

COURT NEWS

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EDITORIAL BOARD

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K. G. Balakrishnan
Chief Justice of India

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

It is my pleasure to place the 14th issue of Court News in your hands. It is a matter of immense satisfaction to me that each issue of Court News is being widely appreciated and welcomed in all quarters including Judges, Advocates and Academicians, who, through this newsletter, are receiving authentic information on institution, disposal and pendency of Court cases at various levels, vacancies of Judges, judgments of public importance delivered by this Court as also other information relating to working of judiciary. I am happy to note that Court News has become an important source of information not only in legal circles but also to various departments and institutions, besides, enlightened citizens of our country.

The 5th Lok Adalat for settlement of disputes, pending in Supreme Court, was held on 25th April, 2009 and was very successful. Lok Adalat has become a regular feature and it is well accepted by all concerned.

I hope that filling up of more vacancies in High Courts and subordinate courts will go a long way in reducing the pendency in those courts.

I am confident that in future also this newsletter will continue to be useful to all its readers and provide authentic information to them on the working of Judiciary. The suggestions for further improvement of the newsletter will be welcomed by the Supreme Court Registry.

21st July, 2009


[K.G. Balakrishnan]

**APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT IN SUPREME COURT
(From 01-04-09 to 30-06-09)****APPOINTMENT**

S. No.	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Appointment
1	Mr. Justice Deepak Verma	11-05-2009
2	Dr. Justice B.S. Chauhan	11-05-2009

RETIREMENT

S. No.	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Retirement
1	Mr. Justice Lokeshwar Singh Panta	23-04-2009
2	Dr. Justice Arijit Pasayat	10-05-2009

APPOINTMENT IN HIGH COURTS

S. No.	Name of the High Court	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Appointment
1	Allahabad	Ashwani Kumar Singh	13-04-2009
		Devendra Kumar Arora	13-04-2009
		Anil Kumar	13-04-2009
		Dasu Ram Azad	13-04-2009
		Naheed Ara Moonis	13-04-2009
		Ritu Raj Awasthi	13-04-2009
		Rajesh Chandra	13-04-2009
		Shyam Shankar Tiwari	13-04-2009
		Yogendra Kumar Sangal	13-04-2009
		Kashi Nath Pandey	13-04-2009
		Virendra Singh	13-04-2009
		Ram Autar Singh	13-04-2009
		Jayashree Tiwari	13-04-2009
		Subhash Chandra Agarwal	13-04-2009
		Yogesh Chandra Gupta	13-04-2009
		Shri Kant Tripathi	13-04-2009
Ashok Srivastava	13-04-2009		
Virendra Kumar Dixit	13-04-2009		
2	Calcutta	Indra Prasanna Mukerji	18-05-2009
		Syamal Kanti Chakrabarti	24-06-2009
		Md. Abdul Ghani	24-06-2009
		Raghunath Ray	24-06-2009
		Mrinal Kanti Sinha	24-06-2009
		Prabhat Kumar Dey	24-06-2009
3	Delhi	Valmiki J. Mehta	15-04-2009
		Neeraj Kishan Kaul	15-04-2009
		Ajit Bharihoke	14-05-2009
		Vinay Kumar Jain	14-05-2009
		Indermeet Kaur Kochhar	14-05-2009
		Anil Kumar Pathak	14-05-2009
4	Karnataka	Aravind Kumar	26-06-2009
5	Kerala	P.Q. Barkath Ali	21-05-2009
6	Patna	Anjana Prakash	13-06-2009
		Jyoti Saran	13-06-2009
7	Sikkim	S.P. Wangdi	23-06-2009

• Above statement is compiled on the basis of information received from the High Courts

TRANSFER BETWEEN HIGH COURTS

S. No.	From	To	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Transfer
1	Allahabad	Jharkhand	Sushil Harkauli	01-07-2009
2	Punjab & Haryana	Allahabad	Uma Nath Singh	30-06-2009

- Above statement is compiled on the basis of information received from the High Courts

VACANCIES IN COURTS

A) SUPREME COURT OF INDIA (As on 01-07-2009)

Sanctioned Strength	Working strength	Vacancies
31	24	7

B) HIGH COURTS (As on 01-07-2009)

S.No.	Name of the High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Allahabad	160	88	72
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	30	19
3	Bombay	75	66	09
4	Calcutta	58	41	17
5	Chhattisgarh	18	10	08
6	Delhi	48	44	04
7	Gauhati	24	21	03
8	Gujarat	42	27	15
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	10	01
10	Jammu & Kashmir	14	11	03
11	Jharkhand	20	14	06
12	Karnataka	41	38	03
13	Kerala	38	33	05
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	37	06
15	Madras	60	56	04
16	Orissa	22	16	06
17	Patna	43	23	20
18	Punjab & Haryana	68	46	22
19	Rajasthan	40	30	10
20	Sikkim	03	03	00
21	Uttaranchal	09	08	01
	TOTAL	886	652	234

- Above statement is compiled on the basis of figures received from the Department of Justice

C) DISTRICT & SUBORDINATE COURTS (As on 31-03-2009)

S.No.	Concerned State/ Union Territory	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Uttar Pradesh	2181	1643	538
2	Andhra Pradesh	930	823	107
3.a	Maharashtra	1898	1634	264
3.b	Goa	49	43	6
3.c	Diu and Daman & Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	3	0
4	Calcutta	782	579	203
5	Chhatisgarh	293	280	13
6	Delhi	605	365	240
7	Gujarat	1030	860	170
8.a	Assam	319	228	91
8.b	Meghalya	10	4	6
8.c	Tripura	92	62	30
8.d	Manipur	33	28	5
8.e	Nagaland	27	26	1
8.f	Mizoram	40	32	8
8.g	Arunachal Pradesh ¹	339	300	39
9	Himachal Pradesh	126	118	8
10	Jammu and Kashmir	207	168	39
11	Jharkhand	536	409	127
12	Karnataka	878	752	126
13.a	Kerala	432	381	51
13.b	Lakshadweep	3	2	1
14.a	Tamil Nadu	808	790	18
14.b	Puducherry	20	15	5
15	Madhya Pradesh	1307	1144	163
16	Orissa	536	435	101
17	Bihar	1367	1094	273
18.a	Punjab	346	306	40
18.b	Haryana	397	292	105
18.c	Chandigarh	20	20	0
19	Rajasthan	828	737	91
20	Sikkim	15	9	6
21	Uttarakhand	264	141	123
	TOTAL	16721	13723	2998

• Above statement is compiled on the basis of figures received from the High Courts.

1. Judiciary is not separated from Executive.

INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES

A) SUPREME COURT OF INDIA (FROM 01-04-2009 TO 30-06-2009)

						Pendency (At the end of 31-03-09)		
						Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters
						30,834	19,329	50,163
Institution (01-04-09 to 30-06-09)			Disposal (01-04-09 to 30-06-09)			Pendency (At the end of 30-06-09)		
Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters	Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters	Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters
14,024	1,788	15,812	11,641	1,742	13,383	33,217	19,375	52,592

B) HIGH COURTS (FROM 01-01-2009 TO 31-03-2009)

S. No.	NAME OF HIGH COURT	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency of Civil and Criminal Cases at the end of 31-03-2009
		Opening Balance as on 01-01-09	Institution from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Disposal from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Pendency at the end of 31-03-09	Opening Balance as on 01-01-09	Institution from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Disposal from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Pendency at the end of 31-03-09	
1	Allahabad	660574	37675	22655	675594	251284	24488	15941	259831	935425
2	Andhra Pradesh	149373	12107	8651	152829	19841	3046	2262	20625	173454
3	Bombay	296019	32038	28623	299434	40061	7355	6929	40487	339921
4	Calcutta	257815	15187	10421	262581	42658	6514	5500	43672	306253
5	Chhatisgarh	47441	3007	4637	45811	19288	1504	1566	19226	65037
6	Delhi	56415 ⁱ	12018	14641	53792	13956	2808	4210	12554	66346
7	Gujarat	71618	1882	5004	68496	33196	5254	6464	31986	100482
8	Gauhati	53732	4819	4376	54175	8378	2154	1976	8556	62731
9	Himachal Pradesh	28211	10450	3697	34964	6427	528	537	6418	41382
10	Jammu & Kashmir	47028	5911	4607	48332	1799	500	517	1782	50114
11	Jharkhand	28959	2309	2098	29170	24405	4113	3474	25044	54214
12	Karnataka	95838	38234	17570	116502	14155	5417	3766	15806	132308
13	Kerala	83505	17493	17373	83625	27027	5381	5472	26936	110561
14	Madhya Pradesh	122719	15820	12307	126232	60305	10816	10931	60190	186422
15	Madras ⁱⁱ	408542	34000	25240	417302	42954	11042	9289	44707	462009
16	Orissa	217371	13264	11487	219148	23538	9026	8566	23998	243146
17	Patna	79344	7319 ⁱⁱⁱ	7215	79448	40519	14472 ^{iv}	10699	44292	123740
18	Punjab & Haryana	207291	13783	18802	202270 ^v	45033	11675	11863	44845	247115
19	Rajasthan	177495	17732	12340	182887	52439	9260	8762	52937	235824
20	Sikkim	54	15	6	63	29	11	7	33	96
21	Uttaranchal	11543	1377	844	12076	6279	940	651	6568	18644
	Total	3100887	296440	232594	3164731	773571	136304	119382	790493	3955224

• Above statement is compiled on the basis of figures received from the High Courts

- i. Opening balance of Civil cases revised by the concerned High Court
- ii. Statement of Misc. Petitions split into 2 categories i.e. Civil and Criminal from January, 2009
- iii. 256 civil cases restored.
- iv. 338 criminal cases restored.
- v. Two RFA transferred to concerned District and Sessions Judges, Punjab.

C) DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS (FROM 01-01-2009 TO 31-03-2009)

S. No.	Concerned State/ Union Territory	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency of Civil and Criminal Cases at the end of 31-03-2009
		Opening Balance as on 01-01-09	Institution from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Disposal from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Pendency at the end of 31-03-09	Opening Balance as on 01-01-09	Institution from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Disposal from 01-01-09 to 31-03-09	Pendency at the end of 31-03-09	
1	Uttar Pradesh	1257084	122636	104306	1275414	3903090	606843	548609	3961324	5236738
2	Andhra Pradesh	472255	82113	86059	468309	487179	97380	98043	486516	954825
3(a)	Maharashtra	976176	96664	91738	981102	3162590	354609	365028	3152171	4133273
3(b)	Goa	16832	2395	2635	16592	14211	6027	6104	14134	30726
3(c)	Diu and Daman	930	85	135	880	971	131	282	820	1700
3(d)	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	598	55	54	599	2466	132	164	2434	3033
4(a)	West Bengal ⁱ	507910	33913	28117	513706	1888461	242212	181949	1948724	2462430
4(b)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands ⁱ	1691	181	171	1701	12569	2423	3062	11930	13631
5	Chhatisgarh	51101	12649	12460	51290	218263	60841	61883	217221	268511
6	Delhi	197812	59154	26321	230645	744617	100642	48319	796940	1027585
7	Gujarat	721393	45590	58253	708730	1519643	240028	225715	1533956	2242686
8(a)	Assam	78140	8527	8455	78212	151578	34188	34649	151117	229329
8(b)	Nagaland	1877	204	83	1998	3826	370	320	3876	5874
8(c)	Meghalaya	3998	780	975	3803	8357	950	1657	7650	11453
8(d)	Manipur	3060	502	432	3130	3332	1575	1510	3397	6527
8(e)	Tripura	6653	1519	1333	6839	44526	21681	16244	49963	56802
8(f)	Mizoram	2521	451	369	2603	5456	1034	799	5691	8294
8(g)	Arunachal Pradesh	761	77	36	802	4710	405	350	4765	5567
9	Himachal Pradesh	64288	12218	11417	65089	82378	29707	27671	84414	149503
10	Jammu & Kashmir	64866	11988	11706	65148	113916	43822	43683	114055	179203
11	Jharkhand	45408	4581	4461	45528	224960	24625	26294	223291	268819
12	Karnataka	567439	87273	93329	561383	507081	166345	152467	520959	1082342
13(a)	Kerala	368752	67509	68428	367833	609223	201578	188076	622725	990558
13(b)	Lakshadweep	78	8	3	83	78	52	31	99	182
14	Madhya Pradesh	202521	66491	63283	205729	868855	227377	228006	868226	1073955
15(a)	Tamil Nadu	576066	170114	139843	606337	440532	151056	140784	450804	1057141
15(b)	Puducherry	15204	3285	2945	15544	9842	4046	4011	9877	25421
16	Orissa	188125	12541	10561	190105	858088	49369	43931	863526	1053631
17	Bihar	253227	11781	12462	252546	1180116	81703	71485	1190034 ⁱⁱ	1442580
18(a)	Punjab	267258	32512	33346	266424	303965	91117	95527	299555	565979
18(b)	Haryana	219452	37579	34997	222034	330959	82283	77738	335504	557538
18(c)	Chandigarh	20581	2327	2487	20421	79330	20104	22323	77111	97532
19	Rajasthan	352375	55703	43886	364192	945254	183555	159400	969409	1333601
20	Sikkim	220	20	24	216	800	249	199	850	1066
21	Uttarakhand	33204	6328	6625	32907	137230	39899	35878	141251	174158
	TOTAL	7539856	1049753	961735	7627874	18868452	3168358	2912191	19124319	26752193

• Above statement is compiled on the basis of figures received from the High Courts

i Opening balance revised by the concerned High Court.

ii 300 cases amalgamated / transferred in criminal side.

SOME RECENT SUPREME COURT JUDGMENTS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

1. On 1st April, 2009, a two Judges Bench in *Vikram Greentech (I) Ltd. & Anr. v. New India Assurance Co. Ltd.* (Civil Appeal No.2080 of 2002) held that “an insurance contract, is a species of commercial transaction and must be construed like any other contract to its own terms and by itself.”

“In a contract of insurance, there is requirement of *uberimma fides* i.e. good faith on the part of the insured. Except that, in other respects, there is no difference between a contract of insurance and any other contract. The four essentials of a contract of insurance are, (i) the definition of the risk, (ii) the duration of the risk, (iii) the premium and (iv) the amount of insurance. Since upon issuance of insurance policy, the insurer undertakes to indemnify the loss suffered by the insured on account of risks covered by the insurance policy, its terms have to be strictly construed to determine the extent of liability of the insurer. The endeavour of the court must always be to interpret the words in which the contract is expressed by the parties. The court while construing the terms of policy is not expected to venture into extra liberalism that may result in re-writing the contract or substituting the terms which were not intended by the parties. The insured cannot claim anything more than what is covered by the insurance policy”, said the Bench.

The Bench held that “document like proposal form is a commercial document and being an integral part of policy, reference to proposal form may not only be appropriate but rather essential.”

2. On 13th April, 2009, a two Judges Bench in *Avinash Mehrotra v. Union of India & Others* (Writ Petition (Civil) no.483 of 2004) held that it is imperative “that the education which is provided to children in the primary schools should be in the environment of safety.”

The Bench held that “each school must follow the bare minimum safety standards, in addition to the compliance of the National Building Code of India, 2005, in

particular Part IV – Fire & Life Safety and the Code of Practice of Fire Safety in Educational Institutions (IS 14435:1997) of the Bureau of Indian Standards.” Thereafter the Bench directed that:- (i) before granting recognition or affiliation, the concerned State Governments and Union Territories shall ensure that the buildings are safe and secured from every angle and they are constructed according to the safety norms incorporated in the National Building Code of India; (ii) all existing government and private schools shall install fire extinguishing equipments within a period of six months; (iii) the school buildings be kept free from inflammable and toxic material. If storage is inevitable, they should be stored safely; (iv) evaluation of structural aspect of the school may be carried out periodically and the concerned engineers and officials must strictly follow the National Building Code. The safety certificate be issued only after proper inspection. Dereliction in duty must attract immediate disciplinary action against the concerned officials and (v) necessary training be imparted to the staff and other officials of the school to use the fire extinguishing equipments.

3. On 15th April, 2009, a two Judges Bench in State of Jharkhand & Ors. v. Shiv Karampal Sahu [Civil Appeal No.2539 of 2009] held that “a circular letter providing for appointment on compassionate ground in case of death of a government servant cannot be extended in case of the dependents of the deceased who was not a government servant.”
4. On 15th April, 2009, a three Judges Bench in State of Madhya Pradesh v. Sheikh Shahid [Criminal Appeal No.660 of 2004] held that “in order to exercise the discretion of reducing the sentence the statutory requirement is that the Court has to record “adequate and special reasons” in the judgment and not fanciful reasons which would permit the Court to impose a sentence less than the prescribed minimum. The reason has not only to be adequate but also special. What is adequate and special would depend upon several factors and no strait-jacket formula can be indicated.”
5. On 6th May, 2009, a two Judges Bench in U. Suvetha v. State by Inspector of Police and another [Criminal Appeal No. 938 of 2009] while considering the question

as to whether the term “relative of husband of a woman” within the meaning of Section 498A IPC should be given an extended meaning, held that “by no stretch of imagination a girl friend or even a concubine in an etymological sense would be a 'relative'. The word 'relative' brings within its purview a status. Such a status must be conferred either by blood or marriage or adoption. If no marriage has taken place, the question of one being relative of another would not arise.”

6. On 6th May, 2009, a two Judges Bench in Suresh Kumar Singh v. State of U.P. [Criminal Appeal No.939 of 2009] while examining the application of the term 'soon before her death' occurring in Section 304B IPC held that “some harassment which had taken place one year prior to the death without something more” “could not have been considered to be a cruelty which had been inflicted soon before the death of the deceased.” “It does not satisfy the proximity test”, the Bench said.
7. On 8th May, 2009, a two Judges Bench in Sasikumar v. The State of Tamil Nadu [Criminal Appeal no.966 of 2009] held that “though a dying declaration is entitled to great weight”, “the accused has no power of cross-examination.” “This is the reason the Court also insists that the dying declaration should be of such nature as to inspire full confidence of the Court in its correctness. The Court has to be on guard that the statement of the deceased was not as a result of either tutoring or prompting or a product of imagination. The Court must be further satisfied that the deceased was in a fit state of mind after a clear opportunity to observe and identify the assailant. Once the Court is satisfied that the declaration was true and voluntary, undoubtedly, it can base its conviction without any further corroboration. It cannot be laid down as an absolute rule of law that the dying declaration cannot form the sole basis of conviction unless it is corroborated. The rule requiring corroboration is merely a rule of prudence”, said the Bench.
8. On 8th May, 2009, a three Judges Bench in M.C. Mehta v. Union of India and Ors. [I.A. No. 1967 in I.A. No.1785 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.4677 of 1985] suspended all mining operations in the Aravalli Hill Range falling in the State of Haryana within the area of approximately 448 sq. kms. in the Districts of Faridabad and Gurgaon including Mewat till Reclamation Plan duly certified by State of Haryana,

MoEF and CEC was prepared in accordance with the statutory provisions contained in various enactments as well as in terms of the Rules framed thereunder and the Guidelines.

9. On 11th May, 2009, a three Judges Bench in Smruti Pahariya v. Sanjay Pahariya [Civil Appeal no.3465 of 2009] held that “it is only on the continued mutual consent of the parties that decree for divorce under Section 13B of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 can be passed by the Court. If petition for divorce is not formally withdrawn and is kept pending then on the date when the Court grants the decree, the Court has a statutory obligation to hear the parties to ascertain their consent. From the absence of one of the parties for two to three days, the Court cannot presume his/her consent.”

“The Court while passing its decree under Section 13B would be slow and circumspect before it can infer the existence of such jurisdictional fact. The Court has to be satisfied about the existence of mutual consent between the parties on some tangible materials which demonstrably disclose such consent”, said the Bench.

10. On 29th May, 2009, a two Judges Bench in Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh v. Jaspal Singh & Ors. [Civil Appeal no.7950 of 2002] held that “wrong blood transfusion is an error which no hospital/doctor exercising ordinary care” would make. “Such an error is not an error of professional judgment but in the very nature of things a sure instance of medical negligence”, said the Bench.

MAJOR EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

- I. **CHIEF JUSTICES' CONFERENCE – 2009:** The conference of the Chief Justices of the High Courts would be held in the Supreme Court premises on 14th and 15th August, 2009.
- II. **JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE CHIEF MINISTERS OF STATES AND CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE HIGH COURTS–2009:** The Joint Conference would be held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 16th August, 2009.
- III. **SUPREME COURT LOK ADALAT:** The 5th Supreme Court Lok Adalat was organized on 25th April, 2009 at Supreme Court for settlement of cases pending in the Supreme Court. 48 cases were settled in the said Lok Adalat.
- IV. **NATIONAL SEMINAR ORGANIZED BY NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (NALSA) ON “RIGHT TO EDUCATION”:** The National Seminar was held on 16th May 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Seminar was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, NALSA, Hon'ble Dr. Justice B.S. Chauhan, Judge, Supreme Court of India and other dignitaries.
- V. **MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY (NJA):**
 - a) **SEMINAR ON THE VISION OF JUSTICE OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA (17-19 April, 2009):** The objective of the seminar was to develop, to the extent possible, a clear understanding of the concept of Justice and of the Constitutional Vision of Justice and to formulate an operational and practical methodology for ensuring that judicial discretion is guided by the Constitutional Vision of Justice. In this context, a few themes were identified for discussion over three days of the programme viz. What is Constitutional Vision of Justice, The Vision of Justice of the Constitution of India from social, Economic and Political perspective, Remedies for securing Constitutional Rights, Role and Responsibility of Courts in Securing Constitutional Justice: Issues and Challenges etc. Around thirty judges of the District Judiciary from all over the country participated in the Seminar.

b) PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT LAB ON LAW, SOCIETY & DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL LAW & EMERGING AREAS OF LAW (17-19 April, 2009):

The Programme was designed in a way as to develop programme for state judicial academies on the above mentioned three clusters. On the first day the participants discussed two topics (A) scope of: (1) Law, society & development (2) International law and (3) emerging areas of law: IT, Cyber Law, IPR, Cyber Crimes and (B) the issues arising in Courts on these Areas. On the second day, the main discussions were around the topics (A) identification of (1) knowledge and skills needed to address identified needs (2) SJA programmes to meet such needs and (B) identification of gaps/ areas in which JE programmes need to be developed to meet knowledge/skills needs.

c) PROGRAMME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS OF CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL (20-23 April, 2009):

The objective of the programme was to strengthen judicial skills of Administrative Members of Central Administrative Tribunals. Ten Hon'ble Administrative Members from various Benches of Central Administrative Tribunals participated in the programme. Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.K. Balasubramanyan, former Judge, Supreme Court of India was the guest of honour of the inaugural session and presidential address was delivered by Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.K. Thakker, former Judge, Supreme Court of India. The first day of the programme was devoted to Critical Review of decisions of CAT & selected other Tribunals and decisions of Supreme Court on CAT orders, Principles of Constitutional and Administrative Law-relevant to the working of Tribunals. On the second day of the programme, Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.K. Thakker addressed the participants on various aspects of Service Jurisprudence such as Appointment, Regularization, Reinstatement, Back wages, suspension, termination etc. The third day was devoted to Proper Conduct of Quasi-Judicial Proceedings/ Adjudication (Appreciation of facts, Conducting hearing, Decision making etc.). Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.M. Dharmadhikari, Chairman, M.P. State Human Rights Commission and former Judge, Supreme Court of India addressed the participants. On the fourth day Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.P. Naolekar, former Judge, Supreme Court of India and Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.S. Aggarwal, former Judge, Delhi High Court and Former Chairman CAT addressed the participants on Judging Skills including Judgment writing.

d) HIGH COURT JUSTICES' CONFERENCE ON “POVERTY ALLEVIATION, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE LAW: ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF COURTS”

(25-26 April, 2009) : The purpose of this Conference was to discuss ways and means to make the decision making in the High Courts more relevant to the masses of the country. The Programme was centered around various themes such as Poverty and Social Justice: Conceptual Framework, Poverty as Violation of Rights: Victims of Criminal Justice System, Right to Food through Courts, Responding to the Challenge of Poverty and Social Justice etc. Hon'ble Justice A.K. Ganguly, Judge, Supreme Court, Hon'ble Justice V.S. Sirpurkar, Judge, Supreme Court and other dignitaries guided and facilitated discussions amongst the participants. Around thirty High Court Judges from all over the country participated in the conference.

e) HIGH COURT JUSTICES' CONFERENCE ON USE OF INTERNATIONAL AND FOREIGN LAW BY INDIAN COURTS: CURRENT DEVELOPMENT AND KEY ISSUES (9-10 May, 2009):

The main objective of the conference was to deliberate upon the changing global legal order and its impact on the Indian domestic legal system. Presentations were made on changing trends in international law and its impact on India. After this general overview, presentations and discussion ensued on certain specific areas of international law- domestic legal system interface, viz, trade, refugees, extradition and human rights. Shifting from the public to the private, the discussion then moved to the issue of international commercial arbitration and private international law. Tying both themes together, the concluding theme looked at the use of international and foreign law by Indian courts in the adjudicatory process. Global trends regarding the use of international law by domestic judiciaries was discussed, and the Indian experience was placed in this context. The benefits and shortfalls of the Indian approach were also deliberated upon. Justice A. K. Ganguly, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Justice B. N. Srikrishna, former Judge, Supreme Court of India, chaired the sessions.

IMPORTANT VISITS AND CONFERENCES (From 1st April to 30th June, 2009)

1. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India, accompanied by Hon'ble Dr. Justice Arijit Pasayat (since retired) participated in the International Round Table Conference held at Athens, Georgia, USA from 3rd April to 6th April, 2009. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India delivered the Inaugural Address.
2. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India and Hon'ble Dr. Justice Arijit Pasayat (since retired) met the Director of American Law Institute at the headquarters of the Institute in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 7th April, 2009,
3. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India delivered a lecture on "Supreme Court of India as a Constitutional and Human Rights Court" at the University of Georgia.
4. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha and Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.H. Kapadia participated in the 2nd Meet of Indo-Australian Legal Forum held in Australia (Canberra and Sydney) from 2nd June to 5th June, 2009.
5. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tarun Chatterjee, Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.S. Sirpurkar and Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.M. Lodha participated in the "International Conference of Jurists for Judicial Reform" organized jointly by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and the International Council of Jurists at London from 13th June to 15th June, 2009. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India delivered the Inaugural Address.
6. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dalveer Bhandari and Hon'ble Dr. Justice Mukundakam Sharma participated in the 5th International Judges Conference on Intellectual Property Law organized by the Intellectual Property Owners Education Foundation at Washington D.C. from 19th April to 21st April, 2009.

7. Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam chaired a session on “Third LAWASIA Children and the Law Conference” organized by Law Society of Singapore & LAWASIA from 21st May to 23rd May, 2009 at Singapore.

8. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aftab Alam addressed a Conference jointly organized by the Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, the Cosmopolis Institute of the University for Humanistic Studies in Netherlands, the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society in Bangalore, etc. at Utrecht, Netherlands from 25th May to 26th May, 2009.


LIST OF SUPREME COURT JUDGES

(As on 1st July, 2009)

S.No.	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Appointment	Date of Retirement
1	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India (CJI)	08.06.2000 As CJI: On 14.01.2007	12.05.2010
2	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal	19.10.2000	15.10.2009
3	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha	03.10.2002	08.08.2009
4	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.H. Kapadia	18.12.2003	29.09.2012
5	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tarun Chatterjee	27.08.2004	14.01.2010
6	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir	09.09.2005	19.07.2013
7	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.V. Raveendran	09.09.2005	15.10.2011
8	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dalveer Bhandari	28.10.2005	01.10.2012
9	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.K. Jain	10.04.2006	25.01.2013
10	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Markandey Katju	10.04.2006	20.09.2011
11	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.S. Bedi	12.01.2007	05.09.2011
12	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.S. Sirpurkar	12.01.2007	22.08.2011
13	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Sudershan Reddy	12.01.2007	08.07.2011
14	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam	21.08.2007	27.04.2014
15	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.S. Singhvi	12.11.2007	12.12.2013
16	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aftab Alam	12.11.2007	19.04.2013
17	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.M. Panchal	12.11.2007	06.10.2011
18	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Mukundakam Sharma	09.04.2008	18.09.2011
19	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Cyriac Joseph	07.07.2008	28.01.2012
20	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Asok Kumar Ganguly	17.12.2008	03.02.2012
21	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Mal Lodha	17.12.2008	28.09.2014
22	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.L. Dattu	17.12.2008	03.12.2015
23	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Verma	11.05.2009	28.08.2012
24	Hon'ble Dr. Justice B.S. Chauhan	11.05.2009	02.07.2014

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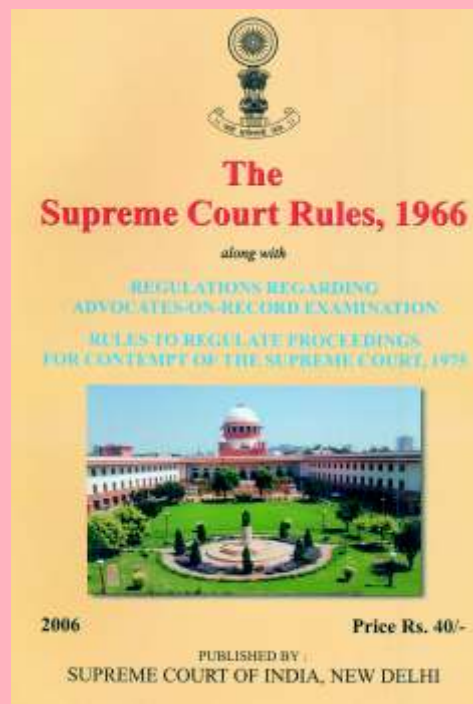
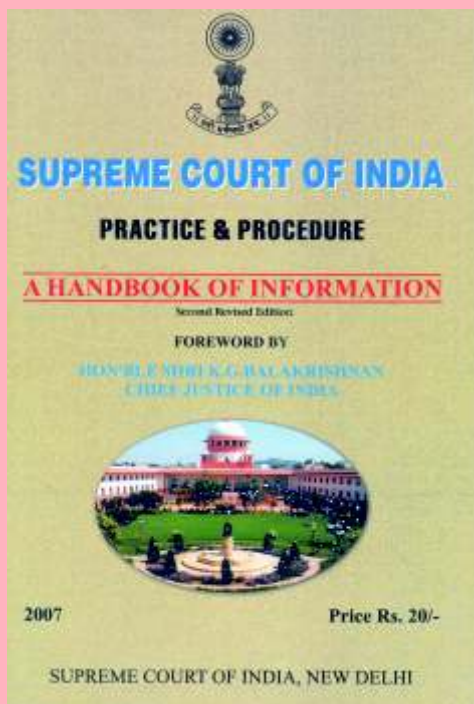
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