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Police trace 'professor who signed threat letters sent to Jadavpur University officials'

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KOLKATA: The Jadavpur PS has traced the professor who had purportedly "signed" the threat letters to Jadavpur University registrar and joint registrar Sanjay Gopal Sarkar, asking him to appear before them at the earliest. The professor - a resident of Belgachhia who is presently posted at a Cooch Behar College - has denied any connection with the incident. Both JU authorities and police had clarified earlier that the sender has no link with JU. "I am in Bhubaneswar for my son's admission. I have no link with this letter whatsoever. All I can say is that I have not sent anything. No one from Jadavpur University or the police station has contacted me so far. If the police call me, I will definitely meet them and explain my innocence," he stated.

Police said they still thought that this can be the handiwork of "people with ulterior motives". "We are in touch with the post office to ascertain from where this was posted and the date it was done. Once we get to know this, we will check a few CCTVs in those areas," said an investigator.

TOI had on Saturday reported that the JU authorities had lodged a complaint in this regard where the two senior JU officials were threatened of dire consequences if Sourav Chowdhury, the prime accused in the ragging-related death of a fresher, is harmed.

Lalbazar confirmed that the case has been registered under IPC sections pertaining to criminal intimidation and outraging modesty of a woman. "This case was recorded on the basis of an inquiry report and written complaint

of the registrar. As per her complaint, on September 1, one professor and others, with common intention of misconduct, sent two letters written on post cards by ordinary post to the registrar and the joint registrar of Jadavpur University wherein several threatening and other objectionable words were written," said joint CP (crime) Shankha Subhra Chakrabarty.

The letter reportedly started with unprintable abuse. "Sourav is the pride of JU. He has been falsely implicated by the police under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code. You have to take the responsibility if he is harmed even a bit. Just a bullet of a revolver will be enough for that," the letter read.

Sourav was the first among 13 arrested by the police since the death of the 17-year-old fresher on August 10. He is a former post-graduate student of mathematics with JU whom the public prosecutor has already identified as the chief conspirator.

"Initial investigation has proved that Chowdhury was not only the prime accused as far as the ragging menace at the Main Hostel is concerned, he also had the final say in accommodation-related administrative decisions at the hostel," said police.