

Cong-I govt. in Assam

GAUHATI, January 13 (PTI):

A CONGRESS (I) ministry led by Mr. Keshab Chandra Gogoi was sworn in at 8.30 p.m. today, official sources said.

A presidential proclamation was issued tonight, revoking Central rule in Assam.

Mr. Sanjiva Reddy issued the proclamation under Article 356 (2).

instance of the party high command, said the governor had assured him that his claim for forming a ministry would be examined.

He was invited by the governor to form a ministry this afternoon.

He had claimed the support of 63 members, including 40 of his party, and four each of the PTCA and the tea garden labour group and some independents, in a house with effective strength of 119.

The opposition leaders were conspicuous by their absence at the swearing-in ceremony.



Mr. Keshab Chandra Gogoi

President's rule was imposed on Assam on June 13, 1981.

The governor of Assam, Mr. Prakash Mehrotra, administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr. Gogoi at a simple function held at Raj Bhavan here.

High officials and some Congress (I) legislators were present at the swearing-in ceremony.

Leaders of the opposition in the assembly were not found at the ceremony.

With the swearing in of the Congress (I) ministry the 197-day-long Central rule in state also ended.

The President's rule was brought when the Anwara Taimur ministry "failed" to get the Assam appropriation bill passed by the assembly consequent on the withdrawal of support by the 23 left front members.

Soon after the swearing-in ceremony the chief minister, Mr. Gogoi, told pressmen that he would name other members of his ministry within a couple of days in consultation with the Congress (I) high command.

Mr. Gogoi said he would like to have a three-tier ministry.

The chief minister said he would give top priority to the solution of Assam's problems, particularly the foreign nationals issue.

Mr. Gogoi said he would convene the assembly as soon as possible since the budget session was already very near.

He, however, said he had no immediate plans to go to Delhi as "I will have to see that my house is in order first."

Mr. Gogoi's claim to form a ministry was accepted by the governor in the face of rival claim by the leader of the left and democratic alliance saying the front had the support of 65 legislators.

Earlier, Mr. Gogoi, who was elected on Monday as the leader of the Congress (I) legislature party in place of Mrs. Taimur who resigned at the

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