

=====

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

=====

**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DIPAK MISRA**

**CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA**

**28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2017**

**Keynote Address of Hon'ble Chief Justice of India**  
**for**  
**Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Kerala High Court**  
**October 28, 2017**

His Excellency the President of India, Hon'ble Shri Justice P. Sathasivam, Governor of Kerala, Hon'ble Shri Pinarayai Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala, Hon'ble Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister for Law & Justice, my esteemed colleagues from the Supreme Court, former Judges of the Supreme Court, Hon'ble Shri Navaniti Singh, the Chief Justice, High Court of Kerala, Hon'ble Judges of the High Court of Kerala, former Judges of the High Court, the learned Advocate General of the State, the President of the High Court Advocates Bar Association, Members of the Bar, friends from the electronic and print media, ladies and gentlemen.

I am immensely delighted to be a participant in the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Kerala High Court, an Institution with three scores of glorious existence. I express my warm felicitations and greetings to Judges, lawyers and all concerned with Kerala High

Court because they are the sustaining pillars to bring majesty and splendor to this Court.

The Diamond Jubilee celebration of any institution is of enormous importance. It reminds one the history of that institution and further compels the intellectual instinct to garner more driving force to pave the path of institutional immortality. I must immediately add that this is also the time for introspection. One should never rest on the laurels of the past but march ahead with the conception of 'chairebati' as that alone can meet the great challenges of future. I have no hesitation in saying that the High Court of Kerala has crossed several milestones due to incessant cooperative endeavour of the Bench and the Bar.

In the last six decades of its glorious existence, the High Court has earned has been possible because of its keen demands from within to sustain judicial standards and lofty ideals. It has upheld the highest principles of judicial independence in an impeccable manner and the achievement has been possible because this temple of justice has been served by illustrious judges who have provided intellectual depth, vigour and vitality, essential for any institution to rise in height. The High Court of Kerala should be proud of the fact that 14 illustrious Judges made it to the Supreme Court from this

Institution. It is an eloquent testimony to the venerated sense of duty. This Court has reasons to feel proud of two firsts – for giving first woman judge to the country, and first to the Apex Court too. I am humbly referring to Justice Fathima Beevi.

When I glanced through the old list of Judges and lawyers of the High Court, I felt I was with judges of immense wisdom and also in company with distinguished lawyers of great learning. It is absolutely a frank admission. The legacy of illustrious judges and eminent lawyers continues. The rapid increase in cases in the High Court is a tribute because of the confidence of the people instilled in the institution. I am obliged to add that on certain occasions grievance as regards delay is justified, for delay in disposal of cases diminishes the confidence of the citizen in the judicial process. I am indubitable that present protagonists would not fail the expectations of the citizens. At this juncture I may inform that the Arrears Committee of the Supreme Court and Arrears Committees of the High Courts are totally focussed on has also started reducing the pendency and we have achieved success. In last two months, the pendency in Supreme Court has reduced by more than two thousand cases due to hard work by my Brother

Judges and pendency has started reducing in number of High Courts.

Our effort is continuous

We have to devise new methods, forge new tools and innovate new strategies for the purpose of ensuring the constitutional promise of justice for all.

We all are under a constitutional obligation to deliver prompt and inexpensive justice to the citizens without compromising on the quality of justice, and every member of judiciary is required to be wedded to the said idea.

In conclusion, I may remind all who are present here that we should never forget that “the Court exists for the people and not the people for the Court.” And that is the motto of serviceability of our institution.

-----

**HIGH COURT OF KERALA**  
**DIAMOND JUBILEE VALEDICTORY CELEBRATIONS**