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3-member probe body formed

# Irregularities in college admission alleged

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A three-member probe committee to investigate into alleged irregularities in admission process at the under graduation (Honours) level in different colleges under the National University has been formed.

Official sources said the National University recently formed the committee following allegations of illegal admissions in colleges throughout the country.

The "corruption" in admissions had been depriving thousands of students of taking higher studies from colleges, which offer Bachelor's with honours degrees.

Some of the colleges even had to face untoward incidents that occurred over these "illegal" admissions in recent months.

Competent sources told The

Bangladesh Observer that these illegal admissions were manoeuvred by different student organisations and local terrorists. In many instances, they sold the seats to the students who did not qualify in the admission test. "They charge each applicant around Tk. 10,000 for every seat," said a source. "Sometimes, an applicant has to pay Tk. 20,000 for a seat in a prestigious department."

These allegations are there even against famous colleges like Dhaka College, Eden College and Jagannath University College.

This "evil" practice has been going on in the colleges for years. The student organisations press the college authorities to give them the seats reserved for the

applicants from the waiting list.

Some recent violent incidents in some government colleges over the illegal admissions have prompted the National University authorities to form the probe body and inquire into the controversial issue.

In the last month, leaders and activists of the Eden College Unit of a dominant student body demanded of the college authorities to hand over some 300 final admission forms. Being denied, they locked up the principal in her room and ransacked a number of classrooms and offices of the college.

A similar incident took place in Jagannath University College centering the same issue in recent

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## Irregularities

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times. The unruly activists of a student organisation along with local terrorists hurled bombs on the college campus and ransacked some classrooms.

Meanwhile, Pabna Edward College authorities have postponed their admission procedures due to unrest over the issue.

The sources, however, informed The Bangladesh Observer that the college authorities sometimes had no choice than giving away the seats reserved for the waiting lists to the student organisations. The student organisations were said to have resorted to violent means to capture the right to distribute the seats.

The student organisations get the profit in two ways: One is by selling those seats at a very high price and simultaneously they can enroll the supporters of their organisations to the colleges and thus strengthen their supremacy within the campuses, the sources explained.

A high official of the National University, preferring anonymity, told that the recent move by the university would enable to prevent from the illegal admissions to a large extent. "The three-member probe committee has already started its work," he added.