M.M. Kumar (Former Chief Justice)

Senior Consultant, Arbitrator and Practitioner

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DOB: 05/01/1953

Name: Mahesh Mittal Kumar

HEADING

With over 40 years of experience in the legal field, first as an Advocate at the Bar and later as a Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court and Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court. and then as the President of the National Company Law Tribunal.

SKILLS

- Senior Consultant
- Arbitrator
- Practitioner

WORK HISTORY

2016-2020

President - National Company Law Tribunal, Delhi

Was appointed as the First President of the National Company Law Tribunal in June, 2016 after the abolition of Company Law Board. As the President, NCLT delivered path breaking judgements under the Companies Act and Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code.

2015-2016

Chairman - Company Law Board, New Delhi

As the Chairman of the Board dealt with various company law matters.

2012-2015

Chief Justice, Jammu and Kashmir High Court

As Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court, dealt with many PIL concerning world famous Dal Lake, Violation of Master Plan in Srinagar, Jammu and Katra; Corruption cases, Popularized use of video conferencing. Held Mega Lok Adalats and a number of other projects.

Had the unique distinction of holding the courts during floods in September 2014 when the High court building was under 10 ft water, District court building near Lal Chowk was under 18 ft water and Chief's own house was under 8ft water. He along with his family was rescued at 2 O' clock during the night of 7th and 8th September 2014 when flash flood were reported. The new address of the High Court was an unoccupied house allotted to a judge at Gupkar Road, Sri Nagar. In the make shift High Court a number of insurance cases were decided which paved the way for restoring many business establishments to their normal business activities.

2001-2012

Judge, Punjab and Haryana High Court Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh.

Worked as Executive Chairman, Legal Services Authority and Chairman, Mediation Committee which established over 50 Centres across the states of Punjab and Haryana.

Held Mega Lok Adalats. During his tenure as a Judge of Punjab & Haryana High Court, delivered a large a number of landmark judgements in every branch of law including Constitutional Law, Company Law, Service Law, Civil Law, Election Law, Land Acquisition, Tax, PIL.

1981-2001

Advocate at Bar

Argued many full benches.

Was elected as Vice-President of the Punjab and Haryana High Court Bar Association for 1991-92 and later appointed as Additional Advocate General (Punjab) from October 1995 to November 1996.

EDUCATION

- LLB (1977) Punjabi University, Patiala
- LLM (1981) University of Birmingham

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Control of Exclusion Clauses in England and India" published by Ravenswood London (1985)

Papers and Articles

Paper presented in the National Conference on Mediation organised by the Mediation & Conciliation Project Committee, Supreme Court of India (10.07.2010)

Sensitization of Judicial Officers in dispensation of Justice with a focus on Court Craft and Court Conduct and Bench and Bar Relationship_(2010) 9 SCC (J)

Article published in The Sunday Guardian (Vol. II Issue 17) (19-25 April 2020): Covid 19 Aftermath – Companies affected should not add to NPA defaulters list

AWARDS AND HONORS

During the tenure as the President of National Company Law Tribunal, the country was bestowed upon the GRR Award for Most Improved Jurisdiction.

Bestowed upon the prestigious Justice Krishna Iyer Award at the Capital Foundation Awards in New Delhi in 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Worked as a Guest Faculty at the Department of Law, Punjab University, Chandigarh from 1984-90.

Visiting Professor of RGNLU, Patiala.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Have made significant contribution to build the Chandigarh Judicial Academy and the Rajiv Gandhi National Law University Patiala.

MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

- Life Member
 International Law Association, London
- Life Member
 Indian Law Institute, New Delhi

- Permanent Member
 India International Centre, New Delhi
- Permanent Member India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
- Patron-in-chief
 National Company Law Tribunal Bar Association
- Chairman
 Insolvency and Bankruptcy Law Committee of Institute of Company Secretaries, New Delhi