FULL COURT REFERENCE HELD ON 14th MARCH, 2019 AT 3:00 P.M. ON THE SAD DEMISE OF SHRI V.K. MAKHIJA, SENIOR ADVOCATE

JUSTICE RAJENDRA MENON CHIEF JUSTICE

My esteemed brother and sister Judges,

Shri K.C. Mittal, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi;

Shri Kirti Uppal, President, Delhi High Court Bar Association;

Smt. Maninder Acharya, Additional Solicitor General;

Shri Rahul Mehra, Standing Counsel (Criminal), Govt. of NCT of Delhi;

Shri Ramesh Singh, Standing Counsel (Civil), Govt. of NCT of Delhi;

Justice (Retd.) Manmohan Sarin, former Judge of this Court
Standing Counsels of the Central and State Government;
Executive Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association;
Office Bearers of Bar Council of Delhi and other District Bar Associations,

Senior Advocates,

Members of the Bar,

Family members of Shri V.K. Makhija,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have assembled here today to express our grief and pay our heartfelt tribute to eminent Senior Advocate of this court, Shri V.K. Makhija, who left for his heavenly abode on 24th January, 2019.

The personal, educational and professional profile of Late Shri Makhija has been extensively dealt with by the previous speakers and I do not wish to repeat them again.

In recognition of his contribution to the development of law, he was designated as a Senior Advocate by this Court in November, 1996.

Shri Makhija had a vast practice on the Original Side and Appellate Side and was well-known for his knowledge and expertise on the Original Side. His practice ranged from commercial litigation, arbitration, property and family disputes, landlord and tenant disputes, matrimonial law and contractual disputes.

There are many judgements, which can be attributed to his diligence and hard-work.

Shri Makhija was active Member of the Delhi High Court Bar Association being elected twice as Vice-President of the Delhi High Court Bar Association during the period 1986-89. Thereafter he was elected President of the Delhi High Court Bar Association for consecutive two terms and served as President during the years 1996-98.

Unfortunately his health started deteriorating sometime around 1999-2000. However, he remained in active practice till 2008-09. He passed away after prolonged illness on 24th January, 2019 at the age of about 74 years.

Shri Makhija is survived by his mother Smt. Raj Makhija, his wife Smt. Neera Makhija and his two sons Shri Akshay Makhija who is also a practicing advocate and Standing Counsel of the Union of India and Shri Abhishek Makhija and daughters-in-law Smt. Ayna Makhija and Smt.Neeru Makhija.

With the demise of Shri Makhija, who was an eminent lawyer, a void has been created and both the Bench and the Bar would be deprived of his professionalism and guidance which was available to the lawyers, particularly juniors. Shri Makhija, during his life, had shown complete professionalism and devotion to duty and the same is a sterling example to the legal fraternity and will act as a guide in future.

I, on behalf of my brother and sister Judges, and on my own behalf convey our heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family and pray to god to give them strength to bear this irrecoverable loss. May almighty bestow peace to the departed soul.

(AFTER REFERENCE IS OVER)

I request you all to pay homage in the memory of Shri V.K. Makhija by standing in silence for two minutes.

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

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