

FAREWELL SPEECH ON THE ELEVATION OF HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJIV KHANNA AS A JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA ON 17.01.2019 AT 3:00 P.M.

**RAJENDRA MENON
CHIEF JUSTICE**

My esteemed sister and brother colleagues,
My esteemed brother Justice Sanjiv Khanna,
Smt. Maninder Acharya, Additional Solicitor General of India,
Sh.Kirti Uppal, President Delhi High Court Bar Association,
Mr.J.P. Sengh, Vice-President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,
Sh. Amit Sharma, Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association,
Mr. Ramesh Singh , Standing Counsel, (Civil), Govt. of NCT. of Delhi.
Mr. Rahul Mehra, Standing Counsel, (Criminal) Govt. of NCT of Delhi.,
Shri K.C. Mittal, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi;
Other Standing Counsels of the Central and State Government,
Executive Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association,
President, Secretary and Office bearers of all the Bar Associations of Delhi.
President, Secretary and Office bearers of the Bar Council of Delhi,
Senior Advocates,
Learned Members of the bar,
Officers of the Registry
Family Members of Justice Khanna
Ladies & Gentlemen.

We have gathered here today to bid farewell to Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna on the occasion of his elevation as Judge of the Supreme Court of India. It gives me great pleasure and happiness to offer, on behalf of all those present here, our warmest congratulations.

Justice Khanna was born on 14th May 1960 and completed his schooling from Delhi in 1977. After graduating in the year 1980 from Delhi University, he studied law at Campus Law Centre, Delhi University and was enrolled as an advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi in 1983.

His practice included a diverse range of litigation in civil, constitutional, taxation, criminal, arbitration, commercial, environment and pollution and writ matters. As an Advocate, he had also handled several matters of medical negligence under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and company law matters before the Company Law Board and the Delhi High Court.

He had represented the Government of Delhi as an additional Public Prosecutor in various criminal cases. He was a senior standing counsel for the Income Tax Department for about seven years and in 2004 he was appointed as a standing counsel (civil) for the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi in Delhi High Court. On 24th June 2005 he was elevated as an additional Judge of Delhi High Court and became a permanent Judge on 20th February 2006.

In the course of his judicial career, Justice Khanna has delivered several landmark judgements. Fundamental duty as a judge is not only to dispense expeditious justice to the citizens but also provide them with quality judgements.

The duty of a Judge is to impart justice while exhibiting fairness, respect and dignity to the people who are before the Court. A judge is the fulcrum, on which our entire justice system balances and Justice Sanjiv Khanna has discharged this onerous duty as a Judge with utmost honesty and sincerity.

Some of the indispensable qualities one must have as a Judge are singular intellectual rigour, commitment to efficient administration of justice, and reliability in performance of given tasks. Justice Khanna possesses these virtues, and much more.

I came in contact with Justice Sanjiv Khanna for the first time when I assumed office as Chief Justice of this Court on 9th August, 2018 and since then I have been continuously associated with him in various administrative and other activities and I found him to be a hard-working Judge, sincere in all endeavours he undertakes, a gentleman par excellence and a very good friend to all. He along with Justice S. Ravindra Bhat and other senior Judges have been my pillars of strength in the discharge of my duties as the head of the family of this institution.

While we bid farewell to you Justice Khanna, I, on my behalf and on behalf of my colleagues on the bench and on behalf of the entire court, extend congratulations and best wishes to you for a very successful tenure as a judge of the Supreme Court of India and for higher glory.