RASHTRA JYOTI

ANALYSIS BRIEF
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The Delhi Holi Assault That Print Coverage Left Out

Original analysis by **Swati Goel Sharma**

Mainstream coverage gave more attention to a disputed allegation about a Holi water balloon than to the assault on a student who intervened to protect a child. The Times of India devoted several print pages to the protests even as it reported the police finding that the balloons contained water, and covered the assault on its website.



(Left) A youth was beaten to near death on Holi. (Right) Protests over unverified claims on semen-filled water balloons.

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- A college student intervened when two people beat a child over a Holi water balloon. He was later attacked with rods and stabbed.
- The police used footage from cameras in the lane to identify suspects. Four had been apprehended by the time of reporting.
- The Times of India devoted several pages of its 2 March print edition to protests over the balloon allegation while carrying a police rebuttal in the same edition.
- Delhi police said parents would be booked if their children threw water balloons at passers-by without consent, a response the author welcomed.

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SCAN TO SUPPORT

Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in March 2018. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.