Supreme Court Chronicle

Issue XI | September 2024

Highlights

- *Release of 75 year Commemorative Coin and Stamp*
- *National Conference of the District Judiciary*
- *Release of Insignia of Supreme Court of India*
- *2nd India-Singapore Judicial Roundtable*
- *Laapataa Ladies special screening*









Chief Justice's Corner



Dear Readers,

I am pleased to announce yet another publication of the *Supreme Court Chronicle*—11th Edition. This month's edition is a tribute to the Frontline Judges who make the Indian Judiciary both strong and robust. Taking the suggestions and discussion of the First All India District Judges' Conference ahead, the initiative was followed by the National Conference of the District Judiciary held in the national capital, Delhi.

Within the pages of the newsletter the readers will find an appreciative piece on Justice Hima Kohli's retirement who served as a stalwart supporter of women's rights and served as the Chairperson of GSICC. The Chronicle is full of interesting information about the Court, beyond the Court, major conferences like that of the 2nd India-Singapore Judicial Roundtable. There is also a sampling of significant judgments of the month apart from the roundup of other events for the month of August 2024.

This issue, among other highlights, also features the Supreme Court Events and Initiatives, the inauguration of the War Room, new conference room, new Creche and ladies lounge. Among other initiatives is the screening of movies for Supreme Court staff, on social awareness, as part of the celebration of the 75th year of the Supreme Court. I hope this edition streamlines the celebration of our different initiatives and inspires you to become more involved in the daily operations of the Court.

Happy Reading!

Dr Justice D Y Chandrachud
Chief Justice of India

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Fresh from the Bench

State of Punjab v. Davinder Singh, 2024 INSC 562

Sub-classification of the Scheduled Castes is Constitutionally Permissible

In the judgment dated 01 August 2024, the seven-judge Constitution Bench comprising the **Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice B R Gavai, Justice Vikram Nath, Justice Bela M Trivedi, Justice Pankaj Mithal, Justice Manoj Misra and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma** held by a majority of 6:1 that sub-classification of the Scheduled Castes for reservation is constitutionally permissible and clarified that the Scheduled Castes are a socially heterogeneous class wherein the State is empowered under Articles 15(4) and 16(4) to further classify the Scheduled Castes if it fulfils the two-prong intelligible differentia standard under Article 14. The Court added that sub-classification within the Scheduled Castes does not violate Article 341(2) as it is not meant to give exclusive benefit to certain castes or groups over all the reserved seats and the application of the principle to beneficiary classes under Articles 15(4) and 16(4) laid down in *Indra Sawhney* is not limited to the other backward classes. The Court overruled the decision of unconstitutionality of sub-classification of the Scheduled Castes in *E V Chinnaiah*.

Justice B R Gavai, in his concurring opinion, added that sub-classification would be permissible only if there is a reservation for a sub-class as well as the larger class wherein State would have to provide reasons supported by empirical data that the sub-castes that are given beneficial treatment were inadequately represented. He added that the creamy layer principle also applies to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; however, its criteria can be different from that of the Other Backward Classes. **Justice Vikram Nath** and **Justice Satish Chandra Sharma** concurred with this opinion on the creamy layer. **Justice Pankaj Mithal** added that the benefit of reservation would not be carried forward to the next generation in a family where the first generation has taken benefit of the same.

Justice Bela Trivedi dissented from the majority judgment and observed that the decision in *E V Chinnaiah* should not have been disregarded in the context of doctrines of precedents and stare decisis as the inclusion or exclusion of any caste, race or tribe or part of or group within any caste, race, or tribe is a Parliamentary prerogative and cannot be altered by any subsequent notification by the President. She opined that the "Scheduled Castes" is a homogenous class, which cannot be diluted by the States by sub-dividing or sub-classifying it. She added that the State cannot

vary the Presidential List or Article 341 of the Constitution. She added that the Supreme Court cannot validate a State action under Article 142 if it violates any Constitutional provisions.

Govt of NCT of Delhi v. Office of Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, 2024 INSC 578

LG not bound by aid and advice of the Council of Ministers to nominate members to DMC

In the judgment dated 5 August 2024, a three-judge bench comprising the **Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice P S Narasimha**, and **Justice J B Pardiwala** held that the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) is empowered to nominate members to the Delhi Municipal Corporation and is not bound by the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers of GNCTD as provided in Article 239AA(4) of the Constitution. The Court clarified that the discretionary power of LG under Article 239AA(4) is wider than that of the Governor under Article 163. The Court observed that by virtue of the 1993 Amendment to the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, the Parliament has limited the executive power of GNCTD. The Court added that Section 3(3)(b)(i) of the Act imposes a statutory duty on the LG to exercise its discretion in nominating persons with special knowledge in DMC.

K Arumugam v. Union of India, 2024 INSC 630

Lottery sales by the State are not a service, exempting wholesalers from service tax

In the judgment dated August 8, 2024, the division bench comprising **Justice B V Nagarathna** and **Justice N Kotiswar Singh** held that the sale of lottery tickets by the State Government is not a "service" but a revenue-generating activity. The central issue was whether the wholesalers of lottery tickets who bought them from the State Government in bulk at a discount and resold them to retailers at a margin were liable to pay service tax under the category of "business auxiliary service" as defined in Section 65(19) of the Finance Act, 1994. The Court held that the sale of lottery tickets by the State Government is not a "service" but rather a revenue-generating activity. As a result, the wholesale purchasers of lottery tickets are not promoting or marketing any service rendered by the State and are therefore not subject to service tax under "business auxiliary service." The Court observed that once the lottery tickets are sold by the Directorate of Lotteries, the title to the tickets is transferred to the appellants, who then sell them as owners, not as agents of the State. This establishes a principal-to-principal relationship rather than a principal-agent relationship. Furthermore, the Court held that the Explanation added to Section 65(19)(ii) of the Finance Act, 1994, which attempted to include the sale of lottery tickets under "business auxiliary service," could not override the main text of the provision.

DLF Ltd. (formerly known as DLF Universal Ltd.) v. Koncar Generators and Motors Ltd., 2024 INSC 593

Foreign currency exchange rate of foreign awards is on the date when the award becomes enforceable

In the judgment dated 08 August 2024, the division bench comprising **Justice P S Narasimha** and **Justice Aravind Kumar** held that the relevant date for deciding the conversion rate of foreign currency in a foreign arbitral award is the date when the award attains finality and becomes enforceable, i.e., when the objections against it are finally decided. The Court decided on the issue of the appropriate date to determine the foreign exchange rate for converting the foreign awards expressed in foreign currency into Indian currency. The Court formulated twin tests, first, following the principle in *Forasol v. Oil and Natural Gas Commission*, the date when the arbitral award becomes enforceable shall be the date for conversion. The Court clarified that a foreign award is enforceable as a decree of the court under Section 49 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 after the objections against such an award under Section 48 are finally decided and disposed of. Second, as per the principle in *Renusagar Power Co Ltd v. General Electric Co*, pending objection proceedings, when the award debtor deposits an amount and the award holder is permitted to withdraw this amount, the relevant conversion rate shall be as on the date of the deposit. The Court added that this deposited amount shall be adjusted against the remaining amount pending under the arbitral award, and the relevant conversion rate shall be on the date when the award becomes enforceable.

In Re: Alleged Rape and Murder of Trainee Doctor in R G Kar Medical College Hospital Kolkata and related issues, 2024 INSC 613

Constituted a National Task Force to make recommendations for national protocol on safe and dignified working conditions for medical professionals

In an order dated 20 August 2024, a three-judge bench comprising **Chief Justice of India, Dr Justice D Y Chandrachud**, **Justice J B Pardiwala**, and **Justice Manoj Misra** took suo moto cognizance of the rape and murder of a postgraduate doctor at the R G Kar Medical College Hospital, Kolkata and the subsequent vandalization that took place at the protests. The Court flagged certain concerns over the lack of institutional safety norms at medical establishments, including inadequate resting spaces, lack of conditions of basic wellbeing and security standards, coupled with inadequate transportation facilities and surveillance measures including CCTV cameras and risk of violence and sexual violence against medical professionals. The Court ordered the constitution of the National Task Force (NTF) to make recommendations on the issues pertaining to safety, working conditions, and wellbeing of medical professionals and other cognate matters. The Court further suggested that the

action plan be categorised under two heads (i) Preventing violence, including gender-based violence against medical professionals; and (ii) Providing an enforceable national protocol for dignified and safe working conditions for interns, residents, senior residents, doctors, nurses and all medical professionals. The Court directed NTF to submit an interim report within three weeks and the final report within two months. The Court further directed the Cabinet Secretary to the Union Government to associate with the work of the NTF. The Court ordered all the State governments and the Union Territories to share data on the working conditions at government-run hospitals under the Union government.

Ravi Agarwal v. Union of India, Writ Petition (Civil) No. 706/2020

Amendment to Section 80DD of Income Tax Act 1961 applies prospectively, not retroactively

In an order dated 20 August 2024, a division bench comprising **Justice B V Nagarathna** and **Justice N Kotiswar Singh** rejected retrospective application of an amendment to Section 80DD of Income Tax Act, 1961. The primary issue was whether the amendment, introduced by the Finance Act, 2022, which allows for annuity or lump sum payments to disabled dependants once the subscriber reaches the age of 60, should be applied retrospectively to insurance policies issued before 2014. The petitioner argued for the retrospective application, claiming it would benefit more subscribers and disabled individuals.

The Court emphasised that the core objective of Section 80DD, particularly in the context of the Jeevan Aadhar Policy, was to ensure that disabled dependants receive financial support after the death of the caregiver or subscriber. This policy was designed to prevent a situation where a disabled dependant would be left without any financial assistance after the passing of the subscriber. Thus, the Court stressed that allowing subscribers to discontinue the policy and receive benefits during their lifetime, even upon reaching the age of 60, would undermine this objective.

The Court noted that the amendment permitted annuity or lump sum payments to disabled dependants upon the subscriber reaching 60 years of age, rather than after the subscriber's death. While this change provided greater flexibility to subscribers, the Court made it clear that the amendment was prospective, with an effective date of 1 April 2023.

The court clarified that permitting the retrospective application of the amendment would interfere with the original contractual terms under which the policies were subscribed. The Court held that the sub-stratum (or foundation) of these contracts could not be retroactively altered without undermining the contractual basis agreed at the time of subscription.

The Court further reasoned that the terms of the original policies, which specified that payments to disabled dependants would be made only after the death of the subscriber, were fundamental to the purpose of these policies. Any deviation, such as allowing the subscriber to receive benefits during their lifetime, would contradict the original objective of ensuring posthumous support for disabled dependants.

National Conference of the District Judiciary

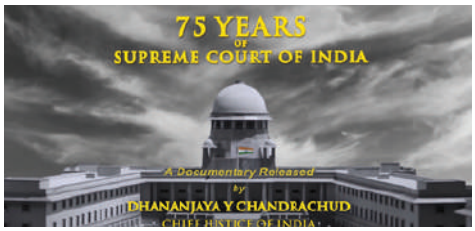
31 August 2024 – 1 September 2024

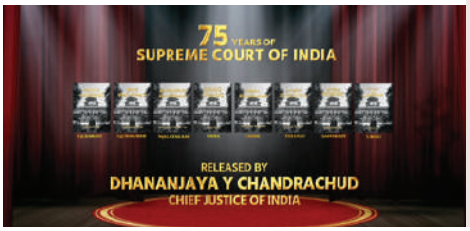
Inaugural Session

The two-day "National Conference of District Judiciary", organised by the Supreme Court of India, took place from August 31 to September 1, 2024, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the conference on August 31 and unveiled a stamp and coin commemorating the Supreme Court's 75th anniversary. On 1 September 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud released a documentary on the Supreme Court's 75-year history with landmark Judgments and the digital publication of Courts of India in 8 languages. Between 2016-2021, it was published and printed in 6 languages. The digital publication in 8 languages and pdfs of earlier 6 languages (all 14 languages) will be available in the "Publication Tab" on the Supreme Court of India website. The conference, spanning two days, included five sessions covering topics such as infrastructure, human resources, inclusive courtrooms, judicial security, wellness, case management and judicial training. In celebration of the Supreme Court's 75 years, 75 saplings from 12 indigenous varieties were planted in Delhi's Central Ridge Reserve forest area. These saplings were dedicated to President Droupadi Murmu, after which, President Murmu unveiled the Supreme Court's new flag and insignia, designed by the National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi. The new flag features the Ashoka Chakra, the Supreme Court building, and a book representing the Constitution.









Celebrating the 75 years of the Supreme Court, the Prime Minister of India, Mr Narendra Modi along with the Chief Justice of India released a silver coin of denomination 75 rupees and a stamp of denomination of Rs. 10 to commemorate the occasion. The Chief Justice of India released a "Documentary on the Supreme Court" as well as the digital publication of "Courts of India" in 8 languages.



31 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Supreme Court Judges, Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice B R Gavai along with Chief Justice, Andhra Pradesh High Court, Justice D S Thakur and Chief Justice, High Court of Allahabad, Justice Arun Bhansali during the Session on "Judicial Infrastructure and Human Resources, during National Conference of the District Judiciary

Session I - Infrastructure and Human Resources



31 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Judge, Supreme Court of India, discusses the case pendency pan India during his presentation in Session I

The panelists for this session were the Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, and Justice B R Gavai, Judges, Supreme Court of India, Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur and Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court, Justice Arun Bhansali.

The session commenced with a presentation by Justice Sanjiv Khanna, providing a brief overview of the present statistics concerning the recruitment of judges and the availability of accessible infrastructure.

Mr Krishnamurty Mishra, Principal District Judge, Jabalpur, also gave a detailed presentation on judicial infrastructure. The session concluded with interaction on strategies to improve court infrastructure, human resource management and recruitment, along with medical facilities in courts.



31 August 2024, Dr Sukhda Pritam, Director-cum-Additional Registrar, Centre for Research and Planning, Supreme Court of India and Mr Amarendra Kumar, Research Consultant, during their presentation on "Judicial infrastructure and Human resources," in Session I

Session II - Courtrooms For All



31 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice B V Nagarathna, Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court, Justice Sunita Agarwal, and former Judge, High Court of Bombay, Justice Shalini Phansalkar Joshi at Session II of "National Conference of the District Judiciary"



31 August 2024, Justice Nagarathna, Judge, Supreme Court of India, discusses her experiences as a Judge and advocates the policies that ensure inclusivity at all levels in the judiciary

The Courtrooms for All session emphasised creating inclusive spaces within the judiciary for women, marginalised communities, and persons with disabilities. The panellists included the Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice B V Nagarathna, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Justice Sunita Agarwal, Chief Justice of the High Court of Gujarat, and Dr Shalini Phansalkar Joshi, former Judge, High Court of Bombay.

During the session, there was a presentation on the Supreme Court's Handbook on Combating Gender Stereotypes emphasising the importance of avoiding stereotypical language and promoting gender-sensitive communication in courtrooms, by Ms Nivedhitha K, Legal Consultant, Supreme Court of India. Whereas Mr Anurag Bhaskar, Deputy Registrar, Centre for Research and Planning, discussed insights into the language used in judicial decisions that disproportionately affect the marginalised communities.

Meanwhile, the Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud and Justice Sunita Agarwal added their valuable insights as to how the judicial officers can make the courtrooms and the court premises more accessible.



31 August 2024, Dr Shalini Phansalkar Joshi, former Judge, High Court of Bombay during her presentation focusing on inherent biases with respect to gender and the challenges faced by women in judiciary.

Session III - Judicial Wellness For Judges In India: A Comprehensive Perspective



31 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Bela M Trivedi, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Mr Madan Padaki, Founder and CEO, 1BRIDGE and Dr Tanuja Nesari, Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda at the panel discussion on 'Judicial Wellness for Judges in India' during the "National Conference of the District Judiciary"



31 August 2024, Justice Bela M Trivedi, Judge, Supreme Court of India, during Session III of "National Conference of the District Judiciary"

The Session III of the Conference included panellists: Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Bela M Trivedi, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Mr Madan Padaki, Founder and CEO, 1BRIDGE, and Dr Tanuja Nesari, Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda.



The session focussed on the judicial profession which is marked by high responsibility, relentless workloads, and emotional strain, all of which can take a significant toll on a judge's well being. Addressing these issues, the panellists discussed the Judicial wellness and mental well being of judicial officers who deal with complex and complicated cases every day. Furthermore, stress management techniques were discussed with judicial officers who were made aware of the benefits of alternative medicines and the necessity of having medical facilities within the court premises. The session concluded with a 15-minute meditation practice.

Session IV- Case Management



1 September 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Vikram Nath, Justice Dipankar Datta, Judges, Supreme Court of India, Chief Justice of the High Court of Patna, Justice K Vinod Chandran, and Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, Justice Sheel Nagu at the panel discussion on 'Case Management' during the "National Conference of the District Judiciary"



31 August 2024, Justice Dipankar Datta, Judge, Supreme Court of India, gives a presentation on APAaR-DJ during Session IV of "National Conference of the District Judiciary"



31 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, throws light on the role of technology in case management and tools that could be used to make the courts more efficient during a presentation along with Mr Ashish J Shiradhonkar, Registrar (Innovation and Planning) during Session IV of "National Conference of the District Judiciary"

The Session IV of the conference delved into the important issue of reduction of pending cases in the District Judiciary. The panel for the session included the Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Dipankar Datta, Judges, Supreme Court of India, Chief Justice of the High Court of Patna, Justice K Vinod Chandran, and Justice Sheel Nagu, Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

Justice Datta presented the Supreme Court's 'Action Plan for Arrears Reduction in the District Judiciary (APAaR-DJ),' which involves a phased approach to address pending cases along with integration of technological tools like the NJDG and the JustIS App.

The panellists contributed to the discussion with their views on pre-litigation strategies, mediation, bail, and the impact of the new criminal laws on the judicial sphere. The session further involved discussions on the optimisation of judicial processes and use of digital tools at the district level.



1 September 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Chief Justice of High Court of Telangana, Justice Alok Aradhe, Chief Justice of the High Court of Bombay, Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhayaya, and Chief Justice of High Court of Karnataka, Justice N V Anjaria at the panel discussion on 'Judicial Training-Curriculum and Methods' during the "National Conference of the District Judiciary"

The second last session of the two-day conference involved discussion on Judicial Training which focused on the curriculum and the training methods for judicial officers. The panellists for the session included: the Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge Supreme Court of India, Chief Justice of High Court of Telangana, Justice Alok Aradhe, Chief Justice, High Court of Bombay, Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhayaya, and Chief Justice of High Court of Karnataka, Justice N V Anjaria. The discussion emphasised on the role of mentorship in judicial careers in creating a network of continuous guidance from seniors and peer learning for mutual cooperation. Justice Hrishikesh Roy added to this by highlighting the use of films and non-conservative methods for judicial training. He praised films like The *Bridge* and *Laapataa Ladies* which could be used as effective tools for teaching and creating social awareness. He encouraged judges to adopt a positive demeanour.



Session VI - Bridging The Gap



1 September 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, and, Justice Surya Kant, Judges, Supreme Court of India at the panel discussion on 'Bridging The Gap' during the"National Conference of the District Judiciary"

In the final session of the Conference, panelists- the Chief Justice of India, Dr Justice D Y Chandrachud, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, and Justice Surya Kant, Judges, Supreme Court of India interacted with the Judicial officers from across the country to hear their opinions, valuable suggestions and grassroot level experiences to bridge an invisible gap within the judiciary. The discussion further delved into the collegiality amongst District Judiciary and High Courts, needs of the District Judiciary, role of the High Courts, role of administrative judges and the assessment of judicial performance.



Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah along with Justice N Kotiswar Singh during the "National Conference of the District Judiciary", Bharat Mandapam, Mathura Road, New Delhi

Valedictory Session



1 September 2024, President of India, Droupadi Murmu addresses the judicial officers across the country at the valedictory session of "National Conference of the District Judiciary"

1 September 2024, President Droupadi Murmu unveils the Supreme Court's new flag and insignia. The newly unveiled flag features symbols central to India's legal and cultural heritage: the Ashoka Chakra, the Supreme Court building, and the Constitution of India. The new Supreme Court flag is blue in colour. The insignia has 'Supreme Court of India' in English and 'Yato Dharmastato Jayah' in Devanagari





2nd Indo-Singapore Judicial Roundtable



23 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Judges, Supreme Court of India, Chief Justice of Singapore, Mr Sundaresh Menon, and the Singapore Delegation at the Supreme Court of India for the "2nd Indo-Singapore Judicial Roundtable"

Session I on Climate Change and Artificial Intelligence

23 August 2024, the "2nd India-Singapore Judicial Roundtable" took place at the Supreme Court of India. During the Roundtable, particularly in its first session on climate change, signified the deepening collaboration between two rapidly growing economies that is India and Singapore. Both nations are guided by a shared respect for the rule of law, which promotes fairness, economic growth, and foreign investment, thus enhancing legal standards.



23 August 2024, 2nd India-Singapore Judicial Roundtable at Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, C Block, Administrative Buildings Complex, Supreme Court of India

Session II on Climate Change and the Right to a Healthy Environment

The discourse began with an acknowledgement of the judiciary's evolving role in addressing climate change. In the case of M K Ranjitsinh v. Union of India, 2024 INSC 280, the Supreme Court of India has recognised the right against climate change as an integral part of fundamental rights. This acknowledgement is a pivotal step towards balancing ecological needs, such as the preservation of critically endangered species like the Great Indian Bustard, with the demands for renewable energy sources like solar power. This session highlighted that climate change transcends national borders, impacting migration, water scarcity, and overall environmental degradation, thus requiring a global, eco-centric approach.



Right to left: Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice M M Sundresh, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Acting Chief Justice of Kerala, Justice A Muhamed Mustaque along with other officers at the 2nd India-Singapore Judicial Roundtable. During this session, Justice Sundresh presented a paper on "Climate Change ESG with particular focus on liability during Insolvencies and restructuring"

Session III on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Legal Liability

The session delved into the complexities surrounding AI, particularly in terms of legal liability, intellectual property (IP) rights, and the implications of AI-generated content. AI's growing role in various sectors, including autonomous vehicles, medical decision-making, and online content moderation, raises significant questions about accountability and the allocation of responsibility.

The conversation further explored the challenges of AI-generated content, particularly in the realm of intellectual property. Questions were asked about whether AI can be considered an inventor or if AI-generated works can be copyrighted. The session referenced cases like the "DABUS case" in Australia, where a patent was granted to an AI, contrasting with decisions in the US and India, where AI is not recognised as a person capable of holding a patent.



23 August 2024,
Chief Justice of India,
Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice K V Viswanathan,
Judge, Supreme Court of India during the
2nd India-Singapore Judicial Roundtable

23 August 2024,
Chief Justice of Singapore,
Justice Sundaresh Menon, along with his
team during the 2nd India-Singapore Judicial
Roundtable held at the Supreme Court of India





23 August 2024,
Justice Dipankar Datta and
Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah along
with the Chief Justice of Singapore,
Justice Sundaresh Menon and six-member
delegation during the 2nd India-Singapore
Judicial Roundtable

Laapataa Ladies special screening



9 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Ms Kiran Rao, Director and Mr Aamir Khan, Producer interact with the audience after the screening of 'Laapataa Ladies', a film based on the theme of gender equality, at Auditorium, Administrative Buildings Complex, Supreme Court of India

The film, *Laapataa Ladies* was screened at the C Block Auditorium in the Supreme Court of India's Administrative Buildings Complex on 9 August, 2024. This screening was part of the Supreme Court's 75th anniversary celebrations and aimed at gender sensitization. The film explores the theme of gender equality and highlights other socio-cultural issues, intending to inform attendees about social realities and initiate discussions on gender and vulnerabilities. Imparting the message through film as a medium engaged the audience and acquainted them with the inherent biases plaguing the society. The screening was followed by a discussion between the film's director, Ms Kiran Rao and actor Aamir Khan with the Chief Justice of India, wherein the themes of the film were further deliberated upon.

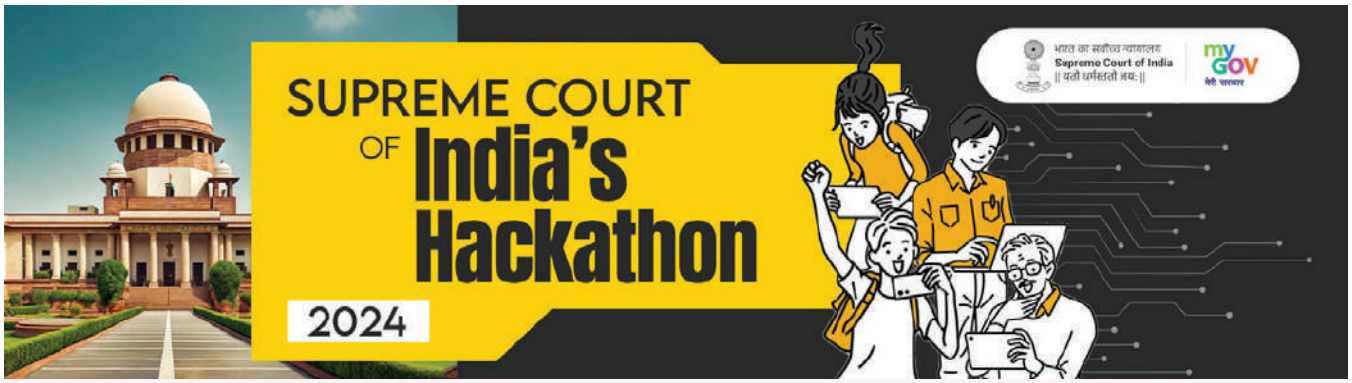






9 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Ms Kalpana Das (mind behind the initiative), Ms Kiran Rao, Director and Mr Aamir Khan, Producer attend screening of 'Laapataa Ladies', a film based on the theme of gender equality, at Auditorium, Administrative Buildings Complex, Supreme Court of India

Supreme Court Events and Initiatives



In commemoration of 75 years of the establishment of the Supreme Court of India, the entries for Hackathon 2024 are open. All interested persons may register for Hackathon 2024 through the following URL – https://innovateindia.mygov.in/sc-hackathon-2024/



13 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Judges of the Supreme Court, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Justice B V Nagarathna and Justice Ahsanunndin Amanullah inaugurate the Mega Health Screening Camp organised in coordination with Max Hospital, Shalimar Bagh. Medical Camp on Cancer Awareness and Cardiology was organised at Room No 111, C Block, 1st Floor, Administrative Buildings Complex, Supreme Court of India

Inauguration

Ladies Lounge





1 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud along with the Judges of the Supreme Court inaugurated the new 'Ladies Lounge' at the first floor, West Wing, Main Building, Supreme Court premises

Conference Hall





23 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud inaugurates conference hall in the Main Building, Supreme Court of India

Creche and Bank of Maharashtra





29 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Justice B R Gavai, Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Justice Kotiswar Singh, Judges, Supreme Court of India, inaugurate the new branch of 'Bank of Maharashtra' at Sixth Floor, E Block, Supreme Court of India and 'Creche (Child Care Centre)' at Second Floor, E Block, Administrative Buildings Complex, Supreme Court of India.

War Room

In the month of August, the Supreme Court inaugurated the Command Control Centre (CCC), popularly known as the 'War Room.' The Chronicle team interacted with Registrar, Technology, Mr Hargurvarinder S Jaggi and Mr Ashish Shiradhonkar, Registrar, Innovation and Planning, who gave some insights about 'War Room.' Mr Jaggi, explained that the idea of the 'War Room' with state-of-the-art technology was conceptualised by the Chief Justice of India, after visiting the Command and Control Centre at NIC Headquarters, Delhi, and National Data Centre in the summer of 2023.

The 'War Room' is equipped with state-of-the-art video wall, servers, computer systems, and video-conferencing equipment for monitoring critical data such as institution, listing, disposal of cases. A dedicated 'War Room' to view the data, information from multiple sources in one go, video wall which can be split into multiple screens, assisting the Judges in making informed decisions.

The Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud while appreciating the newly constructed War Room mentioned that:

'We have a facility in the war room to monitor which case file is pending before which desk officer, how long that case file has been pending for processing, 0-3 days, 3-5 days, 5-7 days, so on and so forth. If the file has been pending for a longer time period, we know that the allocation of the case needs to be rationalised and we will know the exact reasons as to why it is taking a longer time to process..... The war room also helps monitor the video conferencing facility in the Court. The staff is constantly monitoring that the process runs smoothly.'



23 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, along with the Judges of the Supreme Court, inaugurate newly created War Room, Ground Floor, Main Building, Supreme Court of India



23 August 2024, Chief Justice of India and Judges of Supreme Court inaugurate the newly created War Room, Ground Floor, Main Building, Supreme Court of India





Newly dedicated 'War Room' to view the data and information from multiple sources in one go. A video wall which can be split into multiple screens to monitor different courts, including the facility to conduct high level video conferencing from one room, is now created in the Supreme Court, Ground Floor, Main Building

Retirement Function

30 August 2024, Justice M M Sundresh, Chief Guest, addresses the registry officials on the occasion of their retirement





30 August 2024, Justice M M Sundresh, during the retirement function of the six registry officials on the occasion of their retirement, organised by the Supreme Court Registry

30 August 2024, Justice M M Sundresh during the retirement function organised by the Supreme Court Registry



GSICC





29 August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna and Justice P S Narasimha with members of the Supreme Court's Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC) bid farewell to Justice Hima Kohli

Justice Hima Kohli retired from the Supreme Court of India on 1 September 2024. Prior to her appointment to the Supreme Court on 31 August 2021 , she was the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court, becoming the first woman to hold that position. During her tenure at the Supreme Court, Justice Kohli's time was marked by a stellar array of judgments and writings on a range of issues, including women's rights, bail matters, legal doctrines and the promotion of mediation.

A staunch supporter and dedicated advocate for women's rights, Justice Kohli also led the Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC) at the Supreme Court. Calling for departure from the idea limited to women development and pressing for 'women led development', Justice Kohli paved the way for these ideals from her early days as a female lawyer to her role as wisdom-clad senior judge. Her work in the judiciary and her advocacy for women's issues have left a lasting legacy and will continue to inspire future generations.

On 29th August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna, member GSICC along with the Member Secretary, Dr Sukhda Pritam, and other members of the Committee paid their respects and gratitude to the Chairperson on the occasion of her retirement.

Ceremonial Bench - Justice Hima Kohli



30 August 2024,
Chief Justice of India,
Dr D Y Chandrachud and
Justice Hima Kohli during
the ceremonial bench
proceedings in Courtroom No 1,
Supreme Court of India

Legal Aid

Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLSA) in collaboration with North & North West District Legal Services Authorities, organised a Mega Legal and Other Services Camp on 10 August 2024 at Sarvodaya Vidyalaya, Jaunti Village, Delhi, under its Project "गूंज: क़ानूनी सहायता के नए आयाम".

The Project aims to identify, engage, and uplift remote and underdeveloped villages in Delhi through a comprehensive strategy focused on legal empowerment, healthcare, education, and awareness.



10 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna inaugurates 'Legal Services Information Board of DSLSA' and 'Legal Services Clinic' at Panchayat Ghar of Jaunti village, New Delhi



10 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna visits Jail No. 4, Central Jail, Tihar Complex organised by Delhi State Legal Services Authority



10 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna visits Jail No. 4, Central Jail, Tihar Complex organised by Delhi State Legal Services Authority

16 - 18 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Executive Chairman, NALSA visits different Legal Services Institutions in districts of Bhubaneswar and Puri (Odisha) and presides over "Odisha Conference of District Legal Services Authorities," held at Cuttack, Odisha. Justice Sanjiv Khanna inaugurates the Sewing Machine Operator Programme at the Female Ward in the Special Jail, Bhubaneswar





16 - 18 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna inaugurates Vocational Training Programme on Electronics at Special Jail, Bhubaneswar and distributes certificates to the jail inmates who passed the courses of Journalism and Mass Communication



16 - 18 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna visits Office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel at Bhubaneswar

17 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna addresses the gathering at the "Odisha Conference of District Legal Services Authorities" organised by NALSA at Odisha Judicial Academy, Cuttack, Odisha





18 August 2024, Justice Sanjiv Khanna interacts with the locals during his visit to the Village Legal Care And Support Centre, Satyabadi, Puri, Odisha

Training Hub

Mediation and Conciliation Project Committiee (MCPC)

In the month of August 2024, eight 40-hour Mediation Training Programmes were conducted under the aegis of the MCPC, the Supreme Court of India. Other programmes conducted include 20 Hours Refresher Programme, Advanced Course (Capsule Course), Training of Trainers (TOT), Awareness Programme, Referral Judges Training Programme, Advanced Training Skills for Potential Trainers Programme, Course on Developing Advanced Training Skills for Potential Trainers Programme. A five-day Intensive Training Programme was also conducted for Potential Trainers.

Training Cell



5- 9 August 2024, Training Cell in collaboration with STEP from The Hindu Group, conduct a diagnostic test for the English Language Course for 120 Registry officials





23 August 2024, Training Cell conducts a hybrid Orientation Session for Registrars and Additional Registrars of the Supreme Court of India, acquainting them with structure, objectives, and key elements of the English Language Course



29 August 2024, Training Cell conducts a training programme on 'Right to Information Act' for 63 participants, including Branch Officers and Dealing Assistants. The session featured resource persons Ms Himani Sarad (Additional Registrar), Mr Ravi Shanti Bhushan (Assistant Registrar), and Mr Shyam Kumar Sharma (Branch Officer) who addressed topics like RTI Act, duties of CPIOs and APIOs, exemptions, and the appeals process.

Bar News Bulletin

The Chief Justice of India and the Judges of the Supreme Court of India have designated 19 Advocates as Senior Advocates in the second quarter of the year, with effect from 14 August 2024.

SCBA Scoop





15 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud and Mr Arjun Ram Meghwal, Union Minister of State for Law and Justice attend the 78th Independence Day celebrations, organised by SCBA



15 August 2024,
Chief Justice of India,
Dr D Y Chandrachud
hoists the National Flag
at the Supreme Court of India
on the occasion of
78th Independence Day
of the country,
organised by SCBA



Left to Right: 15 August 2024, Justice B R Gavai, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Justice P B Varale, Justice Sanjay Kumar, and Justice K V Viswanathan attend the 'Celebration of 78th Independence Day' function organised by the SCBA, at Supreme Court Lawns

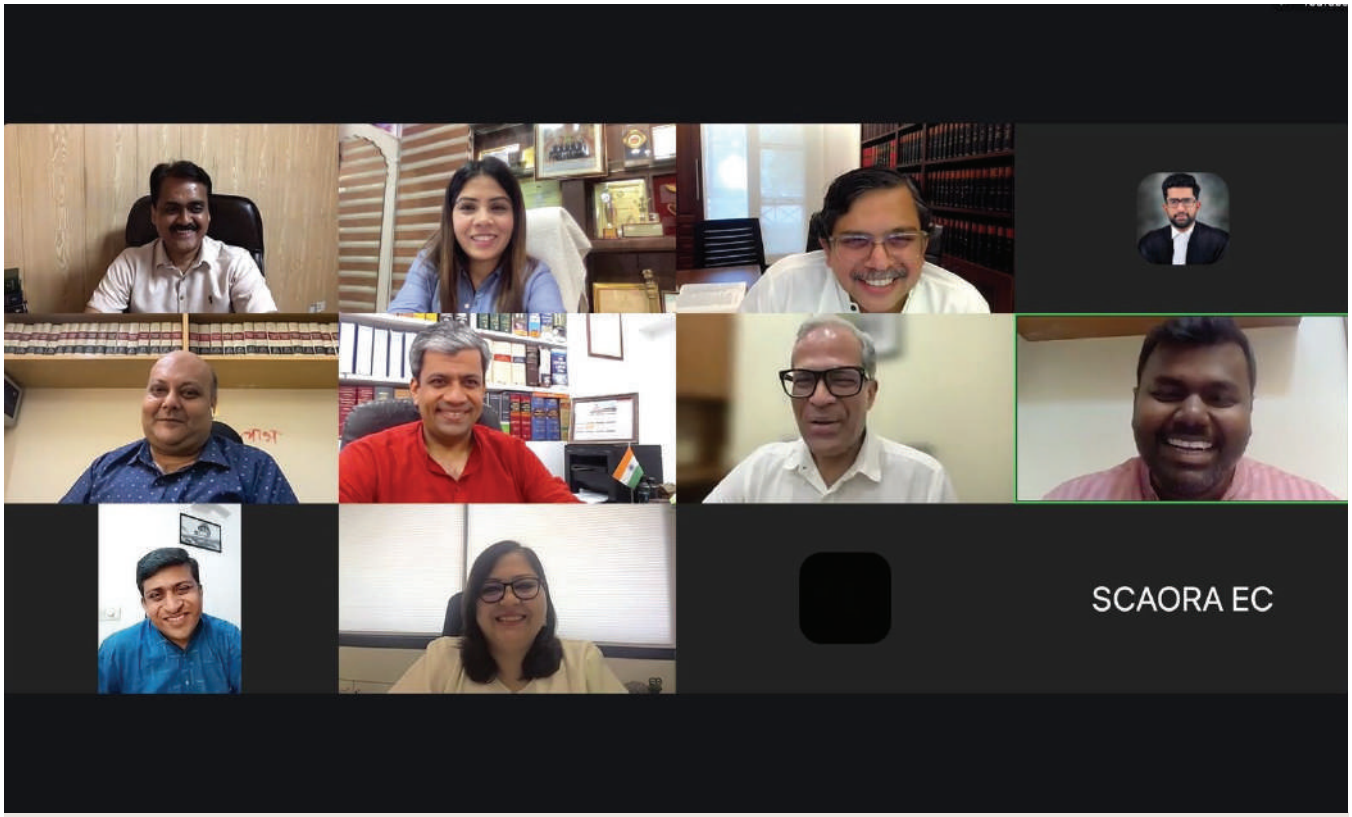


30 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Hima Kohli, Attorney General of India, Mr R Vekataramani, and President, SCBA, Mr Kapil Sibal at the farewell function of Justice Hima Kohli organised by the SCBA at Main Auditorium, C Block, Administrative Buildings Complex, Supreme Court of India



30 August 2024, Judges of the Supreme Court of India at the farewell function of Justice Hima Kohli at Main Auditorium, C Block, Administrative Buildings Complex, Supreme Court of India

SCAORA Scoop



10 August 2024, Senior Advocate, Dr S Muralidhar, speaks on the 'Public Interest Litigation,' for the 2nd Lecture of the SCAORA Lecture Series



27 August 2024, Justice Hima Kohli receives a farewell from the executive members of the SCAORA on the occasion of her retirement

Beyond the Court





3 August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna delivers lecture on 'Home in the Nation: Indian Women's Constitutional Imaginaries' at NLSIU-PACT Conference, organised by National Law School of India University, Bengaluru as part of the 'Pluralist Agreement and Constitutional Transformation (PACT) Project' at Prestige Falcon, Brunton Road, Bengaluru



3 August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna conveys her greetings through a videographed message at "Alumni Meet and Platinum Jubilee Celebration" of Sophia High School at Bengaluru



3 August 2024, Justice Surya Kant and Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Judges, Supreme Court of India along with Director, NJA, Justice Aniruddha Bose (Rtd) and Chief Justice, High Court of Orissa, Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh at East Zone Conference on "Contemporary Judicial Developments and Strengthening Justice through Law & Technology", organised by National Judicial Academy in collaboration with High Court of Orissa and Odisha Judicial Academy. Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah was resource person for Session 2 titled, ' Elements of Judicial Behaviour'



Left to Right: 3 August 2024, Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, Justice Aravind Kumar, Justice M M Sundresh, Justice Sandeep Mehta and Justice P B Varale attend "S N Bhuyan Memorial Centenary Lecture" at Srimanta Sankaradeva International Auditorium, Kalakshetra, Panjabari, Guwahati on the occasion of birth centenary year of late Mr Suchendra Nath Bhuyan, former Advocate General of Assam and father of Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Judge, Supreme Court of India



3 August 2024, Justice B R Gavai delivers the S N Bhuyan Centenary Lecture on "75 Years of the Constitution of India: Dr Ambedkar's Vision and Social Justice"



3 August 2024, Justice B R Gavai and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan at the S N Bhuyan Centenary Lecture



4 August 2024, Justice Rajesh Bindal, Chief Guest, inaugurates a three-day orientation programme titled "Deeksharambh" at Dr B R Ambedkar National Law University, Sonepat, Haryana

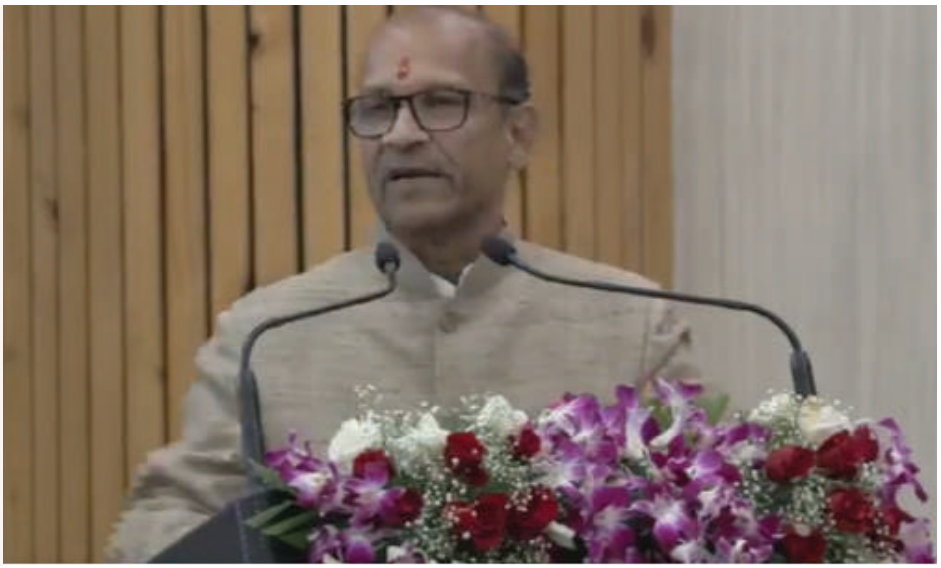
5 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, Justice Hima Kohli, Justice Abhay S Oka, Justice Hima Kohl, Justice Pankaj Mithal, Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Justice K V Viswanathan, Justice P B Varale, Justice N Kotiswar Singh and acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, Justice Manmohan attend the launch of e-DHCR' that is the Digital Law Reports of Delhi High Court, Auditorium, S Block, Delhi High Court





Left to right: 5 August 2024, Justice Pankaj Mithal, Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Justice Abhay S Oka, Judges, Supreme Court of India, inaugurate the opening of a new cafe, 'Sagar Express Cafe,' run by neurodiverse people, in Glass Cafetaria , High Court of Delhi

9 August 2024, Justice Sandeep Mehta attends the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Rajasthan High Court which came into existence on 29 August 1949, in Jodhpur. The event was also attended by Justice A G Masih, Judge, Supreme Court of India





10 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr Justice D Y Chandrachud, Justice Surya Kant and Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judges, Supreme Court of India, at the inauguration of National Conference on "Landscape of Technology in Courts in India and the Way Forward" at Chandigarh Judicial Academy, Chandigarh



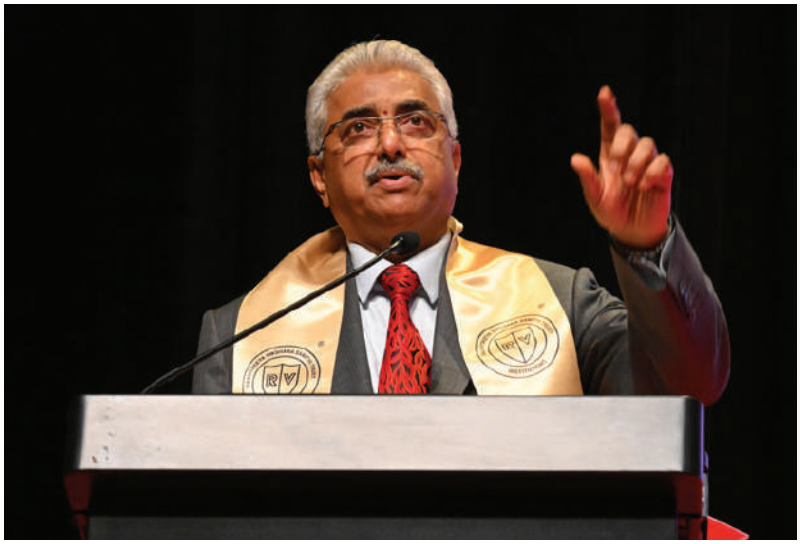
10 August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna interacts with Vice-Chancellor and faculty members upon being nominated as a Visitor of National Law University, Delhi



10 August 2024, Justice Abhay S Oka and Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah attend the State-level Annual Stakeholders Consultation programme on 'Protection of Children with Disabilities', 2024 organised by Juvenile Justice Monitoring Committee at Gyan Bhawan, near Gandhi Maidan, Patna, Bihar

10 August 2024, Justice Sanjay Karol, Chief Guest, inaugurates the orientation ceremony for Batch 2024 at Indore Institute of Law, Indore, Madhya Pradesh





10 August 2024, Justice Aravind Kumar, Chief Guest, addresses the gathering at the 2nd Graduation Ceremony 2019-24 of MKPM RV Institute of Legal Studies at Jayanagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka

10-11 August 2024, Justice Surya Kant, Justice Rajesh Bindal and Justice A G Masih along with the Chief Justices of various High Courts attend the "National Conference at Punjab and Haryana High Court," Chandigarh





10 - 11 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud and Justice Rajesh Bindal at the "National Conference at Punjab and Haryana High Court," Chandigarh



11 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud, lights the ceremonial lamp at 37th Convocation of PGIMER, Chandigarh

14 August 2024, Justice Aravind Kumar, Chief Guest, releases a book by Mr K N Puttegowda, former President of Advocates Association, Bengaluru





16 August 2024, Justice B R Gavai and Justice C T Ravikumar, Judges, Supreme Court of India, at the inauguration of 'Digital Courts,' Kerala High Court, Kochi. The event was also attended by Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judge, Supreme Court of India

International Conference by Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA)



17 August 2024, Justice B R Gavai, addresses the gathering on International Conference by Commonwealth Legal Education Association, on the theme "Law and Technology: Sustainable Transport, Tourism and Technological Innovations," at Kumarakom, Kerala

17 August 2024, Justice Surya Kant, Chief Patron, CLEA, addresses the gathering on International Conference by Commonwealth Legal Education Association, on the theme "Law and Technology: Sustainable Transport, Tourism and Technological Innovations," at Kumarakom, Kerala





17 August 2024, Justice P S Narasimha chairs Technical Session II: Regulatory Challenges and Innovations in Transportation Technologies and Eco-Tourism in the CLEA Conference at Kumarakom, Kerala



17 August 2024, Justice Dipankar Datta, addresses the gathering during the Technical Session I on Legal and Ethical Frameworks in Transportation and Eco-Tourism at the CLEA International Conference on Law & Technology: Sustainable Transport, Tourism and Technical Innovations at Kumarakom, Kerala

17 August 2024, Justice Aravind Kumar co-chair, addresses the gathering during the Technical Session I: Legal and Ethical Frameworks in Transportation and Eco-Tourism at the CLEA International Conference on Law & Technology: Sustainable Transport, Tourism and Technical Innovations at Kumarakom, Kerala





17 August 2024, Justice Rajesh Bindal and Justice N Kotiswar Singh attend the Plenary Session on "Dynamic Synergies: Stakeholders Meet and Judicial Colloquium," at the CLEA International Conference on Law & Technology: Sustainable Transport, Tourism and Technical Innovations at Kumarakom, Kerala

18 August 2024, Justice C T Ravikumar chairs session on "Collaborative Approach and Best Practices in Ecotourism, Transportation Law" at the CLEA International Conference on Law & Technology: Sustainable Transport, Tourism and Technical Innovations at Kumarakom, Kerala





18 August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna inaugurates Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Karnataka Judicial Academy "Nyayajnana" - A Silver Milestone organised by the High Court of Karnataka and Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru

18 August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna and Justice Aravind Kumar at the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Karnataka Judicial Academy "Nyayajnana" - A Silver Milestone at Auditorium, Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru





18 August 2024, Justice Aravind Kumar, Chief Guest, addresses the gathering at the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Karnataka Judicial Academy – "Nyayajnana" - A Silver Milestone at Auditorium, Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru



23 August 2024, Justice Surya Kant delivers a keynote address at the "South Asia Regional Round of Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot, 2024" organised by Lloyd Law College, Greater Noida

24 August 2024, Justice P S Narasimha visits the District Court Guntur and addresses the Guntur Bar Association





24 August 2024, Justice P S Narasimha, Chief Guest, delivers an address at the 12th Convocation Ceremony, VIGNAN (Deemed to be University), Guntur



24 August 2024, Justice B V Nagarathna delivers inaugural address on the theme, 'Expanding the Horizon: Marching Towards World Class Arbitral Institution' in Bengaluru ADR Week 2024 organised by the Arbitration and Conciliation Centre, Bengaluru (Domestic and International), Karnataka Judicial Academy, and the Advocates' Association Bengaluru in association with the Bengaluru ADR Week Committee, at Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru

24 August 2024, Justice Aravind Kumar attends the inaugural function of ADR week at Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru





24 August 2024, Justice M M Sundresh attends inauguration of three new Courts and Diamond Jubilee function of the Thiru P C Palaniswamy, Senior Advocate at Erode, Tamil Nadu



25 August 2024, Justice N Kotiswar Singh, Chief Guest, delivers valedictory address at the "South Asia Regional Rounds of the Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot, 2024" organised by Lloyd Law College, Greater Noida

25 August 2024, Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice A G Masih, Judges, Supreme Court of India, attend the "Platinum Jubilee Celebration of Rajasthan High Court," organised by Rajasthan High Court at Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur





27 August 2024, Justice Surya Kant, at Korea Legislation Research Institute (KLRI), where he spoke on the topic, 'Cross Border Challenges in Insolvency and Bankruptcy Laws' in "KLRI Programme" Sejong, South Korea





25 - 29 August 2024, Justice Surya Kant along with the Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Republic of Korea (ROK), Justice Cho Hee-dae and Chief Justice of Constitutional Court of ROK, Justice Lee Jongseok, at the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court of ROK. Justice Kant had insightful and engaging discussions on several topics including judicial reforms and use of technology in the judiciary, during the visit

31 August 2024, Justice M M Sundresh, Judge, Supreme Court of India, launches a book 'Commercial Dispute Resolution: State of the Law in India' authored by Anirudh Krishnan, Founder partner of AK Law Chamber, at Chennai, Tamil Nadu





31 August 2024, Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judge, Supreme Court of India, delivers a lecture during the 63rd Annual Lecture series by the Abhyas Mandal, at Indore, Madhya Pradesh

31 August 2024, Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra attends the 5th Convocation of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh



International Events and Conferences



1 August 2024 , Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud meets with the 15-member Peruvian delegation, at the Supreme Court of India





22 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud and a team of the Supreme Court Registry including Registrar, Technology, Mr Hargurvarinder S Jaggi, and Additional Registrar-cum-Director, CRP, Dr Sukhda Pritam, meet the officers of World Bank and exchange insights on the technological advancements in the Judicial system



1 August, 2024, a 22-member delegation from Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia, headed by President Mr Chantola L Y witness the live court proceedings of Courtroom no 1, Supreme Court of India



27 August 2024, Chief Justice of India, Dr D Y Chandrachud with Mr Nick Emmerson, President of the Law Society of England and Wales and Ms Preeti Sawhney, International Policy Adviser (South Asia and ASEAN), Law Society of England and Wales during their visit to the Supreme Court of India

Glimpses of the National Conference of the District Judiciary
























National Conference of the District Judiciary
Shri Narendra Modi






National Conference of the District Judiciary
Sunday | 1 September 2024
National Conference of the District Judiciary


Sunday | 1 September 2024


Sunday | 1 September 2024


District Judiciary
Sunday | 1 September 2024

National Conference of the District Judiciary

Sunday | 1 September 2024





Sunday | 1 September 2024













Cultural Night – National Conference of the District Judiciary









Supreme Court of India
Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001

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