FAREWELL REFERENCE ADDRESS BY HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEVENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA, CHIEF JUSTICE, HIGH COURT OF DELHI ON THE TRANSFER OF MR. JUSTICE DINESH KUMAR SHARMA TO CALCUTTA HIGH COURT

Brother Justice Dinesh Kumar Sharma,

Family members of Justice Sharma,

My esteemed sister and brother Judges at the High Court,

Shri Chetan Sharma, Additional Solicitor General of India,

Shri Ved Prakash Sharma, Member, Bar Council of Delhi,

Shri N. Hariharan, President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Sachhin Puri, Vice-President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Vikram Singh Panwar, Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Sanjay Lao, Standing Counsel (Criminal), Govt. of NCT of Delhi,

Shri Sameer Vashishth, Standing Counsel (Civil), Govt. of NCT of Delhi,

Standing Counsels of the Central and State Government,

Executive Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Office Bearers of Bar Council of Delhi and other District Bar Associations,

Senior Advocates,

Members of the Bar,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very Good Afternoon to all of you.

The ink of transfer of one of our colleagues has hardly dried that we have assembled here again to bid farewell to Justice Dinesh Kumar Sharma, who is set to commence a fresh chapter of his judicial career in the Calcutta High Court pursuant to his transfer.

Justice Sharma commenced his professional journey as a Judicial Officer when he joined the Delhi Judicial Service in 1992. He was promoted to Delhi Higher Judicial Service in the year 2003. He continued to serve as an officer of the higher judiciary until his elevation to this Court in 2022. During his judicial career, he presided over various jurisdictions at all levels of the hierarchy. In addition to his judicial exposure, Justice Sharma also gained immense experience on the administrative side. Hewas appointed as Secretary, Delhi High Court Legal Service Committee where he contributed significantly for the implementation of legal aid services in the High Court. Justice Sharma always maintained a strong inclination for the academic side of law and it

enabled him to discharge his judicial duties efficiently and with greater sensitivity. He served as the Director (Academics) at the Delhi Judicial Academy. He also served as the Registrar (Vigilance) and Registrar General of this Court. In both these roles, Justice Sharma was known as a highly accessible officer who would always be available for addressing the concerns of judicial officers coming before this Court. Thereafter, he served as the Principal District & Sessions Judge of the New Delhi district before being elevated to this Court. As a District Judge, Justice Sharma was found to be cordial with fellow judicial officers, including the juniors and he commanded respect amongst his colleagues. He also took keen interest in administrative activities and under his guidance, a study circle was set up for continuing education of the judicial officers.

Following his academic pursuits, Justice Sharma has also done a Course on Conflict Management from the University of Oxford, London in Distance Learning Programme, while working as Presenting Officer with National Human Rights Commission. He is also a Fellow of the Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada and has worked as a Mediator and Mediation Trainer with the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee of the Supreme Court of India.

On 28th February, 2022, he took oath as a Judge of this Court and has been serving in that capacity ever since. During his tenure, he has been associated with the Vulnerable Witness Deposition Complex programme and drafting of the Vulnerable Witness Guidelines of the Delhi High Court. He also played an instrumental role in formulating the training module of the Stakeholders in the Vulnerable Witness training programmes organized by the High Court.

As a Judge of this Court, Justice Sharma is known for his humility and relief-oriented outlook. His vast judicial experience, spanning over three decades, added great value on the judicial side of this Court and he could easily arrive at the core of the dispute, thereby enabling efficient adjudication. Justice Sharma has also been a firm voice in the administrative committees of this Court and he remained concerned with the issues affecting the judicial officers of Delhi. Justice Sharma shall always be remembered not only by the Judges of this Court, but also by the judicial officers of the district judiciary and members of the bar. Having said that, I am confident that the experience gained by him in his three decades of professional career in Delhi shall be immensely useful in

the discharge of his duties in Calcutta. I am certain that Calcutta shall be a breath of fresh air for him and he would enjoy his tenure in the beautiful city.

I extend my warmest wishes to the esteemed family members of Justice Sharma and pray for a joyful time in Calcutta.

On behalf of this Court, I wish you the very best for all your future endeavors. We pray for your good health for all times to come.

Thank you.