

FAREWELL REFERENCE ADDRESS BY HON'BLE MR.
JUSTICE SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA, CHIEF JUSTICE, HIGH
COURT OF DELHI ON THE APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICE
SIDDHARTH MRIDUL AS CHIEF JUSTICE, MANIPUR HIGH
COURT

Brother Justice Siddharth Mridul,

His gracious wife and family members,

My esteemed sister and brother Judges at the High Court,

Shri Chetan Sharma, Additional Solicitor General of India,

Shri K.K. Manan, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi,

Shri Mohit Mathur, President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Jatan Singh, Vice-President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Sandeep Sharma, Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Sanjay Lao, Standing Counsel (Criminal), Govt. of NCT of Delhi,

Shri Santosh Tripathi, Standing Counsel (Civil), Govt. of NCT of Delhi,

Standing Counsels of the Central and State Government,

Executive Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Office Bearers of Bar Council of Delhi and other District Bar Associations,

Senior Advocates,

Members of the Bar,

Members of Print and Electronic Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very good afternoon to all of you.

We have assembled here to bid farewell to Hon'ble Justice Siddharth Mridul, who has been serving on the bench of this Court since 2008.

Justice Mridul was born on 22nd November, 1962 to Late Sh. P.R. Mridul, who was a designated Senior Advocate. He finished his schooling from Army Public School and thereafter, enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts course at Hindu College, University of Delhi. Upon graduating in History Honours, he started pursuing LL.B. from Campus Law Centre in the year 1983. After completion of LL.B. in 1986, he enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi. As a practitioner, Justice Mridul diversified in multiple subject matters, including writ petitions, original side, appellate side, company law and criminal law.

Justice Mridul practiced before the High Courts of Delhi, Bombay, Karnataka and Rajasthan. He also appeared before various tribunals including the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, Company Law Board, Appellate Authority for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction, Debt Recovery Tribunal and National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, to name a few. He was appointed as a Standing Counsel for the Union of India in 2004. In 2006, he was appointed as a Senior Panel Counsel.

Brother Mridul was also appointed as a Member of the Bar Council of Delhi for two consecutive terms. He also served as a member of the disciplinary committee. Later, he served as the Honorary Secretary of the Bar Council of Delhi from 1994 to 1997 and as Vice Chairman from 1998 to 2003. Prior to his elevation on the bench of this Court, Justice Mridul was appointed as a member in various committees of this Court dealing with issues such as rehabilitation of children after abolition of child labour, illegal construction in contravention of municipal bye-laws. He was also appointed as a member of the committee constituted to suggest, supervise and implement measures for efficient functioning of the Safdarjung Hospital.

Justice Mridul brought a rich experience on the bench. During the last 15 years, he has greatly contributed to the cause of justice and has ensured that the beacon of liberty shines the highest. On the administrative side as well, Brother Mridul has played an instrumental role in the resolution of issues that arise in the day-to-day administration of the High Court. Even in the discharge of my duties as the Chief Justice, I have greatly benefitted from his presence and counsel. I am thankful for that.

Brother, as you are all set to commence the next innings of your career, we wish you the very best. I have no hesitation in saying that Manipur will be greatly benefitted from your presence. At the same time, we all here at the Delhi High Court would feel a void due to your absence. Our loss is Manipur's gain.

I also extend my best wishes to your esteemed family members.

On behalf of this Court, I wish you all the very best for all your future endeavors. We pray for your good health for all times to come. Until we meet again, keep shining!

Jai Hind.