

Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi in a letter to Chief Minister, Mrs. Shiela Dikshit today criticized the statement in which the Chief Minister has said that there has utter confusion as the MCD did not make things clear when it started collecting the parking charges.

It has been alleged by the Chief Minister that MCD was illegally collecting one time parking fee from Delhiites alongwith the conversion charges in the newly declared mixed-land use areas. She had said in her statement that the DMC Act does not provide for one time parking charges.

The Mayor said in the letter that it was shocking to read the statement of the Transport Minister, Mr. Haroon Yusuf questioning - Why should MCD be charging parking fee with the conversion charges when already the people pay it at the time of registration of vehicles. Moreover, Delhi SC/ST Welfare Board Chairperson and MLA Mr. Rajesh Liloithia has gone to the extent of saying that this is a scam and it needs a thorough probe.

In the letter the Mayor alleged that the above statements clearly reflect the lack of knowledge on the part of the Chief Minister, the Transport Minister and MLAs of the Master Plan of Delhi - 2021. It is ridiculous to say that this is a scam and it should be rolled back. In compliance of the provisions of the **Master Plan** as well as the **Notification issued by the DDA on 22nd June, 2007**, the owner/ allottee/resident/user of the plot/dwelling unit under the mixed land use is also liable to pay one time charges for development of parking and as such rate for one ECS per 50 sq. mtr. of plot area is as follows :-

A & B Category of Colonies	: Rs. 2,10,500/-
C & D Category of Colonies	: Rs. 1,49,750/-
E, F & G Category of Colonies	: Rs. 66,500/-

The Notification provided that out of total One Time Charges for development of Parking, 1/3rd shall be paid on or before 30.06.2007 and the remaining 2/3rd by 31.03.2008.

It further said that no development charges for parking shall be payable by small shop owners of area up to 20 Sq. mtr. dealing with the items/activities as defined in para 15.6.3 of the Master Plan for Delhi - 2021 in respect of any category of colonies.

The Notification stipulated that the development charges for parking shall also not be payable by owner/allottee/resident/user of plot/dwelling units falling under notified pedestrian shopping streets.

In her letter, the Mayor highlighted that the MCD had issued a detailed press release on the subject the very next day i.e. on 23rd June, 2007. She informed that MCD had also issued a detailed public notice highlighting the matter. It was published in leading English, Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi newspapers on 24th June, 2007 itself. **No other organization could have acted in more swifter way than MCD (clarifying the whole issue).**

The Mayor criticizing in her letter said that the whole issue smacks of prejudice and lack of understanding of the subject relating to the MCD. It would be appreciated if GNCTD focuses on the areas relating to its own activities and not muddle in the affairs of the MCD. At the same time, it should seek clarification with civic issues relating to MCD if need be. Going to media in this manner without verification of facts speaks of casual and prejudicial attitude of Delhi Government towards MCD.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

Tuesday, April 08, 2008

Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi today informed that MCD has decided to extend the period of contract upto 30th April, 2008 of 1000 Teachers who were appointed on contract basis at Zonal levels in September, 2007 keeping in view the interest of students studying in municipal primary schools. She said that *Delhi Subordinate Selection Board* is holding an examination for recruitment of Teachers on 20th April, this year. It is expected that the Teachers would be made available to MCD by June. In case, Teachers are not provided, then the extension of contract period of these 1000 Teachers and another 2600 Teachers appointed on contract basis in December, 2007 will be considered.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

Tuesday, April 08, 2008

MAYOR OF VALLADOLID CITY OF SPAIN MET MAYOR OF DELHI

Mayor of Valladolid City of Spain, Mr. Francisco Javier Leon de la Riva and Director General of CASAdela India, Mr. Guilleramo Rodriguez Martin today met Mayor of Delhi, Ms. Arti Mehra. Leader of House, Mr. Subhash Arya, Leader of Opposition, Mr. Jai Kishan Sharma and senior Municipal officers were also present on the occasion.

Mr. Francisco apprised Mayor that an Indian Cultural Centre has been set up in his city where Indian folk dances, Hindi are being taught to Spanish population. He emphasized that the cultural as well as social relations between Delhi and Valladolid needs to be strengthened more. He said that he has paid four visits in India and experienced vast development in Delhi during his current visit.

Ms. Arti Mehra assured every cooperation in strengthening the social and cultural ties between both the cities. She also emphasized that technical and scientific know how in the field of civic services between the two cities shall be promoted for benefit of the citizens of these cities.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

Wednesday, April 09, 2008

PRESS CONFERENCE OF MAYOR, MS. ARTI MEHRA

“CIVIC CENTRE TO BE READY BY THIS YEAR END”

-----Mayor

Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi today inspected Civic Centre at intersection of Minto Road and Jawaharlal Nehru Marg to review the progress of the work of its construction. Municipal Corporation of Delhi will spend about Rs.550 crores on construction of this Civic Centre. The media persons were also shown the progress of construction work being carried out at the site.

At present, the construction work is in full swing and Tower Block (Block-E) has touched the 28th Floor on 30th March inspite of losing 10 man-days due to various political rallies, 2 man-days due to Republic day and 2 man-days due to Holi festival. The mock-up sample floor having all the Architectural finish, Plumbing work, Fire Fighting work, HV AC work and Electrical work has been completed at 3rd floor. The project is likely to complete by December 2008 for Commissioning. The procurement of all other equipments has already been started. The Chillers for HV AC work have already reached at site from USA. Lifts and escalators from China and Switzerland, DG Sets from Germany are likely to be received at site shortly.

The proposed Headquarter of MCD is spread over an area of 12 acres. This new gigantic tallest structure of Delhi, with an approximate height in excess of 100 mtrs., will have four six-storey blocks, one 28-storey Tower Block in addition to Services block, with a ground coverage of 25% and covered area close to 1,16,750 sq. mtr. Town Hall, the present Headquarter of Municipal Corporation of Delhi has already been declared a heritage building and is located in a congested area making it difficult for the public to reach there, so as to solve their problems. The Town Hall complex will be vacated and occupants will be shifted to this new complex under one roof.

Traffic Management Plan on roads leading to and around New Delhi Railway Station and Civic Centre Building has been prepared in such a way that it will ease out the Traffic congestion. To facilitate balance distribution of traffic on various roads and signal free movement at intersections/junctions following facilities will be provided.

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1. Minto Road-Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg Junction

One underpass connecting Connaught Place area to Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg and one Fly-over connecting Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg with Bhavbhuti Marg is proposed for making this junction as signal free.

2. Minto Road-Tagore Road Intersection

An Underpass is proposed for the traffic coming from Connaught Place area to Civic Centre for providing unhindered entry to the Civic Centre.

3. Tagore Road-Bhavbhuti Marg Intersection

An underground pedestrian Passage is proposed for facilitating the pedestrian using the Metro as a means for coming to the Civic Centre. This underpass will also connect New Metro Station coming up for Airport Link.

4. JLN Marg-Minto Road Intersection

An underpass is being proposed for the traffic coming from the Delhi Gate Area towards Karol Bagh and Railway Station for making this junction as signal free. In addition a subway/FOB is also proposed for facilitating the pedestrian at this junction.

5. Kamla Market Rotary.

A FOB/Subway is being proposed for pedestrian at this Intersection. In addition the movement of traffic going towards Delhi Gate/Old Delhi is proposed to be made one way.

6. Intersection of Ranieet Singh Marg-JLN Marg

A FOB/Subway is proposed at this intersection for unhindered movement of the traffic.

In addition to above, all the roads around the Civic Centre will be widened and strengthened.

This Scheme amounting to Rs. 187.83 Crores has already been approved by DDA Technical Committee in February 2007. All the components of the Scheme has been finalized after discussion with Indian Railway, DMRC, Delhi Traffic Police, PWD and all other concerned Agencies.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

Wednesday, April 09, 2008

PRESS CONFERENCE OF MAYOR, MS. ARTI MEHRA

**350 LAPTOPS DISTRIBUTED TO JUNIOR ENGINEERS UNDER
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM**

----- Mayor

Mayor, Ms. Arti Mehra today informed that MCD has developed Engineering Department Information System (EDIS) which is an online working software and facilitates transformation of working of Engineers from manual mode to complete electronic mode. This system is unique in the sense that it will be first of its kind to be implemented in any department in government sector.

MCD has procured 350 laptops in the first phase. Today laptops were distributed to Junior Engineers by the Mayor. The next phase of procurement and distribution of laptops will be completed very soon so that each and every engineer is equipped with electronic gadget for better performance of his duties.

This system comprises of different modules relating to the different activities of Engineering Department. It is a role-right based on-line working software where in all the activities of the department will be done on-line and movement of documents will be in electronic form from one authority to the other there by manual file transition will be eliminated. Movement of file will be tracked on real time basis by the authorized users.

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Beauty of software is that with instant login by user, it shows how many tasks are pending with him unattended. This will facilities the users to know the status of file with him which need his special attention. On stabilization of software time based auto escalation will be implemented to monitor the efficiency and performance of user employees.

The software being implemented module by module. Technical Laboratory module has been implemented recently. Now all the sample-testing requests are being generated on-line and reports are being captured and circulated on-line. Today most vital module i.e C&M module is being declared launched.

With this software all the estimates will be prepared on-line and sanctions will be granted on-line. This will save unnecessary time loss of engineers in running with file form one office to the other and engineers will be utilizing there time on technical issues and field supervision which will result in more stringent quality check during execution of works. To facilitate the users and make them fully equipped, laptops have been distributed to all the Junior Engineers and now each and every ward is equipped with laptops for construction and maintenance works. The Divisions of Engineering Department are all ready having desktops and broadband internet connection.

**MCD DESIGNATED AS IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY FOR PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMME UNDER YAMUNA
ACTION PLAN-II**

-----MAYOR

Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi today informed that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has been designated as the PIA (Project Implementation Agency) for the People's Participation and Awareness Programme in Delhi under Yamuna Action Plan-II, funded by JBIC (Japan Bank for International Co-operation) through the National River Conservation Directorate of Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India. She further informed that Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi and herself will launch the programme on 15th April 2008. The two-year Public Participation and Awareness activities are designed and conducted by ACORD (Asian Centre for Organisation Research & Development) which has over 25 years of experience in this field, & has done projects for UN, MCD, Government of Delhi & Rajasthan.

Enumerating broad objectives of this Programme, the Mayor said that it aims to create awareness amongst different segments of the population about the pollution levels of river Yamuna, various causes and preventive measures. To mobilize people towards active participation in various core and non-core activities being undertaken in Yamuna Action Plan-II. Also, to create a general sense of consciousness among target groups for effective operation of hardware equipments such as Sewage Treatment Plants, Pumps, etc. aimed to ensure their optimum utilization in pollution abatement. To enhance the utilization level of various facilities created under YAP - I. To build/enhance the institutional capacity of Community Based Organisations (CBOs), and improve environment and sanitation, in

order to ensure sustainable and long-term impacts.

Giving Background Ms. Arti Mehra disclosed that Public Participation and Awareness is seen as the key component in YAP-II and has a great significance in making the project a success by involving the citizen's and communities. The very idea of Public Participation in YAP was conceptualized from the experience of Ganga Action Plan which was in force for many years, but the Project objectives could not be achieved to the expected levels due to various reasons, the lack of public participation and awareness being the prime one. In YAP-I, though Public Participation formed the part of scope of work, but it could not be realized and implemented at par with other activities in the beginning. It is in this context, that under second phase of Yamuna Action Plan, emphasis is being laid on creating public awareness in this direction.

SOUTH KOREAN DELEGATION MET THE MAYOR

A delegation of 20 Mayors of various districts of metropolitan cities of South Korea today met Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi. Mr. Divya Jaiswal, Deputy Mayor, Mr. Prithvi Raj Sawhney, Chairman, Education Committee, Mr. Ved Gupta, Chairman, Garden Committee, Mr. Mool Chand Chawla, Member, Standing Committee, Mr. Jai Kishan Sharma, Leader of Opposition, Ch. Ajit Singh, Municipal Councillor, Mr. K.S. Mehra, Commissioner, MCD, Mr. Naresh Kumar, Mr. Janak Diggal and Mr. H.B. Sharma, Additional Commissioners were present at this occasion.

The Korean delegation include Mayors of various districts of Kwangju city, H.E. Jeon, BKab Kil; Song, Kwang Woon; Lee, Hwa Yong; Lee, Young Soo; Lef, Ik Jin; Nam, Moo Kyo, Mayors of various districts of Kyoungkdo city H.E. Im, Chung Bin; Park, Young Eon, Kim, Bok Kyu; Kim, Yong Soo, Mayor of Kyoungnamdo, Mr. Chun, Sa Ryoung, Mayor of Chungnam, Mr. Shin, Joon Hee, Mayor of Chungbuk city, Mr. Nam, Sang Woo and Vice President of Korea Local Authorities Foundation for International Reliance, Mr. Chun, Hee Jae.

The Mayor while giving detailed account of functioning of Municipal Corporation of Delhi said that 96 per cent of the total area of Delhi is looked after by MCD. There are two other local bodies namely New Delhi Municipal Council, Delhi Cantonment Board lookafter 4 per cent area. She said parking of vehicles is the main problem, Delhi is facing. She sought cooperation of South Korea in this regard.

The Mayor representing the delegation of South Korea said that duties of local bodies in South Korea is construction of roads, cleaning of roads, horticultural operations, disposal of solid wastes, supply of electricity and drinking water. He disclosed that the major cities of South Korea have population of 3 lacs to 6 lacs people. Their main source of income is property tax.

Mr. K.S. Mehra, Municipal Commissioner informed that delegation that 7000 metric tonnes of garbage is being collected daily which is dispose of at three sanitary landfill sites. Door-to-door collection of garbage is being strated shortly. He said that MCD is making enough arrangements to cope up with ever increasing quantity of garbage since in 2021 population of Delhi would be about 23 million and total garbage collection will increase up to 17,000 metric tonnes. He said that total budget of MCD is more than Rs. 5000 crores.

**ABSTRACTS FROM ADDRESS OF MS. ARTI MEHRA
AFTER BEING RE-ELECTED AS MAYOR OF DELHI**

Ms. Arti Mehra today after winning elections of the coveted post of Mayor consecutively for the second term said that MCD is an important organization, which is related to citizens of Delhi from birth to death. In the coming time, we have to implement important and major projects. She said that last year when she assumed the charge of the post of Mayor, she promised citizens of Delhi to make Delhi clean, healthier and literate. We have pledged to provide medical facilities and primary education to people belonging to weaker sections of society and JJ dwellers. We have succeeded in our mission, yet much remains to be done.

The Mayor said that MCD had completed 50 years of its constitution on 7th April, this year. The history from election of first Mayor, respected Smt. Aruna Asaf Ali till today is a matter of great pride for all of us. We all jointly organized Golden Jubilee function in which the eminent personalities who occupied various important positions after constitution of first Municipal Corporation in 1958 were invited so that we can learn from their ideals and take inspirations from them.

MCD has covered significant milestones during the last year. The days are not far of when MCD will be known as digital Municipal Corporation. The computerization of nearly all departments of MCD has been completed. MCD's own website is available online. Information system has been set-up for Engineering Department by which 60,000 tenders have been processed so far bringing transparency in the contract process. Laptops have been distributed to Junior Engineers. Hospital Information System has been started at all the six major hospitals of MCD. It has enabled the record of patients like reports of laboratory tests, details of medicines given, the methodology of treatment etc. on a click of button. Similarly, LIBRE

programme has been started for online availability of immunization record. Payment of property tax is also available online, booking of parks and community halls as well as issuance of birth and death certificates is being carried out online. The trade licenses and other factory licenses etc. are being renewed online. A new scheme is being implemented which will be an integrated and holistic approach towards computerization. This scheme will be public friendly and transparent.

The Mayor further disclosed that the most important achievement of MCD is civic centre which is under construction at Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg. It will be a architectural marvel. Earlier we have expected revenue of Rs.400 crores from this project, but now due to efficient commercial management we are expecting Rs.2000 crores. The ultra-modern meat processing plant at Ghazipur is nearing completion and would be functional shortly.

Narrating other achievements, the Mayor said that this year an important decision was taken under which the building plans are being sanctioned online, which has brought transparency as well as harassment has been curbed. For last many years, trade licenses were not being renewed. This year, decision has been taken to renew licenses, which has benefited lacs of traders of Delhi.

The main important decision taken this year was to continue the work of desilting of nallahs for whole of the year. Last year, this work was started in June. The work of desilting of 112 critical drains are going on at pace. Besides, 1300 drains are being desilted by municipal employees as well as contractors.

Giving achievements in the field of primary education, Ms. Arti Mehra said that it is a matter of great pride for all of us that Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has observed that primary schools of MCD are running efficiently. Computer education is being provided to children studying in municipal primary schools. Anemia control programme was launched this year to provide cure to anaemic children. Free textbooks and uniforms are provided to students. This year, a decision was taken to provide Rs.200/- per annum

to each girl student as encouragement amount, which has been paid. The salary of contract teachers was also increased.

Keeping in view the Common Wealth Games - 2010, ultramodern street lights based on international level are being provided on 100 km. length of major roads at a cost of Rs.200 crores.

The Mayor said that to increase greenery, 2 lac saplings were planted in various parts of Delhi. For irrigation, 430 new tubewells were bored and 950 existing tubewells were repaired and made functional. 25 rotary crossings are being decorated by providing more greenery. Before Common Wealth Games, 2000 parks will be beautified.

Ms. Arti Mehra said that this year the income of MCD from property tax crossed Rs.1000 crores mark, which is an all time record. Last year, Rs.712 crores were recovered as compared to Rs.1005 crores this year. It would be our endeavour that we will increase our income without putting any extra burden on citizens. Last year, 7.10 lacs property tax payers deposited property tax, whereas this year this number rose to 8.14 lacs. In this way, we will bring more eligible properties within the tax net.

The Mayor further informed that a record increase was recorded in the toll tax income. The fresh tender has been awarded of an amount, which is Rs.210 crores above the last contract. In this way, the per annum increase in the income of toll tax would be nearly Rs.72 crores. This amount will be available for development works.

Giving details of future projects, the Mayor said that Mahila Haat will be set-up next year. Ten toilet block will be constructed exclusively for women. The entry points of Delhi would be made attractive and beautiful.

Ms. Arti Mehra, giving details, informed that 24 parks have been identified which are near to main markets. The construction of multi-level car parking sites beneath these parks have been started. The expenditure to be incurred on this scheme has been made available to Special ESCROW

Account. Besides, 19 automatic multi-level car-parking sites are being constructed on BOT basis at strategic places. Existing parking sites are also being provided modern facilities.
