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Jadavpur University to install 30 CCTVs at 10 spots to secure campuses, hostel

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KOLKATA: Jadavpur University will install three types of CCTV cameras and harness technologies and artificial intelligence to provide perimeter detection and smart motion detection to secure the university's main, Salt Lake campuses and the Main Hostel where the death of a fresher after a fall from the second floor had put the spotlight on the absence of CCTV cameras in JU. The estimated spend in the first phase of the project is Rs 37 lakh.TOI has learnt that Webel Technology Ltd, a state government undertaking that has been entrusted with the task to implement CCTV coverage in JU, will install at least three types of cameras at 10 points, including the gates to the campuses and hostels as well as other strategic locations on the campus. In the first phase, around 30 cameras will be set up.

While two of them - the dome and bullet cameras - perform the same function but are deployed in different environments (dome for indoor use and bullet for outdoors), automatic number plate reading (ANPR) cameras will also be installed to maintain a proper record of vehicles that enter and exit the university.
Electronic security experts told TOI that multiple cameras needed to be installed at each gate to ensure proper coverage. "Bullet cameras that have a weather-proof protective casing should be deployed facing Raja SC Mullick Road as well as the campus to clearly record the faces of people entering or exiting the campus. Also, the cameras have an 80° view. So, if there is need for wider coverage of the entrance, at least two cameras should be installed facing the road," said surveillance technology expert Supratim Sarbavidya.

In addition to these, an ANPR camera has to be installed at each gate facing the campus so that the registration plates of vehicles entering the campus are recorded.

Sarbavidya also suggested the use of pan-tilt-zoom (PTZ) cameras that are more flexible and allow an official in a control room to zoom into a developing trouble spot.

Dome cameras will be installed in Aurobinda Bhavan, the main administrative block where the VC's office is located, the office of the super at Main Hostel and the server room on Salt Lake campus.

Since the JU campus is not a private property, nor is security tight like a vital installation, the official said measures needed to be taken to ensure the cameras did not get vandalised, and if they did get damaged, artificial intelligence based software was required to detect the damage and trigger an alert so that the issue is addressed promptly.

Sources said they were looking at motion detection cameras along the perimeter that will send alerts to security persons if intruders make a breach at night. Softwares with facial detection technology and people counting technology can be used to identify outsiders and help manage an emergency situation.