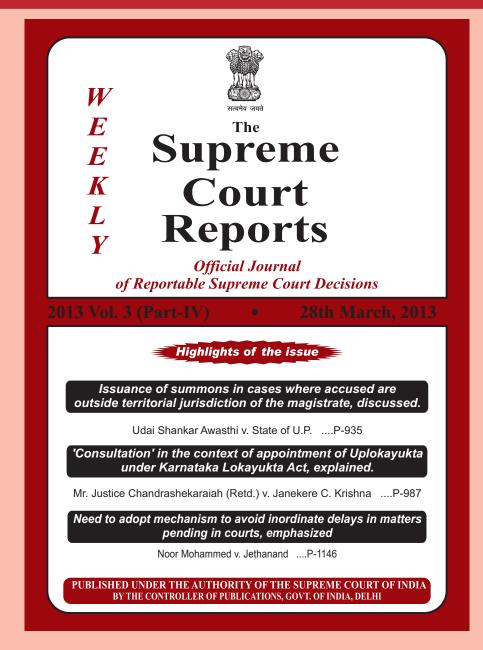
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COURT NEWS

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April - June 2013



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LIST OF SUPREME COURT JUDGES

(As on 30-06-2013)

S.No.	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Appointment	Date of Retirement
01.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir, Chief Justice of India (CJI)	09-09-2005 As CJI: 29-09-2012	19-07-2013
02.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam	21-08-2007	27-04-2014
03.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.S. Singhvi	12-11-2007	12-12-2013
04.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.M. Lodha	17-12-2008	28-09-2014
05.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.L. Dattu	17-12-2008	03-12-2015
06.	Hon'ble Dr. Justice B.S. Chauhan	11-05-2009	02-07-2014
07.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Patnaik	17-11-2009	03-06-2014
08.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Thakur	17-11-2009	04-01-2017
09.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.S. Radhakrishnan	17-11-2009	15-05-2014
10.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.S. Nijjar	17-11-2009	07-06-2014
11.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.K. Prasad	08-02-2010	15-07-2014
12.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.L. Gokhale	30-04-2010	10-03-2014
13.	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Gyan Sudha Misra	30-04-2010	28-04-2014
14.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil R. Dave	30-04-2010	19-11-2016
15.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.J. Mukhopadhaya	13-09-2011	15-03-2015
16.	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ranjana P. Desai	13-09-2011	30-10-2014
17.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.S. Khehar	13-09-2011	28-08-2017
18.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipak Misra	10-10-2011	03-10-2018
19.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. Chelameswar	10-10-2011	23-06-2018
20.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice F.M. Ibrahim Kalifulla	02-04-2012	23-07-2016
21.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ranjan Gogoi	23-04-2012	18-11-2019
22.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur	04-06-2012	31-12-2018
23.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Yusuf Eqbal	24-12-2012	13-02-2016
24.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Gopala Gowda	24-12-2012	06-10-2016
25.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen	24-12-2012	31-12-2015
26.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose	08-03-2013	28-05-2017
27.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kurian Joseph	08-03-2013	30-11-2018
28.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Sikri	12-04-2013	07-03-2019
29.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde	12-04-2013	24-04-2021



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This newsletter is intended to provide public access to information on the activities and achievements of the Indian Judiciary in general. While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy and to avoid errors/omissions, information given in the newsletter is merely for reference and must not be taken as having the authority of, or being binding in any way on, the Editorial Board of the newsletter and the officials involved in compilation thereof, who do not owe any responsibility whatsoever for any loss, damage, or distress to any person, whether or not a user of this publication, on account of any action taken or not taken on the basis of the information given in this newsletter.

APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA (FROM 01-04-2013 TO 30-06-2013)

APPOINTMENTS

S.No.	Name of Hon'ble Judge	Date of Appointment
1.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Sikri	12-04-2013
2.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde	12-04-2013

RETIREMENT

S.No.	Name of Hon'ble Judge	Date of Retirement
1	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aftab Alam	19-04-2013

APPOINTMENTS IN THE HIGH COURTS (From 01-04-2013 to 30-06-2013)

S.No.	Name of the High Court	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Appointment
1	Allahabad	Rakesh Srivastava	12-04-13
		S.P. Kesarwani	12-04-13
		Vipin Sinha	12-04-13
		K.N. Bajpayee	12-04-13
		Manoj Kumar Gupta	12-04-13
		Anjani Kumar Mishra	12-04-13
2	Andhra Pradesh	A. Rajashekar Reddy	08-04-13
		Ponugoti Naveen Rao	08-04-13
		S. Venkatanarayana Bhatti	08-04-13
		A.V. Sesha Sai	08-04-13
		Challa Kondaram Chowdary	08-04-13
		K.J. Sengupta (As Chief Justice)	21.05.13
3	Bombay	P.N. Deshmukh	13.05.13
		A.I.S. Cheema	13.05.13
		S.B. Shukre	13.05.13
		S.C. Gupte	21.06.13
		Zaka Azizul Haq	21.06.13
		K.R. Shriram	21.06.13
		Gautam Shirish Patel	21.06.13
		A.S. Chandurkar	21.06.13
		R.P. Mohite Dere	21.06.13
		M.S. Sonak	21.06.13
		R.V. Ghuge	21.06.13
4	Delhi	Jayant Nath	17.04.13
		Najmussahar Waziri @ Najmi Waziri	17.04.13
		Sanjeev Sachdeva	17.04.13
		Vibhu Bakhru	17.04.13
		V. Kameswar Rao	17.04.13
		Sunita Gupta	17.04.13
		Deepa Sharma	17.04.13
		Ved Prakash Vaish	17.04.13
5	Gauhati	Nishitendu Chaudhury	22.05.13
		Lanusungkum Jamir	22.05.13
		Manash Ranjan Pathak	22.05.13

APPOINTMENTS IN THE HIGH COURTS (From 01-04-2013 to 30-06-2013)

S.No.	Name of the High Court	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Appointment
6	Gujarat	A.G. Uraizee	04.05.13
		K.J. Thaker	04.05.13
		R.P. Dholaria	04.05.13
7	Himachal Pradesh	A.M. Khanwilkar (As Chief Justice)	04.04.13
8	Madhya Pradesh	S.R. Kakade	01.04.13
		Bhagwan Das Rathi	01.04.13
		M.K. Mudgal	01.04.13
		D.K. Paliwal	01.04.13
9	Orissa	Dr. Akshaya Kumar Rath	20.06.13
		Biswajit Mohanty	20.06.13
		Dr. Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi	20.06.13
10	Punjab & Haryana	Sanjay Kishan Kaul (As Chief Justice)	01.06.13
		Dr. Bharat Bhushan Parsoon	13.06.13
		Anita Chaudhary	20.06.13
		Mahavir Singh Chauhan	20.06.13
		Fateh Deep Singh	20.06.13
		Jaspal Singh	20.06.13

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

TRANSFERS BETWEEN THE HIGH COURTS (From 01-04-2013 to 30-06-2013)

S.No.	From	То	Name of the Hon'ble Judge	Date of Transfer
1	Calcutta	Rajasthan	K.S. Ahluwalia	18-04-13

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

VACANCIES IN THE COURTS

A) SUPREME COURT OF INDIA (As on 30-06-2013)

Sanctioned Strength	Working strength	Vacancies
31	29	02

B) HIGH COURTS (As on 30-06-2013)

S.No.	Name of the High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Allahabad	160	87	73
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	33	16
3	Bombay	75	59	16
4	Calcutta	58	38	20
5	Chhatisgarh	18	10	8
6	Delhi	48	41	7
7	Gujarat	42	31	11
8(a)	Gauhati	24	17	7
8(b)	Tripura	4	4	0
8(c)	Meghalaya	3	3	0
8(d)	Manipur	4	2	2
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	9	2
10	Jammu & Kashmir	14	11	3
11	Jharkhand	20	11	9
12	Karnataka	50	36	14
13	Kerala	38	30	8
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	34	9
15	Madras	60	44	16
16	Orissa	22	15	7
17	Patna	43	34	9
18	Punjab & Haryana	68	47	21
19	Rajasthan	40	32	8
20	Sikkim	3	2	1
21	Uttarakhand	9	8	1
	TOTAL	906	638	268

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

C) DISTRICT & SUBORDINATE COURTS (As on 31-03-2013)

S.No.	State / Union Territory	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Uttar Pradesh	2101	1750	351
2	Andhra Pradesh	840	718	122
3(a)	Maharashtra	2027	1789	238
3(b)	Goa	52	44	8
3(c)	Diu and Daman & Silvasa	7	6	1
4(a)	West Bengal	933	831	102
4(b)	Andaman & Nicobar	9	9	0
5	Chhatisgarh	295	252	43
6	Delhi	778	463	315
7	Gujarat	1734	1103	631
8(a)	Assam	389	231	158
8(b)	Nagaland	29	22	7
8(c)	Meghalya	39	26	13
8(d)	Manipur	37	30	7
8(e)	Tripura	92	68	24
8(f)	Mizoram	62	31	31
8(g)	Arunachal Pradesh	5	2	3
9	Himachal Pradesh	133	125	8
10	Jammu & Kashmir	208	189	19
11	Jharkhand	553	394	159
12	Karnataka	1116	741	375
13(a)	Kerala	420	384	36
13(b)	Lakshadweep	3	1	2
14	Madhya Pradesh	1370	1154	216
15(a)	Tamil Nadu	923	891	32
15(b)	Puducherry	21	11	10
16	Orissa	632	571	61
17	Bihar	1487	915	572
18(a)	Punjab	531	445	86
18(b)	Haryana	536	436	100
18(c)	Chandigarh	20	20	0
19	Rajasthan	1090	719	371
20	Sikkim	17	10	7
21	Uttarakhand	265	185	80
	TOTAL	18754	14566	4188

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

INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES IN THE SUPREME COURT

[01-04-2013 to 30-06-2013]

i) Table I

					1	Pendency end of 31-0		
						Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters
						38,005	29,315	67,320
1	Institution (01-04-2013 to 30-06-2013)			Disposal 013 to 30-		1	Pendency end of 30-	
Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters	Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters	Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters
14261	1290	1551	11987	1438	13425	40279	29167	69446

Note:

- 1. Out of the 69,446 pending matters as on 30-06-2013, if connected matters are excluded, the pendency is only of 39,512 matters as on 30-06-2013.
- 2. Out of the said 69,446 pending matters, 17,346 matters are upto one year old and thus arrears (i.e. cases pending more than a year) are only of 52,100 matters as on 30-06-2013.

ii) Table II

	Opening Balance As On 01-04-13	Institution From 01-04-13 To 30-06-13	Disposal From 01-04-13 To 30-06-13	Pendency at the end of 30-06-13
CIVIL CASES	54953	11010	9507	56456
CRIMINAL CASES	12367	4541	3918	12990
ALL CASES (TOTAL)	67320	15551	13425	69446

INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES IN THE HIGH COURTS AND IN THE DISTRICT & SUBORDINATE COURTS

A) HIGH COURTS (FROM 01-01-13 TO 31-03-13)

S. No.	Name of the High Court	Cases brought forward from the previous Quarter			Freshly instituted Cases during this Quarter			Disposed of Cases during this Quarter			Pending cases at the end of this Quarter			% of Institu- tion of Cases w.r.t	% of Dispo- sal of Cases w.r.t	% Inc- rease or Dec- rease in
		CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	Open- ing Balance as on 1-1-13	ing e Balance as on	Pendency W.r.t Opening Balance as on 1-1-13
1	Allahabad	678946	329733	1008679	35241	28759	64000	32996	26328	59324	681191	332164	1013355	6.34	5.88	0.46
2	Andhra Pradesh	184408	25693	210101	15338	4093	19431	10523	2941	13464	189223	26845	216068	9.25	6.41	2.84
3	Bombay	293169	48800	341969	29265	9365	38630	30377	9259	39636	292057	48906	340963	11.30	11.59	-0.29
4	Calcutta*	265187	38055	303242	19609	6804	26413	16288	7191	23479	268508	37668	306176	8.71	7.74	0.97
5	Chhatisgarh	33947	16528	50475	3298	2633	5931	5582	2504	8086	31663	16657	48320	11.75	16.02	-4.27
6	Delhi	47758	14594	62352	5909	3122	9031	5721	2933	8654	47946	14783	62729	14.48	13.88	0.60
7	Gujarat	46632	29377	76009	8664	6642	15306	9332	6042	15374	45964	29977	75941	20.14	20.23	-0.09
8(a)	Gauhati	33400	7308	40708	3978	2772	6750	4460	3246	7706	32918	6834	39752	16.58	18.93	-2.35
8(b)	Meghalaya	888	102	990	187	77	264	127	55	182	948	124	1072	26.67	18.38	8.28
8 (c	Manipur	4341	59	4400	529	14	543	730	11	741	4140	62	4202	12.34	16.84	-4.50
8(d)	Tripura	5556	1219	6775	531	176	707	667	196	863	5420	1199	6619	10.44	12.74	-2.30
9	Himachal Pradesh	50002	5595	55597	7756	742	8498	5062	518	5580	52696	5819	58515	15.28	10.04	5.25
10	Jammu & Kashmir	78127	4179	82306	6614	672	7286	4123	579	4702	80618	4272	84890	8.85	5.71	3.14
11	Jharkhand	31694	30263	61957	2842	5878	8720	1949	5389	7338	32587	30752	63339	14.07	11.84	2.23
12	Karnataka	167080	16772	183852	32537	3823	36360	32197	3803	36000	167420	16792	184212	19.78	19.58	0.20
13	Kerala	92880	31181	124061	15662	5486	21148	15427	4844	20271	93115	31823	124938	17.05	16.34	0.71
14	Madhya Pradesh	167575	80582	248157	20428	12039	32467	16701	10301	27002	171302	82320	253622	13.08	10.88	2.20
15	Madras	437069	63305	500374	49828	22726	72554	41580	17752	59332	445317	68279	513596	14.50	11.86	2.64
16	Orissa	299402	33508	332910	18367	11874	30241	8012	9973	17985	309757	35409	345166	9.08	5.40	3.68
17	Patna	71940	47251	119191	9702	14916	24618	7923	13687	21610	73719	48480	122199	20.65	18.13	2.52
18	Punjab & Haryana	195815	55305	251120	16347	13358	29705	12658	13708	26366	199504	54955	254459	11.83	10.50	1.33
19	Rajasthan	233046	59505	292551	21969	10957	32926	20671	9807	30478	234344	60655	294999	11.25	10.42	0.84
20	Sikkim	52	11	63	19	10	29	11	12	23	60	9	69	46.03	36.51	9.52
21	Uttarakhand	13930	6257	20187	2234	1954	4188	1261	1719	2980	14903	6492	21395	20.75	14.76	5.98
Total		3432844	945182	4378026	326854	168892	495746	284378	152798	437176	3475320	961276	4436596	11.32	9.99	1.34

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

^{*} Opening balance is as on 4/2/2013.

B) DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS (FROM 01-01-13 TO 31-03-13)

S. No.	Name of the State / UT	Cases brought forward from the previous Quarter			Freshly instituted Cases during this Quarter			Disposed of Cases during this Quarter			Pending cases at the end of this Quarter			% of Institu- tion of Cases w.r.t Open-	% of Dispo- sal of Cases w.r.t Open-	% Inc- rease or Dec- rease in Pen-
		CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	CIVIL	CRL.	(CIV. + CRL.)	ing Balance as on 1-1-13	ing Balance as on 1-1-13	dency w.r.t Opening Balance as on 1-1-13
1	Uttar Pradesh	1391045	4401286	5792331	123449	471735	595184	116536	458354	574890	1397958	4414667	5812625	10.28	9.93	0.35
2	Andhra Pradesh	455892	469051	924943	62577	82727	145304	62165	82156	144321	456304	469622	925926	15.71	15.60	0.11
3(a)	Maharashtra	1023005	1954301	2977306	102500	289419	391919	99798	342247	442045	1025707	1901473	2927180	13.16	14.85	-1.68
3(b)	Goa	18244	11887	30131	3001	6443	9444	2987	5439	8426	18258	12891	31149	31.34	27.96	3.38
3(c)	Diu and Daman	899	862	1761	241	387	628	242	316	558	898	933	1831	35.66	31.69	3.98
3(d)	Silvasa	515	2229	2744	61	493	554	65	442	507	511	2280	2791	20.19	18.48	1.71
4(a)	West Bengal	534627	2124187	2658814	32329	230969	263298	30459	228191	258650	536497	2126965	2663462	9.90	9.73	0.17
4(b)	Andaman & Nicobar	2320	9434	11754	279	1466	1745	220	1800	2020	2379	9100	11479	14.85	17.19	-2.34
5	Chhatisgarh	60231	212292	272523	6654	31527	38181	6628	45043	51671	60257	198776	259033	14.01	18.96	-4.95
6	Delhi	142117	514470	656587	25091	169554	194645	24829	244139	268968	142379	439885	582264	29.64	40.96	-11.32
7	Gujarat	641120	1533571	2174691	46959	228717	275676	51462	221087	272549	636617	1541201	2177818	12.68	12.53	0.14
8(a)	Assam	70634	182794	253428	10255	50024	60279	9098	43055	52153	71791	189763	261554	23.79	20.58	3.21
8(b)	Nagaland	1559	2027	3586	264	283	547	327	304	631	1496	2006	3502	15.25	17.60	-2.34
8(c)	Meghalya	2491	2198	4689	138	753	891	714	162	876	1915	2789	4704	19.00	18.68	0.32
8(d)	Manipur	5364	8214	13578	1094	2124	3218	1057	2305	3362	5401	8033	13434	23.70	24.76	-1.06
8(e)	Tripura	8402	47493	55895	1990	30952	32942	1963	32733	34696	8429	45712	54141	58.94	62.07	-3.14
8(f)	Mizoram	1500	2069	3569	1035	1386	2421	983	1268	2251	1552	2187	3739	67.83	63.07	4.76
8(g)	Arunachal Pradesh	887	5313	6200	301	1521	1822	310	1499	1809	878	5335	6213	29.39	29.18	0.21
9	Himachal Pradesh	79416	145147	224563	14148	44504	58652	13655	36896	50551	79909	152755	232664	26.12	22.51	3.61
10	Jammu & Kashmir*	73678	115114	188792	10769	39887	50656	8981	41342	50323	75466	113659	189125	26.83	26.66	0.18
11	Jharkhand	64216	235049	299265	5385	26152	31537	4618	29560	34178	64983	231641	296624	10.54	11.42	-0.88
12	Karnataka	577630	561073	1138703	88819	210344	299163	81574	198968	280542	584875	572449	1157324	26.27	24.64	1.64
13(a)	Kerala	450988	789176	1240164	72606	237578	310184	118801	204661	323462	404793	822093	1226886	25.01	26.08	-1.07
13(b)	Lakshadweep	139	152	291	3	26	29	0	17	17	142	161	303	9.97	5.84	4.12
14	Madhya Pradesh	238746	852475	1091221	53292	205374	258666	43365	199927	243292	248673	857922	1106595	23.70	22.30	1.41
15(a)	Tamil Nadu	778636	453833	1232469	260336	163795	424131	241268	154879	396147	797704	462749	1260453	34.41	32.14	2.27
15(b)	Puducherry	14486	14455	28941	5251	3076	8327	4253	3123	7376	15484	14408	29892	28.77	25.49	3.29
16	Orissa	227451	958312	1185763	15406	69880	85286	12301	71985	84286	230556	956207	1186763	7.19	7.11	0.08
17	** Bihar	269623	1436581	1706204	16068	84806	100874	12663	66206	78869	273028	1455159	1728187	5.91	4.62	1.29
18(a)	Punjab	268445	268619	537064	39859	116952	156811	40968	130252	171220	267336	255319	522655	29.20	31.88	-2.68
18(b)	Haryana	249710	314575	564285	46144	116566	162710	43365	137291	180656	252489	293850	546339	28.83	32.02	-3.18
18(c)	Chandigarh	22819	27136	49955	2663	26654	29317	3439	26631	30070	22043	27159	49202	58.69	60.19	-1.51
19	Rajasthan	415744	1030385	1446129	58118	246582	304700	49735	240124	289859	424127	1036843	1460970	21.07	20.04	1.03
20	Sikkim	380	696	1076	63	324	387	59	301	360	384	719	1103	35.97	33.46	2.51
21	Uttarakhand	31592	132903	164495	5597	44799	50396	5507	41761	47268	31682	135941	167623	30.64	28.74	1.90
Total		8124551	18819359	26943910	1112745	3237779	4350524	1094395	3294464	4388859	8142901	18762652	26905553	16.15	16.29	-0.14

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

^{*} Opening balance revised by the High Court concerned in view of physical verification.

** Opening balance of criminal cases revised by the High Court concerned. Further 22 Criminal Cases transferred/amalgamated during this quarter.

SOME SUPREME COURT JUDGMENTS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE (01-04-2013 to 30-06-2013)

- On 2nd April, 2013, in the case of Reshma Kumari and Ors. v. Madan Mohan and Anr. [Civil Appeal No. 4646 of 2009], a three Judge Bench examined the question as to whether the multiplier specified in the Second Schedule appended to the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 should be a guiding factor for the calculation of the amount of the compensation payable in a case falling under Section 166 of the 1988 Act. The Bench held as follows:-
 - (i) "In the applications for compensation made under Section 166 of the 1988 Act in death cases where the age of the deceased is 15 years and above, the Claims Tribunals shall select the multiplier as indicated in Column (4) of the table prepared in Sarla Verma read with para 42 of that judgment."
 - (ii) "In cases where the age of the deceased is upto 15 years, irrespective of the Section 166 or Section 163A under which the claim for compensation has been made, multiplier of 15 and the assessment as indicated in the Second Schedule subject to correction as pointed out in Column (6) of the table in Sarla Verma should be followed."
 - (iii) "While considering the claim applications made under Section 166 in death cases where the age of the deceased is above 15 years, there is no necessity for the Claims Tribunals to seek guidance or for placing reliance on the Second Schedule in the 1988 Act."
 - (iv) "The Claims Tribunals shall follow the steps and guidelines stated in para 19 of Sarla Verma for determination of compensation in cases of death."
 - (v) "While making addition to income for future prospects, the Tribunals shall follow paragraph 24 of the Judgment in Sarla Verma."
 - (vi) Insofar as deduction for personal and living expenses is concerned, "the Tribunals shall ordinarily follow the standards prescribed in paragraphs 30, 31 and 32 of the judgment in Sarla Verma subject to" the observations made in para 38 of this judgment.
- 2. On 2nd April, 2013, in the case of M/s. Usha Stud and Agricultural Farms Private Limited and others v. State of Haryana and others [Civil Appeal No. 2557 of 2013] a three Judge Bench examined the question as to whether the acquisition of the appellants' land was vitiated due to violation of Sections 5-A and 6(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and whether the State Government resorted to discrimination in the matter of release of the acquired land. The Bench held that "Section 5-A(2), which represents statutory embodiment of the rule of audi alteram partem, gives an opportunity to the objector to make an endeavour to convince the Collector that his land is not required for the public purpose specified in the notification issued under Section 4(1) or that there are other valid reasons for not acquiring the same. That section also makes it obligatory for the Collector to submit report(s) to the appropriate

Government containing his recommendations on the objections, together with the record of the proceedings held by him so that the Government may take appropriate decision on the objections." "The State Government is required to apply mind to the report of the Collector and take final decision on the objections filed by the landowners and other interested persons. Then and then only, a declaration can be made under Section 6(1)." In the instant case, the Bench held that "the decision taken at the level of the Chief Minister was not in consonance with the scheme of Section 5-A(2) read with Section 6(1)" and further that the State Government's refusal to release the appellants' land resulted in violation of their right to equality granted under Article 14 of the Constitution. While quashing the declaration issued by the State Government under Section 6(1), the Bench, however, did not preclude the State Government from taking fresh decision after objectively considering the objections filed by the appellants under Section 5-A(1).

- 3. On 3rd April, 2013, in the case of Ramesh Chandra Shah and others v. Anil Joshi and others [Civil Appeal Nos.2802-2804 of 2013], it was held that "a person who consciously takes part in the process of selection cannot, thereafter, turn around and question the method of selection and its outcome." In the case at hand, the Bench held that "by having taken part in the process of selection with full knowledge that the recruitment was being made under the General Rules, the respondents had waived their right to question the advertisement or the methodology adopted by the Board for making selection and the Single Judge and the Division Bench of the High Court committed grave error by entertaining the grievance made by the respondents." It was held that "by having appeared in the written test and taken a chance to be declared successful, the private respondents will be deemed to have waived their right to challenge the advertisement and the procedure of selection."
- 4. On 4th April, 2013, in the case of Bhagwati Developers Private Ltd. v. The Peerless General Finance Investment Company Limited & Ors. [Civil Appeal No. 361-362 of 2005], it was held that "a suit filed in representative capacity also represents persons besides the plaintiff, and that an order of withdrawal must not be obtained by such a plaintiff without consulting the category of people that he represents. The court therefore, must not normally grant permission to withdraw unilaterally, rather the plaintiff should be advised to obtain the consent of the other persons in writing, even by way of effecting substituted service by publication, and in the event that no objection is raised, the court may pass such an order. If the court passes such an order of withdrawal, knowing that it is dealing with a suit in a representative capacity, without the persons being represented by the plaintiffs being made aware of the same, the said order would be an unjustified order" and "without jurisdiction."
- On 8th April, 2013, in the case of Mahadeo (D) through LRs & Ors. v. State of U.P. & Ors. [Civil Appeal No.2944 of 2013], it was held that "once the land is acquired and mandatory requirements are complied with, including possession having been taken, the land vests in the State Government free from all encumbrances. Even if some unutilised land remains, it cannot be re-conveyed or re-assigned to the erstwhile owner by invoking the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act."

In the case at hand, where indisputably, the land in question was acquired by the State Government for the purpose of expansion of city i.e. construction of residential/commercial building under planned development scheme by the Meerut Development Authority and major portion of the land had already been utilized by the Authority, the Bench held that "merely because some land was left at the relevant time, that does not give any right to the Authority to send proposal to the Government for release of the land in favour of the land owners."

- 6. On 10th April, 2013, in the case of S. Kesari Hanuman Goud v. Anjum Jehan & Ors. [Civil Appeal Nos. 2885-2887 of 2005] it was held that "the power of attorney holder cannot depose in place of the principal. Provisions of Order III, Rules 1 and 2 CPC empower the holder of the power of attorney to "act" on behalf of the principal. The word "acts" employed therein is confined only to "acts" done by the power-of-attorney holder, in exercise of the power granted to him by virtue of the instrument. The term "acts", would not include deposing in place and instead of the principal." It was held that "if the power-of-attorney holder has preferred any "acts" in pursuance of the power of attorney, he may depose for the principal in respect of such acts, but he cannot depose for the principal for acts done by the principal, and not by him. Similarly, he cannot depose for the principal in respect of a matter, as regards which, only the principal can have personal knowledge and in respect of which, the principal is entitled to be cross-examined."
- 7. On 10th April, 2013, in the case of Aarushi Dhasmana v. Union of India and others [Writ Petition (Civil) No.232 of 2012] the fate of Saba and Farha, Craniopagus Twins (CTs) fused at the cranium, and their survival, was examined. The Supreme Court had earlier directed the Chief Secretary of the State concerned (Bihar) to make arrangements to bring the CTs to AIIMS, New Delhi by an Air Ambulance. Direction was also given to constitute a medical team to examine them and to take up further follow up action. Arrangements were also made to take their parents along with them at the expenses of the State for their treatment. The parents were, however, not agreeable to that arrangement and only wanted financial assistance to look after the CTs.

The Bench held that though Saba and Farah's parents were against carrying on any investigation as well as surgical operation but, Saba and Farah were now wards of this Court, and thus this Court had "a responsibility to find out whether it is possible to save both and if not, at least one, for which investigations are necessary." However, it was held that "no positive direction can be given in the absence of an expert medical opinion indicating that either of them can be saved due to surgical operation or at least one." Nevertheless considering the facts and circumstances of the case, other necessary directions were given.

8. On 15th April, 2013, in the case of Centre for Environment Law, WWF-I v. Union of India & Others [I.A. No. 100 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 337 of 1995], the necessity of a second home for Asiatic Lion (Panthera leo persica), an endangered species, in Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary (in Madhya Pradesh), for its long term survival and to protect the species from extinction, was examined. At present, the Gir forest in the State of Gujarat is the single habitat of Asiatic Lion

in the world. The Bench held that the decision of Ministry of Environment and Forests ('MoEF'), Government of India for re-introduction of Asiatic lion from Gir to Kuno is of "utmost importance so as to preserve the Asiatic lion, an endangered species which cannot be delayed" and that re-introduction of Asiatic lion "should be in accordance with the guidelines issued by IUCN and with the active participation of experts in the field of re-introduction of endangered species. MoEF was therefore "directed to take urgent steps for re-introduction of Asiatic lion from Gir forests to Kuno" and "to constitute an Expert Committee consisting of senior officials of MoEF, Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

- 9. On 1st May, 2013, in the case of Mahindra Nath Das v. Union of India & Ors. [Criminal Appeal No.677 of 2013], the sentence of death awarded to the appellant (upon his conviction for murder) was commuted into life imprisonment in view of the 12 years delay in disposal of the appellant's mercy petition.
- 10. On 3rd May, 2013, in the case of Ankush Shivaji Gaikwad v. State of Maharashtra [Criminal Appeal No.689 of 2013], the issue pertaining to award of compensation to victims in criminal cases was dealt with. The Bench held that Section 357, CrPC "confers a power coupled with a duty on the Courts to apply its mind to the question of awarding compensation in every criminal case." It was held that "the power to award compensation was intended to reassure the victim that he or she is not forgotten in the criminal justice system." The Bench held "that unless Section 357 is read to confer an obligation on Courts to apply their mind to the question of compensation, it would defeat the very object behind the introduction of the provision."

"While the award or refusal of compensation in a particular case may be within the Court's discretion, there exists a mandatory duty on the Court to apply its mind to the question in every criminal case. Application of mind to the question is best disclosed by recording reasons for awarding/refusing compensation. It is axiomatic that for any exercise involving application of mind, the Court ought to have the necessary material which it would evaluate to arrive at a fair and reasonable conclusion. It is also beyond dispute that the occasion to consider the question of award of compensation would logically arise only after the court records a conviction of the accused. Capacity of the accused to pay which constitutes an important aspect of any order under Section 357 Cr.P.C. would involve a certain enquiry albeit summary unless of course the facts as emerging in the course of the trial are so clear that the court considers it unnecessary to do so. Such an enquiry can precede an order on sentence to enable the court to take a view, both on the question of sentence and compensation that it may in its wisdom decide to award to the victim or his/her family."

11. On 3rd May, 2013, in the case of Vimal Kanwar & Ors. v. Kishore Dan & Ors. [Civil Appeal No.5513 of 2012], the following three issues were examined: (i) Whether Provident Fund, Pension and Insurance receivable by the claimants come within the periphery of the Motor Vehicles Act to be termed as "Pecuniary Advantage" liable for deduction; (ii) Whether the salary receivable by claimant on compassionate appointment comes within the periphery of

the Motor Vehicles Act to be termed as "Pecuniary Advantage" liable for deduction and (iii) Whether the income tax is liable to be deducted for determination of compensation under the Motor Vehicles Act.

On the first issue, the Bench held that "Provident Fund, Pension, Insurance and similarly any cash, bank balance, shares, fixed deposits, etc. are all "pecuniary advantage" receivable by the heirs on account of one's death but all these have no correlation with the amount receivable under a statute occasioned only on account of accidental death. Such an amount will not come within the periphery of the Motor Vehicles Act to be termed as "pecuniary advantage" liable for deduction. As regards the second issue, it was held that "compassionate appointment may have nexus with the death of an employee while in service but it is not necessary that it should have a correlation with the accidental death. An employee dies in harness even in normal course, due to illness and to maintain the family of the deceased one of the dependents may be entitled for compassionate appointment but that cannot be termed as "Pecuniary Advantage" that comes under the periphery of Motor Vehicles Act and any amount received on such appointment is not liable for deduction for determination of compensation under the Motor Vehicles Act." On the third issue, it was held that "where the annual income is in taxable range, the word "actual salary" should be read as "actual salary less tax" and that "generally the actual income of the deceased less income tax should be the starting point for calculating the compensation."

- 12. On 6th May, 2013, in the case of G. Sundarrajan v. Union of India [Civil Appeal No. 4440 of 2013], it was held that "safety and security of the people and the nation are of paramount importance when a nuclear plant is being set up and it is vital to have in place all safety standards in which public can have full confidence to safeguard them against risks which they fear and to avoid serious long term or irreversible environmental consequences." It was held that the "Court has to respect national nuclear policy of the country reflected in the Atomic Energy Act and the same has to be given effect to for the welfare of the people and the country's economic growth."
- 13. On 7th May, 2013, in the case of Bank of Maharashtra v. Pandurang Keshav Gorwardkar & Ors. [Civil Appeal No. 7045 of 2005], a three Judge Bench held that "the claims of the workmen who claim to be entitled to payment pari passu have to be considered and adjudicated by the liquidator of the debtor company and not by the DRT (Debt Recovery Tribunal)."
- 14. On 9th May, 2013, in the case of Nimmagadda Prasad v. Central Bureau of Investigation [Criminal Appeal No.728 of 2013], it was held that "economic offences constitute a class apart and need to be visited with a different approach in the matter of bail." The Bench held that "the economic offence having deep rooted conspiracies and involving huge loss of public funds needs to be viewed seriously and considered as grave offences affecting the economy of the country as a whole and thereby posing serious threat to the financial health of the country."

15. On 29th May, 2013, in the case of Bhadragiri Venkata Ravi v. Public Prosecutor High Court of A.P., Hyderabad [Criminal Appeal No.248 of 2007] it was held that "in case of plural/multiple dying declarations, the court has to scrutinise the evidence cautiously and must find out whether there is consistency particularly in material particulars therein. In case there are inter-se discrepancies in the depositions of the witnesses given in support of one of the dying declarations, it would not be safe to rely upon the same." The Bench held that "it is not the plurality of the dying declarations but the reliability thereof that adds weigh to the prosecution case." "In case of inconsistencies, the court has to examine the nature of the same, i.e. whether they are material or not and while scrutinising the contents of various dying declarations, the court has to examine the same in the light of the various surrounding facts and circumstances."

SOME RECENT MAJOR EVENTS AND THE INITIATIVES (01-04-2013 to 30-06-2013)

I. CHIEF JUSTICES' CONFERENCE - 2013 (APRIL 05-06, 2013)

MINUTES

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Resolutions adopted in Chief Justices' Conference held on August 14th - 15th, 2009.

Minutes of the Resolutions adopted in the Chief Justices' Conference held on August 14th - 15th, 2009 are read and confirmed.

- 2. Progress on implementation of the Resolutions adopted in the previous Chief Justices' Conference held on 14th 15th August, 2009.
- A. Morning/Evening Courts functioning under the recommendation of the 13th Finance Commission.

Action taken Reports furnished by the High Courts and the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India were perused and it was noticed that not much progress had been achieved.

The issue regarding continuation of Morning/Evening Courts was deliberated upon and it was decided that Morning/Evening Courts may continue, subject to the decision to be taken by the High Courts, considering the geographical conditions. The Chief Justices shall take up the matter, wherever required, for increasing the strength of Judges to man these Courts.

- 3. Implementation of National Court Management Systems;
- 15. Vision statements of High Courts and District Courts; akin to Five-year plan and annual plans for infrastructure, computerization, citizen centric services, etc.

RESOLVED

That

The National Court Management Systems established in the year 2012 to enhance the quality, responsiveness and timeliness of Courts, be implemented on uniform basis.

The High Courts shall constitute sub-Committee on the lines of NCMS at the State level, which may provide inputs and suggestions to the NCMS for formulation and effective implementation of national policy/plan.

RESOLVED

That

The High Courts shall prepare vision statements for High Court and District Courts keeping in mind the model prepared by the Madhya Pradesh High Court relating to the Five-year and Annual Plans for-

- [i] Infrastructure, computerization and citizen centric services;
- [ii] Human Resources Development (HRD) strategy including recruitment and training of Judges, Court staff and Court Managers;
- [iii] Requirement of Forensic Science Laboratories, including Laboratories for DNA test

centres in each State;

- [iv] Setting measurable performance standards;
- [v] A system for monitoring and enhancing performance parameters;
- [vi] Measures for enhancing user friendliness of the Judicial system;
- [vii] Special care be taken for differently abled persons while preparing the construction plan for Court complexes and facilities be provided for them, even in toilets; and
- [viii] Competent and adequate officers be appointed for the purpose of investigation and prosecution at the stages, before and after filing of the charge-sheet, keeping scope for revision in the light of the final suggestion and recommendations that may be approved by the National Court Management Systems.
- 4. Creation of new posts of Judicial Officers at all levels along with support staff and requisite infrastructure to narrow down judge-population ratio; and
- 8. Filling up of vacancies at all levels.

RESOLVED

That

In order to narrow down Judge-population ratio, the Chief Justices will take requisite steps for creation of new posts of Judicial Officers at all levels with support staff and requisite infrastructure in terms of the judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the cases of All India Judges' Association's case [2002 (4) S.C.C. 247], Brij Mohan Lal vs. Union of India and Ors. [2012 (6) S.C.C. 502] and letter dated 21st February, 2013, written by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India to Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India, in order to provide effective, efficient and efficacious dispensation of justice.

In the matter of appointment and training of new recruits, the decision rendered by the Supreme Court in the All India Judges' Association case be strictly followed and appropriate amendments be effected to the Recruitment Rules, wherever necessary.

The High Courts may take into account the requirement of staff and infrastructure while preparing the proposals for creating new posts of Judicial Officers.

The Resolutions adopted in the Chief Justices' Conference, 2006, to the effect that "Chief Justices will make recommendations for appointment to High Courts at least six months before the occurrence of vacancy", and Resolution adopted in the Chief Justices' Conference, 2009, to the effect that "The Chief Justices of the High Courts will make recommendations for appointments to High Courts at least six months before the occurrence of vacancy in order to avoid delay in filling up the said vacancy" are reiterated.

5. Strengthening programmes, curriculum and functioning of National Judicial Academy / State Judicial Academies. Need of research to improve quality of judgments at the levels of subordinate courts and High Courts.

RESOLVED

That

The National Judicial Academy may devise a module in consultation with a Management Institute of repute to train the faculty of State Judicial Academies, who will impart training to Judicial Officers to enhance their managerial skills.

The High Courts may consider sending Judicial Officers in batches to IIMs for the purpose of imparting training on managerial skills.

6. Strengthening computerization of the Courts by taking over management and maintenance of hardware and computer peripherals. Promoting e-filing and video conferencing. Provision of Funds from State Governments for computerization.

RESOLVED

That

The Chief Justices shall take steps for implementation of the National Policy prepared by the E-Committee.

The Chief Justices, wherever required, shall take up the matter with the State Governments regarding signing of Memorandum of Understanding on the issue of computerization. Till such time such MoUs are executed, the National Informatics Centre (NIC) shall continue to function.

7. Creating mechanism to ensure timely proposals for creation, furnishing, maintenance and development of infrastructure of Court buildings and residences; having standard approved building plans for faster clearance of proposals; mechanism for the use of funds received; devising procedure to check quality control while the structures are under construction, etc.

RESOLVED

That

The Chief Justices will take into consideration the "National Judicial Infrastructure Plan", with such modifications as may be required, while taking up the cause with the State Governments, till the Standard Building Plans recommended by NCMS for Court complexes and residential quarters throughout the Country at the Taluk and District levels are approved.

The mechanism created by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in I.A.No.279 of 2010 in Writ Petition (C) No.1022 of 1989 of District and State Committees be made a permanent feature and the Chief Justices of High Courts shall actively utilize the said mechanism for ensuring timely proposals for creation, furnishing, maintenance and development of infrastructure of Court buildings and residences.

Funds being provided by the Central Government for infrastructure, should be released immediately without waiting for contribution from the State government, which may come later on.

The High Courts may consider exploring the possibility of using solar energy in the Court complexes, wherever feasible, in the day time, in addition to, or in lieu of the provision for diesel generator sets or inverters for power back-up.

9. Norms for revising the strength of Judges in High Courts

The following Resolutions adopted in the Chief Justices' Conferences 2007 and 2008, are reiterated:

2007

3(b) "As far as the issue of increase in the judge strength in the High Courts is concerned, the existing norms should be revised because the increase in judge strength, linked with disposal of cases, does not bring about the desired effect. The increase in the judge-strength in the

High Court should be dependent only upon the pendency of cases as well as the trend of institution of fresh cases in the High Court.

2008

- 7.(a) The strength of Judges in the High Courts be delinked from disposal, and, fixed on the basis of pendency of cases.
- (b) Disposal rate of additional Judges of the High Courts be taken into consideration while appointing them against permanent posts."

The following interim recommendations by NCMS entitled "Proposed Policy on Calculating Requisite Judge-strength for High Courts" for calculating the requirement of number of Judges and submitted to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India for further taking up the matter with the Central Government are accepted as an interim measure:

"Meanwhile, in view of the extreme shortage of judges and in order to remedy the anomaly of the distinction between permanent and additional judges, NCMS has proposed immediate action for the expansion of High Court judge strength as follows:

- [1] Merge categories of permanent and additional judges with immediate effect in all High Courts:
- [2] Expand the total national sanctioned strength of High Court judges by 25% to be allocated to each High Court based on judge-case ratio as discussed above. The implementation may be completed within a three year period.
- [3] In the next five year period, the strength of High Court judges should be expanded by 50% from the current strength to catch up on the past failure to expand.
- [4] Necessary infrastructure and selection measures should be initiated in a planned way consequent to the above."

The above may be acted upon till NCMS Advisory Committee makes final recommendations on the policy to be adopted for revising the strength of the Judges in the High Courts.

10. Delegation of powers by State Governments to Principal District Judges for creation of temporary posts of staff, whenever average pendency in a Court increases.

RESOLVED

That

The Chief Justices shall request the respective State Governments to delegate the power to create temporary posts of staff to the High Courts whenever average pendency in a subordinate Court increases. The selection for the temporary posts shall be made by the High Court, but the appointments will be made by the Principal District Judges, unless otherwise provided by the Rules.

11. Uniformity of nomenclatures of cases.

RESOLVED

That

It is agreed, in principle, that there should be uniformity of nomenclature of cases to be employed by the High Courts and E-Committee be requested to work out and finalize the modalities and where required, provide the equivalent nomenclature to be included along with the uniform nomenclature.

- 12. Strengthening and popularizing of A.D.R. Systems, Lok Adalat, Mediation and Conciliation.
- B. The posts of Law Secretary, Legal Remembrancer and Secretary, Legal Services Authority shall be manned by Principal District Judges or District Judges instead of IAS Officers.

RESOLVED

That

A.D.R. mechanism be strengthened for the purpose of optimum utilization by sensitizing and training Judges and advocates. Awareness programmes be conducted regularly which will go a long way in also arresting the backlog of cases in Courts.

State Legal Services Authority shall have the overall control and supervision of the Mediation Centres and the Mediation Monitoring Committees at the High Court level will function in accordance with the directions given by the MCPC.

For the purpose of appointment as a Mediator, an Advocate with five years', instead of ten years' standing, could be considered.

Steps be taken for setting up Mediation centres/A.D.R. Centres at the district level, where they are yet to be set up. Para-legal volunteers in the rural areas, and in particular women, be drawn from the community to man the centres.

Adequate fund for mediation be made available by the State Government.

Permanent posts of various staff in the State Legal Services Authority and the District Legal Services Authority be created by the State Government.

The post of Law Secretary, Legal Remembrancer and Member Secretary of the State Legal Services Authority must be manned by Principal District Judges or District Judges instead of IAS officers and steps be taken with the concerned State Governments to implement the same expeditiously, but preferably within three months from date.

The post of Secretary of District Legal Services Authority be created by the various State Governments at the District level, to be occupied by the judicial officers.

13. Fast tracking of matters relating to offences against women, children, differently abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of society.

RESOLVED

That

The Chief Justices will take steps to fast track cases relating to offences against women, children, differently-abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of society, as also giving precedence to these cases in the High Courts on the lines of the decision taken by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India. Cases relating to Motor Accident Claims be also accorded priority.

The Chief Justices will take requisite steps in terms of the letter dated 5th January, 2013, addressed by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, to set up Fast-Track Courts, wherever necessary, to deal exclusively with cases against women.

14. Strengthening of Juvenile Justice System.

The following Resolution adopted in the Chief Justices' Conference, 2009, is reiterated:

"a] The resolution passed to the following effect in the Chief Justices' Conference, 2006, is reiterated:

"That High Courts will impress upon the State Governments to set up Juvenile Justice Board, wherever not set-up. The Chief Justices may nominate a High Court Judge to oversee the condition and functioning of the remand/observation homes established under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000.

b] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will expedite the matter with the respective State Governments for setting up of Juvenile Justice Boards, wherever they have not yet been set up."

In addition, the need to set up Child Welfare Committees in all districts is also emphasized to meet the needs of children in need of care and protection in order to give full effect to the provisions of the above Act.

It was further resolved that Juvenile Justice Committees, as had been set up in the Delhi High Court, under the guidance of the Chief Justice and senior judges and others concerned with the welfare of juveniles and the working of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, be set up in all the High Courts to monitor the implementation of the provisions of the Act in their true spirit.

It was noticed that the State Governments had not taken serious steps to establish and set-up the various Homes, referred to in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, as amended in 2006 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2007. It was noticed that the conditions in the Remand/Observation Homes and Shelter Homes are not up to the standard and a lot of improvement was required to make these facilities meaningful, as envisaged under the above Act and Rules. It was also noticed that After-care Homes for adolescents passing into adulthood and, in particular girls, have not been taken up seriously by the concerned Authorities. The Chief Justices shall take up the matter with the State Governments for improving the conditions of the various Homes, referred to in the above Act and the Rules, and to provide for permanent staff to run the said establishments, as it was reported by some of the Chief Justices that many of the employees of the Homes had been working on an ad-hoc basis, even for as many as fifteen years. The Chief Justices were requested to take up the matter with the State Authorities to ensure that services of such persons, who have been working on ad-hoc basis, are regularized, if necessary, by creation of posts.

Particular notice was taken of the fact that the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, had not yet been implemented in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is requested to take up the matter at the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices to be held on April 7, 2013.

16. Problem regarding sudden closure of Courts or breakdown of work due to the death of a Judge, Bar member or other dignitary.

RESOLVED

That

The High Courts may independently deal with the issue.

17. Pattern of salaries and emoluments of High Court Judges.

18. Augmenting of post-retiral benefits of Judges.

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is requested to take up the following matters with the concerned authorities.

- [i] Regarding increase in the salary of the Judges of the High Courts so that the salaries of the Judges of the High Courts are higher than that of the Chief Secretaries of the State.
- [ii] Unavailed L.T.Cs. of the Judges of the High Court be carried-forward to the next year, even on retirement.
- [iii] Free units of electricity per month be enhanced from 10,000 units to 20,000 units and amendments be carried out in the High Court Judges Rules, 1956, accordingly.
- [iv] Daily Allowance be increased from Rs.600/- to Rs.2,000/- per day.
- [v] The retirement age of the Judges of the High Courts be enhanced to sixty-five years.
- [vi] As regards post-retiral benefits to the retired Judges of the High Courts, the scheme sanctioned by the State of Andhra Pradesh be adopted and followed in all the States, except where better benefits are already available.
- [vii] Retired High Court Judges and their spouses, during their lifetime, will be entitled to the same medical benefits on the same pattern as are available to sitting High Court Judges.
- [viii] For pensionary benefits, ten years' practice as an advocate be added as a qualifying service, for Judges elevated from the Bar.

Requisite amendment be carried out in the High Court Judges Rules, 1956, with regard to post-retiral benefits as has been done in relation to the retired Judges of the Supreme Court in terms of the amendment carried out by Rule 3B of the Supreme Court Judges Rules, 1959.

19. Any other Matter with the permission of the Chair.

A letter written by the former Minister for Law and Justice, Shri Veerappa Moily on 15th March, 2011, regarding the disclosure of sensitive information with regard to some of the Intelligence Organisations to the Government, such as R&AW, was brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Chief Justices, who were requested to act in terms thereof. Among the suggestions was that, where necessary, proceedings could be held in- camera and, in any event, the names of the officers concerned and the information relating to them should not be included in their judgments and should not also be published in the website. The Hon'ble Chief Justices were requested to inform the Members of the Subordinate Judiciary of such directions by way of appropriate circulars.

- II. JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE CHIEF MINISTERS OF THE STATES AND CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE HIGH COURTS [APRIL 7, 2013]: In the Joint Conference, a number of matters were discussed and thereafter decision taken thereupon.
- III. MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (NALSA):
- a) 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASIAN CRIMINOLOGICAL SOCIETY (ACS) HELD AT TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (TISS), MUMABI FROM 14-16 APRIL, 2013: The theme of the Conference was "Access to Justice for the Marginalised in Asia: A Human rights Perspective". Prof. Arvind Tiwari, Organising Secretary invited Member Secretary, NALSA as a Resource Person in the Panel Discussion 4 (Session VII) on Day 3

- (16.04.2013) on the theme, "Role of Statutory bodies & Human Rights Defenders in evolving effective mechanisms of access & exploring ways to strengthen the existing system in accessing justice".
- b) 11TH ALL INDIA MEET OF THE STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES: The 11th All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities was held at Chennai, Tamil Nadu, on 20th and 21st April, 2013. The Meet was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir, Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, National Legal Services Authority in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.Sathasivam, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority. Hon'ble Executive Chairpersons and Member Secretaries of the State Legal Services Authorities participated in the meet. In the 11th All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities, the National Plan of Action 2013-14 was discussed. The highlights of the National Plan of Action for the financial year 2013-14 are as under:
- 1) Encourage SLSAs to adopt one project each for focused implementation;
- 2) Emphasis on quality legal assistance under the NALSA's (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010 and strengthening the selection process and training and sensitization of panel lawyers;
- 3) Strengthening of the Para-Legal Volunteers Scheme through enhanced training, mentoring and monitoring;
- 4) Encouraging legal aid clinics particularly in Colleges, Universities and other institutions and building networks between the District Legal Services Authorities and such Legal Aid Clinics;
- 5) Encourage ADR methods of LokAdalat, Mediation, Conciliation and Plea-bargaining;
- 6) Establishing greater coordination with Jails, Correctional Homes, Children's Homes, Observation Homes, Psychiatric Homes, Boarding Schools, Protective homes, etc to ensure that legal rights of these categories are not lost on account of lack of information and lack of assistance and support to enforce those rights;
- 7) Emphasis on visibility by participation in Melas/Exhibitions, Street-Plays, Radio programmes and T. V. shows etc.
- c) Indian Visit of Hon'ble Lady Justice LombeChibesakunda Chief Justice of Zambia and the delegation from 25-28 April, 2013: On the occasion of the visit of the Hon'ble Lady Justice LombeChibesakunda, Chief Justice of Zambia and Delegation to India between 25-28 April, 2013, a video-conference was organized between the foreign dignitaries and the State Legal Services Authorities in the presence of the Hon'ble Patron-in-Chief of NALSA and the Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA. The delegation also visited the Juvenile Justice Board, Kingsway Camp, Mediation Centre at Supreme Court, Child Witness Room, Karkardooma Court, Delhi High Court Arbitration Centre and Delhi High Court Mediation Centre.
- d) State Level Seminar on "Women Empowerment: Role of Legal Services" on 11th May, 2013 at Jaipur: Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.Sathasivam, Executive Chairman, NALSA delivered an address on "Women Empowerment: Role of Legal Services" organized by Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority on 11th May, 2013 at Jaipur.
- e) Conference on "Making Legal Aid and Justice for Women From Investigation to Decision a Reality through a Sensitized Judiciary" held on 18.05.2013 at Lucknow: Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.Sathasivam, Executive Chairman, NALSA delivered the address in the

- Conference on "Making Legal Aid and Justice for Women from Investigation to decision a reality, through a sensitized judiciary" organized by the U.P. SLSA on 18.05.2013.
- f) "Students Legal Literacy Mission" Annual Function held on 19.05.2013 at Om Shanti Retreat Center (OSRC) at Gurgaon: The Haryana State Legal Services Authority in collaboration with Education Department, Haryana organized the "Student Legal Literacy Mission" Annual Function. Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.Sathasivam, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, was the Chief Guest, while the inauguration was done by Hon'ble Mr. Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Chief Minister, Haryana.
- g) Mega Literacy Camp at Chithakar, Kollam on 02.06.2013: Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.Sathasivam, Executive Chairman, NALSA delivered the address in the Mega Legal Literacy Camp at Chithara, Kottam in association with the District Legal Services Authority, Kollam, Taluk Legal Services Committee, Kottarakaa and Chithara Gram Panchayat on 02.06.2013.
- h) Seminar on "Strengthening Legal Aid and Education for Marginal Communities and those Most-at-Risk of HIV/AIDS" at Hyderabad: A Seminar on "Strengthening Legal Aid and Education for Marginal Communities and those Most-at Risk of HIV/AIDS" was organized by the Andhra Pradesh State Legal Services Authority under the aegis of NALSA in co-ordination with Centre for Advocacy and Research on 22/6/2013 at Hyderabad. The Seminar was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.Sathasivam, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman. NALSA.
- i) Research Project on Socio-Economic Profiling of Death Row Prisoners in India: In the light of the provisions of Section 4(g), Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, NALSA has undertaken a Research Project on Socio-Economic Profiling of Death Row Prisoners in India in Collaboration with National Law University, Delhi in phased manner.

IV. MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY (NJA):

- National Conference of Judges of the District Judiciary on Enforcement of Judicial Orders: Issues and Concerns, April 12-14: This Conference for the Judges of the District Judiciary was conceptualized keeping in mind the problems they encounter in the execution of judicial orders which lead to great obstacles in the proper administration and delivery of justice particularly in civil matters. Twenty-eight judges came together to identify the issues and concerns in this area and to share their experiences in this regard. A judicial perspective and understanding of the illegal, irregular and in-executable decrees were also enumerated by the resource persons. The other topics that received primary attention were Enforcement of Court Orders; Arrest and Detention in Civil Prison; Attachment and sale of property, Hurdles in delivery of immovable property through the process of the court, Garnishee orders and Precepts, Reducing the delays in execution of the decrees & Compliance of interlocutory orders; Challenges in effective Execution of the orders in Matrimonial Cases and Enforcement of Maintenance orders.
- b) National Conference of the Presiding Officers on SC/ST (POA) Act, April 19-21, 2013: Twenty-three Presiding Officers who attended the programme made a presentation on the challenges faced by the Courts in proper implementation of SC/ST (POA) Act. With the guidance of eminent resource persons various challenges facing the judiciary and measures that may be taken to improve the system were identified. The participants were encouraged to share best practice and experience across states. Furthermore, the programme also addressed the functioning of these courts, analyzed the social and political

- genesis of the disadvantaged in the Indian context, atrocities against SC/ST and the SC/ST (POA) Act, access to courts for victims, measures to help them avail legal aid and provide legal awareness. The various processes involved in providing timely justice to those who approach the Courts under this particular Act were discussed at length.
- c) National Conference of High Court Judges on the Contribution of the High Courts and the Supreme Court on the Development of Criminal Law and Human Rights: April 20-21, 2013: This Conference attended by 16 High Court Judges was guided by Hon'ble Justices, Justice Dipak Misra, Judge, Supreme Court of India; Justice AK Sikri, Judge, Supreme Court of India; Justice AK Ganguly, Chairperson, West Bengal Human Rights Commission, Dr. BT Kaul, Prof. Faculty of Law, Delhi University; Mr. Ravi Nair, Executive Director, SAHRDC and Prof.(Dr.) Balram K. Gupta, Sr. Advocate, Director, National Judicial Academy. The eminent resource persons gave their valued inputs on the presentation made by the participant judges on the contribution made by their respective High Courts and the Supreme Court during the past few years in developing human rights jurisprudence in the country.
- d) Interaction with the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Sri Lanka, Mr. Justice Mohan Peiris:
 - A meeting was held in New Delhi on May 27, 2013. It was attended by Mr. Justice Mohan Peiris, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Sri Lanka; Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, and the Director, National Judicial Academy, Prof.(Dr.) Balram K. Gupta. During the hour long meeting, details with regard to programmes for Sri Lankan Judges were discussed. It was tentatively decided to have two programmes at the NJA Campus and one programme in Colombo.
- e) National Conference of the Presiding Officers of Labour Courts / Tribunals, May 3-5, 2013: The main objective of this conference was to identify the problem areas in labour justice administration and to look for effective strategies and solutions. It further provided an opportunity to the Presiding Officers to share the difficulties which they encounter while adjudicating labour and industrial disputes. The conference was structured to cover important areas of Industrial relations and the changing trends in labour and industrial adjudication in the backdrop of LPG (Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization.)
- f) National Conference of State Judicial Academies on Training the Trainers (May 10-12, 2013): The Training of Trainers conference brought together faculty members of the State Judicial Academies to learn about innovative pedagogical techniques and develop new methods for delivering the national curriculum that has been developed at NJA. The open discussion on faculty-related challenges faced by the State Judicial Academies was followed by a presentation by Prof. G. Mohan Gopal, Director, RGICS on understanding faculty-related needs of the State Judicial Academies. Included in the discussions was the framework for faculty need assessment at SJAs.
- g) Annual Calendar Meeting (May 16, 2013): The deliberations of the Calendar Meeting 2013-14 was chaired by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir and cochaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam, Judge, Supreme Court of India. The meeting received participation from Chief Justices of the High Courts of Calcutta, Gauhati, Sikkim and Manipur, Acting Chief Justices of the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, Senior Judges representing various High Courts, Judges in Charge of Judicial Education and Directors/representatives of the State Judicial Academies.
- h) Court Excellence Enhancement Programmes (CEEP 2): The strength and effective

functioning of the judicial system is dependent not only on the presiding officer of a court but also on the cooperation and coordination among other duty holders in the legal system. Thereby to bring about some positive changes in the system, the participation of these duty holders is imperative for that process. Based on this premise, NJA had initiated the Court Excellence Enhancement Programme which brought together all the duty holders of a Court under one roof during the academic year 2011-12, wherein they worked together to develop a comprehensive framework for enhancing the excellence of the Court they represented. After the successful completion of CEEP 1, involving hundred courts from across the country, the programme continued in the current academic year of 2012-13 as "CEEP - Progress Review Programme". CEEP 2 involved identifying the current challenges, suggesting corrective actions to strengthen implementation of CEEP and above all updating the CEEP Action Plan for enhancing Court performance. The respective CJM courts and the stakeholders of CEEP 1 for the period April - May, reviewed the outcome of the implementation of the action plans developed by them during the previous year. They further developed a management framework for coordinated action to improve court performance

i) Interaction with the Chief Justice of Maldives, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ahmed Faiz Hussain (June 11, 2013): The Chief Justice of Maldives, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ahmed Faiz Hussain along with the a team consisting of Mr. Ibrahim Ahmed Manik, Chief Judicial Administrator and Mr. Abdulla Ali, Director, Department of Judicial Administration visited National Judicial Academy June 11, 2013 to work out the modalities of having the Judges from Maldives train and interact at National Judicial Academy.

SOME IMPORTANT VISITS AND CONFERENCES (From 01-04-13 to 30-06-13)

FOREIGN DELEGATIONS TO SUPREME COURT

- Meeting of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India with Zambian Delegation led by Hon'ble Lady Justice Lombe Chibesakunda, Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Republic of Zambia on 26-4-2013 in the Judges Lounge, Supreme Court Premises.
- 2. Meeting of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India with Maldivian Delegation led by Hon'ble Mr. Ahmed Faiz Hussain, Chief Justice of Maldives on 10-6-2013 in the Judges Lounge, Supreme Court Premises.
- 3. Meeting of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India with Bangladeshi Delegation led by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, Chairman, Bangladesh Judicial Services Commission and Senior Most sitting Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 24-6-2013 in the Judges Lounge, Supreme Court premises.

ABROAD

- 1. Hon'ble Shri Altamas Kabir, CJI visited Thimphu (Bhutan) to participate in the 9th SAARC Chief Justices' Conference and the 12th Annual SAARCLAW Conference from May 24-25, 2013.
- 2. Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. Chelameswar visited Dallas to attend 19th Convention of TANA (Telugu Association of North America) at Dallas Convention Centre, Dallas, Texas from May 24-26, 2013.
- 3. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur visited a) Islamabad (Pakistan) to participate in the International Judicial Conference organized by the Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan under the auspices of National Judicial (Policy Making) Committee from April 19-21, 2013 and b) Bhutan to discuss the issues pertaining to Justice delivery on the invitation of His Majesty the King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, King of Bhutan as a Royal Guest to the Kingdom of Bhutan from April 27-29, 2013.
- 4. Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. K. Sikri visited Hague, Netherlands to attend the Joint UNCITRAL/INSOL International/World Bank Multinational Judicial Colloquium on Insolvency from May 18-19, 2013 and the INSOL International Quadrennial Congress from May 20-22, 2013.

INLAND

1. Hon'ble Shri Altamas Kabir, CJI visited a) Bengaluru to attend a programme arranged by the State Legal Services Authority, Karnataka State on 14th April, 2013; b) Pindwara (Rajasthan) to attend a function arranged by the High Court of Rajasthan on 19th April, 2013; c) Chennai to attend the National Meet of NALSA during the period from 20th to 21st April, 2013; d) Bhopal to attend the Annual Calendar Meeting of NJA for next Year, during the period from 15th to 16th May, 2013; e) Bagdogra and Gangtok to attend NALSA Programmes during the period from 1st to 2nd June, 2013; f) Srinagar to attend function organised by State Judicial Academy and attended another function arranged by University of Kashmir, during the period from 16th to 17th June, 2013 and g) Kolkata to attend ILI Chapter Launching Website of ILI Chapter of Kolkata, attended 150th Anniversary of Sir Aashutosh Mukherjee and also participated in a programme by Ramakrishna Mission, Kolkata during the period from 26th to 30th June, 2013.

- Hon'ble Shri P. Sathasivam visited a) Chennai to participate in the 11th All India Meet of State 2. Legal Services Authorities organized by NALSFA at Chennai on 20th and 21st April, 2013; b) Jaipur to participate in the State Level Conference organized by the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority at Jaipur on 11th May, 2013; c) Bhopal to participate in the meeting at NJA Campus in connection with the Academic Calendar for the year 2013-14 on 16th May, 2013; d) Lucknow to inaugurate the Newly Constructed Women Hostel at Judicial Training & Research Institute, Lucknow and to inaugurate of the Conference on "Making Legal Aid and Justice for Women from Investigation to Decision a Reality, through A Sensitized Judiciary" at Lucknow on 18th May, 2013; e) Gurgaon to participate in the "Students Legal Literacy Mission" Annual Function organized by the Haryana State Legal Services Authority and Education Department, Haryana at 'Om Shanti Retreat Centre', Gurgaon on 19th May, 2013; f) Chithara, Kerala for Inauguration of Megal Legal Literacy Camp at Chithara organized by Kerala State Legal Services Authoritym on 2nd June, 2013; g) Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) to inaugurate the Founder's Day Oration of Ganga Hospital at Coimbatore on 14th June, 2013; and (iii) to address the Judicial Officers in the cadre of District Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates in T. N. State Judicial Academy on 15th June, 2013; h) Hyderabad (i) to participate in the Seminar on "Strengthening Legal Aid and Education for Marginal Communities and those most at risk of HIV/AIDS" organized by the National Legal Services Authority, A.P. Legal Services Authority and Centre for Advocacy & Research, (ii) to participate in the Lok Adalat organized by the High Court Legal Services Committee, (iii) Participate in the Programme at A. P. Judicial Academy on 22nd June, 2013 and i) Chandigarh to address the newly joined Judicial Officers of the State of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh Judicial Academy on 29th June, 2013.
- 3. Hon'ble Mr. Justice H. L. Dattu visited Bengaluru to participate in inaugural Function of Arbitration Centre Karnataka (Domestice & International) Initiative of High Court of Karnataka at Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru on 14th April, 2013.
- 4. Hon'ble Dr. Justice B. S. Chauhan visited a) Lucknow (i) to attend function in Lucknow University on 13th April, 2013 and (ii) to attend function at U. P. State Legal Services Authority and on the inauguration of the building at Judicial Training Institute on 18th May, 2013; b) Shimla to attend Regional Judicial Conference during the period from 31st May to 2nd June, 2013 and c) Guwahati to deliver lecture at Assam Judicial Academy, Guwahati on 11th June, 2013.
- 5. Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. K. Patnaik visited a) Chandigarh to attend function of Rama Krishna Mission Ashram, Chandigarh on 7th April, 2013; b) Chennai to attend Inaugural Session of National Legal Services Authority at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, No.63, Anna Salai, Guindy, Chennai 32 on 20th April, 2013 and c) Cuttack (i) to attend Foundation Day Celebrations of Sai International School at Bhubaneswar on 13th April, 2013; (ii) to attend function of Odisha Political Science Assocation at the Christ College, Cuttack on 4th May, 2013 and (iii) to attend Seminar on Corporate Social Responsibility at Hotel Dwarka, Cuttack on 30th June, 2013.
- 6. Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. S. Thakur visited a) Kurukshetra to inaugurate the newly constructed I.I.T./PMT/NDA Training Centre and Administrative Block on 27th April, 2013 and b) Srinagar to attend the programme organised by State Judicial Academy and Jammu and Kashmir Legal Services Authority during the period from 15th to 18th June, 2013.
- 7. Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. S. Radhakrishnan visited Bengaluru to attend the "Regional Judicial

- Conference on Administration of Criminal Justice: Issues and Challenges" (South Zone) held by National Judicial Academy, Bhopal during the period from 14th to 16th June, 2013.
- 8. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surinder Singh Nijjar visited a) Daudhar, District Moga, Punjab to inaugurate the Rokko Cancer Babeka Hospital on 19th April, 2013 and b) Kolkata to attend the Valedictory part of the Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Calcutta High Court during the period from 3rd to 6th May, 2013.
- 9. Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Gyan Sudha Misra visited) Allahabad to attend a Symposium on "Dimension and Challenges towards reform in Administration of Criminal Justice System" as a Special Guest organized by Pt. Kanhaiya Lal Misra Memorial Committee on 13th April, 2013 and b) Kolkata to attend the Sesquicentennial Celebration of Calcutta High Court during the period from 3th to 5th May, 2013.
- 10. Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai visited Mumbai to attend the State Lawyers Conference organized by the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa held at Dr. Kashinath Ghanekar Auditorium, Thane during the period from 13th to 14th April, 2013.
- 11. Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. Chelameswar visited Kakinada to inaugurate the Seminar on "The Role of Judiciary and Advocates in Justice Delivery System & Implementation of existing Laws relating to offences against Women & Children" organized by the Bar Council of the State of Andhra Pradesh & The Bar Association, Kakinada at Surya Kalamandiram, Kakinada on 27th April. 2013.
- 12. Hon'ble Mr. Justice F. M. Ibrahim Kalifulla visited a) Chennai, Tamil Nadu (i) to attend National Legal Services Authority's "Eleventh All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities" at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, 63, Anna Salai, Guindy, Chennai 32 on 20th April, 2013 and (ii) to attend the Special Programme on effective District Administration and Court Management by the Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Chennai and addressed the Judicial Officers in the Cadre of District Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates on the topic Felicitation by Hon'ble Mr. Justice F. M. I. Kalifulla on 15th June, 2013.
- 13. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur visited a) Brahmpur for Discussion Programme and also visited Mediation Centre on 13th April, 2013 and Puri for Discussion Programme and also visited Mediation Centre on 14th April, 2013; b) Jamshedpur for interaction with Mediators and Referral Judges and office bearers of Bar Association and attended meeting with Principal Magistrate, Members of Juvenile Justice Board & Members of Child Welfare Committee during the period from 11th to 12th May, 2013 and c) Imphal to inaugurate the 3 Days Advocacy Skill Training programme for the young lawyers organized by the Manipur State Legal Services Authority in collaboration with the IILPD at the High Court of Manipur Complex at Imphal during the period from 28th to 29th June, 2013.
- 14. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen visited Bengaluru to participate in the Inaugural Function of Arbitration Centre Karnataka (Domestic & International) on 14th April, 2013.
- 15. Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. K. Sikri visited a) Bhopal to attend the Conference during the period from 19th to 21st April, 2013 and b) Gurgaon to attend National Convention of Jurists on Spiritual Prudence for peace and Hapiness on 11th May, 2013.