

No-Trust Move Against Borbora Admitted

GAUHATI, Sept. 3.—The crucial session of the Assam Assembly for a trial of strength began today when the Speaker, Mr J. N. Hazarika, admitted a no-confidence motion against the 18-month-old Janata Ministry headed by Mr Golap Borbora, reports PTI.

Amidst noisy scenes in the House right from the start of the day's proceedings, the notice of no confidence was given by Mr Gyasuddin Ahmed (CPI) and eight other Opposition members.

Discussion on the motion would begin tomorrow immediately after question hour, the Speaker later announced. He said eight hours had been fixed for the discussion. If the debate remained inconclusive the issue would be disposed of on Wednesday.

Noisy scenes, punctuated by shouts of "shame, shame" marked the proceedings during question hour, with Opposition members demanding quick replies to their questions from the Chief Minister and other Ministers.

Earlier, as the Speaker read out the motion and asked the members who supported it to rise, almost all the Opposition members and also the Deputy Speaker, Mr Chand Mohammad of the ruling Janata Party, stood up. He then admitted the motion.

The Speaker, who had resigned from the Janata Legislature Party last week, later told reporters that he had joined the Assam Janata Dal today. He had communicated his decision to the secretary of the Assam Assembly, he added.

The Speaker said the strength of the Janata Legislature Party had been reduced to 39 in the 126-member Assembly. One seat is vacant following the death of Mr Chatragopal Karmakar (Congress) last week.

According to Mr Hazarika the following is the latest party position: Janata—39; Congress—22; Assam Janata Dal—16; CPI(M)—11; Congress (I)—8; CPI—6; PDF—6; PTCA—4; RCPI—4; Janata(S)—4; SUC—2; CPI(ML)—1; Ind—2.

The Speaker said the Janata Party had been supported by four MLAs of the Plains Tribal Council of Assam, four of the RCPI and one member of the Progressive Democratic Front.

The no-confidence motion was supported by more than 62 members belonging to the Congress, Congress(1), CPI, CPI(M), and the Assam Janata Dal.

The debate was fixed for tomorrow after leaders of all parties had met in the Speaker's chamber.

The Speaker announced the recognition of the Assam Janata Dal comprising 16 members who had resigned from the Janata Party. Six other members belonging to the Progressive Democratic Front and Independents have also requested the Speaker to treat them as

associate members of the Assam Janata Dal.

A joint meeting of the Janata legislators and party leaders discussed for 2½ hours tonight the situation arising out of the no-confidence motion and authorized the Cabinet to take the final decision.

The Chief Minister told reporters that the Cabinet would meet tomorrow morning. He, however, declined to say anything except that the Cabinet had been authorized to take the final decision.

The north-eastern States Governor, Mr L. P. Singh, arrived here this evening from Shillong to take stock of the situation.

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