OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE: DELHI.

No. 46 /PRO/PHQ dated Delhi, the 12/03/2021.

To,

The Editor,
Hindustan Times,
HT-House 18-20,
Kasturba Gandhi Marg,
New Delhi

Subject: - Rejoinder to news article captioned 'Capital Crime: shots ring out in two places in South Delhi' dated 11th March 2021 and 'Bus driver, cop hurt after two shootings near Andrews Ganj' dated 11th March 2021 reg.

Sir,

Apropos both the news articles, it is stated that all ethos of journalistic fair reporting have been disregarded in publishing the said articles and in grossly misplaced activism, the two articles are devoid of truth and merit and appear to have guided the actions of the authors of both the so called 'news articles'.

2. The caption heading **'Capital Crime..'** is misleading and malicious and the one under **'Bus Driver, cop hurt..'** is short of facts and a piece of journalism based on sensationalizing two unconnected incidents with one being a gallant act of two heroic Police personnel and another of professional investigative policing. Both the captioned news articles have conveniently ignored, for sensationalism, the brave act of the injured constable and that of his colleague, and their quick thinking that led to the foiling of nefarious designs of the desperate criminals at the cost of putting their own lives at risk.

3. The factual and correct perspectives pertaining to the case being that while on area patrol, Constable Naveen noticed two suspicious looking boys on a motor cycle in the Sadiq Nagar area. That the motorcycle had defective number plate also led to suspicion and he immediately called up his colleague Constable Manish, who was also on motor cycle patrolling to cover this bike approaching towards BRT road. Constable Naveen challenged and attempted to nab the suspect but the pillion rider took out a fire arm and shot at him resulting in injury to the Constable. However, Constable Manish had entered the service road by then and immediately hit them with his motorcycle leading to their subsequent arrest and recovery of the fire arm. Brave Constables Naveen and Manish, without caring about their own life, nabbed the armed motorcycle borne robbers in which Constable Naveen sustained grievous injuries.

4. It is always expected from the authors of your distinguished publication to have made some effort to find out the correct facts and report such sensitive matters before resorting to sensationalism and arriving at conclusions devoid of all facts. A Gallant act of two quick thinking policemen has been falsely portrayed as a Fire Arm usage incident coupled with a mischievous headline, to mislead your esteemed readers. It is evident that your publication has resorted to coloured vision and thereby having distorted and faulty vision of an act which is heroic. It will be in the interest of your readers to have correct perspective of police act

5. Thus the article as well as the first page title of 'Capital Crime - Shots ring out at two places in south Delhi' aims to create sensation and portray a false picture of the two incidents, both of which were not linked. One incident was an act of valour on the part of two Delhi Police personnel whereas the

other act was an act of enmity, a conspiracy hatched by a wife to eliminate her husband with help from her lover. Facts relating to the quick arrest of the accused persons were also duly communicated to your publication, which was conveniently ignored.

6. The facts of second part of the news articles are enumerated here for a clear understanding of the editorial staff as well as readers of your newspaper. That a PCR call was received about an incident of firing near Electricity Grid, Andrews Ganj at 9.06 AM, wherein a motorcycle rider had shot a person who was present in a car. The injured was identified as Bhimraj aged 45 years r/o Chirag Delhi, working as a contractual cab driver in City Cab, providing vehicle services to BSES, who had sustained a single bullet injury in his neck. The injured was shifted to AIIMS and a case of attempt to murder was registered promptly and investigation was taken up. It has subsequently led to the arrest of the accused who planned the attack with the Wife of the injured as both of them were having an affair and the victim had objected to it. This incident is reflective of weak human character and values and is no indication of law & order situation.

7. While the first incident is that of the nabbing of the two desperate criminals by the two brave police personnel which happened at about 8 AM, the second incident is that of firing upon the victim Sh. Bhimraj which happened at 9.06 AM. Not only are the two incidents not related even remotely, the factual information is also misrepresented in your news article and particularly the heading as the injured is a Cab driver and not a Bus driver. Secondly, the incident is a result of a deep rooted conspiracy hatched by the Wife of injured along with her lover namely Rohan @ Manish r/o Govindpuri.

8. The publication of a version attributed to the brother of the injured victim without verification is more of an attempt to mislead the investigation, goes against the ethos of journalism and points towards the lack of understanding of the entire incident by the biased author of the article.

9. Further, strong exception is taken to the use of words 'Easy access to firearms'. The number of criminals arrested both preventive and in cases of use of fire arms is a pointer to stringent action being taken against criminals. While 40 cases were reported in 2019 with 30 arrests, the year 2020 saw 52 such instances with 47 arrests. The number of Bad characters arrested for the year 2019 is 35 and for 2020 it is 91.

10. The number of PCR calls and cases registered under the heads of street crimes has shown a steady decline with the year 2019 seeing 2270 and 280 PCR calls of snatching and robbery with the arrest of 229 Snatchers and 247 robbers while the year 2020 witnessed 1354 and 260 PCR calls of snatching and robbery respectively with the arrest of 205 snatchers and 306 robbers. Thus the figures are a clear case in the point to enhanced action against criminal elements.

11. Further, any comment on the state of law & order will be incomplete unless you take into account the factors in the society which shapes a person to become an offender. It is expected from your distinguished publication that biased views are not echoed or propagated by the so called experts in policing, with no experience in policing in the city of Delhi.

12. It is requested that this rejoinder be published and the same space and importance be given for bringing out the correct facts in the spirit of ethical

journalism. Delhi Police, through its untiring efforts, is ensuring safe and secure Delhi for the citizens of Delhi.

(CHINMOY BISWAL) IPS,
Dy. Commissioner of Police,
Public Relations Officer, Delhi Police