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From our Campus Table

# Dental Hostel: Bombs, unregistered bike, what next?

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What happened at the Dental College hostel last Saturday has gripped the entire educational atmosphere in fear and anxiety.

How is it that bombs are manufactured at places where the students reside? How come they were stored there, and for what purpose?

So far the students of Dental College were out of headline. They were thought to be a peace loving bunch totally engrossed in their studies but the recent happening in room no. 101 of the Dental College Hostel (ground floor) plus the unregistered Honda 100cc has caught all dumbfold... What next?

As things stand we just cannot be sure how our next door neighbour will behave the next minute or what he shall be doing. The way things are, it cannot be ruled out that the day is not far off when bomb making shall become a household incident, a common past-time of all student.

From reports it is gathered that bombs were recovered not only from room 101 but also from other rooms too.

What is alarming is the news that Miraj and Pintu and the two others that escaped are all outsiders who had possibly taken control of the room.

Miraj, it is learnt, is an electrician while Pintu has passed the SSC examination and is waiting to be enrolled in a college.

This incident reminds us of an incident that happened in Dhaka College hostel a couple of months back.

In that incident two hardened criminals were caught from the said hostel plus a jeep was recovered which was used for such anti-social activities.

However it was gathered from reliable sources that the jeep belonged to an influential person in power.

One cannot help but wonder whether these criminal bomb-makers of Dental College too have strong backing or were planted at the students hostel so that they can be above suspicion and at the same time lash out a reign of terror when the situation deemed it.

It is further learnt that the college Superintendent had admitted that he had failed to clear the hostel of outsiders.

The question remains, why

he did not seek the help of the law enforcing agencies when he knew that the rooms were forcibly taken over by outsiders who were in no way connected with the Dental College?

Surely had he informed the law enforcing agency they would not hesitate to apprehend the bomb makers.

The very same ruse was raised by the Superintendent of Dhaka College Hostel too.

Although these two incidents are stray happenings but one thing is crystal clear that criminals are using student hostels as hideout for their heinous activities which need to be stopped.

There are more similarities between these two stray incidents. At the Dhaka College Hostel a jeep was used for such activities while an unregistered Yamaha was being used at the Dental College Hostel.

The police have said that

this Yamaha 100cc was possibly used for hijacking purposes too.

The Dental College Hostel falls within the joining areas of the Mohammedpur and the Dhanmondi Thanas and traffic police and mobile police squad often move in its vicinity. How is it

that an unregistered vehicle failed to draw their handlike attention especially when the law enforcing agencies have the reputation of squeezing money at this or that pretext.

Definitely there is some sort of patronage from the higher ups, which is, some say, keeping the law enforcing agencies hundreds of miles away.

Where are these bombs used and for what purposes and why are young people engaged in this trade are questions which we should answer.

It is further learnt that of the four injured by bomb explosion two manage to escape

scot free and their identity too remains a mystery.

They escaped after admitting their injured friends at the hospital.

The same trend of rooms being occupied by unwanted persons who are antisocial elements is in practice in our universities too for the last few years.

At the DU cleansing drive was taken a couple of months back in order to identify the trouble mongers and chase them out of the campus but no move was taken to throw away the unwanted outsiders.

Insiders concerned with hall administration have confessed that they are scared to throw out the outsiders for fear of incurring their wrath.

But this situation cannot be allowed to last for ages. It has to be arrested before it gets out of hand.

