



Lahari

Communique

NEWS LETTER FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION AMONG THE LEGAL FRATERNITY

Volume 11

November 1999

Part 8

Appointments

The new state government has made the following new appointments to the establishment of Advocate General for a period of two years or till further orders :

□ State Public Prosecutor - Mr. Mohana Shantanagoudar, Addl. SPPs. Mr. N. V. Prakash and Mr. B. C. Muddappa.

□ Addl. Government Advocates - M/s. M. Ramaiah, T. M. Venkata Reddy, Tajudin, K. N. Putte Gowda, D.L. Shiva Kumar, B. Manohar, Sudesh Pai, Nagarajulu Naidu, K. Nagaraj, H. J. Sundar Kumar, Mahabaleswar Goud, Pradip Rai, M. V. Shamanna and P. Satyanarayana.

□ Government Pleaders - M/s. Haleppa Herur, Singri Narasingasa Pundalikasa, V. K. Narayana Swami, M. G. Shivashankara Reddy, Bharama Gowda, Shivaswamy, Bhavani Singh, L. K. Srinivasa Murthy, B. S. Prasad, G. Krishna Reddy, G. K. Bhat, Y. V. Parthasarathy, H. B. Mahesh, Shiva Prasad, N. K. Ramesh, B. K. Veda Murthy, K. V. Lokanath, B. H. Satish, R. Sharatchandra, M. S. Basavaraju, M. Chandre Gowda, A. Padmanabhan, B. Krishnappa, B. G. Rajashekar and Ms. Shobha Patil.

□ The services of following law officers are retained :

□ M/s. R. I. D'sa, Government Advocate; K. H. Jagadish, S. Udayshankar, M. N. Ramanjaneya Gowda, K. Viswanath, A. Nagarajappa, U. Abdul Khader, G. Papi Reddy, S. N. Aswathanarayana, V. Prakash, M. H. Motagi, Addl. Government Advocates; S. S. Koti, Addl. SPP; M. B. Prabhakar, Ashok N. Nayak, G. M. Srinivasa Reddy, B. Veerappa, D. Viswanatha Naidu, M. Narayanappa, Ms. S. Sujatha, Ms. V. Vidya and Ms. Nilofer Akbar, Government pleaders.

Minister of State for Law

Mr. O. Rajagopalan from Kerala, elected to Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra Assembly Constituency, is the new Union Minister of State for Law, Justice, Company and Parliamentary Affairs.

PM Raps Judiciary for Backlog

Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee said that the judiciary cannot absolve itself from the responsibility of being cause for backlog of cases in the country. Mr. Vajpayee called for honest introspection while expressing peoples dissatisfaction over the pace of dispensation of justice. He said that there is an all pervasive perception that the law has become a shield of the unscrupulous.

Speaking at the golden jubilee celebrations of the Supreme Court of India on November 26, 1999 Mr. Vajpayee said that the exasperating and increasingly expensive delays of judicial system justly invite derision and contempt. While referring to the fact of pending cases of more than 2 crores he said that "at a time when we want to accelerate the pace of social economic development, India cannot afford justice in slow motion".

Mr. Vajpayee also declared that the government is considering the setting up of a national judicial commission and evolving a code of ethics for judiciary. At the same time he complimented the Apex Court for being one of the most active and positive courts of the world. Lord Dingham representing the House of Lords profusely complimented the Supreme Court of India on its achievements and said that the people world over and particularly Britain has always looked for the Supreme Court of India as a Court of inspiration. Vice-President Krishna Kant released a stamp and a coin on the occasion to commemorate the golden jubilee of the Supreme Court. Among others who attended the function were Home Minister Lal Krishna Advani, Congress President Sonia Gandhi, present and past judges, lawyers, cabinet ministers and a host of dignitaries.

Interestingly Chief Justice A. S. Anand had a different perception as to the reasons for mounting backlog of cases. Justice Anand regretted that the centre and the state government were squarely responsible for the delay in dispensation of justice as they were not appointing requisite number of judges. He further said that the present system of appointment of judges is satisfactory as it has stood the test of time. He felt that there was no need to constitute a national judicial commission. Justice Anand also expressed the view that judiciary must have financial autonomy to set its house in order.

Tail-Piece

indiatimes.com poll

Who is primarily to blame for the piling up of court cases

Government 39%	Judiciary 55%	Can't Say 6%
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AAB Takes Lead to Provide Succour

In the light of century's worst calamity caused by the super cyclone in Orissa. Advocates Association Bangalore took the lead in collecting financial and material relief to the survivors of the disaster. The programme lasting for a week was inaugurated by the Chief Justice of High Court of Karnataka Y. Bhaskar Rao on 10.11.99 in the City Civil Court Complex. He lauded the initiative taken by the AAB in this regard. Justices Chandrashekaraiah, V. Gopala Gowda, R. V. Raveendran, Chidananda Ullal and R. Gururajan from the High Court of Karnataka, Mr. K. Sreedhar Rao, Principal City Civil and Sessions Judge, Barrister H. K. Vasudeva Reddy, Ko. Channabasappa, Advocate, Mr. K. L. Manjunath, President of AAB, other office bearers and a large number of advocates participated in the programme.

This was followed by padayatras by advocates for a week in different commercial locations of the city for the purpose of collection of contributions. Separate meetings were also organised in the High Court and Mayo Hall Units for this purpose. As on 29.11.99 AAB was able to mobilise contributions of Rs. 3,30,000/- apart from contributions in the form of clothing. Out of this cash collections Rs. 1,00,000 was donated by Bangalore Advocates Co-operative Society. AAB has proposed to send a team of advocates to the affected regions of Orissa and directly distribute the relief.

Around the Courts

□ Section 386 Cr.P.C. - Concept of "plea bargaining" - Whether a ground for reducing sentence by the High Court?

In a significant ruling delivered during the first week of November 1999 the Supreme Court has held that confession of committing a crime by the accused is no legal ground for the High Court to reduce the sentence awarded by the Sessions Court. While setting aside the order of Allahabad High Court reducing sentence against the accused, the Apex Court held that "it is apparent that the order passed by the High Court is, on the face of it, illegal and erroneous. Mere admission of the guilt should not be a ground for reduction of sentence. It appears that the High Court has overlooked the settled law that concept of plea bargaining is not recognised and is against public policy under our criminal justice system. The approach of the court in appeal or revision should be to find out whether the accused was guilty or not on the basis of evidence on record".

One Chandrika was convicted by Sessions Judge, Ballia, under section 304, IPC and sentenced her to undergo eight years RI. Chandrika appealed before High Court and at the time of hearing opted not to challenge the findings of conviction with a view to bargaining on the question of sentence. High Court accepted the bargain and allowed the appeal by observing that the offence had taken place long ago, the appellant was in jail for some time both as under trial and convict and that she had not chosen to question the conviction at the time of hearing and reduced the sentence to the period of imprisonment already undergone.

□ Evidence of hostile witness - reliance for conviction - admissibility:

In a significant ruling delivered during November 1999, the Supreme Court has ruled that evidence of hostile witness can be relied upon to the extent to which it supports the prosecution case. A Division Bench of the court

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When a judge sits in judgment over a fellow man, he should feel as if a sword is pointed at his own heart.
-Talmud, Sanhedrin

Need for Judicial Restraint

Commenting adversely about the professional competence of a counsel representing his client in a judicial order is in bad taste. The fact that it is done as an observation and not as a judicial pronouncement does not mitigate the effect of such observation. Direction to communicate the observation to the client compound the situation. Happening of such an event can only be described as an aberration to the time tested concept of judicial restraint.

It is a practice that the client chooses his counsel and while so doing he decides the competence of his counsel to represent his case. Judges have no say in the matter. Just like the counsel cannot choose the judge, the judge cannot choose the counsel to represent a client. When judges sit in judgment over the 'lis' the professional competence of a counsel does not form the realm of adjudication. As such judges must refrain from adversely commenting on the competence of lawyers much less their effort to directly reach out to client complaining about the professional competence of the counsel. There is no guarantee that litigants would take such comments/advice seriously.

There is bound to be an element of sarcasm and subjectivity inbuilt in the judges comments about the counsel. Judges will be committing impropriety when they adversely comment about the professional competence of the counsel instead of restricting their authority to decide cases which are brought before them.

The judges should avoid inviting lawyers from publicly reviewing the professional competence of individual judges as a reaction. Judges have to note that the bar does not publicly comment about the quality of judges because the bench and the bar are complimentary to each other in the justice delivery system. The fact that the bar has always supplied judges is a pointer in this regard. The judges should not take liberty to adversely comment about the professional competence of individual lawyers.

This is more so when a litigation is not brought against a lawyer wherein his professional competence is questioned, damages are claimed or otherwise the lawyer is sought to be indicted. It is desirable that judges must refrain from resorting to such undesirable acts. Prudence tells that, judges should not provoke lawyers.

Kolar Diary

□ On 11-11-1999 under the joint auspices of Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, Kolar District Legal Services Authority, Chintamani Taluka Legal Services Committee and Advocates Association, Chintamani, a legal literary and legal aid programme was inaugurated at Kaiwara by Mr. Justice S. Rajendra Babu, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Mr. Justice Y. Bhaskar Rao, Chief Justice of High Court presided over the function. Mr. Justice A.J. Sadashiva, Executive Chairman KLSA, Bangalore, Mr. Justice Kumar Rajaratnam, Administrative Judge, Mr. Justice R.V. Raveendran, Mr. Justice Chandrashekaraiiah and Mr. Justice V. Gopal Gowda, Judges of the High Court were the guests of honour at the function.

□ A two day conference of judicial officers of Kolar and Mysore District was inaugurated on November 13, 1999 at Nandi Hills by Supreme Court Judge, Justice S. Rajendra Babu. Justice Y. Bhaskar Rao, Chief Justice and other judges of the High Court of Karnataka also participated in the conference. The conference amongst other things discussed ways to avoid delay in disposal of cases, role of lokadalaths and alternative mechanisms of resolving disputes.

□ On 8-11-99 C. Narayanappa, Advocate, expired at Kolar.

Obituary

□ On 11-11-99 V. Kantharaju 51, District Judge (former Registrar, DRT, Bangalore) passed away at Bangalore.

□ On 13-11-99 B. Shivakumar, Advocate, passed away at Bangalore

□ On 16-11-99 R.S. Futane 53, District Judge, on deputation to Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, passed away at Bangalore.

□ On 16-11-99 K.V. Ramanappa, Advocate, passed away at Bangalore

□ On 18-11-99 B. Seetharamaiah, Advocate, passed away at Bangalore.

What Lawyers can do for the Common Civil Code

Prof B. Venkatakrishnappa, Former Principal, BMS Law College

From the Last issue

Fortunately in Hindu Succession Act, 1956 under Sec.21, the principle of 'commorientes' has been introduced under which to facilitate succession, the younger person is presumed to have died later. In the case of muslims, when the father and son are involved in a common calamity the deceased son's children could claim a share if this principle is applied to Muslim Law. However in AIR 1944 P. C. 100, Agha Vs. Mudassir, Justice Madhavan Nair held that this principle, however salutary, is not a principle of common law and cannot be applied to muslims. It was introduced statutorily in England by the Law of Property Act, 1925 and in Hindu Law in 1956. I would think that this is an area where reasonableness should produce a consensus.

In the case of succession to Parsis who die intestate, the rules of division of property were similar to that of Muslim Law in allotting a half share to female heirs. A quiet revolution was achieved by the Indian Succession (Amendment) Act of 1991 and the share of a daughter was placed on par with that of a son.

Efforts on the lines as above in respect of several matters should have been made long back by the Bar Associations instead of leaving it to chance political consideration. A home work is long overdue.

— concluded

Advocates Co-operative Society

The board meeting of Bangalore Advocates Co-operative Society Ltd., held on 29-10-99 has resolved to raise the maximum limit of hand loan / surety loan to its members to Rs. 30,000/-. Further it is resolved to collect Rs. 400/- towards 4 additional shares from its members who had acquired membership prior to 28-9-94. It was also resolved to approve admission of 41 new members to the Society.

In the board meeting of the Society held on 27-11-99 it was resolved to offer HMT Swarna Watches at reduced price of Rs.400/-. The meeting also approved sanction of loans to 113 members totalling to Rs. 33,90,000/- apart from sanctioning 2 claims of medical assistance of total of Rs. 10,000/-. The meeting further approved granting of donations / relase of advertisements in favour of Lahari Advocates Forum Rs.10,000/-, Bangalore Literary Union Rs. 10,000/-, All India Women Lawyers Conference Rs.10,000/-, Advocates Cricket Club Rs.19,200/-, Mandya Bar Association Rs.3,000/-, Sharana Darshini Rs. 2,000/-.

The Society has also decided to publish a lawyers Directory. Bye-laws of the Society are also sought to be amended. Suggestions / Resolutions proposing any amendments to the Bye-laws may be sent to the Society latest by 15-12-99.

President Lauds PILs

President K.R. Narayanan lauded the role of public interest litigation in accelerating the "justice movement" in the country. However Mr. Narayanan said the efficacy of the law has to be judged by its capacity to provide and preserve justice for the individual as individual, as a member of the group or of a nation or a global community". Mr. Narayanan was speaking at the 43rd Congress of the International Association of Lawyers after inaugurating the Congress at New Delhi on November 4, 99. About 1000 lawyers from 61 countries participated in the Congress. Chief Justice Mr. Justice A.S. Anand who was a guest at the function said it should be the concern of the entire legal community across the world to ensure that human rights are protected. In his address Mr. Narayanan cautioned that prevailing basic conditions in some of the developing countries must be taken into consideration while dealing with the question of human rights.

At the Receiving End

Of late there is increase in the instances of dispossession of advocates from their residences/chambers on the strenght of ex-parte eviction orders. During the last two months there have been two reported cases where advocates have been dispossessed with the connivance of jurisdictional police. On the one hand the police refuse to take action against the errants on the basis of complaints of the victims on the other hand they shield the errants in implementing their nefarious designs.

A lady advocate of Bangalore was summarily dispossessed from her residence on 15-10-1999 on the strength of an ex-parte order of eviction obtained by the petitioner. Immediately after dispossessing the resident in her absence the petitioner illegally demolished the residence occupied by her and stealthily took away all her valuable belongings thereby rendering her homeless. The advocate has complained that the eviction order has been obtained by impersonating her in the court. It is high time that action is initiated to prevent recurrence of such instances and to help the victims of illegal dispossession to get redressal.

Judicial Appointments / Postings / Transfers

The Karnataka High Court has transferred 94 judicial officers of Judicial Department in the cadre of civil judges in senior and junior division. The new postings are in brackets.

Civil Judges in senior division : V.P. Jahagirdar (Registrar of Debt Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore), Mahantagouda Biradar (Civil Judge, Senior Division and JMFC, Srirangapatna).

Civil judges (junior division) temporarily promoted to officiate as civil judges (senior division): Krishnamurthy B Sangannavar (VI Addl Judge, Court of Small Causes, Bangalore), Basawannappa Jamadar (VII Addl Judge, Court of Small Causes, Bangalore), Abdul Rasheed Abdul Khader Shingoti (XII Addl Judge, Court of Small Causes, Bangalore), Shivappa G Beeraladinni (XIII Addl Judge, Court of Small Causes, Bangalore), Mallikarjuna Kinikeri (XVIII Addl. Judge, Court of Small Causes, Bangalore), Rudramani Rudrappayya Byranapadamath (Civil Judge, Senior division, Kundapur), Somanath R Sindgi (Addl Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bangalore Rural District), H.Y. Vasanthkumar (Civil Judge, Senior division, Maddur), and Ningangouda Jantali (VI Addl Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore City)

In the Civil judge junior division: Padmaraj Nemachandra Desai (Asst Director, Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bangalore), A Gurumurthy (Asst Registrar Karnataka Lokayukta, Bangalore), Shubha Goudar (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Hassan), M Komalata (Asst Solicitor and ex-officio under secretary, Law Department, Bangalore), Managolli Premavathi Mallikarjuna (Prl Civil Judge and JMFC, Bellary), P.Narayanacharya (Asst Registrar, Karnataka Lokayukta, Bangalore), Siddappa Yellappa Watavati (Addl Civil Judge, Junior division, Dharwad), Gireyya (Prl Civil Judge, junior division, Davangere).

Bhairappa Shivaling Naik (Prl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Bagalkot), M.L.Raghunath (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Pandavapura), S. Sridhara (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Hoskote), Mallikarjuna Gowda (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Muddebihal), Natraj Chandrashekar Dhulapannavar (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Gudibande), Mustafa Hussain Syed Azeez (Civil

Judge, junior division and JMFC, Alur), Ashok Babu Banasode (Prl Civil Judge, junior division, Bijapur), Gurunath Virupaxappa Turamari (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Khanapur), C Rajashekara (Prl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Tumkur).

K.R. Nagaraja (I Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Tumkur), Rajeshwari N Hedge (I Addl, I Civil Judge, junior division, Mysore), Mohammed Mujahid Ulla (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Magadi), B.S. Rekha (II Addl. I Civil Judge, junior division, Mysore), Shubhaveer B (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Sakaleshpur), Deshpande Govindraj Shankar (Civil Judge, Junior division and JMFC, Sedam), H. Channegowda (Prl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC Chintamani), Ningappa Parushuram Koparde (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Chincholi), Madhusudan B (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Deodurg).

K. Krishnamurthy (Addl. Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Pavgada), K.G. Shanthi (JMFC IV Court, Mangalore), Savithri Venkataramana Bhat (III Addl. I Civil Judge, junior division, Mysore), Vijayakumar Malkajappa Pawale (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Kundgol), Krishnaji Baburao Patil (I Addl Civil Judge junior division and JMFC, KGF), K.P. Dinesh (JMFC, Davangere), Sunildatt Annappa Chikkorde (Addl. Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC I Court, Gadag), Joshi Venkatesh (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC III Court Hubli), Patil Mohammadgouse Mohiddin (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Indi), Shivaji Anant Nalawade (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Bilagi), Shuklaksha Palan (III Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Hubli).

Siralkar Marepa (JMFC IV Court, Belgaum), Donnekallu Veeranna (Prl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Doddaballapur), Bannikatti Hanumathappa R (Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Athani), Manjunath Nayak (IV Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Hubli), Manjunatha G.A (I Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Mangalore), Ravindra Hegde (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Mangalore), R Sharada (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Tumkur).

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Payment of interest is opposed to personal law

V.K. Kunjumohammed, working in Qatar, has filed a writ petition in Kerala High Court contending that the Malabar International Air Port Development Society, being a state agency, cannot compel him to pay special fee of Rs.500/- per passenger collected at the Calicut Airport which amount is proposed to be utilised to pay interest on the loan borrowed from the HUDCO. According to the petitioner his religion forbids payment of interest. He has even cited Sura II lyat 274, 275 and 276 which forbids devout muslim from accepting or paying usury. Accordingly he has raised the plea of the demand being opposed to his conscious and religion.

Interestingly, the levy of additional fee was challenged earlier by another petitioner and Mr. Justice J.D. Koshi has ordered to cease the collection. However, the division bench stayed the order of the single judge pending disposal of writ appeal. Accordingly the collection of additional fee continues. The present writ petition has added a different dimension to the whole issue and notices have been ordered to the Union of India and Air Port Society.

SC / ST Advocates Association

Sri Prem Kumar, President of the Karnataka SC/ST Advocates Association has issued a press statement stating that the Association is serving as an umbrella organisation to improve the status of Advocates belonging to these communities. It is claimed that the Association is presently persuading the state government to increase the amount of stipend being paid to new advocates as well as to pay such stipend to atleast 100 advocates belonging to these communities. It has also been stated that during April 2000 a state level conference of the Association will be held to discuss about the plight of the advocates belonging to these communities. Interested advocates may correspond with the President. Address : No.30, I Cross, Magadi Road, Keshavanagar Harijan Colony, Bangalore-560 023. Phone : 3381355.

Around the Courts

From Page 1

comprising Justice G. B. Puttanaik and Justice M. B. Shah said, evidence of a hostile witness cannot be treated as washed off the record. It remains admissible in the trial and there is no legal bar to base conviction upon his testimony if corroborated by other reliable evidence. Upholding conviction of the appellant in a case punishable for offence under section 302 IPC passed by the Gujarat High Court the Apex Court said that the acquittal recorded by the trial court was not justified.

□ Circumstantial evidence must be fool proof to convict the accused :

The Supreme Court has ruled in a judgment delivered during November 99 that when a case rests on circumstantial evidence, such evidence must be cogently and firmly established. A Bench comprising Justice G. B. Puttanaik, Justice M. Srinivasan and Justice S. N. Phukan said conviction in a murder case based on circumstantial evidence without the prosecution establishing a chain of events pointing towards the guilt of the accused cannot be sustained. Entertaining a criminal appeal against the judgment of Kerala High Court the Court acquitted the two appellants from the charges of section 302 IPC. The court said "in view of the missing links in the chain of circumstances, we hold that the prosecution has failed to establish the guilt of the accused cogently and firmly".

□ See 49 of Electricity [Supply] Act [54 of 1948] - classification of advocates office under the heading "Commercial" for payment of consumption of energy is arbitrary, irrational and ultra vires of Article 14 of the Constitution :

Profession as distinguished with "Commercial" means a person who enters in to an avocation involving certain amount of skill. Therefore a professional cannot be equated with a person involved in commercial activity. Classification of lawyers chamber under the heading "Commercial" for charging tariff under circular dt. 30-11-76 of M. P. Electricity Board is therefore arbitrary and irrational and struck down as violative of Article 14 of the Constitution of India. A Division Bench of M. P. High Court comprising Justice A. K. Mathur, C.J. and Justice Dipak Misra delivered the judgment (AIR 1999 M.P. 246)

Point Blank

□ If there have been mistakes we will rectify them. Courts should not become a hurdle in ensuring social justice. We are willing to fight any force to pursue our agenda.

Reaction of Mr. S.M. Krishna, Chief Minister of Karnataka, while addressing a conference of divisional commissioners at Bangalore on the judgment of High Court quashing Ashraya Scheme

□ India cannot afford justice in slow motion

Prime Minister A. B. Vajpayee at the golden jubilee celebration of the Supreme Court of India.

Miscellany

□ According to Mohammed Anees, a specialist snake catcher and expert on reptiles, he has caught seventeen snakes during this year from the official residence of the Chief Justice Mr. Justice Y. Bhaskar Rao.

□ On 22-11-99 Ms. Shwetha Anand, Advocate, opened her law chamber at Krishna Residency, NO.145, 5th Main Road, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009.

Lahari Advocates Forum

The Forum received total contribution of Rs.1,64,716/- towards Kargil Martyrs Relief Fund. Out of this contribution the Forum remitted Rs.1,25,003/- to the National Defence Fund of India and Rs.39,713/- to the Central Army Welfare Fund.

Foreign Tour

On 5-11-99 Mr. B.P. Holla and Mr. Udaya Holla, Advocates, with their families left Bangalore for 10 days tour of Singapore and Malaysia.

Weddings

□ Ms. H.C. Kavitha, Advocate from Bangalore married Mr. Ravishankar at Hassan on November 14, 1999.

□ Mr. Deepak, Advocate, married Ms. K. Ashwini at Bangalore on November 18, 1999.

□ On 18-11-99 Mr. Rajashekaraiyah, Advocate married Dr. H. Rekha at Bangalore.

□ On 29-11-99 Mr. T.P. Srinivasa, Advocate married Ms. Anuja at Yelahanka.

News Focus

□ Dr. Srikanta, Head of the Department of Diabetology, Mallya Hospital, Bangalore, addressed the members of AAB, High Court Unit on the topic 'Diabetes Awareness, Detection and Counselling' on 5-11-99. AAB and the Lions District Chairman for Diabetes Awareness had jointly sponsored the demonstration lecture. Mr. Justice Y. Bhaskar Rao, Chief Justice of High Court of Karnataka M.J.F. Lion P.M. Mallya, M.J.F. Lion K.R. Sanjeeva Gupta and M.J.F. Lion G.R. Nataraj, Advocate and Lions District Chairman participated in the programme. Mr. K.L. Manjunath, President AAB, presided over the function.

□ November 8, 10, 11 and 12, 1999 were declared as non-sitting days for judicial work at the High Court of Karnataka.

Literary Union

□ On 16-11-99 Mr. Srinivasa Udupa and Ms. Archana Udupa provided a musical programme.

□ Between 20th and 26th November 99 various competitions in cultural events were held under the auspices of BLU in connection with Kannada Rajyotsava.

□ Under the joint auspices of BLU and Bangalore Press a Kannada Lawyers Diary-2000 and Mallige Vakila Darshini-2000, a Kannada calendar prepared by Sri. K.P. Rao, Advocate, was released by Mr. Justice N.S. Veerabhadraiah, Judge, High Court of Karnataka on 24-11-99 in a function held at AAB Auditorium. Sri. K.L. Manjunath, President, AAB was the chief guest at the function.

□ On 30-11-99 Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated under the joint auspices of BLU, AAB and Bangalore Advocates Co-operative Society. Renowned Kannada dramatist Master Hirannaiah was the chief guest. Mr. Justice S.R. Bannurmath, Judge, High Court of Karnataka was the guest of honour.

Campus Watch

□ Keeping in tune with the cyber age the National Law School of India University has offered to provide a crash course for the judges of the Karnataka High Court in computer education. The High Court having given the go ahead the course is likely to be undergone by the judges during mid December 99 and is expected to last for one week.

□ The National Law School of India University [NLSIU] has signed a MOU with the HEC School of Management, Paris to facilitate student exchanges between the two institutions. The agreement was signed between NLSIU Director N.L. Mitra and H.E.C. School Director Jean Marc De Leersnyder in Bangalore on November 26, 99 in the presence of French Minister for Education, Science and Technology Claude Allegre.

□ NLSIU celebrated Legala XCIX, a cultural and literary festival, between 26th to 28th November 99.

Judicial Appointments.....

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Indira Mailswamy Chettiyar (III Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Mangalore), Narahari Prabhakar Marathe (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Udupi), S. Nagashree (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II, Dharwad), Krishna Vasant Rao Kerur (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Gulbarga), Haleema (I Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Hassan) and AG Gangadhara (IV Addl. I Civil Judge, junior division, Mysore).

The following civil judges (junior division) appointed under Government notification presently under training. (Postings are given in the bracket).

K. Mahadeva (Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Hosadurga), K.C. Sadanandaswamy alias Sadanandaswamy Kabbinkanthimath (III Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Gulbarga), Ron Vasudev (Addl. Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Bijapur), Nagarajgowda D (Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Siddlagatta), Ankalkoti Rajendra Shanthappa (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Sagar), Biradar Devendrappa N (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Bellary).

Naganur Shivayogappa Nagappa (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Hassan), Maqsood Afzal Jagirdar (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Gadag), Umesh Moolimani (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Khanapur), Kananappa Naik (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Humnabad), Sharanappa (Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Chittapur), Sadanand M Doddamani (Addl. Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Kadur), Nagarajappa A.K. (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Udupi), Hemavati (V Addl I Civil Judge, junior division, Mysore), Mahavarkar Gulzaral (II Addl. Civil Judge, junior division, KGF), A Vijayan (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Bantwal).

B Ganesha (III Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC IV Court, Tumkur), Mohammed Ismail (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Doddaballapur), Manjunath (JMFC II Court, Davangere), Sreepad N (III Addl. Civil Judge, junior division, Dharwad), Sabappa (III Addl. Civil Judge, Junior division, Gadag), Patil Nagalinganagouda (IV Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Belgaum), G. L. Lakshminarayana (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Anekal), S Gopalappa (II Addl Civil Judge, junior division, Bellary).

P.J. Somashekar (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Athani), T. Shivanna (Addl. Civil

Judge, junior division and JMFC, Srirangapatna), Laxman Ramu Kurane (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC II Court, Bidar), Vela Damodar Khoday (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Chikkaballapur), G Prabhavathi (IV Addl Civil Judge junior division, Mangalore), Nagaveni (Addl Civil Judge, Junior division, Chitradurga), Ramaswamy Dharmagiri (Addl Civil Judge, junior division and JMFC, Raibag), Ashok Tarasing Pujari (Leave Reserve, High Court of Karnataka, Bangalore), and Manjappa Hanamantappa Annayyanavar (Leave Reserve, High Court of Karnataka, Bangalore).

Pay Commission Submits Report

The first national judicial pay commission submitted its report on November 11, 1999 recommending higher pay and emoluments to the judicial officers in the country. Commission Chairman Justice K. Jagannath Shetty submitted the report to Prime Minister Sri Atal Behari Vajpayee which entails an additional liability of 95.71 crores on the exchequer. Justice Shetty said that the centre should bear 50% of the expenses on judiciary. While the age of retirement to judicial officers has been increased to 62 years, the commission has suggested to do away with the screening of their performance at the age of 60. Other important recommendations of the commission include that there should be uniformity in service conditions of all judicial officers in the country and there should be marginal increase in the working hours of subordinate courts.

Lady Lawyer In Police Net

A city based lady lawyer Miss G. Geetha is recently in news for allegedly cheating the family of Maharaja of Dharampur Sahadevi Naraharji Rane to the tune of Rs. 75 Lakhs by falsely claiming to be his wife. J. C. Nagar police inspector Kowri has also been accused in this connection as having colluded with Geetha. The Maharaja lived in Bangalore along with his wife Bharathi Devi since 1949. On the strength of a complaint lodged by the grand daughter of Maharaja the police arrested Geetha and obtained remand for judicial custody.

Notaries Conference

15th Annual Conference of Association of Karnataka Notaries is scheduled to be held at Hari Priya Hotel, Bangalore Mysore Highway, Mandya on Saturday the 11th December 1999. Sri L. D. Ballal, President, All India Notaries Association will be the Chief Guest.