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My Lords, Hon'ble Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi Mr. Justice M.K. Sharma and his Hon'ble companion Judges, Mr. A. S. Chandiok, President of Delhi High Court Bar Association, Mr. Ramesh Gupta, Chairman Bar Council of Delhi, Central Government Standing Counsels, Ms. Mukta Gupta, Standing Counsel for Delhi Administration, Mr. J.R. Midha, Addl. Standing Counsel for Delhi Administration and counsels for various other statutory authorities, member of the Bar and my esteemed colleagues, Mrs. Neelam Jain, widow of late Shri R. K. Jain, Mr. Sidhartha Jain, Mrs. Rita Jain, M. S. Shefali Jain and Mr. P. K. Jain, Advocate, Ladies and Gentlemen.

2. He was born on 28-11-1944 at Saharanpur. He had his schooling in JB Jain High School, Saharanpur. He graduated from Maharaj Singh College, Saharanpur and did his Law from JB Jain Law College, Saharanpur. He joined the Bar in the year 1969 at Saharanpur and within two years in 1971 he shifted his practice to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. He has been Secretary of the Supreme Court Bar Association for two years in succession, i.e., 1984-85 and 1985-86. He was designated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court as Sr. Advocate suo moto. He was elected as President of the Supreme Court Bar

R.K.

Association in the year 1996, 1998-99, 2000-01 and continued till 2002-03. I had the opportunity of being closely associated with him during the year 2001 when one of his junior colleagues persuaded me to contest as Sr.Member of the Executive Committee of the Supreme Court Bar Association. During that year I discovered more about Mr. Jain.

3. Bhagwat Gita, Chapter IV Versa 19 describes a learned man. It says :

*“Yasya sarve samarambhah kamsamkalpavarjitah  
Jnanagnidagdhakarmanam tamahuhpanditam budhah”*

In other words, it means he whose all enterprises are devoid of desire and motive, whose works are burnt by the fire of knowledge, him the wise call a learned man.

Mr. R.K. Jain was truly a learned man. He was full of knowledge and the fire of knowledge was always glowing on his face. He worked relentlessly to spread knowledge and learning. He was a very simple and honest man, a man of deep learning, with a vision and desire to serve the poor. He was a very noble person. He was always cool and

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calm. He was liked by every member of the Bar - be it Supreme Court Bar Association or be it Delhi High Court Bar Association or any other Association of Advocates. He was a pure *Jain* - a pure vegetarian, non-smoker and teetotaler. He firmly believed in his religion and was infact returning to Delhi after a pilgrimage, when he suffered severe heart attack in train.

4. <sup>" (Mr. R. K. Jain)</sup> He was unassuming, sober, gentle, well-mannered and an Advocate in the true sense. He was always polite and respectful to the Bench but had the art and ability to convey his view-point by remaining polite but firm and without showing any anger." He was full of affection towards his colleagues and juniors alike. He had a passion to work for the rights of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, upliftment of the minorities and poor. He had an excellent memory and anyone who ever came in contact with him had the ability to remember him by his name and used to call him by his first name. In his death the Bar has lost a learned man, an eminent lawyer, a friend of the Bar, a true gentleman.

5. Mr. Jain has been appearing in almost all the matters in the Supreme Court on one side or the other. He had challenged the

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constitutional validity of death sentence in the well-known case of Triveni Ben vs. State, the matter decided by the Constitution Bench of the Apex Court reported in 1989 1 SCC 678. He was the highest tax payer in the individual capacity approximately for year 1999-2000 and was awarded Rashtriya Saman by the Income Tax Department in June 2000.

6. I, on behalf of the Government of India, my colleagues, Central Government Standing Counsel request the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi to convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray to the Lord Almighty to bestow courage on his family to bear this irreparable loss and may his departed soul rest in peace always.

P. P. MALHOTRA

Additional Solicitor General of India

Date : 08-01-2007