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THE STATEMENT

10 Janata M.L.A.s Resign In Assam

From Our Special Representative

SHILLONG, Aug. 10.—The political situation in Assam is fluid. The Chief Minister, Mr Golap Borbora, is meeting the Governor tomorrow in Gauhati. The meeting assumes importance with 10 dissident Janata MLAs resigning from the legislature party. Eight of them have resigned primary membership of the party. Ten include Mr Altaf Hussian Majumdar, an important dissident from Cachar, and Mr Padam Bahadur Chauhan.

Four Janata MLAs, including two former Ministers, Mr Golam Osmani and Mr Zahirul Islam, resigned last month. In fact, the Chief Minister was forced by the

party leadership to drop the two Muslim Ministers when reconstituting his Ministry.

Mr Borbora may have to suggest summoning the Assembly for a trial of strength. The Congress has been supporting the dissidents, and has offered to support an alternate Ministry. Mr Sarat Sinha went to New Delhi to decide on party strategy in the coming weeks.

The Congress(I) is keeping its options open. The major Leftist groups, barring the CPI are with the Chief Minister who can also count on tribal support. Much will depend on developments in New Delhi after the 20th.

PTI adds from Gauhati: The six-member Progressive Democratic Front, consisting of Independent members of the Assam Assembly, today withdrew support to the ruling Janata Party in Assam.

Mr Premadhar Bora, leader, and Mr Sizazul Haque, deputy leader of the Front, told a Press conference here that they had communicated their decision to the Governor, Mr L. P. Singh.

Mr Bora and Mr Haque said that the Front found it impossible to continue its support as the Borbora Ministry had failed to fulfil its election pledges.