

Cops trace WhatsApp group used by accused boys

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KOLKATA: Two weeks after the 17-year-old first-year student's death at a Jadavpur University hostel kicked up a storm, police have traced a WhatsApp group that was used by some of the accused who have been arrested along with other hostel residents to communicate on the night of August 9.

"It seems that the story concocted to be told to cops was finalized in this group that had 10 members, including alumni. A meeting of all boarders was convened thereafter. The group was deleted the same night. We are in touch with the social media company to retrieve the chats," said an officer.

A source said main accused Sourav Chowdhury had tried to divert police attention by creating another WhatsApp group. He claimed he no longer lived in the hostel but stayed when he brought his mother to Kolkata for treatment.

After questioning 14 people, including four third-year students, mess committee members and hostel staffers, cops said at least six more students are on the radar for preventing cops from entering the hostel on that night. Cops said they have not found anything in statements given by student leaders, including Aritra Majumdar, former Fetsu chairperson and a PhD research scholar of civil engineering.