

FAREWELL SPEECH

Hon'ble the Chief Justice Shri Govind Mathur, Hon'ble Shri Justice Ajay Rastogi, Judge, Supreme Court of India, my Esteemed **Sister and Brother Judges, Sri Shashi Prakash Singh**, learned Additional Solicitor General of India, **Shri Raghvendra Singh**, learned Advocate General, **Shri Amrendra Nath Singh**, President, High Court Bar Association, **Shri A.D. Saunders**, President, Advocates' Association, **Dr. Ashok Nigam**, Senior Advocate, Chairman Elder's Committee Awadh Bar Association, **Registrar General, Officers of the Registry, Ladies and Gentlemen:**

A very good evening.

We have assembled through first ever virtual mode to bid an affectionate farewell to Hon'ble Shri Justice Govind Mathur on the eve of his demitting the office as Chief Justice, High Court of Judicature At Allahabad.

Born on April 14, 1959 in an illustrious family of Udaipur. After graduating in law from University of Jodhpur, Justice Mathur practised widely in various branches of law, after being enrolled with the Rajasthan State Bar Council, Jodhpur on 12th September, 1983.

By sheer dint of his hardwork, sincerity and the legal acumen, Justice Mathur soon carved out a niche for himself as a promising Advocate of the High Court.

Besides, being a Standing Counsel for University of Rajasthan, Indian Oil Corporation, Water and Power Consultancy Services, National Council for Teachers' Education, Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Bhilwara Central Co-operative Bank and other National Banks, Justice Mathur was also a Vice President of Rajasthan High Court Advocates' Association, Executive President, Indian Law Institute,

Rajasthan Chapter and Secretary, Indian Association of Lawyers, Rajasthan Chapter.

Considering such wide expertise in Constitutional, Service and Labour Laws and merit to his credit, his Lordships elevation as a Judge of High Court of Rajasthan was a natural sequel. On 2nd September, 2004 as an Additional Judge and on May 26, 2006 as a Permanent Judge.

His lordship was transferred to this High Court on 21.11.2017. Was Acting Chief Justice from 24.10.2018 to 13.11.2018. And was sworn as Chief Justice on 14.11.2018.

The judgements delivered by his lordship bears the testimony as to the ease with which he handled the complex legal issues.

Henry Drummond, a Scottish Evangelist, Biologist, Writer and Lecturer, once said and i quote:

“ i will never rise to the point of view which wishes to raise faith to knowledge. To me, the way of truth is to come through the knowledge of my ignorance to the submissiveness of faith, and then making that my starting place, to raise my knowledge into faith.”
unquote.

This is what, as i perceive, Justice Mathur believes in and follows.

In **Nuzhat Perween (Habeas Corpus Writ Petition No. 264/2020 decided on 1.09.2020)** harmonizing competing rights guaranteed under Article 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution and tacitly balancing three elements, viz, content based, intent based, and the impact based, His lordship faulted with the incarceration of the detenu under National Security Act, 1980, observing that the personal liberty is the mother of other fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution.

Acknowledging that the dignity is the right of a person to be valued and respected for their own sake, being significant is morality, ethics, law and politics being an inherent and inalienable right of an individual and taking suo moto cognizance in respect of legitimacy of the action of District Administration of the City of Lucknow of public display of photographs, name and address of the persons alleged of vandalism during protest in the month of December. 2019, His lordship disapproved the action observing that individual privacy and dignity being fundamental human right provides lungs to our Constitutional philosophy, protected and nurtured as an intrinsic part of life and liberty guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution. And a slightest injury to it would be fatal to the values and ethos depicted in the preamble of our Constitution.

Attainments of past as we marched through the Pandemic Covid-19 with the aid of modern technology for dispensation of justice, causing effective court hearings, bringing solace to not only the grieved populace but the lawyers, has put our High Court in front-line in the cause of Administration of justice. This has been possible because of the able leadership of His lordship, which with your parting will leave a void.

i on behalf of my peers, on behalf of Uttar Pradesh Judiciary and on my own behalf, wish His Lordship and Respected Mrs. Mathur, happiness, peace and good health.

May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam.

May peace and plenty bless your world, with joy that long endures.

May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours.

Thank You
Jai Hind