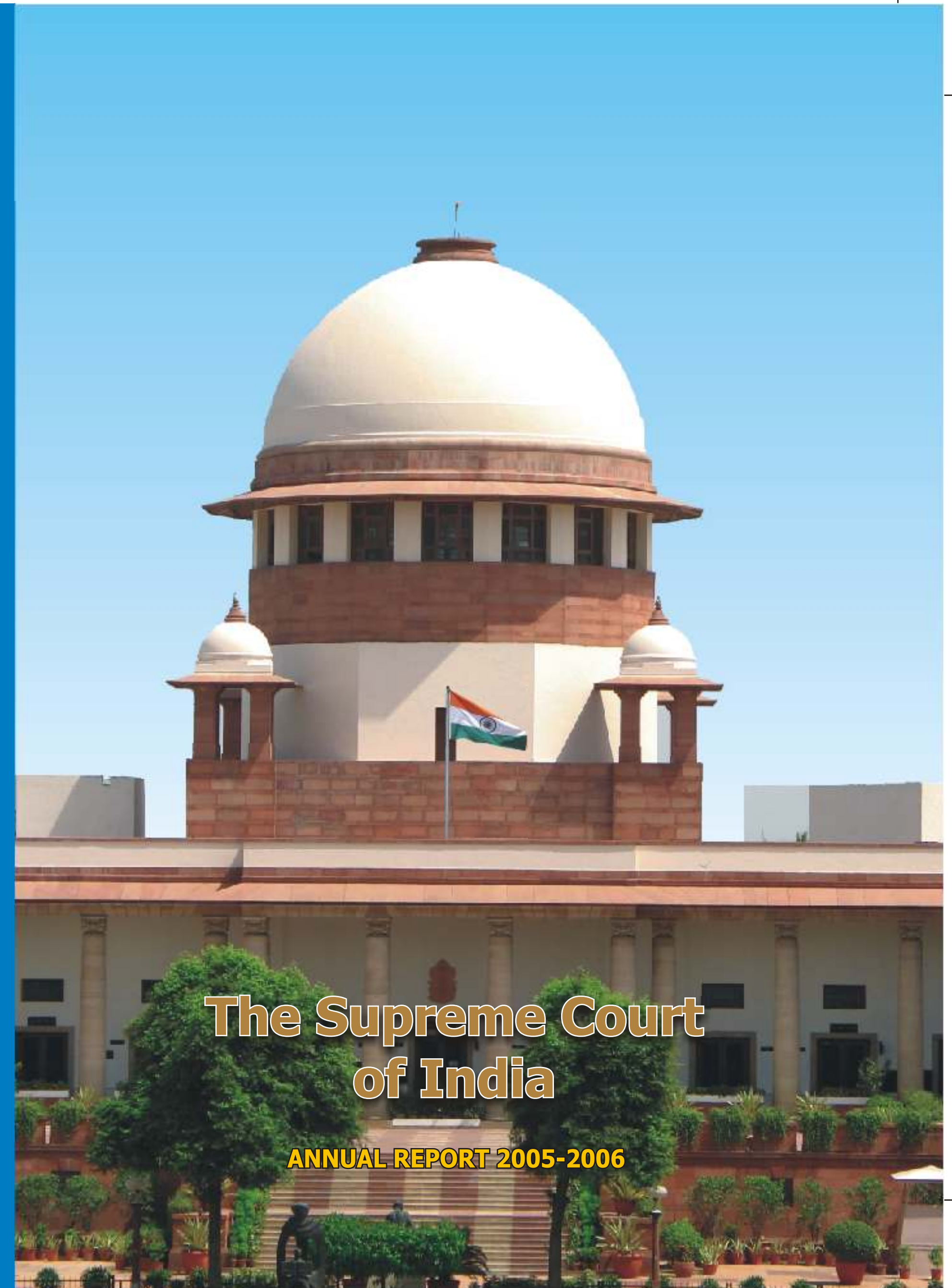




The Supreme Court of India ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006



**The Supreme Court
of India**

ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

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ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

(Published by the Supreme Court of India)



EDITORIAL COMMITTEE :

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Publisher : The Supreme Court of India

Photography : J.S. Studio (Sudeep Jain)

Cellphone : 9810220385

(Cover Page & photographs of Hon'ble Judges)

Book : Annual Report 2005-2006

(Contents mainly relate to 26.11.2005 to 25.11.2006).

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Printed at: **We Enterprises**

S.K. Jain 9810131556

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It is a matter of great pleasure to present the Third Annual Report of the Supreme Court. The earlier Reports were highly appreciated not only in India but even across the borders.

Boni iudicis est ampliare jurisdictionem, that law must keep pace with society to retain its relevance, has always remained the guiding principle for the Courts for if the society moves but law remains static, it shall be bad for both. For keeping pace with time, constant endeavours are made in Supreme Court, which has, by and large, been able to retain the public confidence of highest degree, on both judicial and administrative sides.

The Indian justice system serves the interests of a diverse and exploding Population, the largest democracy and seventh largest national market in the world. This formidable responsibility, combined with the recent drive towards greater Public Administration and market reforms, places ever greater pressure on the civil justice system. An estimated backlog of about 25 million cases in the country undermines the effective enforcement of substantive civil and commercial rights. Therefore backlog and delays have broad political and economic implications for Indian Society. If India fails to face and meet the challenges, it may find difficult to realize fully its legal commitment to democratic and liberal economic policies.

Dissatisfaction and discontentment against the prevailing judicial system is writ large. With entire vehemence, defects and deficiencies are being focused. Only here lies the honour of the galaxy. There have been some attempts to plan, to remedy or reform but lot more is required. A plight of ideal system is in a captivity of rhetoric words, which has never a landing on the ground. Every idealist senses a

substantial gap between a system of his design and one which is prevalent, but has no definite device to fill in.

'Judicial Reforms' need a multidimensional approach. At macro level, it requires not merely reforms in the judiciary but also social reforms, political reforms, economic reforms, educational reforms, administrative reforms and also adoption of moral, ethical, spiritual psychological and philosophical values of life. In the process of judicial reforms, not only the Judiciary, but also the Executive and the Legislature the three-wings of the Government on the one hand, and also the litigant public, on the other hand, are equally required to share equal responsibility, but the initiation must start first at "Home" i.e., by the Judiciary itself. Self-realisation, self-criticism and self-judgment are the three angles of any reforms to the judicial reforms.

At the micro-level, the process of "Judicial reforms" shall start from the "Bench". Bench is the beacon-light in the ocean of judiciary, and it plays a major role in bringing reforms in the Judiciary, inasmuch as it is reposed with the responsibility of not only assuring justice, but also doing justice to the needy.

We have to plan and programme a reformative rule of law through original experiments in legal techniques and rural judicare - all of them with a fresh focus on the people. In short, we must humanize the legal system, radicalize the legislative, as much as the judicative methodology and man-power and restructure many institutions of law and administration to suit the imperatives of our country's crying needs. Indeed, law, in its multiplex sweep, including court rooms, lawyers chambers, law schools and institutes of socio-legal research, has to change its profile, its process, its heart, head and gaze.

The continual need for access to justice in Indian society requires adaptations of both model processes and traditional processes better suited to Indian conditions where majority of the population is rural. The adaptations must offer accessible, affordable and effective alternatives to the adversarial process. Available alternative and consensual means of dispute resolutions are limited.

The traditional approach deserves a change. Legal aid programmes should also emphasise on legal aid camps, free litigation, conciliations, promoting awareness, encouraging research in areas of law affecting the poor, promoting public interest litigation to vindicate rights of poor, mobilizing law teachers and students in the service of weaker sections of society by operating legal aid clinics in Universities and law colleges, imparting training especially in slums, tribal areas and other pockets inhabited mainly by economically and socially backward people. In particular, students and young lawyers who can play pivotal role have to be sensitized and inspired. To achieve it, experienced lawyers, with proven credentials, have to be actively involved. There is no dearth of either.

The mediation and Reconciliation deserve further promotion. The Government and semi government authorities have to set an example by settling disputes with citizens through these modes. To make conciliation and mediation a success, there is urgent need for institutionalized conciliation and mediation centres manned by trained conciliators and mediators.

The founding faith that goaded our freedom struggle and then remained paramount while framing the Constitution was to inject justice, equity and good conscientious into the Indian way of life. The poor masses that had suffered social injustice too long were to be salvaged. So the Constitution was framed with a great concern for the weaker section of the society. The advent of judicial activism and public interest litigations is a great stride towards achieving this goal. However, social justice is not achieved merely by process, but legally turned affirmative action,

activism and benign interpretation within the parameters of corpus juris. The process to secure social justice needs adherence to the discipline of law and to operate within circumference of the body of laws. It emphasizes for positive action under law. This activism tries to keep its range with a close proximity of the judicial function. The judiciary aims to the benefit of entire set up and not a group or class.

None can progress unless he dreams. None can seek reform unless he imagines. But hardly there can be a progress in dreams and reform in imagination. To reform, one needs a scientific theory with an applied science. One without other is infirm. We have philosophy and ideals on the reform of judicial system in abundant measure, but rarely any scientifically analysed proposals with a practical outlay.

As far as techniques for expeditious disposal of cases is concerned, it is a matter of experience that the self designed technique is the best technique. There is no comprehensive, scientific, unified plan or national policy evolved to arrest and cure the aggravating ailments in the justice delivery system. There is neither the court strength assessment nor the judicial man-power planning. There is complete neglect as far as the infrastructure of the subordinate courts is concerned. It needs a re-engineering and for that total financial autonomy is necessary for the High Courts.

Administration of justice requires an independent judiciary committed to the constitution and the law. No doubt, independence of judiciary can be maintained to a great extent by the self assertive will of the Judges, it is equally true that lawyers "the professional wing attached to the Courts" have a great role to play in protecting the independence of the judiciary. This calls for evolving new norms, which find a wider ethical base structured in the roots of truth and justice. Lawyers should play a creative role as innovations are to be made in making the law a dynamic instrument of social justice rather than preserving the status quo, particularly in a developing society crying for a rapid change. Public interest

advocacy through the profession of lawyers has been an exciting new development and an emerging norm which promises greater scope for expansion in the years to come, so long as it is not abused. Democratic societies wedded to the cause of development primarily call for increasing participation of people in the process leading to change. People's participation is a foremost indication of progress and is co-extensive with social development as such participation makes people to adjust to changes and without such participation democracy has no life or vitality.

The ultimate saviour of an independent judiciary is the brave and individual judge. Therefore, it is on the judges, who actually deliver the justice, to be truly aware of their duties otherwise all reforms would merely remain on papers. Becon has said:

“Judges ought to be more learned than witty, more revered than plausible, and more advised than confident. Above all things integrity is their portion and proper virtue.”

It is true that it is difficult to achieve the perfection but one can always strive to excel and if one continues to walk on this path tirelessly, many, if not all, problems could be overcome. A judiciary manned by judges with vision, wisdom and compassion can do more for justice and the welfare of the under privileged than all the laws and policies we can think of.

Our country is a democracy. It is a fundamental principle in democracy that the people are supreme and all authorities namely judges,

legislatures, ministers, bureaucrats etc. are subordinate to them. The power and strength of any justice delivery system is derived from the faith of the people in it. The people of the country to whom we hold out the hope of justice being administered by the combined effort of the judges and lawyers must strengthen that faith so that if they come to the courts the injustice done to them shall be undone.

Despite the criticism that the Supreme Court has been encroaching upon the functions of the legislation and the executive, it may be said that the judiciary has always emphasized on the constitutional and other statutory provisions, true spirit thereof and has attempted to highlight the intention of the framers of the Constitution.

I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude towards my brother judges without whom the Supreme Court would not be what it is. I also congratulate the judges of all the High Courts and the members of the subordinate judiciary whose tireless efforts have kept the faith and hope of people alive in our judicial system. The Bar also deserves the compliments for their contributions. I have no doubt whatsoever that India has a great future and the judiciary, with the active support of the Bar and the goodwill it enjoys amongst the citizens, shall stand all the tests and would literally be a torch bearer to dispel the darkness around.

Y. K. Sabharwal
Chief Justice of India

2 PROFILE OF THE SUPREME COURT BENCH



Sitting : Hon. G.P. Mathur J, Hon. S.B. Sinha J, Hon. B.P. Singh J, Hon. Ashok Bhan J, Hon. K.G. Balakrishnan J, Hon. Y.K. Sabharwal CJI, Hon. B.N. Agrawal J, Hon. Arijit Pasayat J, Hon. H.K. Sema J, Hon. AR. Lakshmanan J, Hon. S.H. Kapadia J.
Standing : Hon. D.K. Jain J, Hon. Dalveer Bhandari J, Hon. Altamas Kabir J, Hon. P.K. Balasubramanyan J, Hon. A.K. Mathur J, Hon. C.K. Thakker J, Hon. P.P. Naolekar J, Hon. R.V. Raveendran J, Hon. Lokeshwar Singh Panta J, Hon. Markandey Katju J.
(Hon. Tarun Chatterjee J. not in picture)



JUSTICE Y. K. SABHARWAL

Chief Justice of India

Judge, Supreme Court of India since 28th January, 2000 and Chief Justice of India since November 1, 2005.

Appointed Judge of Delhi High Court in November, 1986 and Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court in January, 1999; on 3rd February, 1999 appointed Chief Justice of Bombay High Court.

Delivered number of important judgments on subjects including Constitutional matters, Criminal Laws, Environmental laws and Public Interest Litigation.

As an advocate, mainly practiced in Delhi High Court on the civil and constitutional sides; for number of years held various positions including Secretary and President of the Bar Association and Member of Apex Body Bar Council of India representing Delhi.

Was Chairman of the Advisory Board under Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, Hon. Secretary of I.L.A. - Indian Chapter, Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee; Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority. Participated in I.L.A. Conferences in Cairo in 1992, Buenos Aires in 1994, Helsinki in 1996, Caribbean Regional Conference at Barbados in 2003, Berlin in 2004, Spring Conference of the British Branch of International Law Association at Edinburgh in 2005 and Toronto in 2006.

Due to retire on 14th January, 2007.

A portrait of Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, an elderly man with glasses, wearing a black judicial robe with a white collar. He is seated and looking directly at the camera.

JUSTICE K.G. BALAKRISHNAN

Hon'ble Judge was born on 12-5-1945 in Kottayam Distt. of Kerala in India.

Early education was in the local school. Graduated from Maharaja College, Ernakulam, in 1965. Passed Bachelor of Law Degree examination in 1967.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Kerala Bar Council on 16-3-1968.

Meanwhile, also joined the LL.M Course and secured the LL.M. Degree in Contract and Mercantile Law from Kerala University.

Practised both on Civil and Criminal sides in the High Court of Kerala at Ernakulam.

Joined Kerala Judicial Service on 10-1-1973 and later resigned from the service and resumed practice as an Advocate in the Kerala High Court.

On 26-9-1985, appointed as Judge of the Kerala High Court. On 24-11-1997, transferred to Gujarat High Court and became the Chief Justice of the High Court of Gujarat on 16-7-1998.

In September, 1999, transferred to the High Court of Judicature at Madras and assumed charge as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court on 9-9-1999. On 8-6-2000 elevated as Judge, Supreme Court of India.

Due to retire on 12th May, 2010.

A portrait of Justice B.N. Agrawal, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a black judicial robe with a white collar. He is seated at a desk with his hands clasped, looking towards the camera.

JUSTICE B.N. AGRAWAL

BISHWANATH AGRAWAL. B.A., B.L.

Hon'ble Judge was born on 15-10-1944.

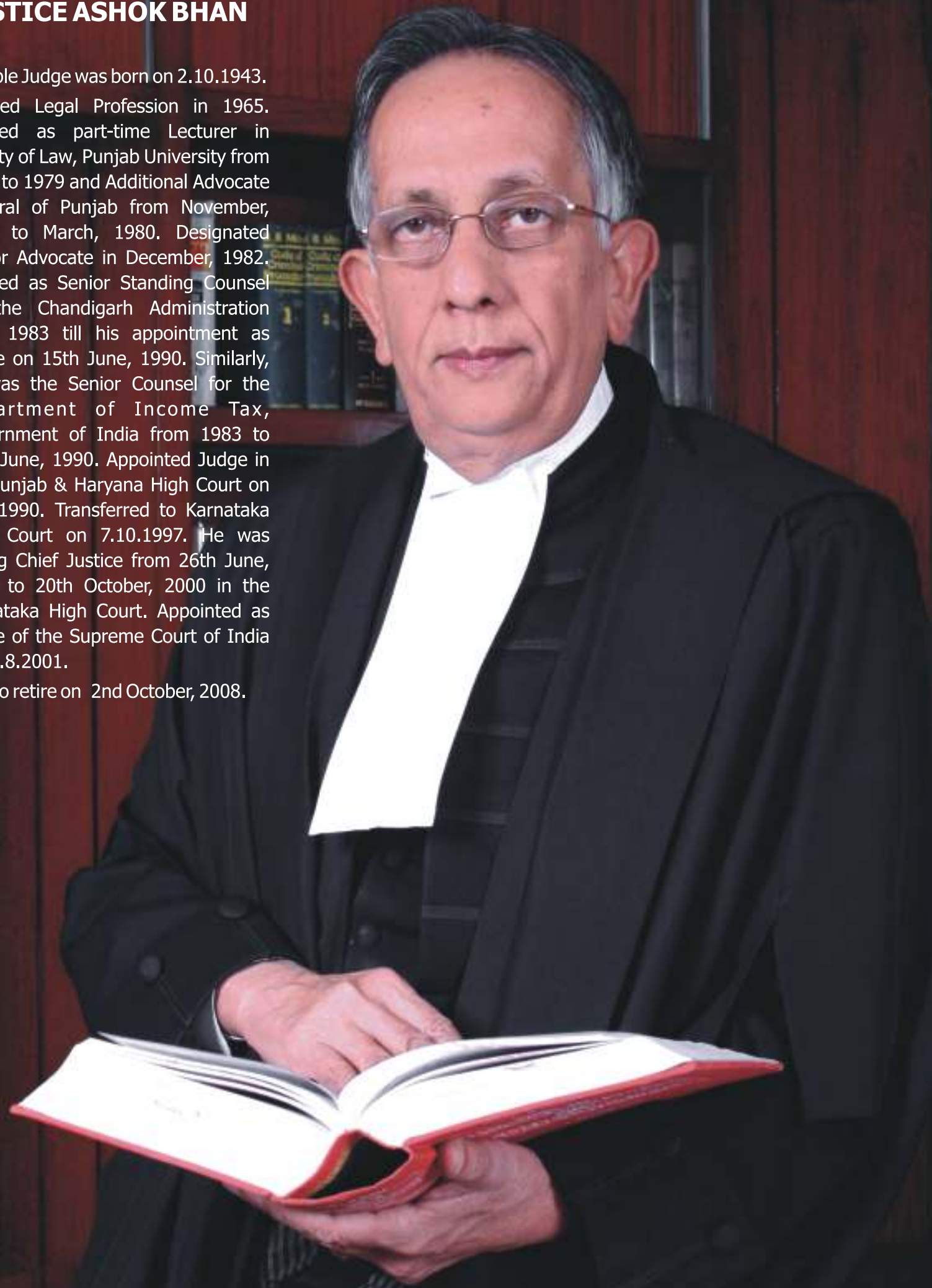
Enrolled as an Advocate in January, 1966. Practised mostly in Civil, Criminal and Constitutional cases in the High Court at Patna. Appointed as Judge of the Patna High Court on 17-11-1986. Appointed as Chief Justice of Orissa High Court on 18-11-1999. Appointed as Judge, Supreme Court of India on 19th October, 2000.

Due to retire on 15th October, 2009.

JUSTICE ASHOK BHAN

Hon'ble Judge was born on 2.10.1943. Entered Legal Profession in 1965. Worked as part-time Lecturer in Faculty of Law, Punjab University from 1969 to 1979 and Additional Advocate General of Punjab from November, 1979 to March, 1980. Designated Senior Advocate in December, 1982. Worked as Senior Standing Counsel for the Chandigarh Administration from 1983 till his appointment as Judge on 15th June, 1990. Similarly, he was the Senior Counsel for the Department of Income Tax, Government of India from 1983 to 15th June, 1990. Appointed Judge in the Punjab & Haryana High Court on 15.6.1990. Transferred to Karnataka High Court on 7.10.1997. He was Acting Chief Justice from 26th June, 2000 to 20th October, 2000 in the Karnataka High Court. Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 17.8.2001.

Due to retire on 2nd October, 2008.



JUSTICE ARIJIT PASAYAT

Hon'ble Judge was born on 10.5.1944.

Son of Late Viswanath Pasayat, an illustrious son of Orissa, a legendary figure in the freedom movement and an eminent jurist. Had a brilliant academic career, excelling in almost every academic examination he appeared. After graduation with Honours in English, obtained LL.B. Degree from M.S. Law College, Cuttack securing First Rank. Obtained B. Com degree privately and after completing articleship, passed Intermediate, Chartered Accountancy examination. Enrolled as an Advocate on 10.10.1968. Had practice in Constitutional, Taxation and almost all other branches of Law. Was Vice-Chairman of Orissa State Bar Council, Secretary and Vice-President of All Orissa Lawyers Association, Executive Member of Orissa High Court Bar Association and Secretary of All Orissa Tax Bar Association. Was a member of the Utkal University Senate. Was a part-time Lecturer of the Madhusudan Law College, Cuttack. Was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Orissa High Court on 20.3.1989 and a permanent Judge of that Court on 20.9.1990. Was appointed as Acting Chief Justice of Orissa High Court on 2.4.1999. Was the main architect behind introduction of Five Years Law Course in Orissa. Was the Judge in Charge of legal education in Orissa. Was elevated as Chief Justice of Kerala High Court on 20.9.1999. Transferred as Chief Justice, Delhi High Court on 10.5.2000. Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 19.10.2001. Has delivered landmark judgments in almost all branches of law in the High Courts and Supreme Court.

Due to retire on 10th May, 2009.



JUSTICE B.P. SINGH

B. A. (Hons.), LL.B. Hon'ble Judge was born on 9th July, 1942 at Patna.

Enrolled as Advocate on 4th October, 1963. Practised in Civil, Criminal and Constitutional cases in the Supreme Court of India. Appointed Judge of the Patna High Court on 9th March, 1987. Transferred to Karnataka High Court on 9th April, 1990. Re-transferred from Karnataka High Court to Patna High Court on 9th September, 1991. Appointed as Chief Justice of Bombay High Court on 31st March, 2000. Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 14th December, 2001.

Personal

1948-1954 - Initial schooling standard 1st to standard 7th St. Xavier High School, Patna.

1955 - Joined St. Columba's School, New Delhi

1957 - Passed Senior Cambridge from St. Columba's School, New Delhi in First Division.

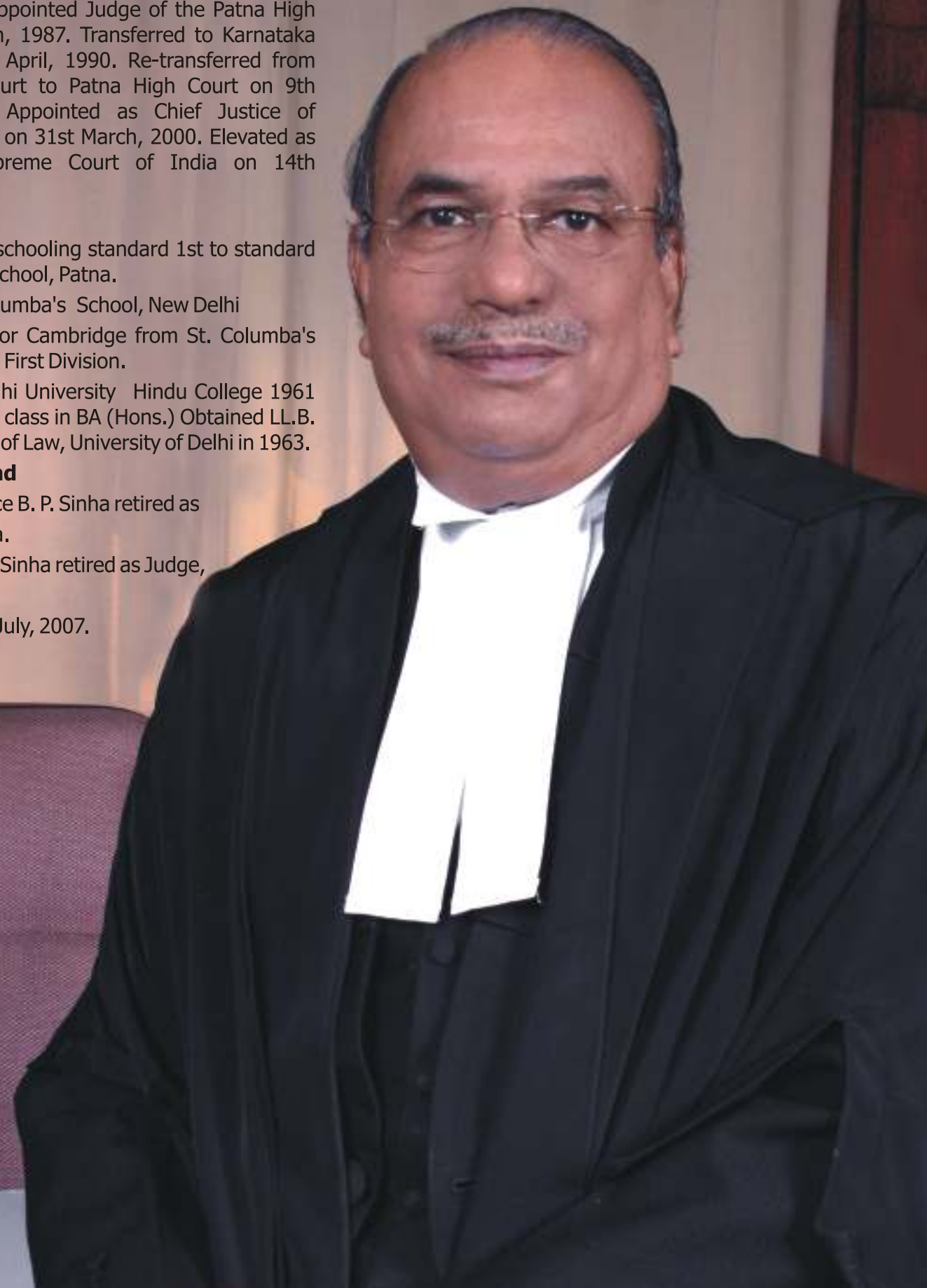
Graduated from Delhi University Hindu College 1961 standing first in first class in BA (Hons.) Obtained LL.B. degree from Faculty of Law, University of Delhi in 1963.

Family Background

Grand Father - Justice B. P. Sinha retired as Chief Justice of India.

Father - Justice R. P. Sinha retired as Judge, Patna High Court.

Due to retire on 9th July, 2007.



JUSTICE H.K. SEMA

Hon'ble Judge was born on 01.06.1943.

Did his graduation from St. Joseph College Darjeeling in the year 1967. Passed his LL.B. Examination from Govt. Law College, Bombay in 1970. Joined the Bar Council of Assam and Nagaland in 1971. Appointed as Junior Government Advocate, Nagaland in 1971 and continued in the same post up to 28.02.1975. In March 1975, started practice in the High Court as private practitioner. Appointed Assistant Advocate General, Nagaland from 16.11.1985. Appointed Judge in the Gauhati High Court on 24.05.1989. Appointed Acting Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court with effect from 05.04.2001. Transferred to High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and took oath on 07.06.2001 as Judge High Court of Jammu and Kashmir. Appointed Acting Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu and Kashmir with effect from 23.08.2001. Appointed Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and took oath on 12.09.2001. Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 9th April, 2002.

Due to retire on 1st June, 2008.

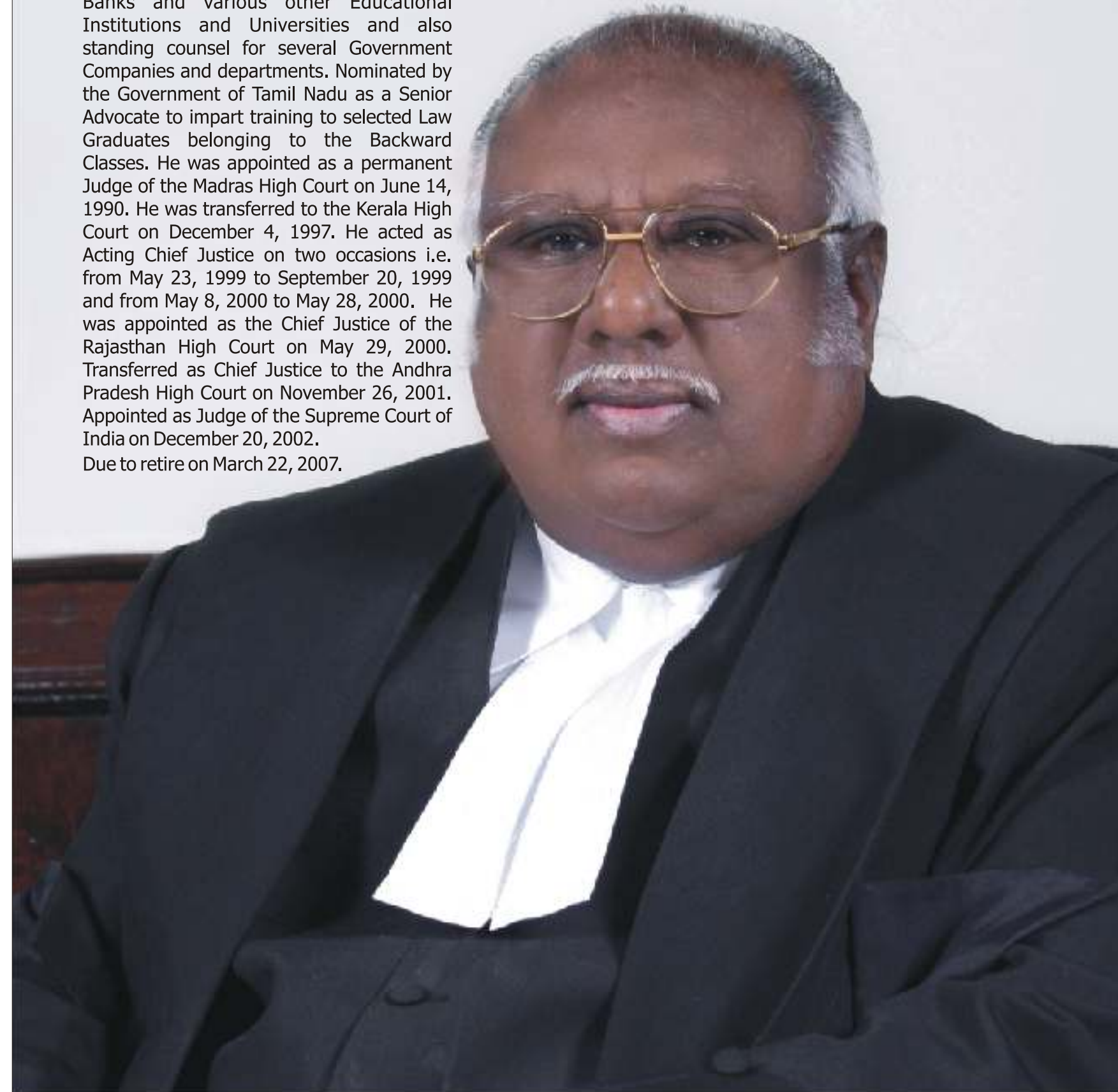


JUSTICE AR. LAKSHMANAN

Dr. Lakshmanan, Arunachalam Chettiar,
B.A., B.L. Born on March 22, 1942.

He was enrolled as an advocate on January 10, 1968 at Madras. He practiced in Civil Writs and Criminal matters both on Original and Appellate sides of the High Court. He also worked as Government Pleader of Tamil Nadu in the Madras High Court, and as Legal Adviser and standing counsel to several Banks and various other Educational Institutions and Universities and also standing counsel for several Government Companies and departments. Nominated by the Government of Tamil Nadu as a Senior Advocate to impart training to selected Law Graduates belonging to the Backward Classes. He was appointed as a permanent Judge of the Madras High Court on June 14, 1990. He was transferred to the Kerala High Court on December 4, 1997. He acted as Acting Chief Justice on two occasions i.e. from May 23, 1999 to September 20, 1999 and from May 8, 2000 to May 28, 2000. He was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court on May 29, 2000. Transferred as Chief Justice to the Andhra Pradesh High Court on November 26, 2001. Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on December 20, 2002.

Due to retire on March 22, 2007.



JUSTICE S.B. SINHA

SATYA BRATA SINHA, B.Sc., B.L., -

Hon'ble Judge was born on August 8, 1944 at Dhanbad.

Did his B.L. from Chota Nagpur Law College in 1967. Joined Dhanbad District Court in 1968 whereafter he shifted his practice to Ranchi after constitution of the Permanent Bench of Patna High Court in 1976.

Designated as Senior Advocate by Patna High Court. Appointed as the first Government Advocate of Ranchi Bench of Patna High Court. Elevated as a Judge of Patna High Court on March 9, 1987 and transferred to Calcutta High Court on May 11, 1994. Appointed Acting Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court in 1999 and Permanent Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court on December 11, 2000. Assumed the office of Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on November 26, 2001. Elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on October 3, 2002.

Due to retire on 8th August, 2009.

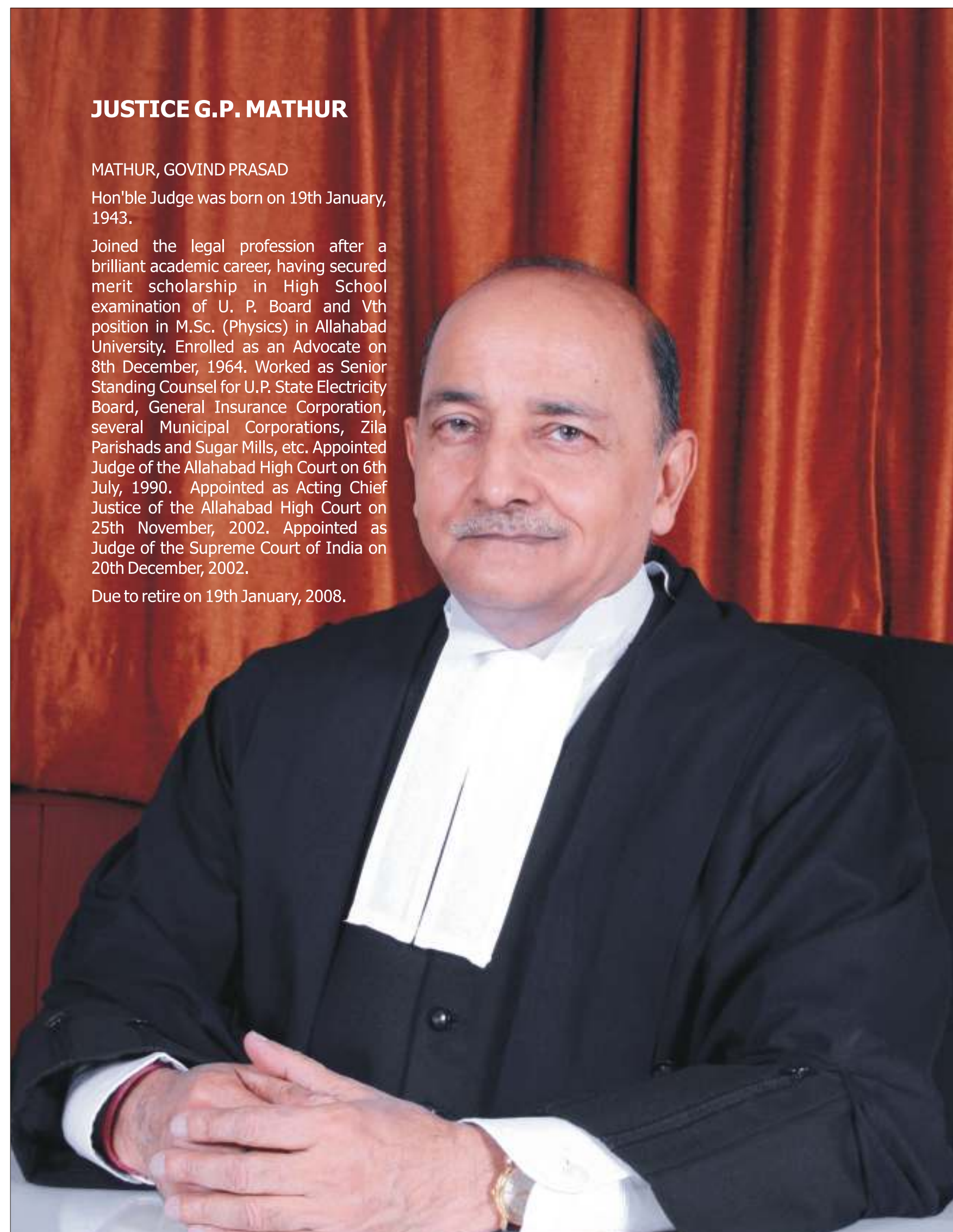
JUSTICE G.P. MATHUR

MATHUR, GOVIND PRASAD

Hon'ble Judge was born on 19th January, 1943.

Joined the legal profession after a brilliant academic career, having secured merit scholarship in High School examination of U. P. Board and Vth position in M.Sc. (Physics) in Allahabad University. Enrolled as an Advocate on 8th December, 1964. Worked as Senior Standing Counsel for U.P. State Electricity Board, General Insurance Corporation, several Municipal Corporations, Zila Parishads and Sugar Mills, etc. Appointed Judge of the Allahabad High Court on 6th July, 1990. Appointed as Acting Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court on 25th November, 2002. Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 20th December, 2002.

Due to retire on 19th January, 2008.



JUSTICE S.H. KAPADIA

Hon'ble Judge was born in Bombay on 29.9.1947.

Enrolled as an Advocate at Bombay on 10.9.1974. Appeared in Small Causes Courts, Co-operative Courts, Mufussil Courts, Bombay City Civil Court and Labour Courts, in the matters under Rent Act, Maharashtra Co-op. Societies Act, 1961, Land Revenue Code, Land Acquisition Act, Industrial Disputes Act, Tenancy Act, etc. Appeared in the High Court of Bombay in Constitutional matters, Taxation, Civil matters on Original side as well as on Appellate Side.

During the period 1987-90, His Lordship appeared as Standing Counsel for HPCL, BPCL, Nationalized and Foreign Banks and for Income Tax department.

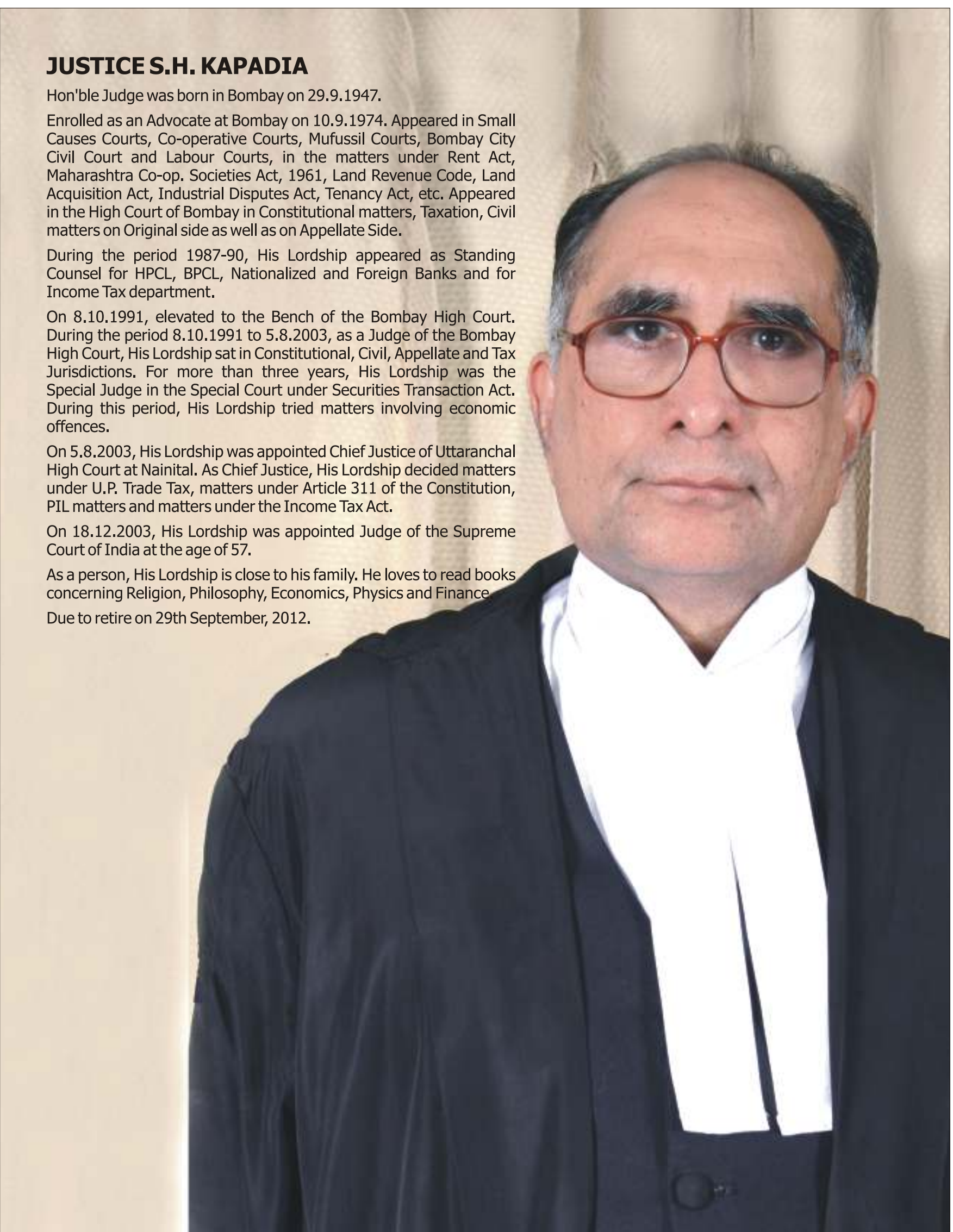
On 8.10.1991, elevated to the Bench of the Bombay High Court. During the period 8.10.1991 to 5.8.2003, as a Judge of the Bombay High Court, His Lordship sat in Constitutional, Civil, Appellate and Tax Jurisdictions. For more than three years, His Lordship was the Special Judge in the Special Court under Securities Transaction Act. During this period, His Lordship tried matters involving economic offences.

On 5.8.2003, His Lordship was appointed Chief Justice of Uttaranchal High Court at Nainital. As Chief Justice, His Lordship decided matters under U.P. Trade Tax, matters under Article 311 of the Constitution, PIL matters and matters under the Income Tax Act.

On 18.12.2003, His Lordship was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of India at the age of 57.

As a person, His Lordship is close to his family. He loves to read books concerning Religion, Philosophy, Economics, Physics and Finance.

Due to retire on 29th September, 2012.



JUSTICE A.K. MATHUR

Ashok Kumar Mathur, M.A. LL.B.

- Hon'ble Judge was born on August 7, 1943.

He was enrolled as an Advocate of the Rajasthan High Court on October 20, 1967. He was appointed as Assistant Government Advocate and Deputy Government Advocate on August 2, 1969 and Government Advocate of Jodhpur from January 31, 1977 to July 12, 1978. Appointed as Additional Advocate General in 1981. He was appointed as Additional Judge on July 13, 1985 and permanent Judge of the Rajasthan High Court on July 23, 1986. He was transferred to the Madhya Pradesh High Court on February 18, 1994. He was appointed as Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court from February 3, 1996. Transferred to the Calcutta High Court on December 22, 1999.

He was elevated as Judge, Supreme Court of India on June 7, 2004.

Due to retire on 7th August, 2008.

JUSTICE C.K. THAKKER

Hon'ble Judge was born on 10th November, 1943 at Mander near Porbandar, Gujarat.

Taken Primary Education in Mander and Madhavpur. Graduated from Bahauddin College, Junagadh. Did LL.B. from M. P. Shah Law College, Jamnagar and LL.M. from Gujarat University. Practised from 1968 in High Court of Gujarat. Elevated as Judge of High Court of Gujarat on 21st June, 1990, and became Chief Justice of High Court of Himachal Pradesh on 5th May, 2000. Transferred as Chief Justice of High Court of Judicature at Bombay on 31st December, 2001. Was Acting Governor of Maharashtra from July to October, 2002. Became Judge of Supreme Court of India from June 7, 2004.

Internationally acclaimed as great author. His "**Lectures on Administrative Law**" is prescribed as text book by various Universities. In Administrative Law, Lord Denning described him as "rival to Sir William Wade" in U. K. He described the literary work "**Administrative Law**" as "an excellent piece of work, both in analysis and research". Revised "**Law of Writs**" by V. G. Ramachandran and "**Law of Crimes**" by Ratanlal and Dhirajlal. Authored book titled "**Code of Civil Procedure, 1908**", (Lawyers' Edition) and "**Civil Procedure**" (Students Edition). To his credit lies literary works like "**Civil Procedure (Butterworths)**", under the project "**Halsbury's Laws of India**"; "**Criminal Procedure (R. R. Tripathi) (Students) (1994)**"; "**Indian Penal Code (Revised) (Ratanlal & Dhirajlal) (2002) 25th Edition. Published "Comparative Law (2nd Edition) and "Administrative Law (Lectures) in Gujarati.**

Due to retire on 10th November, 2008.

JUSTICE TARUN CHATTERJEE

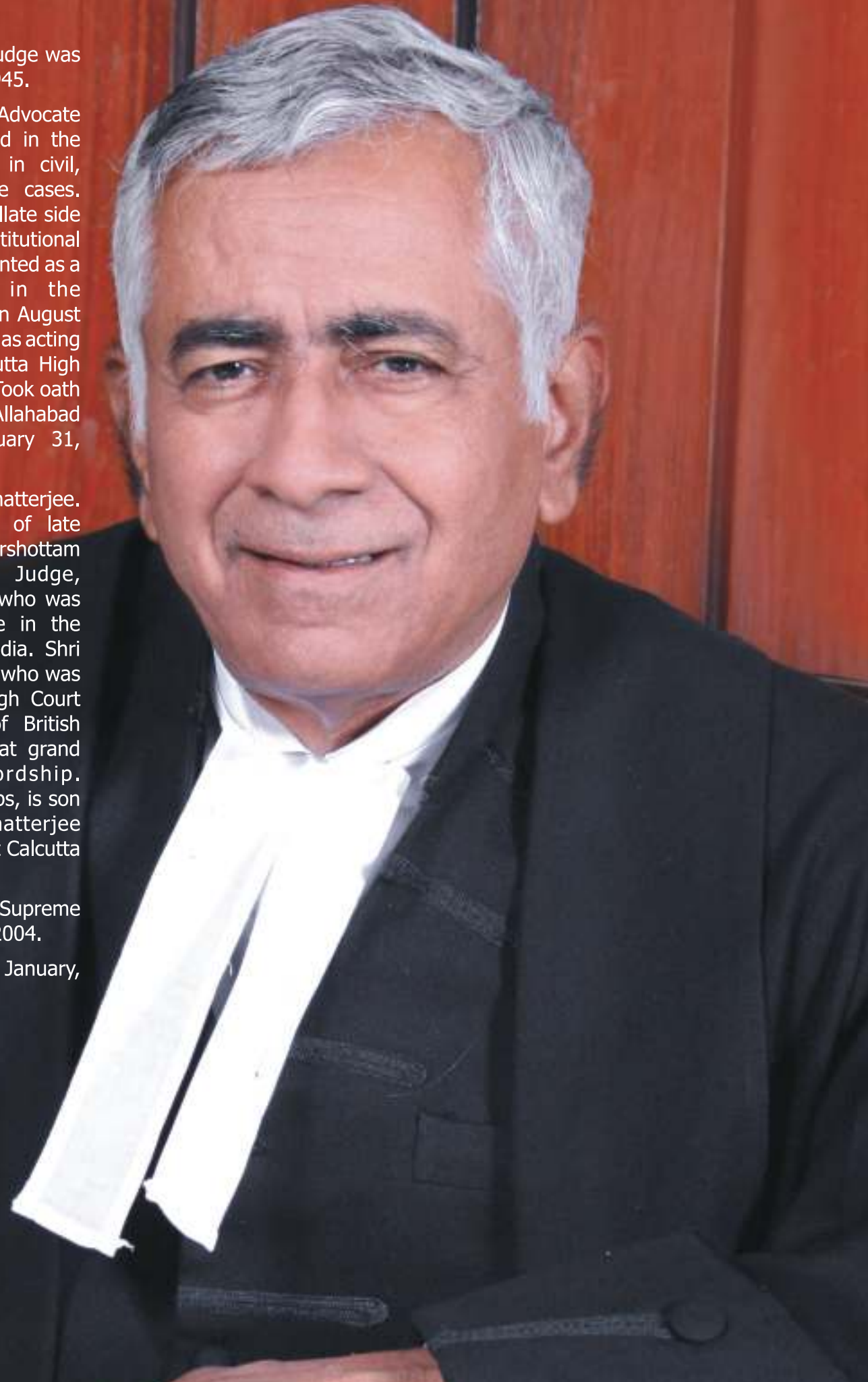
B. Sc., LLB. Hon'ble Judge was born on January 14, 1945.

He was enrolled as an Advocate in 1970 and practised in the Calcutta High Court in civil, criminal and revenue cases. Practised on the appellate side and dealt with Constitutional matters. He was appointed as a permanent Judge in the Calcutta High Court on August 6, 1990 and also acted as acting Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court for some time. Took oath as Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court on January 31, 2003.

Married to Kumkum Chatterjee. His Lordship is son of late Hon'ble Mr. Justice Purshottam Chatterjee, former Judge, Calcutta High Court, who was also Senior Advocate in the Supreme Court of India. Shri Digambar Chatterjee, who was Judge of Calcutta High Court during the period of British Government was great grand father of His Lordship. Following his foot-steps, is son Shri Aniruddha Chatterjee practicing Advocate at Calcutta High Court.

Appointed Judge of Supreme Court on 27th August 2004.

Due to retire on 14th January, 2010.



JUSTICE P. K. BALASUBRAMANYAN

Peruvemba Krishna Iyer Balasubramanyan, B.Sc., B.L.

Hon'ble Judge was born on August 28, 1942.

After taking his law degree from the Madras Law College, he was enrolled as an Advocate with Bar Council, Madras on October 5, 1964. He commenced his practice in the Kerala High Court as a junior to Shri T. S. Venkiteswara Iyer, Supreme Court Advocate. Specialized in Civil Law on the Appellate side and the Constitutional Law. He was Standing Counsel for the Food Corporation of India, the State Bank of India and some other local Banks. He was appointed as an Additional Judge of Kerala High Court on June 4, 1992 and as a permanent Judge, on March 10, 1993. He was appointed as Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court on December 5, 2001. Was transferred as Chief Justice to the Jharkhand High Court, with effect from 10.3.2003 and worked as such till 26.8.2004.

Elevated as Judge, Supreme Court of India on 27.08.2004.

Due to retire on 28th August, 2007.



A portrait of Justice P.P. Naolekar, an elderly man with glasses and a mustache, wearing a black judicial robe with a white collar. He is looking directly at the camera against a plain, light-colored background.

JUSTICE P.P. NAOLEKAR

Hon'ble Judge was born at Jabalpur on 29th of June 1943.

Graduated from G.S. Commerce College and did Law from Hitkarni Law College, Jabalpur University in the year 1963. Joined legal profession in the year 1965 in the Chamber of late Justice A. P. Sen, retired Judge of Supreme Court and later Justice J. S. Verma, retired Chief Justice of India.

Practiced in civil, constitutional and labour sides. Appointed as Standing Counsel of the Madhya Pradesh High Court in 1989. Appeared for various educational institutions, public bodies and corporate bodies. Became a permanent Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on 15th of June 1992. Transferred to Rajasthan High Court, and became the Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court on 10th of May 2002. Elevated to the Supreme Court on 27th August 2004.

Belongs to the lawyers' family. Grand father late Shri R.G. Naolekar and father late Shri P.R. Naolekar, were leading members of the Madhya Pradesh High Court. Actively participated in cultural and educational activities at Jabalpur.

Due to retire on 29th June, 2008.

A portrait of Justice Altamas Kabir, a man with glasses wearing a black judicial robe with a white collar. He is holding an open book and looking slightly to the right. The background shows a bookshelf filled with books.

JUSTICE ALTAMAS KABIR

Son of Late Jahangir Kabir, Hon'ble Judge was born on July 19, 1948 at Calcutta.

Did his schooling and sat for the Senior Cambridge Examination from Calcutta Boys' School. Thereafter did B.A. with Honours in History from the Presidency College, Calcutta and completed both M.A. and LL.B from the University of Calcutta thereafter.

Enrolled at the Bar on August 1, 1973 and practised in both the District Courts and High Court in all matters.

Elevated as a permanent Judge of High Court at Calcutta on August 6, 1990.

Assumed the office of Acting Chief Justice of High Court at Calcutta on January 11, 2005.

Was responsible for the computerization of the High Court at Calcutta and the City Civil Court and other Courts in Calcutta.

Elevated as a Chief Justice of the High Court of Jharkhand on 1.3.2005.

Elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 9.9.2005.

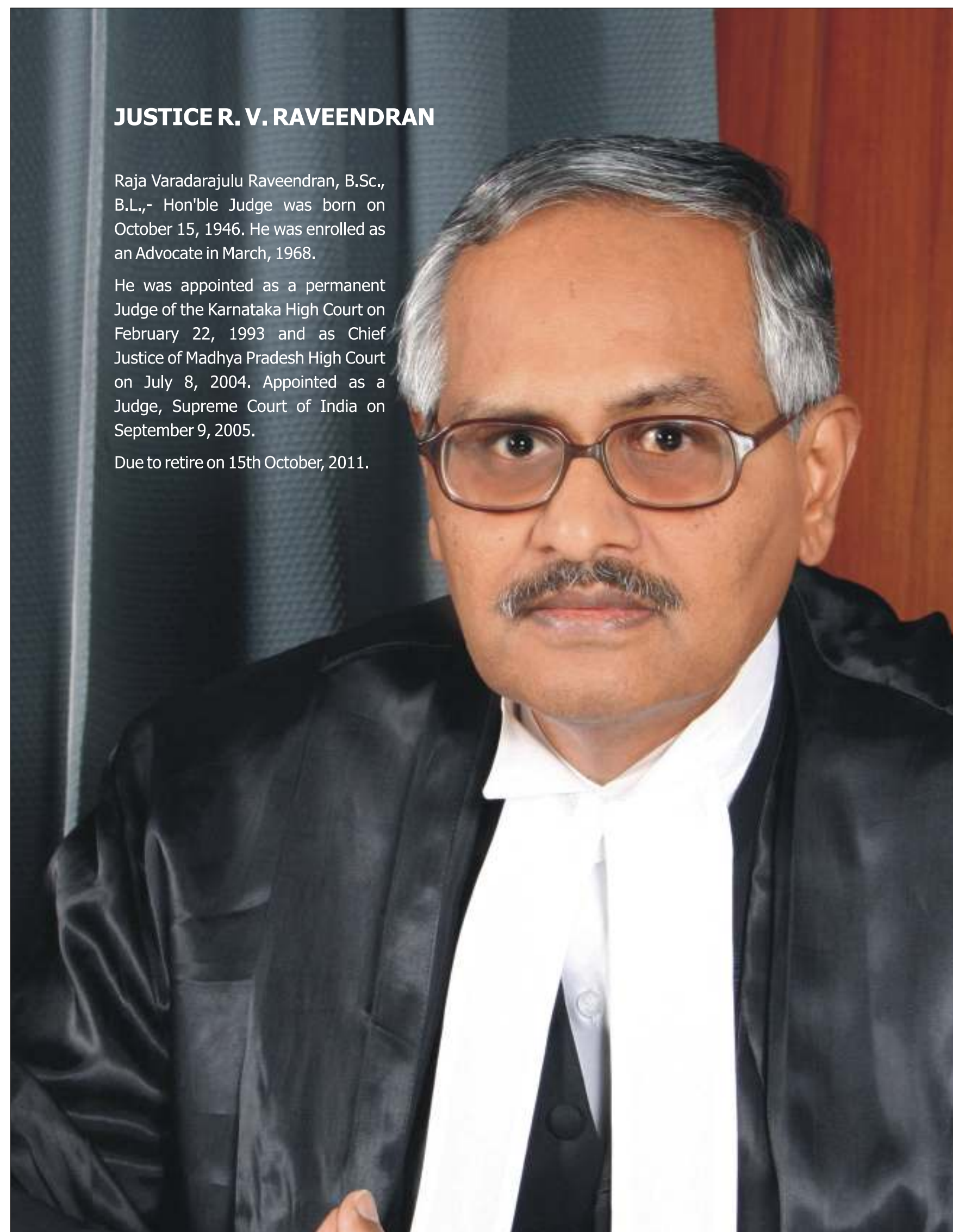
Due to retire on 19th July, 2013.

JUSTICE R. V. RAVEENDRAN

Raja Varadarajulu Raveendran, B.Sc., B.L.,- Hon'ble Judge was born on October 15, 1946. He was enrolled as an Advocate in March, 1968.

He was appointed as a permanent Judge of the Karnataka High Court on February 22, 1993 and as Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court on July 8, 2004. Appointed as a Judge, Supreme Court of India on September 9, 2005.

Due to retire on 15th October, 2011.



JUSTICE DALVEER BHANDARI

Hon'ble Judge was born on 1st October, 1947.

After Graduating in Humanities and Law on an International Scholarship, he did Master of Laws from the Northwestern University, Chicago, USA. He also worked for about two years with the Northwestern Legal Assistance Clinic, and appeared in Chicago Courts on behalf of the litigants of the said clinic.

On an International Fellowship, he visited Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Sri Lanka for observational-cum-lecture tour of Legal Aid and Clinical Legal Educational Programmes associated with the Law Courts and Law Schools.

He worked on an International Project "Delay in the Administration of Criminal Justice in India" sponsored by the United Nations.

In 1968 he began his professional career in the Rajasthan High Court and later shifted to Delhi in 1977 and practiced in the Supreme Court till elevation in the Delhi High Court in March 1991.

He functioned as a Chairperson, Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee for several years.

He was also a Chairperson of the Advisory Boards of Delhi State of COFEPOSA and NSA for a number of years.

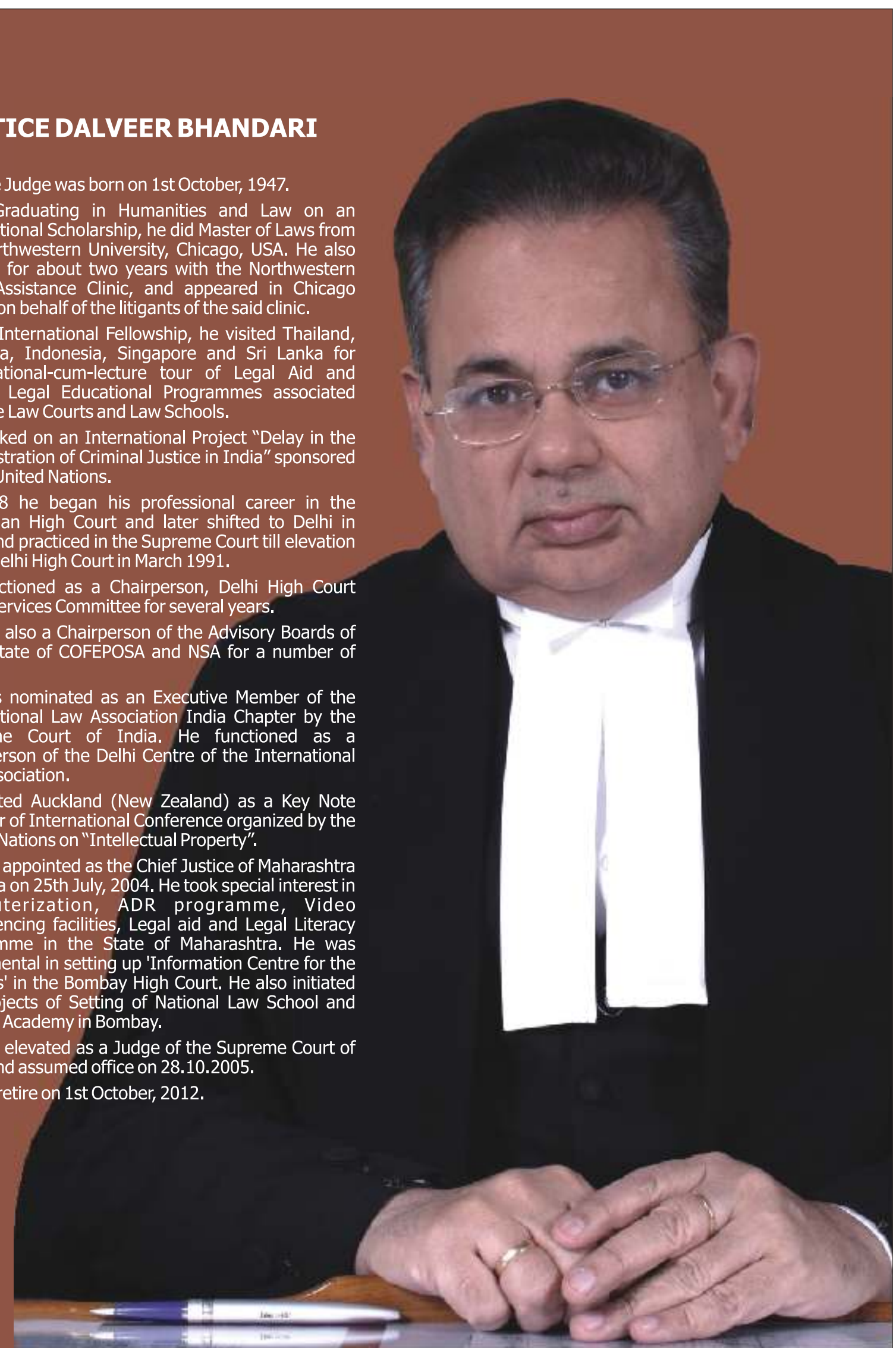
He was nominated as an Executive Member of the International Law Association India Chapter by the Supreme Court of India. He functioned as a Chairperson of the Delhi Centre of the International Law Association.

He visited Auckland (New Zealand) as a Key Note Speaker of International Conference organized by the United Nations on "Intellectual Property".

He was appointed as the Chief Justice of Maharashtra and Goa on 25th July, 2004. He took special interest in computerization, ADR programme, Video Conferencing facilities, Legal aid and Legal Literacy Programme in the State of Maharashtra. He was instrumental in setting up 'Information Centre for the litigants' in the Bombay High Court. He also initiated the Projects of Setting of National Law School and Judicial Academy in Bombay.

He was elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India and assumed office on 28.10.2005.

Due to retire on 1st October, 2012.

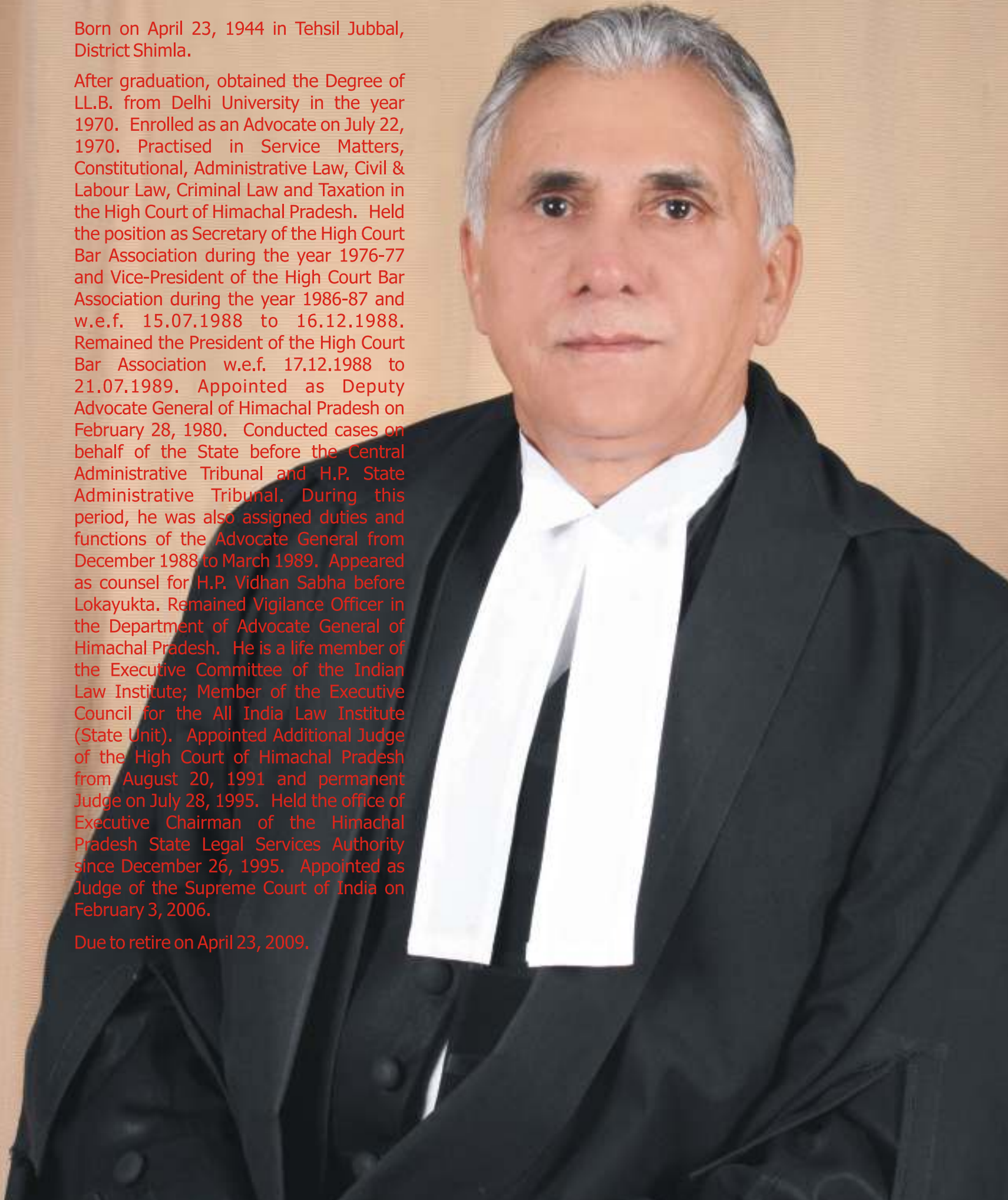


JUSTICE LOKESHWAR SINGH PANTA

Born on April 23, 1944 in Tehsil Jubbal, District Shimla.

After graduation, obtained the Degree of LL.B. from Delhi University in the year 1970. Enrolled as an Advocate on July 22, 1970. Practised in Service Matters, Constitutional, Administrative Law, Civil & Labour Law, Criminal Law and Taxation in the High Court of Himachal Pradesh. Held the position as Secretary of the High Court Bar Association during the year 1976-77 and Vice-President of the High Court Bar Association during the year 1986-87 and w.e.f. 15.07.1988 to 16.12.1988. Remained the President of the High Court Bar Association w.e.f. 17.12.1988 to 21.07.1989. Appointed as Deputy Advocate General of Himachal Pradesh on February 28, 1980. Conducted cases on behalf of the State before the Central Administrative Tribunal and H.P. State Administrative Tribunal. During this period, he was also assigned duties and functions of the Advocate General from December 1988 to March 1989. Appeared as counsel for H.P. Vidhan Sabha before Lokayukta. Remained Vigilance Officer in the Department of Advocate General of Himachal Pradesh. He is a life member of the Executive Committee of the Indian Law Institute; Member of the Executive Council for the All India Law Institute (State Unit). Appointed Additional Judge of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh from August 20, 1991 and permanent Judge on July 28, 1995. Held the office of Executive Chairman of the Himachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority since December 26, 1995. Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on February 3, 2006.

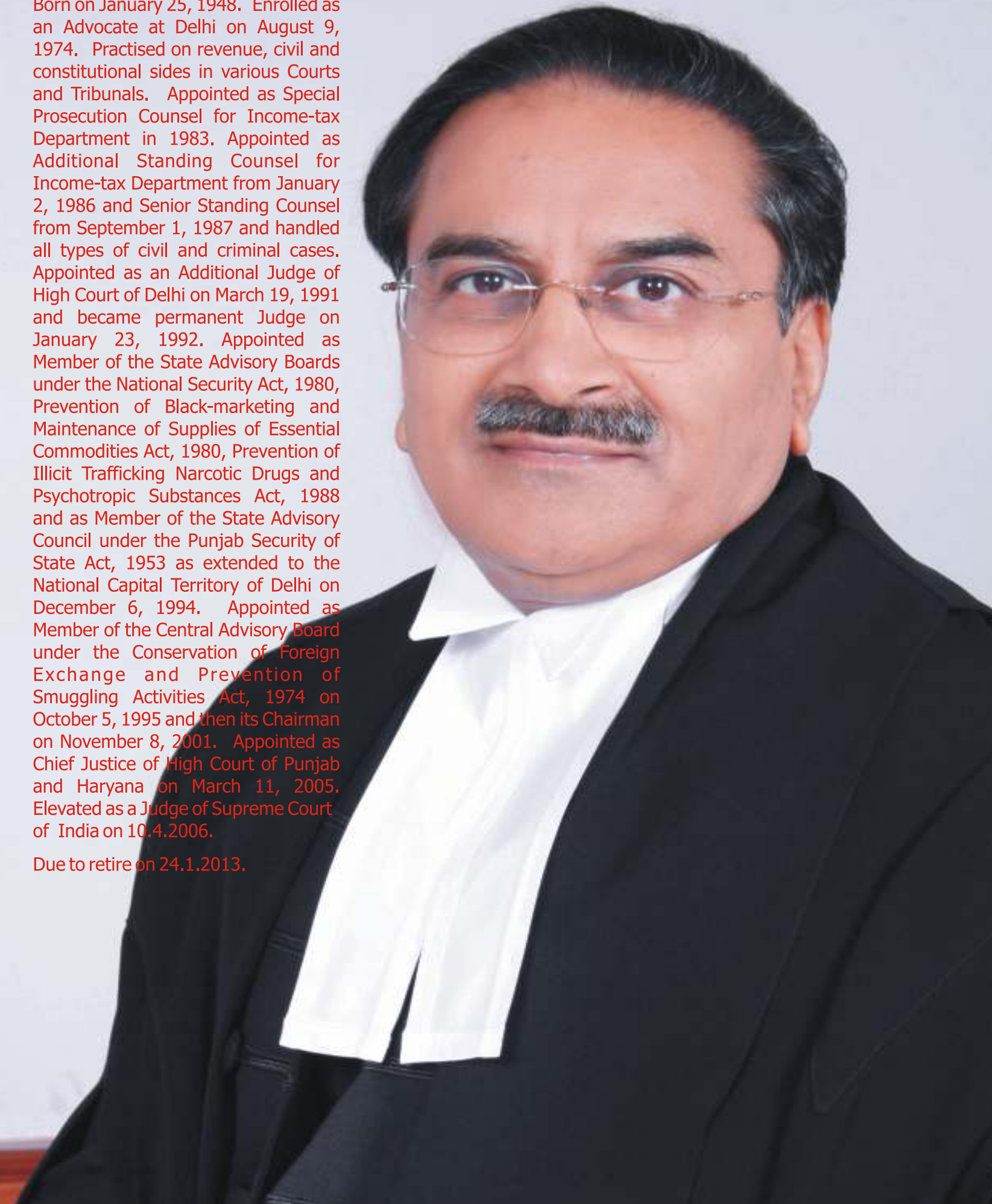
Due to retire on April 23, 2009.



JUSTICE D.K. JAIN

Born on January 25, 1948. Enrolled as an Advocate at Delhi on August 9, 1974. Practised on revenue, civil and constitutional sides in various Courts and Tribunals. Appointed as Special Prosecution Counsel for Income-tax Department in 1983. Appointed as Additional Standing Counsel for Income-tax Department from January 2, 1986 and Senior Standing Counsel from September 1, 1987 and handled all types of civil and criminal cases. Appointed as an Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on March 19, 1991 and became permanent Judge on January 23, 1992. Appointed as Member of the State Advisory Boards under the National Security Act, 1980, Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, Prevention of Illicit Trafficking Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 and as Member of the State Advisory Council under the Punjab Security of State Act, 1953 as extended to the National Capital Territory of Delhi on December 6, 1994. Appointed as Member of the Central Advisory Board under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 on October 5, 1995 and then its Chairman on November 8, 2001. Appointed as Chief Justice of High Court of Punjab and Haryana on March 11, 2005. Elevated as a Judge of Supreme Court of India on 10.4.2006.

Due to retire on 24.1.2013.



JUSTICE MARKANDEY KATJU

Hon'ble Judge was born on 20-9-1946. Son of late Justice S.N. Katju, former Judge of Allahabad High Court, and the grandson of late Dr. K.N. Katju, former Union Home and Defence Minister, Governor of West Bengal and Orissa and Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. His uncle Justice B.N. Katju was Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court.

Obtained first division in every examination he appeared for, from Senior Cambridge to LL.B. Stood first in the merit list in LL.B from Allahabad University in 1967. Practiced law in the Allahabad High Court specializing in Labour Law, Taxation and Writ Petitions. Worked as Standing Counsel, Income Tax Department. Also served as a Member, International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ) and attended conference in Switzerland from 23rd to 28th October 2000 and various other law related conferences. Elevated as Judge of Allahabad High Court in the year 1991. Appointed as Acting Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court in August 2004, Chief Justice of Madras High Court in November 2004, and Chief Justice of Delhi High Court in October 2005. Elevated to Supreme Court on 10th April, 2006.

His Lordship is keenly interested in academics, and has wide range of interests in Sanskrit, Urdu, History, Philosophy, Science, Sociology. Has written several books, such as 'Law in the Scientific Era', 'Interpretation of Taxing Statutes' and 'Domestic Enquiry'.

Due to retire on 20th September, 2011.



Hon'ble Judges During 2005-06

RUMA PAL



Date of appointment - 28.01.2000
Held office till - 2.06.2006

ARUN KUMAR



Date of appointment - 3.10.2002
Held office till - 11.04.2006

B.N. SRIKRISHNA



Date of appointment - 3.10.2002
Held office till - 20.05.2006

More utterance of the words 'Supreme Court of India' invokes great respect in the minds of millions of Indians and the hearts are imbued with the spirit of confidence that the country is and will remain stable with justice for all as long as the Supreme Court of India is in command of the judicial system.

ARETROSPECT

2. It is said that - "Roots of the present lie deep in the past". If one was to enter the realm of Indian legal history, there is no end as to how much in time one can go back. However, to understand the present, it may be worth taking a few steps back and looking at the times of the British. Here note is being taken only of the major incidents which shaped the society in a manner so as to make it receptive to present judicial system which could come up and function effectively.
3. Charter issued to the East India Company by King George-I on 24th September, 1726 brought out important changes in the judicial administration of the Presidency Towns of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The civil and criminal Courts established in the Presidency Towns then started deriving their authority from the King. This Charter brought into existence the system of appeals from India to the Privy Council in England.
4. A time came when, to control the acts of the East India Company, the King in England had to intervene. Regulating Act of 1773 published in "The Statutes At Large" in the

Eleventh Volume contains the Regulating Act in "C. A. P. LXIII". The Act was brought about for "establishing certain Regulations for the better management of the affairs of East India Company as well in India as in Europe". {"..... establishing certain Regulations for the better management of the affairs of the East India Company as well in India as in Europe.} The Act subjected the East India Company to the control of the British Government and provided for His Majesty by Charter or Letters Patent to establish a Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William at Calcutta superseding the prevalent judicial system there. The Act contained provision for appointment of a Chief Justice and three puisne Judges. The Act provided that Supreme Court of Judicature "shall have full Power and Authority to hear and determine all Complaints against any of His Majesty's Subjects for any Crimes, Misdemeanours, or Oppressions, committed, or to be committed; and also to entertain, hear, and determine, any Suits or Actions whatsoever, against any of His Majesty's Subjects in Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, and any Suit, Action or Complaint against any Person who shall, at the Time when such Debt, or Cause of Action or Complaint, shall have arisen, have been employed by, or shall then have been, directly or indirectly, in the Service of the said United Company, or of any of His Majesty's Subjects." {"..... shall have full Power and Authority to hear and determine all Complaints against any of His Majesty's Subjects for any Crimes, Misdemeanours, or Oppressions, committed or to be committed; and also to entertain, hear,

"Chamber of Princes" Now part of Parliament, where Supreme Court held sittings till it shifted to the present building in 1958.

and determine, any Suits or Actions whatsoever against any of His Majesty's Subjects in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and any Suit, Action or Complaint against any Person who shall, at the Time when such Debt or Cause of Action or Complaint, shall have arisen, have been employed by, or shall then have been, directly or indirectly, in the Service of the said United Company, or any of His Majesty's Subjects.”}

One interesting provision found in the Regulating Act of 1773 is in Clause XXIII which prohibits the Governor-General or any of the Council of the said United Company's Presidency of Fort William in Bengal or any Chief Justice or any of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William from directly or indirectly, by themselves or by any other person or persons on his behalf, to accept, receive or take of or from any “Perfon or Perfons”, {“Person or Persons”} in any manner or on any account whatsoever any “Prefent Gift, Donation, Gratuity or Reward, pecuniary or otherwise”. {“Present Gift, Donation, Gratuity or Reward, pecuniary or otherwise.”}

5. Letters Patent establishing “The Supreme Court of Judicature, at Fort William, in Bengal” were issued on March 26, 1774. It was to be a Court of Record. Sir Elijah Impey was appointed as Chief Justice and Robert Chambers, Stephen Ceasar Lemaistre and John Hyde were appointed puisne Judges. The Supreme Court established at Fort William was a Court of Equity. There was provision to appeal against the orders of the Supreme Court to the King in Council.
6. On issue of Charter, on 26th December, 1800, King George-III established Supreme Court at Madras with effect from 4th September, 1801. By another Charter dated 8th December, 1823, another Supreme Court was established at

Bombay (now Mumbai) which was formally inaugurated on 8th May, 1824. The Supreme Courts at Madras and Bombay were on same lines as the Supreme Court at Calcutta.

British Parliament passed Act establishing The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in 1833. The Act established a statutory permanent committee of legal experts to hear appeals from the British colonies. Thus the Privy Council was transformed by the Act of 1833 into a great Imperial Court of unimpeachable authority.

7. The Indian High Courts Act, 1861 was passed by the British Parliament on 6th August, 1861 which abolished these Supreme Courts and then existing Sadar Adalats in the Presidency Towns and established High Courts in their place. The High Courts were granted civil, criminal, admiralty, vice-admiralty, testimony, intestate, matrimonial jurisdictions and had Original and Appellate powers.
8. The Judicial System thus grew in India.
9. Government of India Act, 1935 (26 Geo. V & I Edw. VII Ch.2) came to be enacted on 2nd August, 1935. Part IX of the Act dealt with “The Judicature”. This Part of the Act laid down in Section 200 that “There shall be a Federal Court consisting of a Chief Justice of India and such number of other Judges as His Majesty may deem necessary, but unless and until an address has been presented by the Federal Legislature to the Governor-General for submission to His Majesty praying for an increase in the number of Judges, the number of puisne Judges shall not exceed six”. Section 203 of the 1935 Act declared that the Federal Court shall be a Court of Record and shall sit in Delhi and at such other place or places, if any, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the Governor-General, from time to time (decide).

The Federal Court had under Section 204 of the 1935 Act original jurisdiction in matters where there was dispute between the Provinces or Federal States. Section 205 provides for appeals from the judgments, decrees or final orders of the High Courts.

It was the first Constitutional Court and also the first all India court of extensive jurisdiction. Section 212 introduced the doctrine of precedent in India as the law declared by the Federal Court and Privy Council had been given binding effect on all the Courts in British India. The Federal Court of India had Original, Appellate and Advisory Jurisdiction. The Federal Court of India had its inaugural in 1937 in Chamber of Princes in Parliament Building in New Delhi & sat there for 12 years until Supreme Court of India replaced it.

10. With the transfer of power from the British

Parliament to the people of India, under the India Independence Act, 1947 (10 & 11 Geo.VI.c30), it was considered necessary to establish a Supreme Judicial organ in India, Supreme in its authority and in jurisdiction. In the first instance, jurisdiction of the Federal Court of India was enlarged by enacting Federal Court (Enlargement of Jurisdiction) Act, 1947 (Act 1 of 1948) and paving the way for abolishing the provision of appeal against its decision to Privy Council in the year 1949, the Federal Court of India was made the highest judicial authority.

11. A new era in the legal history of India began on 26th January, 1950 when the Constitution of India came into force.

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA-AS ON TODAY

12. The Supreme Court of India as it exists today



Study Table, Federal Court - Early 20th Century

is creature of the Constitution of India and has been envisaged under Article 124. It succeeded the Federal Court and came into existence on 26th January, 1950. The inaugural session was held on 28th January, 1950 in the Chamber of Princes which is now part of the Parliament House. The Supreme Court of India shifted to its present building in 1958. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harilal Jekisundas

Kania who was Chief Justice of India under the system of Federal Court had the honour of becoming the first Chief Justice of India on establishment of the Supreme Court of India under the Constitution.

13. It is interesting to note here particulars of the Chief Justice and Judges who presided at the time of establishment of the Supreme Court: -

S. No.	Name	Date of Appointment in the Federal Court	Date of Appointment in the Supreme Court of India	Held Office Till
1.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harilal Jekisundas Kania	20/06/1946 ----- 14/08/1947 (CJI)	26/01/1950 (CJI)	06-11-1951
2.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sir Saiyid Fazal Ali	09/06/1947	26/01/1950	18-09-1951
3.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Patanjali Sastri	06/12/1947	26/01/1950 ----- 07/11/1951 (CJI)	03-01-1954
4.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan	04/10/1948	26/01/1950 ----- 04/01/1954 (CJI)	22-12-1954
5.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bijan Kumar Mukherjea	14/10/1948	26/01/1950 ----- 23/12/1954 (CJI)	31-01-1956
6.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. R. Das	20/01/1950	26/01/1950 ----- 01/02/1956 (CJI)	30-09-1959

Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Aiyar was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court on 23-09-1950 and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivian Bose became Judge of Supreme Court on 05-03-1951.

14. Chapter IV of the Constitution of India deals with "Union Judiciary". Article 124 relates to establishment and constitution of the Supreme Court. It, inter alia, provides for composition, appointment, qualification for being appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court and removal of a Judge from Office. Initially, under Article 124 (1), it was provided that there shall be a Supreme Court of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India and, until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven other Judges. The number of Judges was raised from 7 to 10 vide Section 2 of Act 55 of 1956; from 10 to 13 Hon'ble Judges, vide Section 2 of Act 17 of 1960; 13 to 17 vide Section 2 of Act 48 of 1977 and later on, the number of Hon'ble Judges became 25 vide Section 2 of Act 22 of 1986. Thus, at present, the Constitution provides that there shall be a Chief Justice of India and not more than 25 Judges. Article 125 deals with salaries, etc. of Hon'ble Judges. Article 126 takes care of the situation where Acting Chief Justice is required to be appointed. There is also provision for appointment of ad hoc Judges under Article 127 and attendance of retired Judges at sittings of the Supreme Court is possible under Article 128.
15. Supreme Court is Court of Record according to Article 129 and its seat shall be at Delhi in view of Article 130. Article 130 also provides that the Supreme Court can sit at other place or places. Law declared by Supreme Court is binding on all Courts within the territory of India in view of Article 141. Thus, doctrine of precedent introduced by Section 212 of Government of India Act, 1935 was

recognized even in Article 141 of the Constitution of India.

16. JURISDICTION

16.1 Original Jurisdiction

- a. Writ Jurisdiction
- The right to move the Supreme Court by appropriate proceedings for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights is guaranteed under Article 32. Supreme Court has powers to issue directions or orders or writs including writs in the nature of Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Prohibition, Quo Warranto and Certiorari, whichever may be appropriate for the enforcement of any of the Fundamental Rights.
- b. Election Disputes Relating to President/Vice-President of India
- All doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision shall be final, in view of Article 71.
- c. Original Suits
- Article 131 lays down contingencies when Supreme Court can exercise Original Jurisdiction to the exclusion of any other Court. These are matters relating to disputes between the Government of India and one or more States; or between Government of India and any State or States on one side and one or more other States on the other; or between two or more States, if and in so far as the dispute involves any question (whether of law or fact) on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends.
- d. Transfer of Cases
- Under Section 25 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and Section 406 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, Supreme Court has powers to transfer matters from one High

Court to another High Court or from one Court subordinate to one High Court to another Court subordinate to another High Court. Under Article 139A, Supreme Court can transfer to itself cases involving same or substantially the same questions of law pending before it and one or more High Courts in certain contingencies.

e. Arbitration Matters

Arbitration matters in Supreme Court are dealt with as per the Scheme called “The Appointment of Arbitrators by the Chief Justice of India Scheme, 1996”, which has been framed under Section 11(10) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. The petitions/applications in this regard are now being dealt with in terms of Judgment of the Constitution Bench of 7 Hon'ble Judges passed in the matter of “M/s S. B. P. & Co. Vrs. M/s Patel Engineering Ltd. & Another” (Civil Appeal No.4168 of 2003)

f. Contempt Petitions

Under Article 129, Supreme Court is a Court of Record and has all the powers of such a Court including the power to punish for contempt of itself. Article 142 makes provisions to ensure that decrees and orders passed by Supreme Court are effectively enforced. There are “Rules to Regulate Proceedings for Contempt of the Supreme Court, 1975”.

16.2 Appellate Jurisdiction

A. General

Appellate Jurisdiction is exercised under Articles 132 to 134. According to Article 132, an appeal shall lie to the Supreme Court from any Judgment, Decree or Final Order of a High Court in the territory of India, whether in a civil, criminal or other proceeding, if the High Court certifies under Article 134A that the

case involves a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution.

An appeal shall lie to Supreme Court from any Judgment, Decree or Final order in civil proceeding of a High Court, if the High Court certifies under Article 134A (a) that the case involves substantial question of law of general importance; and (b) that in the opinion of the High Court, the said question needs to be decided by the Supreme Court. This is in view of Article 133. In criminal matters, Article 134 provides for provision as to when on certificate from the High Court under Article 134A, an appeal can be filed to Supreme Court.

B. Statutory Appeals

Provisions of Statutory Appeals are as under: -

- (I) Section 379 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 read with Section 2 of the Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Act, 1970, as amended by the Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Amendment Act, 1972.
- (II) Section 19 of the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987.
- (III) Section 19(1)(b) of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971.
- (IV) Section 10 of the Special Court (Trial of Offences relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992.
- (V) Section 23 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.
- (VI) Section 130E of the Customs Act, 1962.
- (VII) Section 35(L) of the Central Excise Act, 1944.
- (VIII) Section 4 of The Competition Act, 2002.
- (IX) Section 38 of the Advocates Act, 1961.
- (X) Section 116A of The Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- (XI) Section 15-Z of the Securities and Exchange

Board of India Act, 1992.

(XII) Section 18 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

(XIII) Section 261 of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

C. Special Leave Petitions

The most resorted to provision is Article 136 providing for Special Leave to Appeal which may be granted by the Supreme Court in its discretion. The proceedings are popularly referred to as “S.L.P.”.

D. References

Income Tax Appellate Tribunal can through its President refer to Supreme Court, under Section 257 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 any question of law regarding which there is conflict in the decisions of High Courts and it is expedient that a reference should be made to the Supreme Court.

16.3 Advisory Jurisdiction

According to Article 143, if at any time it appears to the President of India that a question of law or fact has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court of India upon it, he may refer the question to the Supreme Court for consideration and the Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to the President its opinion thereon.

Other provisions of reference to Supreme Court can be found in: -

- i. Article 317, as regards removal of Chairman or any other Member of a Public Service Commission.
- ii. Section 11 of the Competition Act, 2002 as regards removal of a Member of the Commission.
- iii. Removal of Chief Information Commissioner or Information Commissioner; State Chief

Information Commissioner or State Information Commissioner as per Section 14 and 17 of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

16.4 Review Petitions

Article 137 provides that the Supreme Court shall have power to review any Judgment pronounced or Order made by it. As per listing procedures, Review Petitions are disposed of by circulation and not directly listed in Court, unless the Court issues notice.

16.5 Curative Petitions

A provision has been made to reconsider the Final Judgment/Order on limited ground by way of a Curative Petition under the inherent powers even after the dismissal of the Review Petition, in view of the decision of the Court in the matter of “Rupa Ashok Hurra v. Ashok Hurra & Another” {(2002) 2 SCR 1006}. The Judgment lays down as to when such Curative Petition could be filed.

16.6 Public Interest Litigation

In addition to the above, Court exercises its powers to do justice in matters popularly known as “Public Interest Litigation” (PIL). The general rule of locus standi for moving a Court is at times relaxed in matters of Public Interest Litigation where the poor, ignorant or socially or economically disadvantaged position people are unable to seek legal remedy themselves. The Court has on occasions entertained even Petitions received by post as PIL. A PIL Section has been carved out with guidelines issued from time to time by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

Statement from the year 1985 onwards, including the number of Letter Petitions received and Regular Writ Petitions filed under PIL, is as follows: -

**LETTERS/PETITIONS AND WRIT PETITIONS (CIVIL & CRIMINAL)
RECEIVED/FILED UNDER PIL IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

Year	Letters/Petitions received in Hindi	Letters/Petitions received in English (and other regional languages)	Writ Petition (Civil)	Writ Petition (Criminal)
1985	24716		105	2
1986	25419		286	10
1987	4892	13519	119	19
1988	5620	10651	71	25
1989	5964	11805	76	22
1990	5757	12214	92	26
1991	5280	12194	61	28
1992	5286	11675	62	16
1993	4989	10760	96	38
1994	5862	10604	83	20
1995	5658	9436	109	44
1996	8175	11005	185	36
1997	6747	8756	180	35
1998	5689	7398	160	17
1999	6472	8867	137	21
2000	7271	10493	161	22
2001	7421	9777	159	23
2002	6555	8963	186	13
2003	6205	8088	156	21
2004	7154	8499	171	22
2005	8111	6150	215	12
2006	#7739	#6150	#166	#15

UP TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2006

17. IMPORTANT PROVISIONS OF CONSTITUTION OF INDIA, OTHER ACTS AND RULES RELATING TO SUPREME COURT

The Constitution and other Acts and Rules relating to the Supreme Court of India are as under: -

1. Constitution of India Articles 124 to 147 THE UNION JUDICIARY.
2. Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 (51 of 1968)
3. Judges (Protection) Act, 1985 (59 of 1985)
4. Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Act, 1970 (28 of 1970)

AMENDED BY: -

Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Amendment Act, 1972 (37 of 1972)

5. Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 (55 of 1956)

AMENDED BY: -

Supreme Court (No. of Judges) Amendment Act, 1960 (17 of 1960)

Supreme Court (No. of Judges) Amendment Act, 1977 (48 of 1977)

Supreme Court (No. of Judges) Amendment Act, 1986 (22 of 1986)

6. Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 (41 of 1958)

AMENDED BY: -

Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1971 (77 of 1971)

Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1976 (36 of 1976)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1980 (57 of 1980)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1985 (36 of 1985)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1986 (38 of 1986)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1988 (20 of 1988)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1989 (32 of 1989)

Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1991 (72 of 1993)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1994 (2 of 1994)

Supreme Court and High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1996 (20 of 1996)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1998 (18 of 1998)

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1998 (7 of 1999)

Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 2002 (8 of 2003)

The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 2005 (46 of 2005)

SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

1. Judges (Inquiry) Rules, 1969.
2. Supreme Court Rules, 1966.
3. Supreme Court (Decrees and Orders) Enforcement Order, 1954.
4. Supreme Court Judges Rules, 1959.
5. Supreme Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Rules, 1959.
6. Rules to Regulate proceedings for contempt of the Supreme Court, 1975.

4

LEADING JUDGMENTS OF THE SUPREME COURT DURING THE YEAR 2005-2006

In view of Article 141 of the Constitution of India the law declared by the Supreme Court is binding on all and hence every judgement delivered by the Supreme Court has its own importance. Some of the judgements which have wider implications and touch every part of nation's life, delivered during the preceding year, are given hereinbelow.

1. In "**Rameshwar Prasad & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.**", Constitution Bench by majority held that the act of the Government recommending dissolution of the Assembly should be only with the sole object of preservation of the Constitution and not promotion of the political interest of one or the other party. If Governor acts to the contrary by creating a situation whereby a party is prevented even to stake a claim and recommends dissolution of the Assembly to achieve that object, exercise of such jurisdiction would be wholly illegal, irregular, unconstitutional and malafide.

[(2006) 2 SCC 1]

2. An important decision relating to compulsory registration of marriages came in the matter "**Seema Vs. Ashwani Kumar**", The Court held that registration of marriages comes within the ambit of expression "vital statistics" in Schedule VII List III Entry 30. Marriages of all persons who are citizens of India belonging to various religions have been made compulsory registerable in their respective States, where marriage is solemnized.

[(2006) 2 SCC 578]

3. On entitlement of reservation to woman of forward class marrying a tribal man, an important decision came in the case of "**Anjan Kumar Vs. Union of India & Ors.**". In this case, it has been held that a woman of forward class marrying a tribal man cannot automatically attain the status of tribal unless she has been accepted by the community as one of them, observed all rituals, customs and traditions practised by the members of the tribal society for the purpose of social relations with the village community. Such acceptance must be by the village community by a resolution and such resolution must be entered in the Village Register kept for the purpose.

[(2006) 3 SCC 257]

4. Dealing with Section 13(1) of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 relating to Divorce, the Court in the case of "**Naveen Kohli Vs. Neelu Kohli**" observed that irretrievable breakdown of marriage should be statutory ground for divorce. A Law of divorce based mainly on fault is inadequate to deal with a broken marriage. As irretrievable breakdown of a marriage is not a ground for divorce under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the Court has recommended the Union of India to seriously consider bringing an amendment in the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 to incorporate irretrievable breakdown of marriage as a ground for the grant of divorce.

[(2006) 4 SCC 558]

5 Dealing with the rights of temporary, contractual, casual, daily-wage or ad-hoc employees, the Court in the matter of **"Secretary, State of Karnataka & Ors. Vs. Umadevi & Ors."** has observed that the theory of legitimate expectation cannot be successfully advanced by temporary, contractual or casual employees. It has also been observed that the State cannot hold out any promise while engaging these persons either to continue them where they are or to make them permanent. The Constitution does not require the State to make such a promise. It is also observed that the doctrine of legitimate expectation can be invoked if the decisions of the administrative authority affect the person by depriving him of some benefit or advantage which either (i) he had in the past been permitted by the decision-maker to enjoy and which he can legitimately expect to be permitted to continue to do until some rational grounds have been communicated to him for withdrawing it on which he has been given an opportunity to comment; or (ii) he has received assurance from the decision-maker that he will not be withdrawn without first giving him an opportunity of advancing reasons for contending as to why he should not be withdrawn.

[(2006) 4 SCC 1]

6 On dealing with Section 5 of Mysore Prevention of Cow Slaughter and Cattle Preservation Act, 1964 in **"Akhil Bharat Goseva Sangh Vs. State of Andhra Pradesh & Ors."**, the Court has observed that though total prohibition of cow and cow progeny slaughter has been justified in Mirzapur case, but as it has not been held that permitting slaughter of bovine cattle by itself is unconstitutional, the Court observed that declaring Section 5 of the 1964 Act as

unconstitutional and directing the State Government to impose the total ban on slaughter of bovine cattle would lead to judicial legislation and would encroach upon the powers of the legislature.

[(2006) 4 SCC 162]

7 In a Public Interest Litigation namely **"M.C. Mehta Vs. Union of India & Ors."** relating to large scale flagrant violations of building, land and town planning laws in Delhi, the Court observed that it has a constitutional duty to protect the fundamental rights of the Indian citizens in the residential areas where residential premises are used for commercial purposes. The Court observed that when violators and/or abettors of the violations are those who have been entrusted by law with a duty to protect these rights, the task becomes difficult and also requires urgent intervention by the Court so that the rule of law is preserved and people may not lose faith in it. Finding violations at the hands of supposed implementers, directions for identifying and taking appropriate action against officers responsible for misuse of property at large scale were issued. The Court has further observed that owners of the misused property have also an implied responsibility towards hardship, inconvenience, suffering caused to the residents of the locality and injuries to third party. The Court refused to stay the process of sealing such properties, commenced pursuant to the orders passed by this Court.

[(2006) 3 SCC 399]

8 The decision in the matter of **"Zahira Habibullah Sheikh & Anr. Vs. State of Gujarat & Ors."** is being considered as an eye opener for all concerned with the administration of criminal justice. In this

case, the Court observed that time has become ripe to act on account of numerous experiences faced by the Court on account of the witnesses frequently turning hostile, due to threats, coercion, lures and monetary considerations at the instance of those in power, their henchmen and hirelings, political clouts and patronage and innumerable other corrupt practices ingeniously adopted to smothering and stifling the truth and realities from coming out to the surface rendering truth and justice to become ultimate casualties. The Court imposed sentence of one year and a fine of Rs. 50,000/- to Zahira for perjury and disowning her statements at different stages of the trial in Best Bakery case.

[(2006) 3 SCC 374]

9 Court dealt with the question of liability of lotteries to sales tax in the matter of **"Sunrise Associates Vs. Govt. of N.C.T. & Ors."** The question that arose before the Constitutional Bench of the Court on reference was whether the lottery tickets are goods for the purposes of Articles 366 (29-A)(a) of the Constitution and the state sales tax law. It was held that the contention that the lottery ticket itself is the subject matter of sales which is accessible to sales tax is unacceptable. The Court also observed that the sale of a ticket does not necessarily involve the sale of goods. It is nothing other than the contract of carriage.

[(2006) 5 SCC 603]

10 While entertaining a criminal appeal, the Court in the matter of **"Mayuram Subramanian Srinivasan Vs. C.B.I."**, held that requirement to surrender prior to registration of Criminal appeal under Order 21, Rule 13-A of Supreme Court Rules, 1966 is mandatory in character and said requirement has to be complied with except when an order is passed for exemption from

surrendering. The Court further observed that appeals must be posted for hearing only after appellants surrender and file proof in respect thereof.

[(2006) 5 SCC 752]

11 Dealing with the matter relating to inter-caste marriages and scope of right to life, freedom of conscience and expressions of the inter-caste couple in the matter of **"Lata Singh Vs. State of U.P. & Anr."** the Court observed that the caste system is a curse on the nation and inter caste marriages are in the national interest as they will result in destroying the caste system. Young men and women who undergo inter caste marriage are threatened with violence or violence is actually committed on them. The Court held that such acts of violence or threats or harassment are fully illegal and those who commit them must be severely punished. Directions issued to the Administration/ Authorities throughout the country to ensure that if any boy or girl, who is a major undergoes inter caste or inter religious marriage, the couple is not harassed by any one and any one who gives such threat or harasses or commits acts of violence either himself or at his instigation, should be taken to task by instituting criminal proceedings by the police against such person and further stern action is taken against them as provided by law.

[(2006) 5 SCC 475]

12 Court also dealt with the meaning and interpretation of the phrase "Office of Profit" in the matter of **"Jaya Bachan Vs. Union of India & Ors."** The question was whether the Chairperson of the U.P. Film Development Council holds an "office of Profit" and is disqualified of being a member of Rajya

Sabha. The Court held that the question whether a person holds an "office of Profit" is required to be interpreted in a realistic manner for decision. For deciding the question as to whether one is holding an "Office of Profit" or not, what is relevant is whether the office is capable of yielding a profit or pecuniary gain and not whether the person actually obtained a monetary gain. If the "pecuniary gain" is "receivable" in connection with the office then it becomes an "Office of Profit", irrespective of whether such pecuniary gain is actually received or not.

[(2006) 5 SCC 266]

13. Dealing with the constitutional validity of the Representation of People (amendment) Act (40/2003), by which the requirement of "domicile", in the state concerned for getting elected to the Council of State is deleted, the Court in the matter of "**Kuldip Nayar & Ors. vs. U.O.I. & Ors.**" has rejected the contention of the petitioner that the amended provisions violate the principles of federalism, a basic structure of the Constitution. The Court held that the representatives of the State in Rajya Sabha need not necessarily belong to the State concerned. The Court observed that the residence, in the matter of qualification becomes a constitutional requirement only if it is expressly so stated in the Constitution. Residence is not the essence of structure of the Upper House and not a prerequisite of federalism or an essential basic feature of all federal constitutions. The Court held that if Parliament has chosen not to require a residential qualification, it does not violate the basic feature of federalism.

[2006 (7) SCC 1]

14. Dealing with the plight of women prisoners-

children languishing in jail with their mother, who are in jail either as undertrial prisoners or as convicts, the Court in the matter of "**R.D. Upadhyay vs. State of A.P. & Ors.**" has observed that since a child is not to be treated as an undertrial or convict while in jail with his/her mother, such a child is entitled to food, shelter, medical care, clothing, education and recreational facilities as a matter of right. The Court has also issued guidelines regarding pregnancy of women prisoners, child birth in jail, food, clothing, medical care, shelter, education, recreational facilities in respect of such children. Directions to all the States and Union Territories have been issued to implement the schemes and laws relating to welfare and development of such children in letter and spirit and also for carrying out the necessary amendments in jail manual or other relevant rules.

[JT 2006 (5) SC 18]

15. On permissibility of free medical treatment facility to ex-servicemen like in-service defence personnel, the Constitution Bench of the Court in the matter of "**Confederation of ex-servicemen Associations & Ors. vs. U.O.I. & Ors.**" observed that the doctrine of legitimate expectation cannot be applied to the case as Article 14 only seeks to prevent or prohibit a person or class of persons from being singled out from others similarly situated and does not prohibit classification if otherwise it is legal and reasonable. The Court observed that the contributory scheme for the retired defence personnel cannot be held illegal or unlawful or unconstitutional and asking them to make a one time contribution for medical treatment neither violates Part III nor is inconsistent with Part IV of the Constitution.

[JT 2006 (8) SC 547]

16. Considering the necessity of Police reforms in Criminal Justice delivery system and role, performance and responsibilities of the Police in the matter of "**Prakash Singh and Ors. Vs. U.O.I. & Ors.**", the Court observed that preparation of a model Police Act by the Central Government and enactments of new Police Acts by the State Government and insulating the Police from pressures are matters of necessity and urgency. The Court issued several guidelines and directives for Constitution of State Security Commission by the States, selection of DGP's, I.G.'s and other officers, separation of investigation and for setting up of Police establishment board, Police Complaints Authority and National Security Commission.

[JT 2006 (12) SC 225]

17. Dealing with the validity of notification dated 07.09.2006 issued by the Government amending the Master Plan and providing certain protection to certain categories of premises, the Court in the matter of "**M.C. Mehta Vs. U.O.I. & Ors.**" observed that the legislature lacks competence to extend the time granted by the Apex Court for sealing the misused premises. The Court also restrained the Government from issuing any notification for conversion of residential user into commercial user except with the leave of the Court.

[JT 2006 (12) SC 351]

18. Dealing with the power of the President or Governor to grant pardon, suspend, reduce or commute sentences, the Court in the matter of "**Epuru Sudhakar & Anr. Vs. Govt. of A.P.**

& Ors." observed that the exercise or non-exercise of pardon-power by the President or Governor is not immune from judicial review. The Court held that the constitutional power ought not to be exercised arbitrarily or with malafide intentions. Consideration of religion, caste, colour or political loyalty are totally irrelevant and fraught with discrimination. It was further observed that in the absence of reason the exercise of the power to grant Pardon will be an exercise in futility. A person who seeks exercise of highly discretionary power of a high constitutional authority has to show bona fides and must place materials with clean hands.

[JT 2006 (9) SC 72]

19. The Constitution Bench of the Court in the matter of "**M. Nagaraj & Ors. Vs. U.O.I. & Ors.**" dealt with the constitutional validity of Constitution (77th, 81st, 82nd and 85th) Amendment Acts inserting Article 16(4A) and 16(4B) through which provision for reservation in promotion with consequential seniority has been made. The Court held that the impugned constitutional amendments by which Article 16(4A) and 16(4B) have been inserted, flow from Article 16(4) and do not alter the structure of Article 16(4). The Court while reiterating the ceiling limit of 50% in reservation, observed that the concept of creamy layer and the compelling reasons, namely, backwardness, inadequacy of representation and overall administrative efficiency are all constitutional requirements without which the structure of equality of opportunity in Article 16 would collapse.

[WP (C) No.61 of 2002

decided on 19th October, 2006.]

INDEX OF CASES :-

- | | |
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| (1) "Rameshwar Prasad & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr. - (2006)2 SCC 1 | (11) "Lata Singh Vs. State of U.P. & Anr." - (2006) 5 SCC 475 |
| (2) "Seema Vs. Ashwani Kumar" - (2006)2 SCC 578 | (12) "Jaya Bachan Vs. Union of India & Ors." - (2006) 5 SCC 266 |
| (3) "Anjan Kumar Vs. Union of India & Ors." - (2006) 3 SCC 257 | (13) "Kuldip Nayar & Ors. vs. U.O.I. & Ors." - 2006(7)SCC 1 |
| (4) "Naveen Kohli Vs. Neelu Kohli" - (2006) 4 SCC 558 | (14) "R.D. Upadhyay vs. State of A.P. & Ors." -JT 2006(5)SC 183 |
| (5) "Secretary, State of Karnataka & Ors. Vs. Umadevi & Ors." - (2006)4 SCC 1 | (15) "Confederation of ex-servicemen Associations & Ors. vs. U.O.I. & Ors." -JT 2006(8)SC 547 |
| (6) "Akhil Bharat Goseva Sangh Vs. State of Andhra Pradesh & Ors." - (2006) 4 SCC 162 | (16) "Prakash Singh and Ors. Vs. U.O.I. & Ors." - JT 2006(12)SC 225 |
| (7) "M.C. Mehta Vs. Union of India & Ors." - (2006) 3 SCC 399 | (17) "M.C. Mehta Vs. U.O.I. & Ors." -JT 2006(12) SC 351 |
| (8) "Zahira Habibullah Sheikh & Anr. Vs. State of Gujarat & Ors." - (2006)3 SCC 374 | (18) "Epuru Sudhakar & Anr. Vs. Govt. of A.P. & Ors." -JT 2006(9)SC 72 |
| (9) "Sunrise Associates Vs. Govt. of N.C.T. & Ors." - (2006)5 SCC 603 | (19) "M. Nagaraj & Ors. Vs. U.O.I. & Ors." - WP (C) No.61 of 2002 decided on 19 th October, 2006 |
| (10) "Mayuram Subramanian Srinivasan Vs. C.B.I." - (2006) 5 SCC 752 | |



Library

5.1 JUDICIALSIDE

The Registry of the Supreme Court has computerised Sections for processing the cases. Institution of cases takes place at the Filing Counter with the aid of computerized system. Registration of cases is effected through computer once they are defect-free and are listed through computer application strictly in chronological order within a fortnight of their registration before the Benches of Hon'ble Judges dealing with the particular set of subject categories allocated to them.

The List of Business has been categorised in two parts; Part I contains the admission matters and Part II contains the regular hearing matters. Cause lists are generated through the computer for listing matters before the Benches constituted for the day.

The computer classifies the cases, allocates them to appropriate Benches and generates the lists, such as Terminal List, Weekly List, Advance List, Daily Cause List (Final Cause List) and Supplementary List. So far as admission matters are concerned, Advance Lists thereof for Mondays and Fridays are generated and issued two weeks before the actual dates of listing and Supplementary Lists thereof are issued on preceding Saturdays and Thursdays respectively. On Mondays, approximately 60-65 admission matters are listed for hearing before each Division Bench and approximately 45-48 admission matters, including final disposal matters subject to the ceiling of 10 matters, are listed on Fridays.

The work relating to grouping of matters and classification of cases which come up for hearing before the Supreme Court is done by senior officers posted in Section I-B with a view to ensure that the cases/matters involving common/identical

question(s) of law are posted before the appropriate Bench so as to avoid conflicting decisions in similar type of matters.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays are earmarked for hearing regular matters. So far as hearing of regular matters are concerned, Terminal List thereof for the year is generated through computer before the reopening of the Court after the summer vacation and therefrom Weekly List of regular hearing matters is generated followed by the Daily List for Tuesday which is generated and issued on preceding Friday/Saturday and Supplementary List thereof is issued on Monday. Likewise, Daily Lists are issued on Tuesday and Wednesday for the cases listed for the following days respectively.

Till the year 1990, the backlog of cases increased manifold. Various steps were taken to bring down the pendency of cases. The procedure was streamlined and simplified, shedding the pedantic approach. Infructuous cases on account of non-survival of cause of action with the passage of time and also cases covered by the Judgments/Orders already passed by the Court were identified and listed before the Court for disposal. Apart therefrom, cases with cognate issues were listed together. It could become possible with computer application and Court management. Resultantly, the rate of disposal increased; logjam of cases decreased. The Court Management was evolved keeping in view the following aspects, viz., goal setting, statistical analysis, causes of delay, case-flow management and a variety of general techniques for the improvement of Court efficiency, including Court's supervision and control of the movement of cases from institution till final disposition. This exercise was relentlessly pursued and had impact in reducing arrears. The

pendency of cases, which was 58,794 as on 1.1.1994, came down to 19,032 cases as on 1.1.1998.

5.2 STEPS TAKEN IN RECENT PAST TO REDUCE ARREARS AND EXPEDITE DISPOSAL OF CASES

1. Grouping & Tagging

Detailed particulars of the matters coming to Supreme Court are entered in the Computer. Consequently, the appeals/petitions arising out of the same order/judgment or same subject matter/cause are tagged and are heard and decided together. Wherever the previous matters have already been disposed of, the subsequent matter is heard by the same Court, which shortens the hearing and expedites disposal.

2. Categorisation

Different subject categories including sub-categories have been named for the matters likely to be filed in this Court and category number is given against each matter at the time of registration. Each category has been allocated to one or more Judges and matters of that category are listed only before those Judges. Judges hearing matters on a particular subject, develop sort of expertise in those subjects which reduces the time taken in disposal of the matter.

3. Classification

The question of law involved in every matter is extracted and fed in the computer by use of appropriate catchword, in order to ensure that the cases involving same question of law are heard and decided by the same Court. This is yet another measure which increased disposal.

OTHERS:

4. A large number of matters have been taken up for final disposal instead of adopting the usual

course of granting leave and hearing them in due course. This course of action expedites hearing and has increased disposal.

5. Group matters are given top most priority in listing so that maximum cases may be heard and decided by a common order.
6. Constitution Bench/larger Bench are sitting regularly to decide important question of law and as a result, a large number of matters involving common issue are being disposed of expeditiously. Five Judges Constitution Bench held sittings for 44 days to hear 292 Constitution Bench matters and Nine Judges Constitution Bench held sittings for 5 days to hear 33 connected matters.
7. Number of matters being listed on Misc. Days has been increased (upto 65), which has resulted in increased disposal.
8. All the fresh matters are listed within 10 to 14 days of registration and many of them are disposed of at the preliminary hearing.
9. In order to ensure quick disposal of Tax matters which normally have huge revenue applications, two Benches have been constituted to deal exclusively with those matters. A large number of regular matters have already been disposed of by these Benches.
10. Cases of certain categories such as Matters of Senior Citizens, Matrimonial Matters, Corruption cases, Matters of Undertrial Prisoners, Matters of Workmen who are out of Job and Old Cases, including the cases in which litigation in the lowest forum started long ago but the matter reached this Court only recently are being heard on priority basis.
11. If a Senior Judge retires or is not sitting on a particular date the matter is listed before the other Judge, who earlier heard that matter along with the Senior Judge.
12. Fresh matters are now being registered on the

basis of self-signed Check List. This practice ensures immediate registration of the matters for the purpose of hearing.

13. In addition to Regular Court hearings, two Judges hear Misc. Applications including Bail Applications in Chambers twice a week, which expedites disposal of the cases.
14. As many as six Benches are dealing with criminal cases, in order to expedite hearing of such matters.
15. Two Judges sit throughout the vacation, to hear urgent matters. If need be, urgent matters are also heard at the Residence of Judges after working hours and during holidays.
16. In the preceding year, during summer vacation additional Benches were constituted to hear old and urgent regular hearing matters in addition to urgent miscellaneous matters.
17. Filing of fresh matters on the basis of check list, certified by Advocate-on-Record had been introduced. It allows registration of the matter on the same day since detailed scrutiny is not required.
18. Seven additional counters for filing of the cases have been opened. As a result, Advocates and Clerks do not have to wait for filing of their matters.
19. The Courts of Registrars have been established under the new amendments in the Rules. At present, two Registrar's Courts are working. Court No. 1 is dealing with 125 matters and Court No. 2 is dealing with 60 matters daily. There is no ceiling of matters on Fridays. Court No. 1 is being presided by Shri B. Sudheendra Kumar and Court No. 2 is presided by Shri S.G. Shah, Registrars.

Apart from matters prescribed under Order VI Rule 1 of the Supreme Court Rules 1966 (as amended), these Courts are dealing with the incomplete category of matters for which it is required from the Counsel and/or the parties in person, as the case may be, to take the necessary steps for completing the matter. These courts are facilitating the Hon'ble Courts with complete category of matters resulting in saving the valuable time of the Hon'ble Court.

Registrar's Court No. 1 is also dealing with the mentioning of urgent matters with regard to preponement or postponement of the cases to be listed before the Hon'ble Court.

As a result of the above referred steps, despite decrease in the strength of Supreme Court, there has been consistent increase in disposal. 35,300 cases were disposed of by this Court in the year 2000, whereas disposal in the year 2005 was 46,210, cumulative increase being as much as 31% in a period of 5 years. In 2006, 42,160 cases have already been disposed of by this Court till 30th September, 2006.

However, the institution during this period surpassed the increased disposal and was as much as 50,540 in the year 2005, as against 37,111 in 2000. 46,009 cases have already been instituted till 30th September, 2006.

**STATEMENT OF INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL & PENDENCY OF CASES IN
THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA FROM THE YEAR 1950 TO 30.09.2006**

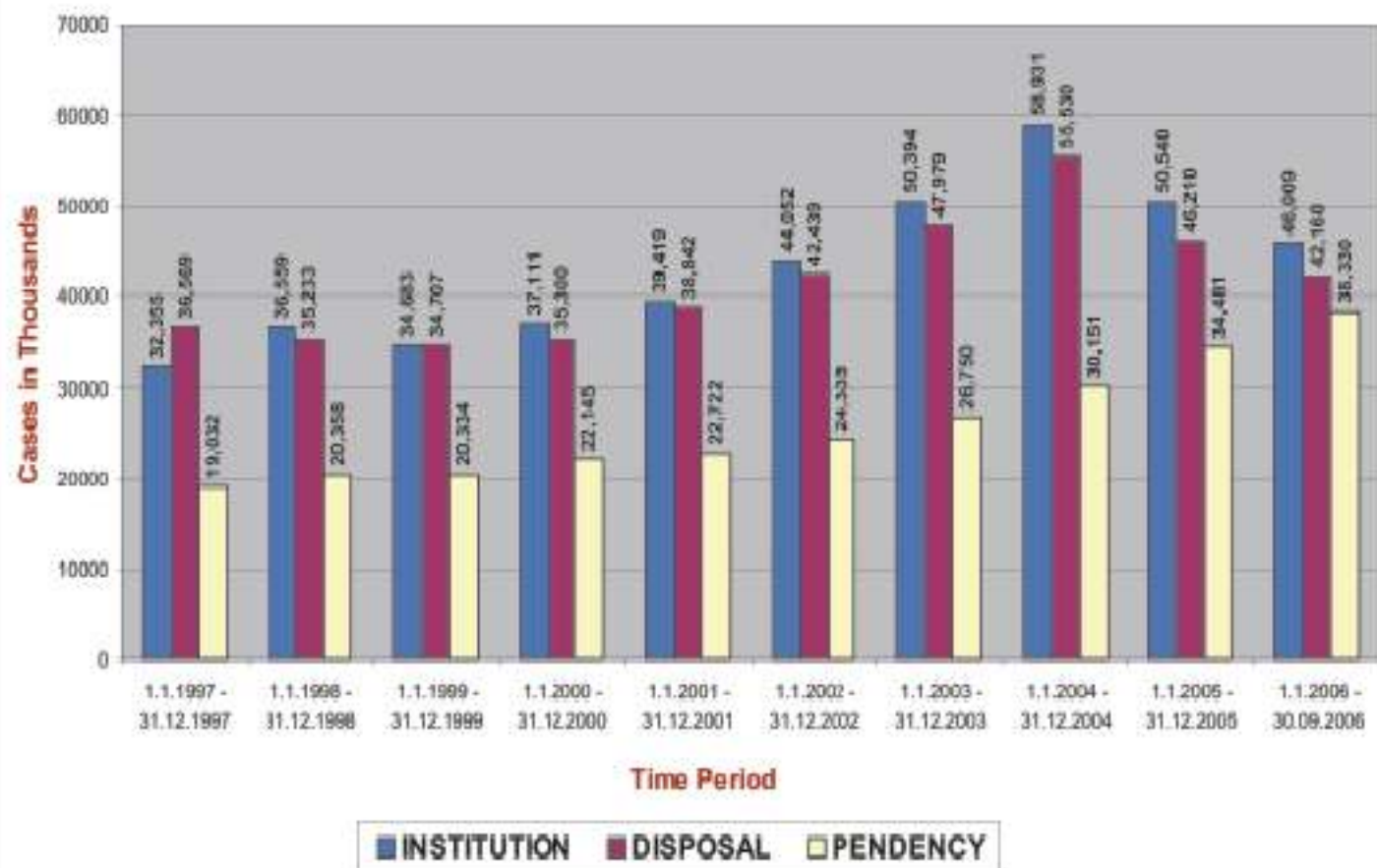
YEAR	INSTITUTION		TOTAL	DISPOSAL		TOTAL	PENDENCY		TOTAL
	ADMISSION	REGULAR		ADMISSION	REGULAR		ADMISSION	REGULAR	
1950	1,037	178	1,215	491	34	525	546	144	690
1951	1,324	600	1,924	1,560	227	1,787	310	517	827
1952	1,127	330	1,457	1,145	527	1,672	292	320	612
1953	1,354	360	1,714	1,163	252	1,415	483	428	911
1954	1,743	410	2,153	1,522	427	1,949	704	411	1,115
1955	1,580	512	2,092	1,669	200	1,869	615	723	1,338
1956	1,732	630	2,362	1,720	258	1,978	627	1,095	1,722
1957	1,490	999	2,489	1,517	411	1,928	600	1,683	2,283
1958	1,698	784	2,482	1,694	623	2,317	604	1,844	2,448
1959	1,870	783	2,653	1,829	682	2,511	645	1,945	2,590
1960	1,971	1,276	3,247	1,910	1,271	3,181	706	1,950	2,656
1961	2,000	1,214	3,214	1,899	1,654	3,553	807	1,510	2,317
1962	2,214	1,345	3,559	2,291	1,542	3,833	730	1,313	2,043
1963	2,189	1,561	3,750	2,152	1,131	3,283	767	1,743	2,510
1964	2,544	1,520	4,064	2,463	1,605	4,068	848	1,658	2,506
1965	2,366	1,535	3,901	2,444	1,341	3,785	770	1,852	2,622
1966	2,639	3,012	5,651	2,429	1,412	3,841	980	3,452	4,432
1967	2,826	2,493	5,319	2,515	1,566	4,081	1,291	4,379	5,670
1968	3,489	3,317	6,806	3,138	3,032	6,170	1,642	4,664	6,306
1969	4,185	3,512	7,697	3,731	2,737	6,468	2,096	5,439	7,535
1970	4,273	3,203	7,476	3,779	2,569	6,348	2,590	6,073	8,663
1971	5,338	2,641	7,979	4,588	1,903	6,491	3,340	6,811	10,151
1972	4,853	4,223	9,076	5,053	1,769	6,822	3,140	9,265	12,405
1973	6,298	3,876	10,174	6,112	2,063	8,175	3,326	11,078	14,404
1974	5,423	2,780	8,203	5,103	3,158	8,261	3,646	10,700	14,346
1975	6,192	3,336	9,528	5,749	2,978	8,727	4,089	11,058	15,147
1976	5,549	2,705	8,254	4,904	2,830	7,734	4,734	10,933	15,667
1977	9,251	5,250	14,501	8,714	1,681	10,395	5,271	14,502	19,773
1978	13,723	7,117	20,840	10,624	6,471	17,095	8,370	15,148	23,518
1979	16,088	4,666	20,754	11,988	3,845	15,833	12,470	15,969	28,439
1980	21,749	4,616	26,365	14,520	2,433	16,953	19,699	18,152	37,851
1981	24,474	6,566	31,040	16,528	2,162	18,690	27,645	22,556	50,201
1982	29,706	13,804	43,510	26,593	2,519	29,112	30,758	33,841	64,599
1983	37,602	18,300	55,902	35,745	10,079	45,824	32,615	42,062	74,677
1984	37,799	11,275	49,074	28,813	6,734	35,547	41,601	46,603	88,204

YEAR	INSTITUTION		TOTAL	DISPOSAL		TOTAL	PENDENCY		TOTAL
	ADMISSION	REGULAR		ADMISSION	REGULAR		ADMISSION	REGULAR	
1985	36,243	15,349	51,592	36,004	15,074	51,078	41,840	46,878	88,718
1986	22,334	5,547	27,881	17,881	12,819	30,700	46,293	39,606	85,899
1987	22,234	5,806	28,040	15,476	6,331	21,807	53,051	39,081	92,132
1988	21,950	5,771	27,721	15,714	4,181	19,895	59,287	40,671	99,958
1989	21,213	6,256	27,469	17,389	4,011	21,400	63,111	42,916	1,06,027
1990	22,265	6,223	28,488	20,890	4,348	25,238	64,486	44,791	1,09,277
1991	26,283	6,218	32,501	28,679	6,662	35,341	62,090	44,347	1,06,437
1992	20,435	6,251	26,686	20,234	15,613	35,847	62,291	34,985	97,476*
1993	18,778	2,870	21,648	17,166	3,718	20,884	37,549	21,245**	(98,240) 58,794**
1994	29,271	12,775	42,046	35,853	12,037	47,890	30,967	21,983	52,950
1995	35,689	15,754	51,443	51,547	16,790	68,337	15,109	20,947	36,056
1996	26,778	6,628	33,406	35,227	10,989	46,216	6,660	16,586	23,246
1997	27,771	4,584	32,355	29,130	7,439	36,569	5,301	13,731	19,032
1998	32,769	3,790	36,559	31,054	4,179	35,233	7,016	13,342	20,358
1999	30,795	3,888	34,683	30,847	3,860	34,707	6,964	13,370	20,334
2000	32,604	4,507	37,111	30,980	4,320	35,300	8,588	13,557	22,145
2001	32,954	6,465	39,419	32,686	6,156	38,842	8,856	13,866	22,722
2002	37,781	6,271	44,052	36,903	5,536	42,439	9,734	14,601	24,335
2003	42,823	7,571	50,394	41,074	6,905	47,979	11,483	15,267	26,750
2004	51,362	7,569	58,931	47,850	7,680	55,530	14,995	15,156	30,151
2005	45,342	5,198	50,540	41,794	4,416	46,210	18,543	15,938	34,481
Jan,06	4,534	651	5,185	4,724	293	5,017	18,353	16,296	34,649
Feb,06	4,612	459	5,071	4,337	413	4,750	18,628	16,342	34,970
Mar,06	4,459	555	5,014	4,092	691	4,783	18,995	16,206	35,201
Apr,06	5,077	572	5,649	4,600	444	5,044	19,472	16,334	35,806
May,06	4,778	493	5,271	4,564	472	5,036	19,686	16,355	36,041
June,06	1,725	71	1,796	500	14	514	20,911	16,412	37,323
July,06	5,533	481	6,014	5,712	580	6,292	20,732	16,313	37,045
Aug.,06	5,629	700	6,329	5,337	376	5,713	21,024	16,637	37,661
Sept,06	5,072	608	5,680	4,743	268	5,011	21,353	16,977	38,330

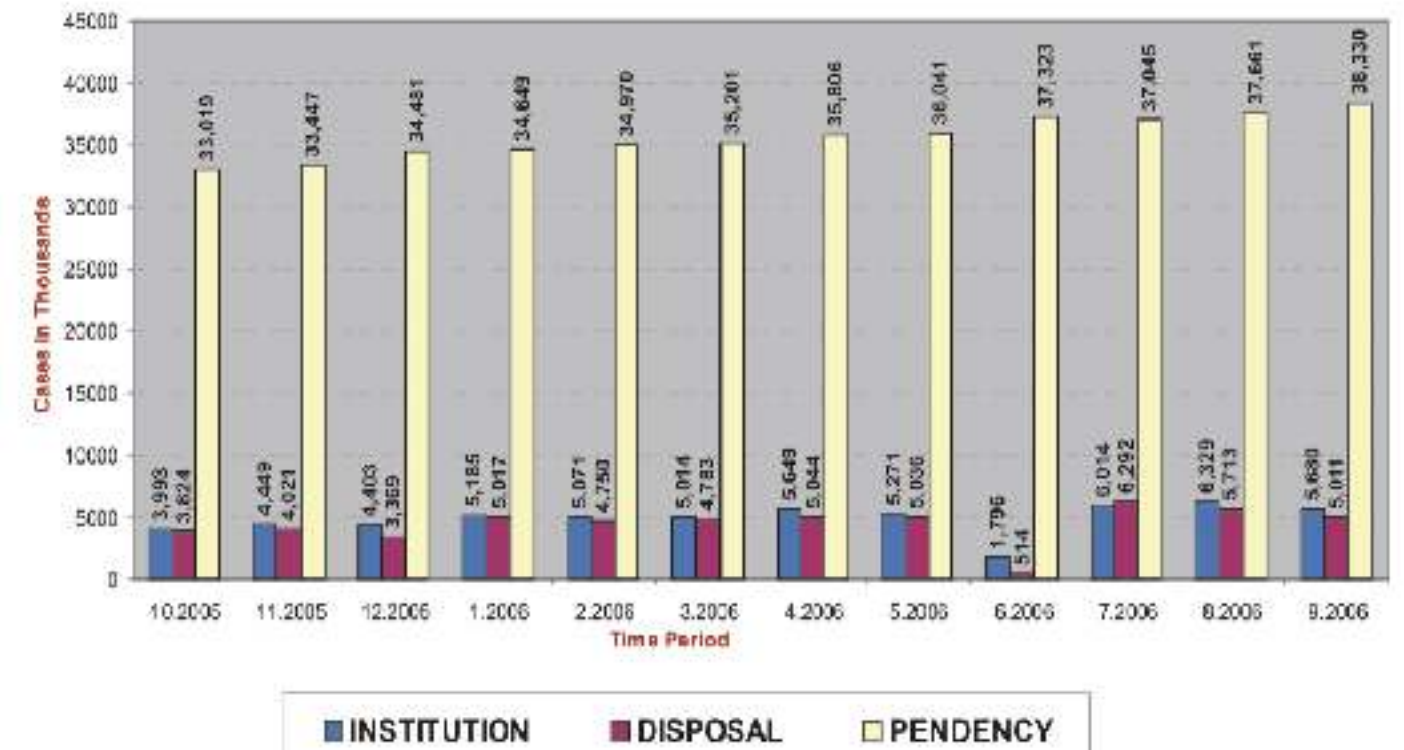
* The pendency figures shown upto the year 1992 indicates the number of matters after expanded hyphenated number on files.

** From 1993 onwards the figure of pendency of matters are actual file-wise, i.e., without expanding hyphenated number on files.

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
PENDENCY, INSTITUTION & DISPOSAL
FROM 1.1.1997 TO 30.9.2006
 (excluding hyphenated matters)



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
PENDENCY, INSTITUTION & DISPOSAL
FROM 1.10.2005 TO 30.9.2006
 (excluding hyphenated matters)



STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF BENCHES CONSTITUTED FOR HEARING ADMISSION MATTERS ON MONDAYS & FRIDAYS OR ON SUCH DAYS DECLARED BY THE ORDERS OF HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA IN 2005.

DATES	NUMBER OF BENCHES	DATES	NUMBER OF BENCHES
JANUARY		18.3.2005	11
3.1.2005	12	28.3.2005	12
4.1.2005	12		
5.1.2005	12	APRIL	
6.1.2005	12	1.4.2005	11
7.1.2005	12	4.4.2005	12
10.1.2005	12	8.4.2005	12
13.1.2005	11	11.4.2005	11
17.1.2005	12	15.4.2005	9
20.1.2005	12	18.4.2005	11
24.1.2005	11	21.4.2005	12
28.1.2005	10	25.4.2005	12
31.1.2005	11	29.4.2005	11
FEBRUARY		MAY	
4.2.2005	11	2.5.2005	10
7.2.2005	11	6.5.2005	11
11.2.2005	12	9.5.2005	10
14.2.2005	11	10.5.2005	10
18.2.2005	11	11.5.2005	10
21.2.2005	12	12.5.2005	10
25.2.2005	11	13.5.2005	10
28.2.2005	11		
MARCH		VACATION BENCHES FROM 14.5.2005 TO 10.7.2005	
4.3.2005	11	19.5.2005	1
7.3.2005	10	27.5.2005	1
11.3.2005	11	1.6.2005	1
14.3.2005	11	3.6.2005	1

DATES	NUMBER OF BENCHES	DATES	NUMBER OF BENCHES
6.6.2005	1	5.9.2005	8
8.6.2005	1	9.9.2005	8
10.6.2005	1	12.9.2005	8
16.6.2005	1	16.9.2005	9
20.6.2005	1	19.9.2005	11
27.6.2005	1	23.9.2005	10
4.7.2005	1	26.9.2005	10
		30.9.2005	10
JULY		OCTOBER	
11.7.2005	11		
12.7.2005	11	3.10.2005	10
13.7.2005	11	7.10.2005	10
14.7.2005	11	18.10.2005	10
15.7.2005	11	21.10.2005	10
18.7.2005	11	24.10.2005	10
22.7.2005	11	28.10.2005	10
25.7.2005	10		
29.7.2005	9	NOVEMBER	
		7.11.2005	10
AUGUST		11.11.2005	10
1.8.2005	11	14.11.2005	9
5.8.2005	11	18.11.2005	10
8.8.2005	11	21.11.2005	9
12.8.2005	10	25.11.2005	10
16.8.2005	10	28.11.2005	9
18.8.2005	10		
22.8.2005	10	DECEMBER	
25.8.2005	10	2.12.2005	8
29.8.2005	9	5.12.2005	9
		9.12.2005	10
SEPTEMBER		12.12.2005	10
2.9.2005	10	16.12.2005	10

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WEEK-WISE CONSTITUTION OF BENCHES FOR HEARING REGULAR CASES

WEEK COMMENCING FROM	CONSTITUTION BENCH	NO. OF BENCHES
11.1.05 TO 12.1.05	-	10
18.1.05 TO 19.1.05	-	10
25.1.05	-	10
27.1.05	-	9
1.2.05 TO 3.2.05	1 (7 JJ)	7
8.2.05 TO 10.2.05	1 (7 JJ)	7
15.2.05	-	10
16.2.05	-	8
17.2.05	-	9
22.2.05	1 (7 JJ)	8
23.2.05 TO 24.2.05	-	10
1.3.05 TO 3.3.05	1 (7 JJ)	8
9.3.05 TO 10.3.05	1 (7 JJ)	8
15.3.05 TO 16.3.05	1 (7 JJ)	8
17.3.05	-	10
29.3.05	-	10
30.3.05 TO 31.3.05	1 (5 JJ)	8
5.4.05 TO 7.4.05	1 (5 JJ)	8
12.4.05 TO 13.4.05	1 (5 JJ)	8
19.4.05	1 (5 JJ)	8
20.4.05	-	10
26.4.05 TO 28.4.05	-	10
03/05/05	-	10
4.5.05 TO 5.5.05	-	11
19.7.05	1 (5 JJ)	8

WEEK COMMENCING FROM	CONSTITUTION BENCH	NO. OF BENCHES
20.7.05	1 (5 JJ)	9
21.7.05	1 (5 JJ)	8
26.7.05 TO 27.7.05	-	10
28.7.05	-	9
2.8.05	1 (7 JJ)	8
3.8.05 & 4.8.05	1 (7 JJ)	7
9.8.2005 TO 11.8.2005	1 (7 JJ)	7
17.8.2005	1 (7 JJ)	6
23.8.2005 & 24.8.2005	-	9
30.8.2005 & 31.8.2005	-	9
1.9.2005	-	9
6.9.2005	1 (5 JJ)	6
7.9.2005	-	8
8.9.2005	1 (5 JJ)	6
13.9.2005	-	8
14.9.2005 & 15.9.2005	-	9
20.9.2005 TO 22.9.2005	1 (5 JJ)	7
27.9.2005 TO 29.9.2005	1 (5 JJ)	8
4.10.05 TO 5.10.05	-	10
06.10.05	-	9
19.10.05 TO 20.10.05	-	9
25.10.05 TO 27.10.06	-	9
8.11.05 TO 10.11.05	-	9
16.11.05 TO 17.11.06	-	9
22.11.05 TO 24.11.05	-	8
29.11.05 TO 30.11.05	-	8
01.12.05	-	8

WEEK COMMENCING FROM	CONSTITUTION BENCH	NO. OF BENCHES
6.12.05 TO 8.12.05	-	9
13.12.05	-	9
14.12.05 TO 15.12.05	-	10
10.01.06	-	10
12.01.06	1 (5JJ)	8
17.1.06 TO 18.1.06	1 (5JJ)	8
19.1.06	1 (5JJ)	7
24.1.06 TO 25.1.06	-	9
31.1.06	1 (5JJ)	8
1.2.06 TO 2.2.06	1 (5JJ)	8
7.2.06 TO 8.2.06	1 (5JJ)	8
14.2.06 TO 16.2.06	-	10
21.2.06 TO 23.2.06	1 (5JJ)	8
28.2.06	1 (5JJ)	9
1.3.06 TO 2.3.06	1 (5JJ)	9
7.3.06 TO 8.3.06	1 (5JJ)	9
09.03.06	-	10
21.3.06 TO 23.3.06	1 (5JJ)	8
28.3.06 TO 29.3.06	1 (5JJ)	8
30.3.06	1 (5JJ)	7
4.4.06 TO 5.4.06	1 (5JJ)	8
12.04.06	1 (5JJ)	9
18.4.06 TO 19.4.06	1 (5JJ)	8
20.4.06	-	10
25.4.06	1 (5JJ)	7
26.4.06 TO 27.4.06	1 (5JJ)	8
2.5.06 TO 4.5.06	1 (5JJ)	8

WEEK COMMENCING FROM	CONSTITUTION BENCH	NO. OF BENCHES
11.7.06 TO 13.7.06	-	10
18.7.06 TO 20.7.06	-	10
25.7.06 TO 26.7.06	-	9
27.7.06	-	10
1.8.06 TO 3.8.06	-	10
08.08.06	-	10
10.08.06	-	10
17.8.06	-	9
22.8.06	-	9
23.8.06	-	10
24.8.06	-	9
29.8.06 TO 31.8.06	-	9
5.9.06 TO 7.9.06	1 (5JJ)	8
12.09.06	1 (5JJ)	6
13.9.06 TO 14.9.06	1 (5JJ)	7
19.9.06 TO 20.9.06	1 (5JJ)	7
21.9.06	1 (5JJ)	8
26.9.06	1 (5JJ)	8
27.9.06 TO 28.9.06	1 (5JJ)	7



Judges' Assembly Hall

*H*on'ble the Chief Justice of India and Hon'ble Judges attended various Conferences abroad and have contributed to the cause of justice. Following are the conferences attended by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and puisne Judges.

6.1 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

From 1st November, 2005 to 30th September, 2006

1. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha** visited Philippines to attend the International Conference and Showcase on "Judicial Reforms" at Makati City, Philippines from November 28-30, 2005.
2. **Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal** visited Kathmandu (Nepal) to participate in the Inaugural Session, Protocol Meeting and the Meeting of the Management Team of the Asia Pacific Advisory Forum on Judicial Education on Equality Issues from March 12-14, 2006.
3. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dalveer Bhandari** visited Kathmandu (Nepal) to participate in the Inaugural Session, Protocol Meeting and the Meeting of the Management Team of the Asia Pacific Advisory Forum on Judicial Education on Equality Issues from March 12-14, 2006.
4. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Kumar** visited Sydney (Australia) to attend the Round Table Discussion with the objective of identifying areas of High Priority Collaboration among Asia Pacific Chief Justices, Judges and Judicial Academics from March 16-17, 2006.
5. **Hon'ble Shri Y.K. Sabharwal, Chief Justice of India** visited Italy to attend the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Constitutional Court of Italy at Rome from 21st to 22nd April, 2006.
6. **Hon'ble Shri Y.K. Sabharwal, Chief Justice of India** visited Canada, U.K. and Ireland (i) to attend the 18th International Conference of International Council for Commercial Arbitration at Montreal from 31st May to 3rd June, 2006; (ii) to attend the 72nd Biennial Conference of International Law Association at Toronto from 4th to 8th June, 2006; (iii) to have meeting with Hon'ble Mr. Justice John L. Murray, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Ireland, from 23rd to 24th June, 2006; (iv) to attend the meeting with the Right Hon'ble Lord Phillips, Chief Justice of England and Wales and his colleagues and Administrators for interaction on the issue of Judicial Reforms at London from 25th to 27th June, 2006; and (v) to attend the IXth Indo-British Legal Forum Meet at Edinburgh (U.K.) from 28th June to 1st July, 2006 as Head of Delegation.
7. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan** visited Canada to participate in the deliberations of the Intensive Study Programme for Judicial Educators being conducted by Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute at Halifax (Canada) from 7th to 14th June, 2006; and U.K. to attend IXth Indo-British Legal Forum Meet at Edinburgh (U.K.) from 28th June to 1st July, 2006, as a part of delegation led by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

8. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhan** visited U.K. to attend the IXth Indo-British Legal Forum Meet at Edinburgh (U.K.) from 28th June to 1st July, 2006, as a part of delegation led by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.
9. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.H. Kapadia** visited The Republic of Columbia to participate in the celebrations of the 15th Anniversary of Constitutional Court of the Republic of Columbia held at Bagota from 4th to 5th July, 2006.
10. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arijit Pasayat** visited Netherlands to participate in the International Conference on Tax Law organized by the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD) held at Amsterdam on 7th July, 2006.
11. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha** visited Sri Lanka to attend a Workshop for District Court Judges/Magistrates, High Court Judges organized jointly by the Institute of Human Rights, Colombo and Asia Foundation at Colombo from 15th to 16th July, 2006.
12. **Hon'ble Shri Y.K. Sabharwal, Chief Justice of India** visited Singapore from 10th to 13th August, 2006 to participate in the deliberations on 11th August, 2006 with the Chief Justice of Singapore on Judicial Reforms being undertaken in India with particular reference to Computerisation and plans to commence E-filing in the Supreme Court of India.
13. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhan** visited Pakistan to participate in the International Judicial Conference on the occasion of the

Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Supreme Court of Pakistan held at Islamabad from 11th to 14th August, 2006.

14. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.P. Singh** visited Canada to participate in the 14th Triennial Conference of the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association at Toronto from 10th to 15th September, 2006.

6.2 CHIEF JUSTICES' CONFERENCE

The Chief Justices' Conference is convened normally every year by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India at the Supreme Court of India, New Delhi wherein all the Chief Justices of the High Courts participate. The last Chief Justices' Conference was held in March 2006.

6.3 CONFERENCE OF COURT ADMINISTRATOR-CUM-REGISTRAR GENERAL

Shri V.K. Jain, Court Administrator-cum-Registrar General visited U.K. from 24th June, 2006 to 2nd July, 2006 for a senior level meeting with the Court Administrators/Managers of the Courts at London to discuss Court Management and subsequently to assist Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India for His Lordship's meeting with The Right Hon'ble Lord Phillips, Chief Justice of England and Wales at London and further to assist Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India during Indo-British Legal Forum Meet held at Edinburgh from 28th June to 1st July, 2006.



Chamber of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India

7.1 INDO-BRITISH LEGAL FORUM MEET

The nineth Indo-British Legal Forum Meet was held at Edinburgh (U.K.) from 28th June to 1st July, 2006. The first such Forum Meet was held in June, 1989 at London and the bilateral Meet usually takes place once in two years alternately at New Delhi and London.

7.2 OTHER LEGAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

1. A seven-member Chinese delegation headed by Mr. Han Zhubin, President of China Law Society visited Supreme Court of India on 14.12.2005 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhan.
2. An eleven-member Chinese delegation headed by Mr. Jin Shan, Vice President of All China Lawyers Association visited Supreme Court of India on 4.1.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhan.
3. A three-member delegation headed by H.E. Mr. Mohamed Jameel Ahmed, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Maldives visited Supreme Court of India on 20.1.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.
4. A twenty-member Judicial Delegation of 'India Project of the George Washington University Law School' visited Supreme Court of India on 27.1.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.
5. Rt. Hon'ble the Lord Mustill, Privy Councillor, Doctor of Laws (Cantab), Vice-President, ICC Court of Arbitration visited Supreme Court of India on 22.2.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhan.
6. A four member delegation headed by Rt. Hon'ble Sir Igor Judge, President, Queen's Bench Division, England and Wales, visited Supreme Court of India on 6.3.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan.
7. An eleven-member South African delegation headed by H.E. Ms. Brigitte Sylvia Mabandla, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, visited Supreme Court of India on 10.4.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan.
8. A five member Tanzanian delegation of the High Court of Tanzania (Commercial Division) headed by Dr. S.J. Bwana, Judge In-charge Commercial Court, visited Supreme Court of India on 12.6.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble Dr. Justice G.C. Bharuka, Chairman of the E-Committee, Mr. N.S.

Ante Chamber of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India

Court Administrator-cum-Registrar General



V.K. JAIN

Registrars



R.C. GANDHI



A.I. CHEEMA

Kulkarni, Member (Judicial) and Mr. Manas Patnaik, Member (Technical).

9. A five member Sudanian delegation headed by Hon'ble Dr. Wahbi Mohamed Mukhta Salih, Deputy Chief Justice visited Supreme Court of India on 3.8.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan and Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal.
10. A four member Maldivian delegation headed by Hon'ble Mr. Mohamed Rasheed Ibrahim, Chief Justice of Maldives visited Supreme Court of India on 28.8.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan and

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal.

11. A nine member Kenyan Judiciary Committee for the expeditious disposal of cases headed by Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S.C. Omolo, J.A., Presiding Judge of the Court of Appeal visited Supreme Court of India on 25.9.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan and Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal.
12. A two member Japanese delegation headed by Mr. Ryoji Nakagawa, Judge, Supreme Court of Japan visited Supreme Court of India on 27.9.2006 and had a meeting with Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

Registrars



HEMANT SAMPAT



B. SUDHEENDRA KUMAR



S.G. SHAH



R.K. GAUBA



T.N. SANSI

8.1 STEPS TAKEN IN RECENT PAST FOR TONING UP OF ADMINISTRATION

In recent past, many important steps have been taken under the guidance and directions of Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India to tone up administration. Some of the steps taken are summarized as under: -

1. Attendance Recording System

In order to enforce norms of punctuality in attendance and for effective monitoring of attendance of the Officers and staff of the Registry, a biometric Attendance Recording System has been installed and connected on LAN of the Supreme Court. It consists of 10 Finger Print Readers installed at different entry gates. The employees record their attendance by putting their fingers on the scanner installed in the Reader. This system has successfully replaced the manual attendance recording system. Various types of reports can be generated from the same. A software as per requirement has been developed for the Attendance Recording System to record the times of arrival and departure of every Officer and employee. It is compulsory for all the Officers and staff to use the System. The installation of Attendance Recording System has gone a long way in instilling a greater sense of punctuality in attendance by the Officers and staff.

2. Limited Departmental Competitive Examination

With a view to tone up efficiency in working of the Registry and to give suitable rewards for meritorious candidates, 25% vacancies in the cadres of Section Officer/Court Master(Non-Shorthand), Assistant/Editor of Paper Book and Senior Clerk have been reserved for being filled purely on merit through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination. The Examination is confined to feeder cadres for the concerned posts. Introduction of Limited Departmental Competitive Examination has motivated the staff to sharpen their knowledge which in turn will reflect in their efficiency.

3. Implementation of Right to Information Act, 2005

In order to promote openness, transparency and accountability in administration, the Right to Information Act, 2005 has been implemented in the Supreme Court of India and as per the requirement of the said Act, two Officers of the Registry have been appointed as Central Public Information Officer and First Appellate Authority. A Committee of Hon'ble Judges has been constituted by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India to consider all the issues arising out of Right to Information Act and also for giving advice to Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

4. *Summer Vacation Training*

During the last Summer Vacation, necessary training and guidance was imparted to the members of the staff (Junior Clerks, Senior Clerks and Assistants) with regard to practice, procedure and Supreme Court Rules, 1966 as also regarding working on the Administration side with effect from 5th June, 2006 to 9th June, 2006. From the feedback received, the training proved to be very useful for the staff.

5. *Guidelines for Departmental Promotion Committee*

In order to ensure uniformity, objectivity and transparency in the method/procedure adopted by the Departmental Promotion Committee comprising of Senior Officers, guidelines for Departmental Promotion Committee for making recommendation for promotion of non-gazetted officials and such other officials as are referred to the said Committee have been formulated. These guidelines will not only ensure transparency but will also dispel any misgiving or doubt in the minds of those who get superseded for promotion.

6. *Specialised training to staff through the Institute of Secretariat Training & Management*

The Institute of Secretariat Training & Management (ISTM) conducts different courses from time to time on specialised subjects for the officers and officials. In order to sharpen the administrative skills of the officers and officials and to make them professionally sound, a good number of officers and staff from different cadres have

been sent for specialised training on different subjects to the Institute and the feedback received from them about the training received has been very encouraging and in the longer run, the guidance during such training will certainly contribute the cause of achieving efficiency in working.

7. *Scheme for compassionate appointment*

A transparent, fair and reasonable scheme for making appointment on compassionate grounds has been adopted.

8. *Compactors*

Compactors and Work Stations have been provided in one section to increase efficiency and save the space and it would be provided in other sections also after analysing the results.

9. *Procedure for acquisition of library books*

A transparent, fair and objective procedure for acquisition of library books has been adopted and book vendors are empanelled.

10. *Purchase Procedure*

A transparent, fair and objective purchase procedure has been introduced.

11. *Allotment of Land*

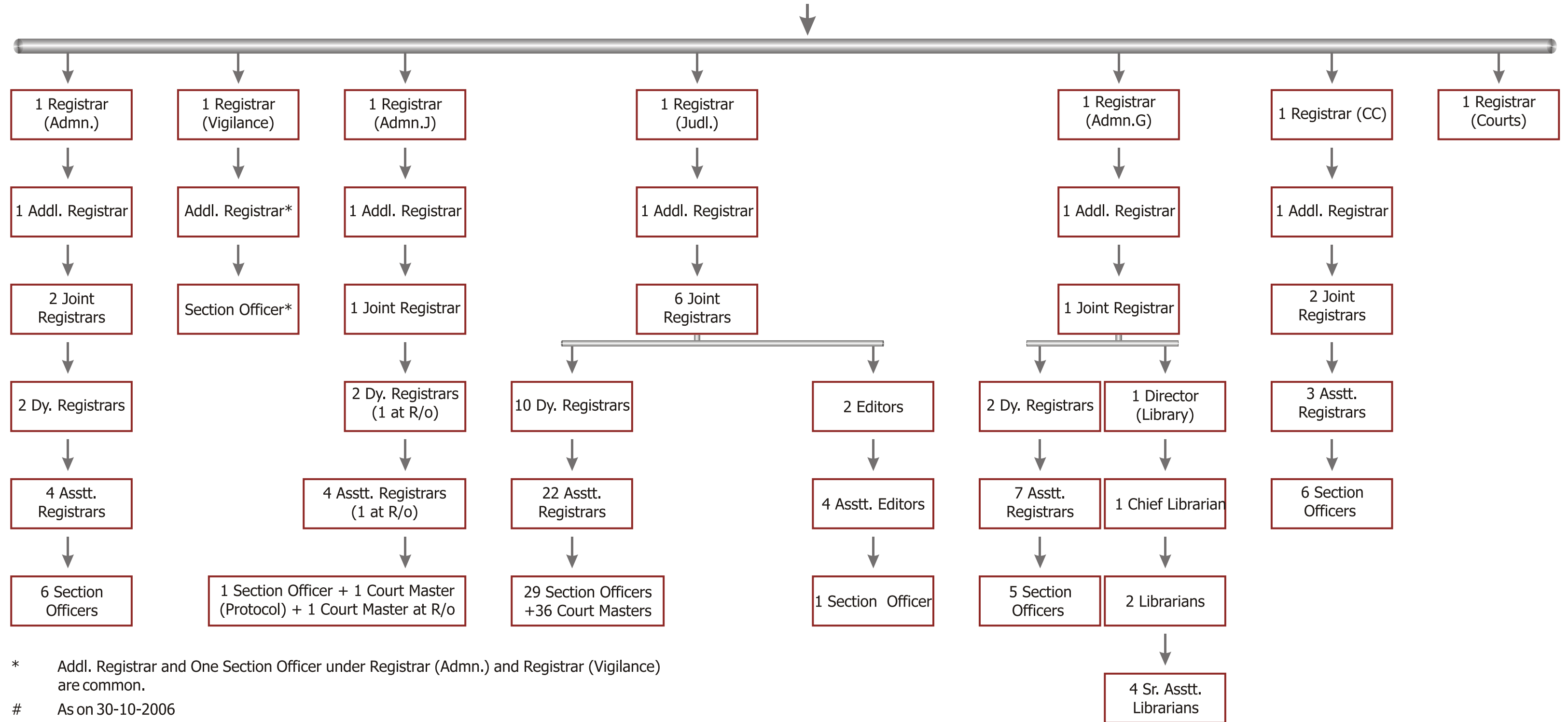
Land admeasuring 12.19 acres at Pragati Maidan has been allotted for the use of Supreme Court for storage of records, office complex, auditorium, litigant hall, parking place etc.



Eastern Wing

8.2 ORGANIZATION CHART#

COURT ADMINISTRATOR - CUM - REGISTRAR GENERAL



8.3. STRENGTH

There are 1763 posts in the Supreme Court Registry out of which 1229 are permanent posts. The group-wise distribution of the posts is as follows:-

Gazetted	223
Non-Gazetted	796
Class-IV	744
TOTAL	1763

The post-wise break-up is as under :-

Sanctioned Strength of the various posts in the Registry of the Supreme Court of India as on 30-10-2006 :

S. No.	Name of the Post (Code)	Sanctioned Strength
1.	Court Administrator cum Registrar General	1
2.	Registrar	7
3.	Additional Registrar	5
4.	Joint Registrar	14
5.	Deputy Registrar	19
6.	Editor, Supreme Court Reports	2
7.	Director, Library	1
8.	Assistant Registrar	40
9.	P.P.S. to Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India	2
10.	Assistant Editor, Supreme Court Reports	4
11.	Chief Librarian	1
12.	AR-cum-PS to Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India	1
13.	AR-cum-PS to Hon'ble Judge	25
14.	AR-cum-PS to Registrar General	1
15.	Section Officer	51
16.	Court Master (Non-Shorthand)	13
17.	Court Master (Shorthand)	26
18.	Librarian	2
19.	P.S. to Registrar	3
20.	P.A. to Additional Registrar	4

S. No.	Name of the Post (Code)	Sanctioned Strength
21.	Assistant Accounts Officer	1
22.	Senior Assistant Librarian	4
23.	Accountant	1
24.	Court Associate	1
25.	Assistant	145
26.	Editor of Paper books	10
27.	Cashier	2
28.	Proof Reader	2
29.	Assistant Librarian	9
30.	Caretaker	1
31.	Stenographer	52
32.	Junior Stenographer	47
33.	Senior Clerk	161
34.	Junior Clerk	261
35.	Chauffeur	50
36.	Senior Library Attendant	16
37.	Despatch Rider	4
38.	Record Keeper	25
39.	Senior Gestetner Operator	5
40.	Junior Library Attendant	14
41.	Junior Gestetner Operator	7
42.	Record Sorter	28
43.	Daftry	69
44.	Jamadar	38
45.	Jamadar Farash	7
46.	Jamadar Safaiwala	8
47.	Peon	440
48.	Farash	81
49.	Safaiwala	52
	TOTAL	1763

8.4. FUNCTIONS

The total work in the Registry has been divided into various categories and the work assigned to any one category is handled primarily by a unit called a section or a wing. The Supreme Court Registry has been divided into 45 sections/units.

The sanctioned strength of Section Officers and ministerial staff of various Sections/units in the Registry had been fixed and notified in June, 1995. Subsequently, with a view to bring improvement in the working of Sections on the judicial side, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has been pleased to fix the norms for assigning work to the staff and determine the staff strength in the sections on the judicial side and these have been notified vide Office Order dated January 19, 2006. Allocation of staff in the judicial sections is being made as per the said approved norms.

The total matters on the judicial side i.e. SLPs, writ petitions, original cases, references and other appeals etc. are mainly handled in sections on the judicial side and the division of work between them is based either on its nature i.e. special subject category or on geographical area i.e. State/High Court wise. Two sections deal with litigations of public interest. Further, there are other sections dealing with judicial matters which are called ancillary judicial sections, such as filing section, sections preparing paper books, sections dealing with computerization, record room, decrees, copying, editorial and receipt and issue. There are two supporting wings i.e. Library wing and Court Masters' wing. There are nine sections dealing with the matters pertaining to the establishment, which include administration materials, cash and accounts, administration(Judges), protocol and transport, and caretaking. The subjects dealt with by each and every section/unit have been well-defined and notified along with the duties and responsibilities of officers and employees working in different wings

of the Registry. While the practice and procedure of working of the judicial side of the Registry are regulated by the "Supreme Court Rules, 1966" (as amended from time to time), the practice and procedure of working on the Administrative side have been mentioned in the "Manual of Office Procedure", which also contains the nature of duties and responsibilities of the officers and employees.

The individual section is supervised by a Section Officer and few sections are further supervised by an Assistant Registrar and then by a Deputy Registrar, who works under the supervision of Joint Registrar. The Administration (Judges) Section is headed by a Registrar who is also supported by a Joint Registrar, Deputy Registrar and Assistant Registrar etc. This section looks after the provision of necessary amenities to the Hon'ble Judges and overall house-keeping job, including the work connected with maintenance of the Judges' Chambers in the Supreme Court and their official residences.

The judicial division is headed by a Registrar assisted by an Additional Registrar and the supporting tiers of Joint Registrar, Deputy Registrar and Assistant Registrar. All matters-appeal, writ petition or any other application-when filed, are received at the filing counter in the Registry. After proper scrutiny, they are numbered and sent to the concerned judicial section. Each judicial section looks after the appeals filed from the High Court of one or more States depending upon the workload. The judicial section deals with the matter from the stage of its filing till final disposal. When any order or interim order is passed, the concerned judicial section prepares the formal order/decreed and conveys it to the authorities concerned.

The Editorial wing works under a Registrar and is headed by Joint Registrar(Editorial) assisted by Editors, Assistant Editors, Section Officer and other

staff. The main task of this wing is the publication of the official report namely, Supreme Court Reports. The headnotes are approved by the Hon'ble Judges/Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

The Supreme Court has one of the biggest Libraries in Asia. The Library division is manned by a Director of Library who is assisted by a Chief Librarian and other supporting staff. They look after proper maintenance of the Library both for the courts and at the residences of the Hon'ble Judges and also cater to the specific requirements of the Hon'ble Judges. The work of updating the various enactments, proper referencing etc. is also done by the Library staff.

8.5 SERVICE CONDITIONS

The conditions of service of Court servants are governed by the Supreme Court Officers and Servants (Conditions of Service and Conduct) Rules, 1961. Rule 9 of the said Rules provides that in respect of all such matters regarding conditions of service of Court servants for which no provision or insufficient provision has been made in the said Rules, the rules and orders for the time being in force and applicable to servants holding corresponding posts in the Government of India shall regulate the conditions of service of Court servants subject to such modifications, variations or exceptions in the Rules relating to salaries, allowances, leave or pension as made by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, except with the approval of the President of India.

*U*nder Article 146(3) of the Constitution of India, the administrative expenses of the Supreme Court, including all salaries, allowances and pensions payable to or in respect of the officers and servants of the Court, shall be charged upon the

Consolidated Fund of India, and any fees or other moneys taken by the Court shall form part of that fund.

The budgetary grants for the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 are Rs. 42,21 crores and Rs. 43,27 crores respectively.

A photograph showing the northern side of the Supreme Court building. The building is a large, multi-story structure with a prominent portico supported by several tall, cylindrical columns. The facade is light-colored, and there are several windows. In the foreground, there is a low wall with a decorative pattern, and some greenery and a white car are visible.

Northern Side



E-Court

*H*on'ble Chief Justices of India who have graced this august Institution from time to time have taken great pains for computerization of Supreme Court. Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court have also contributed valuable time and energy in this effort.

10.1 E-COMMITTEE

It was long felt by the experts that Indian Judicial system requires re-engineering of its processes, optimization of the use of its human resources, and bring about change in management by harnessing the potentiality of the available Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to its fullest extent. The objective of this exercise is to enhance judicial productivity both qualitatively and quantitatively as also make the justice delivery system affordable, accessible, cost effective, transparent and accountable. Similar objectives have been achieved in other parts of the world by use of technology but in India, though its manpower is known for its technology expertise, the ICT benefits could not be fully explored and utilized in public service sectors like judiciary and other organs of the State.

In the Indian Judiciary, effort for computerization of some of its processes has been going on since 1990. Need was felt to make the programme of ICT enablement of the Indian Judiciary mission-critical. There was an overwhelming realization in the judicial sector in favour of devising a National Policy and Action Plan with appropriate spread and phasing to implement ICT in courts across the country and their web-based interlinking.

Keeping in view the above objectives,

Supreme Court moved Central Government for constitution of an E-Committee to assist Chief Justice of India in formulating a National Policy on computerization of Indian Judiciary and advise technological, communication and management related changes. Appreciating the desirability of constitution of such a Committee, the Union Cabinet approved the proposal. Consequently, office order dated 28.12.2004 was issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Justice) constituting the E-Committee. Dr. Justice G.C. Bharuka, a retired Judge of the High Court of Karnataka, has been appointed as Chairman. As per Government Orders, the Committee is also to comprise 1). Member Judicial (of rank of District & Sessions Judge); 2). Member Technical {of the rank of Deputy Director General Technical (Joint Secretary to Government of India)}; 3). Member-Management/Human Resources (of the rank of Joint Secretary to Government of India). Accordingly, the Members have been appointed. The E-Committee was inter alia required to formulate a National Policy on computerization of justice delivery system and to draw up an action plan with appropriate phasing for time bound implementation. This Committee is also required to concurrently monitor and evaluate the action plan on periodic basis.

For re-engineering of judicial processes, generating best practices and documenting the system requirement specifications (SRS), the E-Committee with the active coordination and co-operation of all the High Courts has collected all the Rules of practice and procedure. Now the E-Committee is commencing a legal research to ascertain the divergence and work out a mechanism to make the same uniform. This will facilitate in creating uniform customized software for optimizing the judicial productivity with quality, and, enhance court services.

The National Project is in the process of approval by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) and the Union Cabinet. Meanwhile the empanelment of the vendors for procurement of laptops to the Judges across the country is finalized. On pilot project, the E-Committee conducted ICT Training for 100 judicial officers of Delhi in the Delhi Judicial Academy. With rich experience, the E-Committee created ICT Training modules and has taken effective steps for training all the Judges and administrative staff of the subordinate courts. The E-Committee has created cadre of trainers and trouble shooters for each court complexes. Creating of effective ICT infrastructure in the Court Complexes across the country is in active process under the E-Committee. The implementation of the Project has thus started in full vigour and the scene regarding computerization of Indian Judiciary is already looking bright.

10.2 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

National Informatics Centre has since long contributed much in the computerization of Supreme Court. National Informatics Centre and the Registry have received valuable guidance from Hon'ble Judges in the development of Information Technology in Supreme Court.

Activities of Information Technology (IT) in the Supreme Court were initiated in 1990 when the COURTIS (Court Information System) Project was commissioned for streamlining the Registry.

Following are some of the web-enabled applications that have been successfully implemented at Supreme Court. These applications have either directly or indirectly benefited the citizens of India.

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA WEBSITE

www.supremecourtindia.nic.in

The website was developed by NIC for the Supreme Court of India. The website provides the

following information to public/litigants/advocates on Internet with respect to Supreme Court of India.

1. CONSTITUTION

This option provides the information about the Law, about Court and Constitution of the Supreme Court of India. This provides the detailed information on following points:

1. LAW, COURTS AND THE CONSTITUTION
2. SOURCES OF LAW
3. ENACTMENT OF LAWS
4. APPLICABILITY OF LAWS
5. JUDICIARY
6. CONSTITUTION OF SUPREME COURT
7. SUPREME COURT REGISTRY
8. ATTORNEY GENERAL
9. SUPREME COURT ADVOCATES
 1. Senior Advocates
 2. Advocates-on-Record
 3. Other Advocates

2. JURISDICTION

This option explains the jurisdiction of Supreme Court of India and its related terms in details.

- JURISDICTION OF THE SUPREME COURT
- PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION
- PROVISION OF LEGAL AID
- AMICUS CURIAE
- HIGH COURTS
- ADVOCATE GENERAL
- LOK ADALATS

3. GOLDEN JUBILEE

This option provides the detailed program schedule that has been celebrated in the Golden Jubilee Year of constitution of Supreme Court.

- Program Schedule
- Speeches By Dignitaries Participating in Golden Jubilee Celebrations.
- Exhibition to Celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Supreme Court of India.

4. RULES

Entire information of The Supreme Court Rules, 1966 regarding Regulations regarding advocates-on-record examination, Rules to Regulate proceedings for contempt of The Supreme Court, 1975 and The Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Act, 1970 are available on website.

5. FORMER CJIs

This option displays the photo gallery of former CJIs of Supreme Court along with their official bio data.

6. CJI & JUDGES

This option displays the photo gallery of sitting CJI and Judges of Supreme Court along with their official bio data.

7. CALENDAR

This option publishes the current and last year's calendar on internet for the benefit of public/litigants/advocates; knowing the working and holidays of Supreme Court of India.

8. REGISTRARS

This option displays the bio data along with

photograph of Registrar General of Supreme Court of India.

9. FORMER JUDGES

This option displays the photo gallery of former Judges of Supreme Court of India along with their official bio data.

10. DISPLAY BOARD

Court wise listing of the cases is made available on Internet for the benefit of lawyers and litigants. This information is updated after every 30 seconds. One can plan for his/her appearance in the Court Room accordingly and they need not present outside the Court just for knowing the current items being listed in the Court.

11. SPEECHES

The speeches delivered by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and Judges delivered from April 2005 onwards are available on the Website. In addition to the Speeches, Supreme Court Handbook of Information, and Information about Supreme Court Museum is also available on the Website.

12. MISCELLANEOUS

Information about Monthly Statements and Pending Cases, Tender Notices, Purchase Procedure Policy for Acquisition of Books for Supreme Court Library and Information about Right to Information Act is available on the Website.

This website also provides links to other websites Judis, Daily Orders, Case Status (COURTNIC), and Cause List, India Code (all the latest Acts and Legislation passed by the Indian Parliament).

This also provides few links to other options like information regarding Legal Aid, Supreme Court Legal Service Committee, Ministry of Law and Justice etc.

CASE STATUS

The web provides Supreme Court's pending and disposed of case status information to litigants/advocates on Internet. 'Case-status' gives the latest information with respect to the status of a case which could stand as: Disposed/Adjourned, Lower court details, party and advocate names, Date on which last listed, Waiting position, Subject category along with exact verbatim of the text of the Court's order. Pending case status can be accessed through: Case Number, Title, Advocate names and Lower court details.

When a case is filed in the Supreme Court, its 'Case-status' is made available on the web, giving filing details, such as Diary number, Date of filing, etc. Litigants can find out whether their cases have been filed in the court or not without contacting their advocates. The 'Case-status' also provides all orders pertaining to the case, delivered by the court. The litigants can maintain their own case files by downloading the orders. 'Case-status' receives hundreds of hits every day.

An advocate can download all his cases pending and disposed of and can maintain his own database.

Impact

The response to the 'Case-status' from the litigants is over-whelming, as pending cases information is available at their own residence. The information is so authentic that they need not come to Supreme Court to find out the status of their pending cases nor are required to ascertain it on telephone.

JUDIS

The Supreme Court with assistance of NIC has brought out a web-enabled retrieval system called 'Judgment Information System' (JUDIS) on Internet consisting of complete text of all reported judgments of the Supreme Court from 1950 to date.

Access thereof can be had through: Party name, Advocate, Date of judgment and, more importantly, through free text search. The free text based search enables the users to retrieve all relevant judgments on a particular subject. They are made available on the website within 24 hours of their delivery in the court.

Impact

- Ordinary litigant can trace precedents of a case on his/her own
- Saves lot of time of Hon'ble judges and advocates in locating precedents
- Saves lot of space in maintenance of a law library

It has proved to be very useful to advocates who cannot afford to have their own Law library, as JUDIS contains complete text of the judgments, there is no need to refer to any Law journal for finding precedents.

CAUSE LISTS ON INTERNET

Cause lists contain scheduling of cases to be heard by the courts. The Daily, Weekly, Advance and Supplementary cause lists of Supreme Court are also available on NIC Web Servers.

Features

- Advocates can generate their own Cause list consisting of their own cases.
- Retrieval can be made through the name of either the petitioner or respondent.
- Court-wise list can be generated.
- Judge-wise list can be prepared.
- Entire Cause list can be printed.

- Case number-wise access is possible.

Impact

- Advocates can retrieve the Cause lists almost immediately after court hours.
- Advocates can generate their own cause lists which will contain only their cases, thus saving them from going through hundreds of pages to locate them.
- The litigants can easily find out whether their cases are listed for hearing or not, without contacting their advocates.

Ever since the Cause lists of the Supreme Court have become available on Internet, this application has received huge response from the advocates and litigant public.

DAILY ORDERS ON INTERNET

The daily orders of the Supreme Court are available on the web. After signing of the Court's Orders by Hon'ble Judges, they are made available on Internet within 24 hours. These orders are only for the information to the litigants. For a certified copy of the signed order/judgment one has to obtain it through the Registry. It is an instant hit with the litigants and advocates as it is the easiest way for them to get a copy of the latest order delivered in the court. The Free text based search enables the litigants to also access relevant orders of the court on the same subject. It helps the litigants in accessing orders without knowing the case number or party name.

Impact

- Litigants can have access to the signed orders from their own place
- Enhances confidence in the judicial process
- Saves a lot of time and expenses on travelling

to the Supreme Court to obtain a copy of the order

APPLICATIONS IMPLEMENTED

Following are some of the important applications implemented in the Supreme Court since 1990, which has helped the Registry in streamlining its routine activities and to assist Advocates and litigants.

I. Filing Counter Computerization

Fresh cases are filed only at the computerized Filing Counters. As the advocates or parties-in-person tender the cases on the counters, the data entry Operator enters preliminary details of the case, such as Party names, advocate details, etc., required for the purpose of Registration. Filing receipts are generated; Court fee and limitation are calculated; registration takes place; filing information along with defects notified, if any, are made available on Internet.

II. List of Business Information System (LOBIS)

It contains pending and disposed of cases since 1990. The size of the database is about 7 lakh records. It is near time-critical application as the Cause Lists are generated by the computer system by the closing hours of Court every day. This application is also used for bunching/grouping technique, which enabled Registry to bring down the pendency in the Supreme Court.

III. Court Orders/Proceedings Computerization

This software for daily orders delivered in Courts enables the Court Masters to speed up the process of typing orders/judgments by providing the preamble, which includes the Item Number of the Case in the Cause List, Names of Parties, Advocate

Names, High Court/Lower Court details, date of order, etc. on the screen. The Court Masters type the order part noted by them in the Courtroom as also other requisite details.

IV. Record Room Computerization

It keeps track of Files and Records Consigned, Weeding of files, Records; Movement of files and Tracing of files.

Considering the space problem in the Record room, digitisation of all old records stored in the record room godowns has been initiated. About 23 lakh pages have already been scanned. Production Scanners, Servers and other required hardware have been procured. NIC developed the application software for scanning, storing the scanned documents on the hard disks, for retrieval of documents and access control mechanism. This process enables the Supreme Court in: saving storage space, to manage records easily, to find documents quickly, to make the scanned documents centrally available on intranet and to eliminate the need for file cabinets. In rare case of loss, it will help reconstruct record.

The retrieval software enables the Registry to retrieve the complete case file through: the case no., party name-wise, judge-wise and date of disposal wise. The Registry can choose any case listed to view the case files starting from the cover page to the last page. When it selects the required case file, the first screen displayed is the index page. Each item on the index page is hyper-linked to the group of pages it is dealing with. Hence, it is easy to simply reach the required part of the file through the hyper-linked index page. The image of each file when displayed will allow the Registry to zoom a part of the image, rotate the image, underline and highlight a part of the image text and type annotations, printing and saving of the image.

V. Statistical Reports

Every month Statistical report is generated on

the institution, disposal and pendency of various types of cases in the Supreme Court.

VI. Judicial Sections

All Judicial Sections are provided with computer systems for updating the case databases pertaining to their sections; Minimizing movement of files; Generation of notices; Generation of Dismissal letters; Registration of cases; Disposal of cases; Finding status of cases; etc.

VII. Supreme Court's Digital Display Boards on Internet

Display Boards are installed in the Supreme Court to display courts-wise items or numbers of cases being heard in each court.

An application tool to convert the LED based Digital Display of the display board into ASCII was developed and made available on Supreme Court's Web Site. The Digital Board Information can be accessed at <http://supremecourtfindia.nic.in>. In addition to the item no. being heard in a court, web based application also has a provision to display special information such as "Mr. _____, advocate is required in item no. 101 at court no. 4". This application has auto refresh facility requiring the advocates to open display boards web page only once. It keeps getting up-to-date information refreshed at every 10-20 seconds.

VIII. Copying Section

A software module has been developed and implemented to help the Registry in streamlining the process of issuance of certified orders/Judgments of the Supreme Court to Advocates/parties.

When an advocate or party concerned applies for certified copy, required mandatory details of the case are entered into the computer and a computer generated receipt is issued to the applicant. The Registration No. is used to keep track of the status of

the application such as: whether it has any defect, is under process, or ready, etc. Through this software a number of reports required by the section are generated.

IX. Legislation Information System

It contains information related to all Central Acts enacted by the Parliament and published in the Gazette. Complete information of an Act right from the bill stage till its enactment is maintained in the computer. This software helps the legislation section in retrieving complete details of an Act through: title, catchwords, subject, year, etc.

X. Receipts and Issue Section

A software module has been developed and implemented for the R&I Section. The section mainly deals with receipt and dispatch of letters, notices, etc. The addresses of the parties are fed into the computer along with approximate weight of the letter and value of stamp. This helps the section in saving time and efforts in calculation and maintenance of records.

Courier Service has been introduced for sending the mails from Supreme Court.

XI. Library And Information System

Application of Information Technology for providing expeditious and efficient information services has been a thrust area in Supreme Court Judges Library. Besides providing desired information to the Hon'ble Judges through 'Internet' and "CD-ROM Databases" subscribed in the library, the library has developed following four indigenous legal databases for providing pinpointed information to the Hon'ble Judges. Presently all the three Databases namely **SUPLIS**, **SUPLIB** and **LEGIS** can be accessed through "INTERNET" also.

1. **SUPLIS (Database of Caselaws)** - This case indexing database contains approximately 42000 reported cases decided by the Supreme

Court from 1950 onwards. Caselaws can be retrieved by *date of Judgment, Party Name, Citation, Judge Name, Petition Number, Famous Case Name and Subject*. Retrieval of any caselaw through famous name such as **Bhopal Gas Case, Mandal Commission Case** and provision to find out all equivalent citations of a Case Law is unique feature of this database. This database could be accessed through "INTRANET" of the Supreme Court of India with the help of IP address 192.100.2.61/suplis.

2. **SUPLIB (Database of Legal Articles)** :- This database contains more than 12000 articles from more than 200 Indian and Foreign Journals subscribed in the library of the Supreme Court. Articles on a given topic or subject could be retrieved instantly with the help of this database through "INTRANET" of the Supreme Court of India using IP address 192.100.5.56/suplib.

3. **LEGISLATION INFORMATION SYSTEM** - This database contains details of about 3600 Central Acts/Amending Acts and other statutory materials such as Rules, Bills etc. This database is very useful for tracing the complete legislative history of any particular Central Act. Sources/Citations of any Act/amendments or Rules framed under any particular enactment could be readily identified and retrieved. If text of any particular Central Acts is desired, a 'link' to "**India Code**", a database of Ministry of Law, is also provided to access the full text of desired central act. This database could be accessed through IP address 192.100.2.61/legis on "INTRANET" of the Supreme Court of India.

4. **CATALOGUE** - A catalogue is the key to the collection of any library. Supreme Court Judges library has developed its "On-line Public Access Catalogue" (OPAC) for

quickly knowing the availability of any book procured after the year 1973 with the help of slightest clue about the same. With the help of computerized catalogue, availability of any book in the library along with its location could be quickly ascertained through any access point such as *Author, Title, Series, Subject, Collaborators, Editors, Accession No., Class No., and Publisher etc.*

XII. Administrative Wing

- (i) **Pay Roll :-** The software generates the pay slips, Form 16 and income tax returns and other related calculations for each employee of the Supreme Court.
- (ii) **Inventory Control System :-** Activities including issuing consumable items to various users, stock maintenance, etc., which are part of inventory control system, are already computerized on old platform. Data Entry and retrieval for the same software has already been converted into the new platform.
- (iii) **Personal Information System (Admn-I) :-** Software module for entering the personal data of employees of the Supreme Court has been developed. Retrieval module is also ready. Generation of first page of the Annual Confidential Report in the prescribed format by retrieving various details of an employee is already implemented.
- (iv) **Computerization of Admn-II :-** The Software module for maintaining various types of leave, which are granted to employees of the Supreme Court, is working on the new platform. This has already been included in the web based retrieval application called SUPNET.

- (v) **Computerization of Admn-III :-** Modules for entering data of an employee relating to CGHS, LTC, HBA, conveyance advances, tuition fees etc. are already computerized on the new platform. The generation of standard approval form for filling up requisite entries relating to an employee is already implemented on the old platform.

XIII. E-Filing

For the benefit of the advocates and the petitioner-in-persons desirous to file cases in the Supreme Court of India from the comfort of their own offices, the Supreme Court of India has recently launched 'E-Filing' software on Internet, which is prepared by NIC. This is a convenience tool especially to the out station petitioners/advocates in filing their petitions without actually coming to the Supreme Court. In addition to the facility of E-Filing, the petitioner/advocates who filed cases through E-Filing also get court notices, latest Orders of the Court, etc., through e-mail automatically. This is a milestone effort of the Supreme Court in serving the needs of the litigants and the advocates. One can file Petition/Counter/Rejoinder etc., through E-filing by accessing the web site of the Supreme Court of India at <http://www.supremecourtfindia.nic.in>. Other additional facilities available include:

- Re-filing after curing defects
- Addition application filing
- Counter/Rejoinder Filing

XIV. Automatic scheduling of Regular Hearing Cases

A software module for automatic scheduling and generation of Cause List of Regular Hearing

matters is developed by adopting the all new strategies for allocation of cases before various available Benches as per Court's order. For this, new algorithms are written. The module is fully functional since July 2003. Also, the allocation of the Criminal Admission Cases before various Benches is also redesigned and developed.

XV. SUPNET

A web enabled retrieval system for the Supreme Court employees that includes Telephone Directory of officers, Leave records, Personal information of an employee, Pay details and status of various advances granted has been detailed.

XVI. Release of 'CASE LOCATOR CD'

The package consists retrieval of information using citation of cases that are already decided in the Supreme Court till February 2003. All the judgments given by the Hon'ble Court are now available online. A CD was prepared for this purpose. The retrieval of cases could be done Judge Name-wise, Act-wise, Case Number-wise, Party name-wise, time period-

wise, Key word search-wise, etc. For retrieving the information about latest cases, a link to website <http://www.judgments.nic.in> is made available. It also facilitates the Hon'ble Judges to include their annotations (remarks) while retrieving the information from CD and later on a search on these annotations can also be made.

XVII. E-KIOSKS

E-Kiosks have been installed to enable the litigants and Advocates in the premises of the Supreme Court to have access to various computerized information.

XVIII. LIST OF BUSINESS

The old Duplicating Machines have been replaced with Digital Duplicators having LAN and Computer connectivity. The Cause Lists, Weekly Lists, etc. received facelift with fine quality paper and superior quality printing with Logo and Photograph of the Supreme Court on the Cover and Back Sheet having E-info.

Considering the amount of work put in by the Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court assistance of Law Clerks-cum-Research Assistants has been provided to them. The Law Clerks are drawn from various empanelled National Law Schools and other approved Law Colleges and Universities and are given assignments on a fixed honorarium/ remuneration per month.

Quite a few steps have been taken to streamline the procedure for engaging Law Clerk-Cum-Research Assistants. There are Law Schools/Colleges/Universities which have already been accepted on the panel. In the month of

December, the Law Schools, etc., which are on the panel are asked to submit applications/bio-data of their final year students pursuing 5-year law course. A panel of Judges does selection of the candidates and a list is made for selection of the Law Clerk-Cum-Research Assistants. Before the Law Clerk-Cum-Research Assistants enter into the assignments, they are required to execute a format of undertaking. Students from empanelled Law Schools/Colleges/Universities, are also attached, for short periods, with Hon'ble Chief Justice of India/Judges, as Law Trainees.

Mother India Sheltering the young Republic of India

12.1 SUPREME COURT BUILDING

Before independence, the highest Court of India was called “Federal Court”. The Supreme Court of India came into existence on 26th January, 1950. Its inaugural session was held on 28th January, 1950 in the Chamber of Princes, a part of the Parliament House. The Court moved into the present building in 1958.

The building is shaped to project the image of scales of justice. The central wing of the building is, as it appears, the central beam of the scales. The central wing consists of five Court Rooms with the Chief Justice's Court at the centre. The Chief Justice's Court is the largest of the Courts with a floor area of 3,000 sq.ft. The Bar Room, the offices of Law Officers and the Library of the Court are housed in the left wing of the building while the right wing accommodates the offices of the Court.

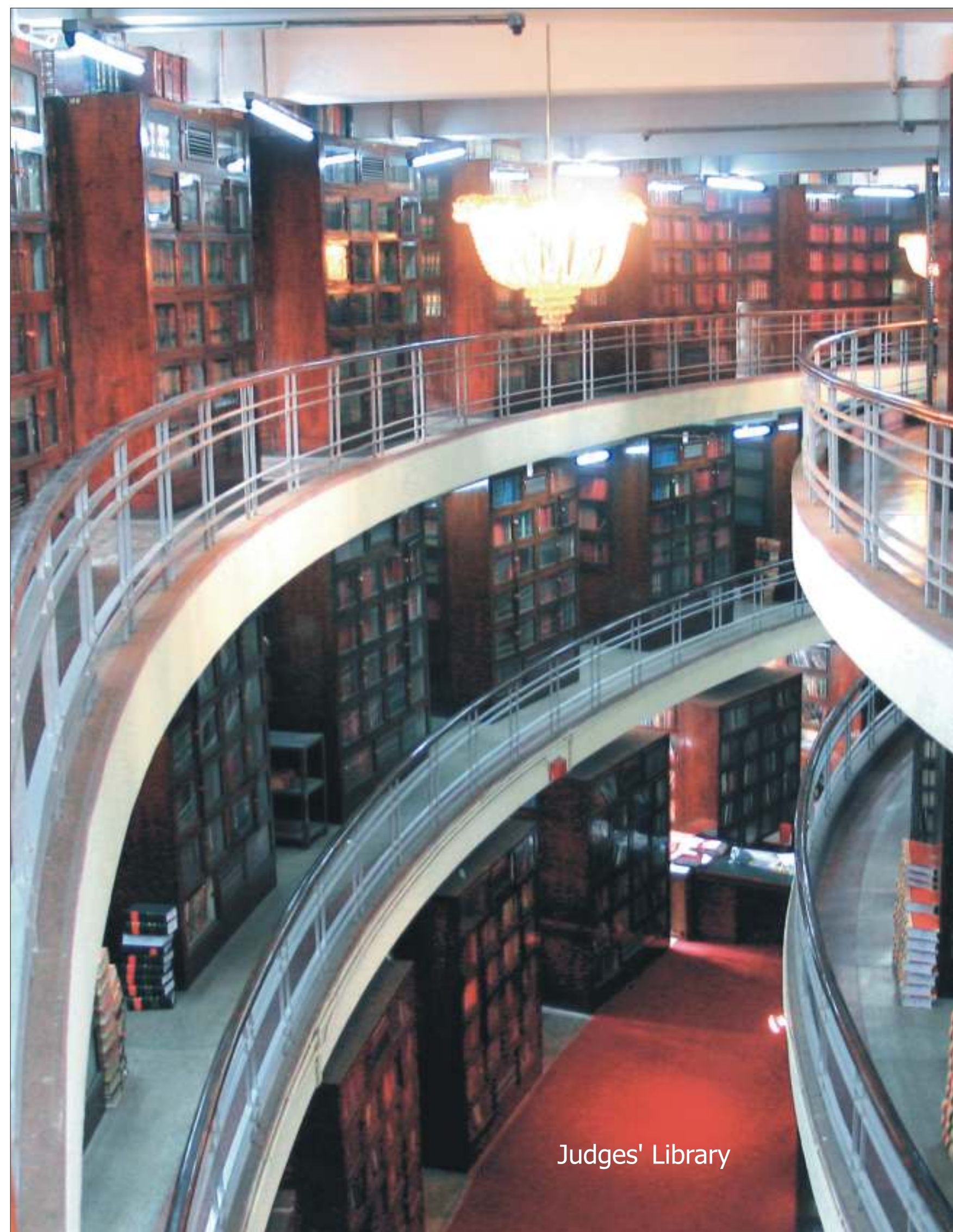
In the year 1979, two new wings, the east wing and the west wing, were added to the complex. Both wings consist of two Court Rooms each. The Court Rooms are centrally air-conditioned, are carpeted and the sidewalls are panelled in timber. The ceilings of Court Rooms are treated acoustically in order to avoid resonance. The exterior of the building is dressed in red sand stone, in keeping with the architecture of important buildings in the capital city of Delhi. Along the main corridors of the building, stand imposing columns in Grecian architecture. There is a happy blending of the Indian and the Grecian architectures

in the construction of the building.

In the year 1994, second extension of the building was made connecting the east wing and the west wing of the first extension. The ground floor has office rooms. There are ten Court Rooms and Judges' Assembly Hall/Common Room on the first floor. The Second floor of the block has four chambers for the Hon'ble Judges and one Conference Hall for Officers. The third floor of the block has office rooms, Judges' library and Advocates' Library (R.K. Garg Memorial).

A mural of coloured porcelain tiles adorns the passage between the Chief Justice's Court and the Chief Justice's Chamber. In the centre of the mural is the “Dharma Chakra” with an inscription in the Sanskrit, which means “Truth alone, I uphold”. On one side of the “Dharma Chakra” is the Goddess of Justice with scales of Justice in her hand while on the other side is the life size portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the apostle of truth and non-violence.

On the main lawns in the front portion of the complex is a sculpture, which represents Mother India in the form of the figure of a lady. The lady is sheltering the young Republic of India represented by the symbol of a child, who is upholding the laws of land symbolically shown in the form of an open book. On the Book the balance is shown which represents dispensation of equal justice to all. The sculpture has been made by the renowned artist, Shri Chintamani Kar.



Judges' Library

12.2 SUPREME COURT JUDGES LIBRARY

The Supreme Court Judges Library was established in 1937 then known as Federal Court Library. Library contains significant legal literature to support the need of Hon'ble Courts and Judges. It has a collection of about 2,50,000 legal documents, which includes books, monographs, commission reports, government publications, centre and state legislations and other legislative materials. It subscribes to about 200 Indian and foreign legal journals both academic and reporting. The Library has a staff strength of 90 including 16 professional librarians. The users of the library are Hon'ble Judges, Senior Advocates, officers of the Registry, Research Scholars of different universities and the Law clerks attached to the Hon'ble Judges.

Supreme Court Judges Library is a grid of libraries. In addition to Central Library, it also maintains workable collection in 12 Bench libraries and 26 residential libraries of Hon'ble Judges. Supreme Court Judges Library is essentially a reference and research wing of the Apex Court. It has to keep close watch over the multifarious literature requirements of Hon'ble Judges and Court functionaries. It functions as throbbing heart of the Apex Court. To cater the needs of its users, library is providing quick reference service. In addition to cater to the information requirements of Hon'ble Judges, the library also provides desired information during court proceedings.

The explosion of legal literature necessitated the legal world to think in terms of bibliographic control and devise certain methodology to retrieve information efficiently. Besides subscribing to many CD-ROM Legal databases, Supreme Court Judges Library has also developed four indigenous Legal databases of **Case laws, Articles, Books** and **Legislative Materials** respectively to provide pinpointed, exhaustive and expeditious information services. Foreign Case laws and other legal information is readily provided through use of "Internet".

Supreme Court Judges Library has also developed many useful reference tools for internal use such as "Indexes to Central and State Acts", "**Union Catalogue of Legal Periodicals**" of all the High Courts, "Countrywise" and "Subjectwise" list of periodicals subscribed in the Country for providing efficient services to the Hon'ble Courts and Judges.

For the current awareness purposes, Library provides '**Press Clippings**' from leading National Dailies. Selective Dissemination of Information on legal subjects is a regular Service for Hon'ble Judges. Library also brings out a quarterly publication namely "**Accession List**" consisting a list of books and Legislative materials acquired by the library in a particular quarter for the awareness of the Hon'ble Judges. Annual cumulation of this List is also compiled and circulated under the title "**Library Catalogue Supplement**".



Cross-section of Museum

12.3 SUPREME COURT MUSEUM

The foundation stone of the Supreme Court Museum Building was laid by Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India (Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.M. Ahmadi) on 11.2.1997. The Building was inaugurated on 27.9.2001 by Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India (Hon'ble Dr. Justice A.S. Anand) and the Museum was inaugurated on 6.4.2004 by Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India (Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. N. Khare).

The Museum is located within the Supreme Court complex and is of round shape with one pillar in the centre, like an umbrella. It has a covered area of approximately 5000 sq.ft. on the ground floor and basement floor. The Museum is divided into two sections. The first section deals with the evolution and development of Judiciary in India and the second portrays the Federal Court and the Supreme Court.

The Museum shows all the objects relating to Judicial system in various historical period of time which includes Manuscripts, Copper Plates, Maces, Photographs of Hon'ble the Chief Justices and Hon'ble Judges of Federal Court and the Supreme Court and landmark Judgments. Besides, the diorama of Chief Justice's Court is also depicted.

A number of dignitaries, foreign delegates, scholars, students of law and general public have visited the Museum. The establishment of Judicial Museum at Apex Court has generated interest and enthusiasm among the general public, where the judicial system of past and present could not be understood easily. Judicial heritage forms part of our cultural heritage which has been protected and preserved by the various institutions and its display under one roof has been appreciated and commended by all. Documentary films "Supreme Court of India" and "Evolution of Judicial system in India", are screened in the Museum for the general visitors. Initiative has also been taken to organize guided tours

for international and domestic tourists to the Supreme Court and Museum which will be a big leap forward in the itinerary of Delhi tourism.

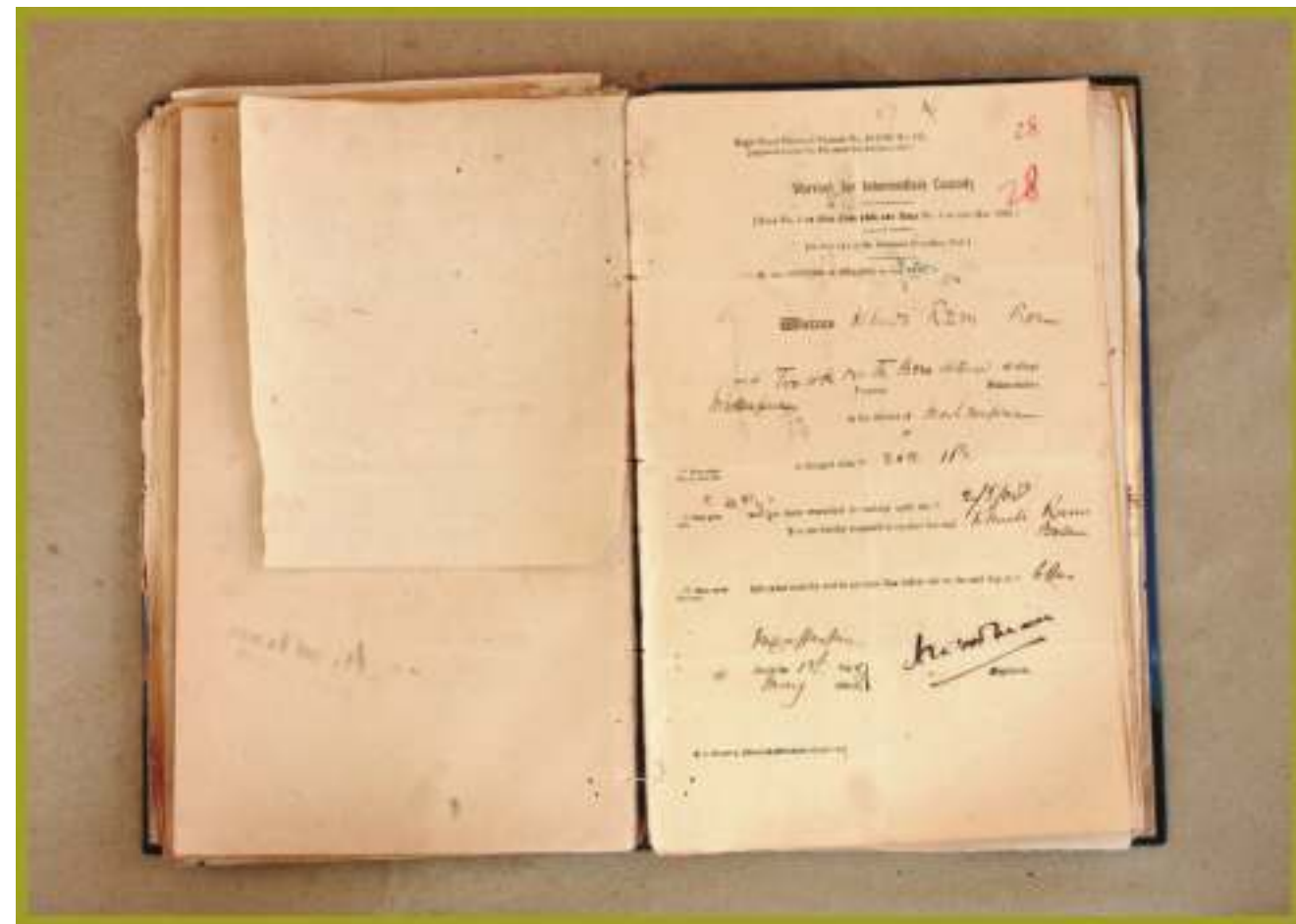
Further, due to positive response and general concern to make Museum a centre of informal learning centre, the Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of Museum Committee have decided to hold a series of exhibitions on pre-independence trial in the Supreme Court Museum and "Alipore Bomb Conspiracy Case" was considered first in the series.

The exhibition was inaugurated on 13th May, 2006 by Hon'ble Mr. Y.K. Sabharwal, Chief Justice of India and a booklet titled as "Alipore Bomb Conspiracy Case: A pre-independence Trial" and a brochure were released by His Lordship on this occasion and the exhibition was concluded on 31st October, 2006.

The Alipore Bomb Conspiracy Case was one of the first high profile State trials of historical importance as it was held at a time when discontent in Bengal was at its zenith. The people who were involved in it were gentlemen, cultured, educated and highly intelligent and belonged to the elite of the society. The exhibition traced the history of the incident of Muzzafarpur bombing, subsequent raid at several places in Calcutta, arrest of various accused in the connection of this case and running of secret society to carry out revolutionary activities and waging war against the British Government, beginning of trial, and culminating into Judgement by C.P. Beachcroft, Additional Session Judge, Alipore, Calcutta.

The objects in this exhibition included original artifacts like documents, files, letters, bombshells and pistols etc. which had been brought before the public to have a glimpse of Judicial heritage of the country.

The exhibits relating to thematic exhibition will be collected and displayed in the museum so that a



Khudi Ram Bose (above) and Warrant of his custody

glimpse of history of judiciary of various periods of the country will be brought before the public. The efforts are being made to increase the number of old artefacts/exhibits, original documents, etc. of judicial significance/importance for display in the Supreme Court Museum as also to reorganize and reorient the same. These artefacts/objects/documents will make

Museum more attractive and create interest among the visitors.

The Supreme Court Museum, therefore, provides a glimpse of legal heritage of India under one roof.



12.4 TRANSIT HOME-CUM-GUEST HOUSE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Transit Home-cum-Guest House of the Supreme Court of India at Bungalow No.1, Rajaji Marg, New Delhi was inaugurated on 6th November, 2002 by Hon'ble Shri B.N. Kirpal, the then Chief Justice of India. It has four wings besides common Drawing Room and Dining Room. Each of the three Wings 'A', 'B' and 'C' consists of one bedroom and an office room, whereas Wing 'D' consists of only one bedroom and has all necessary facilities. The maximum of two wings are allotted by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India to newly appointed Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court till His Lordship shifts to the official Bungalow. Guest House facility is also provided to retired Hon'ble Chief Justices of India/Hon'ble Judges of this Court visiting Delhi and any other dignitaries with the specific approval of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

Normally, the maximum period for stay in respect of retired Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India/Hon'ble Judge of this Court visiting Delhi and any other dignitary may be one week on payment of prescribed charges. However, in exceptional circumstances, this period of stay may be extended with the specific permission of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India beyond one week on payment of enhanced charges. The Transit Home-cum-Guest House is regularly being used by the retired Hon'ble the Chief Justices of India/Hon'ble Judges of this Court.

12.5 UNITED COMMERCIAL BANK

The United Commercial Bank (now UCO Bank) had opened its branch in the Supreme Court complex in the year 1965. In the year 1984, the Bank opened a separate counter in order to give better services to the officers and members of the Supreme Court staff and the Advocates. The bank is providing facility of Automatic Teller Machine to all its customers.

12.6 POST OFFICE

In order to cater to the needs of the Supreme Court, a Post Office started functioning on the ground floor of main building of the Supreme Court in the year 1958. Keeping in view the huge number of letters, notices, documents, parcels etc. to be despatched to various outside agencies, High Courts, various Departments and Lawyers throughout the country, it was shifted to more spacious accommodation in the Lawyers' Chambers Block.

Telegram Services

The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. has started functioning with effect from 5.1.2006 in a counter, constructed by bifurcating the Post Office, for booking and transmission of telegrams for the convenience of the Registry, Advocates and litigant public.

12.7 DISPENSARY

The Supreme Court Dispensary (First-Aid-Post) located in Room No.W-14, West Wing, 1st floor of the Supreme Court premises was inaugurated on 31st July, 1989 by Shri Rafique Alam, the then Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare to provide medical facilities to the Hon'ble Judges, officers and staff of the Supreme Court. Thereafter, the First-Aid Post was upgraded and the same is located on the ground floor of the West Wing of the Building. The upgraded Dispensary was inaugurated on 5th September, 1994 by Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India (Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah). It provides the following facilities :-

- Physicians -three including C.M.O. having MD Degree.
- Orthopaedic Surgeon visits twice in a week.
- Medical Specialist visits once in a week.
- Dermatologist visits once in a week.
- Eye Specialist visits once in a week.
- Physiotherapy Unit with one Senior Physiotherapist on regular basis.

- Pathological Laboratory services daily with one Senior Pathologist visiting twice in a week.
- Resuscitation Unit with possible facilities.
- Dental Unit with possible facilities will start functioning shortly.

12.8 RAILWAY RESERVATION COUNTER

A Computerized Railway Reservation counter of the Northern Railways was opened in the Supreme Court premises on 17.1.1996 to provide the reservation facilities to the Hon'ble Judges, officers and members of the staff of the Registry, advocates and litigants visiting the Supreme Court for their cases.

12.9 SECURITY

The Supreme Court is one of the prime institutions of the Indian democracy and keeping in view the changing national and international security and threat perceptions, a very high level security arrangements and tight vigil have been maintained in the Supreme Court Complex by the security personnel. The existing security arrangement consists of about 113 Delhi Police Personnel, +5 Commandos, 37 RAC and 65 C.I.S.F Personnel who are looking after the security of the Hon'ble Judges

and Supreme Court Complex. A state of the art Access Control System inclusive of CCTVs is being installed to monitor and record entry and exit of each individual.

12.10 CANTEEN FACILITIES

A Departmental Canteen is functioning in the Supreme Court with effect from November, 1986 to cater the needs of the Hon'ble Judges, officers and members of the staff of the Supreme Court. In addition, Advocates' Canteens are also functioning at Plaza in the Supreme Court Compound and in the New Lawyers' Chambers Building at Bhagwan Dass Road since 1996 and October, 2000 respectively.

12.11 RECEPTION

Porta Cabins have been constructed opposite to UCO Bank in which Reception Office, Defect Curing Counters of the Supreme Court and COURTNIC Centre have been accommodated.

12.12 PREMISES OF E-COMMITTEE

E-Committee set up by the Government of India has started functioning w.e.f. 29.03.2006 from the Lok Nayak Bhawan near Khan Market, New Delhi.

Objects displayed in Alipore Bomb Conspiracy Case exhibition.



Revolver recovered from Bipin Bihari Ganguly, a revolutionary



Revolver used by Kanhai Lal Dutta, an accused in Alipore Case to kill Naren Gossain, other accused who turned approver.



Revolver used by Satyendra Nath Bose an accused in Alipore Case to kill Naren Gossain, other accused who turned approver.



Bullets extracted from the body of Debendra Nath Ghose who was murdered by a Secret Society namely Dacca Anushilan Samiti

13.1 MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION PROJECT COMMITTEE

Looking to the large pendency of cases of the courts in the country as also the Parliamentary object in enacting Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure, Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India has on 09-04-2005 constituted a Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (ADR Committee) to be headed ex-officio by Judge of Supreme Court of India who is the Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), to take up a project, prepare plans and oversee the implementation of ADR particularly mediation/conciliation as an alternative dispute resolution system, which is essential to the needs of the time, so as to cut down litigation and provide additional outlets for safety outflow of pending cases.

The Committee also includes other Hon'ble Judges of Supreme Court as well as other dignitaries.

The Committee has nominated a Sub-Committee chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha to look into the day to day aspects of the ADR Project, its study and implementation.

A Permanent Mediation Centre has started functioning from 24th October, 2005 at Tis Hazari Courts, which was inaugurated by the then Executive Chairman Hon'ble Shri Justice Y. K. Sabharwal (now, Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India).

13.2 NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (NALSA)

National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under Section 3 of the Legal

Services Authorities Act, 1987 in the year 1995 to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society.

Under Section 3 (2) (a), The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief of the Authority. Under Section 3 (2) (b), a serving Judge of the Supreme Court is nominated by the President of India in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, who is Executive Chairman. The Committee includes other high dignitaries also as Members.

Under the valuable guidance of Hon'ble Patron-in-Chiefs and Executive Chairpersons of the Authority and presence and guidance of Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court received from time to time, NALSA has taken big strides for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections.

13.3 SUPREME COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee is a statutory Body constituted under Section 3A of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987. It came into existence w.e.f. 01.01.1996, on which date a notification in this regard was issued by the Government of India. The functions of the Committee are regulated by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Regulations, 1996 and Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Rules, 2000. It is headed by a sitting and has nine other distinguished members in its Executive Body.

The Committee provides legal aid free of cost to eligible litigants whose income does not exceed Rs.50,000/- per annum. There is, however, no income bar for litigants belonging to SC/ST, women, children, handicapped and litigants engaged in matters relating to Industrial Disputes, etc. as defined in the Act. The grant of legal aid to the litigants is subject to eligibility

and merits of the case. Any person desirous of availing legal aid through the Committee has to make an application to the Secretary, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, 109, Lawyers Chamber, Supreme Court Compound, New Delhi, in the prescribed form available in the office. The applicant is further required to attach documents alongwith the application forms. At present, the Committee has on its roll 64 Advocates-on-Record and 55 Senior Advocates. The Senior Advocates are rendering free service to the Committee.

The Committee has its own website, namely,

<http://www.sclsc.nic.in>. The queries of the litigants are also being answered through E-Mail. The Committee is also in touch with the NIC to prepare a Web-based Software which would enable a litigant to enquire the status of his/her application, pending with the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee as well as to download or make On-line submission of application to the SCLSC from all over the country. The website of the Committee has also been linked to the website of the Tihar Jail to facilitate the convicts lodged in the jail to download the application forms for legal aid services, affidavits and vakalatnama for the purpose of filing the petition in the Supreme Court.

The work done during 2005 2006 (upto 31.10.2006) by the Committee is as under :-

Statistical information with regard to the implementation of Legal Aid Programme in the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee for the period 01.10.2005 to 31.10.2006 is given below :-

1.	Total Number of applications received	1716
2.	Number of applicants advised to approach the appropriate forum for relief	279
3.	Number of applications referred to the Screening Panel Advocates to ascertain whether the matter is worth prosecuting before the Supreme Court	1437
4.	Number of applications rejected being not found fit case for filing by the Screening Panel Advocates	319
5.	Number of cases pending in the Screening for legal opinion	97
6.	Number of cases approved for Filing appropriate petitions in the Supreme Court	1021
7.	Total Number of cases sent for Filing (which include 53 cases of prior period)	1074
8.	Number of cases disposed of by the Supreme Court.	284
9.	Number of cases withdrawn by the applicants	08

10.	Number of cases pending for disposal before the Hon'ble Court	782
11.	Number of correspondence Received during the period	11127
12.	Number of correspondence despatched during the period	15000

13.4. SUPREME COURT MIDDLE INCOME GROUP LEGAL AID SOCIETY

The Supreme Court Middle Income Group Legal Aid Society has been constituted under the Societies Registration Act vide Registration No. S 34951 of 1999 to provide partial legal service to the middle class section of the Society whose annual income does not exceed Rs.2,00,000/- per annum. The function of this Society is confined to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India. The Society has been recognized vide Regulation 3 (4) of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Regulations, 1996, which was framed pursuant to Section 29 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and is a totally self-funded scheme whereby the applicant pays the fees of the Advocates and the Senior Advocates but at a highly reduced fee structure unlike the normal fees. The accounts of the Society are being operated by Secretary and Treasurer through a Nationalized Bank.

The Society is headed by a sitting Hon'ble

Judge of the Supreme Court of India as its President and its governing body consists of 11 members, including the President and the learned Attorney General as the ex-officio vice-President.

The Society maintains a panel of advocates, including Advocates-on-Record and Senior Advocates, who are willing to take up cases assigned by the Society. Every person who is desirous of availing the services of an advocate has to approach the Secretary of the Society by filling up an application in the prescribed form available in the office alongwith other relevant documents.

The office of the Society is presently functioning at 109, Lawyers Chambers, Supreme Court Compound and establishment services to it are being provided by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee.

The Society has its website which is linked with the Supreme Court website, namely, <http://www.supremecourtfindia.nic.in> and it contains all the information about its functioning.



14.1 SUPREME COURT REPORTS

Supreme Court Report is the official Reporter of the Supreme Court judgments. Under Section 3 of the Indian Law Reports Act, 1875, only the authorized Reports are to be cited in Courts. The work relating to Supreme Court Reports is governed by the Supreme Court (Council of Law Reporting) Rules, 1964. The headnotes of the judgments are prepared by Editorial Officers as also by Honorary Editorial Research Scholars and are approved by the Hon'ble Judges. The Supreme Court Reports are published under the supervision of the Supreme Court Council of Law Reporting consisting of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, two Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court, Attorney General for India and an Advocate nominated by the Executive Council of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

The Supreme Court Reports are published in 12 Monthly Parts, which are later bound into three volumes. The judgments which are not covered in the 12 Monthly Parts are published in Supplementary Volumes, generally covered in about five volumes in a year. SCR is a Government publication and its subscription is nominal. Presently, the Annual subscription for 12 Monthly Parts and 3 General Indices is Rs.732/- only. The Supplementaries are priced separately. It also gives minute and avid details in its Index. It is sent on reciprocal basis to many Commonwealth Countries and to other countries like USA, Nigeria, Canada, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Egypt, etc. Publication of Supreme Court Reports position (as on 30.9.2006) was as under:-

Monthly Parts	General Index	Supplementaries
Sept., 2006	2005(3)	2005(3)

14.2 SUPREME COURT RULES

(a) Supreme Court Rules, 1966

Under Article 145(1) of the Constitution of India, Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India with the approval of the President of India has formulated Supreme Court Rules, 1966, which regulate the procedure to be followed in working on the judicial side of the Registry. The rules have so far been amended 38 times and the last amendment was carried out w.e.f. 1st March, 2006, so as to confer additional powers on the Hon'ble Judges in Chamber and the Registrars and giving right to file consequent to amendment of Order VI Rule 2 of Supreme Court Rules, 1966. More matters are now being listed before the Hon'ble Judge in Chamber. An authentic and official updated edition of the Rules has been published by the Supreme Court of India in the year 2006.

(b) Supreme Court Officers and Servants (Conditions of Service and Conduct) Rules, 1961

For the convenient transaction of all the official dealings, including the conditions of service and conduct of the Court servants, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India with the approval of the President framed the Service Rules of 1961.

Transaction of all administrative works, including work relating to the conditions of service and conduct of Court servants, is made under direct and overall supervision of the Registrar General, who



Supreme Court of India

Calendar For 2007

JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL	
S	7 14 21 28	S	4 11 18 25	S	4 11 18 25	S	1 8 15 22 29
M	1 8 15 22 29	M	5 12 19 26	M	5 12 19 26	M	2 9 16 23 30
T	2 9 16 23 30	T	6 13 20 27	T	6 13 20 27	T	3 10 17 24
W	3 10 17 24 31	W	7 14 21 28	W	7 14 21 28	W	4 11 18 25
T	4 11 18 25	T	1 8 15 22	T	1 8 15 22 29	T	5 12 19 26
F	5 12 19 26	F	2 9 16 23	F	2 9 16 23 30	F	6 13 20 27
S	6 13 20 27	S	3 10 17 24	S	3 10 17 24 31	S	7 14 21 28
MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUGUST	
S	6 13 20 27	S	3 10 17 24	S	1 8 15 22 29	S	5 12 19 26
M	7 14 21 28	M	4 11 18 25	M	2 9 16 23 30	M	6 13 20 27
T	1 8 15 22 29	T	5 12 19 26	T	3 10 17 24 31	T	7 14 21 28
W	2 9 16 23 30	W	6 13 20 27	W	4 11 18 25	W	1 8 15 22 29
T	3 10 17 24 31	T	7 14 21 28	T	5 12 19 26	T	2 9 16 23 30
F	4 11 18 25	F	1 8 15 22 29	F	6 13 20 27	F	3 10 17 24 31
S	5 12 19 26	S	2 9 16 23 30	S	7 14 21 28	S	4 11 18 25
SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
S	30 2 9 16 23	S	7 14 21 28	S	4 11 18 25	S	30 2 9 16 23
M	3 10 17 24	M	1 8 15 22 29	M	5 12 19 26	M	31 3 10 17 24
T	4 11 18 25	T	2 9 16 23 30	T	6 13 20 27	T	4 11 18 25
W	5 12 19 26	W	3 10 17 24 31	W	7 14 21 28	W	5 12 19 26
T	6 13 20 27	T	4 11 18 25	T	1 8 15 22 29	T	6 13 20 27
F	7 14 21 28	F	5 12 19 26	F	2 9 16 23 30	F	7 14 21 28
S	1 8 15 22 29	S	6 13 20 27	S	3 10 17 24	S	1 8 15 22 29

By Order
V. K. Jain
Registrar General

HOLIDAYS

Name of Holidays	Month & Date	Days of the Week
New Year & Id-uz-Zuha (Bakrid)	January, 1	Monday
Local Holiday	January, 2	Tuesday
Republic Day	January, 26	Friday
Local Holiday	January, 29	Monday
Muharram	January, 30	Tuesday
Maha Shivaratri	February, 16	Friday
Holi Holidays	March, 5 & March, 6	Monday & Tuesday
Ram Navami	March, 27	Tuesday
Mahavir Jayanti	March, 31	Saturday
Good Friday	April, 6	Friday
Independence Day	August, 15	Wednesday
Raksha Bandhan	August, 28	Tuesday
Local Holiday	September, 3	Monday
Janmashami	September, 4	Tuesday
Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday	October, 2	Tuesday
Dussehra Holidays	October, 15 to October, 20	Monday to Saturday
Diwali Holidays	November, 5 to November, 10	Monday to Saturday
Guru Nanak's Birthday	November, 24	Saturday
Id-uz-Zuha (Bakrid)	December, 21	Friday
Christmas & New Year Holidays	December, 17 to January 1, 2008	Monday to Tuesday(2008)

- Sundays and Supreme Court Holidays are shown in red.
- Milad-un-Nabi and Id-ul-Fitr which fall on 1st April, and 14th October, respectively have not been shown separately as these fall on Sundays.
- Holi, Dussehra and Diwali actually fall on Sunday the 4th March, Sunday the 21st October and Friday the 9th November, 2007 respectively.
- The Summer Vacation of the Court will commence on Monday the 21st May, 2007 and the Court will resume its sitting on Monday the 9th July, 2007. The Summer Vacation is shaded in red. The Registry of the Court will, however, be functioning throughout the vacation except on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays. However, the Registry of the Court will remain open on last Saturday of the Summer Vacation i.e. 7th July, 2007.
- Id-uz-Zuha, Muharram, Milad-un-Nabi, Id-ul-Fitr and Id-uz-Zuha which fall on Monday the 1st January, Tuesday the 30th January, Sunday the 1st April, Sunday the 14th October and Friday the 21st December respectively are subject to change depending upon the visibility of the Moon.
- During the Christmas Holidays, the Registry will remain closed from 25th December, 2007 to 1st January, 2008 (both days inclusive).

is the highest Officer of the Court and works directly under Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

Part II of these Rules specifies the powers of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India in regard to creation of posts, appointments, method of recruitment, qualification for appointments and conditions of service of the employees of the Supreme Court. Part III of these Rules contains provisions for control and discipline of the staff and Part IV about their conduct. Part V of the Rules comprises the provisions about miscellaneous matters relating to the staff.

14.3 THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF APPELLATE JUDGES, NEW DELHI-MARCH 1984

Conference papers and proceedings of Conference held on theme: "The Challenge of Social Justice" were published.

14.4 GOLDEN JUBILEE PICTORIAL VOLUME AND SUPREME BUT NOT INFALLIBLE

A pictorial volume titled "Supreme Court of India 1950 - 2000" was published at the time of Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Supreme Court of India. This pictorial volume mainly contained pictorial history of the Supreme Court of India.

To commemorate Fifty Years of the Indian Supreme Court, Volume "Supreme But Not Infallible" was also published. The volume contained Essays in honour of the Supreme Court of India, written by eminent jurists, legal academicians and journalists who critically evaluated the working of this institution over the last five decades.

14.5 ANNUAL REPORTS 2003-2004 and 2004-2005

Supreme Court published its first Annual Report 2003-2004 on 26-11-2004, Law Day and second Annual Report 2004-2005 on 26-11-2005, Law Day.

14.6 COURT NEWS

To promote transparency and accountability and provide free flow of information, Supreme Court of India has started publication of 'Court News', a quarterly news letter. Besides figures of institution, pendency and disposal of cases as well as vacancy position in Courts at all levels, it also contains a gist of judgments of public importance delivered by the Supreme Court of India in the last quarter. Through this news letter, legal fraternity as well as the general public is kept informed of important news and developments relating to administration of justice including systematic improvements made therein from time to time. It is sent free of cost to all High Courts, Bar Associations, Law Colleges and Government Departments etc. and is also available on the website of Supreme Court.

14.7 HANDBOOK OF INFORMATION

A Hand Book of information on Practices and Procedures, being followed in Supreme Court, including (i) classification of jurisdiction, (ii) limitation and Court Fee, (iii) procedure for filing of cases, allocation of Benches, listing of cases & preparation of cause-lists, (iv) guidelines on Public Interest Litigation & Jail Petitions, (v) supply of copies & inspection of record, (vi) legal aid and advice, (vii) information available on internet, and (viii) allocation of work amongst different sections including particulars of the officers concerned with each Section has been published for convenience of the Advocates as well as litigants. The publication has been found very useful and thousands of copies have already been sold.

14.8 OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Revised "Head Notes of Leading Cases" for exclusive use in Advocates-on-Record Examination.



Arial View of the Model of Supreme Court Building

National Judicial Academy, Bhopal

THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL EDUCATION STRATEGY:

Under the guidance of the Supreme Court, the National Judicial Academy has prepared a comprehensive new National Judicial Education Strategy. The proposed Strategy was discussed in detail by the Chief Justice of India with High Court Justices in charge of Training and Directors of State Judicial Academies at NJA, Bhopal on September 2, 2006. The proposed Strategy was also discussed in depth by the State High Court judges and directors during a day long meeting at NJA, Bhopal, on September 3, 2006 which was presided over by Hon'ble Justice K.G. Balakrishnan and in which Hon'ble Justice S.B. Sinha participated.

The National Strategy will substantially scale up judicial education. It establishes a new and comprehensive national standard of one week of judicial education every year for all 12,700 or so judges in India. The two thrust areas for the expanded programme of judicial education will be (i) reducing delay and arrears; and (ii) responding effectively to the demand for justice from main groups of justice-seekers. The overall theme of judicial education at the national level will be "judicial education for timely justice".

Reduction of delays and arrears will be pursued through education and training on (i) use of information and communication technology (ICT); (ii) use of modern management systems for court and case management; and (iii) strengthening core judicial knowledge and skills. The capacity of the judiciary to respond to priority areas of justice demand will be enhanced through (i) broadening judges' perspectives on justice issues in areas of greatest demand for justice and sensitizing them to the need for effective justice

delivery; and (ii) developing the ability of judges to use new and innovative approaches to effectively respond to the demand for justice delivery within the existing legal framework.

NJA programmes will focus on key issues of national priority that cut across States and promote a consistent national outlook and methodology amongst judges. State Judicial Academies and NJA will coordinate their work so as to avoid duplication and provide all judges in the country access to out-of-state programs through video-conferencing/web-streaming links and through posting material on the NJA web site.

The NJES will be implemented in a phased manner over three years commencing from January 2007 so that 2010 onwards all Judicial Officers across the country will be covered every year.

A PERFORMANCE REPORT OF ACTIVITIES AT NJA

(From 1st November, 2005 upto 30th September, 2006):

Given below is a report on various training courses organized by the National Judicial Academy during the Academic year of November 2005 to September 2006.

Course No.: NJA T-025

"Role of Courts in Delivery of Justice to Disabled Persons and Prevention of Atrocities on SC/ST Persons", 6-10 November, 2005 (Participation: 36 District & Sessions Judges, including Special Judges of SC and ST (PoA) Act Special Courts)

The persons who are having physical,

intellectual or psychological impairment of various degrees temporarily or permanently are handicapped by social, cultural and attitudinal barriers, which hamper their full participation and enjoyment of equal rights and opportunities in the society. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been neglected, marginalized and exploited the most for centuries. The main aim of the Course was to sensitize the Judges to be more proactive and innovative in responding to the problems of the disabled. The deliberations were based on effective implementation of the Special Acts and culminated in the drafting of certain guidelines thereof.

Course No.: NJA T-026

“Refresher Course on Statutory Interpretation with reference to Standards of Reasonableness”, 11-15 November, 2005 (Participation: 23 District & Sessions Judges)

The term “reasonable standard” in legal discourse can be defined as that which is just, fair, flexible, innovative, equitable and acceptable to good conscience. The main aim of this Course was to evolve the standards of reasonableness and its applicability in the adjudicatory process. Factors of legislative history, principles of natural justice, constituents of equity, among others, were presented to be the essential components aiding the determination of reasonableness in different disciplines of law.

Course No.: NJA T-027

“Refresher Course on Administrative Law and Adjudication”, 5-9, December 2005 (Participation: Over 30 Senior District Judges eligible for promotion to the High Court)

Administrative Law, a discipline which ensures accountability in the exercise of public power and which helps to organize the democratic character of the State consistent with efficiency and social justice was revisited during this Course with a view to enhance the capacity of the judicial system to cope with the transitional problems and challenges. The themes which were discussed included the

contribution of the Indian Courts to the development of administrative jurisprudence, the enactment of the Right to Information Act, 2005, trends in decentralized governance under the 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments, revolutionary changes in legal regulation of the administration in the special context of the globalization of the economy, police powers and criminal justice administration, and as well as on corruption in the administration and the corrective mechanisms.

Course No.: NJA T-029

“Refresher Course on Labour Law and Adjudication”, 27-31, December 2005 (Participation: 35 Judges presiding over Labour Courts)

The Course was offered in the background of several laws relating to governance in the process of being changed, both in principles and procedures. The object was to examine the changing labour law scenario and understand the processes which inevitably influence the approaches required in labour dispute settlement. The themes discussed included women and labour relations, migrant labour, ADR and industrial dispute settlement, unorganized sector, social security for workers, and labour law in a market economy. The Course also deliberated on the best practices to be undertaken by the Industrial Courts for early settlement of disputes towards ensuring greater industrial peace and productivity.

Course No.: NJA T-030

“Workshop on Cyber Laws and Cyber Forensics”, 6-10, January 2006 (Participation: 43 District & Session Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates)

India is one among the few countries which saw the potential of the ICT Revolution and initiated legislations to enable transactions in digital way. Cyber law aims to address the issues which are thrown up in the use of cyber space and cyber technology in all types of transactions in society. The legal regulatory framework is just in its preliminary stage. With the technology changing every day the law finds itself

inadequate to cope with the problems and challenges. It is in this context that the National Judicial Academy found it necessary to organize a week long Course on Cyber Laws and Cyber Forensics with a view to give the judges a first hand knowledge of the law and technology interface and the challenges involved.

Course No.: NJA T-031

“Advanced Course on Civil Justice and Adjudication”, 27-31, January 2006 (Participation: 37 District and Session Judges)

Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2002 has come into force in July 2002, and the aim of this Course was to sensitize the judges for the effective application of the amendments, towards providing speedy justice and reducing arrears. The prime need of Case and Court Management strategies were also discussed in the context of docket control by a judge. Application of new and effective settlement techniques like ADR and its different modes were deliberated upon in detail. The use of Information and Communication Technology in judicial proceedings was given priority as well.

Course No.: NJA T-034

“Advanced Course on Court Management and Judicial Administration”, 24-28, February 2006 (Participation: 25 Registrars of High Courts)

The Course aimed at initiating action to undertake reforms from within the judicial establishment. While efforts to mobilize necessary resources from the Government continued, it was found that reforms using management, technology and education were the immediate requirement. A number of steps were decided to be initiated at the policy and operational levels of the judicial system, like formulation of a uniform set of Guidelines on Judicial Performance Assessment and preparing a Plan of Action for better delivery of justice in the trial courts. The E-Committee shall be provided with the evolved suggestions for addressing arrears/delay problems. Other themes discussed were the use of

science and technology in improving judicial productivity; legal services administration and access to justice; administration of social justice laws vis-a-vis women, children, dalits and disabled; and role of State Judicial Academies in judicial reform.

Course No.: NJA T-035

“Refresher Course on Application of Strict, Absolute and Vicarious Liability in Administration of Justice”, 3-7, March 2006 (Participation: 29 District & Sessions Judges)

The prime question posed was: Are we incompetent to deliver justice in mass accident cases? We have law of obligations in the form of Law of Torts, Motor Vehicle Act, Consumer Protection Act, Environmental protection Act and some specific Acts like Bhopal Gas Claim Act etc. This course was organized to sensitize judges for quicker remedy in accidental cases, consumer cases, product liability cases, mass tort cases, medical negligence cases. The course was also helpful for the judges in relevant consideration of quantum of damages and a mindset change in the circumstance of increasing number of torts due to development in society.

Course No.: NJA T-036

“Science and Technology in Administration of Justice Workshop on Training the Trainers”, 8-12, March 2006 (Participation: 24 Judicial Officers representing all the State Judicial Academies)

Scientific evidence in judicial proceedings is now integral to the judicial process. Law sets the terms and standards of scientific research and also lays down the norms for use of scientific research by third parties. It is with a view to review these dimensions of Science and Technology interface with Law and Judiciary as well as to design a scheme of training for judicial officers and court administrators that NJA jointly organized with Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, this programme of “Training the Trainers”. At

the end of this workshop the judges in charge of training in various State Judicial Academies have developed a blue-print of six training programmes which could be mounted at the local and regional levels to prepare the judiciary to respond to the tasks and challenges ahead.

Course No.: NJAT-037

“Orientation Course on Tribal Customs, Laws and Dispute Settlement Processes: Role of Formal Legal System”, 25-29, March 2006 (Participation: 32 District & Sessions Judges)

The tribal population of India is spread over several States and Union Territories. Because of their concentration in remote and inaccessible areas of the country, their participation in politics and governance is ordinarily not felt, despite all the reservations and special protective provisions in the Constitution. In this context, the Course attempted to revisit the Constitution and the laws from the perspective of the tribal people who constitute almost 8% of the total Indian population. Many issues pertinent to tribal survival like land alienation, mega projects and tribal displacement, biodiversity conservation, etc. were discussed in detail. Guidelines were also developed to render access to justice to the tribals a reality.

Course No.: NJAT-038

“Workshop on Mediation, Conciliation, Arbitration and Negotiated Settlement of Disputes”, 7-12, April 2006 (Participation: 36 District & Sessions Judges)

This training programme aimed to analyze the new provisions in the context of ground realities, identify strategies to promote the increased use of ADR in the system and help acquire essential skills in the use of ADR techniques in different types of disputes. ADR demands a favourable mindset, some knowledge of elementary principles which govern its practice and a determination to make it succeed in appropriate cases. This course was intended to achieve these goals by the officers involved. The

concluding day was devoted to presentations of Plan of Action by the participants from each State, which were submitted to the NJA and have been forwarded to Executive Chairman of NALSA.

Course No.: NJAT-039

“Advanced Course on Economic Crimes”, 21-23, April 2006 (Participation: 20 Special Judges of the Economic Offences Courts)

With Globalisation and unprecedented developments in science and technology, the pattern of crime particularly in the economic sector has assumed menacing proportions. The ease and speed with which economic transactions can be completed across the globe have complicated detection and prevention of economic offences. Even the definition of crime and relevance of conventional punishments are now under dispute. The special focus in the course is on the distinctive features and special procedure within the existing procedural laws which can be applied for adjudication of the speedy and effective disposal of economic crimes which naturally is part of the work of the special courts.

Course No.: NJAT-040

“Refresher Course on Judiciary and Media Relations: Issues and Concerns”, 4-7, May 2006 (Participation: 15 District & Sessions Judges, including Registrars of High Courts)

The role and responsibility of media in reporting on judicial proceedings, especially those involving women and children; trial by media and its typology; the effective exercise of contempt power; and sting operations and the legal responses formed the core of the discussions in this Course. The four-day deliberations culminated in the formulation of a comprehensive Code titled “Media Reporting of Legal and Judicial Proceedings: A Model Code”.

Course No.: NJAT-041

“Litigation involving Offences against

Women Dowry, Domestic Violence, Rape including Handling of Witnesses”, 15-17, July 2006 (Participation: 42 District & Sessions Judges)

Despite the existence of a number of special legislations and other measures providing protection to women and the girl child, they continue to be victims of discrimination and various types of crimes are perpetuated specifically on them like rape, dowry harassment often leading to death, sexual harassment, domestic violence etc. This is to a great deal attributable to the substantive and procedural infirmities in the laws. The effect of these infirmities could be moderated in their impact if the Presiding Officers were more sensitive to these inequities, and actively involve themselves in removing hurdles which women and girls face while approaching Courts for justice.

This three day course was therefore structured to narrow the widening gap between the idealism of statutory guarantees and the harsh reality that this segment of the population do not get adequate protection of the laws, but are usually discriminated against. The sessions were interactive organised around specific concerns in areas like evidentiary issues and sentencing guidelines in rape, gender justice issues in dowry prohibition, sex selective abortions including the recent initiatives - Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, recent Amendments to the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 etc. The final day concluded with formulation of Guidelines for efficient dispensation of gender justice in trial courts with specific emphasis on the Rape Guidelines which NJA had earlier drafted in one of its training programmes.

Course No.: NJAT-042

“Environmental Law & Adjudication: Role of Subordinate Judiciary in Prevention of Environmental Degradation & Controlling Public Nuisance”, 22-24, July 2006 (Participation: 45 District & Sessions Judges)

Like most countries in the developing world, India also faces the daunting task of attaining

development by utilizing its natural resources base which is being expended to such an extent that the same runs the risk of being jeopardized. This has resulted in a plethora of unprecedented environmental problems demanding urgent legislative, administrative and judicial interventions. Even though Parliament has enacted a series of environmental laws, the fact remains that our country remains as polluted as ever. To offset this situation the writ courts have been forced to intervene. With “Right to Clean Environment” becoming part of Article 21, the pattern of environmental disputes adjudication underwent a radical change. Redressal in every form of environmental grievance started becoming the sole domain of the writ courts. The primary judiciary, though endowed with wide reaching powers has been totally excluded from its purview since the litigant public prefers to utilize the speedier writ remedy. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the primary judiciary has substantial powers to effect a clean up of the environment. Non-utilisation of these civil and criminal remedies by the litigants has had a negative effect on the development of environmental jurisprudence; a development which none of us can afford since environmental wrongs have the capacity to affect 'life' itself.

It is in this context, that this course for Senior Judicial Officers concerned with Environmental Law Adjudication was offered with following as its specific objectives:

- To explode the myth that environmental disputes adjudication is the exclusive prerogative of the writ courts
- To create awareness on the role of Civil and Criminal Courts in furthering the cause of environmental justice
- To analyse the scope of PIL and civil society interventions in matters of ecology and environment.
- To employ the Bhopal Gas Leak and related disasters and learn the strengths and weaknesses of adjudicatory process in

environmental disputes and mass torts from the standpoint of the primary judiciary

- To appreciate problems in ecological management and sustainable development in relation to law
- To inculcate values, ethics and attitudes which an effective Green Judge would require while resolving disputes in this sensitive public interest area

Course No.: NJAT-043

“Advanced Course on Civil Process including recent trends in Judgment Writing”, 27-31, July 2006 (Participation: 42 Additional District Judges)

The problem of arrears and delay in disposal of cases has caused so much distress to all concerned with the justice delivery system that while attempting to contain and tackle the problem, the importance to dispensing qualitative justice is perhaps being lost sight of. Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2002 came into force on 01/07/2002. Since then, more than four years have gone by but they are not applied effectively. These amendments are intended to assist in speedy delivery of justice and reduction of arrears. Strict application with time schedule was the focal issue for the discussion and we have successfully convinced them in this matter. In the light of our Supreme Court jurisprudence we have tried to evolve the methods of implementing case and court management reforms and how can they be achieved within the existing resources.

Implementation of information and communication technology in Indian judiciary was the important issue which was explained with flow charts. Almost in every judgment, the basic structure is the same. Our focal point for discussion was the good judgment with clear reasoning. There are four stages in judicial decision-making: ascertaining the facts, finding the law, interpreting the legal materials selected and applying the resulting legal precept to the cause were also discussed. Courts and lawyers have a paramount obligation to enforce the legislative

mandate like Section 89 CPC. Application of new and effective settlement techniques like ADR and its different modes with role play exercises on mediation technique was explained.

Course No.: NJAT-044

“Management of Judicial Administration including Court Management, Case Management and Caseflow Management”, 5-7, August 2006 (Participation: 27 Registrars General and Registrars of High Courts)

Efficient supportive administration is the key to an efficient justice delivery system and in India, to a large extent court administration is handled by career administrators and judicial officers serving as Registrars of the High Courts. In recent times, due to huge arrears and backlogs the administrative branch of the judiciary is also facing problems and criticism. From understanding the problem of Judicial Administration to final discharge of various support services, immense administrative skills and inter-personal behavioural management, leadership, motivation, communication and monitoring are required. In the search for answers to the ills facing the judiciary, to give a scientific and systematic move forward at the desired speed and for discerning the hidden reasons for the administrative malaise, this course attempted to provide greater and more focused management-based scientific deliberations among those handling the administration of the Courts in India.

Course No.: NJAT-045

“Advanced Course on Criminal Justice Administration”, 18-22, August 2006 (Participation: 49 Principal District & Sessions Judges)

The Course presented a detailed understanding of the prevailing nature of criminality and recognized the lack of an integrated criminal justice policy to address the popular concerns of the criminal justice system as the chief concern. About 10 different sectoral issues pertaining to the

administration of criminal justice were deliberated upon with an emphasis on possible policy outcomes and recommendations. The judges were formed into different groups on each of the days, which resulted in the drafting of key proposals to enhance the efficacy of criminal justice administration in India. The Committee constituted to draft the National Criminal Justice Policy was present at the course and was suitably assisted by the cumulative experience of senior members of the District Judiciary across India.

Course No.: NJAT-046

“Refresher Course in Juvenile Justice Administration”, 26-28, August 2006 (Participation: 46 Principal Magistrates of Juvenile Justice Boards)

To make judiciary responsive enough to seriously address the role assigned to it to protect the child population of over 400 million under the laws and the Constitution, this third refresher course was designed. First day acquainted trainees with the problem of juvenile delinquency a major social challenge; what are the intentions of the government reflected in its various policy initiatives and what obligations is cast by these policy initiatives upon judicial officers. Trainees were acquainted with multi-disciplinary approach that they need to adopt vis-à-vis children with the active help of psychologist, social worker, and advocate. Second day dealt in depth with the problems that presiding officers of JJBs face throughout country. Participants disclosed that they were facing problems due to non-availability of probation officer who has to make social enquiry report so that final order can be passed. Select issues concerning child in court like age determination, child abuse, detention while pending inquiry, role of Child Welfare Committee, bail, child witness, etc. were also discussed. Objective of Community Service order was discussed in detail. Their problems were answered by experts in the field. On third day trainees were called upon to provide inputs to the Guidelines prepared by NJA for dealing with child victims of various kinds of offences. These Guidelines were sent to the trainees one month in advance - gave them ready reference

material on law relating to child victims the Constitution, the JJ Act of 2000, proposed Offences Against Children Act 2005, the new PLAN of ACTION developed for children in 2005, the Beijing Rules, 1985, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989 and the State Rules from Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu for administering juvenile justice.

Course No.: NJAT-047

“Family Court and Administration of Gender Justice including Role of the Court in assisting the parties to arrive at a Mutual Settlement”, 9-11, September 2006 (Participation: 38 Presiding Officers of Family/Matrimonial Courts and District Judges)

Many of the Family Courts operating in most States are not working in tune with the spirit of the Family Courts Act, 1984 enacted with a view to provide timely solutions to complex but delicate disputes concerning the institution of family. As a result, this fora is under attack from different quarters regarding its utility and efficiency in the justice administration framework.

Accordingly, this Course addressed a few of the major challenges which a family court judge is confronted with in his regular court work so as to enhance his/her efficiency levels in performance. The participants who were mostly presiding officers of Family Courts were made to appreciate the complexities and sensitivities of human relations in such matrimonial disputes through diverse pedagogical methods, like case presentations, group discussions etc. They were also exposed to techniques for appraisal of evidence, for better court and case management to tackle pendency, greater sensitivity to gender issues in maintenance proceedings, application of best interests standard of the child in custody matters as well as the skills required by them while adorning the role of a mediator/conciliator.

Course No.: NJAT-048

“Workshop on ADR & Settlement of Dispute without Trial under Section 89 of the CPC”, 14-18,

September 2006 (Participation: 45 District & Sessions Judges)

This Workshop was designed so as to promote greater use of ADR among the participants. The objective was to educate the trainees that not all cases are suited for ADR, nor all ADR methods suited for a given case. Trainees need to carefully weigh the option and decide first whether or not a matter is suitable for settlement through ADR and if so, to decide on the appropriate ADR mechanism.

On first day itself trainees were given opportunity to identify the issues/problems on which they seek clarification through this Workshop. These issues were placed before eminent experts and answered to the satisfaction of the participants during this five day Workshop.

Day one gave the general overview of ADR in India and its usefulness in providing easy access to justice and then proceeded to evaluate the functioning of Lok Adalats in various states. 18 states narrated their problems and shared their experiences in referring cases to Lok Adalats. The simulation exercise at the end of the day brought out differences in the way participants judge referral of case to Lok Adalats. Second day was totally devoted to mediation. Role play exercise by participants themselves with the help of expert mediator acquainted them with the procedure adopted in mediation. Third day began from general discussion on ADR Rules framed by the Law Commission and then clarified the doubts on use of arbitration under section 89 of the CPC. Group exercise at the end of the day aided them in acquiring skills of an arbitrator and differences between general procedure and arbitration. They were called upon to act as arbitrators and pass award on four different claims in a given hypothetical case. Fourth day was devoted for use of ADR in labour disputes and complex litigations like Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster. Fifth day dealt with duties of referral judge under section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Various exercises like deciding reference to Lok Adalat on hypothetical situation; role play exercise to know mediation techniques; group

exercise to act as an arbitrator equipped participants with the skills necessary required for the use of ADR techniques in different types of disputes to enable them implement legislative intentions under section 89 of the CPC in more better way.

Course No.: NJA T-049

“Science and Law Forensic and Medical Sciences including Cyber Forensics”, 21-25, September 2006 (Participation: 46 District & Sessions Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates)

Justice systems today have an unprecedented opportunity for using science to enhance justice administration and it can also provide a supportive framework for scientific advances in the interests of social and economic development. Equally, justice systems face an unprecedented challenge of setting firm boundaries for scientific activity so as to safeguard the freedom, rights and values that are contained in the Constitution.

This course provided a forum for judicial officers from across the country to discuss and consider vitally important issues on the intersection of science and law. The main intention of the course was to increase knowledge and awareness of judges regarding the use of scientific tools in the administration of justice and to develop a mindset among the judicial officers on how to evaluate facts from “subjective standard” to “objective standard” with the help of science.

Topics covered in this regard include scientific testing and examination of evidence, as well as appreciation of various types of evidence using scientific tools: ballistic evidence, evidence of mental health, evidence of paternity and handwriting evidence. Evaluation of expert evidence provided by scientists and the pros and cons of using cutting edge scientific methods to establish truth such as use of DNA/genetic material and brain mapping was also discussed. The course also looked at cyber forensic tools and appreciation of electronic evidence as well as digital signatures and use of ICT tools in judicial administration.

SYMPOSIA FOR HIGH COURT JUSTICES:

Course No.: NJA T-028

“Symposium on Water & Energy Law: Issues in Management and Adjudication”, 8-10, December 2005 (Participation: 30 High Court Justices)

The Symposium was organized to create awareness on the new dimensions of two important resources essential to sustain life in a modern society Water and Energy. The Programme was offered with a view to enable them to forge new juristic tools, interpretations and remedies for the challenges which lay ahead in respect of the complex adjudication questions which the utilization of these resources posed. There was special focus on different issues relating to the distribution and management of the water resource as well as on the role of courts in quality control of the resource and inter-state water disputes. The final day concluded with the challenges in the globalized energy world. Specific case studies on Dabhol and on power sector privatization in Orissa and Delhi also formed part of the discussion.

Course No.: NJA T-032

“IPR Adjudication and New Patent Regime”, 3-5, February 2006 (Participation: 25 High Court Justices)

The highlight of the program was its eminent faculty who were judges, scientists, patent attorneys drawn from US, UK, Israel, Germany and India. This eminent conglomerate was able to draw an analogy between laws and enforcement of IPR issues in the binding WTO environment between India and their country, as well as brought to light diversity in interpretation of IPR issues adding complexity of jurisprudence in this area. The sessions were highly interactive and participant justices debated and presented their views and interpretations on patent law. Innovative techniques like Moot Courts were used to conceptually clarify the role of courts in adjudicating grant of patent claims.

Course No.: NJA T-033

“Symposium for High Court Justices on Economic Analysis of Law and Adjudication of Economic Laws”, 10-12, February 2006 (Participation: 18 High Court Justices)

The Symposium discussed, for the first time in the context of the Indian Judiciary, the relevant elements of development economics in relation to the increasing variety of economic laws, national and international, and explored the understanding and the extent of application of such economic principles, and models in analyzing legal and regulatory systems. The Symposium was successful in not only understanding the skills which economists employ to evolve policy choices in legal regulation of the economy but in also appreciating the scope and implications of applying economic tools in adjudicative processes involving economic laws.

Additional Initiatives:

National Colloquium on “Right to Information: Issues in Administrative Efficiency, Public Accountability and Constitutional Governance” 11th and 12th December, 2005:

The National Judicial Academy in association with the Administrative Reforms Commission, Government of India, organized this two-day National Colloquium in which for the first time, about a hundred distinguished persons, including about thirty Justices of various High Courts, civil servants, representatives of leading NGOs, members of learned professions and media people interacted on specific issues in the background of the newly enacted Right to Information Act, 2005.

Inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.K. Sabharwal, the Chief Justice of India, the object of the Colloquium was to elicit views of a cross section of people within the Government and outside on the development of an efficient, transparent, responsive and accountable system of governance while implementing the Right to Information Act. Detailed recommendations emerged from the Colloquium

which shall help the Administrative Reforms Commission to formulate its report for administrative reorganization in the context of Right to Information guaranteed under the Act.

Workshop on “Access to Justice” organized for the Visiting Delegates of Appellate Court Justices of Sri Lanka 20th and 21st December, 2005:

With an object to enable the exchange of strategies relating to better and more effective provision of access to justice, nine Justices of the Court of Appeal of Sri Lanka participated in this Workshop. The thematic points discussed at the Workshop focused on the functioning of the Legal Aid in India; the evolution and productive usage of the tool of Public Interest Litigation; Information and Communication Technology and its impact in the delivery of justice in India; and the relevance of applying Management Strategies towards better Court and Case Management practices and judicial administration.

Judicial Symposium on “Gender Discrimination, Population Policy and Rights of Women” 15-16 April, 2006:

This Judicial Symposium jointly organized by the Population Foundation of India, New Delhi and the National Judicial Academy explored the dismal social reality of Indian women with reference to demographic factors, reproductive rights and criminal justice administration. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Justice Y.K. Sabharwal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Judge, Supreme Court, addressed the participants, which included Hon'ble High Court Justices in charge of judicial training in their respective States and as well as Directors and Additional Directors of the various State Judicial Academies. The highlights of the discussion were the critical evaluation of the declining sex ratio, the health rights of women with particular emphasis on reproductive rights. The discussion enabled Judicial Officers to reflect on the policies, strategies and techniques which need to be employed to guarantee

equal justice to women under the prevailing circumstances. The application of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 and the PNDT Act, 1994 in relation to gender justice were also discussed at length. Many reforms (procedural, attitudinal and contextual) were recommended in the judicial handling of prosecutions under the above Acts and certain “best practices” were also evolved for the purpose. It was found mandatory to suitably incorporate these modules into the training programmes conducted by the State Judicial Academies.

National Colloquium on “Ethics in Governance Moving from Rhetoric to Results” 1st & 2nd September, 2006:

The National Judicial Academy in association with the Administrative Reforms Commission, Government of India, organized this two-day National Colloquium, which was inaugurated by Justice J.S. Verma, former Chief Justice of India. Hon'ble Justice Y.K. Sabharwal, the Chief Justice of India, presided over the Valedictory Session and Hon'ble Justice S.B. Sinha, Judge, Supreme Court, also addressed the participants.

Corruption is an all-pervasive phenomenon which is eating slowly into the vitals of the governance structure. However all know about this problem, how insidious it is and all have heard time and again as to what strategies could be adopted to eradicate the same. However the real problem lies in the fact that much of this rhetoric has not been translated into action and this is what this National Colloquium proposed to address.

The Colloquium spread over two days brought together retired Supreme Court Justices, High Court Justices, Lok Ayuktas from almost all the States, Chief of State Vigilance Commissions, and various prominent bureaucrats besides the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and the Chairman and members of the Administrative Reforms Commission. All of them lent their vast expertise in fighting corruption to highlight some of the issues

which have prevented rhetoric from being translated into reality and suggested concrete measures to overcome these obstacles.

The focus of the Colloquium was on eleven sets of issues which fell into two broad themes. The first being strengthening policy, incentive and institutional framework for combating corruption and the second dealt with improving effective implementation of the policies against corruption. The main objective of the exercise was to come up with very specific and practicable recommendations which the ARC could consider in the current context while formulating their own recommendations to the government for administrative reform to strengthen the anti-corruption framework so as to make a discernable impact in the fight against corruption.

Meeting of High Court Judges in-charge of Training, State Judicial Academy Directors and National Judicial Academy on the “Proposed National Judicial Education Strategy” 2nd & 3rd September, 2006:

The Meeting convened at the National Judicial Academy for discussing the draft National Judicial Education Strategy was attended by High Court Judges in-charge of Training and the State Judicial Academies. On 2nd September, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Justice Y.K. Sabharwal initiated the deliberations by interacting with the participants. The Meet on 3rd September was presided by Hon'ble Justice K.G. Balakrishnan and was also addressed by Hon'ble Justice S.B. Sinha. It endorsed the approach proposed in the draft Strategy and made a number of suggestions which are now being incorporated. The main agenda for the meet was Scaling Up and Focusing Judicial Education on “Timely Justice so as to make a Discernible Impact on the Administration of Justice” as well as Roles of National Judicial Academy and State Judicial Academies; and Coordination with Other Initiatives for Strengthening Administration of Justice.

Research Project on Access to Justice:

With support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India, the Academy has successfully launched a major research project on 'Access to Justice for the poor and Weaker Sections of Society' across six High Court jurisdictions. The focus is to identify the barriers and difficulties which the poor and vulnerable sections, namely, women, children, tribals, the elderly and the differentially able, encounter in processing their grievances through courts and to prepare the judges to adopt such measures so as to mitigate their problems.

The Project is being presently implemented in the States of Jharkhand, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, comprises of three methodological stages including, case data sheets providing information of randomly selected cases; questionnaires/interview schedules for pursuing certain case studies with the litigants, lawyers, and concerned judicial officers; and compilation of beneficial rules and notifications that aid the welfare of the disadvantaged groups as identified.

Publications:

In addition to the bi-annual Newsletter on Judicial Education, the National Judicial Academy has added onto its collection of six Occasional Papers. The Paper No. 7, which was released by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Justice Y.K. Sabharwal on 16th April 2006, is titled “Uniform Civil Code: Purpose, Process and Prospects” authored by Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India.

LIST OF RETIRED HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICES (ARRANGED
ACCORDING TO SENIORITY) AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION

S. NO.	NAME	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	DATE OF APPOINTMENT AS C.J.I.	HELD OFFICE TILL
1	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harilal Jekisundas Kania	26/01/1950	26/01/1950	06/11/1951*
2	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Patanjali Sastri	26/01/1950	07/11/1951	03/01/1954
3	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan	26/01/1950	04/01/1954	22/12/1954
4	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bijan Kumar Mukherjea	26/01/1950	23/12/1954	31/01/1956**
5	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhi Ranjan Das	26/01/1950	01/02/1956	30/09/1959
6	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhuvneshwar Prasad Sinha	03/12/1954	01/10/1959	31/01/1964
7	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.B. Gajendragadkar	17/01/1957	01/02/1964	15/03/1966
8	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Sarkar	04/03/1957	16/03/1966	29/06/1966
9	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Subba Rao	31/01/1958	30/06/1966	11/04/1967**
10	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.N. Wanchoo	11/08/1958	12/04/1967	24/02/1968
11	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Hidayatullah	01/12/1958	25/02/1968	16/12/1970
12	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.C. Shah	12/10/1959	17/12/1970	21/01/1971
13	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.M. Sikri	03/02/1964	22/01/1971	25/04/1973
14	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.N. Ray	01/08/1969	26/04/1973	28/01/1977
15	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.Hameedullah Beg	10/12/1971	29/01/1977	21/02/1978
16	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.V. Chandrachud	28/08/1972	22/02/1978	11/07/1985
17	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati	17/07/1973	12/07/1985	20/12/1986
18	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S. Pathak	20/02/1978	21/12/1986	18/06/1989**
19	Hon'ble Mr. Justice E.S. Venkataramiah	08/03/1979	19/06/1989	17/12/1989
20	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sabyasachi Mukherji	15/03/1983	18/12/1989	25/09/1990*
21	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ranganath Misra	15/03/1983	25/09/1990	24/11/1991
22	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.N. Singh	10/03/1986	25/11/1991	12/12/1991
23	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.H. Kania	01/05/1987	13/12/1991	17/11/1992
24	Hon'ble Mr. Justice L.M. Sharma	05/10/1987	18/11/1992	11/02/1993
25	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah	05/10/1987	12/02/1993	24/10/1994
26	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.M. Ahmadi	14/12/1988	25/10/1994	24/03/1997
27	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.S. Verma	03/06/1989	25/03/1997	17/01/1998
28	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Punchhi	06/10/1989	18/01/1998	09/10/1998
29	Hon'ble Dr. Justice A.S. Anand	18/11/1991	10/10/1998	31/10/2001

Inner Court Yard of Supreme Court

30	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.P. Bharucha	01/07/1992	01/11/2001	05/05/2002
31	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Kirpal	11/09/1995	06/05/2002	07/11/2002
32	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.B. Pattanaik	11/09/1995	08/11/2002	18/12/2002
33	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.N. Khare	21/03/1997	19/12/2002	01/05/2004
34	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Rajendra Babu	25/09/1997	02/05/2004	31/05/2004
35	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Lahoti	09/12/1998	01/06/2004	31/10/2005

* Date of Death

** Date of Resignation

* * * * *

LIST OF RETIRED JUDGES ARRANGED ACCORDING TO SENIORITY AS AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION

S. NO.	NAME OF THE HON'BLE JUDGE	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	HELD OFFICE TILL
1.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sir Saiyid Fazl Ali	26/01/1950	18/09/1951
2.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Aiyar	23/09/1950	24/01/1953
3.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivian Bose	05/03/1951	08/06/1956
4.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ghulam Hasan	08/09/1952	05/11/1954*
5.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Natwarlal Harilal Bhagwati	08/09/1952	06/08/1959
6.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Jagannadhadas	09/03/1953	26/07/1958
7.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.L. Venkatarama Aiyar	04/01/1954	24/11/1958
8.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Syed Jaffer Imam	10/01/1955	31/01/1964**
9.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.K. Das	30/04/1956	02/09/1963
10.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Govinda Menon	01/09/1956	16/10/1957*
11.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.L. Kapur	14/01/1957	12/12/1962
12.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.C. Das Gupta	24/08/1959	02/01/1965
13.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Raghubar Dayal	27/07/1960	25/10/1965
14.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Rajagopala Ayyangar	27/07/1960	14/12/1964
15.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.R. Madholkar	03/10/1960	03/07/1966**
16.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S. Bachawat	07/09/1964	31/07/1969
17.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramaswami	04/01/1965	29/10/1969
18.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Satyanarayana Raju	20/10/1965	20/04/1966*
19.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J..M. Shelat	24/02/1966	30/04/1973**
20.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vishishtha Bhargava	08/08/1966	04/02/1971
21.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.K. Mitter	29/08/1966	23/09/1971
22.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.A. Vaidyalingam	10/10/1966	29/06/1972
23.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.S. Hegde	17/07/1967	30/04/1973**
24.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.N. Grover	11/02/1968	31/05/1973**
25.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Jaganmohan Reddy	01/08/1969	22/01/1975
26.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice I.D. Dua	01/08/1969	03/10/1972
27.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subimal Chandra Roy	19/07/1971	12/11/1971*
28.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.G. Palekar	19/07/1971	03/09/1974
29.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hans Raj Khanna	22/09/1971	11/03/1977**
30.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kuttyil Kurien Mathew	04/10/1971	02/01/1976
31.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.N. Dwivedi	14/08/1972	08/12/1974*
32.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Mukherjea	14/08/1972	23/10/1973*
33.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Alagiriswami	17/10/1972	16/10/1975
34.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer	17/07/1973	14/11/1980

35.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.K. Goswami	10/09/1973	31/12/1977
36.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S. Sarkaria	17/09/1973	15/01/1981
37.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.C. Gupta	02/09/1974	31/12/1981
38.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.L. Untwalia	03/10/1974	31/07/1980
39.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Murtaza Fazal Ali	02/04/1975	20/08/1985*
40.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.N. Shingal	06/11/1975	14/10/1980
41.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jaswant Singh	23/01/1976	24/01/1979
42.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.S. Kailasam	03/01/1977	11/09/1980
43.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.D. Tulzapurkar	30/09/1977	08/03/1986
44.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.A. Desai	30/09/1977	08/05/1985
45.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.D. Koshal	17/07/1978	06/03/1982
46.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice O. Chinnappa Reddy	17/07/1978	24/09/1987
47.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Sen	17/07/1978	19/09/1988
48.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Baharul Islam	04/12/1980	12/01/1983**
49.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Varadarajan	10/12/1980	16/08/1985
50.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amarendra Nath Sen	28/01/1981	30/09/1985
51.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Balakrishna Eradi	30/01/1981	18/06/1987
52.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.B. Misra	30/01/1981	14/06/1986
53.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.P. Madon	15/03/1983	06/04/1986
54.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.P. Thakkar	15/03/1983	03/11/1988
55.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Khalid	25/06/1984	30/06/1987
56.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.L. Oza	29/10/1985	11/12/1989
57.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.C. Ray	29/10/1985	31/10/1991
58.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Dutt	10/03/1986	29/10/1989
59.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Natarajan	10/03/1986	28/10/1989
60.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Jagannatha Shetty	01/05/1987	14/12/1991
61.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ranganathan	05/10/1987	30/10/1992
62.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.D. Ojha	18/01/1988	18/01/1991
63.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ratnavel Pandian	14/12/1988	12/03/1994
64.	Hon'ble Dr. Justice T.K. Thommen	14/12/1988	25/09/1993
65.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.N. Saikia	14/12/1988	28/02/1991
66.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kuldip Singh	14/12/1988	31/12/1996
67.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramaswami	06/10/1989	14/02/1994
68.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.B. Sawant	06/10/1989	29/06/1995
69.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.M. Kasliwal	06/10/1989	03/04/1993
70.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Ramaswamy	06/10/1989	12/07/1997
71.	Hon'ble Ms. Justice M. Fathima Beevi	06/10/1989	29/04/1992
72.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Jayachandra Reddy	11/01/1990	14/07/1994
73.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.C. Agrawal	11/01/1990	04/09/1998
74.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.M. Sahai	11/01/1990	24/06/1995
75.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Yogeshwar Dayal	22/03/1991	02/08/1994*

76.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Mohan	07/10/1991	10/02/1995
77.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.P. Jeevan Reddy	07/10/1991	13/03/1997
78.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.N. Ray	07/10/1991	30/04/1998
79.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Patnaik	03/12/1991	30/05/1992*
80.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.P. Singh	15/06/1992	24/12/1996
81.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Venkatachala	01/07/1992	02/07/1995
82.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee	14/12/1993	30/11/1998
83.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Faizan Uddin	14/12/1993	04/02/1997
84.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.L. Hansaria	14/12/1993	24/12/1996
85.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.C. Sen	11/06/1994	20/12/1997
86.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.S. Paripoornan	11/06/1994	11/06/1997
87.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Majmudar	19/09/1994	19/08/2000
88.	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sujata V. Manohar	08/11/1994	27/08/1999
89.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.T. Nanavati	06/03/1995	16/02/2000
90.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Saghir Ahmad	06/03/1995	30/06/2000
91.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Venkataswami	06/03/1995	18/09/1999
92.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.P. Kurdukar	29/03/1996	15/01/2000
93.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.T. Thomas	29/03/1996	29/01/2002
94.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Jagannadha Rao	21/03/1997	01/12/2000
95.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.P. Wadhwa	21/03/1997	04/05/2000
96.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Srinivasan	25/09/1997	25/02/2000*
97.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Prakash Misra	04/12/1997	31/08/2001
98.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.S.M. Quadri	04/12/1997	04/04/2003
99.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.B. Shah	09/12/1998	24/09/2003
100.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.P. Mohapatra	09/12/1998	02/08/2002
101.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice U.C. Banerjee	09/12/1998	17/11/2002
102.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.Santosh Hegde	08/01/1999	15/06/2005
103.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.P. Sethi	08/01/1999	06/07/2002
104.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.N. Phukan	28/01/1999	31/03/2002
105.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Doraiswamy Raju	28/01/2000	01/07/2004
106.	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal	28/01/2000	02/06/2006
107.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.N. Variava	15/03/2000	07/11/2005
108.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shivaraj V. Patil	15/03/2000	11/01/2005
109.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Brijesh Kumar	19/10/2000	09/06/2004
110.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Venkatarama Reddi	17/08/2001	09/08/2005
111.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.M. Dharmadhikari	05/03/2002	13/08/2005
112.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Kumar	03/10/2002	11/04/2006
113.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Srikrishna	03/10/2002	20/05/2006

* Date of Death

** Date of Resignation

The highest Administrative Officer of the Supreme Court is the Court Administrator-cum-Registrar General. However, until 1987, the Registrar was the highest officer. The post of the Registrar General, which is equivalent to the post of Secretary to the Government of India, is exclusively meant for District

and Sessions Judge. It came into existence in May, 1987. Since then, Seven Officers (excluding current one) belonging to Higher Judicial Service of different States have adorned this post. So far, 28 officers have held the post of Registrar of the Supreme Court. Two separate lists showing names and period of former Registrar Generals and Registrars are as follows:

REGISTRAR GENERALS - SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

S.No	Name of the Officer	From	To
1.	Shri Sankatha Rai	01.06.1987	03.11.1992
2.	Shri MSA Siddiqui As Officer on Special Duty	09.11.1992 04.09.1992	26.09.1994 08.11.1992
3.	Shri Chandresh Bhushan As Officer on Special Duty	27.09.1994 01.08.1994	27.04.1998 26.09.1994
4.	Shri Bhanwar Singh As Officer on Special Duty	27.04.1998 09.02.1998	26.03.1999 26.04.1998
5.	Shri Lal Chand Bhadoo As Officer on Special Duty	27.03.1999 27.02.1999	19.01.2003 26.03.1999
6.	Shri J.C.S. Rawat As Officer on Special Duty	20.01.2003 14.01.2003	28.06.2004 19.01.2003
7.	Shri B.M. Gupta As Officer on Special Duty	29.06.2004 24.06.2004	24.11.2005 28.06.2004

LIST SHOWING THE NAMES OF FORMER REGISTRARS OF SUPREME COURT :-

S.No.	Name	From	To
1.	Shri P.N. Murthy	26.01.1950	04.01.1956
2.	Shri K.Krishnaswami Aiyar	05.01.1956	01.04.1956
3.	Shri Arindam Dutt	02.04.1956	14.06.1962
4.	Shri S.N. Sharma	01.07.1962	15.03.1964
5.	Shri Y.D. Desai	13.08.1963	19.04.1969
6.	Shri C.V. Rane	09.06.1969	19.10.1971
7.	Shri M.P. Saxena	20.10.1971	30.04.1979
8.	Shri S.K. Gupta	16.07.1973	01.01.1978
9.	Shri R.Narasimhan	16.01.1978	31.03.1984
10.	Shri R.Subba Rao	01.05.1979	31.03.1986
11.	Shri A.N. Oberai	01.04.1986	29.02.1988
12.	Shri H.S. Munjral	02.04.1987	31.08.1988
13.	Shri R.R. Kumar	01.09.1988	30.04.1993
14.	Ms. S.V. Kashyap	01.09.1988	30.11.1988
15.	Shri R.N. Joshi	01.12.1988	28.02.1989
16.	Shri Yoginder Lal	01.03.1989	30.06.1989
17.	Shri S. Vardarajan	01.07.1989	31.08.1989
18.	Shri Ved Prakash Sharma	16.12.1989	14.02.1995
19.	Shri Susanta Ghosh	01.02.1990	25.10.1996
20.	Shri P.N. Likhyan	15.02.1991	28.02.1994
21.	Shri L.C. Bhadoo	01.03.1993	26.02.1999
22.	Ms. Manju Goel	30.09.1994	31.03.1997
23.	Shri H.S. Kapoor	12.02.1997	30.11.2002
24.	Shri B.M. Gupta	05.04.1999	23.06.2004
25.	Shri Suresh Chandra	18.12.2002	31.01.2004
26.	Shri J.K. Sharma	03.02.2004	31.07.2006

There are three categories of Advocates who are entitled to practice law before the Supreme Court.

18.1 ADVOCATES-ON-RECORD

Order IV Rule 5 of the Supreme Court Rules, 1966, deals with the registration as an Advocate-on-Record. No Advocate other than an Advocate-on-Record shall be entitled to file an appearance or act for a party in the Court.

The Registry of the Supreme Court conducts Advocates-on-Record Examination periodically with the approval of the Examination Committee and under the supervision of Secretary, Board of Examiners, appointed by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India. The examination maintains high standards to ensure that best of the talents come in as Advocates-on-Record.

18.2 SENIOR ADVOCATES

Order IV Rule 2 of the Supreme Court Rules, 1966, deals with the designation as Senior Advocates.

Rule 2(a)

The Chief Justice and the Judges may, with the consent of the advocate, designate an advocate as senior advocate if in their opinion by virtue of his ability, standing at the Bar or special knowledge or experience in law the said advocate is deserving of such distinction.

Rule 2(b)

A senior advocate shall not

- (i) file a vakalatnama or act in any court or

- tribunal in India;
- (ii) appear without an advocate on record in the Court or without a junior in any other court or tribunal in India;
- (iii) accept instructions to draw pleadings or affidavits, advise on evidence or do any drafting work of an analogous kind in any court or tribunal in India or undertake conveyancing work of any kind whatsoever but this prohibition shall not extend to settling any such matter as, aforesaid in consultation with a junior;
- (iv) accept directly from a client any brief or instructions to appear in any court or tribunal in India.

Apart from the designation of Advocates as Senior Advocates, retired Hon'ble Chief Justices/Judges of the High Courts are also considered for designation as Senior Advocates in the Supreme Court.

18.3 ADVOCATES

These are Advocates whose names are entered on the roll of any State Bar Council maintained under the Advocates Act, 1961. They cannot appear and plead in any matter on behalf of a party in the Supreme Court unless instructed by an Advocate on Record (Order IV Rule 10 of Supreme Court Rules, 1966).

The Supreme Court Bar Association represents all the advocates practising at the Supreme Court of India. Advocates on Record have their own separate association also.

The Supreme Court Bar Association is very active and organizes lecture series presided over by sitting Judges of Supreme Court of India for the benefit of its Members and legal fraternity on various topics. Various other programmes also are conducted for the benefit of Advocates.

The Association has been able to get land in Noida and a "Supreme Court Bar Association Multi-State Cooperative Group Housing Society" has been constituted to enable Members of the Association to get flats.

Medical Care Centre at New Chambers Block has been set up. The same was inaugurated on 27th April, 2005 by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y. K. Sabharwal, Judge, Supreme Court of India (now, Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India). At the Medical Care Centre, even super specialist doctors for cardiology, diabetes, gynaecology, orthopaedics, etc attend on specified dates. Doctors from Apollo Hospital provide free medical aid to Members of the Association. A chemist shop has also been opened.

18.4 LAWYERS CHAMBERS

When the Federal Court/Supreme Court was located in the Parliament House there were no lawyers chambers and the Advocates had their own private offices. Subsequent to the shifting of Supreme Court to its building in 1958, 43 Lawyers Chambers were constructed in the year 1959 and allotment of these chambers was made to the Advocates in the year 1960. Thereafter, to meet the growing need, 35 more chambers were constructed in the second block of Lawyers Chambers in the year 1963. Since the number of Advocates-on-Record was increasing and the chambers available for allotment became totally inadequate to meet the needs of the members of the Bar, third block of lawyers chambers consisting of 27 chambers was constructed in the year 1972. In 1974, when the question of construction of extension blocks

to the main building was under consideration, it was felt that an additional block of lawyers chambers should also be constructed simultaneously so that the needs of the Advocates could be met to the maximum extent possible. Accordingly, fourth block of lawyers chambers was constructed in the year 1978. In addition to the above, four Lawyers Chambers Blocks in the Supreme Court premises, one Lawyers Chambers Building at Bhagwan Das Road was constructed in the year 1998 which consists of 149 chambers and 23 Cabins.

Even after construction of the aforesaid Lawyers' Chambers, the Chambers were not adequate to meet the requirements of the Senior Advocates, Advocates-on-Record and Non Advocates-on-Record. In order to meet the needs of chambers of Advocates, a four-storied Lawyers Chambers' Building (ground floor + three floors) has now been constructed at Tilak Lane behind Indian Law Institute at Bhagwan Das Road which has 72 chambers, canteen with kitchen and conference hall. The building was inaugurated on 20-10-2005 by Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India, Shri R.C. Lahoti, in presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.K. Sabharwal (then designate but now Hon'ble Chief Justice of India). Out of the aforesaid 72 Chambers, 65 Chambers have been allotted to the Advocates in the month of May, 2006.

The Lawyers Chambers at Bhagwan Das Road have been renamed as "M.C. Setalvad Lawyers Chambers" and have been dedicated to the memory of Late Shri M.C. Setalvad by Hon'ble Shri Y.K. Sabharwal, Chief Justice of India and the Lawyers Chambers at Dhobi Ghat in Tilak Lane have been renamed as "C.K. Daphtary Lawyers Chambers" and have been dedicated to the memory of Late Shri C.K. Daphtary by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Judge, Supreme Court of India on 28.9.2006.

The media is allowed to observe the proceedings of the Supreme Court and report in various newspapers and other national news agencies, like All India Radio, Doordarshan, PTI, UNI, etc. In view of the importance of the proceedings and need for proper comprehension and correct presentation to the public and to ensure accuracy of reporting, certain criteria have been prescribed for accreditation of Legal Correspondents to the Supreme Court. To meet the requirements, Legal Correspondents should have a professional Law Degree with seven years' experience in reporting court

proceedings to become eligible for accreditation. Such accredited correspondents are allowed access into all the Court Rooms by issue of identity cards to them. They are also afforded all basic facilities and comfortable working environment in the Press Lounge to do their work with ease. They are provided other facilities, like telephone, computer etc. in the Press Lounge. They are also provided free copies of the daily Cause List of the Court as also copies of all the judgments. This helps them in finding out the important and sensitive matters listed before the respective Courts and to enable them to report the judgments and orders correctly.



Judges' Lounge