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Borbora Alleges Interference

From Our Special Representative
NEW DELHI, July 5.—Mr Golap Borbora, Chief Minister of Assam, said here today that "I can manage Assam if my legs are not pulled from New Delhi". Having failed to "dislodge" him from the Chief Ministership, his wings were being clipped "so that I may be pushed out in the near future", he told reporters.

In criticizing the Central leadership of Janata for destabilizing the Government in Assam, Mr Borbora complained that his State was disposed of in "just five minutes" at the June 22 meeting of the Central Parliamentary Board (which decided that Mr Borbora be asked to obtain the resignations of all the members of his Cabinet and reconstitute the Ministry in consultation with the Janata Party Chief, Mr Chandra Shekhar).

He was sore that he did not know about the charges against his Cabinet colleagues. He had heard of the report of the Janata general secretary, Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, "but I have not seen it". He, however, hoped that the Central leadership would "allow me to have a cohesive Cabinet". He would like "minimum changes as I don't have an overwhelming majority".

He said that though the dissidents claimed their strength to be around 30, they were actually "12 to 15". They could mobilize only "eleven here". Their threat to withdraw support to his Ministry would have "no impact".

Mr Borbora, who brought the resignations of his Ministers in pursuance of the directive of the Central Parliamentary Board, had talks with Mr Chandra Shekhar here today. He will resume talks with the Janata chief on Saturday. He said he would reconstitute his Ministry "as soon as possible".

The Statesman.

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