

**MAYOR SEEKS INTERVENTION OF PRIME MINISTER
IN SOLVING SEALING AND DEMOLITION PROBLEM IN DELHI**

Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi, in a letter written to Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh has sought his intervention in saving people of Delhi from sealing and demoliton. She said in her letter that time has come, when the ill-conceived "Sealing Drive" in Delhi must come to an end. In the matter of social consciousness of the society, it is having a negative impact on trade and business in Delhi sentimentally as well as economically. It has rendered thousands of people, especially poor people, unemployed and in certain cases even homeless. Relief must also be given to those whose properties have been sealed.

The Mayor claimed that it is rather surprising when on one hand, world over, the economies like U.S., Europe are in a recessionary mode, the actual growth and its future projections are coming down, unemployment is going up, a national and democratic Government of the people, for the people and by the people, should have taken pains to ensure that the Indian economy and society is insured against the ill-effects of such negative trends. On the contrary, what we are finding is that in Delhi the Government is a mute spectator to hundreds of shops being closed down and thousands of our men and women thrown out of their jobs every day, because of whims and fancies of few individuals. At a time when advanced countries are taking steps to ensure that their economic conditions improve and their people don't become jobless, the present Government in Delhi, instead of getting prepared to such challenges thrown by the world economic scenario, on the contrary is becoming party to ruthless termination of trades and industries in localities of Delhi.

The Mayor pointed out that in democratic set up where there is rule of law and principle of natural justice are followed, fair opportunities are given to even hardcore criminals, in the matter of sealing in Delhi, not a single notice is given before shutting down the doors of commercial establishments. The employees who come to work in these shops and offices don't even know by evening how will they meet their family's needs next day. And this is happening for last two years. Due to this disconcert with the reality and contempt for natural justice and rule of law, the patent fact is that a sense of fear and uncertainty is persisting both in the minds, individually as well as collectively

since long. This situation in turn is dangerous for the healthy growth of Delhi and its residents.

She, therefore, urged the Prime Minister to immediately look into the problem, and intervene effectively to save citizens of Delhi from sealing and demolition before it is too late.

MAYOR'S PRESS CONFERENCE

EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT CENTRE FOR SANITATION (EICS)

PROVES TO BE A MODEL PROJECT

Mayor, Ms. Arti Mehra today said that the recently developed Efficiency Improvement Centre for Sanitation on Ring Road behind Bela Road near Vijay Ghat has become a model project as an integrated efficient and effective garbage collection, transfer and disposal system in Delhi. She said that it is the first attempt of its kind to comprehensively address the issue of solid waste management. It has set precedent as holistic approach and implemental model. The project is fulfilling following objectives :

- Ensuring health and hygiene of the entire population in Delhi.
- Improving productivity of man and materials resources.
- Promoting economic operations of services.
- Promoting and project quality of and sustainability of the urban environment.

The Mayor informed that the model project incorporates State of Art waste handling and disposal methodologies to protect the environment & establish the comprehensive implement ability of the Municipal Solid Waste (*Maintenance and Handling*) Rule, 2000.

Ms. Arti Mehra said that the Karol Bagh and Sadar Pahar Ganj Area are very congested having narrow lanes etc., which pose great difficulty in efficient collection and transportation of garbage. The private operator has now put up a new system in which around 450 MT/day of garbage is collected in 40-50 small vehicles. It is first transported to the modern Efficient Improvement Centre for Sanitation (EICS) which handles 100 trips per day. At EICS, garbage from small vehicles is transferred into 14 big hook lift containers through mechanical means thereby reducing fuel consumption, air pollution and traffic congestion especially during peak hours.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi initiated the process of procurement of private sector operator for collection and transportation of municipal sold waste in six MCD Zones. The 6 Zones selected for the project were –City Zone, Sadar Pahargang Zone, Karol Bagh Zone, South Zone, West Zone and Central Zone in 2005.

Mayor lays foundation for community hall and inaugurates bridge connecting Shalimar Bagh and Peetampura

“MCD TO ENSURE SPACE FOR PARKING IN ALL ITS FUTURE PROJECTS”

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Mayor of Delhi, Ms. Arti Mehra today said that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi will ensure proper and well-developed parking space in all the Projects which are to come-up in future. MCD is well aware of the parking related problems. It has already initiated the process of developing multi-level underground parkings in green areas. She was addressing the huge gathering at the foundation laying ceremony of multi-storey community hall to be constructed by MCD at Singhal Pur in Shalimar Bagh. She directed the engineers to incorporate two-level parking space in the proposed MCD building. She said that at marriages and social functions these days, about 200 car parking spaces required. Present at the ceremony were Ms. Sahib Kaur, wife of late Chief Minister of Delhi and late Union Minister Sh. Sahib Singh Verma, Leader of the House, Mr. Subhash Arya, Chairman, Standing Committee, Mr. Vijender Gupta, MLA, Mr. Ravinder Bansal, Additional Commissioner, Mr. Naresh Kumar, Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. Ravi Das. The function was presided by Mr. Ram Kishan Singhal, Chairman, Appointment Committee.

After the laying the foundation stone, Mayor also inaugurated the newly constructed bridge joining Shalimar Bagh and Peetampura.

Chairman, Standing Committee, Mr. Vijender Gupta said that the proposed community hall would cost Rs.2.3 crores and will be completed in 18 months. He expressed hope that nearby residents will find it inexpensive and excellent place for social functions. The community hall will have facilities for senior citizens. It will also have centre for teaching women sewing and embroidery.

Leader of the House, Mr. Subhash Arya informed that the bridge built over Western Yamuna Canal joining Shalimar Bagh and Peetampura has been constructed at a cost of Rs.55 lacs. The adjoining area has also been improved in terms of footpaths, central verge and development of 2 acre park.

Presided over the function, Municipal Councillor, Mr. Ram Kishan Singhal informed that MCD will shortly construct a grand gate at the entrance of Shalimah Bagh from Ringh Road. He said that Mr. Sahib Singh was instrumental in giving Shalimar Bagh a unique place in Delhi.

Press Conference Of Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor Of Delhi

**HIS HOLINESS SRI SRI RAVI SHANKER JI MAHARAJ BEING CONFERRED
CITATION OF HONOUR BY THE MAYOR**

Ms. Arti Mehra, Mayor of Delhi today informed that Indias foremost spiritual leader and guide His Holiness Sri Sri Ravi Shanker Ji Maharaj will be conferred Citation of Honour at an *Art of Living* Mahasatsang being organized at Japanees Garden, Rohini on March, 27th, 2008 at 7.30 p.m. Besides, most valuable preachings by the Maharaj Ji about 200 musicians will present soul touching programmes at this Mahasatsang which is expected to be attended by over one lac people.

Mayor said that MLAs and Municipal Councillors of Delhi are being invited to attend this programme so as to increase their spiritual growth in order to enable themselves to serve the citizens of Delhi with great zeal based on spiritual enlightenment.

Mayor said that His Holiness Sri Sri Ravishanker Ji is an inspiration to all of us in this century and for generations to come. His unconditional love for humanity and message of non-violence has transformed the lives of people from every nationality, religion and all walks of life. He has travelled to nook and corner of the Globe to spread the call to globalize spiritual wisdom.

Ms. Arti Mehra said that you all are well aware that His Holiness has been championing the cause of the marginalised and the underprivileged, to build a discrimination-free India. His perseverance in bridging the social and religious divides in society merits emulation. His initiative to resolve the caste conflict by bringing together leaders from over 50 different castes at the *Truth and Reconciliation* programme, held in Delhi in March 2007, has been widely appreciated.

While narrating His Holiness contribution worldwide, the Mayor

said that He created, through *The Art of Living*, a powerful catalyst for social transformation in over 144 countries as well as in India from Kashmir in the north to Kanyakumari in the south and from the west coast of India to the North-East. His contribution in the realm of spiritual upliftment, conflict resolution, disaster and trauma relief, poverty alleviation, prisoners rehabilitation, empowerment of women, education for all, environmental protection as well as campaigns against female foeticide and child labour has been truly inspirational.

Ms. Arti Mehra said that His Holiness has firm belief in ancient culture of India and her profound glory expounded by great Rishis and Sages through Upnishads and Vedantas. Following these traditions, His Holiness has given a unique gift to the world, the powerful breathing technique, *Sudarshan Kriya*, which has helped over 30 million people to attain mystical physical, mental and emotional well-being. Many have overcome health problems, depression, violent and suicidal tendencies. For over 27 years, He had delivered practical techniques to the people for bringing peace, harmony and calm in their minds and bringing dynamism in their lives.

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FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

Saturday, 29/03/08

House collapse in Brahmपुरi

**MAYOR ANNOUNCES EX-GRATIA TO THE FAMILIES OF DECEASED
COMMISSIONER ORDERS VIGILANCE INQUIRY AND SUSPENDS
D.C., E.E., A.E. AND J.E.**

Mayor, Arti Mehra, today, expressed profound grief over the tragic incident of house-collapse in Shahdara(North) Zone at Brahmपुरi near New Usmanpur. She announced ex-gratia payment of Rs.50,000/- to the families of deceased. She visited Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital and Trauma Centre. She announced that MCD would bear the cost of their medicines etc. She also visited the site of incident and supervised MCD's efforts in rescue operations. She directed to provide all man and material resources immediately. She also advised the Commissioner to order Vigilance Inquiry and suspend delinquent officials responsible for the incident.

Municipal Commissioner has ordered Vigilance Inquiry into collapse of building. The Chief Vigilance Officer of M.C.D. has been directed to inquire into all aspects of the incident and submit a comprehensive report within a week.

Meanwhile, Commissioner has placed Mr. A.K. Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Shahdara(North) Zone; Mr. Sanjay Mallick, Ex. Engineer (Building); Mr. B.D. Sharma, Assistant Engineer (Building) and Mr. Pardeep Kumar, Jr. Engineer (Building), all posted in Shahdara (North) Zone of MCD under suspension with immediate effect for dereliction of their duties.
