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FAREWELL SPEECH DELIVERED BY HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE
MOHAMMAD RAFIQ, JUDGE, ON THE EVE OF TRANSFER OF
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRADEEP NANDRAJOG, THE CHIEF
JUSTICE, RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pradeep Nandrajog, the Chief Justice
My esteemed Brothers on the Bench
Mr. M.S. Singhvi, the Advocate General, State of Rajasthan
Mr. Chiranji Lal Saini, Chairman, the Bar Council of
Rajasthan,
Mr. Ranjeet Joshi, President, Rajasthan High Court
Advocates Association, Jodhpur
Mr. Sunil Joshi, President, Rajasthan High Court Lawyers
Association, Jodhpur
Learned Senior Advocates
Learned Members of the Bar
The Registrar General and other Members of the Registry
Ladies and Gentlemen

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We have assembled in this Court hall today to bid
farewell to the illustrious Chief Justice of this Court -
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pradeep Nandrajog, on the even of his
transfer to Bombay High Court. He was born on 24th
February, 1958 as the third child to Mr. Justice Prithvi Raj
and Shrimati Urmila Devi. Justice Nandrajog had his
schooling from Auckland House School and St. Edward's
School, Shimla.

Mr. Justice Prithvi Raj, father of Justice Nandrajog, was
a leading lawyer at Shimla. On elevation of Mr. Justice
Prithvi Raj as a Judge of Delhi High Court in the year 1970,
the family shifted to Delhi. Justice Nandrajog graduated in

Chemistry from University of Delhi in the year 1978. And three years later, in the year 1981, he obtained the Bachelor's Degree in Law from Delhi University. He got himself enrolled as an Advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi in that very year. Soon he made a mark at the Bar. He picked up large practice in various branches of law, especially, Constitutional, Arbitration, Commercial, Service, Election, Land Revenue and Corporate Laws.

After an outstanding career as a lawyer for almost 21 years, Justice Nandrajog was elevated as an Additional Judge of Delhi High Court on 20th December, 2002. He then became a Permanent Judge of that Court on 16th April, 2004. He was elevated as Chief Justice of this Court on 2nd April, 2017.

Justice Nandrajog has always remained firm in his beliefs and true to the oath of his office. This has earned him immense respect from the Bench and the Bar alike. His distinguished career of 17 years as a Judge of Delhi High Court and Chief Justice of this Court is marked by landmark judgments almost on all branches of law. His concern on varied nature of issues affecting the society at large is reflected from his judgments, a few of which, I shall mention presently:

(1) In **State Vs. Mohd. Afzal**, the famous Parliament Attack Case, speaking for the Court, he observed and I quote,

“Every criminal trial is a voyage of discovery in which truth is the quest.....”

He then further wrote that the attack on Parliament, when it was in session, was attack on the sovereignty of the country.

(2) In **Neelam Katara Vs. Union of India, (2013) SCC Online Del 952**, emphasizing on the need of having a witness protection scheme in place, he said and I quote,

“The edifice of administration of justice is based upon witness coming forward and deposing without fear or favour, without intimidation or allurements in Courts of Law. If witnesses are deposing under fear or intimidation or for favour or allurements, the foundation of administration of justice not only gets weakened, but in cases it may even get obliterated.”

(3) In **Department of Electronic and Information Technology Vs. Stat India Pvt. Ltd., R.P. 131/2016**, Justice Pradeep Nandrajog authored a judgment by which the High Court ordered blocking of 73 “pirate” websites.

(4) In **Pradeep Vs. State, CRL.A. 1139/2014**, expressing his anguish on murder of the wives in large