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Turbhe rape victim's father seeks age test for accused

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NAVI MUMBAI: A year after the brutal rape of a 10-year-old girl, who later died of medical complications, her father, on Friday, appealed before the Bhiwandi Juvenile Court to make the four accused undergo bone density tests.

Representing the victim's father in court, advocate Siddh Vidya told the judge, since the victim's family suspects that not all accused were below 18 years at the time of the crime, bone density tests will scientifically prove their ages.

"The girl was raped by the four accused on June 16 last year and died 10 days later. The accused were reported to be aged 14-16 years. However, the victim's father suspects that at least two are over 18 and hence should be tried as adults," said Vidya.

The juvenile court has now fixed August 1 as the date of hearing.

The five key witnesses could not be cross-examined on Friday as the public prosecutor was absent.

The police chargesheet has stated that the four accused are 'juveniles' on the basis of their school leaving certificates.

But advocate Vidya countered in the court that certificates can also be forged and hence bone density tests will be the best way to know their exact ages.