

12th July, 1950 - 22nd April, 2021

Full Court Reference in the memory of

## Late Shri Anil Kumar

Senior Advocate

held on Thursday, the 24th February 2022 at 3.00 p.m. in the Auditorium at 3rd Floor, 'C' Block, Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India

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## Letter from the Registrar, Supreme Court of India

Avani Pal Singh Registrar Supreme Court of India



F.No.99/Ref/2021/SCA(Genl) Dated the 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

Ms. Anita Sahani, B-33, Panchsheel Enclave, New Delhi-110017.

Madam,

There was a Full Court Reference in the Auditorium of the Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 in the memory of late Shri Anil Kumar, Senior Advocate. Rich tributes were paid to Shri Kumar by Shri K.K. Venugopal, Learned Attorney General for India, Shri Vikas Singh, President, Supreme Court Bar Association and Hon'ble Shri N.V. Ramana, Chief Justice of India. After the references were read, two minutes' silence was observed. I have the honour of forwarding a booklet containing memorial speeches delivered at the Full Court Reference, as aforesaid.

Kindly permit me to convey the heart-felt condolences of the Officers and members of the staff of the Supreme Court Registry to you and other members of the family.

Yours sincerely,

Registrar(AG)

Encls: As above

# List of Business for 24th February, 2022 in respect of Full Court Reference



#### SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

LIST OF BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY THE 24TH FEBRUARY, 2022

## IN THE AUDITORIUM AT 3RD FLOOR, 'C' BLOCK, ADDITIONAL BUILDING COMPLEX, SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

#### AT 03.00 P.M.

FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF
LATE SHRI ANIL KUMAR,
LATE SHRI RAVI BHUSHAN SINGHAL,
LATE SHRI V. SHEKHAR AND
LATE SHRI ANIP SACHTHEY,

SENIOR ADVOCATES.

# Coram of Hon'ble Judges at the Full Court Reference

- Hon'ble Shri N.V. Ramana, Chief Justice of India
- \* Hon'ble Mr. Justice Uday Umesh Lalit
- ❖ Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.M. Khanwilkar
- Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud
- \* Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.R. Shah
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Rastogi
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna
- ❖ Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant
- ❖ Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aniruddha Bose
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.S. Bopanna
- ❖ Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abhay S. Oka
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.K. Maheshwari
- Hon'ble Ms. Justice Hima Kohli

- ❖ Hon'ble Mrs. Justice B.V. Nagarathna
- ❖ Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.T. Ravikumar
- ❖ Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Sundresh
- ❖ Hon'ble Ms. Justice Bela M. Trivedi
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pamidighantam Sri Narasimha

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Reference made on 24th February, 2022

by

Attorney General For India Shri K. K. Venugopal

in the memory of

Late Shri Anil Kumar,

Late Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal,

Late Shri V. Shekhar and

Late Shri Anip Sachthey,

Senior Advocates

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Justice N.V. Ramana, Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court, the Solicitor General of India, Sh. Tushar Mehta, the Additional Solicitors General, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association, Sh. Vikas Singh and office bearers of the SCBA, President of the Supreme Court Advocates on Record Association, Sh. Shivaji Jadhav and other office bearers of the SCAORA, the family members of Sh. Anil Kumar, Sh. Ravi Bhushan Singhal, Sh. V. Shekhar and Sh. Anip Sachthey and my colleagues at the Bar:

We are gathered here today on this extremely sombre occasion to pay our respects to four respected members of the legal profession, Sh. Anil Kumar, Sh. Ravi Bhushan Singhal, Sh. V. Shekhar and Sh. Anip Sachthey.

#### Shri Anil Kumar

Sh. Anil Kumar, distinguished himself both at the Bar as well as on the Bench, and in his passing away we have all lost not just a reputed lawyer, but also, a true academic. To quote his favourite philosopher Karl Popper: "True ignorance is not the absence of knowledge, but the refusal to acquire it."

It is safe to say that Sh. Anil Kumar spent his entire life in the pursuit of knowledge,

both within the legal sphere as well as outside of it. Born on 12th July, 1950, as the son of the distinguished Justice Sultan Singh of the Delhi High Court, he completed his schooling and obtained an M.Sc. in Physics in no less weighty a subject than Quantum Mechanics. He thereafter obtained an LL.B. from the University of Delhi. I am told that during his graduation he was an avid reader and used to visit the American Library and the British Council Library at least twice a week. After completing his education, he was enrolled as a member of Bar Council of Delhi in 1974 and immediately started his legal practice.

As a lawyer, Sh. Kumar was extremely successful, being the chosen counsel for a number of public sector undertakings, and statutory bodies such as the Airports Authority of India, CBSE, MCD etc. He was appointed as an additional Judge of Delhi High Court on 16th July, 2004 and a permanent Judge on 20th February 2006 and retired on 11.07.2012. While on the Bench, Sh. Anil Kumar authored several judgments which were notable for their clarity as well as their precise exposition of the law.

One would be right to think that a person who had achieved this level of success in the legal profession would have been satisfied with his achievements. Yet there was so much more to Sh. Anil Kumar, who could rightfully be regarded as something of a polymath. He was a sports person – being extremely fond of squash and also a musician having played the drums for his school Band. He was also a member of the gliding club, an activity which he frequently participated in. He was also fond of horse riding which he had started way back in the year 1989 and was a member of the President Estate Polo Club, now known as Army Polo Club.

Sh. Kumar was also fluent in French, a language which he started to learn in 1973. A sign of his academic prowess, is the fact that just two years later, he was elected to the Governing Body of the Alliance Francaise. In his personal life, he kept his love of the language alive by starting a French club with some neighbours in Defence Colony know as 'Le Club Francaise'.

Junior members of the Bar have fond recollections of their interactions with Sh. Kumar, during his time as a lawyer. He was known to be a self-effacing person and a thorough professional. Even in the early 2000s, Sh. Kumar was known to be an extremely

tech savvy person and would use an advanced dictation software – the Dragon Dictate for drafting purposes. Unlike most older lawyers who rely upon the younger generation in matters of technology, it was Sh. Anil Kumar who would often teach the younger advocates how to arrange case folders and files on the computer.

Though Sh. Kumar was known to be a man of few words, his quiet demeanor concealed a personality imbued with the spirit of adventure and would spend much of his free time trekking extensively in the Himalayas. On a trip to Sikkim, he and his wife, Smt. Anita Sahani decided to go river rafting, in the Teesta River and apparently their raft capsized in the middle of the river. Fortunately, by the grace of God the couple was saved. Yet, this incident did not dampen Sh. Kumar's spirit or cause him to shy away from any adventure, and when he was nearly 60, he and his wife enrolled in western dancing classes for learning a range of dances, such as Salsa, the Foxtrot and others.

Sh. Anil Kumar passed away on 22nd April 2021 at the age of 71 and is survived by his wife Smt. Anita Sahani, who is a respected lawyer in her own right, as well as his daughters Tanesha Sultan Singh and Tanimaa Sultan Singh. I offer my deepest condolences to the family. May the warm memories of Sh. Anil Kumar tide them over in this time of profound grief.

#### Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal

Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal was born on 24th March 1957 to a family of freedom fighters. Hailing from Allahabad, his father, Shri Nathu Singh Singhal was also an advocate who commenced his practice in the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad in pre-independent India. Following in his father's footsteps, Shri Ravi Singhal also chose the legal profession.

After completing his schooling at the Boys' High School in Allahabad, he pursued his B.Com. (Hons.) and thereafter obtained the LL.B. degree. He enrolled as an advocate in 1983 and joined his father's chambers where he quickly learnt the ropes of the legal profession. In the initial days he would shadow his father in the court to keenly observe court proceedings and client interactions. He soon began attending to clients independently and handling cases on his own. His hardworking nature and industriousness earned him a good reputation amongst his peers.

In 2009, in recognition of his contribution to the legal profession, Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal was designated as a Senior Advocate by the Allahabad High Court. That very year, he was also appointed to the office of Assistant Solicitor General of India and got the opportunity to ably defend the Union of India in numerous matters of significant importance. He even began appearing before the Supreme Court and made his presence felt. In 2014, he shifted his practice to the Supreme Court of India but continued to appear often in the Allahabad High Court and before various other High Courts across the country, such as the Bombay High Court, Madras High Court and Uttarakhand High Court.

In the Supreme Court, Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal handled civil and criminal disputes. He was a member of the Supreme Court Legal Service Committee and often conducted cases without charging any fees. He handled all matters, even those where he was appearing pro bono, with utmost professionality and poured hours of his time into research and preparation.

Shri Ravi Singhal was known to be a family man. He always made time for his family no matter how heavy the burden of work was. He was very fond of children and was a doting grandfather to his granddaughter, whom he adored. He was also fond of pets. I am told that he enjoyed listening to music with a particular fondness for old Hindi songs by Mohammad Rafi and Kishore Kumar. He was kindhearted to all. His warm nature and generosity endeared him to his friends. To his juniors, he was an inspiring figure, who encouraged and supported them at every step of the way. He referred to his juniors as 'dost', which was a small sign of his affability and also showed the lack of any airs on account of his seniority.

Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal's unfortunate demise in April 2021 at the young age of 64 has left a void in the legal profession. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Perveen Singhal and two sons. His elder son, Aditya Bhushan Singhal has followed in his father's footsteps and entered the legal profession. He is an advocate having a successful practice in Allahabad. His younger son, Dr. Abhishek Bhushan Singhal is a professor at the Institute of Management Studies in Ghaziabad. I offer my deepest condolences to his family and wish them strength to bear the untimely loss of Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal. He will be fondly remembered by the members of the legal fraternity for a long time to come.

#### Shri V. Shekhar

Shri V. Shekhar was a friend, not only to me, but to most of us lawyers gathered here today. Inside the Courtroom we all remember his fiery style of presentation and his thorough preparedness. Outside Court we remember a jovial colleague with a warm demeanour. I have no doubt that my sentiments would be shared by many, when I say that I consider his loss to be a personal one. I find it hard to imagine that we would no longer see his smiling face as we walk along the corridors of the Supreme Court.

Most of us remember Sh. Shekhar as being larger than life, and when one looks back at his personal history, one finds that this was a trait that he carried from early on. Born on 6th November 1956 in New Delhi, Sh. Shekhar did his schooling from the Delhi Tamil Educational Association [DTEA] School, where he was an active member of the National Cadet Corps holding the rank of sergeant. In the Delhi Republic Day Parade held at Rajpath, Shri Shekhar represented the All India Schools as a part of the NCC contingent at the parade. Shri Shekhar was a multi-talented person, being an active sportsman who was professionally trained in Hockey at the National Institute of Sports, Delhi. He was also a budding thespian and a singer, and he performed in a number of Tamil plays across the city, some of which were even directed by stalwarts at the National School of Drama.

After school, Shri Shekhar joined Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, New Delhi, and obtained his Bachelors in Commerce. His penchant for sports continued here as well – he was the Captain of the basketball team and a member of the cricket team and the table tennis team for his entire three years in College. He also actively participated in athletics and won first prizes in long races, especially in the 10000 meters and 5000 meters categories.

After successfully completing his graduation, Shri Shekhar got admitted to the Law faculty, at the University of Delhi, on a scholarship, where he did exceedingly well. He enrolled as a lawyer in 1980 at the age of 24, and immediately commenced practice in the chambers of the late Shri MK Ramamurthy, Senior Advocate and late Smt. Dr. Shyamala Pappu, Senior Advocate, which was one of the most successful chambers at the Supreme Court in those days, and produced several stalwarts, of which, he certainly was one.

In 1985, Shri V. Shekhar became an Advocate of Record of this Hon'ble Court, and also built up a reputed practice before the High Court of Delhi and various other Courts and tribunals all over India. Due to his erudition and deep knowledge of the law, Shri Shekhar was designated as Senior Advocate by the Delhi High Court in the year 2006. He was appointed to several panels for the Union of India, as well as for various State Governments, positions which he held till his passing.

His ever-smiling demeanour and polite disposition, and his quick wit, quickly earned him a large group of friends and colleagues. Due to his popularity at the Bar, Shri Shekhar was elected as a Senior Member of the Executive Committee of Supreme Court Bar Association multiple times, in 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2011-2012 and 2021-2022, and as Vice-President in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. Despite having a busy schedule on account of his large and demanding practice, Shri Shekhar continued pursuing his passion for sports. He participated annually in the All India Advocates Cricket Tournament, since the tournament's inception, and was an active part of the SCBA's tournaments between the Bar and the Bench.

Over the course of his career, Shri Shekhar had more than 700 reported judgments to his credit, several of which were at the Supreme Court. The law reports reflect his scholarship in cases as varied as Shayara Bano v. Union of India, (2017) 9 SCC 1, which dealt with triple talaq and muslim personal law, to State of Kerala v. Mar Appraem Kuri Co. Ltd., (2012) 7 SCC 106, which dealt with repugnancy under Article 254 of the Constitution, and Jaishri Laxmanrao Patil v. State of Maharashtra, (2021) 8 SCC 1, which dealt with reservation.

He was also very highly regarded by the Bench, and was appointed as amicus curiae in a large number of cases by the Supreme Court. Notably, in Social Action Forum for Manav Adhikar v. Union of India, (2018) 10 SCC 443, the Court accepted his submissions as amicus curiae to deal with the misuse of Section 498A of the IPC (relating to dowry) and its impact on society, and issued detailed guidelines on cases where the police would not carry out automatic arrests in such complaints.

When one thinks of V. Shekhar, one feels that he was truly an amicus curiae in every sense – he was a friend to this Hon'ble Court, and a friend to many of us here and his sudden passing away at the peak of his career came as a great shock to the entire

fraternity. Sh. Shekhar passed away on 24.04.2021 leaving behind his wife Smt. Sellammal Shekhar, who is also a lawyer, and two children, his son Shashank Shekhar, who is also a lawyer, and his daughter, Dr. Shrehya Shekhar. We deeply mourn his loss and express our condolences to his family.

#### Shri Anip Sachthey

Shri Anip Sachthey was born into a lawyer's family, on June 12, 1956. His father, late Shri R.N. Sachthey was himself a Senior Advocate practising before this Court. Young Anip completed his schooling from Saint Columba's School in New Delhi, and thereafter earned his graduate degree in Commerce from the University of Delhi, attending the prestigious Sri Ram College of Commerce. With the law running in his blood, as it were, he opted to study law at the Government Law College, Mumbai, from where he obtained his LL.B degree in the year 1979.

Immediately thereafter, he joined the Bar. He cut his teeth at the law firm Khaitan & Company, which is one of India's well known firms. He ended up spending only about a year in the firm, though, and preferred to set up his own independent legal practice. In the year 1984, he became an Advocate-on-Record, and never looked back thereafter.

Over the next more than 35 years, he served this court and his clients with zeal and dedication. He was not only an extremely competent lawyer with a high degree of professionalism, but also a thorough gentlemen. Soft spoken and polite to a fault, ethics and propriety were as important to him as success in the cases that he undertook.

He built up a substantial and successful practice in the Supreme Court. From private companies like Tata Chemicals, to Public Sector entities like Bharat Coking Coal, statutory regulators like SEBI and even State Governments like the governments of Gujarat and West Bengal, his impressive list of clients bears testament to the faith and confidence that he inspired as a lawyer. He also assisted the Supreme Court as amicus curiae in a number of cases.

His legal practice was not limited to the Supreme Court alone. He handled cases in multiple High Courts, and represented clients in international arbitrations in other countries, including venues like London, Zurich, Geneva and Paris.

As an individual, he was always friendly and jovial. Not one to lose his calm, his cheerful disposition won him a number of friends among the members of the Bar. I myself have fond recollections of Shri Anip Sachthey, with whom I often interacted in the corridors of this court.

Over the years, he had engaged and briefed me in a number of cases. I always found him well versed with the jurisprudential and legal nuances of the case, and working with him was a pleasant and satisfying experience. I remember, in particular, a litigation relating to a dispute over the Vadtal gaddi of the Sri Swaminarayan Sampradaya, in which Shri Sachthey assisted me. The case raised complicated issues of ecclesiastical governance, requiring a detailed study of complicated factual and legal issues. We, therefore, travelled to Goa together, where I have a house, for holding conferences to study the case. We spent a few days there, holding conferences right through the day, with only a short break for a working lunch.

Shri Sachthey's contribution to our profession is not limited to the cases that he handled. It is to his credit that he mentored and encouraged the young lawyers who worked with him. He was not only a guru but also a friend to them. One of his lasting legacies is the large number of competent and successful professionals who were trained in his chambers, including Justice C.D. Singh, who is currently a judge of the Delhi High Court, and who became an Advocate-on-Record of this Court under Shri Sachthey before his elevation to the Bench. Mr. Anupam Lal Das, Ms. Meenakshi Arora, and Mr. Bimal Jad Roy are among those who worked with Shri Sachthey, and went on to become Advocates-on-Record before being designated as Senior Advocates by this Court. Another Senior Advocate designated by this Court, who worked in Shri Sachthey's chambers, is Shri Arijit Prasad. His other associates who are currently Advocates-on-Record include Shri Himanshu Munshi and Shri Mohit Paul.

Perhaps drawing inspiration from her father, Shri Sachthey's daughter (Mrs. Ria Sachthey) also decided to adopt the legal profession, and currently practises before this Court. Her husband, Shri Sachthey's son-in-law, Shri Chaitanya Singh, is a lawyer as well, and regularly practises in this Court. The next generation of lawyers are ready to hold the torch high.

Shri Sachthey was ever prepared to contribute his time and resources to addressing the problems of the Bar. He was a member of the sub-committee set up by the Supreme Court Bar Association to suggest a roadmap for re-opening the court post the lockdown. The sub-committee submitted a detailed report in June, 2020, which set out an 'action plan' for re-opening the Supreme Court as expeditiously as possible. Unfortunately, owing to the emergence of newer variants of the corona virus, all the measures suggested by the sub-committee could not be immediately implemented.

In recognition of his abilities and standing in the profession, he was designated as a Senior Advocate by the Supreme Court in March, 2019. He was on the rise as a sought-after Senior Advocate, and I believe his best was yet to come. Unfortunately, fate had other plans. His untimely demise in April, 2021, came as a shock to me. In Anip Sachthey we have lost an extremely capable and devoted member of our fraternity. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his wife, Smt. Ritu Sachthey, and the other members of his family.

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Reference made on 24th February, 2022

by

Shri Vikas Singh (Sr.)
President, SCBA

in the memory of

Late Shri Anil Kumar,

Late Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal,

Late Shri V. Shekhar and

Late Shri Anip Sachthey,

Senior Advocates

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Judges of this Court, Ld. Attorney General of India, Law Officers, Members of the family of late Senior Advocates, Shri. Anil Kumar, Shri. Ravi Bhushan Singhal, Shri. V. Shekhar and Shri. Anip Sachthey, Members of Executive Committee of SCBA, Shivaji Jadhav, President SCAORA, Members of Executive Committee of SCAORA, Members of the Bar, ladies and gentlemen.

Occasionally, history produces personalities, the impact of whose lives stays long beyond their physical demise. The late Senior Advocates, Mr. Anil Kumar, Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singhal, Mr. V. Shekhar and Mr. Anip Sachthey were such rare men. Today, we have assembled here to honour the legacy left behind by these great men. Their passing is a deep personal loss to me as they were very dear friends of mine, with whom I have great many memories and have always valued my association with them.

#### Mr. Anil Kumar

(12 July 1950 – 22nd April 2021)

(Judge, Delhi High Court :- 1st December 1993 - 11th July 2012)

A former Judge of the Delhi High Court and Senior Advocate Mr. Anil Kumar was born on 12th July 1950. His sense of justice, fairness and integrity was reflected in his

life's work as a revered member of the bar and bench. Belonging to the walled city of Delhi, he knew each and every gali and nukkad, which he fondly visited even as a sitting judge. He relished the food from old Delhi and the "Kalmi Vade", "Daulat ki Chaat" and "Kullekichaat" were a few of his favourite dishes. Mr. Kumar obtained his degree in M.Sc. Physical Sciences(Quantum Mechanics) from the University of Delhi which led him to develop an interest in brewing wine from different fruits. Due to his engineering bent, he could work as easily with electronics as he could with legal books and could even repair his motorcycle. He taught chemistry in Frank Anthony school to earn enough to fill petrol in his motorcycle and to visit Taj Machan for "kona coffee". He was fluent in French and extensively took part in the French cultural events in New Delhi and even started a French club with other members in Defence Colony known as 'Le Club Francaise'. He obtained his LL.B. degree from the University of Delhi. He was deeply influenced by the German Philosopher Karl Popper and his work 'Theory of Objectivism'. This made him a patient listener and a seeker of the truth, and he would analyse matters through a lens of objectivity.

He started his law practice in 1974 and became Legal Advisor to CBSE, National Institute of Open Schooling(NIOS) and National Institute of Education, Planning and Administration. He was also the counsel for the Airport Authority of India, MCD and for several individuals and private companies in the Delhi High Court. He was on the panel of senior lawyers for the State of U.P. in the Supreme Court of India. He also had a humorous side to him and became the president of the 'Association of Tired Young Lawyers' in Tis Hazari Court. On 16th July 2004, he was appointed as an Additional Judge of Delhi High Court and a permanent Judge on 20th February 2006. He delivered judgments in almost all branches of law. In Astra Zeneca UK Ltd. v. Orchid Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd., [2006 SCC OnLine Del 1668], while taking the public interest and 'balance of convenience' into consideration, he permitted the sale of a drug that was being sold at a cheaper rate as compared to a drug with a similar composition and held that the availability of the drug was in the public interest. While delivering judgements, he maintained a fine balance between compassion and rationality.

Upon retiring as a judge on 11th July 2012, he remembered his father's words, "the moment you demit the office of a judge, forget that you were ever one and start practising as you were before elevation as a judge." He then assumed his role as a Senior Advocate and was known for his commitment, passion and honest motives. Mr. Kumar

was intrigued by technology and was one of the first lawyers to own a computer in 1989. He was also one of the first judges to use a laptop on the dais of the Delhi High Court. His chamber on the third floor in High Court Lawyers' Chamber block was the hub for many lawyers who would collect there for evening tea and samosas. The young lawyers would seek his guidance in their matters and while guiding them he would often say "Don't be a sunny vakil, (hearsay) pick up the book sometime." He was one of the most sought-after Arbitrators and was a busy consultant after his retirement in 2015 from Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Properties.

Mr. Kumar was a man with many feathers in his hat and was known for his dynamic personality. During his school days, he was a member of the school band and enjoyed playing the drums and was fond of horse riding. He also became a member of the gliding club in school and did about 78 launches. He joined a western dance school with his wife and learnt Salsa, Cha Cha, Foxtrot and all south American dance forms. He also had a very adventurous side and has driven extensively in remote areas of the Himalayas, once driving up to Chitkool which is the last village in Kinnaur District adjoining India China Border. He trekked in the Dhauldar range around Mcleod Ganj. While river rafting with his wife in Teesta River, Sikkim, the raft overturned in mid-river and fortunately both of them were saved. This incident still could not deter him to do it again. Another example of his courage was when he went to Srinagar with his family though terrorism was at its peak and no tourists would go there. There, his room was destroyed by a terrorist attack as one of the misfired rockets had landed in front of their room and they had a narrow escape.

Mr. Kumar's philosophy in life was, "I will be what I will be, I will do what I will do". He was not only extremely talented but was also a man of principle. He contracted corona at the peak of the second wave and drove to the hospital himself with his laptop hoping to work from there and to be back home soon. But destiny willed it otherwise and he left for his heavenly abode on 22nd April 2021. He is survived by his wife Anita Sahni who is a colleague at the bar and two daughters Tanesha and Tanimaa.

#### Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singhal

(24th March 1957 – 23rd April 2021)

Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singhal was born in Allahabad on 24th March 1957. He did his schooling from Boy's High School, Allahabad, where he performed exceptionally well

and participated in many debates. He was also involved in many co-curricular activities and was the captain of his school's cricket team and his university team. When his school had a match with La Martiniere's School, Lucknow, he opened the batting and he scored a century before lunch. He was awarded 'man of the match' and his name remains on the other school's board. He pursued his B. Com (Hons) and completed his Bachelor of Law from Allahabad University in 1983. During this time, he read all the volumes of Halsbury's Laws of England. Subsequently, he got enrolled in U.P. Bar Council on 18th April 1983. He belonged to a family of freedom fighters and started his practice in the chamber of his father Late Sri Nathoo Singh Singhal, who was practising in Allahabad High Court since the pre-independence era. In his years of practising in the Allahabad High Court, he always tried to encourage several young lawyers. With over 38 years of experience, he argued in about 20,000 cases including constitutional matters, arbitration, criminal, matrimonial and civil disputes. He was appointed as a special counsel by various corporations and government undertakings. In 2009, he was designated as Senior Advocate by the Allahabad High Court and shouldered the responsibility of the office of Assistant Solicitor General of India in the Allahabad High Court. He shifted his practice to the Supreme Court in 2014 and within a short span of time, made his presence felt in the Supreme Court Bar.

His legal acumen, integrity, professionalism, and competence won him the respect and appreciation of the legal fraternity. He was known for his erudite arguments and exceptional oratory skills. He had a very compassionate nature and was not only a mentor but also a friend to several junior lawyers and was always there to rescue them in court. He believed that every person deserves to be respected and was always open to the ideas and opinions of his juniors. He appeared in Manish Kumar Dubey v. Union of India, 2012 SCC Online All 3776 in which his arguments were accepted by the Court to hold that the Indian Economic Service/Indian Statistical Service falls under the category of All India Services thereby being liable to the jurisdiction of the Central Administrative Tribunal. Mr. Singhal always would work for public cause. In this connection, protests were in force against CAA-NRC in the year 2019-2020. Thereafter, the State of Uttar Pradesh initiated proceedings to recover the damages of public and private properties and issued illegal Notices against the wrong-doers and political opponents through Executive Magistrate [ADM]. This was challenged in Writ Petition

[C] No.55 of 2020 being PIL filed by Parwaiz Arif Titu and settled by Mr. Singhal. The Hon'ble Supreme Court convinced with the arguments of Mr. Singhal and asked the State of Uttar Pradesh to withdraw all the 274 Recovery Notices and ordered to return the amount of damages recovered by the State from the aggrieved persons. Today he is not with us however due to the steps taken by Mr. Singhal, all the aggrieved persons got justice and they will get their money back soon.

In 2021, owing to his desire to serve the bar, he contested the elections of the Supreme Court Bar Association for the post of Senior Executive Member. He was also a member of the advocate panel of the Supreme Court legal services committee.

Mr. Singhal was very fond of animals and adored his Great Dane named 'hookah'. He loved music and was drawn to Mohd. Rafi's songs. He was a very spiritual person and would pray or hold poojas whenever he would get the time. He was very conscious of his health and turned vegan in his early 50s. He was very fond of his granddaughter Aryana Singhal and his only purpose to visit Allahabad would be to meet her.

Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singhal left for his heavenly abode on the intervening night of 23/24 April 2021 due to covid. He is survived by his two sons, Mr. Aditya Bhushan Singhal, who is practising at the Allahabad High Court and Dr. Abhishek Bhushan Singhal, who is a professor at IMS, Ghaziabad.

#### Mr. V. Shekhar

(6th November 1956 – 24th April 2021)

Mr. V. Shekhar was born in New Delhi on 6th November 1956. He did his schooling from DTEA School and was a meritorious student. He was a member of the National Cadet Corps and held the rank of sergeant. He actively participated in various sports and underwent professional training in hockey at the National Institute of Sports Delhi. He was exceptionally talented and had a keen interest in various co-curricular activities such as singing and dramatics. He performed in live music shows and in many Tamil plays, a few of which were directed by stalwarts of the National School of Drama. After this, he also considered taking up acting as a profession. Thereafter, he studied commerce from Shaheed Bhagat Singh College. During this time, he was a member of the cricket team, table tennis team and the Captain of the basketball team for 3 years. He

also participated in many athletics competitions and won the first prize in many races including 5000 meters and 10000 meters races. Soon thereafter, he faced immense pressure to start working as his father was about to retire. He was about to take a job at a distributor of Premier Padmini cars in Connaught place, instead, he was lucky to get a scholarship to pursue his dreams of becoming a lawyer by studying Law from the University of Delhi. His college peers were retired Justice Badar Durez Ahmed, Ms. Pinky Anand, Sr. Adv., Ms. Geeta Luthra, Sr. Adv. and Shri Gopal Subramaniam, Sr. Adv. He also took part in the Delhi University elections and was elected as an executive member in the Law faculty Union. He then went on to pursue his post-graduate degree in Political Science from the University of Delhi.

Mr. Shekhar's mother was his pillar of strength, who tremendously supported his legal career. In 1980, he enrolled as a member of the Delhi Bar Council and started his practice in the chamber of MK Ramamurthy, Sr. Adv. and Shyamala Pappu, Sr. Adv. As a first-generation lawyer, he worked extremely hard and would often work through the night and sleep in the chambers. He mastered his drafting skills and would be given all the cases that came to his senior's chambers. After leaving the chambers of Shri MK Ramamurthy, he struggled a lot to the extent that he had set up a temporary office at the Delhi High Court typing pool where he had a fixed seat and would conduct his office from there. His integrity and dedication made him one of the most sought after lawyers in his generation. In 1985,he became an AOR and also practised in various judicial forums of the country. Although initially, he specialised in the matters pertaining to Labour Law, Service Law and Constitution Law, he migrated to Taxation Law, Corporate Law, Criminal Law, Arbitration Law and Administrative law. In 1989, he appeared for Contract labourers in the MCD, which provided Regularisation for the workers.

Mr. Shekhar was designated as a Senior Advocate by the Delhi High Court in 2006 and served on the Supreme Court's panel of Senior Counsel for the Government of India in the same year. He had an illustrious career spanning over 4 decades and has more than 700 reported judgments to his credit. He took up many pro bono matters and always strived to help the marginalized and weaker sections of society. One of his notable appearances was in the landmark "Ayodhya Ram Mandir" matter. He was the Vice-President of the SCBA twice in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. He was elected as a

Senior Member of the Executive Committee of SCBA on several occasions and was also a part of the Present Executive Committee of SCBA. It was very humble of him to come as a senior member despite being a Vice-President twice. This goes to show his dedication to the cause of the bar. He was known for his positivity and humility, he considered the SCBA as his extended family and always looked out for the young members of the bar. He played many roles, as a moot court judge, a great mentor and an inspiration to the young law students and members of the Bar. He believed in strengthening the legal Institution and constantly worked for the improvement of the bar. As a senior, he was always accessible and extended himself to ensure the well-being of others. He played an instrumental role in drafting "Service Rules" and fiercely worked towards the promotion of "Welfare Schemes" for the staff members of SCBA. In 2012, he was appointed as a Special Senior Counsel for the Government of India. In 2017, he was appointed as the Special Senior Counsel for the State of Uttar Pradesh and the State of Madhya Pradesh. He was the County Councillor representing India in Law Asia, which has its Head Quarters in Sydney, Australia. He was also a member of the International Bar Association, London, INSOL, American Bar Association and Bar Association of India. He was also one of the Vice President of the Bar Association of India during 2016-2018. Cricket was his favourite sport and played the sport throughout his life. He played a very proactive role in the sporting affairs of the SCBA and also participated in the All India Cricket Tournament organised by the All India Advocates Cricket Tournament since the tournament's inception. His name is synonymous with cricket in Supreme Court and in the early days when they started cricket, people were apprehensive in giving grounds for lawyers to play. So he along with a few lawyers would hold practice sessions in the India Gate lawns.

Mr. Shekhar left for his heavenly abode on 24th April 2021 and is survived by his wife Mrs. Shekhar, son Mr. Shashank Shekhar who is an Advocate and daughter Dr. Shreya Shekhar who is a Dentist. As a tribute to the great man, it was decided to conduct the "V. Shekhar Memorial Lecture Series" each year at the Supreme Court in his remembrance.

#### Mr. Anip Sachthey

(12th June 1956 - 26th April 2021)

Shri Anip Sachthey, or "Tony" as known amongst his friends and colleagues, left for his heavenly abode on the 26th of April, 2021. His demise has left a void in the legal

community which cannot be filled with time. He was born in New Delhi on the 12th of June, 1956 and did his schooling from St. Columbus School. Thereafter, he did his graduation from Shri Ram College of Commerce and Bachelors of Law from Government Law College, Mumbai.

He got enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi in 1979 and briefly worked at Khaitan & Co. before moving to practice at the Supreme Court under the guidance and mentorship of his father, Late Shri R.N. Sachthey, who was a Senior Advocate.

He became an Advocate on Record in 1984 and was the Standing Counsel for the State of Gujarat from 1992 to 1995 and also for the State of West Bengal from 2013 to 2015 in the Supreme Court of India. Shri Anip Sachthey appeared in and also conducted various International Arbitration Cases in London, Zurich, Geneva and Paris held under the aegis of the International Court of Arbitration.

Shri Anip Sachthey was a man with varied interests. He was a great friend and a very supportive senior who always promoted his junior colleagues. He was very fond of surprise celebrations and would always enjoy having a party for any birthday or other occasion of his colleagues or juniors. He was very social and would enjoy spending evenings at the Gymkhana Club. He also loved travelling and exploring different places, cultures and cuisines. Even when travelling for matters to different cities, he would take an extra day or two to visit interesting places in that city and also to enjoy the local food. Being a foodie himself, he loved his sweets and ice-creams and would always say that life is very short and one must enjoy it to the fullest. He also enjoyed playing sports and was a good badminton player.

He has been a mentor to many lawyers amongst them being, Shri C.D. Singh, later elevated as a Judge of the Allahabad High Court and Senior Advocate Meenakshi Arora. From our younger colleagues, he has been a mentor to Advocates Mohit Paul and Anjali Chauhan, amongst others.

He appeared in several important Constitution Bench matters like I.R. Coelho v. State of T.N. [2007] and Bharat Aluminium Co. v. Kaiser Aluminium [2012] where it was held that no application under Section 9 would be maintainable in relation to an International Commercial Arbitration overruling the earlier Judgment of Satyam

Computers (2008). He also appeared in the landmark case of K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India also known as the Adhaar case. He was also appointed as Amicus Curiae in a criminal matter of Bhupan v. State of M.P. [2002] where the accused was convicted based on a dying declaration. He was successful in getting the conviction overturned by his convincing arguments and the Court even appreciated his assistance in the case. He was appointed as a Senior Advocate by the Supreme Court in 2019. He was also elected as a senior executive member of the SCBA in 2019.

He was a jovial and friendly person and many of our members, as well as Judges, were his friends. He was close friends with retired Justice R.F. Nariman, Late Arun Jaitley, Bina Gupta, Nina Gupta and Raian Karanjawala amongst others. Mr. Sachthey always used to say to his juniors that it does not matter what profession you choose in life, you must always be a good human being first.

We lost Shri Anip Sachthey due to Covid-19. A great and humble human being, I still remember interacting with him in the corridors of the Supreme Court. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Ritu Sachthey, his daughter, Ria Sachthey and her husband Chaitanya Singh, who are both advocates and his only granddaughter, Aahana Sachthey.

As George Bernard Shaw once said, "Life levels all men, death reveals the eminent". I, on behalf of the Supreme Court Bar Association offer my heartfelt condolences to the members of the family of the late Senior Advocates, Mr. Anil Kumar, Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singhal, Mr. V. Shekhar and Mr. Anip Sachthey. May their souls rest in divine peace.

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Reference made on 24th February, 2022

by

## Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India Shri N. V. Ramana

in the memory of

Late Shri Anil Kumar,

Late Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal,

Late Shri V. Shekhar and

Late Shri Anip Sachthey,

Senior Advocates

We have assembled this afternoon to express our profound grief on the passing away of four renowned Senior Advocates Shri Anil Kumar, Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal, Shri V. Shekhar and Shri Anip Sachthey.

#### Shri Anil Kumar

Shri Anil Kumar was born on 12th July, 1950. He did his M.Sc. in Physical Science. To take forward his father Justice Sultan Singh's legacy, he chose to study law thereafter and obtained his degree from the University of Delhi.

Shri Anil Kumar earned diplomas in French from Jawahar Lal Nehru University and Delhi University. In 1975, he was elected to the Governing Board of the Delhi chapter of Alliance Française.

Shri Anil Kumar enrolled as a Member of the Bar Council of Delhi in the year 1974 and started his practice in the same year at the Tis Hazari District Court, High Court of Delhi, and Supreme Court of India. He represented many institutions, like the Airports Authority of India, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Central Board of Secondary Education and other autonomous bodies in the field of education. He was also on the panel of senior lawyers for the State of U.P. in the Supreme Court of India.

He was appointed as an Additional Judge of the High Court of Delhi on 16th July,

2004 and a permanent Judge on 20th February, 2006. During his tenure as Judge of the High Court of Delhi, he authored several judgments.

His judgment in 'Astrazeneca v. Orchid Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals' is a landmark judgement in the field of trademarks and the concept of 'passing off'.

In 'Devki Gupta v. Prakash Chand Gupta', he allowed the defendant to amend his written statement to avoid multiplicity of litigation, holding that the Court should take a liberal approach if either party can be compensated with costs.

In 'Ria Khattar v. R. Singh', he clearly held that the Court's contempt jurisdiction cannot be misused for redressal of the petitioner's grievances. He also delivered several judgments dealing with property rights, service law and armed forces.

He retired on 11th July, 2012. Subsequent to his retirement, he was appointed the Chairman of the Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property and held the position for three years.

Thereafter, he started practicing before the Supreme Court of India. He was designated as a Senior Advocate by the Supreme Court of India on 31st August, 2016. Shri Anil Kumar was equally respected by the bar and the bench for his legal acumen. He was a man of few words, with high integrity.

He had varied interests and passions. He was a keen squash player, a horse rider, a philosopher, a teacher, a drummer, and a dancer. Shri Anil Kumar had the spirit of an explorer. He was very fond of travelling and discovering new cultures. He was also a technology enthusiast, who started using computers as far back as the year 1989. His was the first chamber in the High Court of Delhi to have a computer – a '286 big machine'.

He left for his heavenly abode on 22nd April, 2021 and is survived by his wife, Smt. Anita Sahani, who is an Advocate, daughters Ms. Tanesha Sultan Singh and Ms. Tanimaa Sultan Singh.

#### Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal

Born into a family of freedom fighters on 24th March, 1957, Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal excelled both academically and otherwise in his youth. He completed his B.Com. Honours from Allahabad University and thereafter obtained degree in law in 1983.

He enrolled himself as a member of the U.P. Bar Council on 18th April, 1983. He

joined the chambers of his father Shri Nathoo Singh Singhal, who had an established practice in the Allahabad High Court since its very inception.

In his early days at the bar, Shri Singhal appeared before various High Courts as well as the Supreme Court of India. His legal acumen soon earned him wide acclaim. He represented various corporations and Government undertakings before the High Court of Allahabad.

He was designated as a Senior Advocate by the High Court of Allahabad in the year 2009. In the same year, he was also given the responsibility of the Office of Assistant Solicitor General of India at the High Court.

In 2014, Shri Singhal shifted his practice to the Supreme Court of India. He represented the Central Government before the Supreme Court of India on various occasions. During his career, he appeared in approximately 20,000 cases. His practice areas related to Tenancy Deeds, Contract Law, the NDPS case, Service Law, and many more.

He appeared in the case of 'Rajendra Lalit Kumar Agrawal Vs. Ratna Ashok Muranjan', wherein it was held that interpretation of documents constituted a substantial question of law as per Section 100 of the CPC.

He also appeared in the case of 'Jamila Begum Vs. Shami Mohammed.', which dealt with important legal issues surrounding the delivery of possession of a mortgage and the issue of limitation therein.

Shri Singhal assisted the court in deciding the case of 'State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors. Vs. Achal Singh', which dealt with the right of an officer to seek voluntary retirement. Shri Singhal was a keen academic. In lieu of his expertise and passion for law, he was appointed as the Amicus Curiae before the Supreme Court of India. Additionally, he was also a Member of the Advisory Board of the 'Indian Law Journal on Crime and Criminology'.

In an eventful career of nearly four decades, Shri Singhal earned great respect from all, including his seniors, colleagues, junior lawyers, and the clients he represented across the country. He will be remembered for his great sense of humor, his integrity, and his commitment to the clients' interests. His sense of responsibility towards the Supreme Court and the delivery of justice was remarkable.

He left for his heavenly abode on 23rd April, 2021 and is survived by his wife, Smt. Perveen Singhal, sons Shri Aditya Bhushan and Dr. Abhishek Bhushan and their families.

#### Shri V. Shekhar

Shri V. Shekhar was born on 06th November 1956. He studied Commerce from Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, New Delhi and after completing his graduation, he joined the Law Faculty in Delhi University on a scholarship. He also had a post-graduate degree in Political Science from Delhi University.

After his enrolment with the Bar Council of Delhi, he started practicing law in 1980. He started his practice in the Chambers of eminent jurist late Shri M.K. Ramamurthy, Senior Advocate and late Smt. Shyamala Pappu, Senior Advocate.

He became an Advocate-on-Record in the year 1985. As a lawyer, he practiced in diverse fields of law including Taxation law, Service Law, Corporate Law, Criminal Law, Arbitration, Constitutional law and Administrative Law. In recognition of his legal expertise and vast experience, he was designated as a Senior Advocate by the High Court of Delhi in the year 2006.

He had been on the panel of Senior Counsel for the Government of India in the Supreme Court since 2006. In the year 2012, he was empaneled as a Special Senior Counsel for the Government of India. He was elected as a senior member of the Executive Committee of Supreme Court Bar Association for three terms and also served as Vice-President of the SCBA twice.

He appeared in various cases of Constitutional importance, including the triple talaq case and the Indore Development Authority case.

He was also a counsel in the crucial "Sushila Agarwal Vs State", in which a Constitution Bench of this court identified Section 438 as a procedural provision concerned with the personal liberty of each individual, who is entitled to the benefit of the presumption of innocence. He also appeared in the Ram Janmabhoomi case.

Shri Shekhar was passionate about sports. He was a Member of the National Cadet Corps. During his high school days he held the rank of Sergeant. He was very fond of hockey and underwent professional training during his school days. He was also actively involved in dramatics and singing. He performed in many Tamil plays, some of which were directed by stalwarts of the National School of Drama.

He pursued his interest in sports even during his college. He was the captain of his college basketball team and was a Member of the cricket and table tennis teams. He also actively participated in athletics and won many awards.

Shri Shekhar was a natural leader in the bar. He was always conscious about the problems faced by the members, especially the juniors. He was deeply respected and loved by the members of the bar for his kindness.

He left for his heavenly abode on 24th April, 2021 and is survived by his wife, Smt. Sellammal Shekhar, son Shri Shashank Shekhar who is an Advocate and daughter Dr. Shreya Shekhar.

#### Shri Anip Sachthey

Shri Anip Sachthey was born on 12th June, 1956. He pursued B.Com. (Hons.) from the Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi. Upon completion of his graduation, he took admission in the Government Law College, Mumbai and obtained his law degree in the year 1979. He enrolled himself in the bar the same year.

He worked with the law firm Khaitan & Co. for a brief period before starting his independent practice at the Supreme Court of India in the year 1980. He became an Advocate-on-Record soon after.

In a career spanning over 40 years, he appeared before various High Courts and the Supreme Court of India in a wide range of cases. He even appeared in arbitrations and matters relating to the environment and pollution. Shri Sachthey also assisted the Apex Court in several cases as Amicus Curiae and was Standing Counsel for the States of West Bengal & Gujarat between 2013 and 2015.

He also appeared in International Arbitration cases before the International Court of Arbitration in Paris. In his illustrious legal career, he represented various Public Sector Units such as Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries, as well as various corporate clients such as Tata Chemicals Ltd., JCE Consultancy, Dubai, the Securities and Exchange Board of India, and Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. before the Supreme Court of India.

Shri Sachthey has also appeared in landmark constitutional cases such as K.S. Puttaswamy, wherein the fundamental right to privacy was upheld. Shri Sachthey also represented Bharat Aluminium Company in the leading arbitration case of BALCO v. Kaiser Aluminum.

He appeared in the leading case of I.R. Coelho Vs. State of Tamil Nadu, wherein the Court held that the parliament has no right to amend Part III of the constitution under Article 368.

He also appeared in the "State of West Bengal Vs. Committee for Protection of Democratic Rights & Ors", wherein this Court held that a High Court can direct the Central Bureau of Investigation to investigate an offence without the consent of the State Government within whose territorial jurisdiction the offence was committed in.

Acknowledging his long standing at the Bar, the Supreme Court of India designated him as a Senior Advocate in March, 2019. Mr. Sachthey was known for his honesty, integrity and impeccable character. He often quoted - 'You must keep your mind on the objective, not on the obstacle.'

The word impossible was never in his dictionary. He was always supportive of young talent, so much so that, juniors he trained are judges in several High Courts, Senior Advocates and successful AOR's. He would attribute his strong foundation to his father Mr. R.N. Sachthey, who was also a well established Senior Advocate of this court.

He breathed his last on 26th April, 2021 and is survived by his wife, Smt. Ritu Sachthey, daughter, Smt. Ria Sachthey, who is an Advocate, and her family.

My Brother and Sister Judges join me in conveying our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of Shri Anil Kumar, Shri Ravi Bhushan Singhal, Shri V. Shekhar and Shri Anip Sachthey. We pray to the Almighty to give them strength to bear this irreparable loss.

May the departed souls rest in peace.

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## List of Attendees at the Full Court Reference

- Shri K.K. Venugopal,Ld. Attorney General for India.
- Shri Tushar Mehta,
   Solicitor General of India.
- Shri Vikas Singh, (Sr.)
   President,
   Supreme Court Bar Association.
- Shri Pradeep Kumar Rai, (Sr.)
   Vice President,
   Supreme Court Bar Association.
- Shri Ardhendumauli Kumar Prasad, Hony. Secretary, Supreme Court Bar Association.
- Shri Shivaji M. Jadhav,
   President,
   Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association.
- Shri Manoj K. Mishra,
   Vice President,
   Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association.
- Shri Joseph Aristotle S.,
   Hony. Secretary,
   Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association.

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## Attendees including Family Members of

## Late Shri Anil Kumar Senior Advocate

### at the Full Court Reference

- Ms. Anita Sahani, Wife
- \* Ms. Tanesha Sultan Singh, Daughter
- ❖ Ms. Tanimaa Sultan Singh, Daughter
- ❖ Mr. Atul Kumar, Brother
- \* Mr. Jagdev Singh, Colleague
- Mrs. Anita Mehta, Friend
- Mr. Praveen Mehta, Friend
- Mrs. Abha Gupta, Sister-in-law
- \* Mr. Arnav Kumar, Nephew
- Mrs. Yukti Gupta, Niece
- Mrs. Sarita Kapur, Friend
- \* Mr. Amit Kapur, Friend
- Mr. Suryakant Singla, Associate
- Mr. D K Batra, Friend
- Col. Subodh Garg, Friend
- Mrs. Rashmi Malik, Friend
- Mr. Kamal Nijhawan, Colleague
- Dr. Arun Gupta and Mrs. Gupta, Friends
- Mr. Ajith Nayar, Friend

- \* Ms. Purnima Bhat Kak, Friend
- Mrs. Anil Katiyar, Friend
- \* Mr. K K Mohan and Mrs. Geetanjali, Friends
- Mr. Rajiv Dutta, Sr. Adv., Friend
- \* Mr. Sidharth Dutta, Friend
- ❖ Mr. Harsh Sahani, Brother-in-law
- Mr. Ajai Sahani, Brother-in-law
- Dr. Suraj Gupta, Doctor
- Mr. Kenith Gonsalvis, Friend
- Mrs. Harkiran Kalra, Colleague
- Mrs. Usha Angel, Friend
- Ms. Anu Aeron, Friend
- Mr. Deepinder Singh Barara, Friend
- Mrs. and Mr. John Sadiq, Friends

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## THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

New Delhi - 110001 India