

Pat 9/10/64

New Delhi Takes Kerala Reins

By Selig S. Harrison

The Washington Post Foreign Service

NEW DELHI, Sept. 10—The central government took over control today of the faction-ridden State of Kerala in Southern India.

President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan suspended the authority of the State Assembly after the governing Congress Party lost its narrow three vote legislative majority.

Fifteen Congress Party members of the legislature broke with the Party last week in defiance of directives from Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and other national congress leaders.

Alliance Organized

Socialists, the Moslem League and pro Moscow and pro Peking Communist blocs were already ranged against the Congress regime.

Factional feuds in Kerala center around the three-way

Assembly Authority Suspended In Faction-Ridden State

rivalry between two populous Hindu caste groups—the Ezhavas and Nairs—and an influential Christian minority.

Domination of the Congress in the past two years by the low caste Ezhavas has sparked a Nair Christian alliance backed by the Communist and the Moslem League.

Christian elements in the coastal Kottayam area were behind the decisive 15-man Congress walkout last week.

The inability of national party leaders to maintain unity among Kerala Congress factions is expected to embolden recalcitrant party bosses in other strife-torn states. Even while the late Prime Minister Nehru was alive, the national Congress

Party influence over the states had started to wane. Now the trend is more pronounced.

An important test of strength between Shastri and Orissa Congress boss Biju Patnaik has developed following the resignation of Orissa Premier Biren Mitra in the wake of corruption charges.

May Resume Post

Patnaik has indicated that he may seek to resume the Premiership himself in place of his protege. But Shastri has made clear that he intends to fight the move.

Patnaik has been the subject of implied charges in Parliament of complicity in the murder of Solicitor General H. N. Sanyal two days ago.

Sanyal had recommended a judicial probe into corruption charges against Patnaik.

New elections are due in Kerala next February to replace the now defunct legislature elected in February, 1960. But Home Minister G. L. Nanda declined today to specify a date for the balloting.

Egyptian to Talk Credits

MOSCOW, Sept. 10 (AP) The United Arab Republic's Prime Minister, Ali Sabri, is coming to Moscow next week to discuss use of credits announced when Premier Khrushchev visited Cairo last May. Khrushchev promised the Nasser government a long-term credit amounting to \$280 million in addition to economic and military aid already provided.