

FAREWELL SPEECH ON THE TRANSFER OF HMJ  
RAJIV SHAKDHER AND HMJ SURESH KAIT  
DELIVERED ON 08.04.2016

G. ROHINI  
CHIEF JUSTICE

Justice Rajiv Shaktidher & Justice Suresh Kait,  
My esteemed brother and sister colleagues,  
Shri Sanjay Jain, Additional Solicitor General of India,  
Shri K.K. Manan, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi,  
Shri Rajeev Khosla, President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,  
Shri Jatan Singh, Vice-President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,  
Shri Abhijat, Hon'y. Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association,  
Mr. Rahul Mehra, Sr. Standing Counsel, Govt. of NCT of Delhi  
Other Standing Counsel of the Central and State Government,  
Executive Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association,  
Office-bearers of other District Bar Associations,  
Senior Advocates,  
Members of the Bar,  
Family members of Justice Rajiv Shaktidher and Justice Suresh Kait,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

We have assembled here to bid farewell to two of the distinguished Judges of this Court Justice Rajiv Shakhder and Justice Suresh Kait who have been transferred to Madras High Court and High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the States of Telengana and Andhra Pradesh respectively.

Born on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 1962, Justice Shakhder completed his schooling from St.Columba's School, Delhi. After completing his graduation from Delhi University in 1984, Justice Shakhder successfully obtained LL.B. degree from Law Faculty, University of Delhi in 1987. He also completed Chartered Accountancy from Institute of Chartered Accountants of India in the same year. He had a brilliant academic career and had also pursued Advanced Course of Law at Institute of Advanced Legal Studies from University of London.

Having joined the Bar in November 1987, with his dedication, devotion and commitment towards the legal profession, Justice Shakhder had very soon been acknowledged in the High Court of Delhi as well as the Supreme Court as an outstanding lawyer.

He was designated as senior advocate in December 2005 and immediately thereafter appointed as a panel lawyer for the Union of India in Supreme Court.

Justice Shakdher also represented the office of Comptroller and Auditor General from August, 2002 to July, 2003.

He was elevated to the Bench and was appointed as an Additional Judge of Delhi High Court on 11.4.2008 and became permanent judge on 17.10.2011. Always acknowledged for his intelligence, integrity, boldness and hard-work, Justice Shakdher has delivered innumerable landmark judgements. Justice Shakdher has maintained consistency and momentum to clear the backlog of cases in whatever roster he is assigned with. He is known to be a very pleasant judge who always made it a point to give patient hearing to the parties. He has also ensured that the judgements are delivered expeditiously after conclusion of hearing. On the Bench, Justice Shakdher remained courteous and his willingness to listen has gained him admiration and respect from the members of the Bar.

Justice Shakdher has been the Vice Chairperson of Arbitration Committee of the Delhi International Arbitration Centre and a Member of BMCC, Saket Court. He has also been a very active Member of Committee to monitor the improvement in living conditions in Nirmal Chhaya Home for girls and to deal with the matters relating to conditions and functioning of observation homes established under Juvenile Justice Act.

Justice Shakhder has also been a member of the Computer Committee from July, 2008 to July, 2009 and during this period, contributed his valuable inputs for the improvement and revamping of the website of this Court, Recruitment of Technical Staff and laying of the new high speed Local Area Network besides purchase of several hardware and preparation of software for the benefit of the Registry.

Justice Shakhder has an attitude of institutional service and I am sure his positive attitude, hard work and integrity will get further blossomed in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Born on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1963 in Haryana, Justice Kait did his graduation and post-graduation from Kurukshetra University and obtained Bachelor's Degree in Law from Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi. He was enrolled as an Advocate in the year 1989. Though he is first generation lawyer in his family, by dint of hard-work and zeal to come up in the legal profession, Justice Kait made a mark as a successful lawyer within a short time. He had served in many capacities including the Senior Counsel for Union Public Service Commission and Railways and was appointed as Standing Counsel for Central Government in the year 2004. Justice Kait was elevated as an Additional Judge of Delhi High Court on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 and became a Permanent Judge on 12.04.2013.

Justice Kait has been a member of Committee for Appointment of Officers of High Court, a Member of Court Development Planning Committee and Building Maintenance and Construction Committee, Rouse Avenue and has rendered his valuable inputs for smooth functioning of the institution.

His distinguished tenure as a Judge of the Delhi High Court is dotted with many important judgments on various fields of law.

Hardworking and painstaking, Justice Kait has always endeavoured to dispense expeditious justice to disputing parties. His judgments reveal his compassion and understanding in the application of law, both in letter and spirit.

Justice Kait is well known for his personal standard of ethical conduct and commitment for upholding the nobility of justice administration system. Throughout his judicial career in this Court, he has exhibited patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, firmness, compassion, humility and common sense, which are the main attributes of proper judicial temperament. With his knowledge and wisdom Justice Kait has remarkably and efficiently discharged his duties as a Judge of this Court.

Both Justice Shakhder and Justice Kait are the products of this Bar and have made remarkable contributions to maintain the high standards of administration of justice in this Court, which is considered to be the most prestigious High Court in the country.

I am sure that both the Judges will keep the Delhi High Court's flag high and will shine the institution they are joining.

It is my great pleasure to have associated with Justice Shakhder and Justice Kait even it was for shorter duration than I would have liked.

On behalf of my brother and sister Judges and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to Justice Shakhder and Justice Kait for their immeasurable contribution to the cause of administration of justice which will be remembered by this Court for ever.

I conclude wishing both of them good luck in all their future endeavours. May the choicest blessings of the Almighty be showered on them for more successful and glorious career.

Thank you.