

Inauguration of 18th Biennial State-Level Conference of Judicial Officers on
WALKING THE EXTRA MILE FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

Hon'ble Chief Minister's Speech

19-12-2016 / 10-30 A M / Jnana Jyothi Auditorium,
Central College Premises, Bengaluru.

Shri T. S. Thakur,
Hon'ble Chief Justice of the
Supreme Court of India,

Shri Subhro Kamal Mukherjee,
Hon'ble Chief Justice,
High Court of Karnataka,

Shri Mohan M. Shantanagoudar,
Hon'ble Chief Justice,
High Court of Kerala,

Shri T. B. Jayachandra,
Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation,
Law and Parliamentary Affairs,

Learned Judges of the High Courts and
Subordinate Courts,

Members of the Judicial Officers and
Advocates,

Media Friends,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. It is my pleasure and privilege to be a part of the Inauguration of 18th Biennial State-Level Conference of Judicial Officers on WALKING THE EXTRA MILE FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE.
2. First of all, I congratulate the Karnataka State Judicial Officers' Association for organizing this two-day Conference, which is relevant and timely.

3. India has one of the best Written Constitutions in the World. Our Laws are comprehensive, constructive, effective and positive.
4. But, there are some hassles in its application and implementation, for which we have to pay special attention.
5. It's a harsh truth that the consumers of justice are increasing day by day in India ! Also, the pendency of cases in courts. Speedy delivery of justice is the need of the hour.
6. ***Justice Delayed is Justice Denied*** is not just an adage. Oh ! its always the hue and cry of the consumers of justice.
7. The ambassadors of justice may term it as ***Justice Hurried is Justice Buried.***
8. The Circle has no beginning or an end. So, is this argument !
9. There are only two faces to a coin. But, there will be one thousand reasons behind a petition !
10. Its not just the Law. But, the timely application of Law is important to strengthen the social fabric in our society.
11. Being myself an Advocate, in the beginning of my career, I always construe that the Advocate Profession as most sacred. At the same time, the duty, the responsibility and the role of Judicial Officers as most sacrosanct.
12. The advocates can play a vital role in reducing the number of cases. They can appear in courts, every time on time.

13. They can also use the Lok Adalat Platform to facilitate mutual settlement. Thus, they can act as catalysts to save precious public time.
14. The Judicial Officers too have their role to play for the triumph of justice and also to instil confidence among the litigant public.
15. According to the Statistics the total number of cases pending before all the subordinate Courts in the State as on 01-11-2016 are 16,24,233, of which Government cases are 91,540.
16. It is very interesting to note that there were only 201 Courts in the State in the year 1972. It rose to 459 in the year 1997. Now, the number of courts in Karnataka has risen to 1,300.
17. The number courts have increased also the number of litigations and the litigants.
18. Indisputably, this esteemed institution of Judiciary is one of the most important organs of the State. So it is needless to dwell at length that the responsibility of providing necessary infrastructure and other resources for such an important organ of the State lies upon the State Government.
19. There has been a steep increase in the budget allocation for providing adequate infrastructure to courts in the last three years.
20. When our Government came to power in 2013-14, the budget allocation for the Department of Law and Justice was Rs 574 Crore. Now, it is Rs 671 Crore for the year 2016-17.

21. The Government has taken every care in filling up the vacancies of all cadres of the Judicial service as well as the staff in the subordinate courts.
22. In so far as the filling up of vacant posts of the Judicial officers is concerned, I would like to inform you that totally 151 posts of Civil Judges have been filled up in the year 2014 whereas 119 posts of Senior Civil Judges are filled up in the year 2015.
23. Further, 5 posts of District Judges were filled up in the year 2015 and 13 posts of District Judges were filled up in the year 2016. In addition to this a total number of 63 Senior Civil Judges were appointed as District Judges in the year 2014.
24. Therefore, totally 80 Senior Civil Judges were appointed as District Judges on promotion in the year 2015.
25. In addition to this, effective steps are already taken to fill up another 66 posts of Civil Judges very shortly in the coming months. After this exercise, virtually there will be less vacancies at all levels in the subordinate Judiciary in the State.
26. Our Government has also appointed 197 Assistant Public Prosecutors in the year 2014.
27. In addition to this, a proposal for creating 121 new posts of Assistant Public Prosecutors and also recruitment of 275 Assistant Public Prosecutors is under the serious consideration of our Government.

28. We are planning to fill up vacancies of 4334 posts of all cadres in a phased manner, one fifth every year.
29. We have also paid special attention to provide necessary infrastructure to courts. I am glad to announce that our Government has approved a project to the tune of Rs 6.33 Crore for the Second Phase of Computerization of Courts in the State and in the last three years, we have built 320 Judicial Officers' Quarters and 892 Court Buildings.
30. I hope and wish, if the Judicial Officers really WALK AN EXTRA MILE FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE, as stated in the theme of the conference, the consumers of justice NEED NOT RUN AROUND, but surely get justice at their doorsteps !

Thank you one and all !
