Subject: Request for verification and confirmation of takedown requests purportedly submitted b Delhi Police to X concerning SFLC.in's X account and posts
From: [redacted]
Date: 04/11/26, 09:36
To: splcp-crime-dl@delhipolice.gov.in
CC: jointcp.cybertech@delhipolice.gov.in, cpdelhi@delhipolice.gov.in, jtcp.crime@delhipolice.gov.in

November 4, 2026

To,

The Special Commissioner of Police (Crime)

Delhi Police

Delhi Police Headquarters

Jai Singh Road, New Delhi – 110001

Sir,

Subject: Request for verification and confirmation of takedown requests purportedly submitted by Delhi Police to X concerning SFLC.in's X account and posts

I am writing on behalf of the Software Freedom Law Center, India (SFLC.in), a donor-funded digital rights organisation that has been active since 2010, working on issues relating to digital rights, freedom of expression, cyberfraud and digital scams, privacy and technology policy.

On 3 November 2026, SFLC.in received two communications from X's Support Team informing us that the platform had received requests from the Delhi Police concerning 42 URLs, including SFLC.in's X account <https://x.com/SFLCin> and four posts published from the account. These requests seek the removal or withholding of the identified content on grounds including defamation, hate speech and safety/ security. The communications from X dated 3 November 2026 are enclosed herewith.

The communications from X were accompanied by copies of two content takedown orders purportedly made by the Delhi Police. The orders are referenced as LD-321926 dated 31 October 2026 and LD-322956 dated 2 November 2026. On examining these documents, we note that the submissions identify Mr. Hargobinder Singh Dhaliwal, Special Commissioner of Police (Crime), Delhi Police, as the reporting officer with the email id as splcp-crime-dl@delhipolice.gov.in. The takedown orders refer to Section 356 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and, in case of the latter order LD-322956, additionally refer to Section 79(3)(b) of the Information Technology Act, 2000, read with Rule 3(1)(d) of the

Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. They also seek the removal or withholding of the identified content. Both orders LD-321926 dated 31 October 2026 and LD-322956 dated 2 November 2026 are enclosed herewith.

However, the copies received from X raise certain questions that require clarification. In particular, the fields relating to the nature and details of the court order in both orders appear to have been left blank, notwithstanding the reference to the enforcement of a court order in the latter order LD-322956. Further, the submissions do not provide details of any FIR, complaint number, investigation or judicial proceedings forming the basis of the requests, despite such complaint and cognizance of Magistrate after hearing the accused being mandated procedure under Sections 222(1) and 223(1) of the Bharatiya Nagarika Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 to make out an offence under Section 356 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

In view of the above, we request your office to clarify the following:

1. Whether the requests dated 31 October 2026 and 2 November 2026, copies of which are enclosed, were in fact submitted by the Delhi Police to X? We also request confirmation of whether these submissions were authorised by the officers identified therein.
2. Whether the requests were submitted through the Sahyog Portal, X's Legal Request Portal [redacted] the Law Enforcement Request form in X's Help Center [redacted] or any other mechanism.
3. The details of the complaint filed before the Magistrate having jurisdiction, as required under Section 222(1) of the Bharatiya Nagarika Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, upon which these requests were made, including the relevant FIR or complaint numbers, the police station or unit concerned, and the particulars of the complainant, wherever disclosable.
4. Details of any proceedings before a competent Magistrate pursuant to which the requests were made, as required under Section 223(1) of the Bharatiya Nagarika Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.
5. Copies of any court orders or directions of a competent Magistrate pursuant to which the requests were made. In particular, since the submissions refer to the enforcement of a court order but do not provide its particulars, we request clarification on whether any such order exists.

We wish to emphasise that SFLC.in takes seriously any communication originating from a law enforcement authority. It is therefore important for us to independently verify the authenticity and legal basis of these requests, particularly where they concern restrictions on online expression and the public dissemination of information.

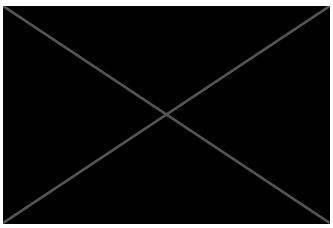
SFLC.in's Free Speech Tracker <freespeech.sflc.in> is a public-interest initiative that documents instances

of online censorship, content restrictions and account takedowns in India. The posts identified in the requests relate to legal notices received by SFLC.in and other civil society organisations, and our efforts to document and bring attention to such developments. We believe that documenting restrictions on online expression is an important part of ensuring transparency and accountability in the exercise of powers affecting fundamental rights.

We request your office to acknowledge receipt of this representation and provide a written response clarifying the above at the earliest. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

For Software Freedom Law Center, India (SFLC.in)



Enclosures:

1. Copy of the communications received from X dated 3 November 2026, concerning five URLs associated with SFLC.in, including the URL to SFLC.in's X account itself.
2. Copy of the communications received from X dated 3 November 2026, concerning 42 URLs, including five URLs associated with SFLC.in, including the URL to SFLC.in's X account itself.
3. Copies of the notices dated 31 October 2026 (LD-321926) and 2 November 2026 (LD-322956), purportedly submitted by Delhi Police to X directing the removal of content found in the mentioned 42 URLs, including five URLs associated with SFLC.in, including the URL to SFLC.in's X account itself

Attachments:

Delhi Police Letter.pdf	265 KB
(Delhi Police)X Receipt of Correspondence dt. 02.11.2026 8_48 AM.pdf	29.0 KB
(Delhi Police) X Receipt of Correspondence dt. 02.11.2026 10_03 AM.pdf	31.1 KB
Notices from Delhi Police dated 31.10.2026 and 02.11.2026 directing takedown -1.pdf	70.7 KB

Subject: Undelivered Mail Returned to Sender
From: Mail Delivery System <MAILER-DAEMON@dosa.p.sflc.info>
Date: 04/11/26, 09:36
To: [redacted]

This is the mail system at host mx.in.sflc.info.

I'm sorry to have to inform you that your message could not
be delivered to one or more recipients. It's attached below.

For further assistance, please send mail to postmaster.

If you do so, please include this problem report. You can
delete your own text from the attached returned message.

The mail system

<jointcp.cybertech@delhipolice.gov.in>: host mx.mgovcloud.in[169.148.144.89]
said: 550 5.1.1 User does not exist -
<jointcp.cybertech@delhipolice.gov.in> (in reply to RCPT TO command)

<splcp-crime-dl@delhipolice.gov.in>: host mx.mgovcloud.in[169.148.144.89] said:
550 5.1.1 User does not exist - <splcp-crime-dl@delhipolice.gov.in> (in
reply to RCPT TO command)