

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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Ex-Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit dead

Tributes paid to veteran Cong. leader

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Former Chief Minister of Delhi Sheila Dikshit passed away on Saturday at the Fortis Escorts Heart Institute after suffering a cardiac arrest. The veteran leader, who headed the Delhi unit of the Congress, was 81.

Ms. Dikshit was admitted to the hospital on Saturday morning in a "critical condition".

"A multi-disciplinary team of doctors carried out the advanced resuscitative measures. Her condition stabilised temporarily. However, she had another cardiac arrest and, despite all the resuscitative efforts, passed away at 3.55 p.m.," a statement from Fortis Escorts said.

The last rites of the three-



Sheila Dikshit
time Chief Minister will be conducted on Sunday at the Nigam Bodh ghat.

Several leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, paid homage to the veteran leader at her residence in Nizamuddin East.

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Ex-Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit dead

Congress leaders said Ms Dikshit's body would be kept at the residence till Sunday morning for citizens to pay their last respects and will be taken to the party office before the cremation.

The Delhi government has announced a two-day official mourning as a mark of respect for the longest serving chief minister of the Capital.

Ms. Dikshit served as Chief Minister for 15 years from 1998-2013 and was subsequently appointed the Governor of Kerala.

Politically active until her death, she had unsuccessfully contested the recent Lok Sabha elections from North-East Delhi.

Earlier, as a legislator, she represented the New Delhi constituency in the Delhi Vidhan Sabha.

Ms. Dikshit had also served as a Minister in Rajiv Gandhi's Council of Ministers after making her debut as a Lok Sabha member from Kannauj in Uttar Pradesh in 1984.

Condolled
President Ram Nath Ko-

vind, Prime Minister Modi, Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal were among those who con- doled her death.

"Her term in office was a period of momentous trans- formation for the capital for which she will be remem- bered," tweeted President Kovind.

Mr. Modi described her as someone who was "blessed with a warm and affable personality who made notable contribution towards Delhi's development".

Devastated: Rahul

Calling her a "be- loved daughter of the Congress party", Mr. Gandhi said he was devastated by the news.

"I'm devastated to hear about the passing away of Sheila Dikshit Ji, a beloved daughter of the Congress Party, with whom I shared a close personal bond. My condolences to her family & the citizens of Delhi, whom she served selflessly as a 3 term CM, in this time of great grief," he tweeted.