

# 12-Hour Path Bandh Programme Today

**BY A STAFF REPORTER  
GUWAHATI, NOV. 29—THE  
ALL ASSAM STUDENTS  
UNION HAS RENEWED ITS  
APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE  
OF ASSAM TO PEACEFULLY  
OBSERVE THE 12-HOUR  
"PATH BANDH" FROM 5  
A.M. TOMORROW TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR UNRELENTING DETERMINATION TO COMPEL THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO EVOLVE AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION OF THE FOREIGNERS ISSUE IN ASSAM.**

The AASU, in a statement issued here today called upon all sections of people to come out on the streets tomorrow, raising slogans to deport foreigners from Assam. It also appealed to all the owners and drivers of private vehicles, bicycles, rickshaws, etc. to stay off the roads during the 'Path Bandh' period.

The programme covering all road traffic will however not affect the air, rail and water transport services. Vehicles directly connected with essential services like milk, water supply, electricity, fire-fighting, medical and news have been exempted from the purview of the blockade. The vehicles used by the Police, the CRP, the Army and the Magistrates on law-and-order duty have also been exempted from the 'Path Bandh'.

The first phase of the resumed movement against foreigners in the State, which began with a 36-hour Assam Bandh on November 19, was followed by a week-long programme of mass rallies held all over the State from November 22 to 29.

The decision to resume the movement was taken by the central executives of the AASU and the AAGSP when

they were prevented by the State administration from holding a central rally here on November 10.

The All Guwahati Students Union also called upon the people of the State irrespective of caste, language, and religion to make the 'Path Bandh' programme a grand success. Sri Matlur Rahman Convenor, AGSU, in a statement appealed to the people to keep a vigilant watch on the anti-social elements who were out to sabotage the peaceful democratic movement.

The Volunteer Force of AASU in a statement here today warned the Government, if it unleashed a reign of terror and repression to crush the non-violent and democratic movement, the Government would be solely responsible for all consequences. It asked the Government to desist from any repressive action and show of force during the 'Path Bandh' programme.

Many other organisations, including the Asom Yuvak Samaj and All India Sikh Students Federation, Guwahati have supported the 'Path Bandh' programme and appealed to all sections of people to make the programme successful by their massive participation.

Meanwhile, the massive preparations made by the State Government to face the 'Path Bandh' programme have made itself felt all over the State with large-scale mobilisation of the forces, civil, para-military and the Army and large-scale requisition of vehicles.

The city bus services in the city stopped from noon today with wide-spread requisition of private buses by the administration. Very few public transport buses plied on the national highways. Most of the buses, along with its drivers and conductors have been impounded in Police custody, today, to ensure the movement of vehicles during the period of 'Path Bandh'.

The Indian Airlines will operate only a combined flight in the morning in view of the blockade programme.

## ARMY ALERTED

According to official sources army has been alerted to come to the aid of the civil authorities on the eve of the 'Path Bandh' programme. Meanwhile, necessary arrangements including deployment of Security Force have been made to keep the National Highways and all inter-district roads free from any obstruction to morrow.

Mobile patrolling as well as pickets by security forces had been arranged to ensure free flow of traffic.

The Chief Secretary, Sri Ramesh Chandra, said yesterday that the buses and trucks would move with armed escorts on that day.

He said some employees of the Assam State Road Transport Corporation were among those who have been taken into custody as a preventive measure.

A Government Press release said that apprehending some obstructions in the running of buses on November 30 it was decided to run the ASTC and other public transport in convoys under police escort from different parts of Assam.

The private and public vehicles can also join the convoys from the originating points as well as at places en route to avail of the police escort. For this purpose they are advised to contact the nearest police station or outpost, the release said.

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THE ASSAM

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