

of the State's resources to evolve and apply appropriate preventive and remedial measures in this problem area and help in evolving a policy to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women creating a conducive environment through positive economic and social policies for full development of women to enable them to realize their full potential. The messages we earnestly expect from my Lord and Chief Justice of India any my Lord the Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh, I am sure, would invigorate and enliven the discussions to be held in this Workshop. Chief Justice Dr. A.S. Anand, is widely known worldwide for his tremendous and significant contributions to upliftment and emancipation of our mothers, women as a Judge, Scholar and a Social Engineer. His Lordship has delivered large number of landmark judgment touching welfare, emancipation and empowerment of

women. His very presence in this Workshop as a Chief Guest enlightens all of us to devote ourselves to the cause of our mothers, women. We are gratefully beholden to His Lordship for kindly accepting our invitation and making it possible to be in our midst today as the Chief Guest. On behalf of the Andhra Pradesh Judicial Academy and on my behalf, I offer our grateful Pranamias to His Lordship. Similarly, I thank my Lord the Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh in accepting our invitation and kind enough to be here in our midst today. Before concluding I thank all the concerned in organizing this Workshop and for giving me an opportunity to be in your midst today and participate in this Workshop, particularly in the august and towering presence of my Lord the Chief Justice of India. I wish the Workshop all the success.

Thanking you all

FAREWELL BY SRI N.R. CHANDRAN, ADVOCATE-GENERAL

'My Lord Hon'ble the Acting Chief Justice, Hon'ble Justice Mrs. *Toom Meenakumari*, Hon'ble Judges of this Chartered High Court, Family members of Hon'ble Mrs. Justice *Toom Meenakumari*, Presidents, Office bearers of the respective Associations, Members of the Bar, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We are gathered here today to bid farewell to Hon'ble Mrs. Justice *Toom Meenakumari*, who has been transferred to Andhra Pradesh High Court as a permanent Judge.

My Lord Hon'ble Mrs. Justice *Toom Meenakumari*, Your Lordship was enrolled as an advocate on 7-10-1976. Your Lordship was appointed as Additional Government Pleader in the year 1981. Your Lordship held the post of Government Pleader from 1990-1994.

Your Lordship Hon'ble Mrs. Justice *Toom Meena Kumari* was appointed as an

Additional Judge of Andhra Pradesh High Court on 23-2-1998 and immediately was transferred to this Chartered High Court and assumed office as Additional Judge on 23-3-1998. Your Lordship was made permanent Judge on 17-6-1999.

Your Lordship belongs to a family of lawyers. Your father Sri *Ramakrishna Naidu* was a well known and reputed lawyer. Your Lordship's husband Shri *Toom Bheemsen* is a busy practitioner. Shri *P.Shivashankar*, who is your sister's husband was young senior. Shri *P.Shivashankar* was elevated to the Bench, but later on resigned the post of Judgeship. He was drawn to politics and became a Union Minister. He held various important positions like Governor of Sikkim and Governor of Kerala.

Your Lordship's grandfather *Padmashree Sangeetha Kalanidhi Shri Dwaram Venkataswami Naidu*, was an internationally

reputed violinist. I am told by Music critics that Shree *Dwaramgaru* was the only violinist in India who possessed an original STRADIVARIUS Violin made by a famous Italian Violin maker Antonio Stradivari who lived between 1644 to 1737 AD. No other Violinist in India had the privilege of possessing such a Violin. It was one of Dwaramgaru's heirlooms. Shree *Dwaramgaru* could be proud of another heir apparent which is your Lordship. Your Lordship had the divine blessings right from Your birth. Your Lordship has reached this high and exalted position at an early age by hard work coupled with divine grace.

As a Judge Your Lordship is not only kind to members of the Bar but could exhibit pure and unsullied affection. Your Lordship always respected elders and senior members of the Bar. As Saint *Thyagaraja* would put it in one of his Pancharatna Keerathanas "Endharo Mahanubhavulu andariki vandanamu". Your Lordship followed the spirit of the above verse meticulously. The technical and procedural objection in a case never appealed to Your Lordship since Your Lordship was anxious to do justice. Your Lordship rightly felt that procedure was only a hand-maid of justice. Sometimes when junior member come ill-prepared to your Court, Your Lordship would chide him/her an opportunity to come prepared by adjourning the case. This gesture of Your Lordship was appreciated by one and all.

In reply to the Welcome address, Your Lordship clearly indicated the inconvenience caused to Your Lordship on being transferred here and said that Your Lordship would have to bear the aloofness of being away from the family. The peculiar disadvantage Your Lordship suffered on being transferred here did not affect Your Lordship's work and as Judge Your Lordship continued to discharge your duties sincerely and effectively.

Your Lordship and your family members are very happy now because of the re-union of Your Lordship being re-transferred.

On behalf of the members of the Bar and on my own behalf, I wish Your Lordship and your family well. I pray to the most high to protect you and your family members by showering His Blessings.

Your Lordship has a long tenure of service that is about 12 years. God willing, we would be welcoming you again, this time, as the Chief Justice of this Hon'ble Chartered High Court. God Bless You and Thank you."

REPLY BY HONOURABLE MRS. JUSTICE T. MEENAKUMARI (3-9-2001, 2-15 p.m.)

"The Honourable the Acting Chief Justice, My esteemed brother and sister Judges, Mr. *N.R. Chandran*, Advocate General, Mr. *V.T. Gopalan*, Additional Solicitor-General, Mr. *K. Muthukumaraswamy*, Additional Advocate-General, former Advocate-Generals, Mr. *M. Venkatachalapathy*, President of the Advocate's Association, Mrs. *Shanthakumari*, President of the Women Lawyer's Association, senior Advocates, Members of the Bar, my better-half, Mr. *Bheemsen*, my sons *Venkata Pranaya Kumar* and *Subramanya Pavan Kalyan*, Officers and staff of High Court, Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the outset I express my thanks to the Honourable the Chief Justice of India Dr. *A.S. Anand* and Collegium Judges for having transferred me to the High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Hyderabad.

I thank the Advocate-General for the kind words expressed.

On 23-2-1998, I took charge as the Judge of the Andhra Pradesh High Court and on 23-3-1998, I took charge as the Judge of the Madras High Court. Many of the Members of the Bar who appeared regularly in my Court had expressed their happiness over my transfer as I am rejoining my family exactly after 3 1/2 years. I came to Madras when my second son was in X standard. Now he has come to II year

Engineering. The days rolled by themselves and also the years without my knowledge. Though I had very hard days, I could proceed with my work because of the extreme affection shown to me by the Bar. Though I have completed my innings successfully, I am a loser as would be losing a very good Bar and I can frankly say that Bar of Madras High Court is an educative, intelligent and efficient Bar and remains unbeatable for ever.

This State is famous for its culture, Godliness and rich tradition. Coming to the profession, I sincerely feel and believe that there should be an inter disciplinary approach and inter relationship approach between the Bench and Bar. During my tenure, I might have hurt the feelings of some but I make it clear that it was not intentional and especially with juniors I was little bit tough, but it was only with an intention to make them learn. I used to become upset when some of the junior advocates used to move the papers from left to right or *vice versa* as they were unprepared. But juniors have the accountability to the profession and they should grab the chances to do the cases when the Judge insists. But I could find that the juniors feel more comfortable if the senior instructs them to get an adjournment. I request the juniors to live up to the expectation keeping in mind the interests of the clients. The juniors should not be imprudent towards the clients which is essential for becoming a good advocate. The politeness plays a very great role in getting along the Court. They must also understand the mood of the Court and try to persuade the Judge for getting a favourable order, with prudence. The juniors should have an impulsion to read the case, to prepare the notes, to assist the Senior Counsel and if need be, to argue the case, without being worried about the results. The seniors also must give opportunity to the juniors to argue the case and not to make them as the Counsel only to urge for an adjournment. This is only my advice to the juniors.

At this juncture, I pay my respects to my late parents viz., Sri *J.Ramakrishna Rao* (father), who was also an advocate and Mrs. *Rajamani* (mother), who died on 29-11-2000 and also to my senior Mr. *P. Shivashankar* who has given me the best of the training as junior, to come up to this level. I would be failing in my duty if I do not mention that I could work here because of the co-operation of my better-half who is very much present here and but for his encouragement in the profession, I would not have become the Judge. My special thanks to him and my two sons, namely, *Venkata Pranayakumar* and *Subramanya Pavan Kalyan* for having co-operated with me throughout.

I had an excellent staff both in the Court and at the residence. I am thankful to Mr. *K. Jayaraman*, Registrar-General, Mr. *K. Sukumar*, Registrar (A.S), Mr. *R. Venkatesan*, Registrar (Admn.), Mr. *G. Chinniyya Naidu*, Registrar (O.S.), Mr. *K. Vasudevan*, Personal Secretary to the Chief Justice, Mr. *V. Vijayan*, Deputy Registrar (Protocol), Mr. *Ameerjan*, Assistant Registrar (Protocol), Mr. *Shanmugavel*, Mr. *Perumal*, Mr. *Govindaraj* and other staff of Protocol Section, Mr. *S. Samuel*, Assistant Registrar, 'J' Section, Mr. *Ranganathan*, Mr. *Kannappan* and other staff of 'J' Section, Mr. *Devarajan* and Mr. *Govindarajan* of 'D' Section, my Court Officer Mrs. *V. Usha*, my Personal Assistant Mrs. *V. Uma*, Mr. *K. Rajamannar*, *Chopdar*, Mrs. *R. Pushpalatha*, Mr. *Sekhar*, Court Attendant and personal staff at the residence namely Mrs. *Banu Suresh*, Mr. *M. Vijayakumar*, Mrs. *Sulochana*, Mrs. *Suseela* and Drivers *Thanikkachalam*, *Loganathan*, *Kamalakaran* and my Personal Security Officers and other Security Staff attached to the residence, for their sincere work.

I close my address with respects to the elder members of the Bar and my best wishes to the Junior Advocates and officers and staff of High Court. Thank you all very much."