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भारत

ADDITIONAL SOLICITOR GENERAL
INDIA

443, Lawyers' Chambers
Delhi High Court
New Delhi-110003.

29th April, 2004

REFERENCE

My Lord, The Hon'ble Chief Justice and the Hon'ble Judges of Delhi High Court, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi, President, Shri Amarjit Singh Chandhiok, Secretary and other office bearers of Delhi High Court Bar Association, Standing Counsel for Government of India and Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, my colleagues at the Bar, Ladies and Gentlemen.

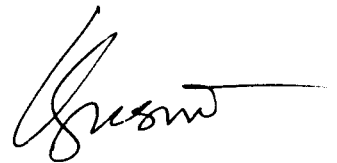
We have assembled here today to pay homage to the departed soul of Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.R. Khanna who died suddenly on 27.4.2004 at Delhi. His Lordship was born on October 17, 1923. He Graduated from Punjab University from Amritsar. He had a handicap in his childhood for which he underwent number of surgeries as a result of which his one leg had to be shortened. He developed pluracy in 1945 at the age of 23 years and only after recovery, joined Law College at Lahore in 1946. Inspite of his handicap he was the Badminton Champion of Law College, Shimla, 1948-49. After partition he completed his law degree from Shimla Law College. In the year 1950 he passed the PCS (Judicial) Examination and was posted as Civil

Judge, Hoshiarpur (Punjab). ~~Sir~~ Erick Weston the Hon'ble Chief Justice of United Punjab on inspection deeply appreciated the work of Justice Khanna. He was promoted Additional District & Sessions Judge, in Punjab on 24.6.1967 and thereafter acted as such at Delhi. He was confirmed as Additional District & Sessions Judge, Delhi in May, 1971 and was absorbed in the Delhi Higher Judicial Service. He was Judicial Member, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal from March, 1971 to 1977. He held the position of Chairman, Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal, Delhi, on 18.3.1978. He was appointed Additional Judge Delhi High Court on 19.10.1979 and retired on 17.10.1985.

Contributions of Mr. Justice Khanna for enriching the law is a subject matter of appreciation by both Bench and Bar. No branch of law was left untouched by him. Even as a Member of the Income tax Appellate Tribunal and Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal, the judgements which he rendered were flawless. After his appointment as a Judge of this High Court he endeared himself both to the Bench and Bar. He was known for humility, integrity and expeditious disposal of cases. He suffered from no prejudice and he had no weaknesses except for the cause of justice and the litigant. He was painstaking while writing judgements. There was no occasion for any lawyer or a party to feel that any submission made or precedent cited has gone unnoticed. He never believed in postponing the hearing of the cases howsoever tangled or heavy the same may be. He was always unhappy on

anyone seeking unnecessary adjournments though always prepared to accommodate every member of the bar. Sophistication, humility and serenity was an enviable quality of his personality. He was unfortunate in loosing his wife Mrs. Saroj Khanna in early life who was a professor in Lady Shriram College, Delhi. He has left behind his illustrious son Shri Sanjiv Khanna who is practising in this Court and is a Senior Standing Counsel for the Income Tax Department who has made a mark in the profession. His Lordship's other son Shri Mahim Khanna is a Cost and Works Accountant and M.S.C. in International Shipping. He is presently working as a General Manager, Operation, Mersk, Sydney, Australia. We shall always remember fairness, simplicity and humility of Mr. Justice Khanna.

I pray to Almighty God to give peace to the departed soul of Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.R. Khanna and strength to the member his family to bear the loss. I beseech your Lordship to convey the heartfelt sympathesies and condolences on behalf of all the Law Officers of Union of India and Central Govt. Advocates and myself.



(K.K. SUD)
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