

Borbora woos CPM for survival

Express News Service

SHILLONG, Aug. 31.

With the D-day fast approaching, the supporters and detractors of Assam Chief Minister Golap Barbora are busy girding up their loins for the prestigious trial of strength in the State Assembly which meets at Dispur on September 3.

The uncertain situation prevailing at Gauhati is apparent from the decision of the Governor of North-Eastern States, Mr. L. P. Singh to move down to and camp at Gauhati from September 3. No decision on crucial constitutional matters arising out of the trial of strength in the Assembly.

The ruling Janata Party, which has been apparently reduced to a hopeless minority following mass desertions from its ranks during the last 45 days, is feverishly wooing the 11-member CPM group and

other leftists for its survival. A decision to initiate a dialogue with leftist parties and fronts for soliciting their support was taken at a meeting of the Assam Janata Legislature Party (AJLP) at Dispur yesterday.

As a step in the direction, Mr. Biswa Goswami, general secretary of the party issued a statement assuring that the State unit of the Janata Party was "committed to fight authoritarian, communal and other sectarian forces" and expressed the hope that "Janata Party and other progressive leftist democratic parties in Assam will come closer and unitedly fight against communal forces and vested interests."

As a follow-up action, Chief Minister Barbora's emissaries today contacted the CPM, the CPI, the SUCI, and the CPI (ML).

Meanwhile, Mrs. Anwara Taimur, leader of the 8-member Congress (I) group in the State Assembly, today called on the Governor at Shillong to inform him of her party's decision to support the newly-formed regional party — Assam Janata Dal — in its bid to form an alternative Government.

The Congress (S) with 23 members, the CPI with 6 legislators, the Janata (S) with 4 MLAs, and the Progressive Democratic Front (PDF) which has 6 members, have already informed the Governor that they would support the AJD to form a Government if the Barbora Ministry loses the vote.

1- SEPTEMBER-1979.

INDIAN EXPRESS.