



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

A motorbike rally at Zero Point intersection in the capital, supporting an Awami League ticket aspirant for the upcoming general election, heading towards the party office on Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday.

RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS Hearing on writ plea challenging legality of holding offices today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday fixed today for hearing three separate writ petitions filed for challenging the legality of holding offices by the recently-resigned ministers and state ministers.

The HC bench of Justice Mirza Hussain Haider and Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar fixed the date after the petitioners placed the petitions before it yesterday, Deputy Attorney General Al Amin Sarkar told The Daily Star.

Supreme Court lawyers Tuhin Malik and Abdullah-Al Baki, and Abdul Khaleque Moni, editor of the monthly magazine,

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RAPE OF TRIPURA GIRL, SUICIDE OF FATHER Trauma continues to haunt family

SHAHADAT HOSSAIN and MINHAI UDDIN, Cg

In a society where rape is still considered a taboo, the psychological impact left on the family after the sexual assault of a 13-year-old girl of the Tripura community and the suicide by the father the next day is traumatic.

It was evident the way the 45-year-old mother, Shanti Tripura, sat with her face buried in her palms at Chittagong Medical College Hospital yesterday with the victim sitting beside her, clutching her saree, following every move she made.

They had come for a forensic test for the November 12 battery. Another test was conducted on November 14, said Head of Forensic Medicine Dr Syed MA Kashem.

The hollowness of her eyes spoke all too well of the shock from the double blow. A constable who had escorted them from their Uttar Talbaria residence in Chittagong's Mirsarai upazila said the girl cried intermittently all throughout the way.

Meanwhile, a pall of gloom enveloped their small hut as the family's three sons sat dejected outside. Of them, one lives nearby with his wife. Another daughter lives with her husband in Sitakunda upazila.

"Since the incident, mother has been weeping intermittently and refusing to eat. We have to forcefully feed her," said the youngest son, Anta Tripura, 10.

"My father used to cultivate paddy in other people's land and sell firewood collected from the hills. I used to help him

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SALE OF FORMS ENDS

Hasina to meet AL nomination seekers Nov 24

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League yesterday closed the sale of nomination forms, bringing in, as per The Daily Star's calculations based on information the party provided every day since the sale began on November 10, around Tk 7.4 crore from 2,959 forms.

On the contrary, AL Deputy Press Secretary Mrinal Kanti Das told journalists yesterday that 2,608 forms were sold, each at Tk 25,000, at the AL central office in the capital's Bangabandhu Avenue for the 300 parliamentary constituencies.

AL President Sheikh Hasina will meet the nomination seekers at Gono Bhaban on November 24.

Yesterday, 216 forms were sold worth Tk 54 lakh. The sale began with 678 on Sunday and then continued with 476 on

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