

Indian women protest for more protection in wake of rape-murder of junior doctor

Aug. 15 (UPI) — Tens of thousands of women in eastern India took to the streets overnight to protest the rape and murder of a female junior doctor working the night shift at a public hospital in Kolkata.

The Reclaim the Night march on the eve of a holiday to mark 77 years of independence from Britain capped off five days of nationwide demonstrations by medics sparked by the killing of the unnamed 31-year-old resident at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on Friday.

A man who volunteers at the hospital has been arrested in connection with the killing but the women are demanding “independence to live in freedom and without fear” while the medics called for a federal law to protect female doctors and nurses.

Almost 30% of India’s doctors and 80% of nurses are women.

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