

FAREWELL REFERENCE ADDRESS BY HON'BLE MR.
JUSTICE DEVENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA, CHIEF JUSTICE,
HIGH COURT OF DELHI ON THE TRANSFER OF JUSTICE
ARUN MONGA TO THE RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT AND
JUSTICE TARA VITASTA GANJU TO THE KARNATAKA HIGH
COURT

Justice Arun Monga,

Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju,

Gracious family members of Justice Monga and Justice Ganju,

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 Kunal Malhotra, Joint Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

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.

We have assembled here to bid farewell to Justice Arun Monga and Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju as they proceed to the Rajasthan High Court and Karnataka High Court respectively upon transfer from this Court.

Justice Monga pursued his school education in Punjab, where his father served as a Judicial Officer. Justice Monga's father had superannuated from Superior Judicial Services and it was the path shown by him that later became Justice Monga's destiny. After schooling, he enrolled for graduation and took up Bachelor of Science at DAV College, Chandigarh. He finished his graduation with first division and was also awarded the College Color award. Thereafter, he enrolled in law at the Punjab University, Chandigarh and graduated with first division. Throughout his educational journey, Justice Monga remained a bright

student who excelled in the academics. While studying law, he also enjoyed teaching Chemistry at a school in Chandigarh.

Justice Monga commenced his legal career as an advocate in 1991 in the High Court at Chandigarh. In 1997-98, he shifted his seat of practice to Delhi, where he practiced for over 20 years. As a practitioner, Justice Monga had a fairly diverse practice. He handled individual as well as corporate clients, and dealt with litigation as well as transactional work. In October, 2018, he was elevated as a Judge of the High Court of Punjab & Haryana and ever since, he has been serving in that capacity. As a Judge, Justice Monga has cultivated a reputation for being a relief-oriented Judge, who listens patiently and decides decisively. In his short tenure in this Court, he has served well and the members of the bar, especially the criminal bar, are full of appreciation for his contribution. I have also been told that he is a Judge who does not hesitate to do course correction when he goes wrong in matters of procedure or otherwise, which is an indicator of his judicial approach. Although this institution would have benefitted from Justice Monga's presence, I am confident that he would perform his functions with the same commitment, dedication and integrity at the Rajasthan High Court. Justice Monga is an avid sportsman and a nature

enthusiast. We are confident that he would enjoy his time in Rajasthan. Transfers are a part of the job and being a sportsman, we are certain that Justice Monga would always uphold the spirit of the game.

Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju was born in 1971 in Delhi. She did her schooling from Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Lodhi Estate and did her High School from the same school. In 1992, she enrolled for graduation and studied Political Science for her bachelor's degree from Lady Shriram College, University of Delhi. After graduating in Political Science Honors, Justice Ganju enrolled for LL.B. in the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi and completed the same in 1995. In the same year, she came on the roll of the Bar Council of Delhi and commenced her practice. Even after entering the profession, Justice Ganju continued her education in law and received the British Chevening scholarship, awarded by the British Council, New Delhi in 1999. As a Chevening Scholar, she completed a course in EC Commercial Law and Practice from the College of Law at York, United Kingdom. Justice Ganju also pursued an online Diploma in International Acquisitions and Mergers at College of Law, United Kingdom in 2005. As a practitioner, she took keen interest in the evolving models of litigation, particularly the alternate modes of dispute resolution.

In 2018, she was certified as a Mediator at Samadhan, Delhi High Court Mediation & Conciliation Centre. In June, 2018, Justice Ganju also attended an advanced International Seminar on Mediating Effectively at Pepperdine Law School – Strauss Institute of Dispute Resolution, United States of America.

Justice Ganju also remained committed to the cause of gender equality and took part in various initiatives to create awareness and to deliberate upon the challenges faced by women practitioners. In 2019, she was appointed as an Executive Member of the Women in Law and Litigation (WILL) Association. She also served on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment Committee for Manipal Hospitals, New Delhi and Estocorp Group of Companies in New Delhi.

Justice Ganju practiced primarily before the courts in Delhi including the Delhi High Court and Supreme Court. Her practice area was quite wide and she advised and dealt with matters concerning various subject matters including property law, inheritance law, civil laws, arbitration, company law, criminal law and intellectual property laws, under the original, appellate and writ jurisdictions of the Courts in Delhi and neighbouring

areas. Justice Ganju also took up significant non-litigation work and has worked extensively in advising clients on a variety of legal issues concerning their business transactions, contractual matters and commercial and legal issues. She has also assisted the Delhi High Court as an Arbitrator, Mediator and Amicus Curiae in third party disputes.

In recognition of her vast experience and integrity gained over years of practice, Justice Ganju was appointed as a Permanent Judge of the Delhi High Court on May 18, 2022. As a Judge, Justice Ganju has been known for her commitment to the speedy disposal of cases. Her ability to understand the core of the issue and to deliver a finding in an expeditious manner has been admired by the members of the bar. We are confident that her stint in the Karnataka High Court would be wholesome in a lot of ways. Every state has its own charm, and both litigants and litigation in every state add to the intellectual potential of the Judge. It would be an opportunity for Justice Ganju to witness a different kind of litigation faced by different kind of litigants in a different kind of cultural setup.

Both Justice Monga and Justice Ganju are leaving us for states which are known for their richness of culture and natural diversity. We are

confident that they would make the best of their time in Rajasthan and Karnataka. We are equally confident that their presence in the Rajasthan High Court and Karnataka High Court would be a significant value addition to those Courts. Both Justice Monga and Justice Ganju have a long judicial career ahead and on behalf of this Court, I convey my best wishes for their journey on the path of justice.

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

Thank you and Jai Hind.