

# COURT NEWS

Vol. IV Issue No. 3

July - September, 2009



## EDITORIAL BOARD

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*K. G. Balakrishnan*  
*Chief Justice of India*

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

This issue of "Court News" besides providing authentic information on institution, disposal and pendency of Court cases at various levels, vacancies of Judges and Judgments of public importance delivered by Supreme Court during the last quarter, also carries information regarding two major events viz. the Chief Justices' Conference, 2009 and the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts, 2009.

Various important resolutions/decisions pertaining to reduction/elimination of arrears and speedy trial of cases within reasonable period, augmenting the infrastructure of the subordinate courts, strengthening of ADR (Alternate Dispute Resolution) System including mediation and conciliation, strengthening of Legal Aid Systems, Establishment of Gram Nyayalayas and increasing/filling up of vacancies of Judges of the High Courts and Subordinate Courts were taken in the Conferences. It was also decided to explore the possibility of increasing the number of working days from 210 to 220 or to increase the working hours by 30 minutes a day in High Courts.

I am extremely happy that a Mediation Centre has been set up in the Supreme Court.

I am confident that this newsletter will continue to be useful to all its readers and keep on providing authentic useful information to them on various aspects of the Indian Judiciary. Any suggestion for further improvement of the newsletter will be duly welcomed by the Supreme Court Registry.

(K.G. BALAKRISHNAN)

28<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

**APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT IN SUPREME COURT  
(From 01-07-09 to 30-09-09)****RETIREMENT**

<b>Name of the Hon'ble Judge</b>	<b>Date of Retirement</b>
<b>Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha</b>	<b>08-08-2009</b>

**APPOINTMENT IN HIGH COURTS  
(From 01-07-09 to 30-09-09)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of the High Court</b>	<b>Name of the Hon'ble Judge</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>
1	Madhya Pradesh	Ishwar Sahai Shrivastava	25-08-2009
2	Rajasthan	Smt. Meena V. Gomber	29-09-2009

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

**TRANSFER BETWEEN HIGH COURTS  
(From 01-07-09 to 30-09-09)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Name of the Hon'ble Judge</b>	<b>Date of Transfer</b>
1	Allahabad	Jharkhand	Sushil Harkauli	1-7-2009
2	Allahabad	Uttaranchal	Tarun Agarwala	25-09-2009
3	Himachal Pradesh	Rajasthan	Jagdish Bhalla (CJ.)	10-8-2009
4	Uttaranchal	Jharkhand	J.C.S. Rawat	1-10-2009

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

## VACANCIES IN COURTS

### A) SUPREME COURT OF INDIA (As on 01-10-2009)

Sanctioned Strength	Working strength	Vacancies
31	23	08

### B) HIGH COURTS ( As on 01-10-2009)

S.No.	Name of the High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Allahabad	160	83	77
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	29	20
3	Bombay	75	65	10
4	Calcutta	58	40	18
5	Chhattisgarh	18	09	09
6	Delhi	48	43	05
7	Gauhati	24	21	03
8	Gujarat	42	27	15
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	09	02
10	Jammu & Kashmir	14	09	05
11	Jharkhand	20	14	06
12	Karnataka	41	37	04
13	Kerala	38	33	05
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	36	07
15	Madras	60	55	05
16	Orissa	22	15	07
17	Patna	43	22	21
18	Punjab & Haryana	68	45	23
19	Rajasthan	40	30	10
20	Sikkim	03	03	00
21	Uttaranchal	09	07	02
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>886</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>254</b>

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

**C) DISTRICT & SUBORDINATE COURTS (As on 30-06-2009)**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Concerned State/ Union Territory</b>	<b>Sanctioned Strength</b>	<b>Working Strength</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
1	Uttar Pradesh	2182	1846	<b>336</b>
2	Andhra Pradesh	931	823	<b>108</b>
3a.	Maharashtra	1908	1619	<b>289</b>
3b.	Goa	49	42	<b>7</b>
3c.	Diu, Daman & Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	3	<b>0</b>
4	West Bengal	933	720	<b>213</b>
5	Chhatisgarh	293	268	<b>25</b>
6	Delhi	605	442	<b>163</b>
7	Gujarat	1030	845	<b>185</b>
8a.	Assam	319	228	<b>91</b>
8b.	Meghalaya	10	4	<b>6</b>
8c.	Tripura	92	62	<b>30</b>
8d.	Manipur	33	28	<b>5</b>
8e.	Nagaland	27	26	<b>1</b>
8f.	Mizoram	40	32	<b>8</b>
8g.	Arunachal Pradesh <sup>#</sup>	2	0	<b>2</b>
9	Himachal Pradesh	126	115	<b>11</b>
10	Jammu and Kashmir	207	168	<b>39</b>
11	Jharkhand	546	409	<b>137</b>
12	Karnataka	912	817	<b>95</b>
13a.	Kerala	435	422	<b>13</b>
13b.	Lakshadweep	3	3	<b>0</b>
14a.	Tamil Nadu	818	795	<b>23</b>
14b.	Puducherry	20	15	<b>5</b>
15	Madhya Pradesh	1307	1141	<b>166</b>
16	Orissa	536	438	<b>98</b>
17	Bihar	1367	1057	<b>310</b>
18a.	Punjab	346	304	<b>42</b>
18b.	Haryana	397	288	<b>109</b>
18c.	Chandigarh	20	19	<b>1</b>
19	Rajasthan	833	735	<b>98</b>
20	Sikkim	15	9	<b>6</b>
21	Uttarakhand	264	140	<b>124</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>16609</b>	<b>13863</b>	<b>2746</b>

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

# 2 judicial posts are there in the State, which are lying vacant. Working strength of 300 Executive Officers (against a sanctioned strength of 339) are discharging Judicial Functions in the State.



## INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES

### A) SUPREME COURT OF INDIA (FROM 01-07-2009 TO 30-09-2009)

						<b>Pendency (At the end of 30-06-09)</b>		
						Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters
						33,217	19,375	52,592
<b>Institution (01-07-2009 to 30-09-2009)</b>			<b>Disposal (01-07-2009 to 30-09-2009)</b>			<b>Pendency (At the end of 30-09-2009)</b>		
Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters	Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters	Admission matters	Regular matters	Total matters
21,139	2,568	23,707	21,481	1,597	23,078	32,875	20,346	53,221

**B) HIGH COURTS (FROM 01-04-2009 TO 30-06-2009)**

S. No.	NAME OF HIGH COURT	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency of Civil and Criminal Cases at the end of 30-06-2009
		Opening Balance as on 01-04-09	Institution from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Disposal from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Pendency at the end of 30-06-09	Opening Balance as on 01-04-09	Institution from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Disposal from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Pendency at the end of 30-06-09	
1	Allahabad	675594	32295	22585	685304	259831	25568	21266	264133	949437
2	Andhra Pradesh	152829	11068	9132	154765	20625	3166	2710	21081	175846
3	Bombay	299434	24839	25831	298442	40487	6721	5391	41817	340259
4	Calcutta	262581	12855	10329	265107	43672	6610	5657	44625	309732
5	Chhattisgarh	45811	2547	3276	45082	19226	1420	2016	18630	63712
6	Delhi	53975 <sup>a</sup>	5044	5779	53240	12554	2757	3037	12274	65514
7	Gujarat	68496	6439	10336	64599	31986	5145	5079	32052	96651
8	Gauhati	54175	4642	4724	54093	8556	2017	2131	8442	62535
9	Himachal Pradesh	34964	17253	5027	47190	6418	726	828	6316	53506
10	Jammu & Kashmir	48332	5236	4506	49062	1782	424	479	1727	50789
11	Jharkhand	29170	1900	2075	28995	25044	3674	3646	25072	54067
12	Karnataka	116502	32919	19864	129557	15806	4662	4383	16085	145642
13	Kerala	83625	11833	10814	84644	26936	4624	4145	27415	112059
14	Madhya Pradesh	126232	12923	9453	129702	60190	9299	9037	60452	190154
15	Madras	417302	36947	32533	421716	44707	15734	14458	45983	467699
16	Orissa	219148	10548	9031	220665	23998	8717	7134	25581	246246
17	Patna	79448	5094	4854	79688	44292	11980	11888	44384	124072
18	Punjab & Haryana	202270	11304	10970	202604	44845	9563	7945	46463	249067
19	Rajasthan	182887	16217	11202	187902	52937	8928	6559	55306	243208
20	Sikkim	63	12	13	62	33	7	9	31	93
21	Uttaranchal	12076	1466	1584	11958	6568	1078	978	6668	18626
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3164914</b>	<b>263381</b>	<b>213918</b>	<b>3214377</b>	<b>790493</b>	<b>132820</b>	<b>118776</b>	<b>804537</b>	<b>4018914</b>

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

a. Opening balance of civil cases has been revised by the concerned High Court.

**C) DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS (FROM 01-04-2009 TO 30-06-2009)**

S. No.	Concerned State/ Union Territory	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency of Civil and Criminal Cases at the end of 30-06-2009
		Opening Balance as on 01-04-09	Institution from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Disposal from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Pendency at the end of 30-06-09	Opening Balance as on 01-04-09	Institution from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Disposal from 01-04-09 to 30-06-09	Pendency at the end of 30-06-09	
1	Uttar Pradesh	1275414	82779	88836	1269357	3961324	539726	472936	4028114	5297471
2	Andhra Pradesh	468309	62514	65001	465822	486516	77723	70241	493998	959820
3(a)	Maharashtra	981102	79030	73415	986717	3152171	375845	314213	3213803	4200520
3(b)	Goa	16592	2155	2389	16358	14134	4721	5036	13819	30177
3(c)	Diu and Daman	880	205	119	966	820	385	216	989	1955
3(d)	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	599	474	21	1052	2434	155	107	2482	3534
4(a)	West Bengal	513706	28946	25994	516658	1948724	239662	168963	2019423	2536081
4(b)	A & N Islands	1701	132	91	1742	11930	2246	1718	12458	14200
5	Chhattisgarh	51290	10774	9917	52147	217221	39202	34453	221970	274117
6	Delhi	230645	26640	19423	237862	796940	60482	50413	807009	1044871
7	Gujarat	708730	45589	49534	704785	1533956	244988	278788	1500156	2204941
8(a)	Assam	78212	7536	8295	77453	151117	37367	34010	154474	231927
8(b)	Nagaland	1998	172	222	1948	3876	249	356	3769	5717
8(c)	Meghalaya	3803	868	478	4193	7650	1514	1095	8069	12262
8(d)	Manipur	3130	497	375	3252	3397	1859	904	4352	7604
8(e)	Tripura	6839	1363	1539	6663	49963	23898	18099	55762	62425
8(f)	Mizoram	2603	443	953	2093	5691	757	1883	4565	6658
8(g)	Arunachal Pradesh	802	61	51	812	4765	401	400	4766	5578
9	Himachal Pradesh	65089	15430	13981	66538	84414	30928	30778	84564	151102
10	Jammu and Kashmir	65148	12894	11992	66050	114055	41511	41782	113784	179834
11	Jharkhand	45528	4201	4124	45605	223291	21496	24719	220068	265673
12	Karnataka	561383	65486	60576	566293	520959	155029	141204	534784	1101077
13(a)	Kerala	367833	52193	47228	372798	622725	197026	186061	633690	1006488
13(b)	Lakshadweep	83	1	1	83	99	3	0	102	185
14	Madhya Pradesh	205729	59145	55449	209425	868226	373882	307020	935088	1144513
15(a)	Tamil Nadu	606337	186004	172945	619396	450804	156734	158170	449368	1068764
15(b)	Puducherry	15544	3061	2969	15636	9877	4289	4075	10091	25727
16	Orissa	190105	9389	7825	191669	863526	47050	42007	868569	1060238
17	Bihar	252546	12496	14273	250768 <sup>a</sup>	1189968 <sup>b</sup>	75288	57666	1207522 <sup>c</sup>	1458290
18(a)	Punjab	266424	38293	36357	268360	299555	56821	51515	304861	573221
18(b)	Haryana	222034	40039	36039	226034	335504	39972	35783	339693	565727
18(c)	Chandigarh	20421	2099	1919	20601	77111	21288	20574	77825	98426
19	Rajasthan	364192	42673	40010	366855	969409	212471	208007	973873	1340728
20	Sikkim	216	49	40	225	850	235	222	863	1088
21	Uttarakhand	32907	4233	4732	32408	141251	27394	21884	146761	179169
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7627874</b>	<b>897864</b>	<b>857113</b>	<b>7668624</b>	<b>19124253</b>	<b>3112597</b>	<b>2785298</b>	<b>19451484</b>	<b>27120108</b>

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

a. One civil case transferred

b. Last pendency of criminal cases revised by the concerned High Court.

c. 68 cases amalgamated/transferred

## **SOME RECENT SUPREME COURT JUDGMENTS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE (From 01-07-09 to 30-09-09)**

1. On 7th August, 2009, a two Judges Bench in Bhavesh Jayanti Lakhani v. State of Maharashtra and Ors. (Crl. A. No.1452 of 2009) held that “the Municipal Laws of a country reign supreme in matters of Extradition.”

“A fundamental Right of a citizen whenever infringed, the High Courts having regard to their extraordinary power under Article 226 of the Constitution of India as also keeping in view that access to justice is a human right would not turn him away only because a Red Corner Notice was issued”, said the Bench.

The Bench furthermore held that “if a violation of any order passed by a civil court is made the ground for issuance of a Red Corner Notice, indisputably, the court will enquire as to whether the same has undergone the tests laid down under Sections 13 and 44A of the Code of Civil Procedure”.

2. On 7th August, 2009 a two Judges Bench in Malay Kumar Ganguly v. Dr. Sukumar Mukherjee and Ors. (Crl. A. Nos. 1191-1194 of 2005) held that “Medical negligence cannot be attributed for not rendering a facility which was not available.” The Bench however said that “if hospitals knowingly fail to provide some amenities that are fundamental for the patients, it would certainly amount to medical malpractice”.
3. On 20th August, 2009, a two Judges Bench in Shipra Sengupta v. Mridul Sengupta and Ors. (C.A. No. 809 of 2002) held that “the amount in any head can be received by the nominee, but the amount can be claimed by the heirs of the deceased in accordance with law of succession governing them. In other words, nomination does not confer any beneficial interest on the nominee.”
4. On 20th August, 2009, a two Judges Bench in Anil Vasudev Salgaonkar v. Naresh Kushali Shigaonkar (C.A. No. 5679 of 2009) held that “all those facts which are

essential to clothe the election petitioner with a complete cause of action are “material facts” which must be pleaded, and the failure to place even a single material fact amounts to disobedience of the mandate of section 83(1)(a) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951”.

5. On 24th August, 2009, a two Judges Bench in Chairman cum Managing Director, Coal India Limited and Anr. v. Mukul Kumar Choudhuri & Ors. (C.A. Nos. 5762-5763 of 2009) dealt with “the doctrine of proportionality”, a well recognized concept of judicial review in Indian jurisprudence.

“What is otherwise within the discretionary domain and sole power of the decision maker to quantify punishment once the charge of misconduct stands proved, such discretionary power is exposed to judicial intervention if exercised in a manner which is out of proportion to the fault. Award of punishment which is grossly in excess to the allegations cannot claim immunity and remains open for interference under limited scope of judicial review”, said the Bench.

6. On 27th August, 2009, a three Judges Bench in The State of Maharashtra and Anr. v. M/s. Super Max International Pvt. Ltd. and Ors. (C.A. No. 5835 of 2009) held that “in an appeal or revision preferred by a tenant against a order or decree of an eviction passed under the Rent Act it is open to the appellate or the revisional Court to stay the execution of the order or the decree on terms, including a direction to pay monthly rent at a rate higher than the contractual rent.” However, “in fixing the amount subject to payment of which the execution of the order/ decree is stayed, the Court would exercise restraint and would not fix any excessive, fanciful or punitive amount”, the Bench said.

7. On 18th September, 2009, a two judges Bench in Jagdish v. State of M.P. (Crl.A.No.338 of 2007) held that that it would “be open to a condemned prisoner, who has been under a sentence of death over a long period of time, for reasons not attributable to him, to contend that the death sentence should be commuted to one of life.”

The Bench said that “the power of the President and the Governor to grant pardon etc. under Articles 72 and 161 of our Constitution though couched in imperative terms, has nevertheless to be exercised on the advice of the executive authority. In this background, it is the Government which, in effect, exercises that power. The condemned prisoner and his suffering relatives have, therefore, a very pertinent right in insisting that a decision in the matter be taken within a reasonable time, failing which the power should be exercised in favour of the prisoner.”

## **MAJOR EVENTS AND INITIATIVES (From 01-07-09 to 30-09-09)**

### **I. CHIEF JUSTICES' CONFERENCE–2009 [AUGUST 14-15, 2009]**

**RESOLUTIONS:** Resolutions adopted in the said Conference are as follows:-

#### **1] Progress on implementation of the Resolutions passed in the previous Chief Justices' Conference held on 17th and 18th April, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] Action Taken Reports furnished by the High Courts and the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India, are perused. b] Wherever required, the Chief Justices will take up the matter at the highest level of the State Governments for providing adequate funds for the implementation of the Resolutions.

#### **2] Steps required to be taken for reduction/elimination of arrears and ensure speedy trial within a reasonable period.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The High Courts will make scientific and rational analysis as regards accumulation of arrears and devise a roadmap for itself and jurisdictional courts to arrest arrears of cases taking into account average institution, pendency and disposal of cases and to ensure speedy trial within a reasonable period of time; b] The following Resolutions passed in the Chief Justices' Conference, 2008, are reiterated: “[i] The High Courts will make efforts to set-up at least one Family Court in each district, besides additional Family Courts, wherever required. [ii] The High Courts will make efforts to set-up additional Courts of Special Judges, exclusively for trial of corruption cases investigated by Central Bureau of Investigation under Prevention of Corruption Act.”

#### **3] Augmenting the infrastructure of subordinate courts.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The High Courts shall take assistance of an expert in accounts for the purpose of preparation of the Scheme and total expenditure required therefor and thereafter submit a proposal to the State Governments. b] The Chief Justices

will also take into consideration “the National Judicial Infrastructure Plan” , with such modifications as may be required, while taking up the cause with the State Governments. c] The Chief Justices of the High Courts shall take up the matter with the State Governments on the aspect of supply of electricity to subordinate courts during working hours and to impress upon the State Governments to ensure that no power cuts be allowed during courts working hours and generator sets, as back-up supply for electricity, be installed in the court complexes, especially in rural areas having acute power shortage. In order to ascertain the areas in the States facing acute power shortage, the Chief Justices of the High Courts will submit a proposal to the State Governments after receiving a report in that regard from the Judge in-charge of the district concerned; d] The matter be also taken up at the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices to be held on August 16, 2009.

#### **4] Progress made in setting up and functioning of evening/morning courts in subordinate courts.**

**RESOLVED:** That The Chief Justices of the States, where morning/evening courts in subordinate courts have not so far been set-up, will take up the matter with their respective State Governments to implement the Resolutions passed in the Chief Justices' Conferences in the years 2007 and 2008, and such courts be setup at the earliest, wherever found feasible, to deal with cases involving petty offences, including traffic, municipal offences and cases arising out of Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

#### **5] Strengthening of vigilance cells in the High Courts and progress made in setting-up of vigilance cells in each district.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The Vigilance Cells will be under the direct control of the Chief Justices of the High Courts. b] All complaints, in the first instance, will be placed before the Chief Justice of the High Court, who will refer the same to the Vigilance Officer of that Court. The Vigilance Officer, upon inquiry, will submit a report to the Chief Justice in that regard. In case an inquiry is to be proceeded with for the purpose of imposing minor/major penalty, the complaint will be referred to a Committee of Hon'ble Judges, to be nominated by the Chief Justice of the



High Court, which may also include the Hon'ble Judge, in-charge of the place where the delinquent officer is discharging his functions. The cases relating to major penalties only, such as compulsory retirement, dismissal or removal, be placed before the Full Court of the High Court. Complaints and inquiries be disposed of as early as possible, but not later than one year.

**6] Progress made in setting-up of Fast Track Courts of Magistrates and Fast Track Civil Courts and 7] Establishment of Gram Nyayalayas.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The matter regarding continuation of Fast Track Courts of Sessions beyond 31st March, 2010, be taken up with the Central Government; b] The Chief Justices of the High Courts may constitute a committee of Judges to assess the number of Gram Nyayalayas and places where they are required to be located for the purpose of Gram Nyayalayas in the first instance; c] For the purpose of setting up of Gram Nyayalayas at the grass root level in rural areas, the Central Government be impressed not to insist upon matching grant to be allocated by the State Governments and the matter in this regard be taken up at the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices to be held on August 16, 2009.

**8] Progress made in modernization and computerization of justice delivery system, establishment of E-courts and video conferencing facilities.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The Chief Justice of India be requested to nominate a Committee to consider the present status and progress made in modernization and computerization of courts and to submit recommendations; b] The note submitted by Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.K. Balasubramanyan, Chairman, E-Committee, be also placed before the Committee to be nominated by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

**9] Strengthening of A.D.R. system, including mediation and conciliation.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The High Courts shall expedite adoption and implementation of the National Plan for Mediation with such modifications, as deemed necessary. b] More number of mediation centres be established at the district level. c] Hon'ble

the Chief Justice of India be requested to nominate a Committee to consider the question of imparting training to the trainers and constituting a national panel of trainers for training the mediators. The Report submitted by Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha, former Judge, Supreme Court of India, be also placed before the said Committee.

### **10] Strengthening legal aid systems.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will appoint a Committee of Judges to monitor the legal aid system. b] Only competent young advocates, who are motivated and have zeal to work for legal aid be appointed for legal aid work.

### **11] Financial autonomy to the High Courts.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] Financial autonomy be given to the High Courts, especially in regard to utilization of funds for the purpose of providing infrastructure, such as court complexes, inclusive of electricity back-up by way of generator sets, computerization and residential quarters, etc.; b] The Chief Justices of the High Courts be delegated with powers to appropriate and re-appropriate funds, whenever required, within the budget allocated by the State Government for the judiciary of the State; c] The matter be taken up at the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices to be held on August 16, 2009; d] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will take up the matter with respective State Governments to suitably increase the allocation of funds so that budgetary demands of the High Courts and subordinate courts could be met.

### **12] Holding of courts in jail by every Chief Metropolitan Magistrate or the Chief Judicial Magistrate or Metropolitan Magistrate/Judicial Magistrate of the area in which a district jail falls, on regular basis to take up the cases of those undertrial prisoners who are involved in petty offences punishable upto three years or are keen to confess their guilt.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will expedite the matter with the respective State Governments for the purposes of holding of courts, in

jail, of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate or Metropolitan Magistrate/Judicial Magistrate, wherever possible, in terms of the Resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference in the year 2003; b] The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate or Metropolitan Magistrate/Judicial Magistrate, shall discharge obligation keeping in view the principles of 'Plea Bargaining' as enshrined in Chapter XXI-A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, and confessions in petty cases; c] Advocate provided by the District Legal Services Committee/State Legal Services Authority be also deputed, wherever not deputed, in jail to work in the aid of under-trial prisoners for providing requisite services to them to present their case before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate or Metropolitan Magistrate/Judicial Magistrate, as the case may be.

### **13] Increase in the strength of Judges of the High Courts and Subordinate Courts.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The following Resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference, 2008, is reiterated: " The High Court will take immediate steps for filling-up of the vacancies of Judicial Officers in their respective jurisdictions and will adhere to the schedule laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Malik Mazhar Sultan & Anr. Vs. Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission & Ors. for appointment of subordinate Judges.'; b] The matter be taken up with the Central Government that 1/4th of the increased sanctioned strength in the High Courts be of additional Judges and remaining 3/4th will be of permanent Judges; c] The Chief Justices will make recommendation for increase in strength of Judges of the High Courts and subordinate courts, after taking into consideration the pendency of cases and other relevant criteria for calculating the requirement of number of judges.

### **14] Progress made in setting-up of permanent mechanism for implementation of Resolutions passed by the Chief Justices' Conference and decisions taken at the Joint Conferences of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices.**

**RESOLVED:** That The matter be taken up at the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices to be held on August 16, 2009.

**15] Strengthening of training of Judicial Officers.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The National Judicial Education Strategy prepared by the National Judicial Academy be adopted and operationalized by the High Courts. b] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will consider the desirability of nominating an Academician to the State Judicial Academies, after adjudging his eligibility and suitability to the post.

**16] Increase in the ratio of appointments to High Courts from amongst Judicial Officers to fifty per cent of the Judges' strength of the concerned High Court instead of the present one-third.****RESOLVED**

Discussed.

**17] Progress made in setting-up of Juvenile Justice Boards.**

**RESOLVED:** That 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 Boards, 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. c] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will nominate a Judge to make periodical visits to Juvenile Homes, wherever set up, and the learned Judge may suggest remedial measures for the betterment of the conditions of the juvenile homes and inmates. d] 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 August 16, 2009.

**18] Strengthening of Lok Adalat System.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] Steps be taken to further strengthen the Lok Adalats, it being

an effective and efficient alternative mode of dispute settlement. b] More number of retired Judges be associated with the process of Lok Adalats for the purpose of increasing the rate of disposal of cases in Lok Adalats. c] Efforts be made to educate the people, especially the downtrodden, in respect of their rights by providing information on Doordarshan, local channels of the States and in any other manner.

### **19] Steps to be taken for filling up of vacancies in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts.**

**RESOLVED:** That a] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will take requisite steps to fill up the vacancies in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts anticipating the occurrence thereof in order to avoid delay in filling up the said vacancies. b] The matter relating to creation of additional posts for Judicial Officers during the period they are on training be taken up at the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts to be held on August 16, 2009, and Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India be requested to form a Committee to make recommendations in this regard.

### **20] Formation of All India Judicial Service.**

**RESOLVED:** Discussed.

### **21] Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.**

**a] Suggestion received from Hon'ble the Acting Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court that Home Secretary be also included in the Committee for implementation of the Resolutions as he looks after the affairs of the High Courts for the purpose of allocation of funds and other allied matters.**

**RESOLVED:** That Requisite amendment be made in the mechanism constituted for the purpose.

**b] Suggestion received from Hon'ble the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court to increase the number of working days from 210 days to 220 days.**

**RESOLVED:** That The Chief Justices of the High Courts will explore the possibility of increasing the number of working days from 210 days to 220 days or increase the number of working hours by thirty minutes a day.

**II. JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE CHIEF MINISTERS OF STATES AND THE CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE HIGH COURTS [AUGUST 16, 2009]:** The Joint Conference was held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 16th August, 2009. The decisions taken in the Joint Conference are as follows:-

**1] PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN THE PREVIOUS CONFERENCE OF CHIEF MINISTERS AND CHIEF JUSTICES HELD ON APRIL 19, 2008.**

Action Taken Reply given by Department of Justice was seen.

**2] OPERATIONALIZATION OF GRAM NYAYALAYAS.**

**DECISION:** a] The State Governments, in consultation with respective High Courts, will establish Gram Nyayalayas for every Panchayat, as envisaged in Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, in order to provide speedy, inexpensive and substantial justice to the citizens of rural areas at their doorsteps; b] In case the operationalization of Gram Nyayalayas cannot take effect for every Panchayat in the State on the date to be notified, it may set-up the same in a phased manner; c] The State Governments may also consider the desirability of establishing Gram Nyayalayas in some districts as a pilot project and making them functional on a prospective date to be notified as part of the implementation schedule.

**3] PROGRESS MADE IN SETTING-UP OF FAST TRACK COURTS OF MAGISTRATES AND FAST TRACK CIVIL COURTS AND CONTINUATION OF FAST TRACK COURTS.**

**DECISION:** a] Fast Track Civil Courts and Fast Track Courts of Magistrates be set-up in order to arrest accumulation of arrears of cases in such courts; b] Fast Track Courts of Sessions be continued for a further period of five years beyond 31st March, 2010; c] Priority be given to the retired Judicial Officers for appointment to the Fast Track Courts having unblemished service record of integrity, probity

and ability as also on the basis of physical and mental fitness. A reasonable amount of remuneration be paid to the retired Judicial Officers appointed for the purpose.

**4] PROGRESS MADE IN SETTING-UP AND FUNCTIONING OF EVENING/ MORNING COURTS IN SUBORDINATE COURTS AND SETTING UP OF MORE COURTS – (A) CBI COURTS AND (B) FAMILY COURTS.**

**DECISION:** a] Evening/Morning Courts be set up in States, wherever feasible, and where they have not yet been set up, in terms of the decision taken in the Joint Conferences of the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts held in the years 2007 and 2008; b] The State Governments will, after consultation with the High Courts, immediately send formal proposals to the Central Government for setting up CBI Courts in their respective States and requisite steps thereafter be taken to make Special Courts functional at an early date; c] The State Governments will set-up at least one Family Court in each District.

**5] INTRODUCING JUDICIAL REFORMS THROUGH THE FOLLOWING MEASURES: [A] FORMATION OF ALL INDIA JUDICIAL SERVICE [B] MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS**

**DECISION:** a] The State Governments, in principle, concurred with the proposal of formation of All-India Judicial Service. However, before giving effect to the formation of All-India Judicial Service, a comprehensive deliberation be held; b] State Judicial Academies be further strengthened, if required, with the aid of reputed Management Institutes for the purpose of imparting training to Judicial Officers for efficient and effective dispensation of justice.

**6] PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ICT ENABLEMENT OF THE COURTS – ESTABLISHMENT OF E-COURTS WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON – [A] TOTAL INVOLVEMENT OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT MACHINERY FOR SITE PREPARATION, [B] COMMITMENT ON MEETING THE EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL MANPOWER BEYOND THE PERIOD SUPPORTED BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND RECURRING EXPENDITURE ON AMCS AND POWER BACK-UP, [C] DEFINITION OF**

## **INFORMATION FLOWS IN THE COURTS, OWNERSHIP OF INFORMATION AND DISSEMINATION CHANNELS.**

**DECISION:** The State Governments and the High Courts will render all possible assistance to ensure timely completion of site preparation at the court complexes.

## **7] PROGRESS MADE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF SUBORDINATE COURTS.**

**DECISION:** The State Governments and the High Courts will monitor the progress made in the development of infrastructure of subordinate courts as also proper utilization of the funds allocated for the purpose.

## **8] STEPS REQUIRED TO BE TAKEN FOR REDUCTION OF ARREARS AND ENSURING THE SPEEDY TRIAL.**

**DECISION:** The High Courts will make scientific and rational analysis as regards accumulation of arrears and devise a roadmap for itself and jurisdictional courts to arrest arrears of cases taking into account average institution, pendency and disposal of cases and to ensure speedy trial within a reasonable time-schedule.

## **9] FILLING UP OF VACANCIES IN THE HIGH COURTS AND SUBORDINATE COURTS.**

**DECISION:** a] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will make recommendation for appointments to High Courts six months before the occurrence of vacancy in order to avoid delay in filling up the said vacancy; b] The Chief Justices of the High Courts will take requisite steps to fill up the vacancies in the Subordinate Courts anticipating the occurrence thereof so as to minimize any chance of delay in filling up the said vacancies; c] The State Governments will, in consultation with the High Courts, sanction twenty five per cent of additional posts for the Judicial Officers for the period they are undergoing training.

## **10] CONSIDERATION OF 188TH REPORT OF THE LAW COMMISSION "PROPOSALS FOR CONSTITUTION OF HI-TECH FAST TRACK COMMERCIAL DIVISIONS IN HIGH COURTS".**



**DECISION:** Commercial Division be constituted by the High Court within itself as and when legislation in this regard is made and is notified by the Parliament.

#### **11] STRENGTHENING OF LEGAL AID SYSTEM.**

**DECISION:** Adequate steps be taken to further strengthen the Legal Aid System by spreading legal literacy and create awareness among the citizens, especially the poor and the down-trodden.

#### **12] STRENGTHENING OF A.D.R. SYSTEM, INCLUDING MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION.**

**DECISION:** a] Adequate steps be taken to further strengthen the Alternate Dispute Resolution mechanism; b] The services of retired Judges of the High Courts be availed of and they be paid reasonable amount of remuneration per sitting; c] Mediation Centre be established in each District with requisite infrastructure and funds be allocated to them.

#### **13] JUDICIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT.**

**DECISION:** A judicial impact office at the National and State levels on continual basis for making assessment of impact of legislations on judicial work load be constituted.

#### **14] GRANTING FINANCIAL AUTONOMY TO THE HIGH COURTS.**

**DECISION:** The Chief Justices of the High Courts will take up the matter with their respective State Governments in this regard.

#### **15] PROGRESS MADE IN SETTING UP PERMANENT MECHANISM FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE CHIEF JUSTICES' CONFERENCE AND DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE JOINT CONFERENCES OF CHIEF MINISTERS AND CHIEF JUSTICES.**

**DECISION:** a] The following decision adopted at the Joint Conferences of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts in the years 2006, 2007

and 2008, is again reiterated: “1] A Committee, consisting of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Union Minister of Finance and Union Minister for Law & Justice, be set-up and notified at national level for ensuring timely implementation of the decisions taken at Chief Justices' Conference and Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices, as decided in the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 11th March, 2006 and 8th April, 2007. 2] As decided in the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 11th March, 2006 and 8th April, 2007, Monitoring Committees at two levels be set-up in each State for timely implementation of the decisions taken at Chief Justices' Conference and Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices, wherever such Committees have already not been set-up. The first level Committee should consist of Chief Secretary, Registrar General of the High Court and Law Secretary of the State, whereas, the second level Committee should consist of Chief Minister, Chief Justice and Law Minister of the State. Constitution of such Committees be duly notified, wherever already not notified”; b] The Committees at both the levels be constituted at the earliest in the States, wherever not set-up, and they be notified at the earliest. c] Home Secretary of the State be also included in the Committee in cases where he/she looks after the affairs of the High Courts for the purpose of allocation of funds and other allied matters.

**III. MEDIATION & CONCILIATION PROJECT COMMITTEE (MCPC):** Hon'ble Shri Y.K. Sabharwal, former Chief Justice of India, had constituted the 'Mediation & Conciliation Project Committee' [MCPC] on 9th May, 2005. At present, Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.V. Raveendran is Chairman of MCPC and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Cyriac Joseph is its member. Under the aegis of the MCPC, four Regional Conferences and one National Conference have been organized to formulate National Plan so as to achieve the objective of reduction of arrears and delay in disposal of cases by meaningful and effective implementation of mediation in a phased manner. The MCPC has conducted various Mediation Training Programmes and Referral Judges' Trainings successfully in different parts of the country in order to train Judicial Officers and Advocates as mediators. As a part of the mediation programme, a number of Awareness Programmes have also been conducted under the aegis of the MCPC in order to spread awareness about mediation both

among Judicial Officers and Advocates and to sensitize them about the benefits of mediation.

**IV. SUPREME COURT MEDIATION CENTRE:** Supreme Court Mediation Centre was inaugurated by Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India, on 6th August, 2009 at Chamber No.110, [R.K. Jain Block], Supreme Court Compound, in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha, the then Hon'ble Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority & Chairman, Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee, Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tarun Chatterjee, the then Hon'ble Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee and other Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court.

**V. INDO-BRAZIL SOUTH AFRICA DIALOGUE FORUM:** The first Conference of the Indo-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue Forum was held in Supreme Court of India on 21st September, 2009 to discuss Legal Systems of India and Brazil and to identify areas of mutual cooperation. The Brazilian delegation was headed by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ricardo Lewandowski, Senior Judge of the Federal Supreme Court of Brazil. Ms. Susan Kleebank, Chief Advisor of International Affairs, Federal Supreme Court of Brazil was the other member of the delegation. A Protocol of Intent on juridical cooperation between the Supreme Courts of Brazil, Russia, India and China was signed by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India on this occasion i.e. on 21st September, 2009.

**VI. OPERATIONALIZATION OF GRAM NYAYALAYAS:** Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India has asked all the High Courts to explore the possibility of starting as many Gram Nyayalayas as possible as per the guidelines of the Central Government.

#### **VII. MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY (NJA)**

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL WORKSHOP ON ADJUDICATION MANAGEMENT: ADJUDICATION OF MURDER CASES (24-27 JULY, 2009):*** Twenty five judges from the district judiciary participated in this workshop. The programme covered such aspects as the social background of persons (accused, victim and witnesses) involved in adjudication of murder cases; relevant court and case management

methods, substantive and procedural law, judging and decision making skills and evaluation of quality and timeliness.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL SEMINAR ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CRIMINAL LAW (24-26 JULY, 2009):*** The Seminar was conceptualized with a view to share the recent developments emerging from various High Courts in the field of Criminal Law. Extensive discussions were also held on Trial by Media in the light of recent SC decision in Shantibhushan Bariyar. Around thirty district judges from across the country participated in the Programme.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL WORKSHOP ON ENHANCING EXCELLENCE IN CORE JUDICIAL SKILLS (31 JULY-2 AUGUST, 2009):*** The overall objective of the workshop was to analyze and enhance excellence in core judicial skills. Judicial method, judgment and decision making, reasoning, Constitutional vision of justice guiding judging, appreciation of facts and law, statutory interpretation and interpretation of deeds and documents were the areas covered under the programme.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL WORKSHOP ON ADJUDICATION MANAGEMENT: ADJUDICATION OF CASES INVOLVING CHILDREN (31 JULY-3 AUGUST, 2009):*** Twenty four judges from the district judiciary participated in this workshop. The programme focussed on adjudication of cases involving children covering Juvenile Justice Act, Laws against trafficking of children and child labour. Hon'ble Justice Altamas Kabir, Judge, Supreme Court of India and other dignitaries provided guidance on the topics under discussion.

***NATIONAL INTENSIVE JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (JEEP) (FIRST VISIT) (7-14 AUGUST, 2009):*** In order to strengthen the impact of judicial education, NJA has developed for the first time this year a unique programme called "National Intensive Judicial Excellence Enhancement Programme (JEEP)". JEEP provides a ten-month intensive programme for improvement of performance in the identified areas consisting of two visits of the participants to NJA: the first visit from August 7th -14th, 2009 and the second visit from April 9th -16th, 2010. The aim of the programme is to measurably develop in a holistic manner the critical indicators of quality of judging.

The objective of the Programme is to strengthen the quality of performance of individual judges in 21 specific attributes associated with high quality judging. For this purpose, NJA has identified 4 core areas that consist of 21 Focal attributes where improvement of performance of Individual judges is urgently required & assistance can be offered by NJA to the participant judges. These are: (1) QUALITIES/ ATTITUDES: Faith in Constitutional Values, Role & Responsibilities of Courts, Personal Rectitude, Commitment to Public Service, Judicial Ethics & Conduct, Openness/ Humility; Empathy, Vision, Decisiveness (2) FUNCTIONAL SKILLS: Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing, Analysis; Logic & Reasoning, English Language & Communication (including non-verbal communication), Dispute Settlement/Negotiation/Bargaining (3) DOMAIN SKILLS: Appreciation of Facts, Finding & Appreciation the Law, Judging and Decision Making, Responsiveness in Judging, Managing the Adjudication Process/Team Work Skills, Administrative Skills, Foreseeing the impact of decisions. (4) KNOWLEDGE: Basic legal subjects, Constitution and its history, Freedom Movement and Key Social Challenges Facing the Country Including Poverty and Social Justice. Around Eighty judges of the Subordinate judiciary from across the country participated in the programme.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL WORKSHOP ON COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR JUDGES (22-23 AUGUST, 2009):*** The main focus of the programme was to enhance excellence in communication skills within and out of the court. The programme was structured around the following themes: Communication and Professional Effectiveness; Effective Communication Strategies; Non-verbal Communication; Cognitive Process in Communication & Blocks in Communication; English Language & Judgment writing and Communication Skills for Judges.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL SEMINAR ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CIVIL, COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC LAW (4-6 SEPTEMBER, 2009):*** Approximately thirty members of the district judiciary from all over the country attended the seminar. The aim of this programme was to apprise the attending judges about the emergent disputes and developments in the key areas of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms, Corporate law, Taxation law, Securities law, Banking law, Insolvency law, and IPR law.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL WORKSHOP ON ADJUDICATION MANAGEMENT: ADJUDICATION OF CASES CONCERNING SAFETY, SECURITY AND PUBLIC ORDER (11-14 SEPTEMBER, 2009):*** Around 22 Judges from District Judiciary participated in the programme. The programme focused on adjudication of cases concerning safety, security and public order including cases involving terrorism, insurgencies and organized crime. The framework of the programme was prepared so as to cover social context, investigation, Prosecution, adjudication process, sentencing and penal policy. Apart from this, the programme also aimed at discussing court and case management methods, substantive and procedural law, judging and decision making skills and evaluation of quality and timeliness.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL SEMINAR ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PUBLIC LAW (11-13 SEPTEMBER, 2009):*** The programme focussed on new areas of legal development in Public Law. The sessions on the first day focused on the Emerging Concepts in Public Law in India & Relevance of Public Law development to the work of Subordinate Courts. On the second day of the seminar the theoretical basis and features of judicial review & Public Interest Litigation were discussed. The Rights Issues in criminal justice system such as Sentencing, Bail, Determination of guilt, Protection of Rights of parties etc. were also focused upon. On the last day the seminar deliberated on the need for making Public institutions more effective and responsive to the needs of the people. Responses ranging from inter-institutional accountability through institution like the judiciary to direct accountability through the mechanisms of RTI were deliberated upon. Around thirty district judges from across the country participated in the seminar.

***NATIONAL JUDICIAL WORKSHOP ON ADJUDICATION MANAGEMENT: ADJUDICATION OF COMPLEX ECONOMIC CASES (18-21 SEPTEMBER, 2009):*** The object of the programme was to formulate a methodology for handling Complex Economic Cases (CEC) through a special judicial management at minimum cost to the government and litigants. A draft was prepared with the inputs provided by the participants.

## VIII. MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (NALSA)

**CONCLAVE OF THE HON'BLE EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBER SECRETARIES OF THE STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES:** The Conclave was organized on 11th July, 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Conclave was chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha, the then Executive Chairman, NALSA.

**CONFERENCE OF THE HON'BLE EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBER SECRETARIES OF THE STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES, FINANCE SECRETARIES AND LAW SECRETARIES OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS:** The Conference was organized on 12th July, 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Conference was chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha, the then Executive Chairman, NALSA.

**NATIONAL SEMINAR ON UNORGANISED WORKERS' SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, 2008:** The National Seminar was organized on 12th July, 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Seminar was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India. Dr. M. Veerappa Moily, Hon'ble Union Law Minister delivered the special address. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Hon'ble Union Minister for Labour and Employment delivered the Key Note Address. Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha, the then Executive Chairman presided over the function. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tarun Chatterjee and Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.S. Sirpurkar, Judge of Supreme Court of India chaired the Sessions.

## **IMPORTANT VISITS AND CONFERENCES (From 01-07-09 to 30-09-09)**

1. Hon'ble Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India alongwith Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.V. Raveendran participated in the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) funded "Protecting Rights and Promoting Access to Justice" project held in Sydney, Australia from 18th to 27th September, 2009.
2. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir participated in the 4-day Legal Conference on "Enhancing the Justice System under the Rule of Law" organized by the Judiciary of Mauritius in collaboration with the Honorable Society of the Middle Temple and the Commonwealth Judicial Educational Institute (CJEI) in Mauritius from 22nd to 25th September, 2009.
3. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Markandey Katju was one of the Key Note Speakers in the Conference of Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association held in the Providenciales, the Turks and Caicos Islands (U.K.) from 26th September to 3rd October, 2009. His Lordship spoke on the topic "The Promotion and Protection of Judicial Independence".
4. Hon'ble Dr. Justice Mukundakam Sharma attended the "2009 International Conference on Judicial Protection of IPR in China" organized by the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China in Chengdu (China) from 9th to 11th September, 2009.




# LIST OF SUPREME COURT JUDGES

*(As on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2009)*

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

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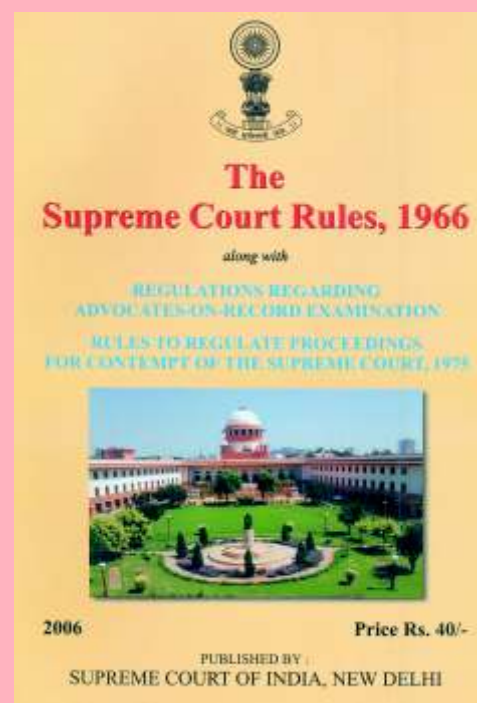
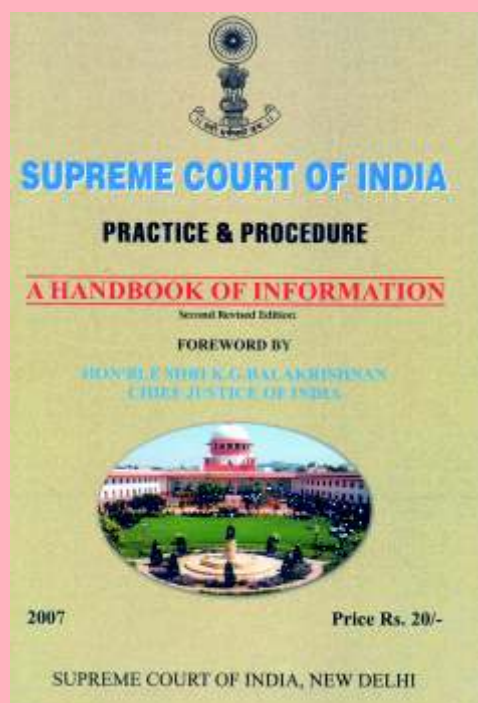
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