Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi today called upon the mothers of newly born babies as well as expecting mothers to start breast-feeding to their infants within the one hour of their birth. Mother's breast milk is a boon given by the Almighty God for healthier and hygienic development of the child. It contains all nutritious elements necessary for growth of child besides, resistance power against diseases. She was speaking at a function organized at Kasturba Gandhi Maternity Hospital to commemorate World Breast Feeding Week being observed all over the world from 1st August to 7th August, 2007. Dr. V. K. Monga, Chairman, Medical Relief and Public Health Committee of MCD, senior officers of Health Department were present at the function. Later, the Mayor also inaugurated World Breast-Feeding Week function being organized at Mrs. Girdhar Lal Maternetiy Hospital at Kamla Market.

The Mayor also called upon the medical and para-medical staff deployed at major hospitals, dispensaries and maternity and child welfare centres to create public awareness amongst mothers to exclusively adopt breast-feeding to their infants. The mothers of newly born child must be trained as to how to breast-feed their babies by the doctors.

Dr. Monga, speaking on this occasion said that MCD is observing World Breast-Feeding Week with the main aim of sensitizing the expecting mothers about the importance of breast-feeding. All the 160 maternity and child welfare centres and municipal medical institutions will be organizing various community programmes, competitions, interactive sessions and field activities in their respective areas so as to create public awareness amongst ladies to adopt breast-feeding. He said that the newly born babies should be breast-fed by mothers since it is the natural food for infants. If this practice is adopted in large scale, then infant mortality can be reduced considerably. It will also reduce incidents of malnutrition, diarrhea and growth disorders amonst infants. At Mrs. Girdhar Lal Maternity Hospital, Dr. Monga announced that this hospital will be expanded and developed so that the women residing in the densly populated neighbouring areas shall get facilities of maternity services.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi today informed that the newly constituted Progressive Group which has been formed by independent municipal councillors as well as municipal councillor of Lok Janshakti Party, Indian National Lok Dal etc. have been provided a separate room at Town Hall. Hither to this room was reserved for Rural Areas Committee. Since, the meetings of Rural Areas Committee are not been held the room allotted to it has been provided to Progressive Group. In future, when Rural Areas Committee will start functioning then alternate room will be provided to Progressive Group. Mr. Jitender Singh Shanti, leader of Progressive Group has also been informed by the Mayor about the allotment.

The Mayor further disclosed that the room provided for women municipal councillors is temporary. The action to provide them alternate room on regular basis is being initiated. It will also be ensured that this room will be provided with toilet facilities.

Following the inspection of Ms. Arti Mehra, the private contractor, M/s. Delhi Waste Management Services were fined Rs.50,000/- for insanitary conditions and poor maintenance of dhalaos in New Friends Colony in Central Zone of Municipal Corporation of Delhi. She found that the sanitary condition of the C-Block was the worst. She was accompanied by Engineer-in-Chief-cum-Director-in-Chief (Environment Management Services), Mr. Ravi Dass and other senior officers. The Sanitary Inspector of the area has also been placed under suspension with immediate effect.

Mayor found that the sanitary condition of G-Block in Hauz Khas Market were highly insatisfactory. Following her recommendation, a fine of Rs.10,000/- was imposed on the private operator responsible for maintenance of dhalaos in the area i.e. M/s. Delhi Waste Management Services.

Mayor accompanied by senior officers today undertook inspection of various colonies in South and Central Delhi viz. Chirag Delhi, M. B. Road, Madangir, R. K. Puram, Hauz Khas and New Friends Colony.

Independence Day Celebrations

"INDEPENDENCE DAY GIVES US OPPORTUNITY FOR SELF-RETROSPECTION
THE INCIDENTS OF YESTERDAY AT MEETING OF MCD WILL NOT BE
ALLOWED TO HAPPEN AGAIN"

-- MAYOR, ARTI MEHRA

Municipal Corporation of Delhi organized a function at Town Hall to commemorate 60th anniversary of India's Independence. A large number of Municipal Concillors and officers participated in it. Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi hosted national flag and administered oath to municipal councilors and employees to maintain unity and integrity of the country and give full regard to democratic values. Mayor called upon to fight communal and divisive forces. Mr. Subhash Arya, Leader of House, Mr. Vijender Gupta, Chairman, Standing Committee, Municipal Councillors, Mr. Ashok Kumar, Commissioner as well as municipal employees were present at the function.

Ms. Arti Mehra deploring the incident happened yesterday in the meeting of the Corporation said that it will not be allowed to be repeated again. She said that Independence Day is most important for all of us. Under the national flag we all should concentrate on ourself and pledge that we will lead the nation towards progress after forgetting differences of religion, caste, region and language. At all costs, we will maintain unity and integrity and promote brotherhood.

The Mayor further said, whether we are elected representative or an officer or an employee of the civic body, it is a great challenge for us to perform our duty to the bset of our satisfaction. We all should devote and dedicate ourselves for the service of citizens of Delhi.

A delectable programme presented by students of municipal primary schools based on patriotic themes and folk dances was an added attraction.

Mayor, Ms. Arti Mehra had a surprise inspection of some areas falling in City Zone today morning alongwith Engineer-in-Chief, Deputy Commissioner (City Zone), other officers. Also present were Sh. Krishna Murari Jatav, Chairman, City Zone and Sh. Suman Kumar Gupta, Municipal Councillor. She noted three most shocking points relating to sanitation at Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg near LNJP Hospital on the road site of almost 100 mtr. stretch.

- 1. A large quantity of malba (approx. 100 trucks) was lying there and she was told that it is an official malba dumping site. It is a matter of great concern. More than a lakh of people must be passing by that road and it gives a very shabby look. She suggested expeditious identification of alternative site.
- 2. She visited four dalaos altogether out of which three were in embarrassing condition. The dalaos were in a bad shape and stinking and it seemed that garbage was not lifed for about last three or more days. As dalaos are in a bad shape without gates and floors and garbage is littered on the road about 15-20 ft. outside the dalao. She told the Commissioner that it needs to be taken up with the contractor very strongly by taking some stringent and effective action. Mayor decided to fine the contractor heavily and take action against the concerned officer.
- 3. Dring this surprise inspection, she found that there is an illegal unauthorized parking in front of Hamdard building alongwith the Shastri Park. In the morning at about 10.40 a.m., there were more than 60-70 cars and 100-150 scooters which were unauthorizedly parked. The road was fully occupied by unauthorized parking and there is hardly any space left for the smooth flow of traffic. The public gheraoed Mayor and started telling that this parking blocks the road and disrupts the flow of traffic. She wanted to speak with the contractor but he was not available. It was brought to her notice that it was an illegal and unauthorized parking and all the boys who were collecting parking charges and keys of the cars from car owners ran away taking in the names of their contractor as Sh. Ghanshyam and Sh. Anil Sharma. Three bundles of parking tickets (No.006701 to 006800 and 008201 to 008300 and No.009901 to 0010000 were recovered out of which some of the tickets have been issued).

Mayor immediately ordered the concerned Deputy Commissioner to file the F.I.R. and personally spoke with the SHO concerned in this regard. She strongly feel that strict action should be taken against these illegal parking and this point should be immediately given for the authorized way of parking as per rules.

Mayor proposed that after the tender procedure at the central level, the contractor's MOUs should be given to Deputy Commissioners of the respective zones and a system should be decentralized. Being head of the zone, Deputy Commissioner should be made responsible. Decentralizing the parking system would also help us a lot in future in generating the municipal revenue. This will immensely help to have a check on parking mafias who are blatantly earning lakhs of rupees and MCD is losing lots of revenue.

Mayor asked the Commissioner to take immediate action on all these points.
