

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 7 of the Delhi High Court Act, 1966 (Act 26 of 1966), Section 16(2) of the Advocates Act, 1961 and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, the High Court of Delhi, hereby makes the following amendments in Chapter 6-L in High Court Rules & Orders, Volume V :-

The following shall be substituted for the existing Chapter 6-L :-

#### CHAPTER 6-L

Rules framed by the High Court of Delhi under section 16(2) of the Advocates Act, 1961 for designating an advocate as senior advocate.

1. An advocate may be considered for being designated as a Senior Advocate either (i) suo motu; or (ii) on an application by the advocate desirous of being designated as Senior Advocate.
2. Qualification : No person shall be considered for being designated as Senior Advocate unless he (i) is a member of the Bar Council of Delhi; (ii) has a minimum standing of 10 years as a practising advocate, and (iii) is mainly practising in the High Court of Delhi.
3. Procedure to be followed with regard to suo motu designation of an advocate as senior advocate:

An advocate who fulfils the conditions detailed herein before, may be considered suo motu by the Court for being designated as a Senior Advocate either on a proposal of a Judge or of the Chief Justice. Upon such proposal, the Chief Justice shall informally confer with the Judges. In case the Chief Justice after conferring with the Judges approves the proposal and the advocate concerned gives his consent, the Full Court will formally pass a resolution designating him as Senior Advocate.

4. Procedure to be followed with regard to the designation of an advocate as senior advocate on an Application :-
  - (a) An application shall be accepted if not less than 2/3rd of the Judges voting in the Full Court meeting are in favour of accepting the application provided not less than 2/3rd of the sitting Judges vote at such a meeting. While calculating 2/3rd of the Judges fraction shall be ignored and only whole number shall be taken into consideration.
  - (b) In case the request of the Advocate is not approved, the advocate shall be only informed to renew his request, if he so desires, on expiry of one year.

Note :- 'Sitting Judges' will mean "all the Judges holding office at particular time."

5. Requirement of Application : Application for being designated as Senior Advocate shall state whether any such application was earlier made to any court and if so the result thereof and shall also contain :

- (i) The enrolment Number with the Bar Council of Delhi ;
- (ii) (a) declaration that the applicant has a minimum standing of 10 years as a practising advocate and that:
  - (b) he is mainly practising in the High Court of Delhi.

Explanation : The eligibility condition with regard to minimum standing as a practising advocate shall not apply to retired Judges of High Courts and retired judicial officers.

These amendments shall come into force immediately on the date of their publication in the Delhi Gazette.

By Order of the Court,  
H.R. MALHOTRA, Registrar