OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE: DELHI.

No. **658** /PRO/PHQ, dated, New Delhi, the 06/11/2020

To

The Editor,
Hindustan Times,
New Delhi.

Subject: **Rejoinder regarding news item "Two minors raped by strangers, 2 held" published in 'Hindustan Times' dated 06.11.2020 - HT correspondent (htreporters@hindustantimes.com).**

Sir,

Kindly refer to the aforesaid article published by your esteemed newspaper.

On bare perusal of this article, it lays impression that some strangers/ vagabonds have become active in Delhi and are committing rape with minors.

It is pointed out that the heading used by HT in the news article "Two minors raped by strangers, 2 held – Minors at risk in city" is misleading. Delhi city is very much safe and secure for the residents. As per the SCRB data 2020, an analysis of all such cases shows that in 97.25% cases, persons are known/acquaintances to the victims and in only 2.75% cases strangers are involved.

In this regard, it is clarified that these two incidents have been clubbed in a single story leaving an impression that the children are not safe in the area.

As regards to the incident of North District, the alleged arrested by the police was not stranger to the victim. Rather, he was a local resident, who was well acquainted with the victim. He was living in the vicinity of the house of the victim. Being acquaintance, the alleged took the minor girl to his house and assaulted her. The accused was arrested on the spot, immediately with reporting of the incident. The clarification be specifically published, accordingly.

In Narela incident of Outer-North District, the victim used to come alone to temple on every Tuesday and Saturday. Her mother is employed as labour. The accused also used to come there regularly and play with the victim. The accused was using his father's mobile phone for online activities and the parents never tried to search history of online activities of their child.

Steps are being taken to prevent such incidents in future through increased police presence, identifying dark spots, taking up remedial action with concerned civic agencies and cooperative efforts with NGOs to explain to the parents and their young children regarding the meaning of good touch and bad touch.

You are, therefore, requested to publish the rejoinder in your newspaper for the benefit of the readers.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Eish Singhal) IPS
Public Relations Officer
Delhi Police, Delhi