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Congress wants MCD under Delhi Govt.

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit on Monday reiterated that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi should be brought under the purview of the Delhi Government as the civic body, which had nearly 97 per cent of the city area under it, had failed to perform its duties well.

Talking to media persons following a Congress Legislative Party meeting, Ms. Dikshit said placing the MCD under the Delhi Government would remove multiplicity of authority and result in better governance.

She said the issue was also discussed by the CLP and the members raised a strong demand for urging the Centre to hand over the MCD to the Delhi Government. The issue of salaries and perks of MLAs was also discussed and it was decided that there would be no increase, she said. Similarly, she added, the amount of the MLA Local Area Development Fund would remain at the level of Rs.2 crore per year. As for the demand on putting the Delhi Police under the Delhi Government, Ms. Dikshit said her government had not asked for it. "What we are

asking is that specialisation be brought into the police force in a big way. There should be specialisation in the fields of traffic management and general behaviour to make it a very cosmopolitan force.”

The CLP meeting also una-nimously adopted a resoluti-on to thank Congress presid-ent Sonia Gandhi, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and general secretary Rahul Gandhi for steering the party to a “resounding and historic” victory in the Lok Sabha elections. It also lauded the work of Ms. Dikshit and others in ensuring a clean sweep in Delhi in the Lok Sabha polls.