

SPEECH OF HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE IN FULL COURT
REFERENCE TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, THE 15TH JULY,
2009 AT 3.30 P.M ON THE SAD DEMISE OF PANDIT JAI RAM
SINGH AND SHRI R. D. JOLLY, SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE
BAR

My brother and sister Judges, Shri A. S. Chandhioke, learned Additional Solicitor General of India, Shri K. C. Mittal, President, and other Office Bearers of Delhi High Court Bar Association, Learned Members of the Bar, Members of the bereaved families, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We have assembled here today to pay tribute to two senior members of the Bar namely late Pandit Jai Ram Singh, who passed away on 15th April, 2009 and late Shri R. D. Jolly, who passed away on 14th May, 2009.

Pandit Jai Ram Singh came from rural background. His father, a school teacher, however, provided him best possible education. Pandit Jai Ram Singh post-graduated from Saint Stephen's College, Delhi and completed his law in the year 1947 from Delhi University.

After doing his Law, he took up a job in Quetta in the North West Frontier State (now in Pakistan). After partition, he came to Delhi. In the year 1949, he enrolled himself as a Pleader and joined

the chamber of Shri Tara Chand Mathur, one of the leading criminal lawyers of the time. Meanwhile, various land reforms legislations came to be enacted and large scale acquisition of land started for the development of Delhi. This changed the course of his life and he became an expert in land acquisition matters. I am told that he was a master of land reforms and land acquisition laws. He practiced mainly in the High Court and prior to that before the Punjab and Haryana High Court. I am also told that the land on which the famous Chhattarpur Temple is built belonged to him and he donated it to the Temple Trust. This shows his magnanimity and desire to return something to the society.

Pandit Jai Ram Singh is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters. His son, Shri N. S. Vasisht is a practicing Advocate in this Court. With the demise of Pandit Jai Ram Singh the legal fraternity has lost a veteran.

Shri R. D. Jolly did his graduation and law from Delhi University and thereafter enrolled himself as an Advocate in the year 1977 and started practicing from the Chamber of Shri D. P. Wadhwa, who was then a leading practicing lawyer and later retired as Judge

of the Supreme Court. Shri Jolly practiced in almost all branches of law. He worked in various capacities such as a Prosecution Counsel and Senior Standing Counsel for the Income Tax Department, Additional Public Prosecutor for Government of NCT of Delhi in Delhi High Court. He also represented various other Departments.

Shri Jolly, while working as Additional Public Prosecutor, was appointed as Court Commissioner to visit Central Jail, Tihar and to make recommendations regarding those jail inmates, who had been languishing in the Jail on account of their inability to produce surety bond and his efforts in the matter came to be appreciated by this Court.

Shri Jolly held the office of Joint Secretary and Vice President of the Delhi High Court Bar Association. He also served Delhi Bar Association in different capacities at different periods of time.

Shri R. D. Jolly is survived by his wife and three sons. His sons Mohit and Sachit are practicing lawyers in this Court. The demise of Shri Jolly is a great loss to the legal fraternity.

We send our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and pray to God to give them strength to bear the loss and bestow peace to the departed souls.

May I request you all to pay homage by standing in silence for two minutes in the memory of late Pandit Jai Ram Singh and Shri R. D. Jolly.

Chief Justice

15.07.2009