# Supreme Court CHRONICLE

Issue I | November 2023











Dear Readers,

I am thrilled to announce the publication of the inaugural issue of the Supreme Court Chronicle, a monthly newsletter that showcases the ongoing operations and achievements of the Supreme Court of India and offers an insight into the workings of the Court. Within its pages, you will find glimpses of the Court's storied history, overviews of the key judgments that define our legal landscape and the stories of the remarkable individuals who work day in and day out to realise the promise of our institution.

I trust that the Supreme Court Chronicle will become a key source of information about the Supreme Court's functioning and keep readers updated on the activities of this Court, both within and beyond the courtroom.

It is my hope that this newsletter will illuminate the collaborative process of justice delivery, and communicate to readers the continuous efforts being made to improve the Court's functioning. This also marks a new era of transparency, connectedness and progress for the Court with various stakeholders in the justice-delivery ecosystem. I believe that once other stakeholders are apprised of the Court's initiatives, new avenues of collaboration and cooperation will present themselves.

My gratitude to all those at the Centre for Research and Planning, and the New Judges' Library who contributed to the publication of Supreme Court Chronicle.

**Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud**
Hon'ble Chief Justice of India

# What to look for!


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# Supreme Trivia

## Did You Know ?



An adaptation of the national Ashoka emblem, the emblem of the Supreme Court is inscribed with a Sanskrit *shloka* from the Bhagavad Gita, *yatodharmastato jayah*, or "where there is dharma, there is victory."

Two Supreme Court judges served prison sentences for their participation in the freedom movement before their appointment to the judiciary. Mr. Justice B. Jagannadhadas (1953 – 1958) was jailed by colonial authorities for his participation in the 1942 Quit India Movement and Justice Jeevan Lal Kapur (1957 – 1962) was imprisoned for his involvement in the 1930 Salt Satyagraha.

# Fresh from The Bench

Court Hearings through Video Conferencing: *Sarvesh Mathur v. Registrar General of High Court of Punjab and Haryana* (2023 INSC 891)

In an order dated 6 October 2023, a three-judge bench comprising Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud, Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.B. Pardiwala and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Misra recognised and reinforced the importance of video conferencing in securing access to justice for the citizenry. The Petitioner before the Court was aggrieved that the Punjab and Haryana High Court had disbanded video conferencing facilities to conduct hearings after the resumption of physical hearings post pandemic.

Through its order, the Court gave directions to the Union of India, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, High Courts, and Tribunals seeking, *inter alia*, details of video conferencing licenses obtained by the High Courts, the availability of hybrid infrastructure, the number of video conferencing/hybrid hearings which have taken place etc., in a bid to restore and continue hybrid hearings. The Court concluded the order by highlighting the inevitable need for incorporation of technology in the justice dispensation system by stating that "The use of technology by the Bar and the Bench is no longer an option but a necessity."

# Milestones in Justice

Madhyamam Broadcasting Limited *v.* Union of India (2023 INSC 324)

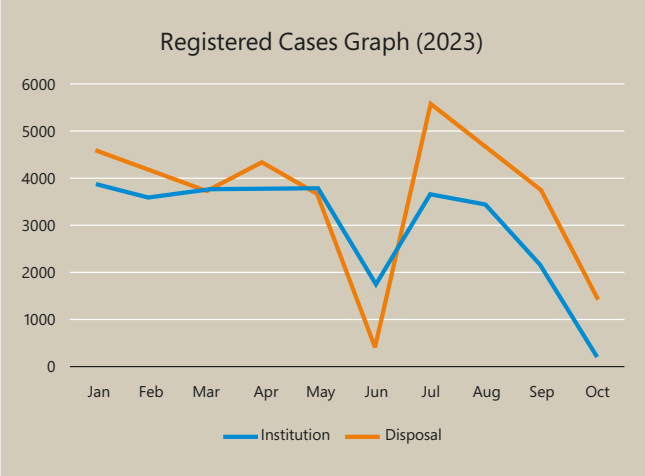
On 5 April 2023, a two-judge bench of the Supreme Court delivered a significant judgment in the case of Madhyamam Broadcasting Limited v. Union of India (commonly known as the 'MediaOne Judgement'), dealing with the scope of the proportionality test.

The Court held that the standard of proportionality must be used to assess the reasonableness of the limitation on both substantive and procedural rights. The Court also disfavoured the sealed-cover approach and stated that: "The basic principle of law is that all material which is relied upon by parties during judicial proceedings must be disclosed. The non-disclosure of material to the affected parties and its disclosure in the sealed cover makes the process of adjudication vague and opaque."

# Transparency in Action

- The Supreme Court has worked for 74 days from July to October 2023. In the months of July, August, September and October, the number of working days were 21, 21, 16 and 16 respectively.
- 30,314 cases were instituted between January 2023 and October 2023. The Supreme Court disposed of 36,682 cases during this same period.

| Month | Institution | Disposal |
|---|---|---|
| Jan | 3926 | 4631 |
| Feb | 3648 | 4222 |
| Mar | 3757 | 3798 |
| Apr | 3751 | 4393 |
| May | 3820 | 3675 |
| Jun | 1781 | 441 |
| Jul | 3671 | 5591 |
| Aug | 3499 | 4636 |
| Sep | 2207 | 3778 |
| Oct | 254 | 1517 |




Source: Supreme Court National Judicial Data Grid (as on 30 October 2023)

# Training Hub

The Supreme Court routinely organises training programs and skill enhancement exercises for its staff. These programs focus on the development of Information Communication Technology (ICT) skills, team building and leadership among court employees. Induction training for newly appointed personnel, orientations for promoted officers, and specialised programs that address mental health at the workplace are also regularly scheduled. Efforts to organise training sessions about the mentioning and listing of matters and Cyber Security approaches are underway.

Since November 2022, a total number of 34 training programs have been conducted at the Supreme Court of India, in which 2000 staff members have participated.

## Highlights

- On 17 and 18 April 2023, the e-Committee of the Supreme Court conducted the first ever Digital Accessibility Information Communication Technology (ICT) training for visually challenged judicial officers and court staff at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA).



*The Chief Justice of India along with the officials of the Registry in a workshop on Leadership and Ethics held on 5 August 2023.*

- The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India inaugurated the Training cum Examination Centre on 18 May 2023 at the Additional Building Complex of the Supreme Court.
- On 5 August 2023, a Training Programme on 'Leadership and Ethical Training' was conducted for the concerned officers of the Registry wherein the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India delivered the keynote address and announced the year-long training program for the officials of the Supreme Court. In his address, the Chief Justice laid special emphasis on the importance of gender sensitization along with training in ICT skills.



*Group photograph of newly engaged Law Clerks along with officers of the Registry, after an induction and training session on 18 August 2023.*

# A Safe and Inclusive Workplace

Under the guidance of Hon'ble Ms. Justice Hima Kohli, the Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC) of the Supreme Court is continually working to ensure a nurturing, safe and inclusive workplace.

## Sexual Harassment Complaint Filing Procedure

- Under Section 8 of the "Gender Sensitisation and Sexual Harassment of Women at the Supreme Court of India (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal), Regulations, 2013," any woman facing sexual harassment within the precincts of the Supreme Court of India may file a written complaint with the GSICC through the Member Secretary. The complaint may be made via email at membersecy.gsicc@sci.nic.in or by contacting designated members or volunteers, whose contact details are prominently displayed across the Supreme Court premises and website of the Supreme Court.
- To ensure a comprehensive complaint, it is crucial for the complainant to share all relevant evidence, including phone call records, text correspondence, and any other electronic media involved in the harassment.
- In instances where the complainant is unable to file a report due to physical or mental incapacitation, or in the unfortunate case of her demise, a legal heir or an individual directly associated with her interests may lodge a complaint under Section 8 (2) of the Regulations.

## Gender Sensitisation Efforts

The GSICC routinely organises gender sensitisation training sessions and workshops for court staff and employees. The Training Cell of the Supreme Court in coordination with the GSICC on 12 August 2023, organised a workshop on gender sensitisation for the Registry staff. Among the highlights were a skit




*Gender sensitisation workshop held on 12 August 2023.*




*Group photo taken during the Gender sensitisation workshop on 20 October 2023 in the presence of Mr. Atul M. Kurhekar, Ld. Secretary General, Supreme Court of India, dignitaries from the United Nations, the District Legal and Services Authority and members of the GSICC.*

performed by legal aid clinic students from the School of Law, Jamia Hamdard and the activities organised by experts from the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA).

More recently, a workshop organised by GSICC on 20 October 2023, featured experts from UN Women such as Kanta Singh, Deputy Country Representative, along with Sanya Seth, Country Programme Manager, UN, Jyoti Maheshwari, Secretary DLSA and Meenakshi Arora, Senior Advocate, and Member, GSICC. This collaborative effort reflects the Supreme Court's unwavering dedication to eradicating sexual harassment and ensuring a workplace of dignity and respect for all.

# Legal Aid Outreach



*Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Executive Chairperson, National Legal Services Authority*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Executive Chairperson, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) inaugurated the Legal Aid Clinic at Tangtse, Leh on 30 September 2023. Justice Kaul launched the "National Toll Free Helpline Number 15100 of NALSA through IVRS Technology," and the National Commision for Women's mobile app, "Her Legal Guide" virtually.



*The 19th All India Legal Services Authorities Meet organised by the National Legal Services Authority on 30 June - 1 July 2023 at Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir*

### Upcoming Activities of NALSA

On 9 November 2023 on the occassion of Legal Services Day, NALSA will appreciate the outstanding contributions of panel lawyers across various domains such as civil, criminal, and matrimonial proceedings. Additionally, efforts by Community Level Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs), student PLVs, PLVs in correctional facilities, as well as those in educational institutions, will be recognized for advancing NALSA's objectives. Furthermore, State Legal Aid Authorities (SLAs) and District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) will augment legal literacy and awareness through innovative means including mobile vans, newspapers, and social media platforms.

The 1st Regional Conference on "Access to Legal Aid: Strengthening Access to Justice in the Global South" will be held on 27 and 28 November 2023 at New Delhi. Organised in collaboration with the International Legal Foundation (ILF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Conference will highlight efforts in the Asia-Pacific and Africa to implement the UN Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems (2012) and to further the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

# The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee

The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) provides legal aid and assistance to weaker and marginalised section of the society. Realizing the constitutional vision of access to justice, SCLSC is working towards providing equal access and representation in the legal system in the Supreme Court. The process for availing legal services through SCLSC can be found at https://sclsc.gov.in/legal-services/Process.



*Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Chairperson, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee*

# Event Roundup

On 26 November 2022, the Supreme Court celebrated Constitution Day to advance the ideals enshrined in the Indian Constitution. The inaugural address was delivered by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, while the valedictory address was given by Her Excellency, the President of India. Several initiatives including the Virtual Justice Clock, JustIS Mobile App 2.0, Digital Court and SuWaaS Websites were launched on Constitution Day.





*The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Singapore, Justice Sundaresh Menon during the 1st Annual Lecture on 4 February 2023.*

To commemorate the establishment of the Supreme Court of India on 28 January 1950, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India has initiated annual celebrations and instituted an annual lecture series. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Singapore, Sundaresh Menon as Chief Guest, delivered the 1st Annual Lecture on "The Role of the Judiciary in a Changing World".

On 24 April 2023, the Supreme Court launched a special webpage to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landmark 'basic structure' ruling in Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala. The webpage is a repository of information about the case and features an introduction to the legal issues in the case, a comprehensive record of its proceedings and scanned copies of the judgement along with the written submissions of the Petitioner, respondents, and intervenors. A video on 50 years of the judgment was also released.



*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India along with Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court during the inauguration of Judges' Library, Additional Building Complex, and the Celebrations of 50th Anniversary of Kesavananda Bharati judgement.*



*Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India inaugurating the new canteen along with Supreme Court Judges on 5 October 2023.*

The Eighteenth Meeting of Chief Justices/ Chairpersons of the Supreme Courts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States was held in New Delhi from 10 to 11 March 2023 under the Presidency of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. The Meeting culminated in the signing of a Joint Statement and featured discussions on a number of subjects including smart courts, access to justice, and institutional challenges facing the judiciary.



*Glimpse of the SCO Conference*

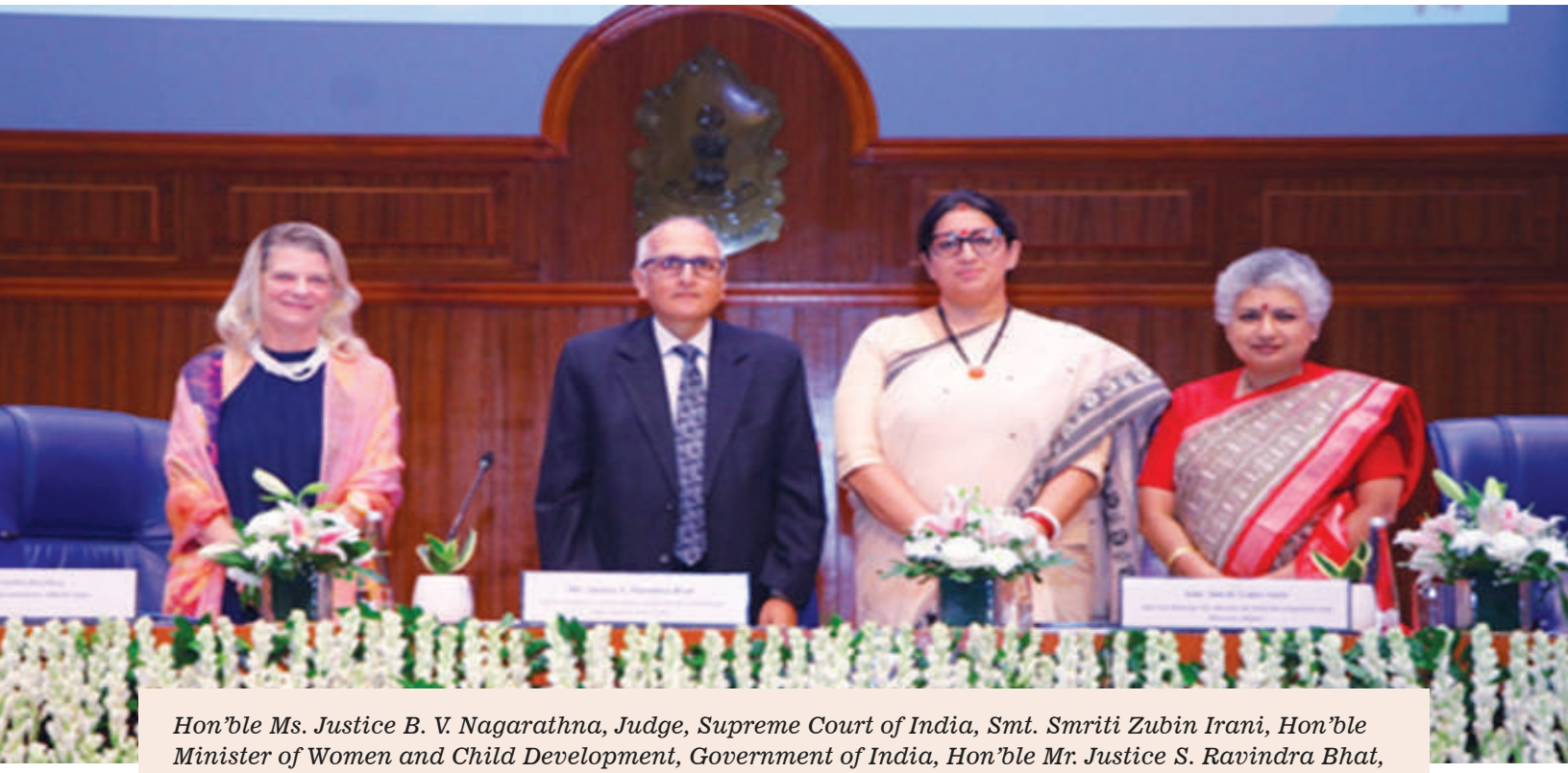


*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India along with Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.S. Narasimha along with the delegation from Iran at the SCO Conference.*



*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud, along-with Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.S. Narasimha, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Bindal (from left to right).*

The Supreme Court Committee on Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare, in partnership with UNICEF India organised a national consultation on how to strengthen the justice delivery system for children in conflict with the law from 23 to 24 September 2023. Speaking on the occasion, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Chairperson of the Committee, stressed upon the need for child's reformation to be at the core of collective efforts in the context of child in conflict with the law.



*Hon'ble Ms. Justice B. V. Nagarathna, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Chairperson of the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee, and Ms. Cynthia McCaffrey, Representative, UNICEF India at the National Consultation held between 23-24 September 2023. (from right to left)*

# Recent Initiatives

The Supreme Court's **RTI portal** allows citizens to access information about the functioning of the apex court under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

The **Advocate Appearance Portal** allows for the appearance of advocates to be noted in the Record of Proceedings (ROP) with speed and accuracy. It reduces the Court's carbon footprint by minimizing the usage of paper and eliminating manual filing.

Through the e-SCR, the Supreme Court provides free and digital access to its reported judgements. Thus far, more than 34,000 judgements have been made available free of cost on e-SCR. Further, 1,268 judgments have been translated in a number of Indian languages including Garo, Kannada, Khasi, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu.

The construction of **nine universal restrooms** in the Supreme Court marks a step towards a judicial infrastructure that is more sensitive to the needs of the LGBTQIA + community.

The **e-Sewa Kendra** and Facilitation Centre addresses the e-filing needs of lawyers and litigants. It also allows them to access information about pending cases in courts across the country, make online applications for certified copies, and pay fees for the Supreme Court's RTI portal.



*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India inaugurating the e-Sewa Kendra on 12 May 2023.*

The newly equipped courtroom numbers 1 to 3 in the Supreme Court herald the future of judicial infrastructure. These energy-efficient, **futuristic courts** feature a state-of-the-art video conferencing system and LED video walls that mark the transition to a technologically-enabled, paperless judiciary.

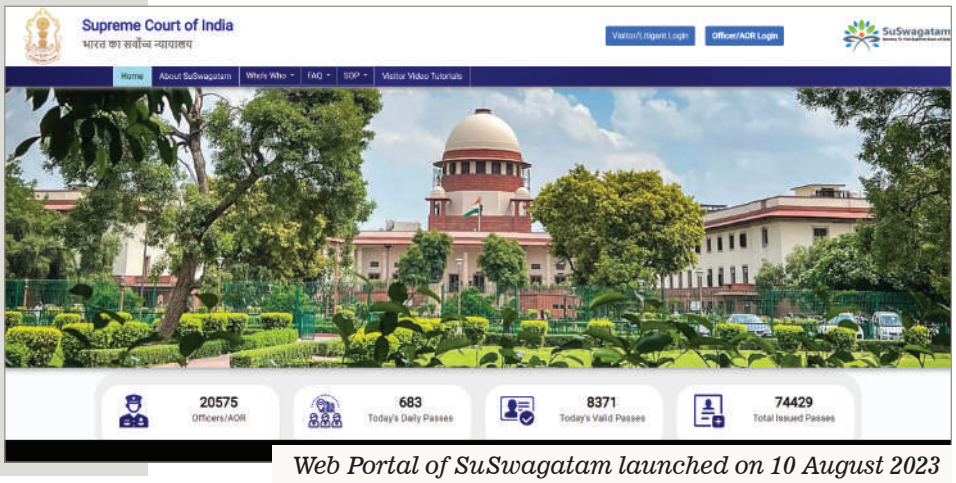
*IT enabled paperless courtrooms*



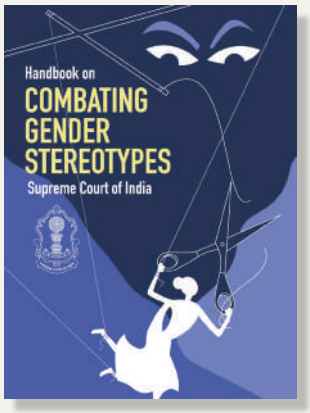


The **Neutral Citation System** allows decisions of the Supreme Court to be identified and cited through a unique number. This number is generated through the Court's Integrated Case Management Information System (ICMIS).

Since the launch of **SuSwagatam**, a citizen-centric, web-based and mobile-friendly app, visitors to the Supreme Court may now request an e-Pass to enter the Court premises rather than waiting in long and tedious queues.




*Web Portal of SuSwagatam launched on 10 August 2023*




The **Handbook on Combating Gender Stereotypes** which was launched on 16 August 2023, features a glossary of gender-unjust terms and proposes alternative words and phrases for use in legal documents. It was prepared under the direction of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India.

Previously on 26 November 2022, the Supreme Court also launched the **Sensitization Module for the Judiciary on LGBTQIA+ Community**. The document features terms that should be used while addressing the LGBTQIA+ community.



*On 14 September 2023, Supreme Court of India onboarded its data on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) portal.*

With the integration of the Supreme Court into the National Judicial Data Grid, information about case management across all three tiers of the judiciary is now in the public domain. The NJDG's real-time statistical insights into judicial performance enhances institutional transparency.



*As a special gesture, the Chief Justice of India requested a senior staff member to inaugurate the Health Centre.*

The new Health and Wellness Centre at the Additional Building Complex of the Supreme Court offers Zumba dance and cardio classes in addition to standard gym equipment for court staff. It was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Justice on 13 January 2023.

While inaugurating the 'Supreme Court Sports, Cultural and Other Events - 2023,' in April 2023 the Hon'ble Chief Justice encouraged court staff to follow a "holistic pattern of living" to promote their physical and mental well-being. 970 court employees participated in the Events which featured twelve sports and nine cultural events.

# Bytes from the Staff

## Mastering the Court: Sanjay Kumar-I, Deputy Registrar, Court Master's Wing

By early October 2001, the Supreme Court Registry had two Sanjay Kumars on its payroll. The first was christened Sanjay Kumar-I, the second, Sanjay Kumar-II. This is the story of the first Sanjay Kumar.

For twenty-two years now, Sanjay Kumar has worked alongside seven judges of this Court. Five of them— Justice S.H. Kapadia, Justice Altamas Kabir, Justice P. Sathasivam, Justice R.M. Lodha and Justice Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud— have been Chief Justices.

As Sanjay Kumar sees it, the work of a Court Master is "to work for the convenience of the judge... to ensure that the judge faces no difficulty while sitting on the bench." In his two decade-long career, this work has taken many forms. From organising briefs and cited statutes, to pouring through the decisions of lower courts. Earlier, when judges did not have more than a law clerk or two to assist them, Sanjay Kumar notes that Court Masters had to do a lot of the research. "I learnt a lot," he says bright-eyed, when he talks of scouring through legal databases such as Westlaw and Manupatra for the first time. He credits his background in Economics as particularly useful for understanding tax matters, such as the Vodafone case before Justice Kapadia, during which Rs. 11,000 crores of taxpayers' money was in dispute.



*Sanjay Kumar-I, Deputy Registrar, Court Master's Wing*

Sanjay Kumar's love of learning is apparent. By many measures, he is among the most educated and qualified at this Court. He has six degrees— three in Economics (a BA (Hons), MA, and M Phil), and three in Law (an accelerated LLB, a regular LLB and an LLM). Most of them were completed via correspondence, while he worked full time at the Court. This love of learning is also a love of teaching. Someday, he hopes to return to Economics and instill his passion for the subject in young students.

Since 2019, Sanjay Kumar has worked with Justice D. Y. Chandrachud. He was promoted to Deputy Registrar a little over a year ago. He welcomes the paperless technology that the Court first embraced during COVID-19. It has made his life much easier, "it is very, very good," he says. Once dusty briefs have given way to digital paper books and pen drives that can be accessed at the click of a button. Work at odd hours can be completed from the comfort of home, and page numbers are much more easily tracked in the virtual realm than in the real one. Recently, in the constitutional challenge to the abrogation of Article 370, he tells me, over 46,000 pages of documents had to be examined by the Court. All of it was done digitally.

Sanjay Kumar recommends that all posts within the Supreme Court Registry be fixed transfer posts. "Without diversification, you cannot learn," he urges, and emphasises the need for all employees to be exposed to different departments so that the Court as an institution may gain from this exposure.

# Bytes from Law Clerks and Researchers

"Pursuing a judicial clerkship at the Supreme Court provides a bird's eye view of the process of adjudication. A judicial law clerk performs three tasks - preparing briefs of the matters listed before the Judge, assisting the Judge on public engagements which includes drafting speeches, and preparing research notes which will assist the Judge while drafting judgments. A clerkship is often seen as a stepping stone to litigation because you learn what makes a case, but more importantly, you also learn what breaks a case. As a judicial law clerk, you get to contribute to the process of theorizing the law which would help those who seek a career in academia. A judicial clerkship at the Supreme Court is one of the most sought after jobs for a young graduate, particularly after the pay hike from 65,000 to 80,000-90,000.

My experience of working with Dr. Justice DY Chandrachud has been intellectually enriching and stimulating. Justice Chandrachud is always open to new ideas and has created a safe working space for a free exchange of ideas and thoughts. Before he shares his views on a case, he always asks us for our view of the matter and the approach that we think the Court must adopt."

—Nivedhita K
Law Clerk-cum-Research Associate (2020-2024)

"A Law Clerk-cum-Research Associate ("LCRA") has the unique opportunity to learn from some of the country's best judicial minds and contribute significantly to the Court's work. In April 2023, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India approved the Scheme for Engaging Law Clerk-cum-Research Associates on Short-Term Contractual Assignment in the Supreme Court of India ("Scheme").

This Scheme signifies a quiet revolution in the LCRA recruitment process. It accomplishes two things: firstly, it makes the selection process transparent. The timelines for the examination, shortlisting, and interviews are fixed, providing a clear pathway for prospective applicants and the Hon'ble Judges' chambers. It ends the uncertainty that previously troubled LCRA applicants while planning their career prospects.

Secondly, the Scheme democratizes LCRA selection by establishing objective criteria. The introduction of the subjective examination, relevant for assessing applicants' capacity to fulfill their duties upon selection, is a new feature. Moreover, the number of examination centres has increased, providing access to candidates nationwide.

I am optimistic that this process will benefit individuals from traditional and regional law colleges, candidates from marginalized communities, and those facing other barriers to LCRA recruitment, as it has for me this year."

—Nauman Gufran Beig
Law Clerk-cum-Research Associate (2023-24)

### On Working at the Supreme Court's Registry

"It's been nearly four months since my first visit to the Supreme Court of India, where I joined the Registry as a Law Researcher. This experience has provided me with an insight to the mechanism and functioning of the supreme court. It gave me exposure to multiple opportunities, places, and people which are not easily accessible otherwise. My primary role has involved preparing case briefings, which gave me a chance to read and appreciate numerous paper books almost covering every field and subject of law. Paper books are a real treasure to know about the practical aspects of law and justice systems. My time in the Registry has filled me with the courage and confidence to explore the litigation. I firmly believe that working in the Registry of the Supreme Court is a good way to begin a legal career."

—Rachna Gautam
Law Researcher, Centre for Research and Planning
(2023-2024)

# Bar News Bulletin

- 400 lockers have been provided to the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) within the Supreme Court Compound for lawyers to store their belongings.
- On 2 October 2023, the SCBA celebrated the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri. The celebrations were graced by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna.
- The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India also shared his message on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. He stated that, "truth, and self-discipline of Gandhiji continue to inspire us in our pursuit of justice".

# SCAORA Scoop



*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India presided over a successful event introducing the 2023 batch of Advocates on Record.*

Several members of the Supreme Court Advocates on Record Association (SCAORA) were adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. SCAORA has marked Rs. 8 lakhs for the education of members' children affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SCAORA has been successful in its efforts for allotment of more than 500 chambers to the members of the Bar within the Supreme Court premises in the last 18 months.

The provision of daily video conferencing by SCAORA for lawyers with young children is especially helpful for first-generation and female lawyers.




*The 2nd Bar and Bench Badminton Tournament in Thyagaraja Stadium, New Delhi was successfully organised in partnership with the Ministry of Law and Justice on 5 August 2023. Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of Law and Justice graced the occasion.*

# Key Foreign Delegations



*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul with Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sundaresh Menon, Chief Justice of Singapore at the Supreme Court of India on 4 February 2023.*




*A thirty-six member delegation of US State Judges visited the Supreme Court of India, and held discussions with Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India on 13 February 2023.*

*A delegation headed by Baroness Jan Royall, Principal, Somerville College, University of Oxford and former leader of the House of Lords, visited the Supreme Court of India and held a meeting with Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Ms. Justice Hima Kohli, Hon'ble Ms. Justice B.V. Nagarathna and Hon'ble Ms. Justice Bela M. Trivedi, Judges, Supreme Court of India on 21 March 2023.*



A thirteen-member delegation from the Supreme Court of Kenya headed by Hon'ble Ms. Justice Martha K. Koome, Chief Justice and President, Supreme Court of Kenya visited the Supreme Court of India and held a meeting with Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.M. Joseph, Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.R. Shah, and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Rastogi on 14 March 2023.



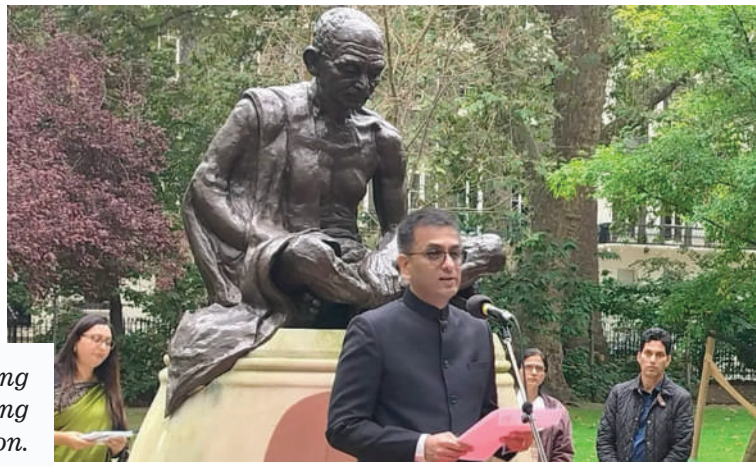
# Beyond The Usual

*Towards Progressive Nomenclatures*

The Supreme Court is making efforts to do away with hierarchical and colonial practices that persist in its premises. For instance, the Chief Justice of India decided to change the nomenclature of the posts of Jamadar (Farash) and Jamadar (Safaiwala) in the Schedule of the Supreme Court Officers and Servants Rules, 1961 to 'Supervisor - Room' and 'Supervisor - Cleaning'. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India has also insisted that lawyers appearing before the bench refer to judges as "Sir" rather than "Your Lordship."

# Global Engagement

(Sept 2023 to Oct 2023)



*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India paying homage to Mahatma Gandhi during his visit to London.*

On 23rd October 2023, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud participated in the 3rd Comparative Constitutional Law Discussion on the topic of "Perspectives from the Supreme Court of India and the United States". The event was jointly hosted by the Society for Democratic Rights (SDR), New Delhi and the Georgetown University Law Centre, Washington DC.




*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India speaking at the 3rd Comparative Constitutional Law Discussion at Georgetown University.*



*Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, William M. Treanor, Dean & Executive Vice President, Georgetown University Law Centre, Stephen Breyer, former Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court (from left to right).*




*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud at Brandeis University.*



*Honourable Chief Justice of India at the statute of Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar in Brandeis University*

- On 22 October 2023, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India paid homage to Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar at Brandeis University and visited the bust of Babasaheb installed at the library of Brandeis University. The Chief Justice delivered the keynote address at the "Sixth International Conference on the Unfinished Legacy of Dr. Ambedkar" on the topic "Reformation Beyond Representation: The Social Life of the Constitution in Remedying Historical Wrongs", organised by Brandeis University.
- On 21 October 2023, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud received in person the 'Award for Global Leadership', the highest professional distinction conferred by the Center on the Legal Profession, Harvard Law




*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India receiving the 'Award for Global Leadership' conferred by the Centre on the Legal Profession, Harvard Law School.*




*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India in a fireside chat with David Wilkins, Professor & Faculty Director, Centre on the Legal Profession at Harvard Law School.*




*Chief Justice of India and Chief Justice of Singapore witnessing the signing of the MOU between National Judicial Academy, India and Singapore Academy of Law on 6 September 2023.*

School. The award was announced in an online ceremony on 11 January 2023.

- On 5 October 2023, Hon'ble Justice Mr. Sanjay Kishan Kaul delivered the opening remarks on "Cross-Border Legal Relations and National Justice" during the 12th International Legal Forum of the Asia-Pacific Region held by the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation via web conferencing.

- On 2 October 2023, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India attended the International Judicial Symposium on Freedom of Expression, organised by the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights of the University of Oxford and UNESCO at Oxford, England. The Hon'ble Chief Justice emphasized the importance of the freedom of speech and expression and detailed how the Indian Judiciary has upheld this fundamental right whenever in question.

- Hon'ble Mr Justice B.R. Gavai attended the Chief Justice's Meeting and the Annual Conference of the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association held from 10 to 14 September 2023 in Cardiff, Wales. Justice Gavai was a speaker in a panel on "Corporate Legal Responsibility and Climate Change."

- Hon'ble Mr Justice P. V. Sanjay Kumar and Hon'ble Justice K. V. Viswanathan, participated in the International Conference on 'Constitutional Justice: Dignity, Freedom and Justice for All,' organised by the Constitutional Court of Kazakhstan at Astana during 7 to 8 September 2023 in commemoration of the Constitution Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan. At the Conference, Justice Sanjay Kumar made a presentation on the topic "The Role of Constitutional Control in Promoting the Values of Protecting Human Rights and Freedoms."

- In order to promote cooperation between the judiciary of Singapore and India, a MoU has been signed by the Supreme Court of India and Supreme Court of Singapore on 6 September 2023. Another MOU was signed between National Judicial Academy, India and Singapore Academy of Law.

  Hon'ble Chief Justice of India also visited the Singapore Academy of Law, Singapore, and delivered the Singapore Academy of Law Annual Lecture 2023 on the topic "Seven Decades of the Indian Constitution: The Life of a Nation", on 8 September 2023.

  The delegation to Singapore also comprised of Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.B. Pardiwala, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajiv Shakdher, Judge, High Court of Delhi, Hon'ble Dr. Justice A K Jayasankaran Nambiar, Judge, High Court of Kerala, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Suman Shyam, Judge, Gauhati High Court and Hon'ble Dr. Justice Anita Sumanth, Judge, Madras High Court .




*Hon'ble Chief Justice of India speaking at the occasion of the 75th Marathwada Mukti Sangram Din on 17 September 2023 at Aurangabad, Maharashtra.*





*Hon'ble Chief Justice with Hon'ble Judges and officials from the Registry celebrating the International Yoga Day on 21 June 2023.*





# Supreme Court of India

Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001

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