

# Janata legislators want Assam CM to resign

By Our Correspondent

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**T**HE Assam Janata legislature party has demanded the resignation of the Golap Borbora ministry in view of its alleged failure to protect the life and property of people living in villages bordering Nagaland.

The JLP members, who met at Dispur on Sunday and Monday, were reported to have had heated discussions on the issue of the armed attack on Assam villagers by the Nagas on January 5 in which at least 50 people were killed and 400 houses burnt down. Nearly 20,000 people fled for safety and had to be housed in camps.

The ruling party legislators criticised the government for what they described as "inefficient handling" of the situation despite having received

prior information on possible armed raid on innocent villagers.

A formal resolution requesting Mr. Borbora to resign from chief ministership is understood to have been moved at the meeting by a Janata legislator.

The resolution is said to have maintained, among other things, that the home department had "completely failed" as a result of which the people had lost faith in the government.

The chief minister, who was present at the meeting when the resolution was moved, is said to have expressed his readiness to step down but "would have to hold discussions with the state Janata party and the party high command."

A section of the moderates, however, stalled adoption of the resolution raising certain procedural points. They were reported to have said that for such a motion previous notice was necessary.

The members were then said to have agreed to keep the resolution in abeyance till February 18, two days ahead of the budget session of the Assam assembly, when all members are expected to reach Dispur.

Among the JLP members, Dr. T. M. Barieah, Mr. Jiban Bora, Mr. Benoy Basumatary (PTCA), Mr. Debanada Bora, Mr. Padam Bahadur Chouhan, Mr. Nagen Sarma and Mr. S. R. Dasgupta criticised the government for its alleged lapses and failures.

Most of them were reported to have suggested immediate change of leadership to set things right.

Several members had levelled serious charges against the information and public relations departments (held by the chief minister) describing them as "most inefficient and ineffective."

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