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An Eye-Opener To Assam Dissidents, Says Barbora

THE

By A Staff Reporter

GAUHATI, August 20—The Chief Minister, Sri Golap Barbora, said here today that the fall of the Charan Singh Ministry should be an eye-opener to those politicians in Assam who wanted to form a Government in the State with the support of the Congress and such other elements.

Commenting on the resignation of the coalition Government at the Centre, the Chief Minister said that the formation of the Charan Singh Ministry "was a marriage of convenience which was destined to fall". He hoped that the "prodigal sons" in the Assam Janata Party would realise the implications of their recent moves and now come back to the party fold.

Sri Barbora further observed that the President should now invite the Leader of the Opposition, Sri Jagjivan Ram, to form a Government who had majority support. He felt that President should not oblige Sri Charan Singh by taking his advice for mid-term poll as there was no need for a fresh election when the people's verdict was still clear.

PEOPLE INDIFFERENT

The news of Prime Minister, Sri Charan Singh's resignation, was received here by the people with indifference.

The people appeared to be least interested in who becomes Prime Minister and the section of people who became inquisitive seems to have nothing more than academic interest. The reason for this may be that the Jat leader from UP was relatively unknown to the people of Assam compared to his predecessor, Sri Desai. On many occasions Sri Desai visited Assam. But perhaps, Sri Singh never had any occasion in the past to visit this State.

The ruling Janata Party members seem to be elated but Congressmen here look dejected. The cross section of the people here feel that the country is in for a spell of political instability. The enlightened section, however, heaved a sigh of relief at the fall of Janata (S)-Congress coalition Ministry at the Centre. The section is said to have found in it the ominous sign of the Congress of any how staging a comeback.

Judging from the happenings at the Centre, the political observers here believe that the threat to the Barbora Ministry has receded further.

There was, however, anxious inquiries from the trade and commerce circles here, after receiving the news broadcast by All India Radio in its mid-day bulletin, to get greater details of the situation that led to tendering of resignation by Sri Singh after 24 days in office.

State Language Day Observed In Dibrugarh

From Our Correspondent
DIBRUGARH, Aug. 20—Students of Dibrugarh today abstained from attending classes in observance of State Language Day in response to call given by Dibrugarh District Students' Union. Meetings were also held in educational institutions and resolutions demanding introduction of Assamese language in all public and private sector industrial undertakings and Government and semi-Government offices were passed. The resolutions added that such a step would go a long way in building up amity and understanding among different sections of people and linguistic groups living in Assam.

Meanwhile, curfew in Dibrugarh was relaxed today for 14 hours from 5 in the morning and no untoward incident reported.

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