

**FELICITATION TO HON'BLE CJI BY BAR ASSOCIATIONS
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R.K. AGRAWAL,
ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE
20.08.2013**

My Lord, Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam, Chief Justice of India, my sister and brother Judges, Presidents & Office bearers of Bar Associations, Chairman, Bar Council of Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry, distinguished members from the legal fraternity, ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, I am grateful to the organisers for having invited me to participate in this grand function.

Today we are seeing His Lordship as CJI. But many of us may not know what sacrifices, labour and effort His Lordship has made to scale this height. It is unthinkable for a person, who was born in an agricultural family and who had no exposure to modern advanced education, to reach this position. He is a first generation graduate, law graduate, advocate, judge etc. in his family. He had no mentors to groom. Then how could he achieve this position? Unless one has zeal and enthusiasm and tireless hard work, he cannot reach this

position. His Lordship reads a lot. He was courteous towards his clients and his colleagues. In spite of reaching the top most position, His Lordship is so humble with poise and accessible that everyone feels His Lordship as one among the family. Today His Lordship had a tiresome day, yet His Lordship shows no sign of tiredness. Just as you were enthusiastic to meet His Lordship, His Lordship is also more than willing to see all of you. His Lordship's association with you, 23 years as advocate and 11 years as Judge, would certainly mean many friends and given His Lordship's soft manner and the manner of more than willing to help others, the number of friends would certainly be more. All of you are rightly proud of His Lordship's occupying the exalted position in the country and His Lordship richly deserves the position.

To all the young advocates who have gathered in large numbers here, I have only this to say. Try to imbibe the great unassuming qualities of His Lordship for your successful career. His Lordship's main advice to all is to read a lot, be sincere and honest, not only to your clients but also to the Courts. Friends, no dream is too big. If you devotedly follow in the footsteps of

His Lordship and the path shown by him, the day is not far when many of you can also adorn the high position held by His Lordship.

I take this opportunity to request the legal fraternity not to resort to boycotts of courts as the ultimate sufferer is the litigant. The Government and the Judiciary have been doing their best to enhance the quality of the justice delivery system and if the legal fraternity also joins the two highest wings of the democracy, not only can the cases be disposed of early but the pride of the State also will increase.

Since you have been waiting for several years for this occasion and realising your anxiety to hear your beloved CJI to speak to you, I would not like to come in your way.

I happily join all of you here in heartily congratulating His Lordship and I fervently hope that under His Lordship's erudite leadership, the Indian Judiciary will ascend to newer heights.

Thank you
