

# Bail in rape case

CALCUTTA High Court on Tuesday granted bail to one Nayan Mandal (22) of Rampurhat, Birbhum, lodged in jail for 73 days for allegedly raping his childhood lover, Saraswati (16).

Moving the plea Nayan's advocates Phiroze Edulji and Anirban Khastigar said: "Consensual sex with a promise to marry does not amount to rape."

Saraswati Mondal, a student of Kashtogara High School, lodged a complaint with the local police alleging that on January 10, Nayan tried to have sex with her. When she refused, Nayan put vermilion on her head and said that she was his wife and then had sex with her.

When she told about this to her parents, they asked Nayan to marry her. But his family rejected the proposal when girl's parents refused to give dowry. Police arrested Nayan, who was sent to jail by the SDJM. He then moved the High Court.

*HTC, Kolkata*