STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF DR. M.A. ANWAR, AL HIND HOSPITAL
DEMANDING REMOVAL OF HIS NAME AND ALL FALSE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST HIM FROM THE CHARGESHEET (FIR 39/20)

We, undersigned medical professionals, public health professionals, health networks, women’s groups and civil liberties alliances and networks, academics, former health secretaries, bureaucrats, lawyers, writers, film makers, and other concerned organizations and concerned individuals strongly condemn the malicious naming of Dr. M. A. Anwar in the charge-sheet of FIR 39/20, Gokulpuri Police Station, dated 28 February 2020. Dr. Anwar, the proprietor of Al Hind Hospital in New Mustafabad provided medical care to several people who were victims of the targeted violence in north east Delhi in late February 2020, which resulted in the death of more than 53 people, with hundreds of people injured.

Dr. Anwar and Al Hind played a significant humanitarian role in saving the lives of people who were affected through provision of urgently needed medical services in a situation fraught with violence and fear. Al Hind was one of the few hospitals, which provided treatment for hundreds of patients who were injured, some with grievous bullet injuries and fractures, some traumatised by the violence, etc. and rendered to each person a full measure of service and devotion to humanity and human dignity.

Dr. Anwar has been falsely mentioned in this charge-sheet alleging instigation of the local people against the government on the issue of CAA-NRC (Citizenship Amendment Act-National Register of Citizens) which led to violence in the area.

We would like to assert that Dr. Anwar as a medical professional, followed the code of medical ethics, and treated every person who was injured in the riots and who approached his hospital with empathy and diligence. His prompt action to help injured people during the riots was praised by many persons, including the Hon’ble High Court of Delhi, and reports on the violence that recorded the role of Al Hind hospital and its owner, Dr. Anwar in helping victims of the violence, irrespective of their religion or caste or class. Several medical teams working in the area during and in the aftermath of the violence, witnessed Dr. Anwar’s responsible, untiring response as a medical professional, providing healthcare in the most challenging circumstances in the midst of targeted violence against the Muslim community in that area at tremendous risk to his own life. Conscientious medical professionals in several parts of the world believe that resistance to oppression and violence go hand in hand with provision of ethical healthcare is irrespective of the context, caste, religion or the background of the patient.

Thus, it is shocking that a person, who has saved the lives of many through his prompt and timely actions, has now been falsely referred to in the charge-sheet alleging instigation!

Apart from a violation of his Constitutional and democratic rights as a citizen of this country, the fallacious references to Dr. Anwar in the charge-sheet is a frontal attack on a doctor, an emerging pattern evident from the attacks on other doctors committed to the cause of the people during the ongoing COVID pandemic, which has become the wont of the State. We strongly condemn the targeting and harassment of Dr. Anwar and this is undoubtedly a vindictive attempt at targeting a medical professional despite his incontrovertible humanitarian work. The naming of Dr. Anwar in the charge-sheet indicates the abuse of the law and its process at the hand of the police and appears to be communally motivated. This is an absolute violation of the right to life and liberty, equality, freedom of speech and expression, and to dissent as a citizen.
The state authorities must instead acknowledge the evidence of the large-scale physical and psychological trauma caused to residents as a consequence of the targeted violence and the care and support extended by the hospital and the commitment of Dr. Anwar.

We urge the police to immediately remove Dr. Anwar’s name from the charge-sheet of FIR (39/20), Gokulpur Police Station, dated 28 February 2020, as these allegations are unwarranted, fallacious and defamatory. We demand that the police desist from harassment and intimidation and that no arrest be made on the basis of prejudiced and unwarranted allegations and investigation.

Endorsed by:
1. Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA)
2. Medico Friend Circle (MFC)
3. All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN)
4. Right to Food Campaign (RTFC)
5. National Alliance of People’s Movement (NAPM)
6. New Trade Union Initiative (NTUI)
7. National Federation of Indian Women (NFIW)
8. People’s Union For Civil Liberties (PUCL)
9. Majdoor Kissan Shakti Sanghatan (MKSS)
10. National Alliance for Maternal Health and Human Rights (NAMHHR)
11. K. Sujatha Rao, IAS (Retd.) Former Union Health Secretary.
12. Sundar Burra, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, Member, Constitutional Conduct Group
14. N. C. Saxena, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary, Planning Commission
15. Kamal Kant Jaswal, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary to the Govt. of India, Department of Information Technology, Constitutional Conduct Group.
16. Julio Ribeiro, IPS (Retd.), Former Adviser to Governor of Punjab & former Ambassador to Romania
17. Sharad Behar, IAS(Retd.), Former Chief Secretary, Madhya Pradesh
18. Niranjan Pant, (Retd.) Dy Comptroller and Auditor General of India
19. Amitabha Pande, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary Inter State Council, Government of India.
20. Deb Mukharji (Retd.) Indian Foreign Service. Former ambassador to Nepal.
21. Salahuddin Ahmad, IAS (Retd.), Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Rajasthan
22. Shafi Alam, IPS (Retd.), Former Director General, National Crime Records Bureau, Gol
23. G. Balachandhran, IAS (Retd.), Former Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal
24. Nitin Desai, IES (Retd.), Former Secretary and Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Gol
25. Gopalan Balagopal, IAS (Retd.), Former Special Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal
26. Rachel Chatterjee, IAS (Retd.), Former Special Chief Secretary, Agriculture, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
27. K. P. Fabian, IFS (Retd.), Former Ambassador to Italy
28. Gourisankar Ghosh, IAS (Retd.), Former Mission Director, National Drinking Water Mission, Gol
29. Suresh K. Goel, IFS (Retd.), Former Director General, Indian Council of Cultural Relations, Gol
30. S.K. Guha, IAS (Retd.), Former Joint Secretary, Department of Women & Child Development, Gol
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position and Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Rahul Khullar, IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Arun Kumar, IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Chairman, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, GoI</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>P.K. Lahiri, IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Executive Director, Asian Development Bank</td>
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<td>Sonalini Mirchandani, IFS (Resigned)</td>
<td>Former Chairman, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, GoI</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Shiv Shankar Mukherjee, IFS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former High Commissioner to the United Kingdom</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Avinash Mohananey, IPS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Director General of Police, Govt. of Sikkim</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Alok Perti, IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Secretary, Ministry of Coal, GoI</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>A. Selvaraj, IRS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Chief Commissioner, Income Tax, Chennai, GoI</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Navrekha Sharma, IFS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Ambassador to Indonesia</td>
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<td>Vappala Balachandran, IPS(Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Author and Columnist</td>
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<td>Sushil Dubey, Former Ambassador to Sweden</td>
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<td>42</td>
<td>Vibha Puri Das, (Retd.)</td>
<td>Secretary, GOI, Ministry of Tribal Affairs</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>G. Sankaran, Former President</td>
<td>Customs, Excise and Gold (control) Appellate Tribunal</td>
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<td>C. Balakrishnan, (Retd)</td>
<td>Secretary, Coal, Govt of India</td>
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<td>K. John Koshy,IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Chief Information Commissioner, West Bengal</td>
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<td>N. Nagalsamy IA&amp;AS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Principal Accountant General of Tamil Nadu and Kerala</td>
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<td>P. R. Dasgupta, IAS, (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Chairman, FCI and member of Constitutional Conduct Group</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Sudhir Kumar, IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Former Member, Central Administrative Tribunal</td>
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<td>Hindal Tyabji, IASRetd.)</td>
<td>Chairman of the J&amp;K Public Service Commission 1998-2003</td>
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<td>Siraj Hussain, IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Ex Union Secretary, Agriculture, Govt of India, New Delhi.</td>
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<td>Madhu Bhaduri</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>Kalyani Chaudhuri,(Retd.)</td>
<td>Additional Chief Secretary, Govt of West Bengal, Member of Constitutional Conduct Group</td>
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<td>53</td>
<td>Ashok Kumar Sharma, IFS (Retd.)</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>Meena Gupta, IAS (Retd.)</td>
<td>Formerly Secretary to GOI in the Ministry of Environment and Forests</td>
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<td>Dr. Raju Sharma, IAS, (Retd.)</td>
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<td>V. P. Raja, IAS. Retd Former Chairman</td>
<td>Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) Member</td>
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<td>N. K.Raghupathy, Constitutional Conduct Group</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>Wajahat Habibullah, Former Chairman</td>
<td>National Commission for Minorities</td>
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<td>Dr. T. Sundararaman, Peoples Health</td>
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<td>Dr. Mira Shiva (Public Health Physician)</td>
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<td>Dr. Yogesh Jain, Chhattisgarh</td>
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<td>Amar Jesani, Indian Journal for Medical Ethics</td>
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<td>Dr.Syeda Hameed, Delhi</td>
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<td>Sarojini N, Public Health Practitioner, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan</td>
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<td>Deepa V, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Delhi</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>Veena Johari, Mumbai</td>
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<td>72</td>
<td>Inayat Kakar, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Punjab</td>
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<td>73</td>
<td>Dr. Vandana Prasad, Public Health Professional</td>
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215. Women against Sexual Violence & State Repression (WSS)
216. Anupama Potluri, Hyderabad