

4 More Killed In Police Firing: Path Bandh Ends

2 JAN 1982

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE

BY A STAFF REPORTER
GUWAHATI, JAN. 1--
WITH FOUR PERSONS
KILLED IN FRESH INCI-
DENTS OF POLICE FIR-
ING, THE DEATH TOLL
ROSE TO SEVEN DUR-
ING THE 36-HOUR ROAD
BLOCKADE BY THE
ASSAM AGITATORS
ENDING AT 17-00 HRS.
TODAY, REPORTS PTI.

Three persons were killed and several others injured when police fired on squatters blocking a passenger train at Muratetelee, near Tezpur today.

Police also fired two rounds to disperse a group of persons from the rail track at Singia Bhakatgaon village in Nowgong district killing one and injuring three others earlier in the day. Two persons were injured in police firing at Biswanath Charali.

According to a report received here that a huge crowd gathered at Muratetelee near Tezpur to prevent running of trains. Police had burst tear-gas shells and made a lathi-charge before opening the fire at 16-18 hours. Three persons were killed and 15 others received bullet injuries. The names of those killed were Sri Rupak Nath (Asst. General Secretary, Tezpur Law College), Sri Manjit Das, a student and Sri Anukul Kakati, an employee of ASRTC. Ac-

curfew has been clamped down in Kumargaon-Muratetelee area of Tezpur town. The 14 injured persons were removed to the Tezpur civil hospital.

AT NOWGONG

Our Nowgong Correspondent adds: Sri Atul Muktiar, a student of Class X of a local HS School of Samagari area died on the spot due to police firing at Singia on the rail track and several were injured. It is learnt.

It is reported that several thousand of people blocked the passage of trains on Chaparmukh-Silghat branch line at Singia, about 20 kms. from here. Police resorted to lathi charge, tear-gassing and failing to disperse the determined crowd police had to resort to firing.

It is alleged that police resorted to indiscriminate lathi-charge on innocent people at several places. Over 100 people including students and youth were arrested.

BISWANATH CHARALI

Two boys—Sri Rana Dutta (21) and Sri Bidyadhar Hazarika (17) and several others were injured in a police firing resorted to on a big crowd at Biswanath Charali Railway station this morning while they tried to block the Arunachal Express down train. Police and CRP lathi-charged and resorted to teargas on a peaceful gathering resulting in injuries to large number of peo-

ple particularly women and old men. Later police fired four rounds from near Pabhol Road railway crossing gate. Injured persons were admitted to Charali Primary Health Centre. Condition of Sri Rana Dutta and Sri Bidyadhar Hazarika whose conditions were serious due to bullet injuries were sent to Tezpur Civil hospital.

fully blocked the train. Police first arrested several batches of them failing which they resorted to lathi-charge and burst teargas shells.

It is surprising that police and CRP personnels started throwing stones from railway track to the innocent people running from railway line. After clearing track train was moving slowly then police opened fire on retreating unprovoked people while they were standing at junction of Pabhol PWD road and station approach road, about one km. from railway station.

AT GUWAHATI

The "Path Bandh" was more effective today, which concluded at 5 p.m. this evening. All vehicular traffic, including private buses, trucks, automobiles, two-wheelers, bicycles, were off the road. The ferry services plied but without passengers.

The Assam State Road Transport Corporation operated only five buses with heavy armed escorts to Shillong, Man-cachar, Dhubri, Tinsukia and Dhemaji. A total of only 28 passengers were carried by these buses. The ASRTC also maintained a skeleton city bus service, but all the buses plied with hardly any passengers.

Office-goers were seen trekking long distances to reach their offices and many offices, both Government and private did not function till late in the morning.

The authorities continued their 'reign of terror' all over the City with indiscriminate arrests and brutal beatings of the peaceful agitationists. Even innocent people moving on the road, were beaten without chym or reason.

The CRPF personnel entered the DS Hostel of the Cotton College here and arrested 23 boarders without permission of the Superintendent of the hostel. All the hostels of the college observed an hour's 'black out' this evening in protest against the arrests and the firings at different places in the State.

The train services which came under the purview of the programme from 5 this morning operated much behind schedule with very few passengers.

A train was detained near the Chandmari level-crossing this afternoon for more than 30 minutes by three young girls and some boys who lied down on the tracks. Later, CRPF personnel chased away the boys and arrested the three girls.

According to reports received here, the 7-Up Tinsukia Mail was held up at the Malbari station due to an obstruction on the railway tracks.

A large contingent of CRPF personnel entered into residences in the Fatashil-Ambari area and ill-behaved with the female members and arrested there women and four men. Several people including pedestrians were mercilessly beaten. The incident was a sequel to another incident in which a Government jeep was heavily damaged allegedly by some miscreants. The CRPF is alleged to have taken away fifteen bicycles.

The police resorted to lathi charge and firing of tear-gas shells on a 2000-strong crowd of volunteers of the Paschim Guwahati Ancharik Gana Sangram Parishad who were squatting on the rail-track at the Kamakhya rail station today. More than 200 lady volunteers were arrested. Later CRPF personnel entered the nearby Borpara village and let loose a 'reign of terror' by pulling out people from their homes and jamming furniture and other valuable belongings.

More than 500 people were arrested in different parts of the City today. The people

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