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'5 MLAs Return To Borbora's Camp'

From Our Special Representative
GAUHATI, July 20.—On a day
of horse-trading, Mr Golap Bor-
bora's supporters claimed that
five of the "dissident 17" had re-
turned to the Chief Minister's
camp.

Significantly, Mr Nagen Sarma,
a key MLA in the current drama,
had written to Mr Borbora's to
say that he would stand "like a
rock to save the Janata Party and
to have a party Government in
Assam in the interest of the
workers and the people of the
State. A coalition Government
cannot implement the election
pledges and it will be a betrayal
of our own commitment."

There is some confusion about
the number of dissident signa-
tures in the letter to the Gover-
nor. Leftist forces have not with-
drawn support to the Janata Gov-
ernment. The Chief Minister said
he had not received any official
communication from either the
Marxists or the RCPI.

The Chief Minister has alleged
that "monied and vested" inter-
ests and behind the dissidents
and, that the Congress is trying
to exploit the situation resulting
in instability. Some Congress
members and none too happy
about Mr Sarat Sinha's "over-
eager" offer to help topple the
Government and install a dissi-
dent Janata Government.

The former Minister, Mr Keshab
Gogo's clarification underlines a
piquant situation. Congress pros-
pects in Assam are tied to the
emerging power pattern at the
Centre—which explains why key
leaders are in New Delhi.

PTI adds: The Assam State Coun-
cil of the CPI today demanded
that the Assam Janata Ministry
resign immediately as it has been
reduced to a minority following
the withdrawal of support by sev-
eral Janata MLAs.

The council, which met here, in
a resolution said that if Mr Bor-
bora refused to resign, the Gover-
nor, Mr L. P. Singh, should imme-
diately convene a special session
of the Assam Assembly to decide
the issue.

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The Statesman.