OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE : SPECIAL CELL; DELHI.

No. 736 /SO – DCP/Special Cell dated Delhi the 09-03-2011.

To

The Editor,
Mail Today,
New Delhi.

Sub:- Rejoinder about news item " Sedition speech catches up with Geelani in city".

Sir,
This is with reference to the above by line news item published in your esteemed newspaper on 21st February, 2011 at Page-2. The headline and the related contents of the news item are factually incorrect and misleading.

In the news item, the press reporter has mentioned that Delhi Police have told the Kashmere separatist leader Shri Syed Ali Shah Geelani not to leave the Capital purportedly following up on the FIR lodged against him for making an anti-India speech at a seminar in October 2010, which are devoid of merit.

It is clarified that the facts of the case are that on the basis of secret information regarding Hawala Money being sent to Jammu & Kashmir to various organizations/individuals suspected to be connected with terrorist/secessionist activities a case u/s 120-B – IPC r/w 17 - Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act was registered by Special Cell, Delhi and investigation was taken up. During the course of investigation four persons namely (1) Mohd. Siddiq Ganai, (2) Ghulam Gilani Laloo @ Salim, (3) Farooq Ahmed Dagga and (4) Ghulam Mohd. Butt (associated with Hizb-ul Mujahideen – a banned organization) were arrested from Jammu & Kashmir and Rs.21.20 lakhs were recovered from their possession. During the police remand, one of the accused Gulam Mohd. Butt disclosed his association and financial dealings with Hurriyat faction led by Shri S A S Geelani. In order to clarify certain issues learnt during disclosure of Ghulam Mohd. Butt, a letter was sent to Shri S A S Geelani (then in Delhi) on 17th February, 2011 to meet the Investigating Officer regarding questioning into the matter. Shri Geelani expressed his inability (due to medical reasons) for the said meeting with Investigating Officer. In response to his reply another letter was sent asking him to indicate the date and time convenient as per his health condition to meet the Investigating Officer. He was further asked not to leave Delhi till he has been examined in connection with the investigation of the above referred case. Mr. SSAS Geelani was informed about the case in which he was to be questioned.

The factual position as mentioned above, was also circulated to the press vide Press Release issued on 21st February, 2011 (copy enclosed). It is, therefore, requested that necessary clarification in the form of rejoinder may kindly be published to put the facts in proper perspective to correct the news item. It will also be appreciated if the reporter is advised to verify the facts from the authorized officers before filing report on such sensitive issues.

Yours sincerely,

(Arun Kampani)
Dy. Commissioner of Police
Special Cell, Delhi