OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE: DELHI.

No. 659 /PRO/PHQ dated New Delhi, the **07.11.2020.**

To

The Editor,
Hindustan Times,
New Delhi.

Subject: **Afresh Rejoinder for same 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 article published by your esteemed newspaper captioned "Two minors raped by strangers, 2 held – Minors at risk in city" is highly misleading.

At the outset, it is clarified that two incidents mentioned in the article have been clubbed in a single story, leaving an impression to the readers that the children are not safe in the area. 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. Further, the total number of incidents of rape has fallen by 24 % as compared to year, 2019.

In the incident of North District, the alleged arrested by the police was not a 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 an acquaintance, the alleged took the minor girl to his house and assaulted her. The accused was arrested on the spot, immediately after the incident was reported.

Similarly, in Narela incident of Outer-North District, the victim used to come alone to temple on every Tuesdays and Saturdays. Her mother is employed as labour. The accused (Juvenile offender) would also come there regularly and play with the victim.

The two separate incidents have taken place within the locality where the victim was familiar with the accused. While police keeps a watch over habitual criminals and keeps the area secured, the society has a major role to play in cases where the accused is known to the victim. Counselling by parents improves the safety of minor children.

Delhi Police also runs various programmes for the awareness of young students/children like Nirbheek, Nazuk, Shashakti to sensitize them on such issue.

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
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