OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE: DELHI.

No. 225 /PRO/PHQ dated Delhi, the 29/02/2020.

To

The Editor,
Hindustan Times,
New Delhi.

Subject: - **Rebuttal to the headline "How Patnaik lost control of his force, legacy".**

Sir,

This refers to the above news article which has appeared in your esteemed newspaper today. The headline itself is a subjective and personalised opinion of the concerned reporter and is strongly rebutted.

As regards contents like " Patnaik, who had not visited the riot hit area over the previous two days, was at Police Headquarters, 12 km away" it is clarified that Sh. Amulya Patnaik, CP, Delhi, had himself visited the area in the evening on the very first day i.e. 24.02.2020 when further reinforcements were immediately organized, and he also visited the vulnerable pockets with other senior officers to take stock of the situation. Subsequently, the CP, Delhi had continuously visited for the next 3 days important vulnerable areas in the night as these areas had mostly seen untoward incidents during night time. It is entirely incorrect to have projected in the write-up that CP, Delhi had not visited the affected areas for 2 days.

It is incorrect to have projected an entirely unfair impression that "Patnaik, has the reputation of being a clean but hands off officer." There have been a number of crisis situations like Farmers Rally, holding of international events and conferences and 3 major elections, where his personal planning, intervention and effective handling resulted in addressing critical law and order issues. It is also not fair to evaluate the performance during a three-year tenure only on the incidents that took place periodically during last 3-4 months. It should be kept in mind that, during the last 3-4 months only, Delhi Police has handled major events, including Republic Day, Assembly Elections and the American President's Visit to make foolproof security arrangements even in difficult situations.

In view of the above-stated facts and circumstances, it is requested that this rebuttal may be published with the same prominence, to put the facts in proper perspective before your esteemed readers.

(MANDEEP SINGH RANDHAWA) IPS
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER