for him to remain unconcerned "since the in-party democracy of the JLP has eroded irreparably, with resignations by over 33 per cent of the JLP members, reducing the strength of the Government to that of a minority".

Sri Hazarika regretted that despite his party affiliation "continued from the birth of the Janata Party some of the party members do not want" that he should exercise "his political personality even in private discussions with the

party colleagues". In this connection, Sri Hazarika said that the "deplorable attitude of 14 Janata members" expressed in the Press and the Chief Minister's criticism of the august office of the Speaker in his Press conference of April 19 "distressed" him very much. Under the circumstances, Sri Hazarika observed that his continuation in the JLP "would not solve any good to the Janata Party".

He said that the Speaker possesses a dual personality, while he is in the House of the Assembly he conduct himself as a non-party man with non-partisan spirit, and while he is outside the House he is as good as any other legislator. "Myself being a JLP member with all the paraphernalia the payment of party subscription, renewal of membership enrolment of 25 primary members for being an effective member, apart from the doings of political activity in and outside of my constituency including the party elections, in my opinion I am entitled to express my free opinion regarding party affairs outside the House. This is quite commensurate with the political conditions prevailing in the democratic system of our country, as there is neither any convention nor is there a constitutional bar to that effect".

"Since you have been trying to interfere with these conditions I am no longer in your party", the letter added. Nevertheless he reassured the Chief Minister that it will be his best endeavour to maintain impartiality and preserve dignity in the House as prescribed by the rules of procedures and conduct of business in the Assembly, as long as he remained the Presiding Officer of the House.

them most—and and... parties—is the possibility of mid-term election. The question frequently heard at the moment is whether the Chief Minister will follow the path of Sri Charan Singh to face the Assembly for a trial of strength, judging from the claims and counter-claims made in the both camps—the situation has still remained clouded.

Meanwhile, four Opposition parties today decided to move a no-confidence motion against the Barbor Ministry on September 3, the opening day of the State Assembly session. The representatives of Congress, CPI and newly formed Asom Janata Dal and progressive democratic Front which met here today informally discussed the present ministerial crisis and decided to move a no-confidence motion.

A spokesman of the parties told newsmen... of the meeting at... some more opposition parties

29 - AUG - 1979.

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE.