

# Bail plea rejected in baby swap case

**Kolkata:** A division bench of Calcutta High Court rejected the anticipatory bail plea of the owner of a nursing home in Midnapore in a baby swap case.

Sultana Bibi, a resident of Sobong in West Midnapore, was admitted to a local health centre in the last week of April. But since the health centre didn't have proper facilities, she was shifted to a nursing home in Debra on April 29. According to her counsel, Sultana gave birth to a male baby on the same night. She allegedly had even seen the baby beside her on the bed. The next morning, however, the bed was empty and she was told that it was a still-born baby girl.

Later in the day, Sultana and her family came to know that Sheikh Ohia of a neighbouring village had bought male newborn from the nursing home that day. There was a ruckus over the issue and a scared owner of the nursing home, Manik Maity, appealed before the high court for an anticipatory bail.

Maity's lawyers Sekhar Basu and Phiroze Edulji tried to prove their client innocent, the court rejected the bail plea on Tuesday. **TNN**