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SPEECHES

**SPEECHES DELIVERED BY THE DIGNITARIES ON THE OCCASION
OF THE RETIREMENT OF SHRI S.V. MEHROTRA, VICE PRESIDENT,
ITAT, DELHI BENCHES, DELHI ON 28-7-2017**

Speech delivered by Shri G. D. Agrawal, President, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal in the Full Court reference on the occasion of superannuation of Shri S.V. Mehrotra, Vice President on 28th July, 2017

My esteemed colleague Brother Shri S.V. Mehrotra, Mrs. Mehrotra, his daughter Bhavna, my other esteemed colleague brothers and sisters, President, Office Bearers and Members of ITAT Bar Association, CIT-DRs, Senior DRs and other Departmental Officers, ladies and gentlemen.

It is indeed my privilege to be present in this Full Court Reference organized in honour of brother S.V. Mehrotra Ji, who is laying down office as Vice President of the ITAT on 30th July, 2017.

Brother S.V. Mehrotra Ji joined government service in December, 1999 and has rendered distinguished service in the ITAT till today. Prior to appointment in ITAT, he practised as an Advocate from 1980 to 1984 and as Chartered Accountant from 1984 to 1999. I have known Shri Mehrotra for almost 18 years now and having worked together for long time, I can say with confidence that he is a person of absolute integrity. He lived upto his name Satya Vrata Mehrotra as the quest for truth was always his endeavour and was the hallmark of his personality. He has been very hard working and totally committed to the job assigned to him. He is from the family of Advocates and Judges. His grandfather was an Advocate. His father Late Justice Mahesh Prasad Mehrotra was a Judge of Hon'ble Allahabad High Court. His elder brother Shri Satyapoot Mehrotra also retired as a Judge of Hon'ble Allahabad High Court. His younger brother is practising at Allahabad High Court. Keeping the family tradition, his children Abhinav Mehrotra and Bhavna Mehrotra are also practising Advocates.

From my experience, I can say with all sincerity that Brother Mehrotra has all the qualities of a good Judge. His orders were well reasoned and exhibited good grasp and depth of the subject matter. He has a thorough knowledge of case law and deep understanding of facts of the case, due to which, he could decide most complicated matters easily. Shri Mehrotra is a person of great learning and wisdom and has put all his knowledge for service of the nation. As he was an Accountant Member, I had no occasion to sit with him and watch him conduct

the proceedings, but I have been told that he always used to conduct the court proceedings with dignity and patiently. His behaviour on the Bench has always been appreciated by all. He always believed in keeping the old maxim "Work is Worship". Apart from these qualities, he is a great human being too. He is always found to be cheerful and in good mood. His relations with his colleagues and staff were very cordial. He is a God fearing and pious person. The retirement of Shri Mehrotra will certainly create a vacuum which would be difficult to fill because, apart from a good friend, we would be losing an outstanding Member.

यहाँ पर मैं यह भी बताना चाहूँगा कि अपने कार्यकाल के दौरान श्री मेहरोत्रा जी, राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति के अध्यक्ष भी रहे। इस दौरान कार्यालीन कार्यों में हिंदी का प्रयोग अधिक से अधिक किया जाये, उसके लिए उन्होंने अथक पर्यास किये। उनके प्रयासों की वजह से ही आदेश पत्रक (आर्डर शीट) हिंदी में लिखी जा रही है तथा अधिकांश पंजिकाये हिंदी में ही लिखी जा रही है। इनके बाद राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति का उपयुक्त अध्यक्ष चुनना अत्यंत चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्य होगा, परंतु सेवानिवृत्ति अवश्यम्भावी हैं और हमें उसे स्वीकार करना है। मैं उन्हें उनकी सेवानिवृत्ति के बाद के जीवन के लिए अनेक शुभकामनाएँ देते हुए उनके उत्तम स्वास्थ्य एवं सुखद जीवन की कामना करता हूँ।

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Return speech of Shri S. V. Mehrotra, Vice President, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, Delhi Benches, New Delhi

1. *The Hon'ble President, Shri G. D. Agrawal.*
2. *The Hon'ble Vice President, Shri R. S. Sayal.*
3. *My esteemed Brothers and Sisters.*
4. *The President, ITAT, Bar Association, Shri Ajay Wadhwa and other esteemed office bearers and Members of ITAT Bar Association.*
5. *The Commissioner of Income-tax, Shri and his other esteemed colleagues and all Senior DRs.*
6. *V. K. Singhal, Assistant Registrar and his other colleagues, Smt. Gurdeep Saxena, Sr. Private Secretary and her other colleagues and other employees of our organization.*
7. *Shri....., the invitees who have so kindly spared from their valuable time to come on this occasion, and*
8. *all my family members,*
9. *Ladies and gentlemen.*

2. First of all, I express my deep gratitude to ITAT, Bar Association for holding this full court reference on my superannuation. As rightly pointed out by Id. Speakers this day is destined on the day when one joins Government service and, therefore, one is always prepared to demit the office on a particular day. I know that I do not deserve all that has been said about me by the distinguished speakers of the day and it is customary to say only the better side of the person at the time of his retirement and to ignore his shortcomings. I am overwhelmed and with all humility thank the distinguished speakers and express my deep gratitude for the same.

I am thankful to Shri G. D. Agrawal, the Hon'ble President, ITAT, for his presence on this occasion. It is a sheer co-incidence that Shri G. D. Agarwal was at Mumbai during my tenure at Mumbai and is in Delhi also since my posting at Delhi. Sir, you have always been very kind to me and always helped me to find a simple solution to my vexed problems. Sir, I thank you for your matured guidance and co-operation and for reposing full trust and faith in me, so that I could effectively discharge my duties as Vice President of the Kolkata Zone of ITAT.

3. Whatever little success, I have been able to achieve in my life is only because of blessings of my and my wife's parents. I humbly bow down on their feet. My mother late Daya Rani Mehrotra was a housewife and a very pious lady. When I was about 2-3 years of age, I had developed some medical problem. My mother used to take me to Lucknow from Kanpur every fortnightly with her cousin. It was only because of her relentless efforts and faith in God that I am here today. I can never payoff that debt. My father's maternal grandfather was Rajarshi