

Borbora's 17-man team in

Express News Service

SHILLONG, July 14.

A 17-member reconstituted Janata Ministry in Assam, headed by Chief Minister Golap Chandra Borbora, was sworn-in at the Janata Bhavan, Dispur at 11 a.m. today.

The Governor of North-Eastern States, Mr. L. P. Singh, administered the oath of office and secrecy to members of the new Council of Ministers.

The new outfit has 11 Ministers of Cabinet rank, including the Chief Minister and 6 Ministers of State. The preceding Council of Ministers had 12 Ministers of Cabinet rank and four Ministers of State.

In the reconstituted Ministry, two of Mr. Borbora's Cabinet colleagues of the previous outfit — Mr. A. F. Golam Osmani and Mr. Zahirul Islam — have not found a berth. Another Cabinet

colleague — the outgoing set-up — Mr. Samar Brahma Choudhury, who was slated to be sworn-in again this morning — did not turn up because of indisposition.

Two of the dissident members — Mr. Nagen Sharma and Silvius Condpan — whose names figured in the list forwarded to the Governor for appointment as Ministers of State, also did not turn up for the ceremony.

Another dissident, Deputy Speaker Sheikh Chand Mohammad, who was offered a Cabinet position, did not respond favourably.

While 12 Ministers in the previous apparatus have been retained in the new outfit, five new faces find a place in it. They are: Mr. Mohd. Ali, (Cabinet Minister), Mr. Ram Chander Sharma, Mr. Anil Das, Mr. Bareleng Tareng, and Mr. Abdul Latif, (all Ministers of State). Mr. Lilamoy Das, a Minister of State in the previous Mi-

nistry, has been promoted to the Cabinet rank.

The other Ministers sworn-in today are: Mr. Dulal Chandra Baruah, Mr. Keshab Chandra Gogoi, Mr. Lakhyadhar Choudhury, Mr. Soneswar Bora, Mr. Lakheshwar Gohain, Mr. Jagan Nath Sinha, Mr. Ramesh Mohan Kouli, Mr. Sonaram Thaosan, (all Ministers of Cabinet rank).

The other Ministers of State sworn-in today are: Mr. Koheshwar Bora, and Mr. Ramani Barman.

The Chief Minister has reconstituted the Council of Ministers in response to the Central Parliamentary Board directive that he overhaul his Ministry to accommodate the dissidents to heal the rift in the party. The objective of papering up the cracks in the organisation, as is apparent from the abstention of the dissidents from the new apparatus, has not been achieved.

Indian Express
15/ July - 1979