

## DELHI HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION

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## REFERENCE: PT. JAI RAM SINGH AND SH. RAJ DEEPAK JOLLY

Hon'ble The Chief Justice, Mr. Justice A.P.Shah, Hon'ble Judges, Mr. Amarjit Singh Chandhiok, ASG, Standing Counsels, Central Government & Delhi Government, Senior Advocates, Mr. J.P.Sengh, Vice President, Mr.D.K.Sharma, Hony. Secretary, Members of the executive, Mr.Sunil Kumar Mittal, Vice-Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi, fellow members, family members of Late Pt. Jai Ram Singh and Late Sh. Raj Deepak Jolly, ladies and gentleman.

We have lost two of our distinguished members, Late Pt. Jai Ram Singh and Late Sh.Raj Deepak Jolly. We have assembled today to remember them and pay our tributes. Pt. Jai Ram Singh had his successful innings in the profession and lived his full life. As an expert in revenue laws, he was more popularly known as "Panditji", not only in legal circles but almost in entire Delhi and neighboring areas. A man coming from a rural background, a small town in Haryana, did his post graduation from St. Stephens College and law from Delhi University in 1947. It was perhaps the vision of his father, a school teacher, who provided the best possible education during those days, particularly to a student coming from a rural background with limited resources.

If a person from rural milieu realizes the utility and effectiveness of quality education, he is best educated. For he, visualizes all opportunities coming from quality education.

We understand and appreciate the efforts, guidance and sacrifices of a school teacher in providing quality education to his both the sons. Panditji took a job in the North Western Frontier, now in Pakistan, but came back to India during partition. This was probably a turning point in his life, as in his 40 days journey to reach Delhi from Quetta, he had harrowing experiences and witnessed the plights of the migrants, which inspired him to this profession.

Not many, in the Bar would be knowing that he joined the legendry criminal lawyer, Late Sh. Tara Chand Mathur and conducted criminal cases. He was a genius and if he would have continued practicing in criminal law, he would have been a renowned criminal lawyer. Undoubtedly, he was an expert in a different subject,

since during that period because of the enactment of land reforms laws, he switched from the criminal to revenue side. His rural background must have demanded to play an important role in securing justice to the poor farmers. One need not describe his achievements and the landmark decisions and his acumen in this branch of law since he was so well known that you take of revenue law the name of Panditji would automatically surface. The mass acquisitions of land in Delhi in the year 1950's was another period when Panditji, not only, opined on legal issue but was deeply involved, whether be it the Government or the rural litigants. He was not confined to Delhi, but was equally popular in the Punjab & Haryana High Court.

The farm house concept originated from his own farm house in mid 1950's which he later gave to 'Chattarpur Temple Trust', where lacs and lacs of devotees visit and worship every day.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters. His son, Mr.N.S.Vasisht, a well known advocate of Delhi High Court, who is a very dignified and eloquent.

'Death is a certainty but time is not known, life is uncertain, but the duration is unknown'. The untimely departure of Late Sh. Jolly is unbearable, not for the family alone but all of us in the Bar. Every member of the Bar got shocked on hearing the news of sudden demise of Sh. Jolly. When my friend, Mr. Chandhiok informed me about his demise, for a moment, I could not believe.

He was true to his sur-name and has always been smiling and talking to the members of the Bar sweetly, politely and respectfully. Arrogance, stress, tension or pressure of legal work was nowhere near him. Even while passing through the corridors, he would meet everybody with joy and greet the members with affection. Such qualities are rarely to be found. He did not stick to one particular subject of law but had varied experience. He represented the Income Tax Department since 1995 and also acted as the Prosecutor for the same department for a number of years. For almost 18 years, he worked on the criminal side representing the State as Additional Public Prosecutor. Apart from legal acumen, his keen interested to help the poor and needy, made him to work for jail reforms as a Court Commissioner consequently a

large number of jail inmates languishing due to inability to furnish surety bonds were

released.

He was counsel of Municipal Corporation of Delhi and appeared in large number of

Civil cases in the High Court and the Trial Court, on the original and appellate side.

While working for land and building department, he also dealt with cases land

acquisition case. He conducted cases before MACT. He started his practice with

Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.P.Wadhwa, who is now a retired Judge of the Hon'ble Supreme

Court of India, who was then practicing as a leading lawyer. He was also Joint

Secretary and the Vice-President of Delhi High Court Bar Association twice.

We still miss the smile of Mr. Jolly everyday but who can change the destiny. He is

survived by his wife and two sons, Mr.Mohit Jolly and Mr. Sachit Jolly who are in the

legal profession and are following his footsteps.

We all are proud of Late Pt. Jai Ram Singh and Late Sh. Raj Deepak Jolly, as they

always contributed their best for preserving and promoting the nobility of this

profession. They will always be remembered by the generations to come. I on my

own behalf and on behalf of the members of the BAR respectfully pay homage to

the departed souls. I also pray to the almighty to give strength to their families to

bear the loss.

Let their soul rest in peace.

(K.C..MiiHal)

PRESIDENT