

FULL COURT REFERENCE TO BE HELD ON 15TH MAY, 2015 AT 3.00 P.M. ON
THE SAD DEMISE OF LATE SHRI MILAP CHAND JAIN, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE,
DELHI HIGH COURT

JUSTICE G. ROHINI
CHIEF JUSTICE

My esteemed brother and sister Judges,

Shri Sanjay Jain, Additional Solicitor General of India;

Shri K.K. Manan, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi;

Shri Rajeev Khosla, President, Delhi High Court Bar Association;

Shri Abhijat, Hony. Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association;

Shri Raman Duggal, Standing Counsel (Civil), Govt. of NCT of Delhi;

Other Standing Counsels of the Central and State Government;

Executive Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association;

Office Bearers of other District Bar Associations,

Senior Advocates,

Members of the Bar,

Family members of Justice Milap Chand Jain;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

We have assembled here today to express our deep sense of pain and sorrow on the sad demise of Justice Milap Chand Jain, former Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi who has left for his heavenly abode on 29th April, 2015 at Jaipur (Rajasthan).

Justice Jain was born on 21st July 1929. He was enrolled as an advocate in Rajasthan in 1953 and as Advocate-On-Record of the Supreme Court of India in 1957. Justice Jain successfully practiced in Civil, Criminal and Revenue cases at Jaipur, Jodhpur and Ajmer, before joining the Rajasthan Judicial Service as Additional District and Sessions Judge on 6th April, 1970. Justice Jain was elevated as Additional Judge of Rajasthan High Court w.e.f. 15th June 1978 and was appointed as permanent Judge from 23rd November, 1978.

Justice Jain was appointed as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on 28th November, 1990. During his short tenure from 28th November, 1990 to 20th July, 1991, Justice Jain was known for his immense patience during arguments in the Court and arriving at rationale and logical conclusions. He was always ready and willing to help younger members of the Bar and would encourage them to come forward and argue matters. Although, I did not have any occasion to personally meet Justice Milap Chand Jain, I have heard a lot from senior Judges and Registrars of this Court about his simplicity, clarity of thought and uprightness. Justice Jain was also known for delivering judgments expeditiously.

Before being elevated as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, Justice Jain remained the Acting Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court from 23rd May 1989 to 14th April, 1990 and Acting Governor of the State of Rajasthan. He was a very popular Judge among his contemporaries and in the lawyers' community.

Justice Milap Chand Jain was also a member of the Indian Council of Arbitration. Justice Jain has delivered many landmark judgments, and I am informed that after his retirement as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, he was entrusted with the responsibility to examine the conspiracy in the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, which was later on known as "Jain Commission".

I am informed that Justice Milap Chand Jain had suffered a brain stroke and had not been keeping well for the last few months before his demise on 29th April, 2015. The loss of precious life of a Judge like Justice Milap Chand Jain is a great loss to the whole legal fraternity.

Justice Jain has had a fulfilled life and he is survived by his son and two daughters.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty, to give them strength to bear the irretrievable loss. May the Almighty bestow peace upon the departed soul.

(AFTER REFERENCE BY LAWYERS IS OVER)

I request you all to pay homage in the memory of Justice Milap Chand Jain by standing in silence for two minutes

(The Hon'ble Judges will take their respective seats for a moment after the silence, and it will be announced by Hon'ble the Chief Justice as under).

"As a mark of respect to the departed soul, the Court is adjourned for the rest of the day".