



1966-2016

DHC

HIGH COURT OF DELHI

CELEBRATING **50** YEARS



1966-2016

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HIGH COURT OF DELHI

CELEBRATING **50** YEARS



Barely half a century old, the High Court of Delhi stands proudly poised as the flagship court of India, leading the country's justice administration system to a new futuristic, technology driven, dynamic juridical era.

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From Left to Right: Mr. Rajnish Gupta, Mr. Abhijat, Mr. Amarjit Singh Chandhiok, Ms. Kaadambari Singh Puri, Ms. Jyoti Srivastava, Mr. Anil Koushal, Mr. Janardan Tripathi, Mr. Ajeet Jha

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This book captures the journey of the High Court of Delhi through the past 50 years. The compilation is a collective effort of the content providers, designers and photographers who worked tirelessly under the supervision and guidance of the Overseeing Committee.

The Overseeing Committee acknowledges the valuable time and support of those who have provided content compilation, Mr. Amarjit Singh Chandhiok (Senior Advocate), Mr. Rajiv Khosla (President, DHCBA), Mr. Abhijat (Secretary, DHCBA), Ms. Kaadambari Singh Puri (Member Executive, DHCBA), Ms. Jyoti Srivastava (Advocate), Mr. Sandipan Singh and Ms. Aaliya Waziri (Student Researcher).

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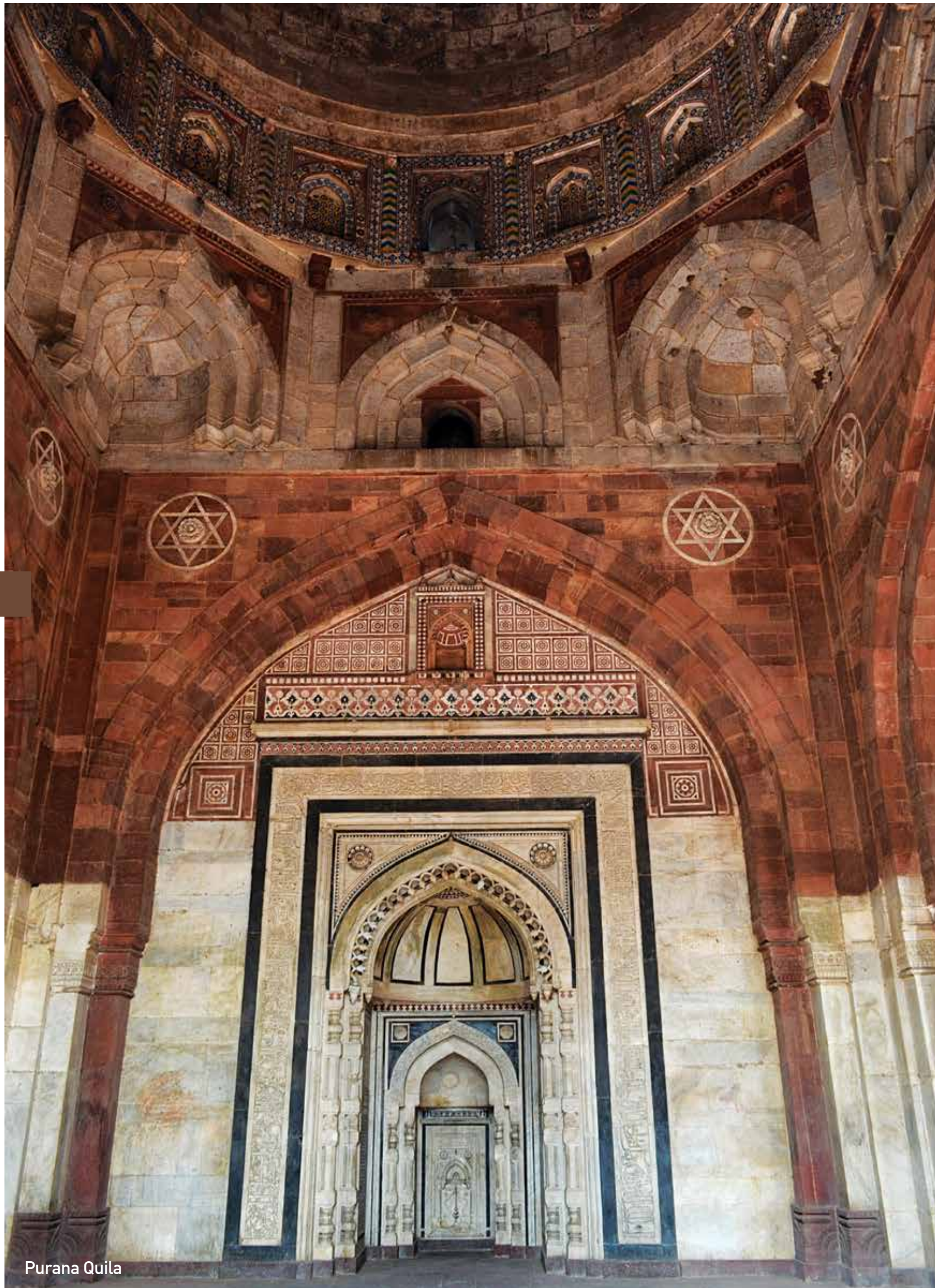


From Right to Left: Justice Siddharth Mridul, Justice Pradeep Nandrajog, Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed, Justice Hima Kohli

The acknowledgement is incomplete without a special mention of diligent support, at all stages, of Mr. Anil Koushal (Registrar, Budget and Accounts), Mr. Janardan Tripathi (Joint Registrar, Golden Jubilee Cell) and Mr. Ajeet Jha (Librarian) of the High Court of Delhi.

Last but not the least, members of the Overseeing Committee express their gratitude to Mr. Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed whose photography has captured the beautiful imagery of the High Court of Delhi.

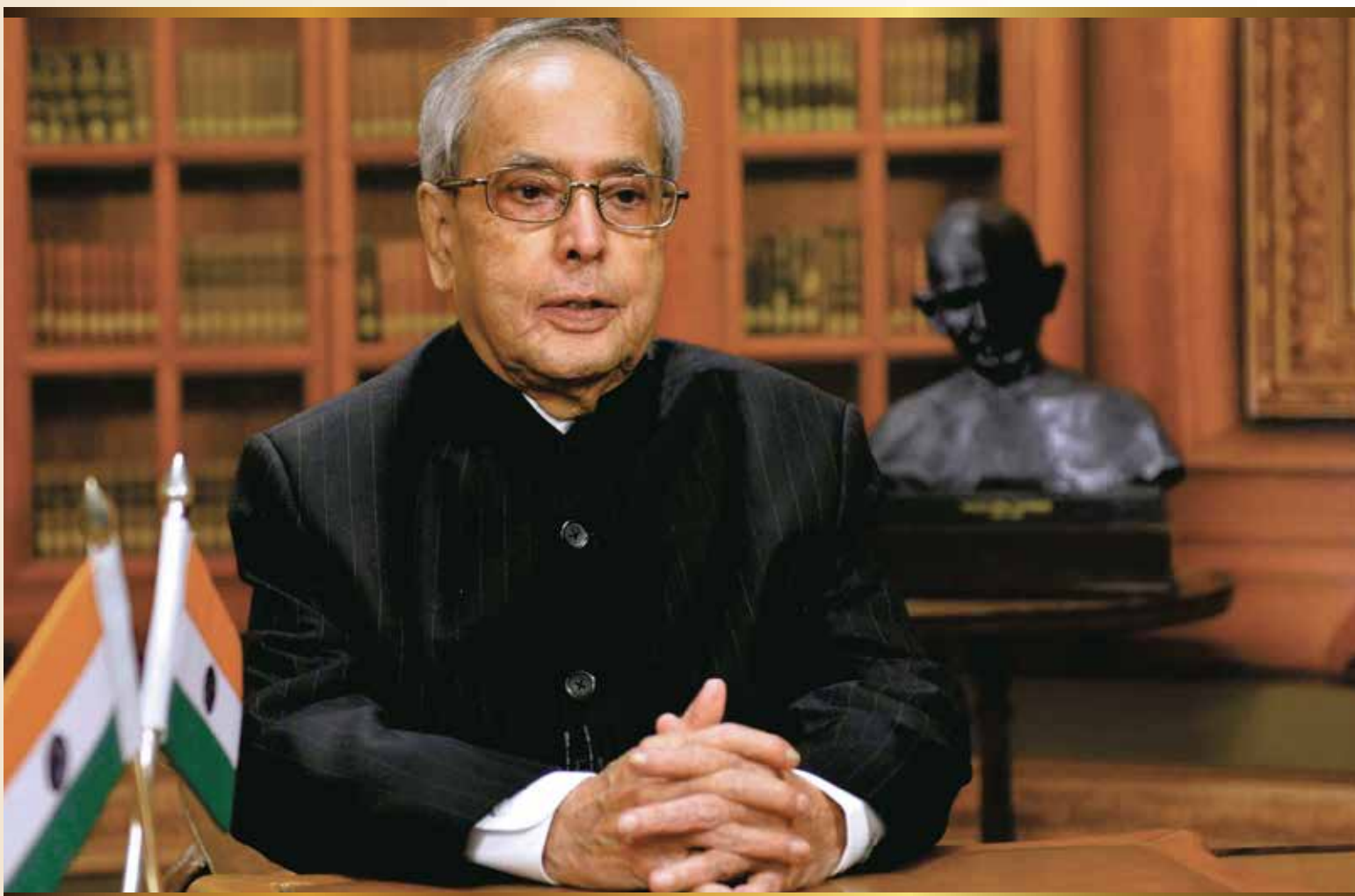
Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed
Justice Pradeep Nandrajog
Justice Hima Kohli
Justice Siddharth Mridul
**Overseeing Committee,
Golden Jubilee Celebrations**



Purana Quila

MESSAGES

President of India



SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE


सत्यमेव जयते
राष्ट्रपति
भारत गणतंत्र
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF INDIA

MESSAGE

I am happy to know that the High Court of Delhi is celebrating its Golden Jubilee on October 31, 2016 and bringing out a commemorative volume on this occasion.

Since its inception in October 1966, the High Court of Delhi has rendered great service to the people of Delhi through landmark decisions in diverse fields of law. It has emerged as one of the most modern and technology driven High Courts in the country. As one of only four High Courts in India with original civil jurisdiction, it has been in the forefront of the development of the law of civil procedure.

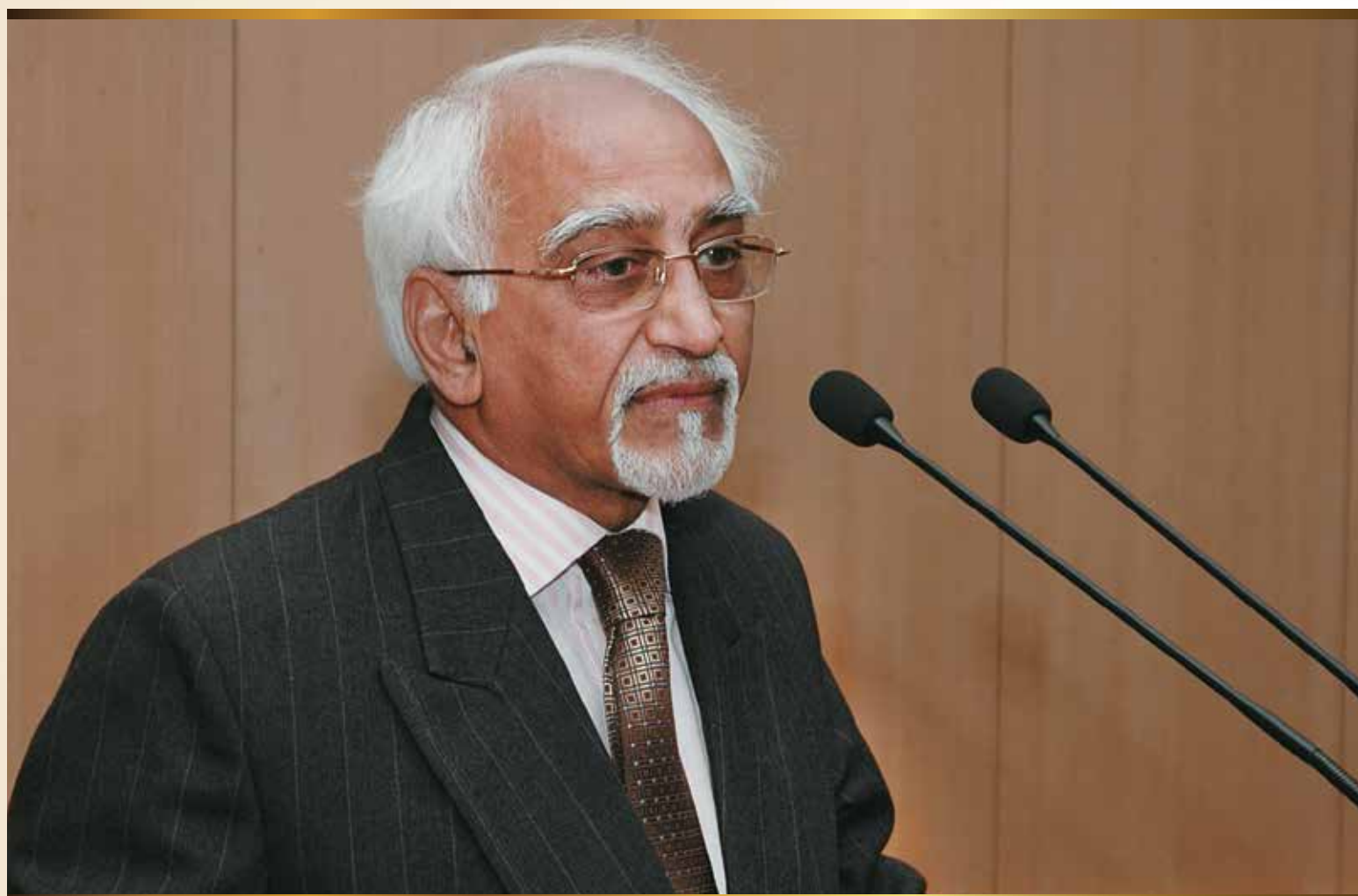
I am sure the High Court of Delhi will continue to uphold its glorious heritage of 50 years. I am confident it will enhance contributions to the development of law, justice and jurisprudence and continue to adapt new technologies to boost efficiency.

I congratulate the Honourable Judges, members of the Bar and staff of the High Court of Delhi for their past achievements and I wish them the very best for their future endeavours.


(Pranab Mukherjee)

New Delhi
October 14, 2016

Vice President of India



SHRI MOHAMMAD HAMID ANSARI


उप-राष्ट्रपति, भारत
VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA

MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that the High Court of Delhi is celebrating its Golden Jubilee on October 31, 2016.

In the past 50 years, Delhi High Court has set high standards of judicial propriety and witnessed many landmark judgements being delivered. The Delhi High Court has been at the forefront of adopting technology to make judicial process more transparent and accessible through initiatives such as digitisation of records and publishing judgements delivered by the Court on its website.

On this historic occasion, I extend my greetings and good wishes to all the Judges, Advocates and staff members of the High Court of Delhi.


(M. Hamid Ansari)

New Delhi
3rd October, 2016

Prime Minister of India



SHRI NARENDRA MODI



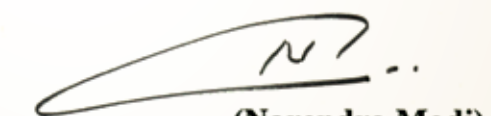
प्रधान मंत्री
Prime Minister

MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that the Delhi High Court is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of its establishment, in New Delhi on October 31, 2016.

I am sure, the High Court of Delhi, which has been a flagbearer of use of technology in dispensation of justice, will continue to keep abreast with latest developments in law, and adopt new technologies to boost its efficiency to provide access to fair and equal justice to all.

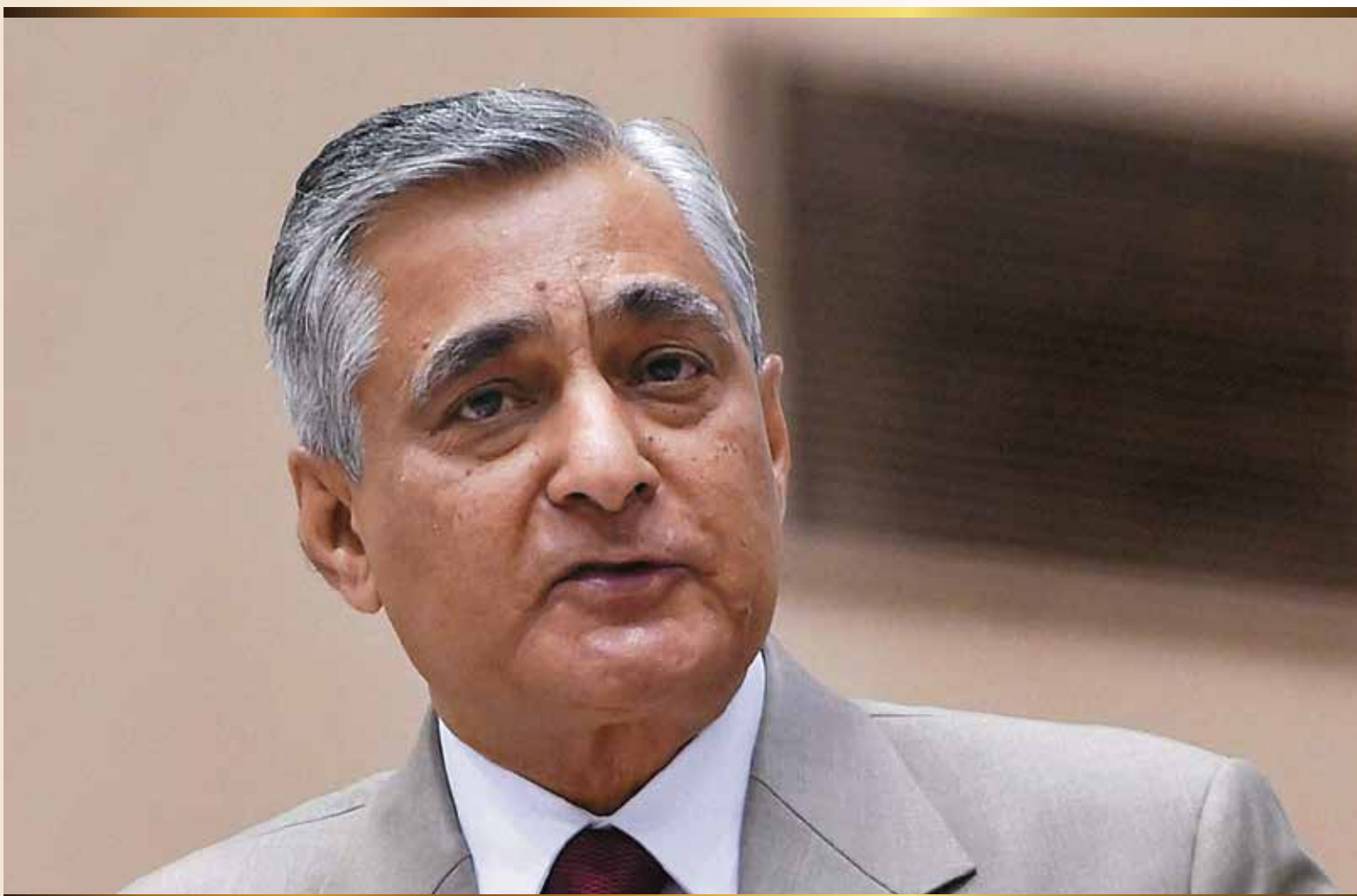
On this occasion, I extend my best wishes to the Delhi High Court, in its service of the goal of justice enshrined in the Constitution of India.



(Narendra Modi)

20 September, 2016
New Delhi

Chief Justice of India



MR. JUSTICE T. S. THAKUR

T. S. Thakur
Chief Justice of India



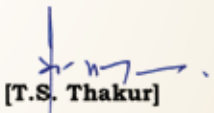
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New Delhi-110 011
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011-2301 8082*

October 2, 2016

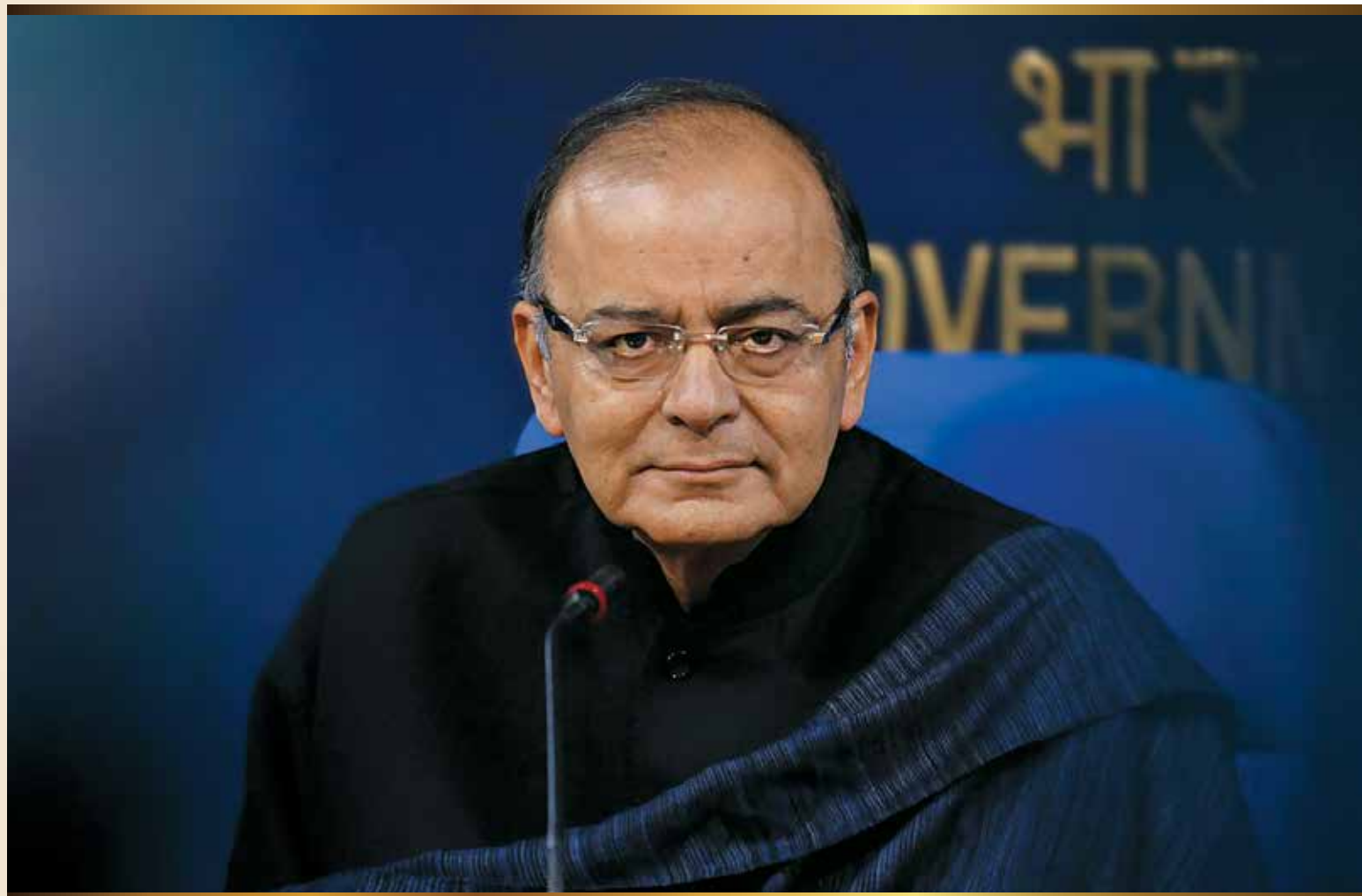
MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the High Court of Delhi has completed 50 glorious years in the service of the people of Delhi. It gives me immense pleasure in extending my greetings and good wishes to the Chief Justice, Judges, officers and staff of the High Court on this momentous occasion. The Court has traversed a long and arduous journey establishing several milestones of rectitude and professional excellence. I have had the privilege of serving this premier institution as a Judge for nearly four years and as its acting Chief Justice for a while. I can, therefore, say with added confidence that this Court has not only zealously protected the rights of the citizens but played a significant role in upholding the rule of law apart from contributing to the development of jurisprudence and setting new benchmarks in a technologically driven dynamic judicial era. To meet the growing aspirations of the people of Delhi, the High Court has been in the forefront and has adopted a slew of measures such as establishing E-Courts, setting-up a dynamic website system and digitizing paper records etc. Successive Chief Justices of High Court of Delhi have in that regard formulated ingenious ways and means of providing speedy justice and setting-up alternative dispute resolution centres and mechanisms.

I congratulate the Delhi High Court on this occasion for the commendable efforts put in by it and the notable results achieved by all those who are or have been a part of that institution. I am sure the High Court of Delhi will maintain and carry forward its legacy of an impeccable track record in the years to come.


[T.S. Thakur]

Minister of Finance, Govt. of India



SHRI ARUN JAITLEY

अरुण जेटली
वित्त, कार्पोरेट कार्य
एवं सूचना व प्रसारण मंत्री
भारत



सत्यमेव जयते

Message

Arun Jaitley
Minister of Finance, Corporate Affairs
and Information & Broadcasting
India

I am glad to know that the Delhi High Court is organizing a function to celebrate its Golden Jubilee on 31st October 2016. I wish the event a grand success.

The judiciary is an indispensable part of Good Governance and an independent judiciary is an important pillar of a democratic society. The judicial system is the mechanism that upholds the rule of law. The Courts provide a forum to resolve disputes and enforce laws in a fair, transparent and rational manner for delivery of justice.

Delhi High Court has been a torch-bearer in establishing alternate dispute settlement to deal with the issue of increased litigation, using IT in e-courts and digitization of all precedents. I am sure that these initiatives would show the path forward for efficient, effective, fair and speedy justice system.

I am pleased to know that a Commemorative Volume is also being brought-out on the occasion. I convey my best wishes to the Delhi High Court for all its endeavors.


Arun Jaitley


Ministry of Finance : 134, North Block, New Delhi-110001, Tel. : 23092810, 23092510 Fax : 23092828
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Minister of Law & Justice, Govt. of India



SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD

रविशंकर प्रसाद
RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD



मन्त्री
विधि एवं न्याय
एवं
इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी
भारत सरकार
MINISTER OF
LAW & JUSTICE
and
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

सत्यमेव जयते

MESSAGE

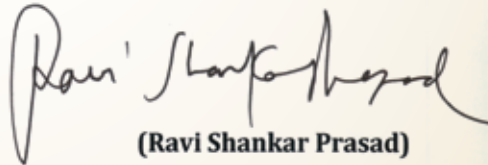
I am very glad that a commemorative volume is being brought out on the occasion of Golden Jubilee celebration of Delhi High Court.

Delhi High Court, which has successfully completed 50 years of its existence, has truly served the people by upholding the Rule of Law and Justice as enjoined in our Constitution and earned their trust & confidence by embracing modern technology to introduce efficiency and greater transparency. Over the span of 50 years, the High Court has delivered many landmark judicial pronouncements in all fields of law.

It has been viewed as an Institution of high standards with strong ideals and principles and has been well known for its intellectual erudition and legal acumen. Just as the Bench has seen some of the finest legal minds, the Bar has also produced large number of Advocates of great eminence. Some of these have excelled in the public life of the country. Moreover, Delhi High Court has the highest percentage of women amongst judges and lawyers in the country.

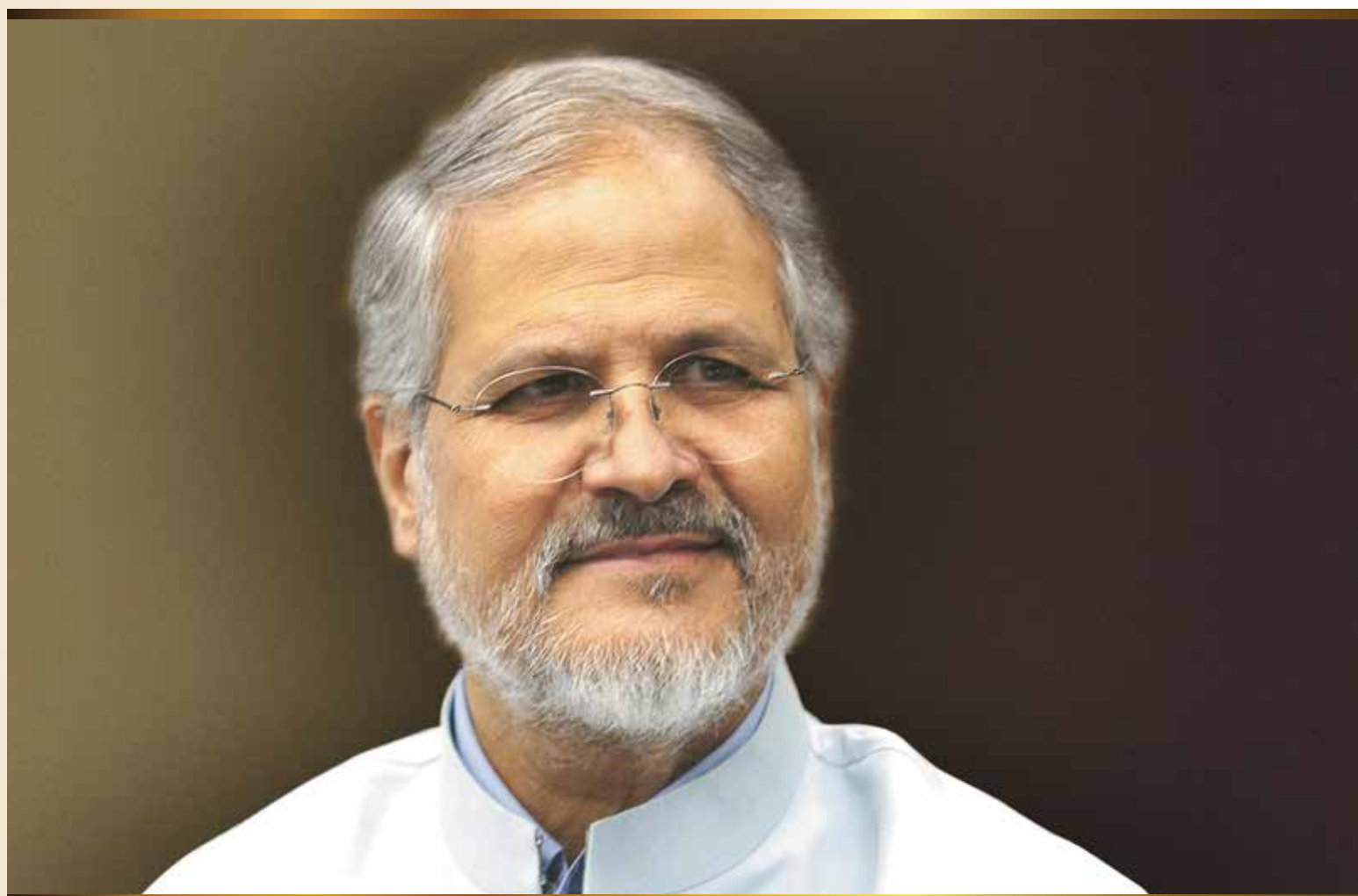
The legal fraternity of Delhi and the recipients of its beneficence, must always strive to uphold the greatness of this Institution and ensure that it continues to be a succour to all those who approach this Temple of Justice.

On this happy occasion, I congratulate the Hon'ble Judges, members of the Bar and the staff of the Delhi High Court and wish them all success in their aspirations.


(Ravi Shankar Prasad)

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Lt. Governor of Delhi



SHRI NAJEEB JUNG

उपराज्यपाल
दिल्ली
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DELHI



राज निवास
दिल्ली-११००५४
RAJ NIWAS
DELHI-110054

28th September, 2016

MESSAGE

It makes us proud that the Delhi High Court is completing 50 years of its glorious existence and its Golden Jubilee celebrations shall be concluding on 31st October 2016.

The High Court of Delhi is one of the premier High Courts in India and it can rightfully take pride in upholding the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and commitment to justice. This High Court has time and again shown that democracy, liberty and rule of law are indeed the very foundations of a strong democracy such as ours. It has also established that at the heart of judicial functioning lies its deep commitment to the people of Delhi in upholding the rule of law which is indispensable for securing a life with dignity.

I extend my warm wishes and felicitations to the entire fraternity of the Delhi High Court and extend my heartiest congratulations to all on the occasion of their Golden Jubilee.

(Najeeb Jung)

Chief Minister of Delhi



SHRI ARVIND KEJRIWAL

ARVIND KEJRIWAL
CHIEF MINISTER



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D.O. No. :
Date :

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to know that the High Court of Delhi is completing 50 years of its' existence on 31st October, 2016 and on this occasion a function is being organized at Vigyan Bhavan to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of its' establishment, apart from bringing out a commemorative volume.

My heartiest congratulations to you, your colleague Hon'ble Judges, members of High Court Bar Association and all the Officers and Staff members of the Court.

I also extend my best wishes for success of the entire endeavour.


(ARVIND KEJRIWAL)

Hon'ble Justice G. Rohini
Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi
Sher Shah Road, New Delhi

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF JUSTICE HIGH COURT OF DELHI



Having started on 31st October, 1966, the Delhi High Court has come a long way to celebrate 50 years of its glorious existence.

During all these years, the history of Delhi High Court has been one of progress, brilliance and prosperity. This Court has seen several milestones since its inception and it is my proud privilege to share the splendid achievements which embellished the historic past of the Delhi High Court.

The High Court of Delhi began functioning from a residential bungalow at 4, Maulana Azad Road with the Chief Justice K.S. Hegde along with three Judges. In 1967, it shifted to Travancore House on Kasturba Gandhi Marg and then to Patiala House, New Delhi. The foundation stone of its current premises at Sher Shah Road was laid by the then President of India, Dr. Zakir Hussain on 4th November, 1968. The building was completed in 1976 and was inaugurated by the then President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed on September 25, 1976. The building has been expanded extensively from time to time by constructing Lawyers' Chambers, Administrative Block, Automated Car Parking and a full-fledged Medical Health Centre. With the increasing population of National Capital Territory of Delhi and the increase in the volume of litigation, the sanctioned strength of Delhi High Court Judges has been raised to 60. The High Court

exercises the power of superintendence and control over the Delhi Judicial Service and the Delhi Higher Judicial Service working in 11 District Courts from six District Court Complexes.

Being the National Capital and the seat of a large number of important and vital institutions of both Central and National Capital Territory, it is well-known that Delhi offers a kaleidoscopic view of ethnic, cultural and socio-political diversity of the country.

So far as the judicial system of our country is concerned, I can say without hesitation that Delhi High Court acts as a window for the rest of the world on account of diversity of subject matter of litigation processed by it. High literacy rate, inter-state and international commercial activities and awareness of people of the rights guaranteed under the law has resulted in high quality of litigation in several vital fields and elevated the status of the Delhi High Court to one of the prestigious High Courts of the country in a short span of time. Adopting a dynamic, practical, pro-active and constructive role on many issues of public importance by giving meaningful interpretation of the constitutional and statutory provisions, the Delhi High Court has passed from one stage of evolution to another carving out a place of distinction for itself in the judicial history of the country.

The Delhi High Court has always been sensitive to the changing social, political and cultural needs of the society and has made long lasting contribution to the system of governance that has impacted the life of the people and the Nation on various issues, including human rights, personal liberty, environment, gender equality, child labour, education, protection of weaker sections, protection of public health, freedom of press, privacy, planned development of cities and so on and so forth. The Delhi High Court has not only been the citadel of justice but has also been a centre for disseminating law and knowledge. Many constructive activities have been taken up by High Court in the pursuit of achieving excellence in every sphere of law.

Since its inception, Delhi High Court has had the privilege of being one amongst the five High Courts in India to have Ordinary Original Civil jurisdiction. In exercise of the Ordinary Original Civil jurisdiction, the Delhi High Court, in particular, played a dynamic role in laying down the law relating to the Intellectual Property Rights and creating a conducive environment for the protection of the intellectual property rights of innovators and creators. Many path breaking judgments on various issues have been rendered by the Delhi High Court by meaningfully interpreting the legal concepts of Intellectual Property and the rights of professionals, industrialists, artists, entertainers, business entrepreneurs and even common man have been scrupulously guarded.

Delhi High Court, apart from meticulously imparting justice, has also maintained high professional standards by incorporating necessary modernized electronic equipments. Delhi High Court is the first High Court in the country which adopted Information Technology to the judicial system and the E-Courts have been established in the High Court and the District Courts as back as

in the year 2009. By adopting E-Courts system, the huge task of the judicial work right from filing till furnishing the copies of the orders is being managed by a very small skeletal staff. Another significant feature of this System of E-Courts is its positive impact on the environment. Among all, this has brought transparency in the system of administration of justice.

Delhi High Court is also the first High Court to establish Court-annexed arbitration and mediation. The Delhi International Arbitration Centre established in the year 2009 and the Delhi High Court Mediation & Conciliation Centre, well known as "Samadhan", established in the year 2006 have become very popular in the country in promoting and strengthening the mechanism of cost effective and efficient alternative dispute resolution. The District Mediation Centres of Delhi are also very successful and we have already crossed the milestone of settlement of one lakh cases through District Mediation Centres.

It is a matter of remarkable honour for the Delhi High Court to have established the first Commercial Division within it, in line with recommendation of the 20th Law Commission of India as well as the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015, by dedicating four Benches each to act as Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division.

The invaluable contribution emanated by the outstanding legal fraternity well-known for their eloquence, the infectious faith in the soundness of what they were expounding and the literary quality and warmth of their expression complemented the judicial system of Delhi High Court and made it the saviour and fortress of justice.

The High Court of Delhi has had the privilege of contributing 27 judges to the Supreme Court of India, four of whom have adorned the highest office of Chief Justice of India.

The credit to all the success and reputation goes to the highest standards of professional conduct personified by the legal stalwarts of the Bar and the illustrious Judges who have maintained the mutual cordial relationship to upkeep the high esteem of the institution.

Public trust and confidence in the effective functioning of Courts is an indicator of the fulfilment of the constitutional mandate to promote justice. Time and again, it has been recognised at all levels that the areas in which the Courts have to excel in their performance cannot be confined only to quality and timeliness but the same shall also include increase in the access to justice and thus, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen.

Various initiatives have been taken up by the Delhi High Court in this regard, to name a few, providing accessibility of the Courts to the persons with disabilities, legal assistance to the deserving sections of the society, organization of Lok Adalats at places other than the places where the regular courts are functioning to enable disposal of cases expeditiously with lesser cost ensuring user friendly system and high level of legal literacy by establishing e-library.

A special mention has to be made about the establishment of Vulnerable Witness Deposition Complexes in the District Courts which provide safety and security to the witnesses from intimidation and harm the criminal groups may seek to inflict upon them and enable the vulnerable witnesses to participate in the trial without

any fear or inhibition and, at the same time, without compromising the right of the accused to a fair trial. The Witness Protection Scheme notified by the Government of NCT of Delhi in pursuance of the judgment of the High Court of Delhi in State vs. Manu Sharma is first of its kind in the entire country.

In our endeavour to meet the mandate of the Constitution of India, we have been striving to balance the golden scales of justice efficaciously so as to enable it to play the revolutionary role of transforming 'un-equals' into 'equals' and thereby fulfill our Constitutional dream of not denying to any person 'equality before the law'.

For over half a century, the Delhi High Court has been endeavouring to uphold the rule of law by adhering to the core values of integrity, propriety, fairness and transparency. Let all of us re-dedicate ourselves to march forward maintaining the same values and emulating the high standards set out by our predecessors in the pursuit of achieving excellence in the system of administration of justice.

Justice G. Rohini

Chief Justice

NOTE FROM THE OVERSEEING COMMITTEE

On 31st October, 2016 we celebrate the 50th year of the establishment of the High Court of Delhi. A happy day for all. A day on which we pledge ourselves anew, to the service of the great cause of justice to which this Court has dedicated itself. Firmly anchored on the principles enshrined in the Preamble of the Constitution, the High Court of Delhi has striven to accomplish the difficult task of balancing the rights and privileges of the citizens of Delhi.

The urgent and onerous task of economic betterment of the people of Delhi; of raising their personal worth; of removing the curse of poverty and promoting equality and social justice, is never ending. During its journey of 50 years, the High Court of Delhi has accomplished a tremendous amount of work. The historians of the future will probably not pay much attention to the number of judgments churned out over five decades, but shall highlight the deeper things that go towards the making of justice.

This commemorative book is an attempt to weave together various facets of the justice delivery system. It highlights some known and other unknown facts relating to the establishment of the High Court of Delhi and the milestones achieved by it over the past fifty years. Fifty years may mean nothing on the great scale of time but every year shall count to script, if not a chapter, at least a stanza in laying the foundation for an equitable and just social order for the future. Since its inception on 31st October, 1966, 190 Justices have adorned the Bench of this Court – a glorious band of women and men who have toiled without any expectation of public applause, solely to nurture the plant of justice. Brick by brick, an edifice has been built as a temple of justice. Starting with a sanctioned staff strength of 204 in the Registry, as of date it has expanded to 2266. From a few

hundreds, the High Court Bar membership has swelled to a robust fifteen thousand plus. Many of the giants of old are not with us, we of the later day bask under the eminence of their creation. The stalwarts of yester years may not be with us in flesh and blood, but we cherish their commitment to justice and remain the torch bearers of their unrealized dreams of ensuring equal opportunity of justice for all.

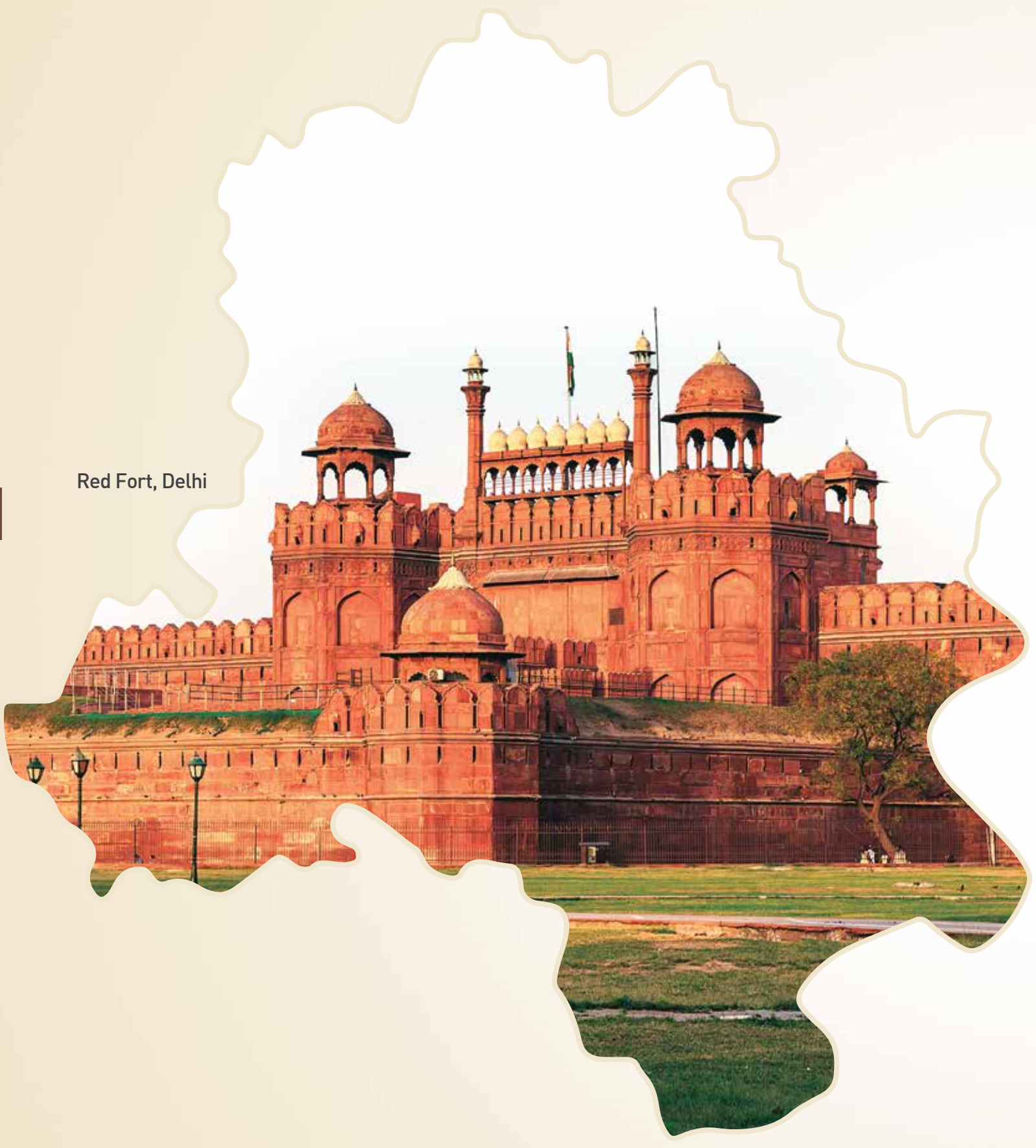
Nobody can say with certainty what the future has in its folds, but the High Court of Delhi can assert with confidence that it will continue playing a determinative role in the development of law. To the marginalized and the minorities, this Court gives a solemn assurance that their rights shall be safeguarded. To the labour and the peasantry, the slum dwellers and the needy, the High Court of Delhi reaffirms its commitment to espouse their just causes whenever called upon to do so.

The High Court of Delhi has always been in the forefront of adopting new technologies for efficient and timely delivery of justice. It has introduced electronic courts and electronic filing and, apart from being in sync with the modern day digital world, is well on its way to being a paperless court.

The High Court of Delhi shall continue to stand by its guarantee of an independent and efficient judicial system which upholds the rule of law and denies to no one access to fair and equal justice.

Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed
Justice Pradeep Nandrajog
Justice Hima Kohli
Justice Siddharth Mridul
**Overseeing Committee,
Golden Jubilee Celebrations**

Red Fort, Delhi



DELHI: THE ETERNAL CAPITAL

DELHI: THE ETERNAL CAPITAL

“A CITY BUILT, DESTROYED AND REBUILT...”

Delhi, which is a minuscule of the wonderful mosaic called India, has a strong historical, cultural, political and economic background. Its history is as old as the epic of Mahabharata. It was ruled by some of the most powerful emperors. The history of Delhi has had its share of wars, being invaded by one after the other across the timelines. The cosmopolitan city as it exists today is unique because of its history, culture and nature's bounty.

Mythological references in Ancient times of Delhi relate the city to “Indraprastha” and the name is still in vogue, as a part of Delhi, known as the IP Estate. As time rolled, eight more satellites came around, namely, Lal Kot, Siri, Dinpanah, Quila Rai Pithora, Ferozabad, Jahanpanah, Tughlakabad and Shahjahanabad. It witnessed political turmoils for well over five centuries.

Lal Kot: Built in 731 AD
by Tomar Ruler Anangapal I



The Afghan warrior Muhammad Ghori and his legions captured the Rajput town in 1192, and established the Delhi Sultanate. The invasion by Timur in 1398 put an end to the Sultanate. The Lodis, the last of Delhi sultans, surrendered to Babur who, after the battle of Panipat in 1526, founded the Mughal Empire. The early Mughal emperors from Akbar favoured Agra as their capital. Delhi became their permanent seat only after Shah Jahan built the walls of Old Delhi (Shahjahanabad) in 1638. Remnants of the same are still a matter of historic fascination and romantic nostalgia. In the middle of the sixteenth century, Sher Shah Suri defeated Babur's son Humayun and built the sixth city of Delhi as well as the Old Fort known as Purana Quila. For a brief spell in 1556, Hemu alias Hemchandra Vikramaditya, defeated Akbar's army at Tughlaqabad Fort and became the King in October 1556. But a month later, he was wounded by a chance arrow and captured during the Second Battle of Panipat. Akbar's regent, Bairam Khan beheaded him shortly thereafter, on November 5, 1556.



Purana Quila



Shahjahanabad: Seventh city of Delhi, built in 1639 by Shahjahan, the great Mughal Emperor

The reins of the city kept shifting from one ruler to another, from Hindu Kings to Muslim Sultans. The soil of the city knew the smell of blood, sacrifices and love for the nation. The old 'havelis' and edifices from the past stand silent but their silence speaks volumes for their makers and people who lived there centuries ago.

In the year 1803, the city came under the British rule, after the Second Anglo-Maratha War. Between 1836 and 1858, Delhi was part of the then North-Western Provinces. After the First War of Independence in 1857, the last titular Mughal Emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar II was exiled and the remaining Mughal territories were annexed as part of British India. Delhi was separated from the North-Western Provinces and annexed to the then Punjab Province with the repeal of Regulation-V of 1832 by Act XXXVIII of 1858. In 1911, consequent to the visit of King George V, the British shifted the capital from Calcutta to Delhi, the day was discernible for the



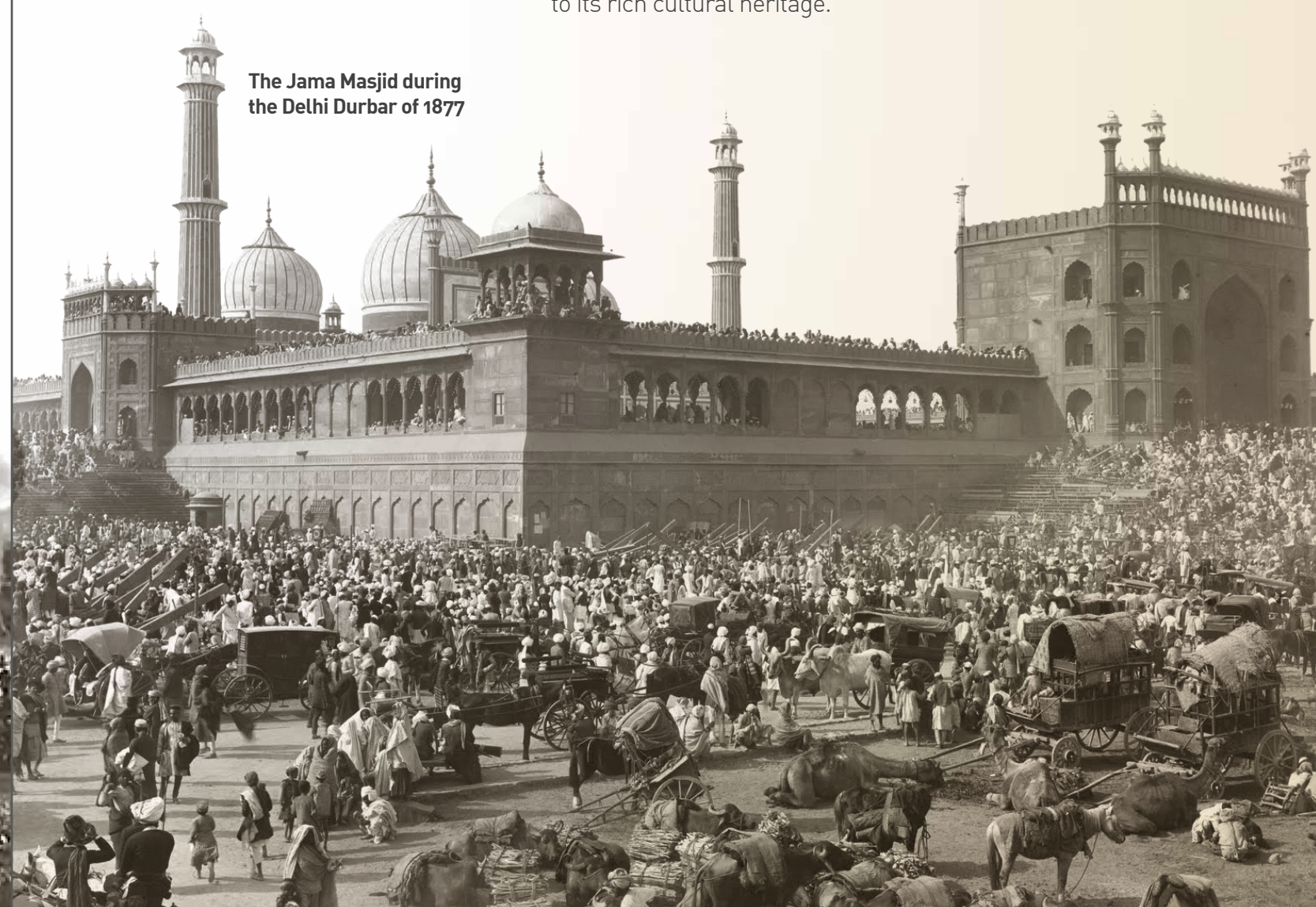
Red Fort, Delhi

Picture Source: Archaeological Survey of India

grandiose ceremony of Delhi Durbar. The city was refashioned and redesigned by British architects, Edward Lutyens and Herbert Baker. A part of Delhi is still referred to as Lutyens Delhi. The new capital was established on February 13, 1931, by Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy and Governor General of India. Thus, Delhi once again became the center of all governing activities. But, the city had the reputation of overthrowing invaders. This included the British as well. On August 15, 1947 India attained freedom and Delhi was declared the Capital of Independent India.

Delhi is nothing without its history that has gone into its making as the Capital of India. Walking through the by-lanes of Old Delhi, one is transported to its 400 years old cultural heritage but at the same time, New Delhi connects you to the modern era.

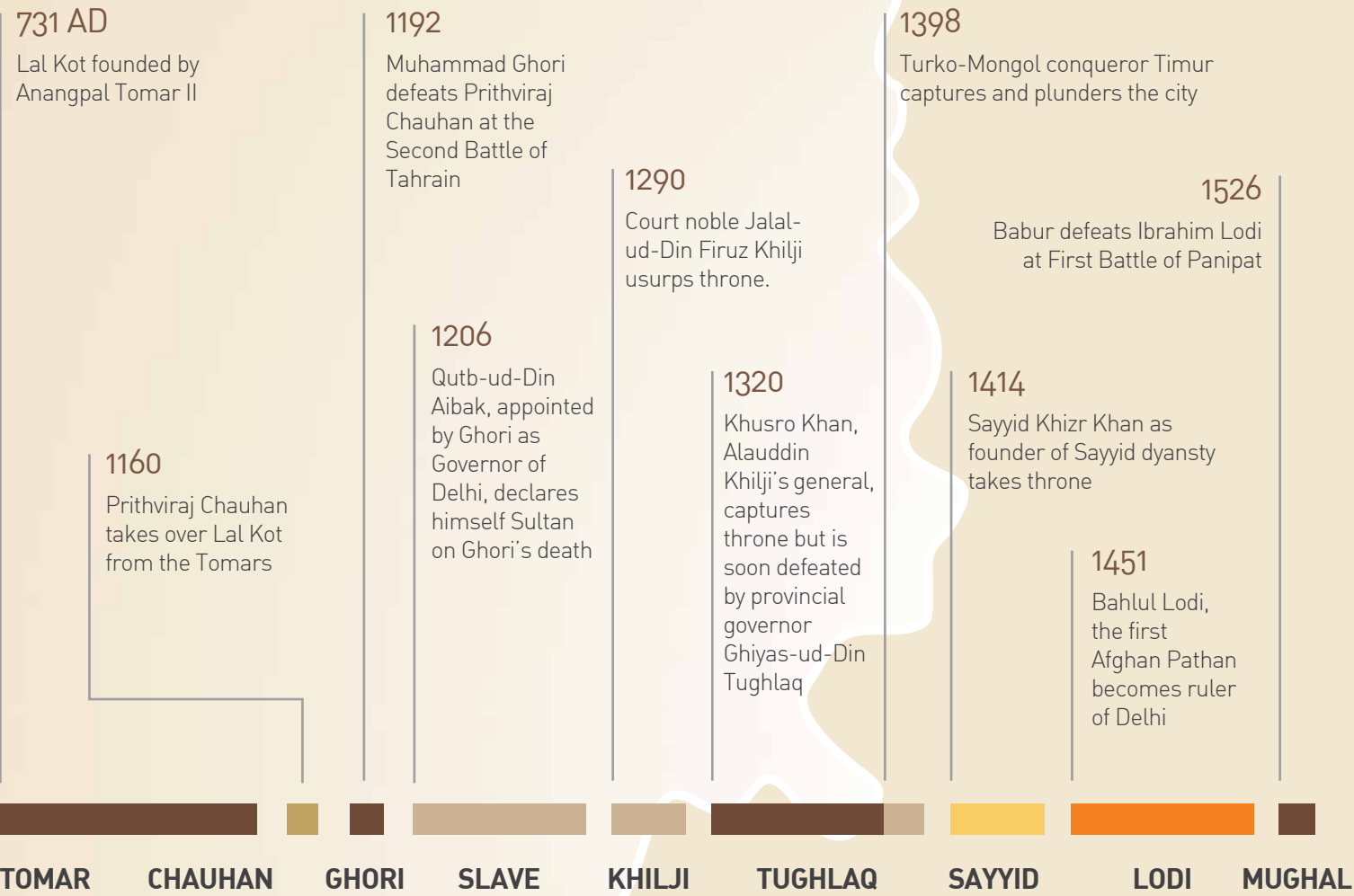
Since then, Delhi has grown as one of the most modern, well planned and powerful capitals of the world... yet holding strongly, to its rich cultural heritage.



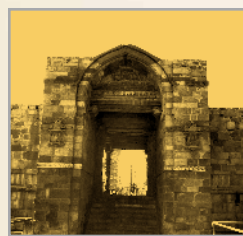
The Jama Masjid during the Delhi Durbar of 1877

Picture Source: Historic Delhi-Early Explorations of the Camera c. 1860-1950, the Alkazi Foundation (Chhotahazri)

DELHI'S TIMELINE ACROSS ERAS



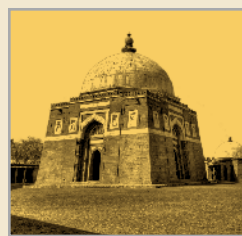
731 AD LAL KOT
Anangpal Tomar II builds fortress and declares it his capital city



1180 QUILA RAI PITHORA
Prithviraj Chauhan expands fortified area



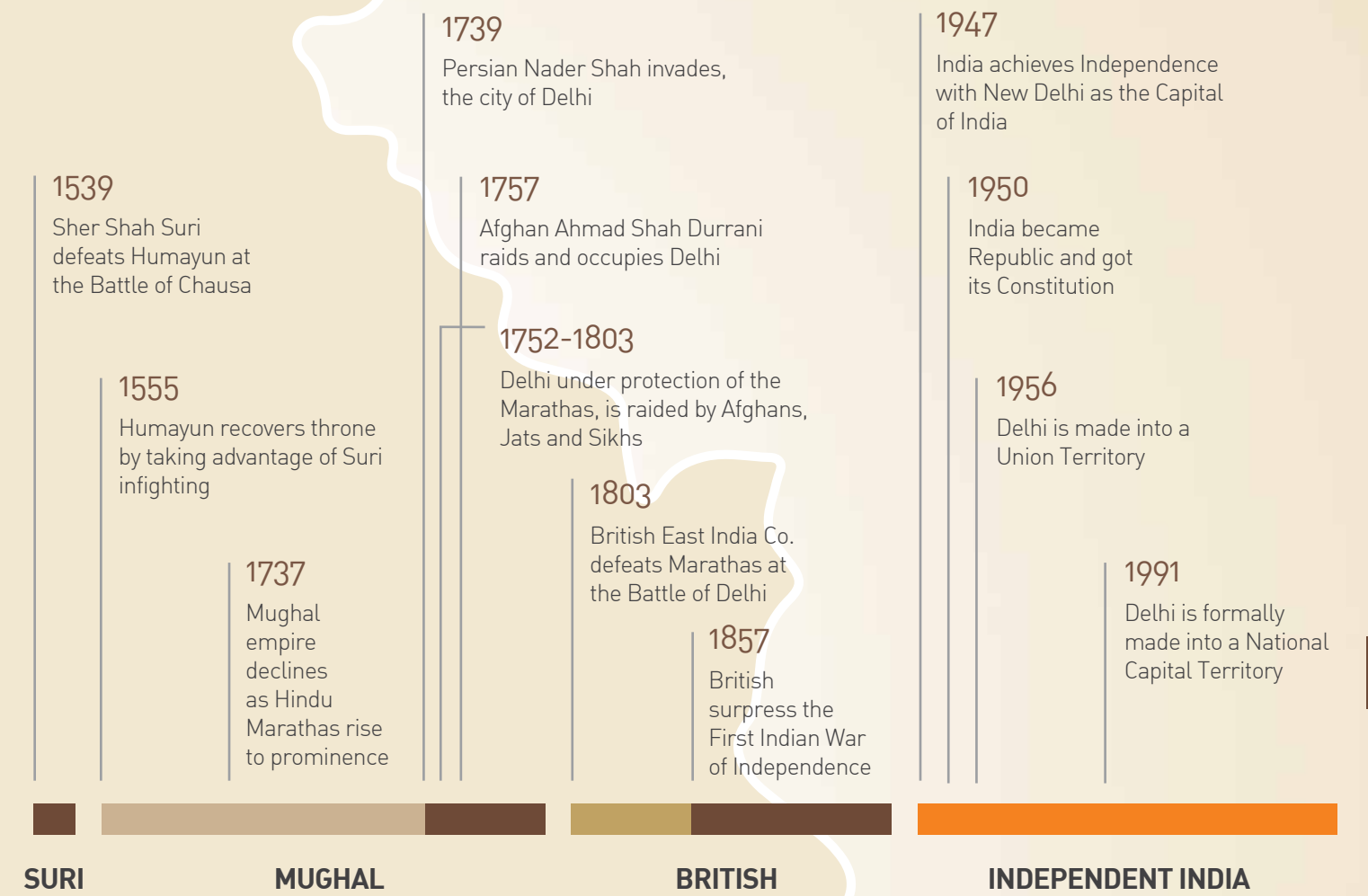
1297 SIRI
Ala-ud-Din Khilji builds city fort as a defense against attacks by the Mongols



1321 TUGHLAQABAD
Ghiyas-ud-Din Tughlaq builds a new capital, but it is abandoned because of scarcity of water



1326 JAHANPANAHA
"Refuge of the world"
Muhammad bin Tughlaq further carries fortifications around Quila Rai Pithora and Siri known as Jahapanah



1354 FIROZABAD
Firoz Shah Kotla
Firoz Shah Tughlaq moved his capital further north



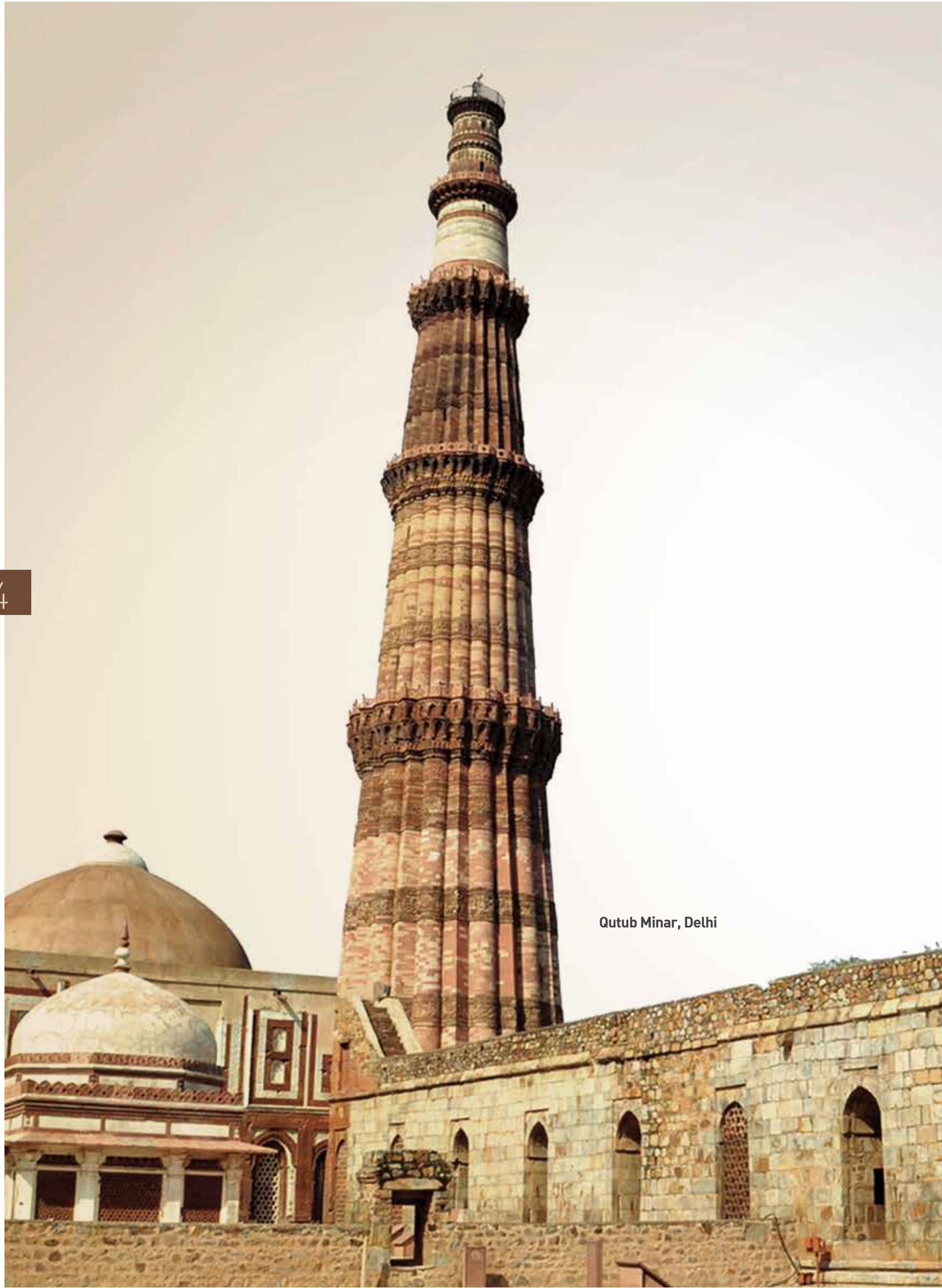
1540 SHERGARH DINPANAHA
Sher Shah Suri built Shergarh while Humayun built Dinpanah



1639 SHAHJAHANBAD
Purani Dilli
Shah Jahan's grand walled city was built further north along Yamuna River



1911 DELHI
Becomes capital of British India after Delhi Darbar



Qutub Minar, Delhi

EARLY LEGAL SYSTEMS

EARLY LEGAL SYSTEMS

Law in India has evolved from religious prescription to the current constitutional and legal systems. India has a recorded legal history starting from the Vedic ages and some sort of civil law system may have been in place even during the Bronze Age and the Indus Valley civilization. Emanating from the Vedas, the Upanishads and other religious texts, it was a fertile field enriched by practitioners from different Hindu philosophical schools and later by Jains and Buddhists. Secular law in India varied widely from region to region and from ruler to ruler. Court systems for civil and criminal matters were essential features of many ruling dynasties of Ancient India. Excellent secular court systems existed under the Mauryas (321-185 BC) and the Mughals (16th – 19th centuries) with the latter giving way to the current common law system.

ANCIENT INDIA

According to the well known Indian political treatise “Arthashastra” attributed to be the work of Kautilya, generally recognized as the Prime Minister of the First Mauryan Emperor (322-298 B.C), the realm was divided into administrative units. The great jurists, Manu, Yajn-alkya, Katyayana, Brihaspati and others, and in later times commentators like Vachaspati Misra and others prevailed in India from Ancient times till the close of the Middle Ages. According to Brihaspati Smriti, there was a hierarchy of courts in Ancient India beginning with the family Courts and ending with the King. The lowest was the family arbitrator. The next higher court was that of the Judge, the next, of the Chief Justice who was called Praadivivaka or Adhyaksha, at the top was the King’s court. It is noteworthy that the Indian judiciary today also consists of a hierarchy of Courts organized on a similar principle - the Village Courts, the Panchayats, the Munsifs, the Civil Judges, the District Judges, the High Court and finally, the Supreme Court. We continue to follow an ancient tradition without being conscious of it.



MEDIEVAL INDIA

Under the Mughal Empire the country had a well evolved governance. The center point of the judicial administration was Qazi, an office which was borrowed from the Caliphate. Every provincial capital had its Qazi and at the head of the judicial administration was the Supreme Qazi of the empire (Qazi-ul-Quzat). Moreover, every town and every village large enough to be classed as a "Qasba" had its own Qazi. In theory, a Qazi had to be "a Muslim scholar of blameless life, thoroughly conversant with the prescriptions of the sacred law". After the conquest of Bengal by the British, the process of replacement of the Mughal system of justice by the British began. But it took a long time. In fact, the Sadr Diwani Adalat continued to function till it was replaced by the High Courts in 1861.

The Mughal Emperor Shah Alam hands a scroll to Robert Clive, the Governor of Bengal



BRITISH INDIA

The common law system—a system of law based on recorded judicial precedents, came to India with the British East India Company. The Company was granted Charter by King George-I in 1726 to establish Mayor's Courts in Madras, Bombay and Calcutta. Judicial functions of the Company expanded substantially after its victory in the Battle of Plassey and by 1772, Company's courts expanded out from the three major cities. In the process, the company slowly replaced the existing Mughal legal system in those parts.

The Regulating Act of 1773 was the first Act of British Parliament to exercise indirect control over the affairs of East India Company's rule in India. A Supreme Court of Calcutta was provided with one Chief Justice and three puisne judges. It was constituted in 1774 with Ellijay Impey as the Chief Justice. It exercised jurisdiction over Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. British Judges were sent to India to administer the British legal system.

Following the First War of Independence in 1857, the control of the Company territories in India came under the direct control of the British Crown. India as part of the Empire, saw the next big shift in its legal system. Supreme Courts were established replacing the existing Mayor's Courts. These courts were converted to the first High Courts through Letters of Patents authorized by the Indian High Courts Act passed by the British Parliament in 1861. Superintendence of subordinate courts and enrolment of legal practitioners was granted to the respective High Courts.

During the British Raj, the Privy Council acted as the highest court of appeal. The State sued and was sued in the name of the British Sovereign in her capacity as the Empress of India.

During the shift from Mughal legal system, the advocates under that regime, "vakils", too followed suit, though they mostly continued their earlier role as their clients' representatives. The doors of the newly created Supreme Courts were barred to Indian practitioners, as right of audience was limited to members of English, Irish and Scottish professional bodies. Subsequent rules and statutes culminated in the Legal Practitioners Act of 1846.

Coding of law also began in earnest with the formation of the first Law Commission. Under the stewardship of its Chairman, Thomas Babington Macaulay, the Indian Penal Code was drafted, enacted and brought into force in 1862. The same Commission also drafted the Code of Criminal Procedure. Host of other statutes and codes like The Indian Evidence Act 1872 and The Indian Contract Act 1872 were also enacted, which have continued with some amendments.

India has an organic law as a consequence of the common law system. Through judicial pronouncements and legislative action, this has been fine tuned for Indian conditions. The Indian legal system's move towards a social justice paradigm, though undertaken independently, can be seen to mirror the changes in other countries with the common law system. From an artifice of colonial masters, the Indian legal system has evolved as an essential ingredient of the world's largest democracy and a crucial front in the battle to secure constitutional rights for every citizen.



Charles Metcalfe

Charles Metcalfe was one of the greatest of the East India Company's civil servants. He came to India in 1801 as an Assistant in the Political Department of Lord Wellesley's establishment at Calcutta, when he was barely sixteen years old.

Later he rose to occupy the highest position in India, that is, of the Governor-General in 1835.

EVOLUTION OF DELHI'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM UNDER CHARLES METCALFE 1803 – 1836

A special mention of Charles Metcalfe may be made while tracing the evolution of Delhi's Judicial System. He was appointed as the Assistant to the then "Resident" of Delhi in 1803. Metcalfe was later himself appointed as the "Resident" of Delhi in the year 1811 and later went on to become the acting Governor General of India from 1835 to 1836. Charles Metcalfe introduced the Village Settlement System in Delhi for revenue collection and established Tehsildari System, which continues till date. Metcalfe is also credited with laying down an efficient, simple and prompt judicial administration system in Delhi and establishment of separate branches of custom, political, police, criminal and civil justice, wherein wide discretionary powers were given to the officers for uniting the functions of Collector, Judge and Magistrate. The system was based on in-built intrinsic merits of native traditions. Metcalfe also built up the system of adjudication of village disputes via arbitration and mediation, which was facilitated through the Village Panchayats. Metcalfe conceived three gradations of civil courts viz. Court of Petty Suits, Court of Ordinary Suits and the Resident's Court (which was the highest Civil/Appellate Court). The modern law enforcement system existing now derives its structure to this period when districts were divided under Thanas and each Thana was placed under a Daroga or a police officer (Thanedari System).

The system of unified functions of the Collector, Magistrate and Judge in one person was abolished from the Delhi Administration by Regulation V of 1832, whereby the Delhi Territory was brought under the jurisdiction of Sadr Diwani and Nizamat Adalat, and the Sadr Board of Revenue in the Western Provinces situated at Allahabad. The offices of the Resident and the Chief Commissioner were abolished and instead a "Commissioner and Agent to the Governor General" was appointed at Delhi.



Aerial View of Purana Quila as it exists now

DEVELOPMENT OF LEGAL INSTITUTIONS IN DELHI

DEVELOPMENT OF LEGAL INSTITUTIONS IN DELHI

Evolution of the modern legal system of India can be traced to its various chapters where the British were trying to superimpose their legal edifice on the pre-existing native systems.

Initially, the lawyers appearing before the Provincial courts and Sadr courts were Indians. The class of vakils practising earlier before the Mughul courts appeared before these courts.

In 1793, the Bengal Regulation VII attempted to lay down rules for the profession. The Regulation VII of 1793 was the precursor to the present law of The Advocates Act, 1961 and governed admission into and regulated the conduct of the Bar. In other words, it laid down the rules for the profession. Under this Regulation, only Hindus and Muslims, that is "native lawyers", could be enrolled. The Pleaders, before admission, had to take an oath binding them to a faithful discharge of their duties. In early 1800's, Hindus and Muslims did not have barristers or solicitors.

The Bengal Regulation XII of 1835 promulgated a ground-breaking change in the system of pleaders practising law. It waived off the requirement that enrolment as a pleader was restricted by nationality and religion, and permitted persons irrespective of the nationality to be enrolled as pleaders of the Sadr Diwani Adalat. Even today, the present controversy of permitting foreign firms to be allowed to practise in India continues to be the off-shoot of the topic of debate.

THE INDIAN HIGH COURTS ACT, 1861:

In India, each State has its own judiciary, which administers both Union and State Laws as operating within its territory. The High Court is an important part of judicial system in India and is the highest court of appeal in a State, below the Supreme Court, although it is vested with other jurisdictions as well. High Court is an important judicial set up, to deliver justice. Beginning of the modern High Courts in India can be traced back to 1861. The British Parliament passed the Indian High Courts Act on August 6, 1861 for establishing High Courts of Judicature in India. The main purpose of bringing out this legislation was to abolish the Supreme Courts and the Sadr Adalats in the three Presidencies and to establish the High Courts in their place. The records and documents of the various courts became the records and documents of the High Court concerned. It gave power and authority to Her Majesty to issue Letters Patent under the seal of the United Kingdom, to erect and establish High Courts of Judicature at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. Each High Court was to comprise a Chief Justice and as many puisne judges "not exceeding fifteen" as Her Majesty might think fit to appoint. With the establishment of High Courts in Presidency towns, it unified the Supreme Court and the Sadr Diwani Adalat. Earlier, the Supreme Court derived power from the Crown and Sadr Adalat got its power from the Company, but with the establishment of High Courts, it amalgamated both systems of law. This led to emergence of three High Courts in the Presidency towns at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. This way, for the first time all courts were brought under one superior High Court for a given area.

ESTABLISHMENT OF CHIEF COURT OF PUNJAB AT LAHORE: 1865

Legal history of Delhi further unfolds with the formation of High Court at Lahore. Beginnings can be sketched from the Chief's Court Act (Act 23 of 1855), which formed the Punjab Chief's Court at Lahore in the year 1865 and remained in force for a brief period of history with a strength of five Judges. In the following year, the Chief's Court received the assent of the Governor-General, on February 16, by the Act IV of 1866. The said Act constituted Chief's Court of Punjab as the ultimate Court of Appeal of Civil and Criminal courts in the province. During this period, Justice Ram Narain Dar (1849 to 1886) was elevated as the first Indian Judge of the Chief Court. In 1877 a change in the composition of the higher judiciary occurred. By the Punjab Court Act XVII of 1877, the Punjab Courts Act, 1865 and the Chief Court, Act, 1866 were annulled. The setting up of the Chief's Court in 1866, concluded in the constitution of the High Court of Judicature at Lahore for the provinces of Punjab and Delhi on March 21, 1919 by a Letters Patent, thereby elevating the status of Chief's Court to that of a High Court. Another event of that year is the enactment of the Government of India Act, 1919 on December 23, 1919.

There is one important timeline of history regarding legal luminaries of the Chief's Court that cannot be missed out in this journey to recollect history. Sir Shadi Lal, well known as the first North Indian to qualify the Indian Civil Service, resigned from the service and went on to become a Barrister & subsequently a Judge

Chief's Court of Punjab at Lahore 1865



Picture source: en.wikipedia.org

and thereafter the Chief Justice of the Chief's Court. He was one of the first six judges of the Lahore High Court and was conferred Knighthood in the year 1921 and thereafter, the first Indian Judge to be elevated to the Privy Council.

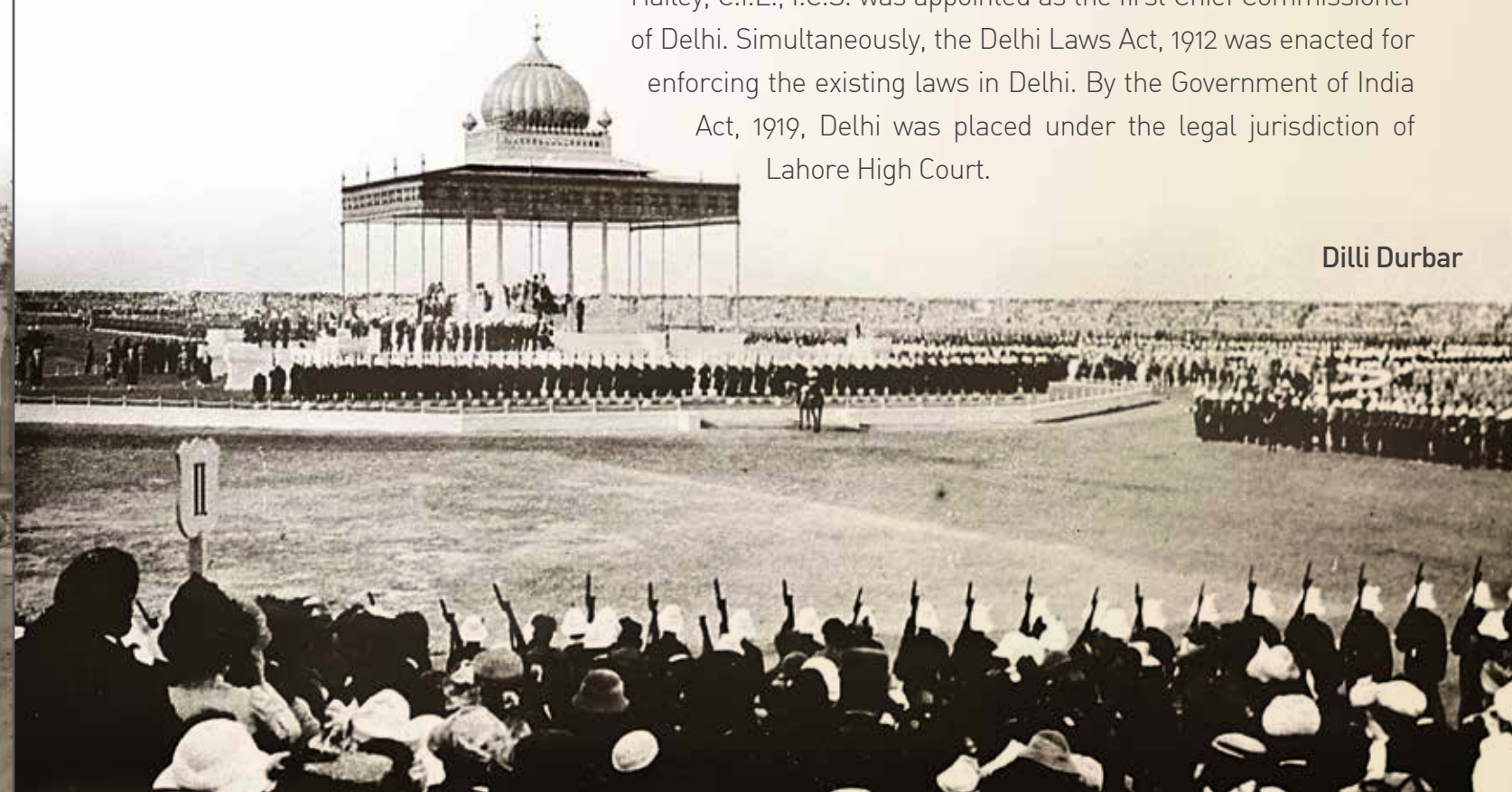
Moving ahead in timeline, the Government of India Act, 1935 brought about many important changes. The pre-requisite of the Chief Justice being derived from the Barrister Judges was withdrawn and now the Chief Justice could be appointed from the civilian judges as well, and the retirement age became 60.

Delhi was yet awaiting to have its own High Court, but the formation of the High Court at Lahore in the year 1919 was a big leap in the direction.

DELHI AS A SEPARATE DISTRICT AND THE CAPITAL OF INDIA (1911-1912)

Delhi began to develop as the center of political mayhem when the British decided to shift the Capital to Delhi. The Imperial British Capital shifted to Delhi in the year 1911 after the much illustrious Dilli Durbar and around the same time Delhi was also recognized as a separate district vide Proclamation Notification No. 911 dated 17.09.1912 issued by the Governor General-in-Council. By this notification Delhi came under the immediate authority and management of the Governor General of India. Mr. William Malcolm Hailey, C.I.E., I.C.S. was appointed as the first Chief Commissioner of Delhi. Simultaneously, the Delhi Laws Act, 1912 was enacted for enforcing the existing laws in Delhi. By the Government of India Act, 1919, Delhi was placed under the legal jurisdiction of Lahore High Court.

Dilli Durbar



Picture source: en.wikipedia.org

EMERGENCE OF A LAWYERS' "BAR" IN DELHI

As per records of the Delhi Bar Association, Mr S. Clifford, the then District Judge of Delhi (equivalent to Senior Sub-Judge of now-a-days) suggested to a group of lawyers, numbering seventeen, to form themselves into an association under the Societies Registration Act 21 of 1860. The formal application by one Barrister-at-Law and 16 Pleaders, was filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies at Lahore on February 4, 1888 and a Memorandum of Association was signed by all the 17 lawyers on March 8, 1888. Thus was established the "Delhi District Bar Library" which is now stated to be existing as the "Delhi Bar Association".

EMERGENCE OF A BODY TO REPRESENT LAWYERS: THE BAR

Law in essence is a service-oriented profession. We are reminded historically about the great Judges and lawyers who have left their indelible footprints on our jurisprudence and who practised the profession of law in a spirit of public service. Even in present times, the tradition continues, although somewhat diluted.

Dawn of the league of legal professionals in India, especially after founding of the High Courts, could be seen in following six categories – Advocates, Attorneys (Solicitors), Vakils of High Courts, Pleaders, Mukhtars and Revenue Agents. The Legal Practitioners Act of 1879 in fact brought all the six grades of the profession under the umbrella jurisdiction of the High Courts. The Act however extended to whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Legal Practitioners Act and the Letters Patent of the High Courts formed the chief legislative governance of legal practitioners in the subordinate Courts in the country until the Advocates Act, 1961 was enacted.

In order to be a Vakil, the candidate was required to meet the stringent standards, as he had to study at a college or university, master the use of English and pass a Vakil's examination. By 1940, a vakil was required to be a graduate with an LL.B. from a university in India in addition to three other certified requirements. The certificate was a proof that he had passed in the examination, read in the chamber of a qualified lawyer and was of a good character. In fact, Sir Sunder Lal, Jogendra Nath Chaudhary, Ram Prasad and Moti Lal Nehru were all vakils who were raised to the rank of an Advocate, for Original and Appellate jurisdiction of the High Court.

The High Courts of the three presidency towns had an original side. The original side included major civil and criminal matters, earlier heard by predecessor Supreme Courts. On the original side in the High Courts, the solicitors and barristers remained distinct. On the appellate side, every lawyer practised as an attorney. Focusing attention on the Presidency Towns, in Madras, the vakils started practice since 1866. In 1874, the barristers challenged their right to do Original jurisdiction work. However, in 1916, this right was firmly established in favour of the vakils. Similarly, vakils in Bombay and Calcutta could be promoted as advocates and become qualified to work on the original side. By attending the Appellate side and Original side courts, each for one year, a vakil of 10 years service in the Court was permitted to sit for the Advocates Examination, conducted under the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926.

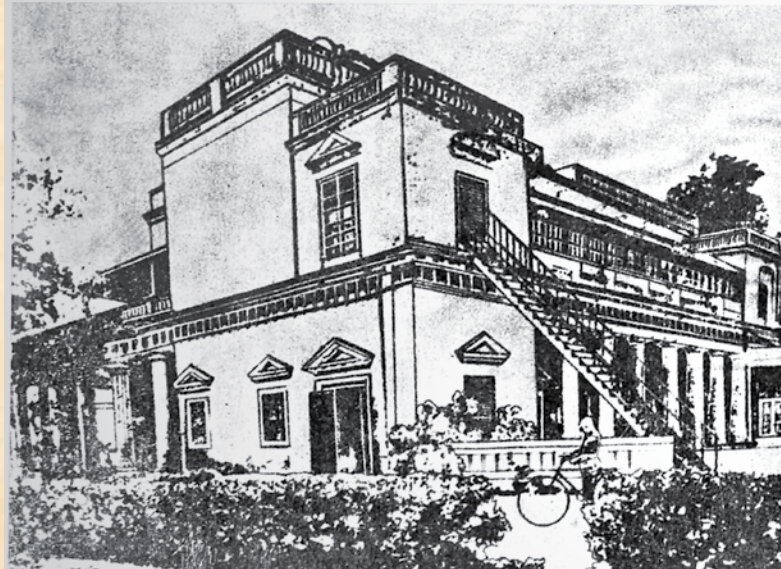
The change to present system began with the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926 enacted on September 9, 1926 to provide for constitution and incorporation of Bar Councils and other purposes, which extended to whole of India including Union Territories, Judicial Commissioners Courts, except for the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Indian Bar Councils Act was in fact passed to unify the various grades of legal practice and to provide self-governance to the Bars attached to various Courts. The Act required that each High Court must constitute a Bar Council made up of the Advocate General, four men nominated by the High Court of whom two should be Judges and ten elected from among the advocates of the Bar. The duties of the Bar Council were to decide all matters concerning legal education, qualification for enrolment, discipline and control of the profession. It was favorable to the advocates as it gave them authority previously held by the judiciary to regulate the membership and discipline of their profession.

The Advocates Act 1961 was a step further to complete the chapter in the history of formation of the Bar. As a result of The Advocates Act, the rules of admission, practice, professional ethics, privileges, regulations and discipline got consolidated. It is important to highlight that the Act embodies expectation of the common man as well as the professionals in the field. On this historic day of completion of 50 years, it is imperative to remind ourselves that the pool of legal professionals should carry forward the prestige of practising law in such a manner that it continues to be known as a noble profession.

EARLIEST COURTS AT DELHI

Earliest courts in Delhi exercised the vested jurisdiction from different locations - Mrs. Forester's House (Ex-Deputy Commissioner's Office), near Kashmere Gate; the H. Abdul Rehman Ataur Rahman Building and the Skinner's House (the old Hindu College Building) housed earlier courts of Delhi.

Mrs. Forester's house, located in the north of William Fraser's Bungalow, now Northern Railway Property, was initially meant for 8 Magistrates and Sub-Judges. The Deputy Commissioner decided on February 21, 1899 that "till new Civil Courts were built, a few rooms of H. Abdul Rehman Ataur Rahman building be rented by the Sessions Judge as Court Rooms for his Sub-Judges". Accordingly, the



Skinner's House, (Old Hindu College Building) inside Kashmere Gate, which housed Civil Courts from October 8, 1953 to March 31, 1956.



Ludlow Castle: Housed Deewani and Nizamut Adalats (Civil and Criminal Courts)



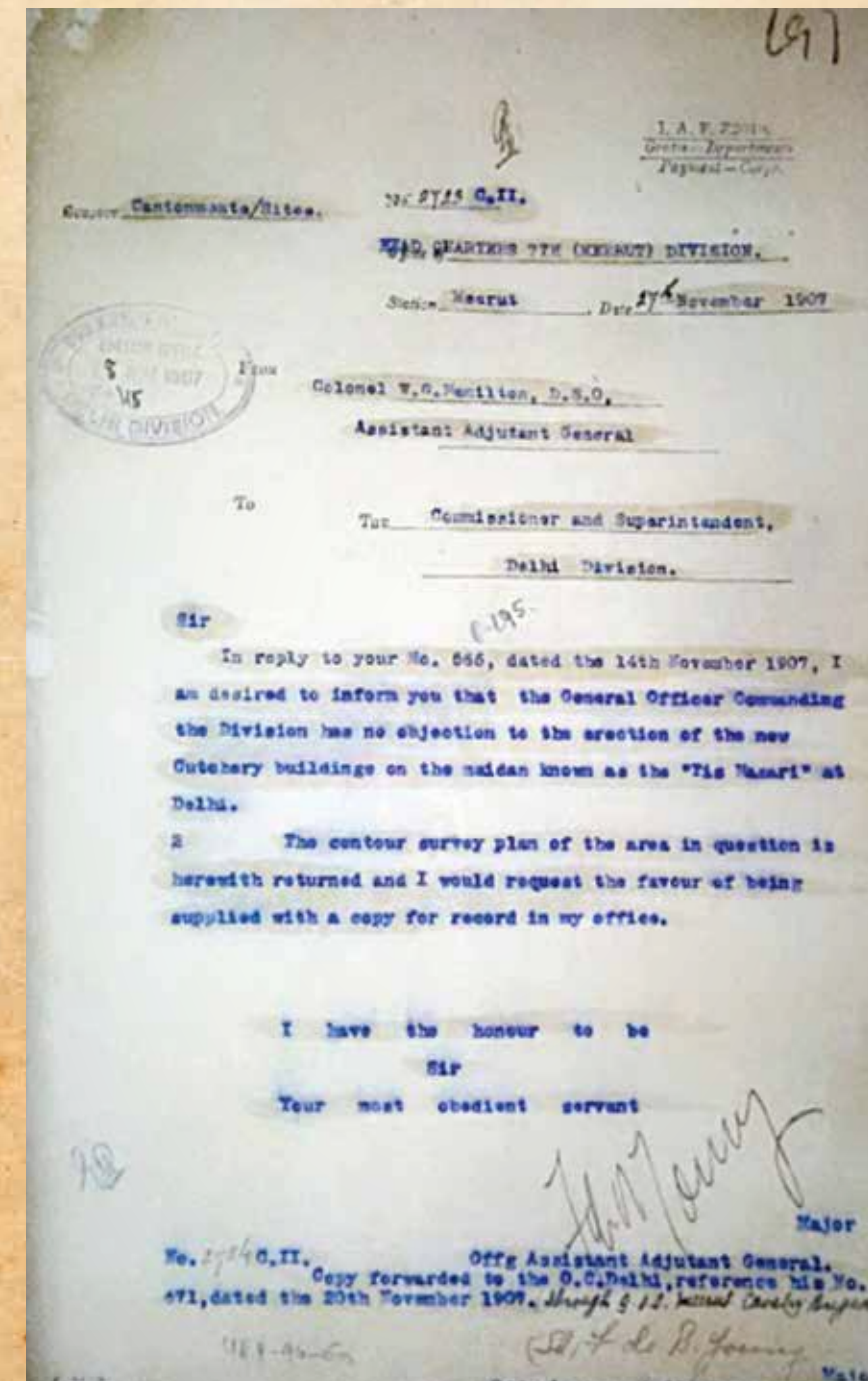
The Residency (1803): The seat of the first Resident of Delhi, David Octorlony and the venue of the Highest Civil Court (the Sadr-Deewani-Adalat) of the Delhi Territory in the North Western Provinces.



Fraser's House: Venue of Nizamut Adalats (Criminal Courts) before the Courts were shifted to Ludlow Castle outside the city walls



Ludlow Castle: Housed Deewani and Nizamut Adalats (Civil and Criminal Courts)



Copy of original letter of November 1907, of the General Officer commanding the Delhi Division for creation of "Cutchery" building at Tis Hazari, New Delhi

Sessions Judge hired rooms in Atur Rahman's building (previously Woodlands Hotel) and established courts of civil jurisdiction in the premises. In the year 1953 twenty-two Civil Subordinate Courts were moved to Hindu College Building (1, Skinners House), also at Kashmere Gate. The Courts continued to function in this building till March 31, 1958.

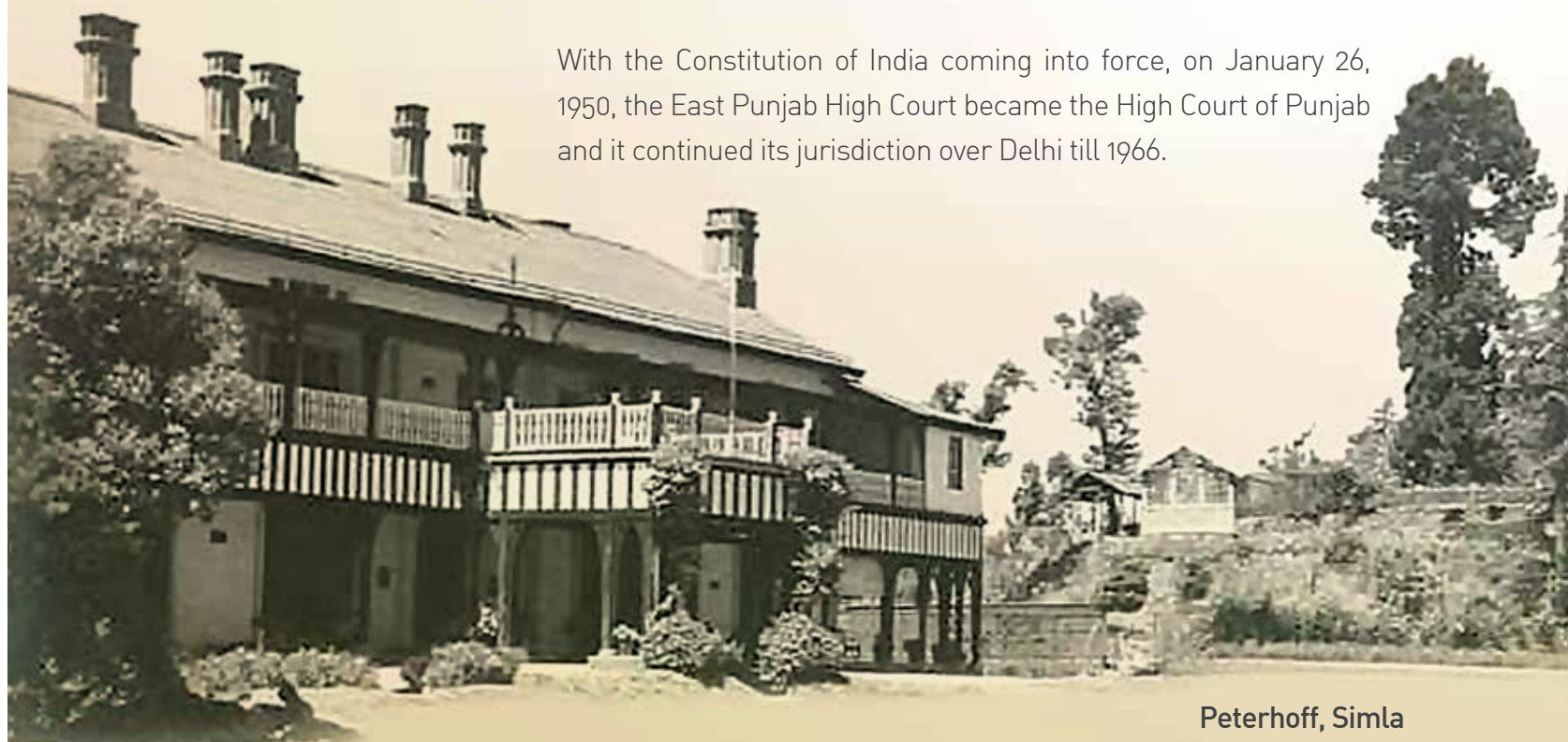
In 1907, the General Officer commanding the Delhi Division, approved the proposal of the Commissioner and Superintendent of the Division, for establishment of the new "Cutchery" Building on the maidan known as the "Tis Hazari" in Delhi. However, the construction of the modern Tis Hazari building could begin only in the post independence period in 1953 and the same was completed in the year 1958.

EAST PUNJAB HIGH COURT FROM AMRITSAR TO SIMLA

Lahore continued to be the seat of judiciary for the undivided Punjab that included Delhi. The chain begins at the Chief Court of Punjab at Lahore, succeeded by the High Court of Judicature at Lahore for the "Provinces of the Punjab and Delhi" established by Letters Patent dated March 21, 1919, granted by King George V. This position continued till the enactment of the India Independence Act, 1947, when the Sovereign countries of India and Pakistan came into being. After the partition of the country in 1947, Lahore went to Pakistan. The High Courts (Punjab) Order 1947 led to the formation of the High Court for the territory of East Punjab in post independent India. The East Punjab High Court had territorial jurisdiction over the East Punjab area and the province of Delhi. The East Punjab High Court functioned for about six months at Amritsar and then for a brief period at Simla, in a building called "Peterhoff" which earlier served as home to seven Viceroys during the British rule.

Another movement was meanwhile taking shape. In March 1919, certain educated residents of Delhi submitted a representation to the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, for establishing a Circuit Bench at Delhi, of the Punjab High Court then functioning at Lahore. The "Piece Goods Association" of Delhi also made similar representations in 1937 and 1947 to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi. It reopened the issue. However the proposal was shelved on account of resistance of the then Lahore Bar as well as the Government of Punjab on account of the expenditure involved.

With the Constitution of India coming into force, on January 26, 1950, the East Punjab High Court became the High Court of Punjab and it continued its jurisdiction over Delhi till 1966.



Peterhoff, Simla

Appendix C

1[1]The High Courts (Punjab) Order, 1947

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 9 of the Indian Independence Act, 1947, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, the Governor-General is pleased to make the following Order:—

1. This Order may be cited as the High Courts (Punjab) Order, 1947.
2. (1) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.
(2) References herein to an order made by any Court or Judge shall be construed as including references to any sentence, judgment or decree passed or made by that Court or Judge.
3. As from the 15th day of August, 1947 (hereinafter referred to as "the appointed day"), there shall be a High Court of Judicature for the Province of East Punjab; and the said Court is hereinafter referred to as the High Court of East Punjab.
4. (1) Between the coming into force of this Order and the appointed day, His Majesty may appoint a Chief Justice of the said Court and may appoint such other Judges of the said Court as he thinks fit, and any appointments so made shall take effect as from the appointed day :
Provided that no person shall be qualified to be appointed a Judge under this paragraph unless, under the law in force at the time of the making of this Order, he would have been qualified to be appointed a Judge of the High Court at Lahore, and no person shall be qualified to be appointed Chief Justice under this paragraph unless, under the said law, he would have been qualified to be appointed Chief Justice of the High Court at Lahore.
(2) If any Judge of the High Court at Lahore, having elected to be a Judge of the High Court of East Punjab, is appointed to be a Judge of that Court in accordance with the preceding provisions of this Order, then, as from the appointed day, the Judge so appointed shall cease to be a Judge of the High Court at Lahore.
5. The High Court of East Punjab shall be a Court of record, and shall have, in respect of the territories for the time being included in the Province of East Punjab and in the Province of Delhi, all such original appellate and other jurisdiction as, under the law in force immediately before the appointed day, is exercisable in respect of the said territories by the High Court at Lahore.
6. (1) The High Court of East Punjab shall have the like powers to approve, admit, enrol, remove and suspend advocates, vakils and attorneys, and to make rules with respect to advocates, vakils and attorneys, as are, under the law in force immediately before the appointed day, exercisable by the High Court at Lahore.
(2) The right of audience in the High Court of East Punjab shall be regulated in accordance with the like principles as, immediately before the appointed day, are in force with respect to the right of audience in the High Court at Lahore:
Provided that, subject to any rule made or direction given by the High Court of East Punjab in the exercise of the powers conferred by this Article, any person who,

1[1]. Published by the Governor General vide Notification No. G.G.O. 5, dated 11-8-1947.

immediately before the appointed day, is an advocate, vakil or attorney entitled to practise in the High Court at Lahore, shall be recognised as an advocate, vakil or attorney entitled to practise in the High Court of East Punjab.

7. Subject to the provisions of this Order, the law in force immediately before the appointed day with respect to practise and procedure in the High Court at Lahore shall, with the necessary modifications, apply in relation to the High Court of East Punjab, and accordingly that High Court shall have all such powers to make rules and orders with respect to practise and procedure as are immediately before the appointed day exercisable by the High Court at Lahore :

Provided that any rules or orders which are in force immediately before the appointed day with respect to practise and procedure in the High Court at Lahore shall, until varied or revoked by rules or orders made by the High Court of East Punjab, apply with any necessary modifications in relation to practise and procedure in the High Court of East Punjab as if made by that Court.

8. (1) The High Court of East Punjab shall have a Seal consisting of the Royal Arms with an ex-ergue or label surrounding the same with the inscription "The Seal of the High Court of Judicature in East Punjab."
- (2) The law in force immediately before the appointed day with respect to the custody of the Seal of the High Court at Lahore shall, with the necessary modifications, apply with respect to the custody of the seal of the High Court of East Punjab.
9. The law in force immediately before the appointed day with respect to the form of writs and other processes used, issued or awarded by the High Court at Lahore shall, with any necessary modifications, apply with respect to the form of writs and other processes used, issued or awarded by the High Court of East Punjab.
10. The law in force immediately before the appointed day relating to the powers of the Chief Justice and of single Judges and Divisional Courts of the High Court at Lahore, and with respect to all matters ancillary to the exercise of those powers, shall, with the necessary modifications, apply in relation to the High Court of East Punjab.
11. The High Court of East Punjab and the Judges and Divisional Courts thereof shall sit at such places in the Provinces of East Punjab and Delhi as the Chief Justice of the said Court may, with the approval of the Governor of East Punjab, appoint.
12. Subject to any relevant provisions contained in Part IX of the Government of India Act, 1935, as it applies in India after the appointed day, the law in force immediately before the appointed day relating to appeals to His Majesty in Council from the High Court at Lahore and the Judges and divisions thereof shall, with necessary modifications, apply in relation to appeals to His Majesty in Council from the High Court of East Punjab and the Judges and divisions thereof.
13. (1) Subject as, hereinafter provided, the High Court at Lahore shall have no jurisdiction in respect of the territories for the time being included in the Province of East Punjab or in the Province of Delhi.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Order—
- (a) any proceedings which, immediately before the appointed day, are pending in the High Court at Lahore on its original side, including any proceedings then pending

in the said High Court as a Court of reference, shall be heard and determined by that Court";—

- (b) the High Court at Lahore shall have the like jurisdiction to hear and determine any appeal from an order of a Judge of the said Court on its original side as if this Order had not been made, and the High Court of the East Punjab shall have jurisdiction to hear or determine any such appeal; and
- (c) the High Court of Lahore shall have the like jurisdiction to review any order made by any Judge of the said High Court as it would have had if this Order had not been made, and the High Court of East Punjab shall have no jurisdiction to review any such order.
- (3) Subject to the preceding provisions of this Article, all proceedings pending on the appellate side of the High Court at Lahore immediately before the appointed day, shall, where the Court of origin is, as from that day, situated in the Province of East Punjab or in the Province of Delhi, stand transferred by virtue of this Order to the High Court of East Punjab.
- (4) Subject to the following provisions of this Article with respect to appeals, any order made by the High Court at Lahore either—
- (a) before the appointed day; or
- (b) in any proceedings with respect to which the said High Court retains jurisdiction by virtue of paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Article; shall for all purposes have effect not only as an order of the High Court at Lahore but also as an order made by the High Court of East Punjab.
- (5) Subject to the following provisions of this Article with respect to appeals, any order made by the High Court of East Punjab in proceedings transferred to that High Court by virtue of this Article shall for all purposes have effect not only as an order of that Court but also as an order made by the High Court at Lahore.
- (6) Where any such order as is mentioned in paragraphs (4) and (5) of this Article has, whether before or after the appointed day, been confirmed, varied or reversed on appeal, effect shall be given to the decision of the appellate Court as if the order appealed from were an order not only of the High Court by which it was made, but also of the High Court at Lahore or the High Court of East Punjab, as the case may be.
- (7) Any reference in this Article to a High Court shall be construed as including a reference to a Judge or division thereof; and for the purposes of this Article proceedings shall be deemed to be pending in a particular Court until that Court has disposed of all issues between the parties, including any issues with respect to the taxation of the costs of the proceedings.
14. Nothing in this Order shall prejudice the application to the High Court of East Punjab of any relevant provisions of Part IX of the Government of India Act, 1935, as it applies in relation, to India, and the provisions of this Order shall have effect subject to any provision made on or after the appointed day with respect to the High Court at Lahore or the High Court of East Punjab by any legislature or other authority having power to make such provision.

MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA,
Governor-General

CIRCUIT BENCH OF
PUNJAB HIGH COURT AT DELHI

To

*His Excellency the Viceroy and
Governor-General of India in Council,
Delhi.*

The humble memorial of the Citizens of
Delhi most respectfully sheweth.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE the humble Citizens of Delhi most respectfully beg Your Excellency's permission to address the following representation for Your Excellency's kind and symathetic consideration :—

1. That Your Excellency's memorialists, while grateful for all the striking improvements that have been effected in respect of sanitation and other matters in the town of Delhi, since Delhi was raised to the Status of the Capital of British India and formed into a separate Province, have had cause to feel that for one reason or other some of the most valued rights and privileges of a civic nature have been lost by them.

2. That Your Excellency's memorialists feel that considering the importance of Delhi as a Commercial and Industrial Town in Northern India, Delhi should have the status becoming its historical, political and commercial importance.

3. That Your Excellency's humble memorialists venture to request that instead of being dependent as it is to-day on the Punjab Government for almost every department of administration, Delhi should gradually be made independent of that Province and developed into a full and self-contained Province.

4. That Your Excellency's humble memorialists do not at present wish to take up Your Excellency's most valuable time in dealing with the several matters of administration, but crave Your Excellency's permission to draw attention to the great hardships to which the general public of Delhi is put by reason of the congested state of the file in the Chief Court Punjab at Lahore which is at present the final court of appeal for the Delhi Province. Your Excellency is no doubt aware that great inconvenience is caused to litigants by frequent adjournments and that law's proverbial delays become more aggravating when they involve heavy expenses to litigants consequent on bootless journeys over something like 350 miles of distance to the Tribunal of Justice.

5. That Your Excellency's humble memorialists do verily believe that the scheme to raise the Chief Court of the Punjab to the Status of a High Court has been sanctioned by His Majesty's Government and will take effect from the 1st April 1919.

6. That though the Citizens of Delhi should greatly prefer to have a High Court of their own they feel that it might not be feasible under the existing conditions to establish a separate High Court for the Delhi Province at once, nevertheless they respectfully venture to suggest that provision might be made following the precedent of Bihar and Orissa for a Circuit Court of the contemplated Punjab High Court at Delhi.

7. That Your Excellency's humble memorialists beg leave to point out that Delhi being the largest Commercial centre contributes the greatest number of Commercial cases to the Punjab Chief Court and that these cases in view of the congested state of the work in the said Chief Court do not and cannot be expected to receive the special attention that they deserve Your Excellency's humble memorialists, therefore, respectfully venture to suggest that the creation of a Circuit Court at Delhi is likely to expedite the decision of such cases from this province a matter whose importance to a Commercial Community is well known to Your Excellency.

8. That Your Excellency's humble memorialists have been gratified to read the proceedings of Your Excellency's Council in connection with the resolution placed before the Council by the Hon'ble Mr. K. K. Chauda concerning the Administration, Executive and Judicial, of the Delhi Province and feel grateful for the sympathetic promise to consider the representations duly made.

9. That Your Excellency's humble memorialists, therefore, pray that Your Excellency may be pleased to make due provision in the new Punjab Courts' Bill which is to be placed before the Imperial Legislative Council on the 19th March 1919 for establishing a Circuit Court of the proposed Punjab High Court at Delhi.

And as in duty bound your humble memorialists shall ever pray.

We have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's
Most humble and dutiful servants.

Signature	Description
Alidurrahman	Municipal Council of Holy Prof. trade
Hakim Ahmad Saikhan	Cham Bahadur House Prof. trade
Haji Bakhsh Ellahi	Khari Sahab C. D. E. (K. S. C. 9. 8. 1) Prof. trade
Mohamed Siddiq	Proprietor Messrs. Saddiq & Co. Merchants
Haji Mohamad Tameer	Proprietor Messrs. H. B. Umar & Son Sada Bazar
Mohd. Aman	Proprietor Messrs. Habi Bux & Son Sada Bazar
Haji Makhdoob Baksh	Proprietor Messrs. H. B. Baksh Sarimuddin Sada Bazar
Hajee Mohd Ashfaq	Merchants Sada Bazar
Mohd. Rafiq	Merchants Sada Bazar

CIRCUIT BENCH OF PUNJAB HIGH COURT AT DELHI

Delhi was gaining importance as the political and legal capital of the Independent India. Myriad efforts for having a Circuit Bench of the High Court, were witnessed. The States organization and re-organization was also having an impact on legal infrastructure. The States Reorganization Act, 1956 was passed and in terms of Section 11 thereof, the new State of Punjab was born comprising territories of the existing State of Punjab and territories of the State of erstwhile PEPSU (Patiala and East Punjab States Union).

In view of the growing demand for a separate Circuit Bench of Punjab High Court for the territory of Delhi, a Circuit Bench for Delhi was finally constituted in 1952 at 15 Rajpur Road, Delhi. At first the arrangement was for the Circuit Bench to function for 6 to 7 months in a year and for two Judges to sit for short periods. In the interests of the speedy disposal of the cases it was suggested that Bench should work throughout the year and the two Judges allotted for circuit duty should sit at Delhi continuously for the entire year. This suggestion was given effect to from August 1957. Later, owing to the increase in work, the number of Judges was increased to four by 1964.

15 Rajpur Road as it exists now



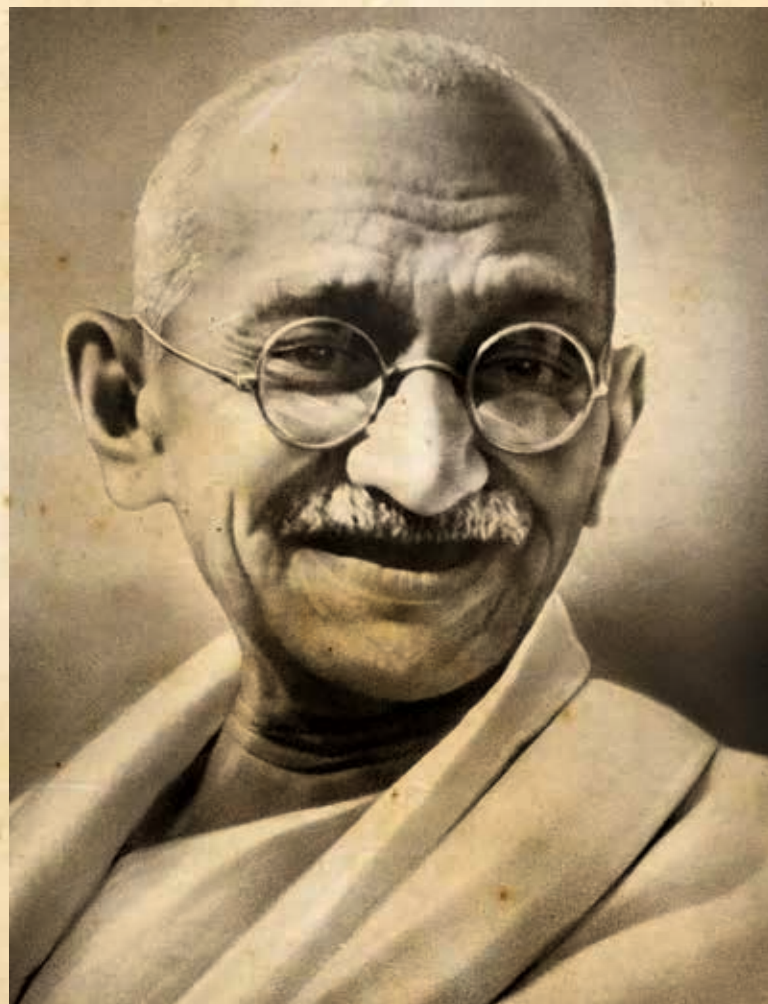
There existed a High Court known as 'PEPSU High Court' at Patiala and East Punjab State Union (PEPSU) along with the State of Punjab. However, by the States Re-Organisation Act, 1956, the State of PEPSU was merged with the State of Punjab. The Judges of the High Court of PEPSU became Judges of the Punjab High Court. The strength of the Punjab High Court, which had originally 8 Judges, rose to 13, after the merger. The Punjab High Court also assumed jurisdiction over the territories which were earlier under the PEPSU High Court.

On account of its inclement weather in winter, it was very inconvenient for the litigants to go to Shimla. Accordingly, the seat of the High Court was shifted to Chandigarh. The Court started functioning at Chandigarh from its present building with effect from January 17, 1955. The Punjab High Court exercised jurisdiction over the province of Delhi through a Circuit Bench and also included major part of the present State of Himachal Pradesh. Another landmark in the history of this Court is the enactment of the Punjab Re-organization Act, 1966 when a new State of Haryana was formed out of Punjab. The High Court, however, continued to be joint for the two states and came to be named as the Punjab & Haryana High Court at Chandigarh.



Picture source: alexbecheren.tumblr.com

Existing Punjab and Haryana High Court



My religion is based on truth
and non-violence, truth is my God.
Non-violence is the means of
realising him.

- Mahatama Gandhi

DEMAND FOR A SEPARATE HIGH COURT AT DELHI

A capital city is known to invariably attract masses to migrate therein and Delhi was no exception. The cosmopolitan city was expanding post-independence, so were the growing concerns for the need to have its own independent infrastructure to govern its population. The demand and formation of a Circuit Bench functioning at Delhi to deal with cases relating to the Union Territory proved unsatisfactory. Good governance and concept of welfare state cannot operate in the absence of appropriate infrastructure to execute the task of supporting the pillars of democracy. Therefore, political thinkers, common man and professionals from Delhi were pressing for a demand for a separate High Court.

Between the years of 1952 to 1962, not only the population of Delhi grew manifold, but also the number of cases instituted during this period increased. In October 1963, the then Chief Commissioner of Delhi, suggested to the Ministry of Home affairs to establish a separate High Court for Delhi. The main reason given by him was that it will ensure proper supervision and control over the judiciary and shall also facilitate the separation of the judiciary from the executive at the magisterial level. The Chief Commissioner also mentioned that the High Court thus established could have jurisdictional control over the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh also.

The budgetary allocation for formation of an independent High Court at Delhi was also not a challenge, as the Delhi Administration was paying a considerable amount to the Punjab Government for running a Circuit Bench of Punjab High Court, for Delhi. In November 1963, the then Chief Justice of India, Shri B. P. Sinha also wrote to the Home Minister recommending the suggestion made by the then Chief Commissioner of Delhi. He suggested that a model High Court should be established in the capital of the country. The Delhi Bar Council was also demanding since a long time for the establishment of a High Court at Delhi.

In view of the importance of Delhi, its population and other considerations, the Parliament thought it necessary to establish a High Court for Delhi. In September 1965 the Ministry of Home affairs moved a Cabinet note, initiated the process and finally, the High Court of Delhi was established for the Union Territory of Delhi, on 5th September 1966 by virtue of Section 3(1) of the High Court of Delhi Act 1966.

The appointed date was 31st October 1966. All the cases arising within the jurisdiction of High Court of Delhi were transferred from the Punjab & Haryana High Court to the High Court of Delhi. The High Court of Delhi initially had wider territorial jurisdiction exercised not only over the Union Territory of Delhi, but also over Himachal Pradesh. The High Court of Delhi had a Himachal Pradesh Bench at Simla in a building called Ravenswood. The High Court of Delhi continued to exercise jurisdiction over Himachal Pradesh until the State of Himachal Pradesh Act, 1970 was enforced on 25th January 1971.



Ravenswood, Simla

The High Court of Delhi was formed with four Judges on its rolls, Chief Justice K.S. Hegde, Justice I.D. Dua, Justice H.R. Khanna and Justice S.K. Kapur, as against the sanctioned strength of nine which strength has since been increased from time to time. At present, the sanctioned strength of the High Court of Delhi is 60 and the actual working strength is 34. In spite of the working strength of the High Court of Delhi being far less than its sanctioned strength, the Court has excelled in its rate of disposal. A total of 18,91,679 have been instituted since its inception till date. Against that 17,63,120 cases have been disposed off during this period.



Mr. Justice K. S. Hegde
The first Chief Justice, Delhi

The journey of the High Court of Delhi began on October 31, 1966, from a residential bungalow at 4, Maulana Azad Road (where Vigyan Bhawan now stands). In 1967, the Court was shifted to Travancore House on Kasturba Gandhi Marg, where it was formally inaugurated by the then Chief Justice of India K. Subba Rao on March 28, 1967. However, with the passage of time, Travancore House became unsuitable for the needs of the Court and a search began for a new premises. The location of the court was thereafter shifted to Patiala House, in the vicinity of India Gate, a palatial building that had originally been constructed by the Maharaja of Patiala.

Mr. Justice K.S. Hegde, the first Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi, on the occasion of inauguration of the Court on October 31, 1966, said: "All that I need tell you, my friends of the Bar, is that my colleagues and myself will not do anything which a Judge ought not to do; we shall not refrain from doing anything which a judge ought to do".



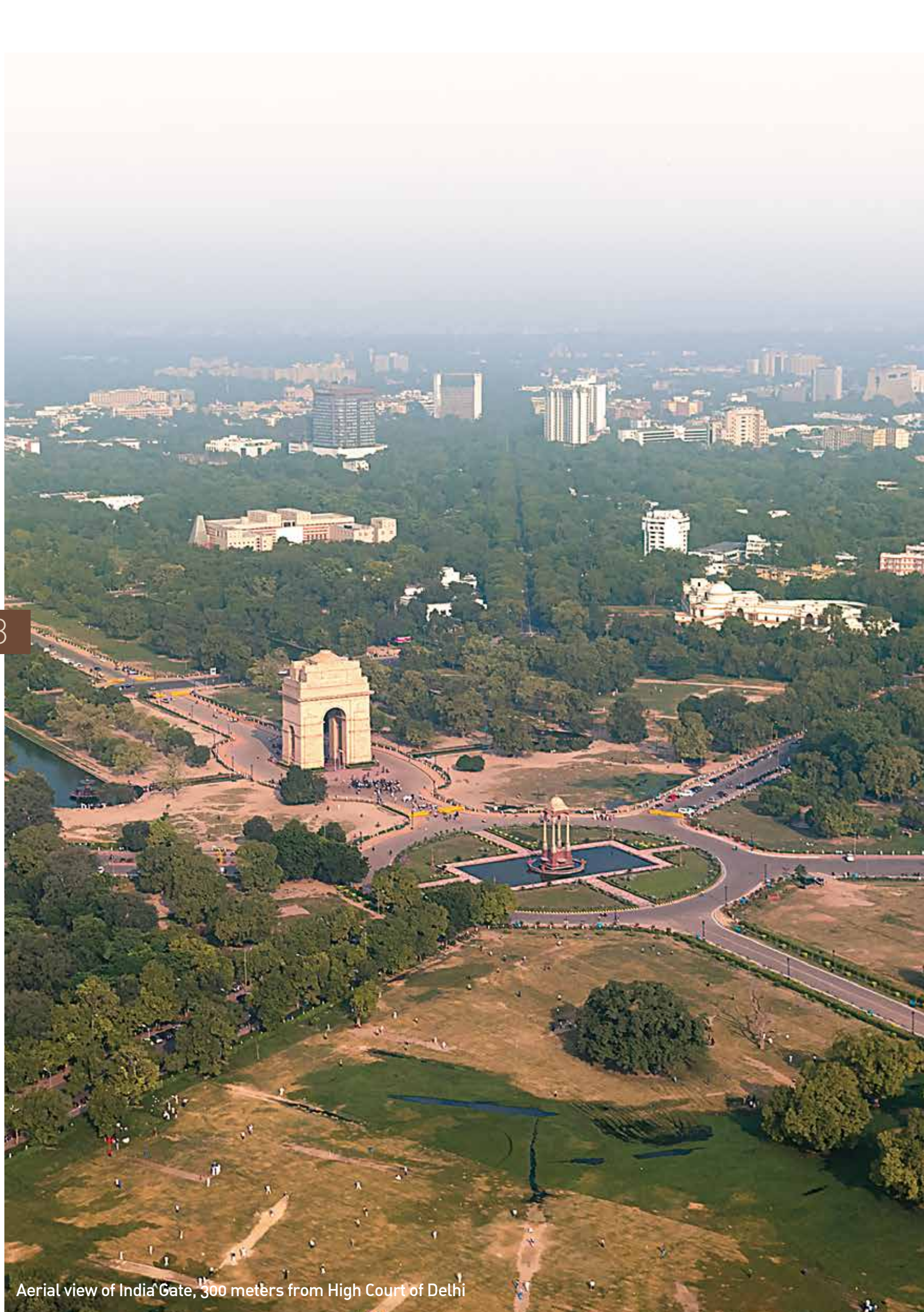
Travancore House



The Erstwhile Chief Justice's Court at Patiala House in 1967. Presently, the District & Sessions Judge, New Delhi District, is occupying the Court.

With growing requirements of more space, the search for a new premises for the Court began afresh. The ground adjacent to Sher Shah Road, set against the magnificent backdrop of the Purana Quila and with India Gate flanked on the other side stood out as reminiscence of the ancient and the medieval times and was considered the ideal site.

Dr. Zakir Hussain, the then President of India, laid the foundation stone of the new High Court structure on 4th November 1968. Also present on the occasion were the then Vice President of India, Sh. V.V. Giri, the then Lt. Governor of Delhi, Sh. Aditya Nath Jha and the then Chief Justice of India, Justice Mohammad Hidayatullah. This modern and magnificent building of High court was constructed on a seven acre piece of land with a plinth area of about 228,000 square feet, at a cost of Rs.2.5 cores. The facade of the building was most aesthetically designed by renowned Padma Vibhushan awardee artist Mr. Satish Gujral, while renowned architect Mr. Benjamin prepared the structural plan.



Aerial view of India Gate, 300 meters from High Court of Delhi

ARCHIVAL RECORDS

CABINET NOTE

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

फाइल नं०
File No. 76/51-Judl.

मंत्रालय
Ministry of

खण्ड
Volume

विभाग
कार्यालय
Department
Office of

**टिप्पणियाँ / पत्राचार
NOTES/CORRESPONDENCE**

भाग
SECTION

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ESTABLISHMENT OF A CIRCUIT BENCH
OF THE PUNJAB HIGH COURT IN
DELHI

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पिछले हवाले Previous References	बाद के हवाले References
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76/51-Judl

Ministry of Home Affairs

(Judicial.)

Subject:- Establishment of a Circuit Bench of the Punjab High Court in Delhi.

Serial Nos. (1) and (2)

M
File 228-Jud1.
23

In 1923, the Lahore High Court, on the recommendation of the Piece Goods Association of Delhi proposed, in view of the large volume of commercial work going to the ~~Delhi~~ ^{Lahore} Court from Delhi, to introduce the circuit system so that one or more Judges of the Court may exercise the Court's jurisdiction at Delhi. The Punjab Government agreed to the proposal on the understanding that all additional expenditure would be borne by the Government of India. After prolonged consideration, the proposal was (in 1926) dropped; it was left to the Punjab Government to put up proposals for raising the permanent strength of the Lahore High Court with a view to reducing delays in the hearing of appeals.

R
File 285/37-Jud1.

The Chief Commissioner, Delhi reopened the question in May 1937. It was agreed then that the setting up of a Circuit Bench in Delhi would probably strengthen the Delhi Bar, but that this could only be done at the expense of the Lahore Bar. Moreover, it was felt extremely that the Lahore Bar would not view the splitting up of the Lahore High Court with equanimity and the Punjab Government would probably support them. There were other difficulties, not the least being the lack of suitable accommodation due to the increasing housing difficulty in Delhi.

Y
F.55/1/47-Public(A)
p.1/corr.

2. In January 1947, the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, came up formally with a proposal that the Government of India should reconsider their decision not to establish a Circuit Bench of the Punjab High Court in Delhi, since Delhi had grown into a large metropolis with a population of more than a million, with ever-increasing industrial and commercial interests; that it was imperative that Delhi

should have a proper judicial administration suitable to its requirements. HM(Home) saw no objection in principle to a Circuit Bench being established at Delhi, but the Chief Commissioner was asked to examine some apparent functional difficulties in consultation with the Punjab Government and the Local Bar, and also to ascertain the views of important public bodies and organizations on the matter.

Y
pp.3-4/corr.

In the meantime, in March 1948, the Chief Minister, Punjab, wrote demi-officially to HM(Home) representing that the establishment of a Circuit Court at Delhi would harm the interests of the East Punjab province generally and of the High Court Bar in particular. HM replied that it was doubtful how far we could scotch the proposal merely on the ground that it adversely affected the interests of ~~the~~ Punjab and the High Court Bar. A reply was received from the Chief Commissioner in September 1948 pointing out that the real snag was not the functional difficulties but the problem of finding suitable office and residential accommodation in Delhi.

Y
p.9/corr.

Y
p.10/corr.

Y
p.19/corr.

The Chief Minister, Punjab, was ~~informed~~ ^{informed} by HM(Home) demi-officially, on the 5th October 1948, to the effect that it was proposed to introduce this necessary measure of reform as soon as suitable accommodation could be found. The Chief Minister in February 1949 pressed that this decision should be reviewed; that the splitting up of the High Court could not naturally be acceptable in the interests of Punjab; in fact, that Himachal Pradesh should also, as in the case of Delhi, be within the jurisdiction of the Punjab High Court. HM's reply was that, "having regard to the interests of the public of Delhi, no other decision than the one we have already reached is possible"; nor did HM agree to pursue the question of the linking of the administration of justice of Himachal Pradesh to the Punjab High Court.

Y
pp.28-29/corr.

Y
pp.30-31/corr.

3. In May 1949, the Chief Commissioner, Delhi,

Y
pp.42-46/corr.

y
pp.53-72/corr.

stressed that the Delhi public were getting impatient over the early establishment of a Circuit Bench; that the Subcommittee of Judges had not yet submitted their report on the accommodation requirements, and that, when the report was received, pressure at the highest level should be exerted on the W&P Ministry to release the necessary accommodation for the purpose. The report of the Subcommittee of Judges was received in June 1949. Meanwhile, further demi-official representations were received from the Chief Justice, the Chief Minister and the Governor against the establishment of the proposed Circuit Court in reply to which our late HM asked them to appreciate the difficulty of putting the interests of another province and its Bar against those of the two million inhabitants which peopled the Delhi province. Several months elapsed before it was finally decided that "Kapurthala House" in New Delhi should be placed at our disposal for the accommodation of the Circuit Bench of the High Court. Meanwhile, ~~present~~ HM, when answering a question for the late Sardar Patel in Parliament on the 22nd November 1950, had given an assurance, in accordance with the decision already taken, that the Circuit Court would be established very soon. In addition to "Kapurthala House", accommodation would also have to be provided for housing the Hon'ble Judges and their staff. On this and other details, G.E. staff, furniture and other equipment, library, printing of records etc. the Punjab Government were ~~officially~~ ^{official} addressed in our letter No.51/1/47-Public(A)/Judl., dated the 17th February 1951.

y
p.105/corr.

4. As ~~will~~ be seen from the facts outlined in the foregoing paragraphs, the setting up of a Circuit Bench in Delhi was held up for a considerable period ~~mainly~~ because of the problem of finding accommodation here for the Court and the Judges. We got over the main obstacle when we managed to secure "Kapurthala House" for accommodating the Circuit Court. Since then, however,

there ~~has been~~ ^{was some} further delay in getting a reply from the Punjab Government, and the W&P Ministry, and ~~State~~ ^{Office} here ~~was asking~~ ^{have begun to get} festive about keeping "Kapurthala House" vacant indefinitely when there are so many other urgent claims for accommodation to be met. The Punjab Government seem ^{out} to prolong this delay. I do not understand how they can make out, in their letter No.961-PA/51, dated the 24th April 1951, that a formal decision of the Government of India has not so far been officially communicated to them. They were told, in our letter No.55/1/47-Pub(A)/Judl., dated the 17th February 1951, that it had already been made clear in demi-official correspondence between the Government of India and the Chief Minister that a Circuit Court would be established as soon as suitable accommodation ~~was~~ ^{was} found, and that it had since been definitely decided to allot "Kapurthala House" for accommodating the proposed Circuit Court. Surely, this should leave no room for doubt as to the Government of India's decision. The fact, apparently, is that the Punjab Government are not disposed to accept this decision. They have repeated the same arguments as have already been put before us in demi-official correspondence; but they have added a new point, namely that the "objections" of the Delhi public will more or less have been fully met ^{if} the Punjab High Court is moved down to Chandigarh, the site of the new capital; that the establishment of a Circuit Court in Delhi will not only lower the prestige of the State and have certain consequent political repercussions, but that it would, when plans for the construction of the capital at Chandigarh have gone so far, give the people the impression that the State Government are not serious about the construction of the new capital; further, that the migration of lawyers and advocates to Delhi, that would follow, would result in unnecessary congestion there, while the plans of rehabilitation in the new

y
pp.2-5/corr.

y
p.105/corr.

capital would be adversely affected. The Punjab Government have asked that the "official decision" of the Government of India may be communicated to them as early as possible; we could but reply that the demand for a Circuit Court in Delhi remains acute and insistent; that an assurance has already been given in Parliament that the Circuit Court would be established very soon, and that it is not possible to go back on that assurance. I submit the case for orders.

Secretary

E. C. GAYTOR
 5. 5. 1951
 (E.C. GAYTOR)
 Deputy Secretary.

*He does not consider
 the sufficient reason for the delay
 for draft is the Punjab. A. K. Singh
 he has been a strong reason
 favour of pursuing it.*

*please point
 a large staff to Punjab "sh. ls
 he seemed to him.*

H. J. G.
 5/5

25(5)

PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF
 SEPARATE HIGH COURT

NOTE FOR THE CABINET

Sub:- Proposal for the establishment of a separate High Court for Delhi.

A Circuit Bench of the Punjab High Court was constituted for Delhi under paragraph 11 of the High Courts (Punjab) Order, 1947 with effect from February, 1952. At first the arrangement was for the Circuit Bench to function for about 6 to 7 months in a year and for two Judges to sit for short periods. In the interests to speedy disposal of cases it was suggested that the Bench should work throughout the year and that the two Judges allotted for circuit duty should sit at Delhi continuously at least for one year at a time. This suggestion was given effect to from August, 1957 when Shri Justice A.N. Bhandari was the Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court. His successor, Shri Justice G.D. Khosla, however, reverted to the old arrangement whereby the Judges on circuit duty are changed every two to three months.

2. Owing to increase in work in the Circuit Bench the number of Judges on circuit duty was increased from two to three in 1959, to four in 1964 and to five in 1965.

3. Under the existing arrangement, the Delhi Administration has to bear the entire cost of the Circuit Bench at Delhi and has also to bear a proportionate share of the cost of the staff, etc. at Chandigarh. The amount of contribution paid by the Delhi Administration to the Punjab Government during the last few years has been of the order of about Rs.8 to 9 lakhs per annum. This includes a sum of Rs.30,000 per annum on account of rent for the building at Chandigarh and also about Rs.50,000 per annum spent on account of T.A. and D.A. of Judges coming on circuit duty. Judges are changed every two to three months and they draw daily allowance at the rate of Rs.15/- for the entire period of their stay here.

4. In October, 1963, the then Chief Commissioner, Delhi, addressed this Ministry suggesting the establishment of a separate High Court for Delhi. The main reason given by him was that the establishment of a separate High Court would ensure proper supervision and control over the judiciary and also facilitate the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive at the magisterial level. The Chief Commissioner had also mentioned that the High Court to be established could have jurisdictional control over the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh also. He has also pointed out that the volume of work arising in Delhi itself justified the establishment of a separate High Court and that the expenditure on the new High Court would not be more than what the Delhi Administration were at present paying to the Punjab Government.

In November, 1963, the then Chief Justice of India, Shri B.P. Sinha, wrote to the Home Minister commending the suggestion made by the Chief Commissioner, Delhi. He suggested that a model High Court should be

: 2 :

established in the capital of the country. The Punjab Government, however, did not agree to the proposal and suggested the continuance of the existing arrangements.

5. It may be mentioned that the Bar Council, Delhi, have been pressing for a long time for the establishment of a separate High Court for Delhi.

6. Apart from the arguments given above, establishment of a separate High Court is justified for the reasons given below:-

(1) Volume of High Court work arising in Delhi.

The population of Delhi according to 1961 census was 26,58,612. The population is now about 3.2 millions and within a few years it may well exceed 5 millions. The volume of litigation has gone up considerably as the following figures of institutions in the circuit bench during the last three years will show:-

1962	8076
1963	7909
1964	8567

The number of cases instituted in 1952 was 1124. This means that the number has increased over seven times since then. The average number of cases instituted during the last three years comes to 8184 per annum. Taking the average rate of disposal as 1430 cases per Judge per annum which was the average rate of disposal in the Punjab High Court during the year 1964, the number of Judges required to dispose of 8184 cases comes to about 6. Therefore, the volume of work justifies the establishment of a separate High Court.

In this connection it may be mentioned that there are High Courts with lesser volume of work and fewer Judges e.g. Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Orissa High Courts. The number of cases instituted in these High Courts during the last three years is given below:-

High Court	Number of Judges.	Institutions (all types of cases)		
		1962	1963	1964
Assam	3	1307	1121	1270
J.&K	3	1045	1116	1067
Orissa	4	2565	2962	2979

(2) Financial arrangement.

Under the existing arrangement Delhi Administration have to pay about Rs.8 to 9 lakhs per annum to the Punjab Government on account of the High Court work arising in Delhi. It will be possible to meet the entire expenses of the new High Court within this amount. The payment of Rs.30,000/- per annum on account of accommodation at Chandigarh and the expenditure on T.A. and D.A. of Judges coming on circuit duty to Delhi will cease.

: 3 :

(3) Accommodation

A multi-storeyed building is being constructed by the Delhi Administration for the Circuit bench at 14, Tilak Marg, New Delhi. This building can accommodate of full-fledged High Court.

(4) More out-turn of work.

There will be continuity of work when a new High Court is established. The change of Judges every two to three months, which takes place under the existing arrangements, causes some dislocation.

7. In the event of the establishment of a separate High Court for Delhi it would be necessary to have a separate cadre of subordinate Judicial Officers because the existing arrangement under which the posts of subordinate Judges and District and Sessions Judges and Additional District and Sessions Judges, etc., are filled by officers on deputation from the Punjab Cadre will cease. As the number of such posts in Delhi is not sufficient to form a separate cadre it is proposed to have a joint Judicial service cadre for the Union Territories of Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. This will enable transfers of Judicial Officers from Delhi to Himachal Pradesh and vice versa.

8. It is further proposed that the jurisdiction of the new High Court for Delhi should be extended to the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh. At present there is a Judicial Commissioner's Court in Himachal Pradesh which functions as a High Court. The Judicial Commissioner goes on circuit duty to the District headquarters and disposes of cases there. This is a special facility available to the litigant public in Himachal Pradesh. In order that the litigants may not be required to come all the way to Delhi it may be so arranged that one or more Judges of the High Court may go to Simla on circuit duty, depending on the number and nature of cases arising there for disposal.

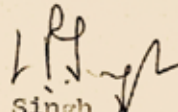
9. The question arises whether under the existing constitutional provisions a common High Court for the two Union Territories viz., Delhi and Himachal Pradesh, can be constituted. The position has been examined by the Ministry of Law and a copy of the note is attached. The view held is that a common High Court for Delhi and Himachal Pradesh cannot be established but it would be possible to constitute a High Court for Delhi by a law of parliament and extend the jurisdiction of the Delhi High Court to Himachal Pradesh.

10. This note has been seen and approved by the Home Minister. The Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Law have also seen and concurred in the note.

11. The approval of the Cabinet is requested to legislation being undertaken for the establishment

: 4 :

of a separate High Court for Delhi and also for extending its jurisdiction to Himachal Pradesh.


(L.P. Singh)
Secretary to the Government of India.

Cabinet Secretariat
Ministry of Home Affairs u.o.No.16/1/64-Judl.I
dated the 10th September, 1965.
19th Bhadra, 1887.


भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II—खण्ड-1

PART II—Section 1

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं० 34] नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, सितम्बर 5, 1966/भद्रा 14, 1888 (शक)
No. 34] NEW DELHI, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1966/BHADRA 14, 1888 (Saka)

इस भाग में भिन्न पृष्ठ संख्या दी जाती है जिससे कि यह अलग संकलन के रूप में रखा जा सके।
Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

MINISTRY OF LAW
(Legislative Department)

New Delhi, the 5th September, 1966/Bhadra 14, 1888 (Saka)

The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the President on the 5th September, 1966, and is hereby published for general information:—

THE DELHI HIGH COURT ACT, 1966

ACT No. 26 OF 1966

[5th September, 1966]

An act to provide for the constitution of a High Court for the Union territory of Delhi, for the extension of the jurisdiction of that High Court to the Union territory of Himachal Pradesh and for matters connected therewith.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Seventeenth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

- (1) This Act may be called the Delhi High Court Act, 1966. **Short title and commencement.**
- (2) Section 17 shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and the remaining provisions of this Act shall come into force at once.

(309)

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "appointed day" means the date appointed under section 3;

(b) "notified order" means order notified in the Official Gazette.

High Court.

3. (r) As from such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint, there shall be a High Court for the Union territory of Delhi (hereinafter referred to as the High Court of Delhi).

(2) The principal seat of the High Court of Delhi shall be at Delhi or at such other place as the President may, by notified order, appoint.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), the Judges and Division Courts of the High Court of Delhi may sit at such other place or places other than its principal seat as the Chief Justice may, with the approval of the President, appoint.

Exceptions and modifications subject to which the provisions of Chapter V of Part VI of the Constitution apply to the High Court of Delhi.

4. (1) The provisions of Chapter V of Part VI of the Constitution shall, in their application to the High Court of Delhi, have effect subject to the following exceptions and modifications, namely:—

(a) in article 217, the words "the Governor of the State" shall be omitted and in relation to appointments to be made under sub-section (2), that article shall be construed as if the words "and, in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the Chief Justice, the Chief Justice of the High Court," had also been omitted;

(b) in article 219, the reference to the Governor of the State, and in the proviso to clause (3) of article 227, the reference to the Governor, shall be construed as a reference to the administrator of the Union territory of Delhi;

(c) the provisions of article 225 shall not apply;

(d) in article 229,—

(i) the references to the Governor of the State shall be construed as references to the administrator of the Union territory of Delhi;

(ii) the references to the State Public Service Commission, the Legislature of the State and the Consolidated Fund of the State shall be construed, respectively, as references to the Union Public Service Commission, Parliament and the Consolidated Fund of India;

(e) the provisions of article 230 shall apply subject to the modifications that—

(i) in clause (1) thereof, for the words "High Court" in

limit as regards the value", the words "in every civil suit the value of which does not exceed twenty-five thousand rupees shall be substituted;

(v) in paragraph 21, for the words "The jurisdiction", the words and figures "Subject to the limit specified in paragraph 20, the jurisdiction" shall be substituted;

(vi) in paragraph 36, sub-paragraph (1) shall be omitted and in sub-paragraph (2), for the words, brackets and figure "under sub-paragraph (1)", the words and figures "for the exercise of the jurisdiction under paragraph 35" shall be substituted.

S. P. SEN-VARMA,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.



STATEMENT OF OATH AND AFFIRMATION
OF OFFICE OF THE FIRST FOUR JUDGES

HIGH COURT OF DELHI



I, KAWDOOR SADANANDA HEGDE, having been appointed Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi, do solemnly affirm that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established, that I will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my ability, knowledge and judgment perform the duties of my office without fear or favour, affection or illwill and that I will uphold the Constitution and the laws.


31-10-66
(Kawdoor Sadananda Hegde)

Affirmation made and subscribed before me


(Aditya Nath Jha)
Lieutenant Governor

*Dated, Delhi,
the 31st October, 1966.*



JUSTICE K.S. HEGDE
(31.10.1966 - 16.07.1967)

Chief Justice

Justice K.S. Hegde passed his M.A. examination from the Presidency College, Madras and took his B.L. Degree with high distinction from the Law College, Madras. He started practice in Karkanda district of South Kanara and built for himself, a very lucrative practice. Later, he shifted to Mangalore. He was Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader from 1947 to 1951. However, the practice of law alone was not sufficient to sustain the full measure of his talent, and he remained a member of Rajya Sabha from 1951 to 1957. He was appointed a judge of the Mysore High Court and transferred to the High Court of Delhi as its Chief Justice on 31.10.1966. His judgments bear ample testimony to his devotion to work and selfless hard work. He possessed profound knowledge of law in all its branches. He possessed an independent character, a sweet temperament and an amiable disposition, which endeared him to the members of the Bar and the public.

HIGH COURT OF DELHI



I, INDER DEV DUA, having been appointed a Judge of the High Court of Delhi do solemnly affirm that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established, that I will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my ability, knowledge and judgment perform the duties of my office without fear or favour, affection or illwill and that I will uphold the Constitution and the laws.

Inder Dev Dua
(Inder Dev Dua)

Affirmation made and subscribed before me

Aditya Nath Jha
(Aditya Nath Jha)
Lieutenant Governor

*Dated, Delhi,
the 31st October, 1966.*



JUSTICE I.D. DUA
(31.10.1966 - 16.07.1967)

Chief Justice
(17.07.1967 - 31.07.1969)

Mr. Justice I. D. Dua was appointed as a Judge of the Punjab High Court in 1958 and transferred to the High Court of Delhi on 31.10.1966. He endeared himself to the members of the Bar on account of his varied qualities. He possessed the gifts of clear analysis and luminous expression. He delivered numerous judgments including important Full Benches on intricate and difficult questions of law. He had a good temperament, vast knowledge of law and an extraordinary intellect and legal acumen. He was a great believer in the Rule of Law, and his judgments give a clear indication that the liberty of an individual and the constitutional rights of an individual were uppermost in his mind when delivering judgments.

HIGH COURT OF DELHI



I, HANS RAJ KHANNA, having been appointed a Judge of the High Court of Delhi do solemnly affirm that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established, that I will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my ability, knowledge and judgment perform the duties of my office without fear or favour, affection or illwill and that I will uphold the Constitution and the laws.

Hans Raj Khanna
(Hans Raj Khanna)

Affirmation made and subscribed before me

Aditya Nath Jha
(Aditya Nath Jha)
Lieutenant Governor

*Dated, Delhi,
the 31st October, 1966.*



JUSTICE H.R. KHANNA
(31.10.1966 - 31.07.1969)

Chief Justice
(01.08.1969 - 21.09.1971)


Mr. Justice H.R. Khanna was born on 3rd July, 1912 at Amritsar. He belonged to a well known family of Amritsar and is son of Shri Sarb Dayal Khanna, a leading lawyer of Amritsar. He had his earlier education at Amritsar and took his Law degree from Law College, Lahore. He started practice in 1934 and very soon gained for himself a name in the profession. Within a very short period, he distinguished himself as one of the most honest, hardworking and painstaking Advocate. In 1952, his merit was recognised and he was appointed as a District and Sessions Judge. In 1962, he was elevated to the Bench of the Punjab High Court and transferred to the High Court of Delhi 31.10.1966.

Mr. Justice Khanna, was very well known for his unflinching courtesy, great legal acumen and for the mastery in all the varied branches of law. Judgments delivered by him clearly indicate his deep legal learning.

HIGH COURT OF DELHI



I, SATINDER KUMAR KAPUR, having been appointed a Judge of the High Court of Delhi do solemnly affirm that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established, that I will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my ability, knowledge and judgment perform the duties of my office without fear or favour, affection or illwill and that I will uphold the Constitution and the laws.


(Satinder Kumar Kapur)

Affirmation made and subscribed before me


(Aditya Nath Jha)
Lieutenant Governor

*Delhi, Delhi,
the 31st October, 1966.*



JUSTICE S.K. KAPUR

[31.10.1966 - 13.10.1969]

Mr. Justice S.K. Kapur was elevated to the Bench of the Punjab High Court in 1964 and thereafter transferred to the High Court of Delhi on 31.10.1966. During the period, when he was the Judge, he endeared himself for his smiling face, a ready advice and extreme courteousness. Within this short period, he delivered numerous judgments on various important legal aspects. The columns of the Delhi Law Times for the years 1965 and 1966 bear ample testimony to his vast knowledge of law, extraordinary keen legal intellect and mastery of law in all its branches, Civil, Criminal, Constitutional and Commercial. Justice Kapur died in harness on 13.10.1969.

WELCOME SPEECHES...

**SPEECHES DELIVERED
ON THE DAY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI ON 31ST OCTOBER 1966
(EXTRACTED FROM DLT'S JOURNAL SECTION VOL.II, 1966)**

October 31, 1966 will be long remembered by the citizens and lawyers of Delhi as the day on which the new High Court of Delhi was inaugurated. We congratulate Mr. Justice K. S. Hegde, on his appointment as the First Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. We also congratulate Mr. Justice I. D. Dua, Mr. Justice H. R. Khanna and Mr. Justice S. K. Kapur on their appointment as the first Judges, of the Delhi High Court. Their appointment has met with universal satisfaction and approval and has been welcomed by all in the Union Territory of Delhi.

On 31st October 1966, the Hon'ble Chief Justice and the other Hon'ble Judges took their seats in the First Court Room where the members of the Bar and the public had assembled. We reproduce below the addresses of welcome presented to their Lordships by Mr. H. Hardy, President High Court Bar Association, Mr. S.N. Shankar, Central Government Counsel, Mr. Bishamber Dayal, Standing Counsel for Delhi Administration and reply of Hon'ble Mr. Chief Justice K. S. Hegde.

Mr. H. Hardy, President, High Court Bar Association said:

My Lord the Chief Justice and My Lords Mr. Justice Dua, Mr. Justice Khanna and Mr. Justice Kapur, We are assembled here today on an occasion which is truly historic. The birth of a separate High Court for Delhi is an epoch-making event. In fact it is the end of one epoch and the beginning of another. When I recall to my mind the days when we had our first Circuit Bench of the High Court at Delhi, the change we witness today seems almost incredible. Those were the days when barely two Judges from the High Court of Punjab would come down to the plains for a brief session of a month or so and then go back to Simla, with long periods of recess between the two Circuits. It is too obvious that this arrangement could hardly afford any satisfaction or relief to the litigants at Delhi.

Although Delhi had been made a separate Province as far back as September 1912, it was still an outlying District of the Punjab in more ways than one. Its association with the High Court of Punjab was however, by far the most important link it had with that Province. For nearly eighty years before 1947 the High Court of Judicature at Lahore and its precursors the Chief Court of Punjab and the Dewani Adalat were administering justice in the territory of un-divided Punjab including Delhi. On the partition of the country we parted company with that High Court and started with a comparatively small High Court for the truncated Province of East Punjab. The amalgamation of the Patiala and East Punjab States Union with the Province of East Punjab however gave us once again a large size High Court for the entire State of Punjab. Meanwhile, since the volume of work in Delhi

began to glow the size of the Circuit Bench at Delhi also began to expand till it attained the strength of as many as five Judges rotating on Circuit throughout the year.

It will thus be seen that the High Court at Delhi though new will not be a Court without traditions. Behind this High Court, there will be the long and glorious tradition of one hundred years of administration of justice by a galaxy of Judges of undoubted eminence and ability and the labours of generations of lawyers of great repute, industry and learning.

I have no doubt that all these high traditions will be maintained but this Court will also have to set up some new traditions and standards. My Lord the Chief Justice as head of the judiciary in the Union Territory of Delhi and within a short time from now, of Himachal Pradesh as well, will be confronted with various problems. The exercise of original civil jurisdiction by the High Court, in respect of suits of certain pecuniary valuation, will necessitate the formation of new rules of procedure. Enough guidance will no doubt be available from the Original Side Rules of the High Courts of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. But it is felt that the Rules of the Madras High Court with necessary adaptations and modifications will be found to be more appropriate to our needs as the Rules of the other two High Courts are based on the dual system of solicitor and counsel which the public opinion in Delhi, I am afraid, will not generally favour. Even those rules will perhaps call for substantial alternations and modification if the objective of speedy disposal of cases consistently with the fundamental principles of judicial procedure is sought to be attained.

In my opinion, the problem of speedy disposal of cases is intimately connected with the provision of suitable working conditions for the Hon'ble Judges, the lawyers and the members of the High Court staff. Cases can only be disposed of if there is sufficient number of Judges to cope with the volume of work which I am bound to say is not only heavy at present but it is also likely to increase from year to year. The present building of the court is also wholly inadequate to meet the requirements of a fast growing High Court. It is anticipated that within a few months from now there will be need for many more Judges which evidently will necessitate much larger accommodation than what the present building can offer. The strength of the High Court Bar has already increased from 100 members last year to over 225 members today. Within a few months the number is bound to go up to 300 strong. We therefore need more than double the size of our present accommodation for the Bar-Association, its library and its staff. Our own resources are wholly inadequate for providing proper library facilities, furniture and equipment for our members. When the Supreme Court of India moved into its own building the then Chief Justice of India was able to persuade the Government to make a substantial grant to the Supreme Court Bar Association for its library and furniture. I understand that substantial grant was also received for this purpose by the High Court Bar Association at Chandigarh. With your Lordship's personal interest in the well-being of the Bar Association and its members, we are confident

that our demand for a substantial subsidy will also receive favourable consideration at the hands of the Government. I have no hesitation in saying that the quality of a Judge's judgment depends a great deal upon the help he receives from the lawyers appearing in the case before him. It is my firm belief that no lawyer can render full assistance to the Court unless there is a well stocked Bar library behind him. I for one have always felt extremely un-happy at the hopeless inadequacy of our Bar library; but it seemed that there was nothing that the Association could do about it.

Want of proper accommodation and paucity of funds made the difficulty almost insuperable. I only hope that a solution will soon be found to over-come this difficulty.

On behalf of the Bar I wish to renew the pledge that we the members of the Bar will do all we can to assist My Lord the Chief Justice and the Hon'ble Judges in their task of administering justice so that the reputation of this High Court may not only be preserved but steadily enhanced.

My Lords, on an occasion like this it is customary and proper to pay our homage to Your Lordships as a token of the high esteem in which Your Lordships are held by the members of the Bar. You My Lord the Chief Justice passed your M.A. examination from the Presidency College Madras and got your B.L. Degree with high distinction from the Law College Madras. After your enrolment as an Advocate, you set up and soon built a lucrative practice in Karkanda District of South Kanara and then in Mangalore. From 1947 to 1951 you occupied the responsible position of Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader. The practice of law was however not alone sufficient to sustain the full measure of Your Lordship's talents and you soon found yourself in the role of a lawmaker. From 1951 to 1957 you were a Member of the Rajya Sabha till you were once again lured away by the Law Courts and were appointed a Judge of the Mysore High Court in 1957. During the past nine years we have often had to turn to Your Lordship's judgments in that High Court. They are characterised by a clarity of thought and felicity of expression of which any judge in this country may feel legitimately proud.

In 1954, you had the signal honour of representing India in the United Nations Organization as a member of the Indian delegation to that august body. As a member of the Rajya Sabha, Your Lordship was a member of several Parliamentary Committees where your forensic skill and legal talents were of inestimable service and your work on those Committees was widely appreciated by all concerned. In a way therefore it is true to say that Your Lordship is no stranger to Delhi. As a Judge in the Mysore High Court, Your Lordship, I understand, has been closely associated with various social and cultural activities and you have left an imprint of your versatile personality on every such activity with which you have been concerned.

You my Lords Mr. Justice Dua, Mr. Justice Khanna and Mr. Justice S. K. Kapur hardly need any introduction to us. Each one of Your Lordships has already made a mark for your high sense of duty, deep erudition and judicial independence. We are indeed proud that on the severance of our ties with

the High Court of Punjab we should have had the privilege of securing Your Lordships services for our new High Court. We are indeed fortunate that this High Court should have been set on its carrier with My Lord the Chief Justice and his companion Judges of such high calibre as its members. For this, our sincere thanks are due to My Lord the Chief Justice of India and the Government. If I am permitted to strike a slightly personal note, I can say with a certain degree of personal knowledge that there is hardly any aspect of the problem relating to the setting up of this court which has not engaged the very keen and personal interest of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

In the end, I extend on my own behalf as well as on behalf of the members of the High Court Bar Association our hearty felicitation and most cordial welcome to you My Lord the Chief Justice and My Lords Mr. Justice Dua, Mr. Justice Khanna and Mr. Justice Kapur on Your Lordship's appointment as the first Judges of this High Court.

Mr. S. N. Shankar, Central Government Counsel, said:

My Lord the Chief Justice and My Lords, It is with a feeling of joy and in a spirit of dedication that we welcome the creation of this new Court. Delhi had a long cherished desire to have a High Court of its own, which has finally been fulfilled today, and this brings to us the consciousness of very heavy duties and responsibilities which we must discharge with all sincerity and earnestness. The entire edifice of internal administration in the Democratic Republic of India stands on three strong pillars, the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. The Legislature provides the legal basis for carrying on the administration of the country. The Executive is intended for and is supposed to carry out the will of the people as formulated by the Legislature and on the Judiciary falls the most responsible duty to interpret, expound and enforce the law as enacted by the Legislature in the background of the obligations and the fundamental and other rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Apart from deciding disputes between citizen and citizen the Judiciary has to hold the scales of Justice evenly between the State and the citizen in the over growing complexity of the democratic set up. We are conscious of this deep responsibility and it is, therefore, in a spirit of dedication that we welcome the creation of the new High Court. Delhi has always been a centre of gravitation and has assumed importance for no vain reasons. With Your Lordships adorning the Bench of this High Court we are confident that we shall be able to do our bit successfully for the service of the country in the field of administration of justice.

My lord the Chief Justice brings with him his rich experiences as a Parliamentarian and as an accredited representative of our country in the United Nations and other Councils abroad. We have read the learned pronouncements and expositions of law by my Lord in the reported decisions and it will now be our privilege to work more closely under him. In having my Lord the Chief Justice to preside over this Court we have not only an eminent Jurist but a gentleman with deep human understanding and practical approach to problems in keeping with the modern times.

My Lord Mr. Justice I. D. Dua is very well known to us. As a lawyer of great repute, known for his deep knowledge of law uprightness and integrity he had the universal love and respect of the Bar. It was in the year 1956 that My Lord was requested to assume the responsibility to handle the Central Government work in the Circuit Bench of the Punjab' High Court at Delhi which he did with extraordinary zeal and fairness. The merit in him was soon recognised when he was elevated to the Bench as a Judge of the Punjab High Court. We are all aware of his independent approach and his anxiety to uphold the Individual liberty, and the rule of law.

My Lord Mr. Justice Khanna is again from the Bar and we are extremely fortunate in having him to adorn this Bench. We have known him for his high sense of responsibility, his conscientious approach to the problems that come up before him for decision and the deep insight of law that he brings to bear on them. The unfailing courtesy that he has always extended to the members of the Bar has engendered a feeling of personal regard and high esteem for his Lordship.

My Lord Mr. Justice Kapur was till recently an asset to the Bar. A leading and eminent member of our fraternity he was specially called upon to join the Bench and the comparatively short period that he has been there he has already established his mark. The thorough grasp, the clear mind, the deep understanding of law with all its varied subjects coupled with a warm and unassuming courtesy that he extends to every member of the Bar has already endeared him to each one of us. We are fortunate and indeed grateful that his Lordship has joined the galaxy adorning the Bench of this new High Court.

As we are proud of our Judges, we are also fully alive of our responsibility towards them. While extending our heartiest welcome, we assure the Hon'ble Judges that they shall not find us wanting in our duties and obligations to them and the Court. In your Lordships we have such eminent persons of thought and integrity that it shall be our proud privilege to serve the country through you in the administration of those great ideals of justice for which the established order of our society should legitimately aspire for.

Shri Bishamber Dayal, Standing Counsel for Delhi Administration, said:

My Lords, as one of the senior most counsel practicing in the High Court and as a standing counsel for Delhi Administration, it is my great privilege to accord to you the first Chief Justice and Puisne judges of this new High Court of Delhi, a cordial welcome. It is an event of great importance and happiness to us all, the inauguration of a separate independent High Court for Delhi, with original jurisdiction.

When I passed B.A. Examination from St. Stephens College, Delhi, in 1917, there was not even a Law College in Delhi and we had to go to Lahore for the study of law and passing of the LLB examination. In 1919 when I started practice of law in Delhi, Delhi courts were under the jurisdiction of the Punjab

High Court, which held its sittings in Lahore, Naturally Delhi lawyers rarely appeared in the High Court and all we did was to brief High Court lawyers for our clients.

In 1920/21 after the late Shri Shadi Lai had become Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court he visited our Delhi Courts and it was for the first time that we could venture to make a request to him for establishing a Circuit Bench at Delhi. He visited Delhi Courts several times during his tenure, and every time his reply to our request was that if in spite of his best efforts, his colleagues did not agree and that the Lahore High Court Bar was also strongly opposed to it, and there the matter rested quietly till 1947. After the partition of the country in 1947, the situation considerably changed. Population of Delhi rapidly increased, also number of lawyers. The displaced lawyers from the Punjab High Court did not come by themselves, but they brought with them not only their civil clients but criminal clients as well. Civil and criminal litigation considerably increased. By 1952, the population of Delhi had increased from about 5 lakhs to 25 lakhs, litigation civil and criminal had considerably increased and need for establishing a Circuit Bench, was strongly felt. This time we changed our tactics. We decided to move the Central Government in the matter rather than the Chief Justice Mr. Eric Weston. The Central Government was convinced that we had a strong case and then they took up the matter seriously with the Chief Justice and ultimately the Circuit Bench was established in Delhi in 1952. From 1952, the Circuit Bench has been functioning for last 14 years with credit and satisfaction all round.

The growth of population, increase of litigation and political demands for complete separation of Punjab and Haryana Subas accelerated the establishment of a separate, independent High Court for Delhi. Two of our most eminent lawyers Mr. N. C. Chatterjee and Mr. Frank Anthony saw the High Court Bill through the Parliament and we are all very thankful to them for their interest in the matter. The separation with the Judges of the Punjab High Court, however, has been sufficiently painful to us. We shall always remember these Judges with love and gratitude. At great personal inconvenience to themselves, they attended the Circuit Bench at Delhi and to administer justice here, most courteously and with dispassionate sense of justice. The only redeeming feature in this final parting, however, is that we have in our own new High Court, three of their very best judges. We know them well and they know the great regard and respect that we have for them.

My Lord, the Chief Justice, you are however, new to us coming as you do from a distant State in the South, I am reminded in this situation of a similar instance which arose when the Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. R. Dass, a Calcutta Judge was made the Chief Justice of Punjab High Court, then located at Simla. Of him it can be truly said that "he came, he saw and he conquered". He proved to be the most efficient and most popular Chief Justice. His stay at Simla was not of long duration and with the establishing of the Supreme Court in 1950, he was elevated to the Supreme Court where he became Chief justice. We still cherish his memory and hope my Lord the Chief Justice, that you will follow his footsteps and achieve his greatness and popularity.

On our part, we offer to your Lordships our loyal and whole hearted co-operation in your difficult task ahead. From your reputation we have no doubt that memorable judgments from your Lordships will illumine the Law Reports which will enhance the reputation and prestige of this High Court, which is intended to be a model High Court.

I wish your Lordships a very successful and happy career on the Bench.

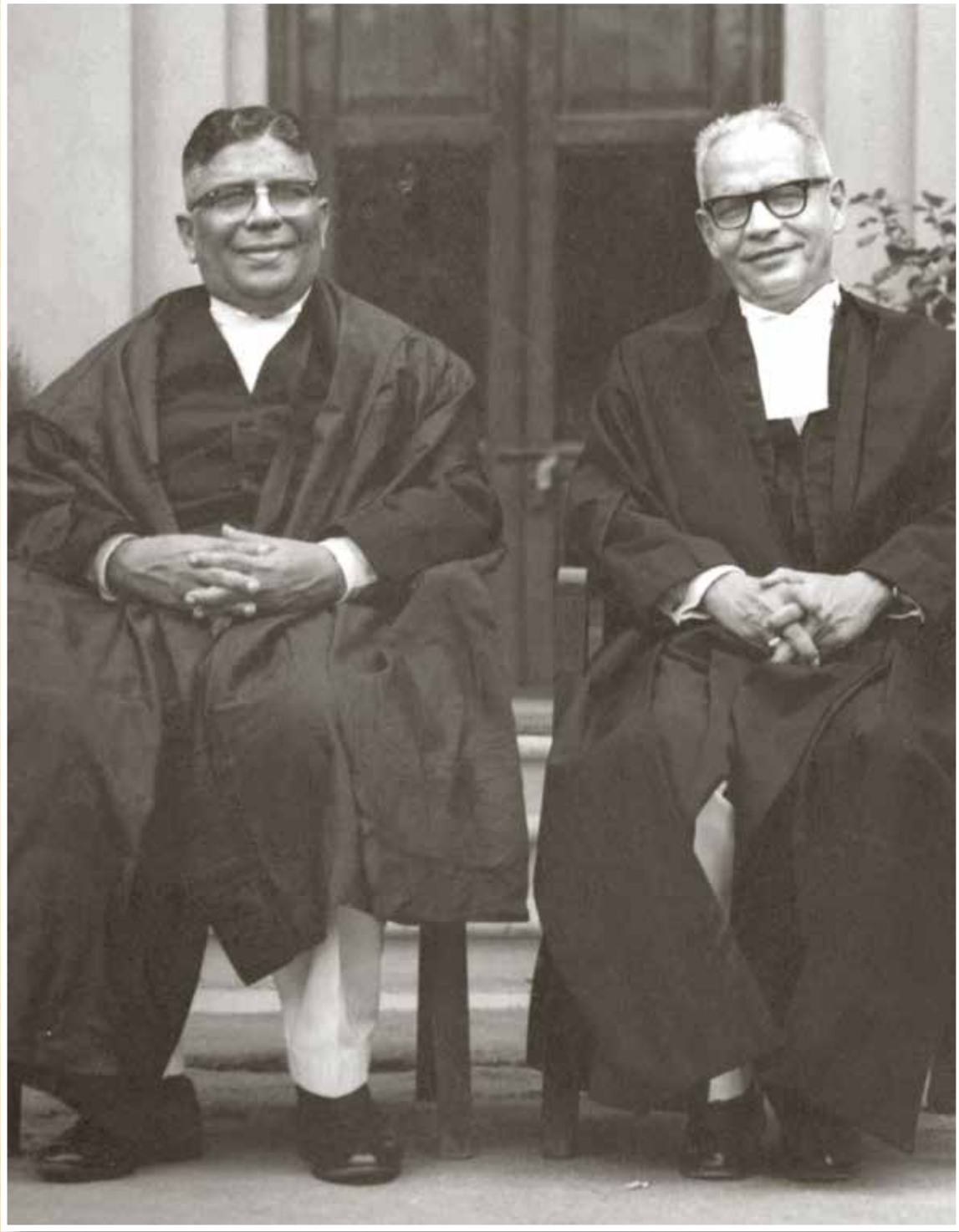
Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.S. Hegde, Chief Justice, said in reply:

It was extremely kind of you to have made very kind references to my colleagues and myself. So far as my colleagues are concerned, they are known to you very intimately. Therefore, you are in a position to judge them. But so far as I am concerned, for the Delhi Bar, I am yet a stranger. You have acted on hearsay information which in law is inadmissible. I shall try to justify the confidence that you have placed in me.

When I assumed my office in the High Court of Mysore I told the members of the Bar that I should be judged when lay down the office. The other day when they presented an address to me they told me that I had secured full marks. I am just telling this to you to put you in a better mood to judge me in a considerate manner but their judgment is not your judgment. I shall try to secure your approbation when I lay down the office. That is the time for judging a judge. Throughout the period we will be judging the causes that come before us, but at the end of the career you will be judging us, the members of the Bar in particular.

All that I need tell you, my friends of the Bar, is that my colleagues and myself will not do anything which a judge ought not to do; we shall not refrain from doing anything which a judge ought to do. We shall certainly uphold the rule of law to the extent it is possible for us under the Constitution, We know we have your good wishes.

My friend, Mr. Justice Kapur, told me yesterday that it is a very co-operative and a friendly Bar. I am glad to hear this and with your kind support we shall try to make this High Court a model High Court but for doing that we want your co-operation at every stage. There are many difficulties before us. Every new High Court has difficulties. That is a challenge for us. We shall accept that challenge. We shall try to make a success of this High Court. We shall try to make it a model High Court also. Mr. Chatterjee and Mr. Anthony, who tried to bring into existence this High Court with your co-operation, would be proud of it.



CHIEF JUSTICE, JUSTICE K.S. HEGDE AND JUSTICE I.D. DUA

OTHER FIRSTS...

FIRST JUDGMENT OF HIGH COURT OF DELHI:
31ST OCTOBER, 1966.

C. J. D/A-38

DELHI.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & CHANDIGARH

Appeal No. 90-D of 1956 from Original Decree
Revision Application No. Appellate Order

Date of decision 1. 11. 66

Union of India & another through Mr. R. L.
Aggarwal Advocate with
M/s S.S. Chadha & P.P. Emond
Advocates.

Versus

Smt. Vivanwali & another. Smt. Vivanwali in
person.

For approval and signature

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. S. Hegde, Chief Justice

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice I. B. Sona

1. Whether Reporters of local papers may be allowed to see the Judgment?
2. To be referred to the Reporter or not?
3. Whether Their Lordships wish to see the fair copy of the Judgment?

Coram:—

K.S.Hedge, C.J. (oral)

Regular First Appeals Nos. 90-D of 1956 and 121-D of 1956 raise common questions of law and fact. They relate to a common incident that took place on March 16, 1952, at about 4 a.m. when railway engine No. 1175, belonging to the defendants collided with lorry No. DLB 1946 at railway crossing gate No. C1-2 in mile No. 2/15 on Delhi-Karnal railway line. As a result of that accident two persons, by names, Tirath Singh and Nanoo died instantaneously.

Regular First Appeal No. 90-D of 1956 arises from suit No. 260 of 1954 on the file of the learned Sub-Judge 1st Class, Delhi. That was a suit filed by the

17245 HC-30.000-13-9-62-C.P. & S., Punjab, Chandigarh.

RFA 90-D/1956.
RFA 121-D/1956.

-2-

widow and the son of the deceased Tirath Singh. In that suit the Court below granted a decree for a sum of Rs. 45,000/- against the defendants as damages resulting from the accident, mentioned above.

Regular First Appeal No. 121-D of 1956 arises from suit No. 259 of 1954 on the file of the same Judge. That was a suit filed by the widow of Nanoo claiming damages as a result of the accident, referred to already. In that suit the Court below decreed a sum of Rs. 22,500/- in favour of the plaintiff against the defendants.

The case for the plaintiffs in the two suits was that due to the gross negligence on the part of the servants of the defendants, the accident, in question, took place and, therefore, the defendants were liable to pay damages to the heirs of the deceased persons. The defendants contended that there was no negligence on the part of their servants. They also pleaded that there was contributory negligence on the part of the deceased persons. They further pleaded that the amount claimed as damages was excessive.

On the pleadings, the following issues were framed:—

- 1) Whether the accident arose on account of the negligence of the employees of the defendants?
- 2) Whether the driver had a motor driving licence? If not, to what effect?
- 3) Whether the driver was guilty of contributory negligence? If so, to what effect?
- 4) Whether the plaintiffs are entitled to damages and compensation? If so, to what amount?
- 5) Whether valid notice under section 80, Civil Procedure Code, was served upon the defendants?
- 6) Relief.

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widow and the son of the deceased Tirath Singh. In that suit the Court below granted a decree for a sum of Rs.45,000/- against the defendants as damages resulting from the accident, mentioned above.

Regular First Appeal No.121-D of 1956 arises from suit No.259 of 1954 on the file of the same Judge. That was a suit filed by the widow of Nanoo claiming damages as a result of the accident, referred to already. In that suit the Court below decreed a sum of Rs.22,500/- in favour of the plaintiff against the defendants.

The case for the plaintiffs in the two suits was that due to the gross negligence on the part of the servants of the defendants, the accident, in question, took place and, therefore, the defendants were liable to pay damages to the heirs of the deceased persons. The defendants contended that there was no negligence on the part of their servants. They also pleaded that there was contributory negligence on the part of the deceased persons. They further pleaded that the amount claimed as damages was excessive.

On the pleadings, the following issues were framed:-

- 1) Whether the accident arose on account of the negligence of the employees of the defendants?
- 2) Whether the driver had a motor driving licence? If not, to what effect?
- 3) Whether the driver was guilty of contributory negligence? If so, to what effect?
- 4) Whether the plaintiffs are entitled to damages and compensation? If so, to what amount?
- 5) Whether valid notice under section 80, Civil Procedure Code, was served upon the defendants?
- 6) Relief.

The court below found against the defendants ^mall the issues - Nos.1 to 5. There is satisfactory evidence on record to show that at the time of the accident the gate of the level crossing was open; There was no light fixed on the gate; There was also no light in the engine. On these points we have the evidence of Mansa Ram and Hazara Singh. Their evidence has not been in any manner damaged in cross-examination. That evidence has been accepted by the Court below. We see no reason to differ from the conclusion of the Court below on that point.

There is evidence to show that deceased Tirath Singh had a driving licence. The defendants have failed to establish that the driver of the lorry was guilty of contributory negligence. The contention that there was no valid notice under section 80, Code of Civil Procedure, was not pressed before us.

The only question, on which elaborate arguments were advanced before us, was the one relating to the quantum of damages. Deceased Tirath Singh was aged 30 years at the time of his death. It is satisfactorily proved by the evidence of P.Ws.3 and 6 that at the time of his death, he was getting a monthly salary of Rs.150/-. That evidence was neither challenged in cross-examination nor rebutted by any other evidence. The deceased left behind him his young widow and four minor children. They were all dependants on him. The Court below came to the conclusion that in the normal course he could have been expected to live till the age of 55 years. It accordingly fixed the damages at Rs.45,000/-.

Deceased Nanoo was also about 30 years of age at the time of his death. He was a coolie by profession. Evidence has been adduced to show that at the time of his death, he was earning Rs.2.50 P. to Rs.3/- per day. The trial Court

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came to the conclusion that his average income per month could be estimated at Rs.75/-. The finding of the trial Court on this point is supported by the evidence on record. There is no counter evidence. He also left behind his young widow and four minor children. In that case the Court below decreed a sum of Rs.22,500/- as damages.

The learned counsel for the appellants attacked the decision of the Court below on the question of quantum of damages on two different grounds. He, firstly, contended that the Court below was wrong in fixing the life expectation at 55 years. According to him, it should have fixed the same at 45 years. His second contention was that in computing the monthly income of the deceased persons, the Court below failed to take into consideration the expenses that the deceased persons would have incurred on themselves, the possibility of their widows remarrying and the circumstance that the dependants of the deceased are getting lump sum payments. We are unable to agree with the learned counsel for the appellants on any of these contentions.

In recent years longevity has appreciably increased in this country. On the evidence on record, it is reasonable to conclude that the deceased persons were enjoying normal health. It is not alleged that they were suffering from any disease. They were young persons. Therefore, it was reasonable for the Court below to conclude that they could have lived up till the age of 55 years. In matters like this, there can be no hard and fast rule. It is essentially a question of estimation. But that estimation must be a judicial one taking into consideration all the facts and circumstances of the case.

Now coming to the question of computation of the

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monthly income of the deceased persons, it is true, as contended by the learned counsel for the appellants, that the Court below did not take into consideration the expenses that the deceased persons would have had to incur on themselves, had they continued to live. But then the Court below also did not take into consideration the potentiality of the deceased persons to earn more income, in the years to come. In the normal course, they would have earned much more than what they were earning at the time of their death.

It is nobody's case that the widows of the deceased have remarried. Their remarriage hereafter is very unlikely. That apart, the deceased persons had left behind them several other dependents.

The benefit of getting a lump sum payment is offset by the increase in prices and the progressive decrease in the value of the rupee. Taking all the facts of the case into consideration, we do not think that the damages fixed by the Court below can be considered as unreasonably excessive. As observed by the Punjab High Court in Vanguard Fire and General Insurance Company, Limited. v. Sarla Devi and others, (reported in 1950 P.L.R. 693) "there is no quantitative scale of computing compensation for damages resulting from death and Courts of law must in the circumstances of each case exercise their discretion to arrive at a reasonable and fair figure. This task of the Court is to estimate as best as it can a capital sum which will represent a fair compensation for the loss of the actual pecuniary benefit which the dependants might reasonably have expected to enjoy if the deceased had not been killed." In so doing, estimates are likely to differ and so long as the estimate made by the trial Court cannot be said to be wholly unreasonable, even though a different estimate is possible, this Court will not interfere.

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For the reasons, mentioned above, these appeals fail and are dismissed. The counsel for the respondents are absent. Hence there would be no order as to costs.

Handwritten signature

November 1, 1966.

I agree.

Handwritten signature

f.c.
11/1/66

R. N. S.
11/12-66

High Court of Delhi

CALENDAR FOR 1967.

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
Sunday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	30 2 9 16 23
MONDAY	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
TUESDAY	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
WEDNESDAY	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
THURSDAY	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
FRIDAY	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
SATURDAY	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Sunday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	30 2 9 16 23	6 13 20 27
MONDAY	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	31 3 10 17 24	7 14 21 28
TUESDAY	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
WEDNESDAY	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
THURSDAY	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
FRIDAY	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
SATURDAY	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Sunday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	31 3 10 17 24
MONDAY	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
TUESDAY	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
WEDNESDAY	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
THURSDAY	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
FRIDAY	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
SATURDAY	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30

LIST OF DELHI HIGH COURT HOLIDAYS--1967

NAME OF HOLIDAYS	MONTH AND DATE	DAY OF THE WEEK	No. of DAY
Id-ul-Fitr	13th January	Friday	1
Republic Day	26th January	Thursday	1
Id-az-Zuha	22nd March	Wednesday	1
Good Friday	24th March	Friday	1
Holi	25th March	Saturday	1
Baisakhi	13th April	Thursday	1
Muharram	21st April	Friday	1
Independence Day	15th August	Tuesday	1
Janam Ashtimi	28th August	Monday	1
Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday	2nd October	Monday	1
Dussehra	12th & 13th October	Thursday & Friday	2
Diwali	1st & 2nd November	Wednesday & Thursday	2
Guru Nanak's Birthday	17th November	Friday	1
Christmas Holidays	25th to 29th December 1967 (both days inclusive.)	Monday to Friday	5

The long vacation of the Court will commence on Monday, the 29th May, 1967, and the Court will resume its sittings after the Vacation on Monday, the 10th July, 1967. The period of long Vacation has been enclosed by red lines.

N.B.—Sundays and Delhi High Court holidays are shown in red.

By order of the Court,
GURU DATTA,
Registrar

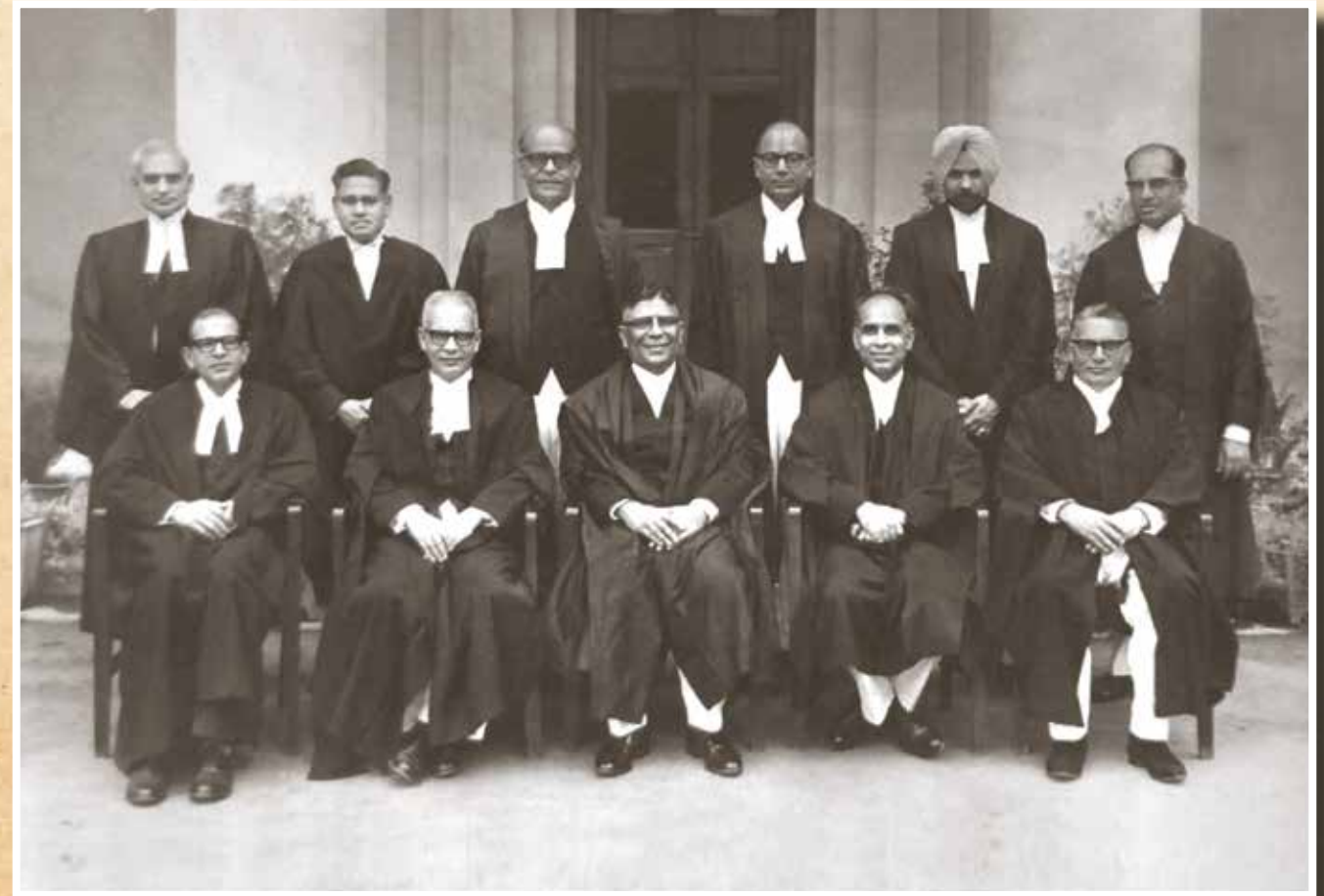
H. P. Works, Delhi.



THE CHIEF JUSTICE CONFERENCE 1967

Standing: Hon'ble Shri Durga Shankar Dass, Rajasthan, Hon'ble Shri Mehar Singh, Punjab and Haryana, Hon'ble Shri N.M. Miabhoy, Gujarat, Hon'ble Shri S.P. Kotwal, Bombay, Hon'ble Shri M.S. Menon, Kerala, Hon'ble Shri M. Anastanarayanan, Madras, Hon'ble Shri Nasirullah Beg, Uttar Pradesh, Hon'ble Shri K.S. Hegde, Delhi.

Sitting: Hon'ble Shri P.V. Dixit, Madhya Pradesh, Hon'ble Shri C. Sanjeev Row Nayadu, Assam and Nagaland, Hon'ble Shri P.J. Reddy, Andhra Pradesh, Hon'ble Shri D. N. Sinha, Calcutta, Hon'ble Shri K. Subba Rao, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Shri R. L. Narasimham, Bihar, Hon'ble Shri H. Hombe Gowda, Mysore, Hon'ble Shri J.N. Wazir, Jammu & Kashmir, Hon'ble Shri Khaleel Ahmad, Orissa.



PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN ON THE ELEVATION OF THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. K. S. HEGDE AS JUDGE, SUPREME COURT ON JULY 15, 1967

Standing: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Om Prakash, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. N. Shankar, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. N. Andley, Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. V. R. Tatachari, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jagjit Singh, Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. M. Ismail.

Sitting: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Satinder Kumar Kapur, Hon'ble Mr. Justice I. D. Dua (Now Chief Justice), Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. S. Hegde (Now Judge, Supreme Court of India), Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hans Raj Khanna, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hardayal Hardy.



BUILDING OF HIGH COURT OF DELHI ON THE DAY OF ITS INAUGURATION, SEPTEMBER 1976

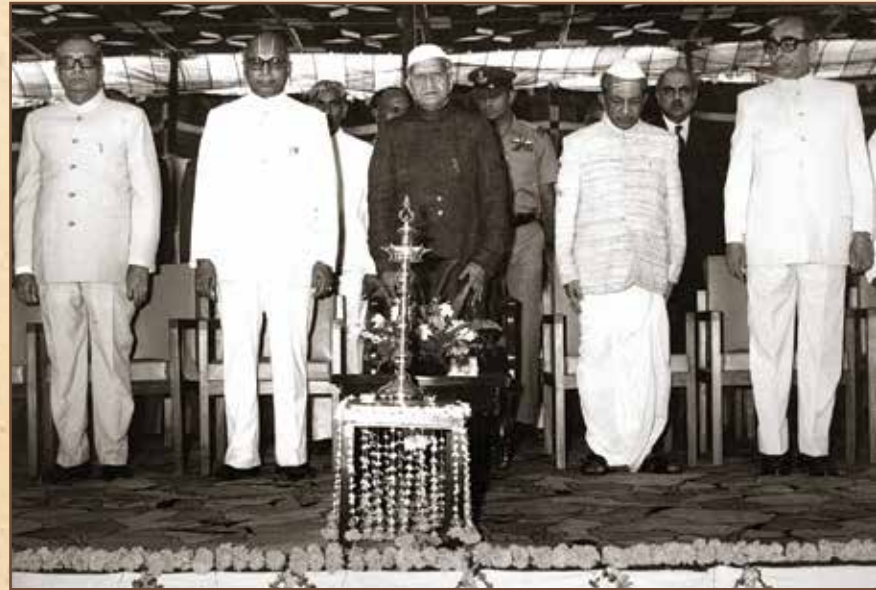
THE EXISTING BUILDING

LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE BUILDING
BY DR. ZAKIR HUSAIN, PRESIDENT OF INDIA,
ON 4TH NOVEMBER, 1968



INAUGURATION OF THE DELHI HIGH COURT BUILDING
BY SH. FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED, PRESIDENT OF INDIA
ON 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1976.





From Left to Right: Shri Krishan Chand, Lt. Governor of Delhi, Hon'ble Justice TVR Tatachari, Chief Justice, Shri Fkruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India, Shri B.D. Jatti, Vice-President of India, Shri A.N. Ray, Chief Justice of India.

CONTEMPORARY COURT



On September 25, 1976 the building was inaugurated by the then President Shri Fkruddin Ali Ahmed. The President, while inaugurating the new building said:

“Although, Delhi High Court is only ten years old, it occupies a place of vital importance in our judicial process. Ever since it was established in 1966, the High Court of Delhi has steadily grown in size. Happily the problem of arrears is not so acute in the High Court of Delhi as it is in some other High Courts... the function of law is to conserve the past, to assimilate the present and to anticipate the future. Law thus not only embodies past history but is impregnated by the seeds of future history. In this city of old monuments and the nursery of new aspirations, the High Court will, I hope, prove to be a matrix of the synthesis and harmony of the past and the present and a bridge between present and the future....”

The High Court of Delhi was initially conferred with Ordinary Original Civil jurisdiction in all suits the value of which exceeded Rupees Twenty Five Thousand amended subsequently and suitably from time to time and was last raised to Rupees Two Crores.

The legacy of dispensing Justice of the highest order at the High Court of Delhi continues.

Barely half a century old, the High Court of Delhi has earned recognition as one of the most modern High Courts of India. Equipped with technically augmented judicial administration system, the Court has time and again, rendered impactful and landmark, law setting decisions in diverse areas.

The philosophy of the Court "SATYAMEV JAYATE" (TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS), is the embodiment of Ancient Indian as well as worldwide view of legal jurisprudence which bear a striking commonality in approach and perspective. The Ancient Greek philosopher, Plato, in one of his most celebrated works, "The Republic" written in 380 B.C., dwelt on the concept of justice as "having and doing what is one's own". One of the most authoritative Indian treatises on law and justices written around 2nd – 3rd century B.C., "Arthashastra", linked the spectre of justice to "Dharma", which is an all comprehensive term underlining the concept of justice spirited in a broad sense of egalitarianism. A parallel of the same concept can be found in the Islamic jurisprudence of "Koran" where justice denotes equality and "placing things in their rightful place". In modern India, the traditional wisdom comprehensive of normative structure of law and justice has been essentially carried forward and empirically incorporated in the Preamble to the Constitution of India, the spirit and vision of which envisages "Justice – Social, Economic and Political".

Combining "a whisper of history and the fresh winds of the present" as the then President of India Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed had aptly stated in 1976, and incorporating "synthesis and harmony of the past and the present", the High Court of Delhi in its 50 years has surged as one of the pioneering courts of India.



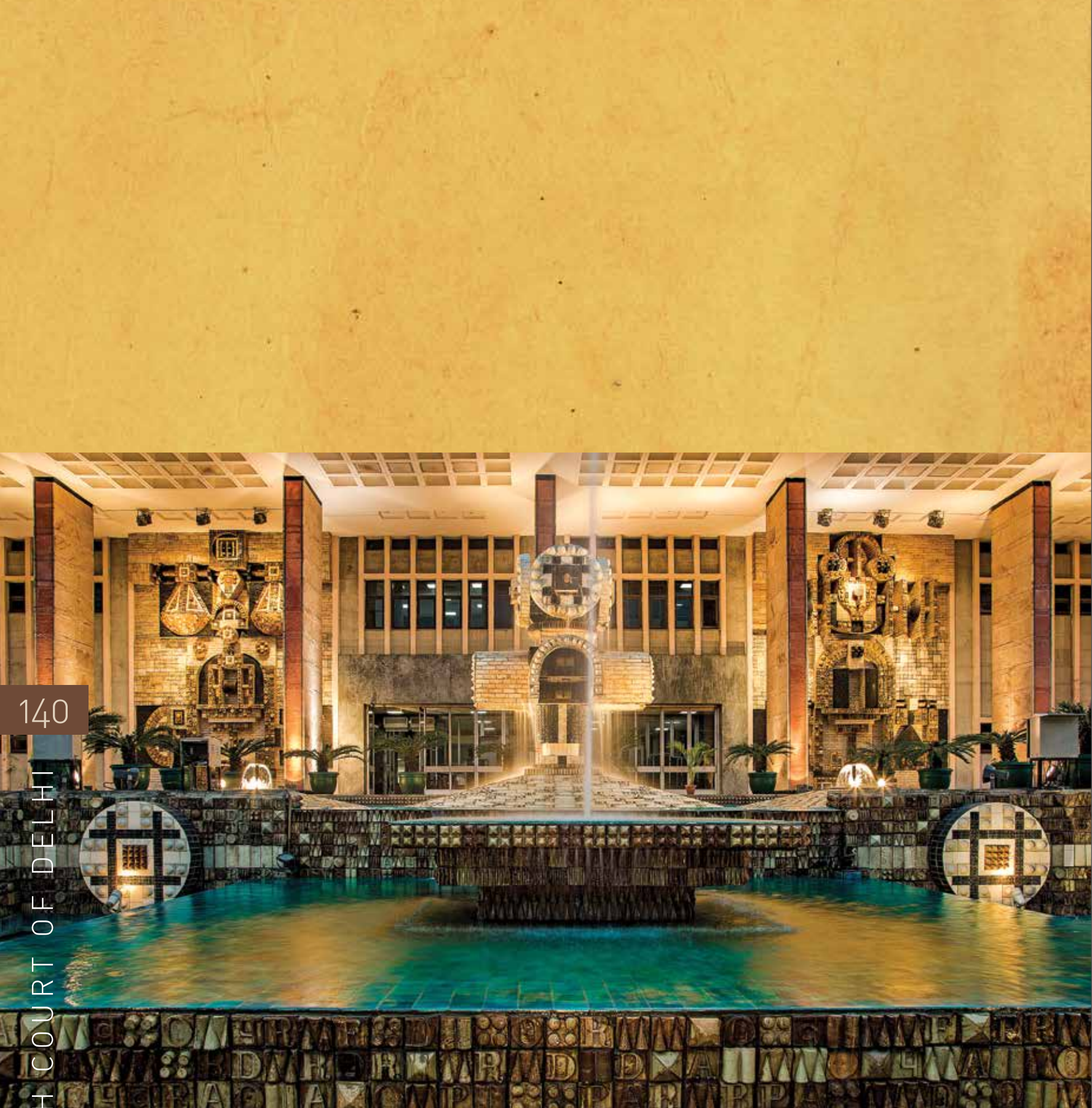


A Block, Main Building, High Court of Delhi

Photograph Courtesy:
Mr. Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed







Murals by Mr. Satish Gujral on the facade of Main Building, High Court of Delhi

VISION

Guarantee of an independent and efficient judicial system which upholds the rule of law and denies no one access to fair and equal justice

MISSION STATEMENT

The High Court of Delhi seeks to achieve the following goals and objectives in the coming years to help achieve the Constitutional goals of providing access for a speedy justice to all

- (a) To continue to ensure equal and easy access to justice; and to enhance methods of speedy delivery.
- (b) To promote and strengthen alternative dispute resolution including arbitration, mediation, Lok Adalats and other forms of settlement.
- (c) To ensure that the court system (including infrastructure and the manpower) works to the best advantage of the users including specially abled and that all barriers physical and infrastructural in the justice delivery are overcome.
- (d) To uphold the principle of judicial impartiality and to promote transparency to maximum possible extent in all processes and functions of judicial system
- (e) To assimilate, optimize and employ technological developments for an efficient working system of the court.
- (f) To provide end users a safe and secure environment by adopting the best practices and optimizing the uses of all resources.
- (g) To make the judicial system, court services and infrastructure human sensitive and friendly to women, children, elders and differently abled/challenged persons.
- (h) To introduce better case and docket management practices to ensure speedy and effective justice

To achieve the above objectives, the court shall formulate and implement short term and long term development plans.



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HIGH COURT OF DELHI

THE CORRIDORS OF JUSTICE

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CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF JUSTICE



Extension Block

COURTS IN BLOCK A AND ITS EXTENSION

The Court rooms are comprised in Block A and Extension Block of the Court complex. While Block A was inaugurated in October 1966, the foundation stone of the Extension Block was laid by the then Chief Justice of India, Shri. B.N. Kirpal on August 8, 2002 and the building was inaugurated by then Chief Justice of India, Mr. Y.K. Sabharwal. The premises of High Court of Delhi at present has 36 - functional Court Rooms, of which 24 are located in the Block A and 12 in the Extension Block. The Court buildings also have two Conference Halls - one Larger Conference Hall with seating capacity of 40 and one Smaller Hall with a seating capacity of 20 known as Round Table Conference Hall with a Video Conferencing facility.



Extension Block





Chief Justice's Chamber

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S CHAMBER & COURT

The aura of the Court of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi, on the second floor speaks for itself with a special historic benchmark as currently adorned by the first woman Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi, Ms. Justice G. Rohini. Aesthetically designed and equipped with modern facilities, the court embodies the rich heritage as well as the vision for future.



CHIEF JUSTICE'S COURT



FULL COURT REFERENCE

ON THE RETIREMENT OF MR. JUSTICE
SUDERSHAN KUMAR MISRA, ON 06.09.2016

It has been a tradition in the High Court of Delhi to hold full court reference on the retirement, transfer and demise of a Judge. This practice is also followed on the demise of a distinguished member of the Bar.



Group Photograph taken on the retirement of Mr. Justice Sudershan Kumar Misra on 6th September, 2016

Siting (From Left to Right):

Ms. Justice Hima Kohli, Mr. Justice G. S. Sistani, Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Mr. Justice Pradeep Nandrajog, Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee, Mr. Justice Sudershan Kumar Misra, Ms. Justice G. Rohini, Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed, Ms. Justice Gita Mittal, Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Dr. Justice S. Muralidhar

Standing in First Row (From Left to Right):

Mr. Justice Jayant Nath, Ms. Justice Pratibha Rani, Mr. Justice A.K. Pathak, Mr. Justice J.R. Midha, Mr. Justice Manmohan Singh, Mr. Justice Siddharth Mridul, Mr. Justice Vipin Sanghi, Mr. Justice Manmohan, Mr. Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw, Ms. Justice Indermeet Kaur, Ms. Justice Mukta Gupta, Mr. Justice S.P. Garg

Standing in Second Row (From Left to Right):

Mr. Vinod Goel, Registrar General, Mr. Justice R.K. Gauba, Mr. Justice P.S. Teji, Ms. Justice Deepa Sharma, Mr. Justice V. Kameswar Rao, Mr. Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva, Mr. Justice Najmi Waziri, Mr. Justice Vibhu Bakhru, Ms. Justice Sunita Gupta, Mr. Justice Ashutosh Kumar, Mr. Justice I.S. Mehta, Ms. Justice Sangita Dhingra Sehgal



JUDGES PHOTO WALL AND THE JUDGES CORRIDOR

The personality of a judge is not taken off even when he sleeps. People look up to Judges with highest regard for vindicating their grievance and to remove injustice affecting their lives. Judges are the role models of the society, an epitome of truth and justice. The prestige and aura attached to the office of a Judge is visible even when one walks through the judicial corridors of the High Court of Delhi.

The Judges' corridor, an exclusive passage lined by beautiful plants leads one to a timeline gallery capturing not only the photographs of Judges of the High Court of Delhi since its inception, but also takes one down the memory lane how justice brought about change in the life of the people and the society. While walking through the corridor close to the Chief Justice's Court, one can witness the entire purview of the history of former and sitting Judges of the High Court of Delhi, portrayed aesthetically on one side of the entire length of the wall.



JUDGES' LOUNGE

A sprawling Lounge for the Judges' formal & informal meetings, group lunch, get-togethers as well as for conducting the oath ceremonies and farewells.





Large Conference Hall



Round Table Conference Hall

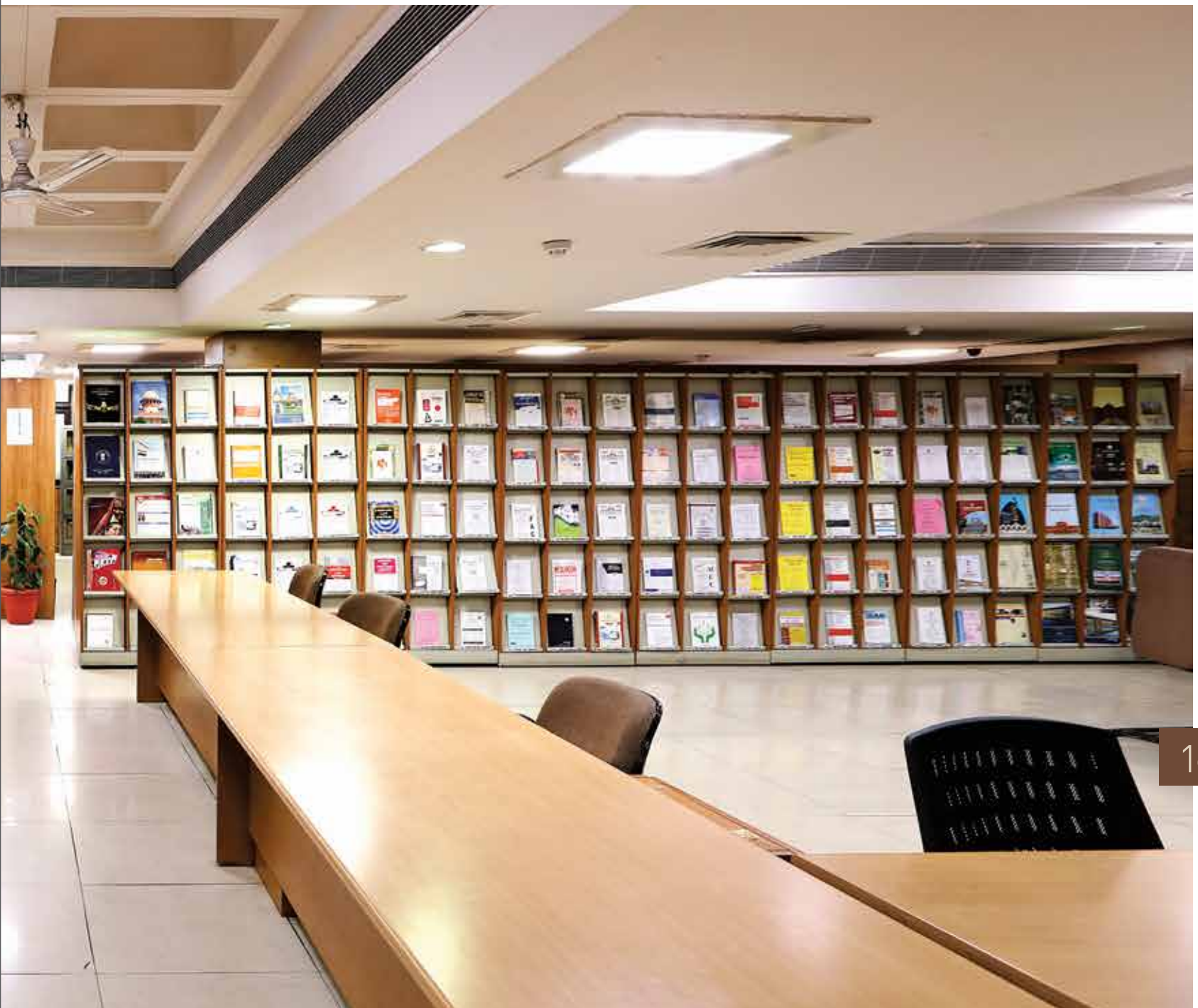




JUDGES' LIBRARY

Being a Judge is a great responsibility and delivering a judgment even greater. In-depth study is essential not only for the legal fraternity but also for the Judges discharging the most respected responsibility.

The Judges' Library, therefore, is one infrastructure that enables them to discharge their duty. The High Court of Delhi provides for the Judges' Library as a think-tank knowledge and resource centre for the Judges, law researchers associated with the Judges and other Officers of the Court.



The Judges' Library was established in the year 1952, then known as Circuit Bench Library. It is at present a part of the information grid consisting of the Central Library, 36 Court Libraries, 36 Chamber Libraries and Residence Libraries.

The Library has a huge and rare collection of Indian and Foreign Law Reports, journals and commentaries and is abreast with the latest information management systems. Integrated Automation Softwares and various indigenous information retrieval tools give it the state of art facility in terms of information access. The Judges have been provided with a separate reading room with a Wi-Fi facility and an LED lighting system. They have access to a collection of about 1,39,546 legal documents, which include books, monographs,





Judges' Reading Room



Commission Reports, Government publications, Central and State legislation, etc. The Library is fully computerized and subscribes to about 112 Indian and foreign journals, both academic and reported judgments of various courts.

The Judges' Library, for rapid retrieval of information, has subscribed to many electronic database, such as SCC online and CD based Law pack (DHC and SC), RAJ, ITR online, PTC, JT, DLT online, DRJ, AIR (SC), Criminal Law Journal, Apex Soft, AD online (DHC & SC), Taxlawonline.com, AIRwebworld.com, manupatra.com and Lexis.com. It has also developed indigenous legal databases of articles, books and legislative material to provide comprehensive and rapid information services. Foreign case law and other legal information are readily provided through the use of internet.

Legal updates are important as law is organic. To keep abreast with day-to-day legal news, the library provides compilation of daily legal news clippings and additionally, in e-form.

The Judges' library is a reference and research think-tank for Judges of the High Court of Delhi. The ambience and the technology is matchless for providing the space required for a thorough research. The library staff augments the required resources in court proceedings besides trying to take care of the reading requirements of the Judges within the grid. Judges' library has highly trained staff to assist all those who come here to study and research.

LITIGANTS: OUR FIRST CONCERN

LITIGANTS: OUR FIRST CONCERN

WAY FORWARD TO PAPERLESS PROCEEDINGS

The High Court of Delhi is fast emerging as a court to facilitate the ease of pursuing the proceedings by litigants, both in terms of access and infrastructure. From making the process techno-savvy, transparent and quicker by introducing- e filing, e-court fees, e-kiosks, e-courts and supported by other infrastructural facilities within the premises, the Court provides litigants more comfort in attending and pursuing the court proceedings. Disputes bring litigants to the platform of courts for its resolution and the process of justice commences at its "Filing Centre". For all these matters, Filing Centre is the first interactive and official platform between litigants and the Registry for pursuing cases before courts. The Delhi High Court Filing Centre, at the end of 50 years not only marks the era of successful handling of litigation and listing, but makes the beginning of an era of e-filing. The High Court of Delhi is fast advancing with the technology to help bring information related to matters at the doorstep of litigants from the stage of filing. The information from filing to progress of proceedings till judgment is delivered, is available to the litigants at the click of the mouse. The fact that ten courts are functioning as "green courts" has cut down the expenses on paper. Way to paperless proceedings is going on and even the subordinate judiciary is fast incorporating the e-processe under the direction of the High Court of Delhi.



Case display board

WAITING LOUNGE FOR LITIGANTS

The legal process is set into motion when a matter is filed in the registry. The listed matters are taken up in a systemic manner. Litigants can be seen waiting outside the respective court rooms for their matters to be taken up. The listed matters are taken up as per the cause list made available by the court, which can be accessed before hand on the internet as well. Comfortable sofas are placed in the lounge outside court rooms for the litigants while waiting for their cases to be taken up. Not only is an LED screen provided outside each court at convenient places, LED display boards are installed to facilitate information regarding a particular matter being currently taken up as also passed over matters.





ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE SYSTEM FOR ALL: DHCLSC

Access to justice for all is not just a term but a State responsibility for establishment of welfare State and the principle is enshrined in Article 39A of the Constitution of India read with Articles 14 and 22(1). Legal aid strives to ensure that the constitutional pledge is fulfilled in letter and spirit by ensuring that equal and quality justice is made available to the poor, downtrodden and the weaker sections of the society.

Section 12 of the Legal Service Authority Act, 1987 mandates rendering free legal aid to the eligible persons, who would be in the category listed under the Act.

The work of legal aid in the High Court of Delhi is supervised by the Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee (DHCLSC), which consists of eight members including its Chairperson, Patron-in-Chief, Executive Chairman of DLSA, nominated Members and ex-officio members being Secretary (Law, Justice & Legislative Affairs Department), Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Secretary (Finance Department), Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and Commissioner of Police, Delhi.

Presently, the DHCLSC is headed by the Chief Justice, Ms. Justice G. Rohini as the Patron-in-Chief of the Delhi State Legal Services Authority; Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee is the Executive Chairman of Delhi State Legal Service Authority and Justice Pradeep Nandrajog, is the Chairman of Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee.

The DHCLSC is regularly organizing Mega Lok Adalats and Special Monthly Lok Adalats to dispose of pending cases.

The present system has successfully been fulfilling the avowed goal of providing justice to the weaker sections and there is constant vigil by the High Court which encourages further strengthening of its manpower and machinery at every step. DHCLSC has lawyers on the criminal panel as well as on the civil panel.

DELHI INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE (DAC)



From left to right: Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Mr. Justice D. Murugesan, the then Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi, Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir, the then Chief Justice of India, Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Mr. A.S. Chandhiok, Senior Advocate & the then President, Delhi High Court Bar Association



THE DELHI INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE

With the increasing awareness of rights and obligations amongst citizens in India, litigation is bound to increase and with the liberalization, the country's economy is opening to the world at large, transforming India into a global player. Commercial face value of a nation cannot be uplifted, if the legal rights are not protected. The legislature recognised the need of the hour and in the year 1999, amended Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, providing for settlement of disputes outside the Courts. This landmark amendment requires the judiciary to encourage settlement of disputes by way of alternative disputes resolution mechanisms (ADR).

The High Court of Delhi took the lead by establishing in the year 2009, the Delhi High Court Arbitration Centre [DAC] which is now called the Delhi International Arbitration Centre. DAC is a unique effort for facilitating ADR through arbitration by achieving the twin objectives of speedy justice with cost effectiveness as well as laying down foundation of Institutional arbitration in India. Its inauguration caught the attention of people across the world and all well known established international arbitration institutions.



Established within the precincts of the High Court of Delhi, with the state of art modern facilities, it provides efficient and neutral arbitration services to the global community. In order to fulfill this objective, a set of Rules have been framed, balancing and respecting the fundamental principles of party autonomy. The time and cost effectiveness is achieved at the Centre by the Advisory Committee comprising of trained legal professionals who monitor the entire process of arbitration from inception till the end. Adjournments are discouraged by way of pre-determined costs and proceedings are required to be completed in a set time frame. The information relating to the Centre is easily accessible through its website.

DAC includes four large modern and equipped arbitration halls, having enough room for parties as well as their representatives to participate in the proceedings. Prescribed fee slabs also control the cost. The DAC provides access to all without reservation. The Centre is not only organizing and providing services of the world-class arbitration facilities but also deliberates upon the subject by holding regular seminars.

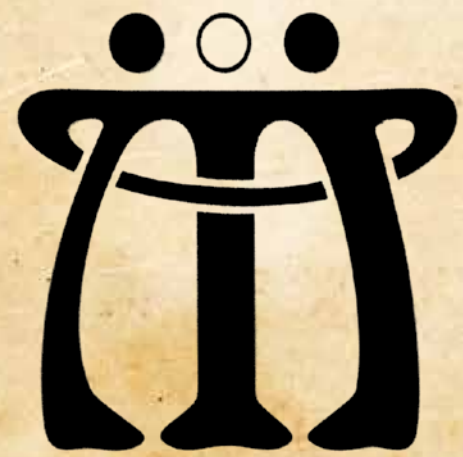


DAC is supervised by the Arbitration Committee constituted by the Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi, comprising Judges, members of the Bar, President of the Delhi High Court Bar Association and the Additional Solicitor General of India.

THE WAY FORWARD

Former Chief Justice Ajit Prakash Shah summed up the vision ahead in following excerpts of his speech delivered at the inauguration of the Centre on November 25, 2009:

"We dedicate the Centre in the service of the country, and the interested parties beyond our borders, with professional faith, that it would complement the efforts to turn the dream of speedy and inexpensive justice into a reality".

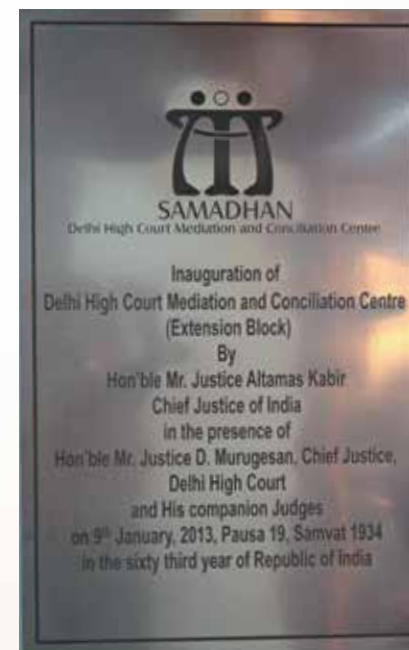


SAMADHAN

Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre

**DELHI HIGH COURT MEDIATION
AND CONCILIATION CENTRE
(SAMADHAN)**





SAMADHAN: DELHI HIGH COURT MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION CENTRE

In India, the concept of mediation is ancient and enshrined in our culture. Even the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi recommends it in his autobiography. Mediation is not only about reducing burden of litigation from the courts but also to create positive communication between the parties. The amendment of the Civil law in the year 1999 paved the way for such recourse available to litigants during the course of proceedings as also before the initiation of the same. High Court of Delhi true to its vision and repute of futuristic vision, was one of the first High Courts to embrace this initiative. The journey of the High Court of Delhi Mediation and Conciliation Centre began in the year 2006 with the idea mooted by the then Chief Justice of the Court, Justice Markandey Katju. The idea to start such a Centre within the Court to be run by members of the Bar was the first unique step towards its conceptualization.



Even the name of the Mediation Centre, “Samadhan” (resolution) appeals to people at large in understanding about the reason for its existence. The name and logo was formally launched by then Chief Justice of India, Justice K.G. Balakrishnan. Mediation Centre is run by the Bar and co-ordinated by an Overseeing Committee, supervised by a panel of Judges and lawyers nominated by the Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi. Therefore, from the perspective of its Constitution, Samadhan attempts not only to build bridges between disputants but also a first of its kind effort that cements collaboration between the Bar and the Bench to achieve justice through mediation.

What started off with 33 mediators has now grown to around 265 mediators and each mediator is handling more than 4-6 cases at a time.

The Centre started functioning from two small rooms on the ground floor of the Extension Block separated by a small reception area with hardly any place for advocates and parties to interact. With the growing popularity of mediation, and with the support of High Court of Delhi former Chief Justice Shri A.P Shah, it underwent an expansion, to seven state of the art mediation rooms and multi-purpose conference rooms. With a total of 13 mediation rooms, the waiting period for litigants has reduced considerably. Now mediation proceedings are being conducted through the day from 10:00 am to 09:00 pm.

Based on the outcome of the mediation effort, cases are categorized as - settlement, non-settlement or non-starters. The Mediation Centre of High Court of Delhi handles disputes - matrimonial, commercial, pre-litigation and intellectual property rights.

The category recording the highest settlement of cases is in the area of intellectual property rights, even taking up of cases at pre-litigation stage. The Delhi High Court Mediation Centre has an exemplary support of - Designated Senior Advocates as mediators acting pro bono, experienced mediators, child counsellors, family counsellors, marriage counsellors. The efforts put in by a mediator to resolve the dispute at times demands time beyond working hours or even sitting for long hours on holidays.

SUMMING UP THE VISION OF SAMADHAN

“The obligation of the legal professional is..... to serve as healers of human conflict.....we should provide mechanism that can provide acceptable result especially in shortest possible time with least possible extent and minimum stress on the participants.”

-Chief Justice of US Supreme Court Warren E. Burger



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E-JUSTICE

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Mural by Mr. Satish Gujral on the facade of Main Building, High Court of Delhi

E-JUSTICE

The Delhi High Court has been a pioneer in introducing path-breaking reforms in the area of computerisation of the functioning of the courts in many dimensions.

While the use of computers in the courts began in the 1990s, it was around 2001 that the use of the internet for the work of the courts and the development of the website of the Delhi High Court commenced. The website was completely revamped in 2006 and again in 2011. The website provides the real time information on various aspects, such as the display board, judgments, orders, status of certified copies, case history of each case, and so on. Apart from the cause list being electronically displayed on the website, over 3500 e-mails are sent to lawyers everyday with the complete cause list of the court. SMSs are also sent to the concerned advocates about the listing of the regular matters as also with regard to defects in filing and also listing of certain matters.

The screenshot shows the official website of the High Court of Delhi. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Print, Email, Bookmark, Text Size (A+, A, A-), and Select Theme. A search bar is also present. The main header features the High Court of Delhi logo and name. Below this is a horizontal menu with links: Home, History, Judges, Calendar, Multimedia Resources, e-Library, Registrars, Feedback, FAQs, and Links. The left sidebar contains a list of services: Judges' Roster, Display Board, Reports & Publications, Cause List, Nominated Counsel, List of Common Objections, Case Categorization, Notifications & Practice Directions, Case / Filing Status, Judgements, Orders, Certified Copies, Public Notices, Court Rules, RTI, Assets of Judges, and Case History. The main content area includes a large image of the court building, a 'Latest Announcement' section with links to 'Pronouncement of Judgment for 17.10.2016...' and 'Notice for postponement and revision/deletion of...', a 'Public Notice' section regarding the duty roster of officers during local holidays, and a 'Downloads' section. At the bottom, there are icons for Judgements, Cause List, e-Filing, and Virtual Tour. The footer contains the address: Registrar General, Delhi High Court, Sher Shah Road, New Delhi - 110503, and copyright information: Copyright © 2010. Delhi High Court. All Rights Reserved.

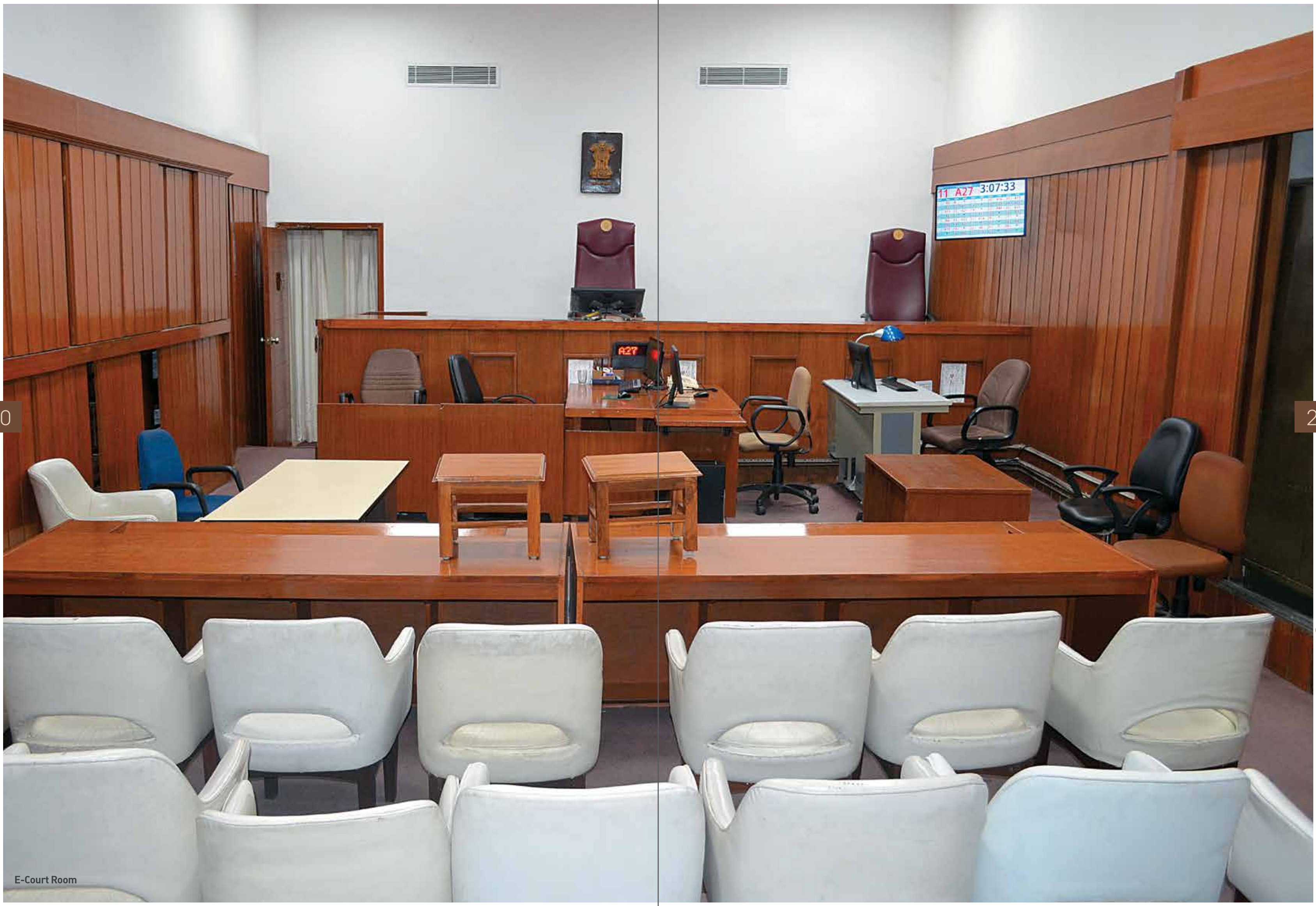
Digitisation of all case files, both disposed off and pending, began in September 2006. Till date over 13 crores pages of judicial records have been scanned and categorised with backup copies in hard disks, kept in three separate locations. This is complemented by a robust document management system. This has facilitated quick and easy access to court records during the time of inspection and at the time of issuing certified copies of documents and orders.

Digitisation of records and cases, both of decided cases and the pending matters, is not an end in itself because, ultimately, this would lead to considerable saving of recurrent costs in acquiring more and more space for the purpose of storage of records. The simultaneous destruction of the paper files that have been digitised, verified and digitally authenticated, has so far resulted in saving of space of approximately 35,000 square feet. As on date, over 6 lakh files and 6.5 crore pages have been weeded out.

The High Court opted for the state of the art 10 GBPS network in July 2009. The first paperless Court was inaugurated in December 2009. Today eleven judges use paperless courts. On the dais of the e-courts, a 21+ inch Wacom touch screen monitor with a digital pen is provided. The monitor itself is connected with a CPU in which is uploaded a software which enables the court, apart from accessing the cause list and the files of the concerned cases, the reported cases in published journals, like SCC, AIR, Manupatra, etc. as also the statutes. What this therefore means is that the Court Master does not have to hand over any paper to the Judge and everything is available either at the click of the mouse or the touch of the digital pen. The Microsoft One Note programme, which is available in the



E-Court Room



E-Court Room

Wacom monitor itself, enables the Judge to make handwritten notes on the digital screens with the digital pen just as he would using an ink pen on a paper. However, these notes are automatically saved and labelled to facilitate easy access to the Judge whenever that particular case is heard on a subsequent occasion. The Judge can also take copies of the case files and the notes for use on any other computer that the Judge uses-either in the chamber or at the residential office. These copies can be encrypted/password protected so that they are not accessed by anyone else.

To encourage lawyers to use soft copies of records while presenting their cases, the Court has been providing to them the soft copies of the digitised court record.



Computer Training and Portfolio Section

Electronic filing of cases was inaugurated on 25th October 2013 in the tax and Company jurisdiction. This was extended to arbitration cases in April 2015. Several months prior to making e-filing mandatory in these jurisdictions, the Court organised orientation sessions for lawyers to acquaint them with the user-friendly procedure designed by the Court's in-house technical team comprising experienced and highly qualified computer personnel.

In order that use of paper is minimised, if not completely eliminated in court cases, it was essential that the court fees on filings was also of an electronic form and not paper based. The Government of NCT of Delhi was requested for enabling the payment of electronic court



Computer Cell



Digitisation Room

fees and thereafter, the Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited was appointed by the State Government for providing electronic court fee. The first electronic court fee counter was opened in November 2012. Online facility of purchasing electronic court fee was also established subsequently on 22nd July 2013. This facility is available in the district courts in Delhi as well.

The format for process servers to prepare and upload reports electronically was changed to facilitate prompt availability of such reports in the courts. The time taken to effect service of summons has been considerably reduced with the introduction of Speed Post as well as approved courier services. It is now possible for the Registry to electronically download the proof of delivery. The process server's report is available to the court within 24 hours of the service of summons.



Video Conference Hall

Video recording of the evidence of the witnesses located at remote places is facilitated by state of the art video-conferencing facilities in the High Court premises. Guidelines have been framed for video conferencing both in the High Court as well as in the subordinate courts.

On the desktop computers of each of the Judges in the Chamber, a bouquet of information is made available exclusive to the Judge which can be accessed with a password. This includes news clippings, articles, information concerning subordinate judicial officers, the High Court Directory and so on.

E-KIOSKS

Gone are the days of cyber cafe and long queues for general enquires on the court matters. For convenience of litigants many kiosks have been installed at the prominent areas of High Court of Delhi through which the website of High Court of Delhi is accessible. The status of case filed, disposed of including case history, order sheets and judgments are accessible for the convenience of the litigants.



E-Kiosk

THE STATE OF THE ART MULTI-LEVEL PARKING



With the growth of the Bar, the requirement of car parking has increased in the High Court of Delhi. Although the parking space is available in underground area, surface parking and outside the Court, there was a need to design an upgraded system. The High Court of Delhi thus became the pioneer and one of the first high courts of India in creating a state of the art Multilevel Underground Automated Car Parking system. This was constructed under the supervision of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation. The work of the Multi level Car Parking commenced in 2009 and was completed in 2012. It has six levels of underground car parking with 20 lifts and 50 trolleys for facilitating automated parking by advocates, court staff and litigants. The parking space is disabled friendly and provide for surface parking of 50 cars for them and for automated transmission cars. The facility was inaugurated on May 30, 2012 by the then Chief Minister Smt. Shiela Dixit.





THE BAR AND ITS MEMBERS



DELHI HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION (DHCBA) - AN EDIFICE FOR DELHI HIGH COURT LAWYERS

Soon after the establishment of the High Court of Delhi in October 1966, the Delhi High Court Bar Association (DHCBA) was formed representing the lawyers, whose principal court of practice was the High Court of Delhi. Shri Gurbachan Singh Bawa was the first President of the Bar Association. The Bar Association is a very active and vibrant body. The Bar Association provides numerous facilities and manages the resources the disposal of its members to enhance their working condition, enabling them to perform better. The Bar Association also as a part of its functions, always espouses the rights of its members. From time to time organises various social functions as also seminars and workshops aimed at enhancing knowledge and skills. These functions also include welcome and farewell functions for Judges, blood donation camps, sports activities and Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations to name a few. By virtue of its membership, members get numerous other benefits. Through the process of election, the members of DHCBA duly elect the members to the executive committee. The body has its own executive committee to govern the affairs of the association. Since its inception, DHCBA has been forging ahead with stronger and greater representation and support from the lawyers, holding to its reputation for being one of the most efficient and esteemed lawyers' body. The current membership of Delhi High Court Bar Association is 15,500, which is stated to be one of the largest in the country.

PICTURES OF CURRENT DELHI HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES



Rajiv Khosla
President



Jatan Singh
Vice-President



Abhijat
Hony. Secretary



Ashutosh Lohia
Treasurer



Vikram Singh Panwar
Joint Secretary



Anoop Bagai
Designated Senior Member



Ashok Bhasin
Designated Senior Member



Aruna Tikur
Member Executive



Meghna Mital Sankhla
Lady Member Executive



Kaadambari Singh Puri
Member Executive



Kimmi Brara
Member Executive



Amit Sharma
Member Executive



Iaxmi Chauhan
Member Executive



Pankaj Kapoor
Member Executive



Sunil Mittal
Member Executive

PAST PRESIDENTS & SECRETARIES

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1962-63	SH. GURBACHAN SINGH	SH. DALIP K. KAPUR
1963-64	SH. R.S. NARULA	SH. DALIP K. KAPUR
1964-65	SH. HARDYAL HARDY	SH. M. K. CHAWLA
1965-66	SH. RADHEY LAL AGARWAL	SH. M. K. CHAWLA
1966-67	SH. S.N. SHANKAR	SH. YOGESHWAR DAYAL
1967-68	SH. D.D. CHAWLA	SH. R.L. TANDON
1968-69	SH. D.D. CHAWLA	SH. R.L. TANDON
1969-70	SH. RADHEY LAL AGARWAL	SH. DALJIT SINGH
1970-71	SH. D.D. CHAWLA	SH. H.S. DHIR
1971-72	SH. RADHEY LAL AGARWAL	SH. H.S. DHIR
1972-73	SH. S.L. BHATIA	SH. Y.K. SABHARWAL
1973-74	SH. P.L. VOHRA	SH. Y.K. SABHARWAL
1974-75	SH. P.L. VOHRA	SH. S.K. PURI
1975-76	SH. S.L. BHATIA	SH. S.K. PURI
1976-77	SH. P.N. LEKHI	SH. ARUN KUMAR
1977-78	SH. P.N. LEKHI	SH. ARUN KUMAR
1978-79	SH. S.L. BHATIA	SH. Y.K. SABHARWAL
1979-80	SH. S.L. BHATIA	SH. S.K. PURI
1980-81	SH. R.K. MAKHIJA	SH. S.K. PURI
1981-82	SH. R.K. MAKHIJA	SH. RAVINDER SETHI
1982-83	SH. D.C. MATHUR	SH. RAVINDER SETHI

PAST PRESIDENTS & SECRETARIES

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1983-84	SH. D.C. MATHUR	SH. S.K. PURI
1984-85	SH. Y.K. SABHARWAL	SH. S.K. PURI
1985-86	SH. Y.K. SABHARWAL	SH. RAVINDER SETHI
1986-88	SH. D.C. MATHUR	SH. RAVINDER SETHI
1988-89	SH. ARUN KUMAR	SH. R.K. WATEL
1989-90	SH. RAVINDER SETHI	SH. R.K. WATEL
1990-91	SH. D.C. MATHUR	SH. ALAKH KUMAR
1991-92	SH. P.N. LEKHI	SH. ALAKH KUMAR
1993-94	SH. P.N. LEKHI	SH. ASHOK KASHYAP
1994-95	SH. DINESH MATHUR	SH. ASHOK KASHYAP
1995-96	SH. P.N. LEKHI	SH. R.K. WATEL
1996-97	SH. V.K. MAKHIJA	SH. ALAKH KUMAR
1997-98	SH. V.K. MAKHIJA	SH. ANOOP BAGAI
1998-2000	SH. A.S. CHANDHIOK	SH. ANOOP BAGAI
2000-2002	SH. A.S. CHANDHIOK	SH. D.K. SHARMA
2002-2004	SH. D.C. MATHUR	SH. D.K. SHARMA
2004-2005	SH. A.S. CHANDHIOK	SH. KIRTI UPPAL
2005-2007	SH. A.S. CHANDHIOK	SH. KIRTI UPPAL
2007-2009	SH. K.C. MITTAL	SH. D.K. SHARMA
2009-2011	SH. A.S. CHANDHIOK	SH. D.K. SHARMA
2011-2014	SH. A.S. CHANDHIOK	SH. MOHIT MATHUR



THE LAWYERS' CHAMBERS AND OTHER FACILITIES

The Lawyers' Chamber blocks are spread across three buildings. Each Block can see the hustle bustle of prospective and existing litigants and lawyers. Block-I since 1980 comprises 275 Chambers and the Annexe to the Block has 54 Chambers, added in the year 2001. Block II was added in the year 2003 and has 96 Chambers while Block III added in the year 2009, consists of 84 Chambers. Further expansion plans are underway, foundation of which has already been laid and construction of some parts is in progress. Presently, the total number of Advocates enrolled are 15,500. Adjacent to the Lawyers' Chambers are essential facilities like a Canteen, Stationery Shop, Post Office, Railway Ticket Booking Counter and a Nationalized Bank.



THE LAWYER'S LIBRARY

The Delhi High Court Bar Association Library is fully computerized and subscribes to about 52 Indian and foreign journals, both academic and reported judgements of various courts. For rapid retrieval of information, the Library has subscribed to many electronic data bases on law specific matters, such as SCC, AIR, DLT, PTC, CPJ, legal eagle etc. The Library has also developed an indigenous Legal database of articles, books and legislative material to provide comprehensive and rapid information services. Foreign Case law and other legal information is readily provided through the use of internet.





MEDICAL FACILITY

The fabric of modern architecture of High Court of Delhi is a full-fledged system in itself, which includes- stationary shops, banks, railway reservation center, post offices and the medical health care unit. The medical healthcare facility meant for the benefit of the visiting public, lawyers and staff of the Court, judicial fraternity is operational from 09:00 AM to 03:00 PM. The emergency services of this dispensary are functional till 08:00 PM. It was established by the Delhi Government on the recommendation of the High Court of Delhi in the year 1994. Delhi Government established this health care unit initially with a doctor, a pharmacist and a nurse. With the passage of time, the healthcare unit has grown up into a full-fledged medical unit incorporating the diagnostic tests, dental treatment facilities and with a provision for visit by consulting specialists. In the year 1999, the facility underwent a second expansion adding to it a facility of pathological/clinical tests, ancillary staff, dental and eye care, ENT and physiotherapy units. The alternative systems of medicines especially Homeopathy and Ayurvedic treatments are also available within the unit. The present day system is a mini state of art Medical Centre comprising basement, ground and first floor catering to health care needs of the beneficiaries including their families. One thing that needs special mention about this unit especially in the Golden jubilee year of the High Court of Delhi, is the role played by the healthcare unit in providing First Aid during the unfortunate bomb blast on September 7, 2011, which helped save many lives.

- **General and Outpatient facilities held daily (Monday to Saturday). It has services of physicians, including one senior doctor.**
- **Dental OPD has diagnostic facilities and is held everyday.**
- **Physiotherapy, Pathology, ECG, Ultrasound, Consulting Specialist visiting the unit. This includes ENT specialist, gynecologist, pediatrician, cardiologist, orthopedician, eye specialist and the dietitian.**

GENDER EMPOWERMENT



Justice Leila Seth



PIONEERING GENDER EMPOWERMENT

The High Court of Delhi has burgeoned as one of the most impactful courts in the country as a cosmopolitan, gender sensitized Court. Headed by a lady Chief Justice, Justice G. Rohini, the Court has a strength of maximum number of lady judges gracing the Courts and has the largest pool of lady lawyers in the country. The High Court of Delhi has set an example for other judicial and administrative establishments in the Country for its gender empowering atmosphere. The first ever lady Chief Justice of a High Court, Justice Leila Seth, (who served as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court) was elevated to the High Court of Delhi. She was the first lady lawyer to be designated as a Senior Advocate by

the Supreme Court in the year 1977. She was involved in the efforts which led to the passing of the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act 2005 ensuring that daughters have equal rights to joint family property. From 1950 to November 2015 only six women Judges have been elevated to the Supreme Court. There are just 62 (9.2 per cent) women Judges compared to 611 male Judges in all High Courts of the country taken together. In twenty four State High Courts, nine High Courts do not have a single woman Judge. Three High Courts have only one woman Judge. As compared to this, the High Court of Delhi has ten lady Judges at present, comprising 30% of the total current working strength which is 34.

HIGH COURT OF DELHI'S EXPANSIVE EVER GROWING JURISDICTION

The High Court of Delhi is unique as it exercises jurisdiction over the Union Territory of Delhi. Several cases which come up for consideration before it, involve important policy and legislative measures of the Central Government as well as the Delhi Government. The Court has multiple jurisdictions – Appellate, Original, Revisional, Tax and Writ. Initially, the pecuniary Original Civil Jurisdiction of the High Court was above Rs.25,000/- which was enhanced from time to time and the present pecuniary Original Civil Jurisdiction is above Rs.2,00,00,000/- (two crores) w.e.f. October 26, 2015 vide High Court (Amendment) Act, 2015. The pecuniary jurisdiction in commercial cases is above Rs.1,00,00,000/- (one crore) with the effect with the enactment of the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015 with effect from October 23, 2015.

The profile of litigation is diverse. Important public interest litigation which concerns not only Delhi but national issues as well are being increasingly heard and decided by the Court. In view of this diversity, the Supreme Court occasionally “centralizes” cases filed in other High Courts on common questions of law – be it taxation, intellectual property or any other field of law which need to be decided conclusively, by transferring them to the High Court of

Delhi for a common judgment. This process speeds up judgment delivery and avoids conflicting judgments of various High Courts.

The High Court of Delhi has had the privilege of contributing 27 illustrious judges, including the first three judges, to the Supreme Court (out of the 27 Judges, 12 were originally appointed as Judges of High Court of Delhi while 15 became Judges of this Court on transfer from other High Courts). Four Judges, Mr. Justice B.N. Kirpal, Mr. Justice R.C. Lahoti, Mr. Justice Y.K. Sabharwal and Mr. Justice T.S. Thakur, became Chief Justice of India and one Judge Mr. Justice Dalveer Bhandari was elected to the International Court of Justice at the Hague. On April 21, 2014, Ms. Justice G. Rohini became the 29th Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi.

Since its beginnings in 1966, the court has clearly witnessed a rapid, unparalled expansion in its horizons. Initially formed with 4 Judges on its rolls, Chief Justice K.S. Hegde, Justice I.D. Dua, Justice H.R. Khanna and Justice S.K. Kapur. The sanctioned strength of the Judges of the High Court of Delhi currently is 45 permanent and 15 additional. The staff of the High Court of Delhi, which is an equal contributor towards its legacy, stands strong at 2266 (working strength 1716) as against the original sanctioned strength of 204 in 1966.

EXPANSION OF THE DISTRICT JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI

The Administrative jurisdiction of the High Court of Delhi has also grown by leaps and bounds in recent years. Earlier being the Administrative Court over the Tis Hazari and Patiala House Courts (the only district courts in Delhi), the administrative jurisdiction of the High Court of Delhi has also grown manifold.

Delhi is now divided into eleven Judicial Districts with six Court Complexes at Tis Hazari, Patiala House, Karkardooma, Rohini, Dwarka and Saket. These courts strive to provide access and services to all Court Users in a fair, consistent and timely manner. They are committed to resolving civil, family, criminal and other matters fairly and efficiently, in accordance with law. The District Courts are also responsible for effectively allocating resources to implement the administrative mandate of the High Court of Delhi.

TIS HAZARI COURTS COMPLEX



The oldest District Courts Complex in Delhi. The construction of Tis Hazari Courts building commenced in the year 1953 and was completed in the year 1958 at a cost of `85 lakhs. It was inaugurated on March 19, 1958 by Chief Justice A.N.Bhandari of the Punjab High Court. Currently, the courts of the Central and West Districts in Delhi function from the Tis Hazari Courts Complex.

PATIALA HOUSE COURTS COMPLEX



After the Delhi High Court shifted to the present premises at Sher Shah Suri Marg, Criminal Courts functioning at Parliament Street were shifted to Patiala House complex in the year 1977. Later on, Civil Courts also started functioning from Patiala House. Currently, the courts of the New Delhi District in Delhi function from the Patiala House Courts Complex.

KARKARDOOMA COURTS COMPLEX



The Karkardooma Courts Complex was inaugurated on May 15, 1993 and the courts functioning at Shahdara were shifted there. Currently, the courts of the Shahdara, East and North-East Districts in Delhi function from the Karkardooma Courts Complex. Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals also function from the Karkardooma Courts Complex.

ROHINI COURTS COMPLEX



The building of the Rohini Courts Complex was completed in the year 2005. Currently, the courts of the North and North-West Districts in Delhi function from the Rohini Courts Complex.

DWARKA COURTS COMPLEX



The building of the Dwarka Courts Complex was completed in the year 2008. Currently, the courts of the South-West Districts in Delhi function from the Dwarka Courts Complex.

SAKET COURTS COMPLEX



The Saket Courts Complex started functioning from August 28, 2010. Currently, the courts of the South and South-East Districts in Delhi function from the Saket Courts Complex.

THE SILKS

In the High Court of Delhi, not only does a lawyer desirous of being designated as a Senior Advocate, has to have a minimum practice of 10 years but also in the three years preceding the application, must have argued as a lead counsel in the matters where the Court has delivered at least 15 judgments. In addition thereto, 5 Senior Advocates, who have been designated previously by the Delhi High Court and have a minimum standing of 5 years as Senior Advocate, must also recommend the lawyer, so desirous of applying for Senior Advocate. In all, in the 50 years of existence of the Delhi High Court, only 225 lawyers have been designated as Senior Advocates, which include female Senior Advocates as well. Mrs. Shyamalal Pappu was the first woman to be designated as Senior Advocate by the High Court of Delhi while Mr. Dahvavalkal Valliwhi Patil, was the first designated Senior Advocate of the Court.

By virtue of Section 16(2) of the Advocates' Act, 1961, an Advocate, who in the opinion of the Supreme Court or a High Court, is entitled to be designated as a Senior Advocate, by virtue of his ability, is so designated.

The conferring of this distinction flows from the British tradition where a lawyer who has obtained a high reputation, is appointed by the Queen (on the suggestion of the Lord Chancellor) to be one of "Her Majesty's Counsel", learned in the law (Queen's Counsel for short).

As Queen's Counsel, upon conferment, the Counsel wear silk gowns. The earning of this distinction is also known as "talking silk" and the Queen's Counsel are informally referred to as "Silks" of the Indian Court.

One of the privileges of being a designated Senior Advocate is that the Senior does not take any direct instructions from clients, but is instructed by other Advocates to lead him or her, during arguments of a particular case, in the Court.

LIST OF DESIGNATED SENIOR ADVOCATES

S.N	NAMES	PERIOD	S.N	NAMES	PERIOD
1	DAHVALKAL VALLIWHI PATIL	20.12.1969	38	S. WATEL	13.12.1985
2	O. P. MALHOTRA	31.12.1969	39	P. C. KHANNA	28.05.1986
3	DEEPAK DUTTA CHAUDHARY	27.02.1970	40	A. K. GANGULI	07.08.1986
4	MRS. SHYAMLHA PAPPU	26.03.1971	41	D. K. KAPUR	27.08.1986
5	S. L. SETHI	26.03.1971	42	BAWA SHIV CHARAN SINGH	29.11.1986
6	M. C. BHANDARE	26.03.1971	43	R. K. ANAND	31.01.1987
7	D. D. CHAWLA	23.04.1971	44	MOHAN LAL VARMA	30.01.1987
8	FRANK ANTHONY	03.11.1971	45	V. P. SINGH	29.02.1988
9	G. S. VOHRA	17.12.1971	46	P. P. MALHOTRA	23.09.1988
10	S. L. BATRA	24.01.1972	47	D. K. AGARWAL	29.04.1989
11	S. N. MARWAHA	04.04.1972	48	ARUN JAITLEY	19.01.1990
12	T. R. BHASIN	21.04.1972	49	VIRESH PRATAP CHAUDHRY	03.02.1990
13	G. C. SHARMA	21.04.1972	50	C. R. SOMASEKHERAN	19.05.1990
14	DR. ANAND PARKASH	02.11.1973	51	DINESH MATHUR	19.05.1990
15	RUSTOM M. MEHTA	26.11.1973	52	RAVINDER SETHI	19.05.1990
16	BHAGWAT DAYAL	14.02.1974	53	J. C. BATRA	19.05.1990
17	S. N. CHOPRA	11.11.1974	54	K. N. KATARIA	19.05.1990
18	K. L. ARORA	22.11.1975	55	DALJIT SINGH	19.05.1990
19	S. C. MALIK	08.03.1977	56	B. R. HANDA	19.05.1990
20	P. N. LEKHI	27.04.1977	57	J. S. BALI	22.09.1990
21	K. C. GUPTA	04.08.1977	58	R. P. BANSAL	22.09.1990
22	L. R. GUPTA	16.11.1977	59	P. B. MENON	22.09.1990
23	R. K. MAKHIJA	06.08.1978	60	M. CHANDRASEKHARAN	24.11.1990
24	KESHAV DAYAL	20.07.1978	61	RAMESH CHANDRA	06.05.1991
25	S. K. GUPTA	19.05.1980	62	VIJENDER JAIN	06.05.1991
26	K. S. BINDRA	19.08.1981	63	ISHWAR SAHAI	06.05.1991
27	ARUN MOHAN	23.02.1982	64	A. N. PAREEKH	26.10.1991
28	K. K. LUTHRA	02.03.1983	65	SATYA PRAKASH AGGARWAL	30.11.1991
29	B. DATTA	13.04.1983	66	S. K. BAGGA	30.11.1991
30	KAPIL SIBAL	08.11.1983	67	N. S. DAS BHAL	25.01.1992
31	ANIL DEV SINGH	08.11.1983	68	HARISH N. SALVE	25.01.1992
32	S. K. DHOLAKIA	02.11.1984	69	A. N. HAKSAR	28.03.1992
33	NARENDER SINGH SISTANI	19.11.1984	70	C. S. VAIDYANATHAN	28.03.1992
34	A. B. SAHARYA	19.11.1984	71	RAJIVE SAWHNEY	28.03.1992
35	O. P. VAISH	15.03.1985	72	M. N. KRISHNAMANI	28.03.1992
36	R. K. P. SHANKARDASS	19.04.1985	73	YOGESH K. JAIN	23.05.1992
37	N. C. SIKRI	13.12.1985	74	P. V. KAPUR	23.05.1992

LIST OF DESIGNATED SENIOR ADVOCATES

S.N	NAMES	PERIOD	S.N	NAMES	PERIOD
75	MUKUL ROHATGI	22.05.1993	113	ADARSH B. DIAL	24.11.2001
76	S. D. BAJAJ	22.05.1993	114	G. D. GUPTA	16.03.2002
77	MADAN BHATIA	22.05.1993	115	S. P. KALRA	16.03.2002
78	ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI	22.05.1993	116	H. L. TIKU	16.03.2002
79	RAJ BIRBAL	24.07.1993	117	NEERAJ K. KAUL	20.07.2002
80	E. X. JOSEPH	25.09.1993	118	Y. P. NARULA	20.07.2002
81	SWATANTER KUMAR	22.01.1994	119	MAHESHWAR DAYAL	01.08.2002
82	MUNI LAL	19.03.1994	120	B. B. SAWHNEY	21.09.2002
83	SUDERSHAN KUMAR MISRA	23.07.1994	121	CHETAN SHARMA	25.10.2002
84	ASHOK GROVER	23.03.1996	122	JAYANT BHUSHAN	18.01.2003
85	V. K. MAKHIJA	30.11.1996	123	MANMOHAN	18.01.2003
86	MADAN B. LOKUR	17.05.1997	124	SANDEEP SETHI	19.05.2004
87	RAJIV NAYAR	17.05.1997	125	C. S. AGGARWAL	19.05.2004
88	A. K. SIKRI	30.09.1997	126	A. K. SINGLA	10.09.2005
89	O. P. DUA	19.09.1998	127	AMIT SINGH CHADHA	10.09.2005
90	S. B. JAISINGHANI	08.10.1999	128	HARJINDER SINGH	10.09.2005
91	H. S. PHOOLKA	03.11.1999	129	HARISH MALHOTRA	10.09.2005
92	M. S. SYALI	03.11.1999	130	RAVI KANT CHADHA	10.09.2005
93	JUGAL KISHORE SETH	03.11.1999	131	ASHWINI KUMAR MATA	10.09.2005
94	K. K. SUD	03.11.1999	132	AMAN LEKHI	10.09.2005
95	A. S. CHANDHIK	03.11.1999	133	R. N. MITTAL	19.11.2005
96	O. N. VOHRA	03.11.1999	134	G. L. RAWAL	19.11.2005
97	S. K. TANEJA	18.12.1999	135	VIPIN SANGHI	08.12.2005
98	SANJAY KISHAN KAUL	18.12.1999	136	RAJIV SHAKDHER	08.12.2005
99	VINAY BHASIN	18.12.1999	137	SANJAY JAIN	08.12.2005
100	S. S. GANDHI	18.12.1999	138	JUSTICE R. N. SAHAY	21.04.2006
101	V. B. ANDLEY	22.01.2000	139	ASHOK BHASIN	20.05.2006
102	PARAG P. TRIPATHI	22.01.2000	140	JAYANT NATH	20.05.2006
103	U. K. CHAUDHARY	25.03.2000	141	I. U. KHAN	20.05.2006
104	P. P. KHURANA	28.04.2000	142	SIDDHARTH MRIDUL	20.05.2006
105	JAGMOHAN SABHARWAL	20.05.2000	143	T. K. GANJU	22.07.2006
106	S. N. BHANDARI	23.09.2000	144	ARUN BHARDWAJ	22.07.2006
107	KAILASH VASDEV	25.11.2000	145	RAKESH KUMAR KHANNA	22.07.2006
108	RAKESH MUNJAL	20.01.2001	146	V. SHEKHAR	18.11.2006
109	SURINDER K. PURI	17.02.2001	147	DAVINDER SINGH	18.11.2006
110	K. B. ANDLAY	24.03.2001	148	K. K. RAI	07.03.2007
111	R. D. AGRAWALA	21.04.2001	149	ANIL K. KHER	21.04.2007
112	VALMIKI MEHTA	22.09.2001	150	BISHWAJIT BHATTACHARYYA	21.04.2007

LIST OF DESIGNATED SENIOR ADVOCATES

S.N	NAMES	PERIOD	S.N	NAMES	PERIOD
151	MS. CHANDERMANI CHOPRA	18.05.2007	189	SANJAY PODDAR	28.07.2011
152	SIDHARTH LUTHRA	21.07.2007	190	S. K. RUNGTA	28.07.2011
153	J. P. SENH	05.03.2008	191	KIRTI UPPAL	28.07.2011
154	RAMJI SRINIVASAN	05.03.2008	192	MS. REBECCA M. JOHN	26.02.2013
155	SUDHIR NANDRAJOG	19.03.2009	193	JOY BASU	26.02.2013
156	O. S. BAJPAI	19.03.2009	194	N. HARIHARAN	26.02.2013
157	RAJEEVE MEHRA	19.03.2009	195	MS. MANINDER ACHARYA	26.02.2013
158	ANOOP BAGAI	19.03.2009	196	SANJEEV SINDHWANI	26.02.2013
159	RAMESH GUPTA	19.03.2009	197	MRS. PRATHIBA M. SINGH	16.12.2013
160	ATUL YESHWANT CHITALE	19.03.2009	198	DAYAN KRISHNAN	06.02.2014
161	ARVIND K. NIGAM	19.03.2009	199	ANUP J. BHAMBHANI	06.02.2014
162	K. K. SHARMA	19.08.2009	200	AMIT SIBAL	06.02.2014
163	RAVI GUPTA	19.08.2009	201	AJAY VOHRA	20.08.2014
164	RAJEEV KR. VIRMANI	19.08.2009	202	MANOJ KUMAR OHRI	20.08.2014
165	RAJ PANJWANI	19.08.2009	203	SANJEEV SABHARWAL	20.08.2014
166	VIRENDER GANDA	15.01.2010	204	SACHIN DATTA	20.08.2014
167	G. D. GOEL	15.01.2010	205	VINAY KUMAR GARG	20.08.2014
168	V. K. RAO	15.01.2010	206	RAVI SIKRI	20.08.2014
169	ANIL SAPRA	15.01.2010	207	C. HARI SHANKAR	20.08.2014
170	A. P. S. AHLUWALIA	28.07.2010	208	MUKUL TALWAR	29.04.2015
171	SUDHANSHU BATRA	28.07.2010	209	VIVEK SOOD	29.04.2015
172	MUKUL GUPTA	28.07.2010	210	MOHIT MATHUR	29.04.2015
173	MEET MALHOTRA	28.07.2010	211	BALBIR SINGH	29.04.2015
174	ABHINAV VASISHT	27.01.2011	212	K. K. MANAN	29.04.2015
175	PRADEEP DEWAN	27.01.2011	213	MS. REKHA PALLI	29.04.2015
176	DEEPTI SINGH NARULA	27.01.2011	214	AJAY BURMAN	18.04.2016
177	AJAY KAPUR	27.01.2011	215	ARUN KUMAR VARMA	18.04.2016
178	SURESH C. LADI	27.01.2011	216	BRIJ BHUSHAN GUPTA	18.04.2016
179	SUHAIL DUTT	27.01.2011	217	SANAT KUMAR	18.04.2016
180	ATUL NANDA	27.01.2011	218	ARUN KATHPALIA	18.04.2016
181	RAKESH TIKU	27.01.2011	219	N. GANPATHY	18.04.2016
182	MS. JYOTI SINGH	27.01.2011	220	SUDHIR KUMAR MAKKAR	18.04.2016
183	MS. PREM LATA BANSAL	27.01.2011	221	ANIL K. AIRI	18.04.2016
184	VIBHU BAKHRU	28.07.2011	222	SUNIL MITTAL	18.04.2016
185	RAMAN KAPUR	28.07.2011	223	SATISH TAMTA	18.04.2016
186	DINESH AGNANI	28.07.2011	224	SACCHIN PURI	18.04.2016
187	SANJEEV SACHDEVA	28.07.2011	225	P. D. GUPTA	18.04.2016
188	VIKAS PAHWA	28.07.2011			



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237

OUR "SUPER SENIORS"

A very special mention in the 50th year celebrations of the High Court of Delhi has to be that of the "Super Seniors" who have walked the entire journey of 50 years with this Court from the time it was established in October, 1966 till date. Fragile with age, wrinkled faces, but with years of wisdom, experienced legal acumen and the inherent grit of a lawyer, these old vanguards are the pride of the High Court of Delhi. Most of the "Super Seniors" still visit the court and very enthusiastically share the memories of their illustrious careers. Their remembrances takes one down the lane of several untold stories about Delhi and the legal profession as it has unfolded and developed over the years. It is a profession of learning skills of practice from seniors and the tradition still continues. With the High Court of Delhi completing 50 years, we express our deep regard and gratitude to our "Super Seniors" who have been co-travellers with the High Court of Delhi in its journey through these 50 Golden years.



HIGH COURT OF DELHI

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF JUSTICE

50 YEARS OF PRACTICE AT HIGH COURT OF DELHI

1	AHLUWALIA S.P.	D/115/1966
2	JETLY VIJAY KISHAN	D/18/1965
3	BANERJEE BHAWANI SHANKAR	D/6/1965
4	BANSAL PURAN CHAND	D/113/1965
5	BERI RAMESH CHANDER	D/116/1965
6	BHATIA DHARAM PAUL	D/31/1965
7	CHAWLA KULDEEP RAI	D/88/1965
8	CHAWLA M.R.	D/106/1965
9	CHAWLA SATISH CHANDER	D/69/1965
10	DUTTA M.S.	D/150-B/1965
11	GELLOT JAGDISH SINGH	D/162/1965
12	GOVIL VIJAY KUMAR	D/91/1965
13	JAIN JAGDISH LAL	D/62/1965
14	KALRA MANMOHAN	D/110/1965
15	MITTAL A.C.	D/37/1965
16	MITTAL R.N. (SR. ADVOCATE)	D/118/1965
17	MATHUR DINESH, SR. ADV.	D/136/1964
18	MEHNDROO ARJAN DEV	D/161/1964
19	SHARMA HARI KRISHAN	D/70/1964
20	TANEJA SURENDER KUMAR, SR	D/158/1964
21	VARMA ANJALI K.	D/78/1964
22	AGGARWAL V.K.	D/171-C/1963
23	ARVIND KUMAR	D/171-E/1963
24	BATRA B.D.	D/117/1963
25	CHECHI L.C.	D/114-A/1963
26	GULATI A.C.	D/23/1963
27	GUPTA BHAGWAT PARSHAD	D/51/1963
28	KALRA S.P.	D/58/1963
29	KOURA V.N.	D/94/1963
30	MALVIYA O.P.	D/86/1963
31	MISRA P.C.	D/5/1963
32	PAHUJA V. D.	D/138/1963
33	PURI SURINDER KUMAR, SR.	D/26/1963
34	AGGARWAL C.S., SR.	D/NA-35/1962
35	BAGGA SUDERSHAN KUMAR (SR. ADVOCATE)	D/110-A/1962
36	BAHRI VIPIN CHANDER	D/326-B/1962
37	BANSAL KRISHAN GOPAL	D/420/1962
38	BHALLA SUSHIL KUMAR	D/115/1962
39	BHARGAVA MANOHAR LAL	D/484/1962
40	BHATLA BALDEV RAJ	D/279/1962
41	BHUCHAR K K	D/412/1962
42	BINDRA SURINDER SINGH	D/59/1962
43	CHAWLA R.C.	D/94/1962
44	CHOPRA CHANDER MANI, SR.	D/221/1962
45	DAVINDER SINGH, SR. ADV.	D/499/1962
46	DEWAN VED PRAKASH	D/418/1962
47	DHALL HARISH CHANDER	D/366/1962

50 YEARS OF PRACTICE AT HIGH COURT OF DELHI

48	GUPTA KULWANT RAI	D/103/1962
49	GUPTA RAM PRAKASH	D/440/1962
50	GUPTA SATYA PRAKASH	D/39/1962
51	GURDIAL SINGH	D/22/1962
52	HANDA B.R., SR.	D/56-A/1962
53	KAPUR HARDEV LAL	D/99-B/1962
54	KAUSHAL K.D.	D/502-A/1962
55	LAO R.P.	D/253/1962
56	MANBIR SINGH	D/444/1962
57	MANGLA MOHAN LAL	D/381/1962
58	MATHUR SHIVA RAJ B.	D/296/1962
59	MEHANDRU P.S.	D/97/1962
60	MINOCHA OM PARKASH	D/171/1962
61	MINOCHA S.P.	D/306/1962
62	RAWAL G.L. (SR. ADVOCATE)	D/29/1962
63	SALUJA S.S.	D/335/1962
64	SHARMA O.P.	D/11/1962
65	SRIVASTAVA M.L.	D/2-A/1962
66	SUD K.K. (SR. ADVOCATE)	D/1-C/1962
67	SURI SHASHI MOHAN	D/415-E/1962
68	VERMA MAKHAN LAL	D/446/1962
69	WAZIR SINGH	D/180/1962
70	SHANKARDASS R.K.P. (SR. ADVOCATE)	D/24/1961
71	KATARIA K.N. (SR.)	D/41/1960
72	MONGA PREM NATH	D/35/1960
73	OBEROI CHANDER MOHAN	D/21/1960
74	ANANTHRAMAN K.T.	D/32-G/1959
75	ARYA KRISHAN LAL	D/1/1959
76	GUPTA A.P.	D/53/1959
77	KOHLI RAJINDER LAL	D/33/1959
78	MEHRA S.K.	D/32/1959
79	ADLAKHA L.D.	D/4/1958
80	AGARWAL D.K., SR.	D/13/1958
81	BAKSHI BIKRAM SINGH	D/1/1958
82	DALJIT SINGH, SR. ADV.	D/15-A/1958
83	DHAWAN RAJINDER	D/46/1958
84	KHANDELWAL PREM SHANKER	D/11/1958
85	KHANNA S.K.	D/22-A/1958
86	RAMESH CHANDRA, SR.	D/29/1958
87	SEHGAL ABNASH CHANDER	D/40/1958
88	GOSWAMY B.N.	D/17/1957
89	KESHAV DAYAL, SR.	D/25/1956
90	AJIT SINGH	D/21/1955
91	THADANI D.R.	D/2/1952
92	SHYAM KISHORE	D/10/1948
93	JAIN MUNI LAL	D/40-B/1945



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HIGH COURT OF DELHI

WHEN THE COURT SMILED

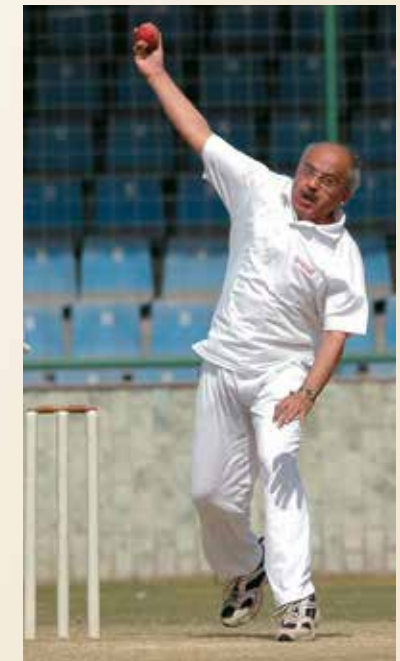
241

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF JUSTICE



CRICKET IS OUR RELIGION!!

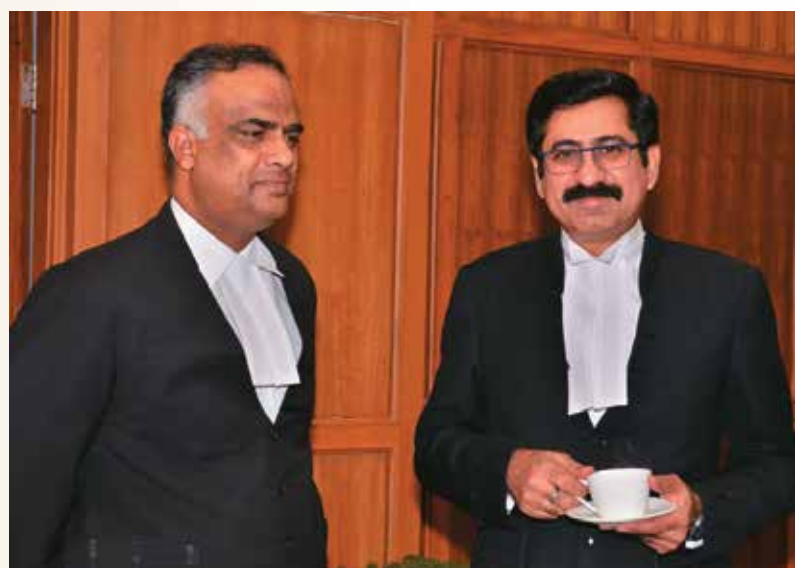
















184
MS. JUSTICE G. ROHINI
Chief Justice

Appointed as Additional Judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on 25.06.2001 and Permanent Judge on 31.07.2002. Appointed as Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 21.04.2014.



190
MS. JUSTICE INDIRA BANERJEE

Appointed as Permanent Judge of Calcutta High Court w.e.f. 05.02.2002 and transferred to High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 08.08.2016.



123
MR. JUSTICE BADAR DURREZ AHMED

Appointed as Additional Judge of the High Court of Delhi on 20.12.2002 and Permanent Judge on 21.01.2004. Appointed as the Acting Chief Justice w.e.f. 10.06.2013 to 02.09.2013 and w.e.f. 17.02.2014 to 20.04.2014.



124
MR. JUSTICE PRADEEP NANDRAJOG

Appointed as Additional Judge on 20.12.2002 and Permanent Judge on 16.04.2004.



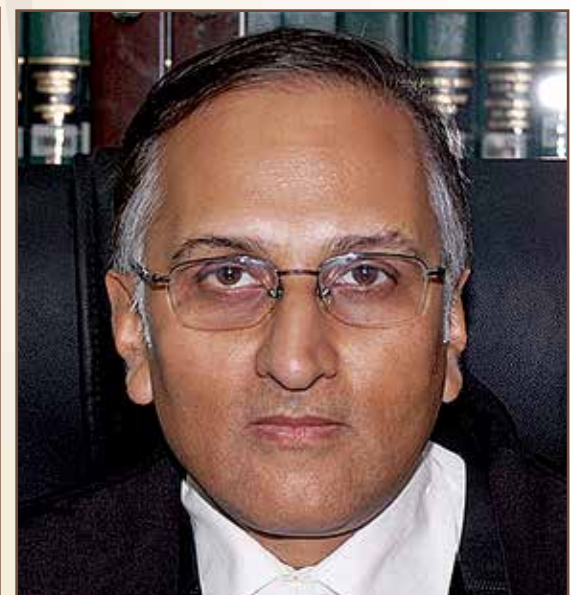
130
MS. JUSTICE GITA MITTAL

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 16.07.2004 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 20.02.2006.



133
MR. JUSTICE SANJIV KHANNA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 24.06.2005 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 20.02.2006.



131
MR. JUSTICE S. RAVINDRA BHAT

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 16.07.2004 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 20.02.2006.



142
MR. JUSTICE G.S. SISTANI

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 29.05.2006 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 29.08.2007.



143
DR. JUSTICE S. MURALIDHAR

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 29.05.2006 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 29.08.2007.



145
MR. JUSTICE VIPIN SANGHI

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 29.05.2006 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 11.02.2008.



144
MS. JUSTICE HIMA KOHLI

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 29.05.2006 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 29.08.2007.



150
MR. JUSTICE SIDDHARTH MRIDUL

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 13.03.2008 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 26.05.2009.



151
MR. JUSTICE MANMOHAN

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 13.03.2008 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 17.12.2009.



155
MR. JUSTICE J.R. MIDHA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 11.04.2008 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 06.07.2011.



154
MR. JUSTICE RAJIV SAHAI ENDLAW

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 11.04.2008 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 06.07.2011.



157
MR. JUSTICE SUNIL GAUR

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 11.04.2008 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 11.04.2012.



161
MR. JUSTICE VALMIKI J. MEHTA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 15.04.2009 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 12.04.2013.



166
MR. JUSTICE A.K. PATHAK

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 14.05.2009 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 05.09.2013.



165
MS. JUSTICE INDERMEET KAUR

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 14.05.2009 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 12.04.2013.



167
MS. JUSTICE MUKTA GUPTA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 23.10.2009 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 29.05.2014.



172
MS. JUSTICE PRATIBHA RANI

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.10.2011 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 16.10.2014.



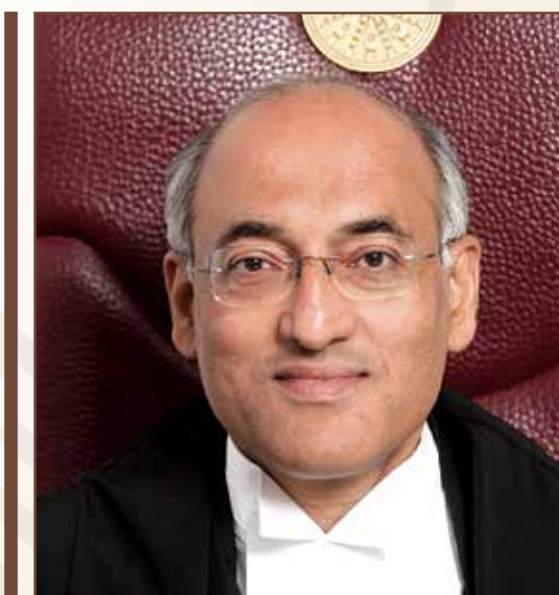
175
MR. JUSTICE JAYANT NATH

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.04.2013 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 18.03.2015.



173
MR. JUSTICE S.P. GARG

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.10.2011 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 16.10.2014.



176
MR. JUSTICE NAJMI WAZIRI

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.04.2013 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 18.03.2015.



177
MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV SACHDEVA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.04.2013 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 18.03.2015.



179
MR. JUSTICE V. KAMESWAR RAO

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.04.2013 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 18.03.2015.



178
MR. JUSTICE VIBHU BAKHRU

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.04.2013 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 18.03.2015.



180
MS. JUSTICE SUNITA GUPTA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.04.2013 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 18.03.2015.



181
MS. JUSTICE DEEPA SHARMA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 17.04.2013 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 18.03.2015.



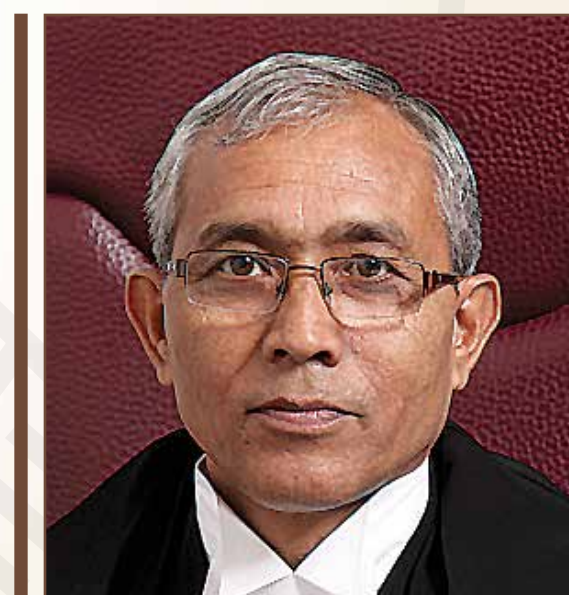
185
MR. JUSTICE P.S. TEJI

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 15.12.2014 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 02.06.2016.



189
MR. JUSTICE ASHUTOSH KUMAR

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 15.05.2014 and transferred to High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 07.01.2015. Appointed as Permanent Judge w.e.f. 21.04.2016.



186
MR. JUSTICE I.S. MEHTA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 15.12.2014 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 02.06.2016.



187
MR. JUSTICE R.K. GAUBA

Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 15.12.2014 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 02.06.2016.



188
MS. JUSTICE SANGITA DHINGRA SEHGAL

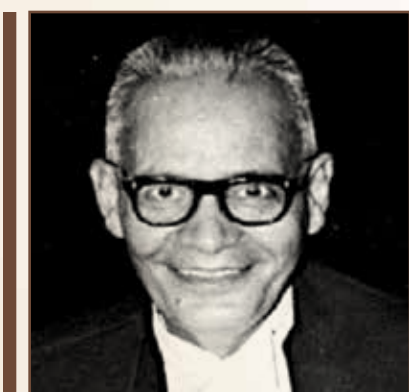
Appointed as Additional Judge w.e.f. 15.12.2014 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 02.06.2016.

JUDGES ELEVATED TO THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA



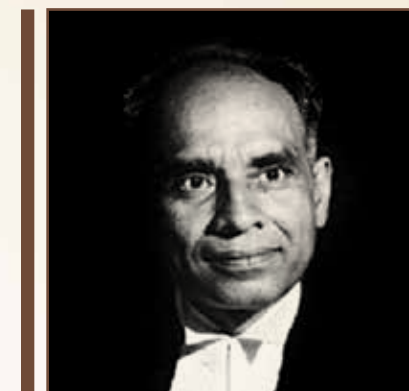
JUSTICE K.S. HEGDE

Judge, High Court of Mysore from 26.08.1957 to 30.10.1966; Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi from 31.10.1966 to 16.07.1967; Judge, Supreme Court from 17.07. 1967 to 30.04.1973.



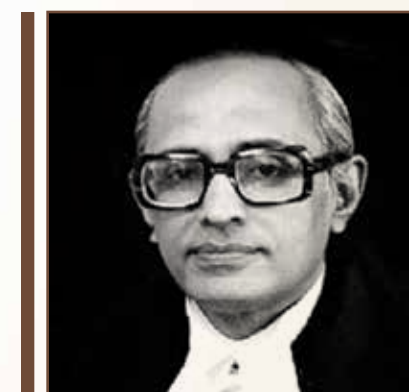
JUSTICE I.D. DUA

Judge, Punjab High Court, 1958 to 30.10.1966; Judge, High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 31.10.1966 to July 1967; Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi. July 1967 to July, 1969. Judge, Supreme Court 01.08.1969 to 03.10.1972.



MR. JUSTICE H.R. KHANNA

Judge, Punjab High Court from 1962 to 30.10.1966. Judge, High Court of Delhi from 31.10.1966 to 1969 and Chief Justice from 1969 to 21.09.1971. Judge, Supreme Court of India from 22.09.1971 to 11.03.1977.



MR. JUSTICE S. RANGANATHAN

Additional Judge of the High Court of Delhi from 14.11.1977 and was appointed a permanent Judge on 19.3.1978. Judge of the Supreme Court on 5.10.1987 to 30.10.1992.



MR. JUSTICE YOGESHWAR DAYAL

(28.02.1974 to 17.03.1988)

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 28.02.1974 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 28.02.1976. Chief Justice of this Court w.e.f. 21.08.1987 to 17.03.1988. Transferred as Chief Justice of High Court of Andhra Pradesh w.e.f. 18.03.1988. Judge of the Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 22.03.1991 – 02.08.1994.



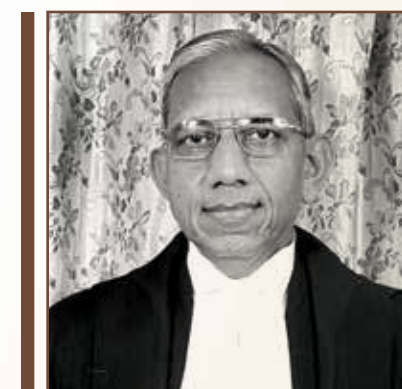
MR JUSTICE B.N. KIRPAL

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 20.11.1979 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 19.11.1983. Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court w.e.f. 14.12.1993. Judge of Supreme Court w.e.f. 11.09.1995 and Chief Justice of India w.e.f. 06.05.2002.



MR. JUSTICE D.P. WADHWA

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 12.08.1983 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 23.02.1984. Acting Chief Justice of this Court w.e.f. 16.02.1995 to 04.03.1995. Chief Justice of Patna High Court w.e.f. 29.09.1995. Judge of Supreme Court w.e.f. 21.03.1997 to 04.05.2000.



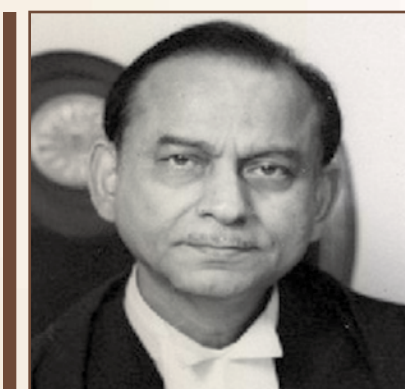
MR. JUSTICE R.C. LAHOTI

Additional Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court w.e.f. 3.5.1988 and permanent Judge w.e.f. 4.8.1989. Judge, High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 07.02.1994 to 08.12.1998. Judge of Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 9.12.1998 to 31.05.2004. as Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India on 01-06-2004 to 31.10.2005.



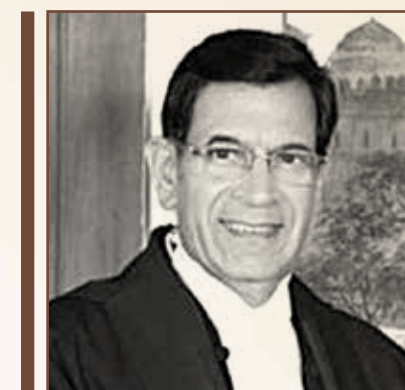
MR. JUSTICE M. JAGANNADHA RAO

Additional Judge, Andhra Pradesh High Court w.e.f. 29.9.1982, permanent Judge w.e.f. 29.11.1982. Chief Justice of Kerala High Court w.e.f. 8.8.91. Transferred to High Court of Delhi as Chief Justice w.e.f. 12.4.94. Judge, Supreme Court w.e.f. 21.03.1997 to 01.12.2000.



MR. JUSTICE A.P. MISRA

Permanent Judge, Allahabad High Court w.e.f. 24.05.1984. Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 26.06.1997. Judge Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 04.12.1997 to 31.08.2001.



MR. JUSTICE Y.K. SABHARWAL

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 17.11.1986 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 29.04.1987. Acting Chief Justice of this Court w.e.f. 19.09.1998 to 09.12.1998 and 18.01.1999 to 02.02.1999. Chief Justice of Bombay High Court w.e.f. 03.02.1999. Judge of Supreme Court w.e.f. 28.01.2000 and Chief Justice of India w.e.f. 01.11.2005 to 13.01.2007.



MR. JUSTICE S.N. VARIAVA

Additional Judge of the Bombay High Court w.e.f. 21.11.1986 and permanent Judge w.e.f. 12.6.1987. Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 31.12.1999 to 14.03.2000. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 15.03.2000 to 08.11.2005.



DR. JUSTICE ARIJIT PASAYAT

Judge in the Orissa High Court w.e.f. 20.3.1989. Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court w.e.f. September 20, 1999. Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 10th May, 2000. Judge, Supreme Court of India on w.e.f. 19.10.2001 to 10.05.2009.



MR. JUSTICE S.B. SINHA

Judge, Patna High Court w.e.f. 9.3.1987. Judge, Calcutta High Court w.e.f. 11.05.1994. Acting Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court in 1999. Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court w.e.f. 11.12.2000. Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 26.11.2001. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 03.10.2002 to 08.08.2009.



MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR

Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 13.07.1990. Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court w.e.f. 02.12.2001. Judge of Supreme Court w.e.f. 03.10.2002 – 12.04.2006.



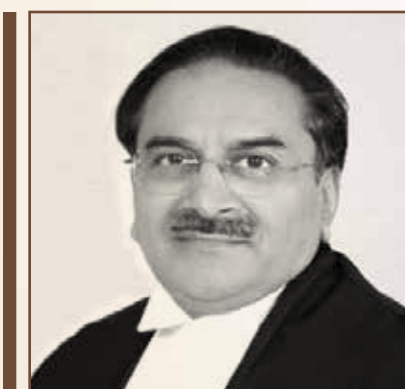
MR. JUSTICE DALVEER BHANDARI

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 19.03.1991 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 23.01.1992. Chief Justice of Bombay High Court w.e.f. 25.07.2004. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 28.10.2005. Elected Judge of International Court of Justice from 27.04.2012.



MR. JUSTICE MARKANDEYA KATJU

Judge, Allahabad High Court w.e.f. 1991, Acting Chief Justice w.e.f. August 2004. Chief Justice of Madras High Court w.e.f. November 2004, and Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. October 2005. Judge, Supreme Court w.e.f. 10.04.2006 to 20.09.2011.



MR. JUSTICE D.K. JAIN

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 19.03.1991 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 23.01.1992. Chief Justice of Punjab & Haryana Court w.e.f. 11.03.2005. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 10.04.2006 to 24.01.2013.



MR. JUSTICE M.K. SHARMA

Judge of the Guwahati High Court w.e.f. 10.01.1994. Judge, Patna High Court w.e.f. 14.02.1994. Judge, High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 12.12.1994 and Acting Chief Justice w.e.f. 28.11.2006 to 04.12.2006. Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 04.12.2006 to 08.04.2009. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 09.04.2008 to 18.09.2011.



MR. JUSTICE CYRIAC JOSEPH

(05.08.1994 to 20.09.2001)

Judge of the High Court of Kerala w.e.f. 06.07.1994. Transferred to High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 05.08.1994. Transferred back to High Court of Kerala w.e.f. 24.09.2001. Served as Acting Chief Justice for one day on 07.06.2002, 02.10.2002 to 01.11.2002, 18.11.2004 to 20.11.2004, 02.03.2005. Appointed as Chief Justice of High Court of Uttarakhand at Nainital on 20.03.2005. Transferred to Karnataka High Court on 04.01.2006 as Chief Justice. On appointment as Judge of the Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 07.07.2008 to 27.01.2012.



MR. JUSTICE T.S. THAKUR

Additional Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir on 16.02.1994. Transferred to Karnataka High Court in March 1994. Appointed as permanent Judge in September, 1995. Transferred to High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 05.07.2004. Appointed as Acting Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi on 09.04.2008. Appointed as Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court w.e.f. 11.08.2008. Appointed Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 17.11.2009 and as Chief Justice of India w.e.f. 03.12.2015.



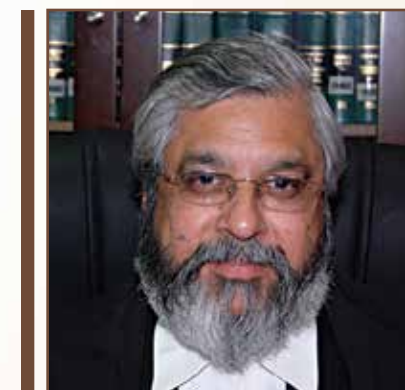
MR. JUSTICE SWATANTER KUMAR

Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 10.11.1994. Transferred to Punjab & Haryana High Court w.e.f. 30.11.1994. Transferred back to High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 04.10.2004. Chief Justice of Bombay High Court w.e.f. 31.03.2007. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 18.12.2009.



MR. JUSTICE DIPAK MISRA

Judge of the Orissa High Court w.e.f. 17.01.1996. Judge, Madhya Pradesh High Court w.e.f. 03.03.1997. Chief Justice, Patna High Court w.e.f. 23.12.2009. Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 24.05.2010. Elevated as a Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 10.10.2011.



MR. JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 19.02.1999 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 05.07.1999. Acting Chief Justice of this Court w.e.f. 13.02.2010 to 21.05.2010. Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court w.e.f. 24.06.2010. Chief Justice of High Court of Andhra Pradesh w.e.f. 15.11.2011. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 04.06.2012.



MR. JUSTICE VIKRAMAJIT SEN

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 07.07.1999 and Permanent Judge w.e.f. 30.10.2000. Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Karnataka w.e.f. 12.09.2011 and Chief Justice of that Court w.e.f. 24.12.2011. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 24.12.2012 to 30.12.2015.



MR. JUSTICE A.K. SIKRI

Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 7th July, 1999. Permanent Judge on 23.04.2001. Acting Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 10.10.2011. the Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court w.e.f. 23.09.2012. Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 12th April, 2013.



MR. JUSTICE N.V. RAMANA

Judge of the Andhra Pradesh High Court w.e.f. 27.06.2000. Acting Chief Justice of that Court w.e.f. 10.03.2013 to 20.05.2013. Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 02.09.2013. Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 17.02.2014.



Supreme Court of India

JUDGES ELEVATED AS CHIEF JUSTICES OF INDIA FROM HIGH COURT OF DELHI



MR JUSTICE B.N. KIRPAL

(12.11.1979 to 13.12.1993)

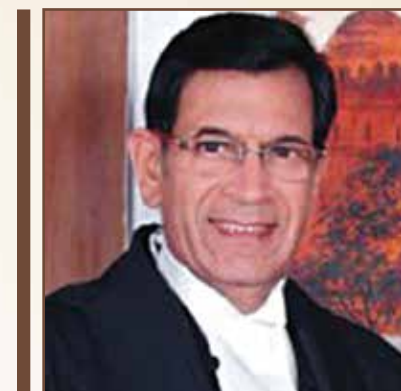
Appointed as Judge of High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 12.11.1979. Appointed Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court w.e.f. 14.12.1993. Elevated to the Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 11.09.1995 and to the Office of the Chief Justice of India w.e.f. 06.05.2002. Retired on 07.11.2002



MR. JUSTICE R.C. LAHOTI

(07.02.1994 to 08.12.1998)

Appointed Additional Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court w.e.f. 03.05.1988 and permanent Judge w.e.f. 04.08.1989. Transferred to High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 07.02.1994. Appointed as Judge of Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 09.12.1998 and Chief Justice of India w.e.f. 01.06.2004. Retired on 13.10.2005.



MR. JUSTICE Y.K. SABHARWAL

(17.11.1986 to 02.02.1999)

Appointed Additional Judge of the High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 17.11.1986 and permanent Judge on 29.04.1987. Appointed Chief Justice of Bombay High Court on 03.02.1999. Appointed as Judge of Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 28.01.2000 and Chief Justice of India on 01.11.2005. Retired on 13.01.2007.



MR. JUSTICE T.S. THAKUR

(05.07.2004 to 11.08.2008)

Appointed as Additional Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir on 16.02.1994. Transferred to Karnataka High Court in March 1994. Appointed as permanent Judge in September, 1995. Transferred to High Court of Delhi w.e.f. 05.07. 2004. Appointed Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court w.e.f. 11.08.2008. Appointed Judge, Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 17.11.2009 and as Chief Justice of India w.e.f. 03.12.2015.

JUDGE ELECTED AS MEMBER OF
INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE



JUSTICE DALVEER BHANDARI
(Member of the Court since 27 April 2012)

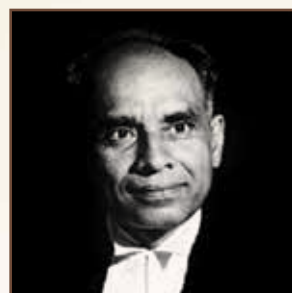
FORMER JUDGES



1
JUSTICE K.S. HEGDE
(31.10.1966 - 16.07.1967)
Chief Justice



2
JUSTICE I.D. DUA
(31.10.1966 - 16.07.1967)
Chief Justice
(17.07.1967 - 31.07.1969)



3
JUSTICE H.R. KHANNA
(31.10.1966 - 31.07.1969)
Chief Justice
(01.08.1969 - 21.09.1971)



10
JUSTICE S.N. SHANKAR
(25.05.1967 - 31.10.1975)



11
JUSTICE OM PRAKASH
(25.05.1967 - 16.08.1970)



12
JUSTICE V.S. DESHPANDE
(30.04.1968 - 15.10.1978)
Chief Justice
(16.10.1978 - 26.06.1980)



4
JUSTICE S.K. KAPUR
(31.10.1966 - 13.10.1969)



5
JUSTICE HARDAYAL HARDY
(04.01.1967 - 21.09.1971)
Chief Justice
(22.09.1971 - 14.05.1972)



6
JUSTICE S.N. ANDLEY
(04.01.1967 - 14.05.1972)
Chief Justice
(15.05.1972 - 03.06.1974)



13
JUSTICE S.I. RANGARAJAN
(20.01.1969 - 21.06.1976)
& (18.07.1978 - 08.09.1978)



14
JUSTICE P.N. KHANNA
(20.01.1969 - 28.01.1974)



15
JUSTICE MD. R.A. ANSARI
(30.07.1969 - 22.01.1976)



7
JUSTICE T.V.R. TATACHARI
(04.01.1967 - 03.06.1974)
Chief Justice
(04.06.1974 - 15.10.1978)



8
JUSTICE JAGJIT SINGH
(04.01.1967 - 13.08.1975)



9
JUSTICE M.M. ISMAIL
(20.02.1967 - 12.11.1967)



16
JUSTICE PRAKASH NARAIN
(20.01.1969 - 26.06.1980)
Acting Chief Justice
(27.06.1980 - 07.01.1981)
Chief Justice
(08.01.1981 - 05.08.1985)



17
JUSTICE V.D. MISRA
(30.07.1969 - 23.11.1979)



18
JUSTICE P.S. SAFEER
(30.07.1969 - 27.03.1978)



19
JUSTICE RAJINDER SACHAR
 [12.02.1970 – 15.05.1975] &
 [09.07.1977 – 05.08.1985]
Chief Justice
 [06.08.1985 – 22.12.1985]



20
JUSTICE B.C. MISRA
 [12.02.1970 – 30.09.1977]



21
JUSTICE PRITHVI RAJ
 [20.03.1970 – 04.09.1980]



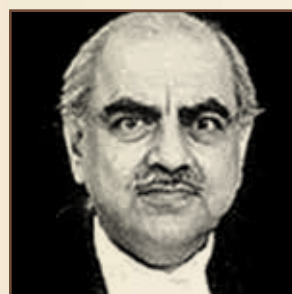
28
JUSTICE F.S. GILL
 [18.12.1974 – 20.11.1979]



29
JUSTICE M.S. JOSHI
 [18.12.1974 – 21.10.1980]



30
JUSTICE S.S. CHADHA
 [18.12.1974 – 02.06.1989]



22
JUSTICE D.K. KAPUR
 [04.11.1970 – 21.12.1985]
Chief Justice
 [22.12.1985 – 19.08.1986]



23
JUSTICE T.P.S. CHAWLA
 [06.01.1972 – 19.08.1986]
Acting Chief Justice
 [20.08.1986 – 25.09.1986]
Chief Justice
 [26.09.1986 – 15.08.1987]



24
JUSTICE A.B. ROHATGI
 [07.03.1972 – 10.02.1985]



31
JUSTICE S. RANGANATHAN
 [14.11.1977 – 04.10.1987]



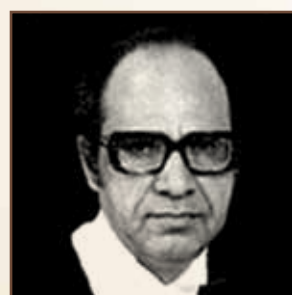
32
JUSTICE M.L. JAIN
 [24.07.1978 – 22.07.1984]



33
JUSTICE LEILA SETH
 [25.07.1978 – 04.08.1991]



25
JUSTICE R.N. AGGARWAL
 [07.03.1972 – 15.08.1987]
Chief Justice
 [16.08.1987 – 21.08.1987]



26
JUSTICE H.L. ANAND
 [01.09.1972 – 10.03.1986]



27
JUSTICE YOGESHWAR DAYAL
 [28.02.1974 – 20.08.1987]
Chief Justice
 [21.08.1987 – 16.03.1988]



34
JUSTICE N.N. GOSWAMY
 [25.07.1978 – 28.02.1991]



35
JUSTICE SULTAN SINGH
 [17.08.1978 – 03.12.1986]



36
JUSTICE O.N. VOHRA
 [07.03.1979 – 06.06.1981]



37
JUSTICE HARISH CHANDRA
AGGARWAL
(07.03.1979 - 28.05.1980)



38
JUSTICE S.N. KUMAR
(07.03.1979 - 06.06.1981)



39
JUSTICE S.B. WAD
(07.03.1979 - 10.04.1992)



46
JUSTICE JAGDISH CHANDRA
(12.08.1983 - 08.11.1988)



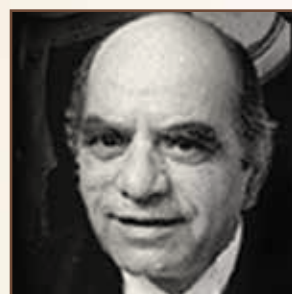
47
JUSTICE H.C. GOEL
(12.08.1983 - 15.10.1989)



48
JUSTICE M SHARIEF-UD-DIN
(12.08.1983 - 29.03.1992)



40
JUSTICE J.D. JAIN
(19.10.1979 - 21.03.1986)



41
JUSTICE CHARANJIT
TALWAR
(19.10.1979 - 28.04.1990)



42
JUSTICE G.R. LUTHRA
(19.10.1979 - 23.10.1987)



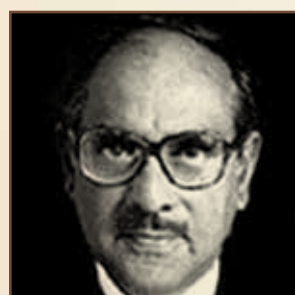
49
JUSTICE D.P. WADHWA
(12.08.1983 - 28.09.1995)



50
JUSTICE M.K. CHAWLA
(01.06.1984 - 05.01.1991)



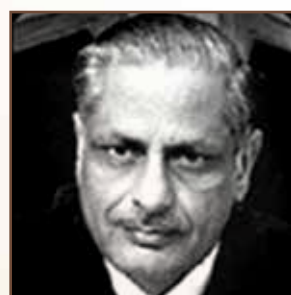
51
JUSTICE SMT. SUNANDA
BHANDARE
(01.06.1984 - 10.11.1994)



43
JUSTICE D.R. KHANNA
(19.10.1979 - 17.10.1985)



44
JUSTICE B.N. KIRPAL
(20.11.1979 - 14.12.1993)



45
JUSTICE GIAN CHAND JAIN
(06.01.1981 - 16.10.1989)



52
JUSTICE MAHINDER NARAIN
(04.07.1985 - 07.02.1999)



53
JUSTICE A.B. SAHARYA
(24.04.1986 - 06.11.1997)



54
JUSTICE MAHESH CHANDRA
(08.07.1986 - 12.10.1990)



55
JUSTICE C.L. CHAUDHARY
{08.07.1986 - 01.10.1993}



56
JUSTICE N.C. KOCHHAR
{17.11.1986 - 16.06.1988}



57
JUSTICE S.N. SAPRA
{17.11.1986 - 25.10.1991}



64
JUSTICE R.L. GUPTA
{27.04.1989 - 15.10.1994}



65
JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR
{13.07.1990 - 01.12.2001}



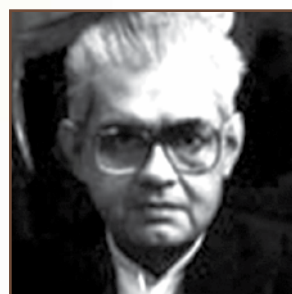
66
JUSTICE M.L. VERMA
{13.07.1990 - 06.07.1991}



58
JUSTICE Y.K. SABHARWAL
{17.11.1986 - 02.02.1993}



59
JUSTICE P.K. BAHRI
{10.07.1987 - 24.04.1996}



60
JUSTICE RABINDRA NATH PYNE
{20.05.1988 - 28.09.1990}
Chief Justice



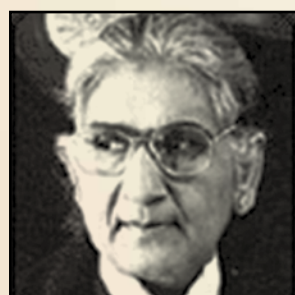
67
JUSTICE A.D. SINGH
{13.07.1990 - 23.12.2002}



68
JUSTICE JASPAL SINGH
{13.07.1990 - 17.07.1998}



69
JUSTICE USHA MEHRA
{13.07.1990 - 14.11.2003}



61
JUSTICE MRS. S. DUGGAL
{28.05.1988 - 21.03.1993}



62
JUSTICE P.N. NAG
{12.10.1988 - 27.04.1994}



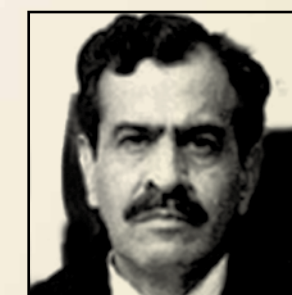
63
JUSTICE V.B. BANSAL
{27.04.1989 - 23.11.1994}
Died in Office



70
JUSTICE SAGAR CHAND JAIN
{13.07.1990 - 27.04.1994}



71
JUSTICE MILAP CHAND JAIN
{28.11.1990 - 21.07.1991}
Chief Justice



72
JUSTICE CHANDER MOHAN
NAYAR
{19.03.1991 - 03.05.2001}



73
JUSTICE J.K. MEHRA
[19.03.1991 – 06.11.1997]



74
JUSTICE DALVEER
BHANDARI
[19.03.1991 – 24.07.2004]



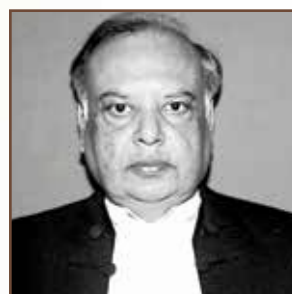
75
JUSTICE SAT PAL
[19.03.1991 – 30-08.1994]



76
JUSTICE D.K. JAIN
[19.03.1991 – 10.03.2005]



77
JUSTICE MOHD. SHAMIM
[19.03.1991 – 30.12.1999]



78
JUSTICE VIJENDER JAIN
[24.12.1992 – 28.11.2006]



79
JUSTICE G.C. MITTAL
[05.08.1991 – 11.04.1994]
Chief Justice



80
JUSTICE ARUN MADAN
[03.03.1993 – 23.02.1994]



81
JUSTICE K SHIVSHANKAR
BHAT
[03.02.1994 – 01.02.1995]



82
JUSTICE R.C. LAHOTI
[07.02.1994 – 08.12.1998]



83
JUSTICE M. JAGANNADHA
RAO
[12.04.1994 – 20.03.1997]
Chief Justice



84
JUSTICE DEVINDER GUPTA
[28.04.1994 – 05.03.2003]



85
JUSTICE CYRIAC JOSEPH
[05.08.1994 – 20.09.2001]



86
JUSTICE M.S.A. SIDDIQUI
[06.10.1994 – 29.05.2001]



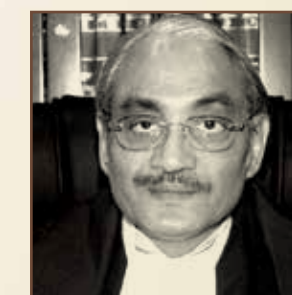
87
JUSTICE A.K. SRIVASTAVA
[18.10.1994 – 01.07.1999]



88
JUSTICE S.D. PANDIT
[01.11.1994 – 19.04.1996]



89
JUSTICE N.G. NANDI
[01.11.1994 – 31.05.2001]



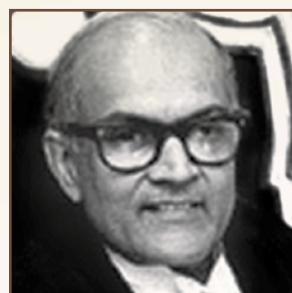
90
JUSTICE SWATANTER
KUMAR
[10.11.1994 – 30.11.1994]
[04.10.2004 – 30.03.2007]



91
JUSTICE P.K. JAIN
[10.11.1994 – 08.01.1995]



92
JUSTICE RAM PRAKASH
GUPTA
[10.11.1994 – 14.12.1994]



93
JUSTICE VINOD SAGAR
AGGARWAL
[10.11.1994 – 29.11.1994] &
[04.06.2001 – 20.08.2002]



94
JUSTICE K. RAMAMOORTHY
[30.11.1994 – 13.03.2001]



95
DR. JUSTICE MUKUNDAKAM
SHARMA
[12.12.1994 – 03.12.2006]
Chief Justice
[04.12.2006 – 08.04.2008]



96
JUSTICE S.K. MAHAJAN
[17.05.1995 – 05.12.2003]



97
JUSTICE MANMOHAN SARIN
[17.05.1995 – 02.09.2008]



98
JUSTICE J.B. GOEL
[17.05.1995 – 06.08.2000]



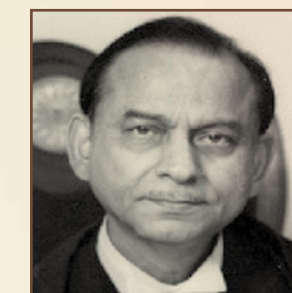
99
JUSTICE LOKESHWAR
PRASAD
[17.05.1995 – 26.11.1998]



100
JUSTICE S.N. KAPOOR
[09.04.1996 – 28.05.2003]



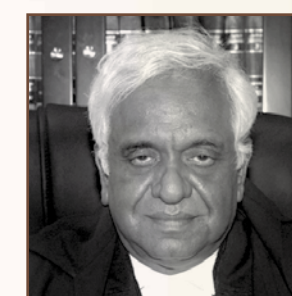
101
JUSTICE KIRPA SHANKAR
GUPTA
[09.04.1996 – 07.01.2003]



102
JUSTICE
A.P. MISRA
[26.06.1997 – 03.12.1997]
Chief Justice



103
JUSTICE C.K. MAHAJAN
[02.03.1998 – 31.05.2005]



104
JUSTICE MUKUL MUDGAL
[02.03.1998 – 04.12.2009]



105
JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR
[19.02.1999 – 23.06.2010]



106
JUSTICE SAM NARIMAN
VARIAVA
[25.05.1999 – 14.03.2000]
Chief Justice



107
JUSTICE SURINDER KUMAR
AGARWAL
[07.07.1999 – 04.04.2006]



108
JUSTICE R.S. SODHI
[07.07.1999 – 10.11.2007]



109
JUSTICE VIKRAMAJIT SEN
(07.07.1999 – 11.09.2011)



110
JUSTICE ARJAN KUMAR
SIKRI
(07.07.1999 – 22.09.2012)



111
JUSTICE B.A. KHAN
(14.01.2000 – 11.10.2005)



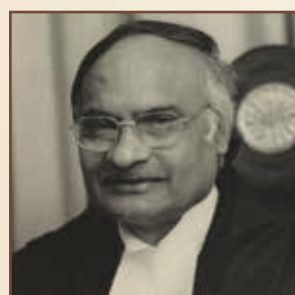
112
JUSTICE ARIJIT PASAYAT
(10.05.2000 – 18.10.2001)
Chief Justice



113
JUSTICE MAHMOOD ALI
KHAN
(01.12.2000 – 15.12.2003)



114
JUSTICE OM PRAKASH
DWIVEDI
(01.12.2000 – 01.04.2006)



115
JUSTICE JIWAN DASS
KAPOOR
(01.12.2000 – 10.04.2004)



116
JUSTICE B.N. CHATURVEDI
(01.12.2000 -02.10.2009)



117
JUSTICE RAMESH CHANDRA
CHOPRA
(01.12.2000 – 18.12.2005)



118
JUSTICE SHARDA
AGGARWAL
(01.12.2000 – 01.12.2002)



119
JUSTICE SANJAY KISHAN
KAUL
(03.05.2001 - 31.05.2013.)



120
JUSTICE RAMESH CHAND
JAIN
(16.07.2001 – 27.06.2006)



121
JUSTICE S.B. SINHA
(26.11.2001 – 02.10.2002)
Chief Justice



122
JUSTICE H.R. MALHOTRA
(26.08.2002 – 10.04-2009)



125
JUSTICE B.C. PATEL
(05.03.2003- 07.08.2005)
Chief Justice



126
JUSTICE T.S. THAKUR
(05.07.2004 – 09.08.2008)



127
JUSTICE J.P. SINGH
(05.07.2004 – 10.07.2007)



128
JUSTICE MANJU GOEL
(05.07.2004 – 03.01.2007)



129
JUSTICE ANIL KUMAR
(16.07.2004 – 11.07.2012)



132
JUSTICE REKHA SHARMA
(24.02.2005 – 31.07.2011)



134
JUSTICE MARKANDEYA
KATJU
(12.10.2005 – 09.04.2006)
Chief Justice



141
JUSTICE KAILASH GAMBHIR
(29.05.2006 – 06.09.2015)



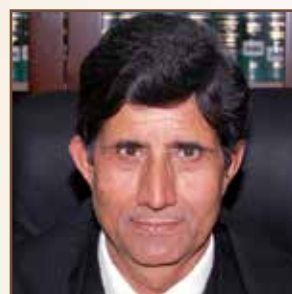
146
JUSTICE ARUNA SURESH
(04.07.2006 – 28.10.2010)



147
JUSTICE VIDYA BHUSHAN
GUPTA
(09.01.2007 – 24.11.2010)



135
JUSTICE S.N. DHINGRA
(28.02.2006 – 01.03.2011)



136
JUSTICE S.L. BHAYANA
(28.02.2006 – 14.04.2011)



137
JUSTICE J.M. MALIK
(28.02.2006 – 17.07.2008)



148
JUSTICE SUDERSHAN
KUMAR MISRA
(04.07.2007 – 06.09.2016)



149
JUSTICE VEENA BIRBAL
(31.08.2007 – 30.06.2014)



152
JUSTICE V.K. SHALI
(11.04.2008 – 13.06.2016)



138
JUSTICE REVA KHETRAPAL
(28.02.2006 – 22.09.2014)



139
JUSTICE S.N. AGGARWAL
(28.02.2006 – 28.10.2010)



140
JUSTICE P.K. BHASIN
(05.04.2006 – 19.07.2014)



153
JUSTICE MANMOHAN SINGH
(11.04.2008 – 21.09.2016)



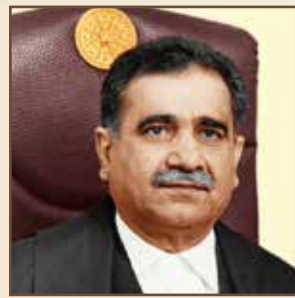
156
JUSTICE RAJIV SHAKDHER
(11.04.2008 – 10.04.2016)



158
JUSTICE MOOL CHAND GARG
(11.04.2008 – 17.04.2011)



159
**JUSTICE AJIT PRAKASH
 SHAH**
 (11.05.2008- 12.02.2010)
 Chief Justice



163
JUSTICE AJIT BHARIHOKE
 (14.05.2009 – 16.10.2011)



169
JUSTICE G.P. MITTAL
 (29.10.2010 – 08.07.2015)



174
JUSTICE D. MURUGESAN
 (26.09.2012 – 09.06.2013)
 Chief Justice



160
JUSTICE SURESH KAIT
 (05.09.2008 -12.04.2016)



164
JUSTICE V.K. JAIN
 (14.05.2009 – 14.05.2014)



170
JUSTICE M.L. MEHTA
 (03.12.2010 – 30.12.2013)



182
JUSTICE V.P. VAISH
 (17.04.2013 – 23.05.2016)



162
**JUSTICE NEERAJ KISHAN
 KAUL**
 (15.04.2009 – 01.09.2009)



168
JUSTICE DIPAK MISRA
 (24.05.2010 – 09.10.2011)
 Chief Justice



171
JUSTICE R.V. EASWAR
 (17.10.2011- 28.04.2014)



183
JUSTICE N.V. RAMANA
 (02.09.2013 – 16.02.2014)
 Chief Justice

Note: Missing Numbers pertain to the sitting Judges

BEGINNING OF GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS ON 31st OCTOBER, 2015







318

HIGH COURT OF DELHI

THE REGISTRY

319

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF JUSTICE



GROUP PHOTOGRAPH OF THE OFFICERS (ASSISTANT REGISTRAR AND ABOVE)

SITTING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Registrars : Mr. K.K. Bhati, Mr. Lorren Bamniyal, Mr. Yash Pal, Mr. V.K. Kochhar, Mr. Girish Sharma, Mr. Chander Shekhar, Mr. Vinod Goel (Registrar General), Mr. H.C. Suri, Mr. Ramesh Chand, Mr. Anil Koushal, Mrs. Anju Chhabra Khurana, Mr. G.R. Grover.

STANDING IN FIRST ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Joint Registrars: Mr. Janardan Tripathi, Mr. Ashutosh Kumar, Mr. Satinder Kumar Gautam, Mr. Atul Kumar Sharma, Mr. Manoj Kumar Verma, Mr. Sunil Kukrja, Mr. Praveen Kumar Uppal, Mr. H.K. Arora, Mr. Sunil Kumar Koushal, Mr. O.P. Narang, Mr. Sanjay Sharma, Ms. Champa Lalchandani, Ms. Neera Bharihoke, Mr. Ajay Gupta, Ms. Vandana Khurana (Assistant Registrar), Ms. Sadhna Gupta (Deputy Registrar)

STANDING IN SECOND ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Joint Registrars : Mr. Kovai Venugopal, Mr. Amit Kumar, Mr. Anil Kumar Sisodia, Mr. K.K. Sharma, Assistant Registrars: Mr. Bhupinder Jhamb, Mr. Shameem Ahmad, Deputy Registrars:

Mr. Girish Jaitley, Mr. Rishi Pal, Mr. Naresh Chand Garg, Mr. Shekhar Chandra, Mr. Ravindra Kumar Sharma, Mr. Manish Aggarwal, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Sharma, Mr. J.K. Batra, Mr. Pramod Kumar, Assistant Registrars: Ms. Neelam Mahajan, Ms. Madhu Singhal, Ms. Sharda Manchanda, Ms. Kaushlya Verma (Deputy Registrar)

STANDING IN THIRD ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Assistant Registrars: Mr. Arun Kumar Sharma, Mr. Rajeev Kumar Chauhan, Deputy Registrar: Ms. Panna Dutta, Mr. Arun Kishore Sharma, Assistant Registrars: Mr. S.K. Banyal, Mr. Ravinder Kumar Pahuja, Mr. Ravinder Dutt Sharma, Mr. Sanjay Pokhriyal, Mr. Raj Kumar Rawat, Mr. Sarsij Kumar, Mr. Hem Chandra Pandey, Mr. K.K. Bishambhu, Mr. Surinder Jeet Singh, Mr. Kishor Kumar, Deputy Registrars: Mr. Umesh Chandra Sharma, Mr. Pawan Kumar Kalra, Mr. Devendra Singh, Assistant Registrars: Ms. Ambika Sharma, Ms. Geetha Gopinathan, Ms. Meena Bhardwaj, Mr. Ram Singh, Ms. Sandhya Kapoor.



GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (JUDICIAL)/COURT MASTERS

SITTING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Ms. Anita Vig, Ms. Promila Gupta, Ms. Sangeeta Sharma, Ms. Manjeet Kaur, Ms. Naveen Kathpal, Ms. Ashu Kaul, Ms. Bindra, Ms. Kusumlata Sharma, Ms. Sadhana Jadia, Ms. Harsudha, Ms. Neelam Grover, Ms. Shobha Nijhawan, Ms. Neena Malhotra.

STANDING IN FIRST ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Ms. Uma Sharma, Ms. Jasmeet Bhatia, Ms. Sunila Shibu, Mr. Pradeep Kumar, Mr. Sandeep Sharma, Mr. Anil Kumar Jain, Ms. Kiran Bala, Ms. Anjana Nagar, Mr. Shubhash Chander Thakur, Mr. M.P.S. Bisht, Mr. Javed Khan, Mr. Bhaskara Nand, Mr. Mamek Trikha, Mr. Chander Shekhar, Mr. Dalip Kumar Bajaj, Mr. Jugal Kishore, Mr. Satish Gosain.

STANDING IN SECOND ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Ms. Chander Kanta, Ms. Babita Haritash, Mr. D.R.S. Thakur, Mr. Dileep Namrani, Mr. Ajeet Kumar Jha (Librarian), Mr. Zameem Ahmed Khan (System Aalyst), Mr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, Mr. Neeraj Mehta, Mr. Ajit Aswani, Mr. Kapoor Singh Bisht, Mr. Satish C. Thaldi, Mr. M. Vijay Kumar, Mr. Rajesh, Mr. Sudhir Sachdeva, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Basnotra, Mr. M.S. Negi, Mr. Ved Prakash Sharma.

STANDING IN THIRD ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Mr. Sanjay Bhardwaj, Mr. P.S.Negi, Mr. Tej Pal, Mr. Manoj Kapoor, Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Mr. Manoj Kumar, Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Mr. Manoj Kumar Chawla, Mr. Anil Kumar Singh, Mr. Hitesh Kumar, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Mr. Sanjay Prakash Gupta, Mr. Lalit Kumar Sharma, Mr. Anil Kumar Chopra, Mr. Lalit Kumar Jolly, M. Dharmender Joshi, Mr. Ashok Kumar, Mr. K.K. Agnihotri, Mr. Ajay Kumar Rana, Mr. Ved Prakash Sharma, Mr. Deep Chand, Mr. Naval Kishore, Mr. Vijay Rattan Sundriyal.



GROUP PHOTOGRAPH OF THE PRIVATE SECRETARIES, SYSTEM ANALYST, PROGRAMMERS AND ASSISTANT PROGRAMMERS

SITTING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Mr. Kapil Sharma, Ms. Meenakshi Pant, Ms. Neelam, Ms. Bhawana Pant, Ms. Kamlesh Sharma, Ms. Nisha Sharma-I, Ms. Mona Gosain, Ms. Anuradha Jaiswal, Ms. Sunita Bisht, Ms. Shaloo Batra, Ms. Prem Bala, Ms. Nisha Sharma-II, Ms. Shakun Anand.

STANDING IN FIRST ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Mr. V.K. Mittal, Mr. Sunil Lakhina, Mr. Deep Harbola (Assistant Programmer), Mr. Kishor Whonen Patel (Network Administrator), Mr. Ankit Pandey (Programmer), Mr. Rajinder Singh, Mr. Dharmender Kumar Bainsla, Mr. Amit Narayan Bharthuar, Mr. Pankaj Kumar, Mr. Deepak Arora, Mr. Neeraj Goel, Mr. Zameem Ahmed Khan, (System Analyst), Mr. S.S. Bhatnagar, Mr. Sunil Singh Negi, Mr. Satya Dev, Mr. Sunil Dutt.

STANDING IN SECOND ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Mr. Shakeel Ahmed, Mr. Surender Pal, Mr. Vinal Kapoor, Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Mr. Naresh Mehta, Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Mr. Bhavesh Malhotra, Mr. Zaved Akhtar (Assistant Programmer), Mr. Kapil Kumar (Assistant Programmer).



GROUP PHOTOGRAPH OF THE LAW RESEARCHERS



GROUP PHOTOGRAPH OF THE OFFICIALS OF HIGH COURT OF DELHI



Blood Donation Camp organised by DHCBA















DHC

HIGH COURT OF DELHI

The High Court of Delhi was established on 31st October, 1966. Initially, the High Court of Judicature at Lahore, which was established by a Letters Patent dated 21st March, 1919, exercised jurisdiction over the then provinces of the Punjab and Delhi. This position continued till the Indian Independence Act, 1947 when the dominions of India and Pakistan were created.

The High Courts (Punjab) Order, 1947 established a new High Court for the territory of what was then called the East Punjab with effect from 15th August, 1947. The India (Adaptation of Existing Indian Laws) Order, 1947 provided that any reference in an existing Indian law to the High Court of Judicature at Lahore, be replaced by a reference to the High Court of East Punjab.

The High Court of East Punjab started functioning from Shimla in a building called "Peterhoff". This building burnt down in January, 1981. When the Secretariat of the Punjab Government shifted to Chandigarh in 1954-55, the High Court also shifted to Chandigarh. The High Court of Punjab, as it later came to be called, exercised jurisdiction over Delhi through a Circuit Bench which dealt with the cases pertaining to the Union Territory of Delhi and the Delhi Administration.

In view of the importance of Delhi, its population and other considerations, Parliament thought it necessary to establish a new High Court at Delhi. This was achieved by enacting the Delhi High Court Act, 1966 on 5th September, 1966. By virtue of Section 3(1) of the Delhi High Court Act, the Central Government was empowered to appoint a date by a notification in the official gazette, establishing a High Court for the Union Territory of Delhi. The appointed date was 31st October, 1966.