

Blast and bandh in Gauhati

By Our Correspondent

GAUHATI, November 21.

ONE person was killed and two others were injured in a bomb blast at Uzan Bazar last night.

The explosion took place at the residence of Mr. Subha Chandra Barooah, elder brother of Dr. T. M. Barooah, member of the Assam legislative assembly and a former minister.

According to Dr. Barooah, the maid-servant of the house came out of her room, having seen something burning in the verandah. The servant poured some water on it, when it suddenly exploded, injuring her seriously. Mr. Barooah and his wife were also injured. The maid-servant died later.

Senior police and civil officials

visited the spot. Dr. Barooah told newsmen that he might have been the target of the blast. On an earlier occasion a bomb was thrown outside his bedroom.

Meanwhile, the business community here observed a bandh today in protest against the arrest of four prominent businessmen of the city on Thursday and "other excesses committed by the district authorities."

Shops and markets all over the city remained closed since morning. The decision for a bandh was taken yesterday at a meeting of representatives of business organisations held in the Kamrup Chamber of Commerce office.

The meeting viewed with concern the arrests and the subsequent expulsion of the four businessmen from Kamrup District for 72 hours.