

# Bomb-making in college hostel rooms

By Arun Kumar

NEW DELHI, Oct. 12—Terrorists have converted some prestigious college hostel rooms here into private ordnance factories to make bombs and hand-grenades for subversive activities.

These hard-core activists, mostly engineering and science students from strife-torn States, have developed immense technological knowhow for making powerful bombs with easily available chemical explosives.

The college hostel rooms provide them with a near perfect cover from intelligence agencies which are reluctant to search their "out of bounds" premises for fear of clashes and political fallout.

Each bomb, code-named "Naryal", costs Rs 25 or so. Its ingredients, including potash, sulphur and glass splinters, are stolen from college science laboratories. It is tightly wrapped and tied with coconut strings.

The spate of daring bank robberies here and elsewhere are believed to have been pulled off by an Assam terrorist group, led by a former Hindu College student, Bijoy Singh.

Robberies finance terrorist operations in Assam and Bihar. The entire loot is channelised for subversive activities. Certain transactions are conducted through the robbed bank's branches itself.

The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and Delhi University are terrorists operational headquarters. Some hostel rooms have become ammunition dens. College hostels are considered safe criminal hideouts.

Bijoy Singh took his B.Sc. (Hons.) in mathematics from Hindu College here two years ago. He recently shot two police constables and robbed a Shillong bank in Meghalaya of Rs 2 lakh (FIR 1(6)81 Sec. 394 IPC). At present, he is believed to be hiding in a college hostel here.

A nationalised bank on the university campus had conducted transactions ranging between Rs 25,000 and Rs 30,000 through bank drafts in the name of some Assamese students.

Initially, the Intelligence Bureau (IB) suspected the Anand Margis of the spate of sensational bank robberies but subsequent investigations revealed they were Assamese terrorists.

Local intelligence sources said

the terrorists speak fluent English and some times disguise themselves as Sikhs by sporting beard and donning a "pugree".

Besides, there is a Bihari group. It specialises in illegal arms and ammunition manufacture and trade. They cover the Ghaziabad, Rampur and Meerut satellite belt.



Bijoy Singh

The college "dadas" with possible terrorist connections have divided the university campus among themselves and are known by their fancy pet names.

These "dadas" have political heavyweights' tacit blessings. The ruling party MPs also use them for settling their personal scores. At least, three such MPs from Karnataka, Rajasthan and Delhi residing here are known to have dealings with them.

13 - October - 1981

Hindustan Times