

Assam situation still fluid: talks continue

Hindustan Times Correspondent

GAUHATI, Sept. 6—Uncertainty looms large over the formation of an alternative Government in Assam following the resignation of the Golap Borborra Ministry last Tuesday.

The breakaway faction of the Janata Party, now recognised in the Assembly as the Janata Dal, has apparently failed to convince the Governor, Mr L. P. Singh that given the opportunity on the basis of its present composition, the Asom Janata Dol could provide a stable Government to the State.

The governor, was in Gauhati since Monday to take stock of the fast developing political situation and explored the prospects of replacing the care-taker Golap Borborra Ministry with that of a cohesive and stable one from the opposition.

The Governor had discussions with the leaders of the political parties yesterday and today fifth round of consultation with Mr Jogendra Nath Hazarika, leader of the Janata Vidyani Dol.

Shortly after emerging from the meeting with Mr Hazarika, the Governor concluded his consultation for the day and left Gauhati for Shillong.

Talking to the waiting newsmen in the Circuit house, packed leaders of both the sections and their followers, the Governor said that he had agreed to allow more time to the parties.

Asked whether the legislature party leader of the Asom Janata Dol, Mr Hazarika had submitted a list of his supporters, the Governor said he had received the list

of 64 MLAs. The break-up of parties extending support to Mr Hazarika was Asom Janata Dol-24 including one independent, Congress-22, Congress-I-8, CPI-6 and Janata-S-4.

Earlier, CPI-M leader, Mr Nurul Huda called on the Governor and clarified his party's stand in relation to the Janata.

Mr Huda told this correspondent after meeting the Governor that the Janata had sent feelers to the CPI-M for its support to form a united front along with the ROPI and other likeminded groups. Mr Huda, however, pointed out that the CPI-M could not extend support to the Janata till it severed its link with the Jan Sangh, RSS, authoritarian and communal forces.

Meanwhile, the delay in the formation of the alternative Government has caused anxiety in the Asom Janata Dol and its allies. The Dol leader, Mr Hazarika told newsmen that he was "hopeful" of being invited by the Governor on Saturday to form a Government.

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