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# JU VC room 'sealed' for five days, Sau cites uncertainty and security issues

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Kolkata: The vice chancellor's room at Jadavpur University was "sealed" for five days till Tuesday afternoon at the behest of the former officiating VC.

Buddhadeb Sau, who was removed from the post by the Governor who is also the university's chancellor on December 23, said he had ordered the VC's office to be locked citing security concerns.

"There are confidential documents in the VC's room that need to be secured in absence of a VC," said Sau. He further clarified that the university was passing through an uncertain period and had sought a clarification from the state higher education department on multiple issues.

Officials at the university said the "locking" of the VC's room during office hours was unprecedented. "A Sellotape was pasted on the door lock so that none could access it," said a source.

It was removed on Tuesday afternoon after teachers, staff and various associations questioned the move. Sau had been appointed the officiating VC by chancellor CV Ananda Bose on August 17. His termination came a day before the university's annual convocation. The university had gone ahead with the convocation on the direction of the state higher education department.

Sources said Sau had on December 27 visited the vice chancellor's office for a brief period but did not sign any document. They noticed that the office was locked on December 28.

Jadavpur University Teachers' Association (JUTA) general secretary Partha Pratim Ray said, "We don't know whether the university is running with a vice chancellor or not. This kind of uncertainty should be solved as early as possible otherwise the university will face major issues while taking key decisions in terms of academic and administrative."

Financial approvals, academic decisions would suffer due to the uncertainty about VC's status.

The university is now looking forward to getting a reply from the state higher education department soon to come out from such a deadlock situation.