

## **16-year-old girl raped by 60-year-old man and 3 others inside grocery shop**

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A case has been registered against a 60-year-old man and three others, aged between 18 and 28 years, for allegedly sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl in Punjab's Patiala.

*Minor girl raped by four men in Punjab's Patiala [Representative image]*

**Punjab (India):** In yet another incident of sexual abuse, a 16-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a 60-year-old man and three others, aged between 18 and 28 years, inside a grocery shop in Punjab's Patiala. Police arrested three of the four accused, following a complaint on Friday. The sexagenarian is still at large.

### **Minor girl raped after being dragged inside shop**

Police said the incident took place last month when the teenager went to a shop in the vicinity for buying groceries. The shop is owned by one of the accused. When she reached the shop, one of the accused forcibly pulled her inside. Thereafter, he sexually assaulted her with the help of the other accused men. Before letting her go, they threatened her with dire consequences if she revealed the crime to anyone, the minor survivor told the police.

### **Girl's family learns about crime**

Police said that initially, the survivor did not report the crime for almost a month since the accused had threatened her. She narrated her ordeal to her family after the accused began teasing her. A complaint was lodged on Friday after the family became aware of the crime.

Speaking to *The Times of India*, Tripuri police station SHO Harjinder Singh Dhillon said, "Three accused including the main culprit are nabbed. The medical examination of the rape survivor has been conducted and the reports were awaited." The statement of the survivor has also been recorded, the SHO added.

### **Another incident**

In another incident, a 22-year-old youth allegedly raped a 15-year-old girl while his six of his friends filmed the crime and later posted the video on WhatsApp groups. The incident happened at the minor girl's residence in Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad near Delhi on September 3. Her parents had gone to Aligarh for some work.

- TN