

SPEECH DELIVERED BY HONOURABLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE ON THE OCCASION OF CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF TAMIL NADU ADVOCATES CLERKS ASSOCIATION.

- 29.3.2013 – 9.30 AM -

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Respected Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam and Hon'ble Mr. Justice F.M. Ibrahim Kalifulla, Judges, Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice D. Murugesan, Chief Justice, Delhi High Court, my esteemed brother and sister Judges, Additional Solicitor General of India, Advocate General, Senior Advocates, Advocates, Officers and Staff of the Registry, President and other Office bearers of the Tamil Nadu Advocates Clerks Association,

A very Good morning to all of you,

I am very happy to be amongst you all on the occasion of the Centenary celebrations of this Association. Your association must be one of the oldest associations relating to judiciary in the country and its very existence all these years proves your worth. It is heartening to note that you have 1600 members of whom 300 are women members.

Like the three pillars of Indian democracy, viz., the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary, the Advocates Clerks can be said to be one of the pillars of our judicial system. Their contribution, though not direct, is of great help in doing justice as the learned advocates do not have to worry about the nitty gritty of the cumbersome process in the office and have only to concentrate on the briefs.

The role of the advocate clerks in the successful performance of an advocate is a vital one. Certain jobs consume lot of time and it may require presence of a person and the work of advocate clerks also is like that only. An advocate cannot afford to spend his time waiting in the corridors of the Courts to know about the fate of his papers presented by him or to know the posting of his case in the next day's cause list. Rather he can spend his time worthwhile preparing for next day's work or discussing with his clients. The Advocate Clerk acts as a bridge between the advocate, the client and the courts. By his constant interaction with the advocate and the client, he gets to know the psychology of

both and deftly manages their relationship. Without an able advocate clerk, the advocate cannot perform his job better.

The advocate clerks are an asset to the legal community as you are a part of the judicial system. There are some advocate clerks who, though not law graduate themselves, they know the case law. And I am told that some advocate clerks, study law and become advocates.

Though not all of you, most of you help organising advocates' paper works and planning their schedule, arrange meetings with advocates and clients, managing his practice by keeping diaries, negotiating fees, filing, photocopying, and your work timings are irregular. These are certainly onerous duties and need proper compensation. Friends, you all are very dear to me and have a special place in my heart. I feel proud in saying before this august gathering that my grandfather was also one of you. No dream is too big. Like him, you should also aim high and work sincerely and with utmost devotion, so that your children may also occupy a high position in the judicial world like his. I am happy to note that Mementoes are

presented in honour of senior advocate clerks and insurance policies are distributed to the advocate clerks.

It is high time that you make use of these celebrations to deliberate on the future course of action to be taken by you which should be beneficial not only to the advocate clerks but also to the advocates and the general public. I wish your association to grow from strength to strength for the mutual benefit of the advocate clerks, the advocates and the litigant public.

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