

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE,
DELHI**

No. /PRO/PHQ, dated, Delhi the / 7 /2009.

To

The Editor,
Times of India
New Delhi

Sub:- Rejoinder regarding news item “Kanwarias on the rampage after 1 injured”.

Sir,

This refers to the captioned news item appeared in the Times of India today i.e. 20-7-2009. The contents of the news item are found partially incorrect and misleading.

The news item has claimed that the police ruled out taking any action against the kanwarias and would take “legal action” against the driver. It further quoted an officer mentioning that “We understand that the kanwarias make a tough journey to Haridwar and return with the holly water. Such incidents are rare and do not warrant any serious action”.

It is clarified that a PCR call was received at PP Madipur at 8.40 AM on 19-7-09 regarding quarrel near kanwaria camp, Madipur, Rohtak Road. SHO Punjabi Bagh along with staff rushed to the spot where a huge crowd of kanwarias had gathered having baseball bat and lathies in their hands. Two cars (Zen Astelo & Maruti Zen) damaged by Kanwarias were found parked on the road side. The kanwarias were quite aggressive and had broken the glasses of three DTC buses and one blue line bus. They have also broken the glasses of Gypsy of SHO/Paschim Vihar and two other

cars. Additional force from the neighbouring police stations as well as outside force was mobilized to control the situation.

On enquiry, it was found that one Zen Astelo car had touched the kanwar of one kanwaria namely Monu r/o Mangolpuri, Delhi and the Ganga Jal being carried by the kanwaria got spread over the road. This incident has provoked the kanwarias to beat up the driver of Zen Astelo car who was found in injured condition on the spot. The driver was identified as Sonu Gupta s/o Shalender Gupta r/o 259 LIG Flats, Hastal, Vikas Puri Delhi. He was medically examined in DDU Hospital and subsequently discharged. Opinion about nature of his injuries is reserved. Crime Team was called on the spot and inspected the scene of crime and took photographs of the place of incident. Videography of the spot was also got conducted. Kanwarias also disrupted traffic both the carriage way of the Rohtak Road but subsequently one carriage way was got opened for traffic. However, traffic in other carriage way was diverted.

A case vide FIR No. 272/09 u/s 147/148/149/186/353/341/427/323 IPC and section 3 of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act dated 19-7-2009 was registered at PS Punjabi Bagh in this regard. During investigation three accused who had instigated the crowd have been identified.

In view of the above stated facts and circumstances, it is incorrect to say that the police ruled out taking any action against the kanwarias. Since the police has already initiated appropriate legal action against the involved persons, the correct facts of the matter may be published with the same prominence for the readers of your esteemed news paper who may have misled by reading the contents of the news item.

(Rajan Bhagat)
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