

Bio Data of Shri Justice D. Murugesan

Shri Justice D. Murugesan

Member, NHRC

91-11-24663254, 24663255 (O)

Justice Shri D. Murugesan assumed office as Member of the National Human Rights Commission on the 21st September, 2013. Prior to his appointment as Member, NHRC, he was the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court from the 26th September, 2012 to the 9th June, 2013.

He was born in Cumbum Pudupatti, Theni District, Tamil Nadu on the 10th June, 1951. He completed his Secondary School Leaving Certificate Course from De-Britto High School, Devakottai in 1968 and Pre-University Course from St. Xavier's College, Palayamkottai in 1969. He completed Bachelor of Science Degree course from Thairajar College, Madurai in 1972. He completed his Bachelor of General Law course from the Madras University in 1974 and was a gold medalist with first rank in Bachelor of Law degree course from the same University in 1975. He joined the legal profession the same year.

As an advocate he honed his skills under the guidance of eminent seniors like Shri K.K. Venugopal and Shri Rangarajan Kumarmangalam. During his illustrious legal career, he served as the Standing Counsel for Madras University. He worked as Standing Counsel for Corporation of Chennai and Selection Committee for MBBS, P.G. and Super Specialty courses, Govt. of Tamil Nadu from 1994-2000. He also served as the Special Government Pleader (for education and General Miscellaneous) and Government Pleader for the Government of Tamil Nadu from 1994 to 2000.

He was appointed as a Judge of the Madras High Court on the 2nd March, 2000. During his more than 12 years tenure in the Madras High Court, he disposed of more than 1.30 lakh cases. He also presided over various Administrative Committees, served as the Chairman of COFEPOSA Board and the President of Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy for over a period of three years. His distinguished tenure as a Judge of the Madras High Court is dotted with many landmark and path breaking judgments on all branches of law, including constitutional law, criminal law, law relating to Intellectual Property Rights, Taxation, Company Law, Environment Law, Personal Laws and Service Law. He has a deep concern for protecting of environment and to this end he banned plastic bags and similar products upon 60 microns. During his tenure as a Judge of the Madras High Court, he also took several decisions and delivered important judgments including among others, banned "bike racing" in the city. Besides maiming several road users and bikers, the perilous game had endangered lives of several youth in Chennai. Bus day celebration, another menace was banned by Justice Murugesan, ban on lotus cultivation on commercial basis as it destroys lakes and ponds. His concern has been for providing speedy and qualitative justice for the poor, the needy and the downtrodden and weaker sections of society.

During his short tenure in the Delhi High Court as Chief Justice from 26th September, 2012 to 9th June 2013, he took several important decisions including, among others, implementation of Right to Education from nursery classes to ensure equal opportunity to students of all sections, ban on sale of junk food in schools, reforms in Tihar jail, more night shelters for homeless, periodical surprise check of fruits and vegetables in city markets for pesticides residue, suo motu cognizance of the December 16 Delhi gang rape and setting up of a special court for day-to-day hearing of the case for expeditious trial, directions to all lower courts to hold day-to-day hearings of sexual assault cases and directions to all private hospitals to admit victims of heinous crimes like rape and murder.

As a Member, NHRC, Justice D. Murugesan has attended important International Conferences/Seminar including, among others, attended 28th Annual General Meeting of International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC) and Commonwealth Forum National Human Rights Institutions (CFNHRI) held in Geneva, Switzerland from 11th March to 13th March, 2015, Consultation Meeting on the Strategic Plan (2016-2020) held in Dhaka on 16th August, 2015.

Bio Data of Shri Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose

Shri Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose

Member, NHRC

91-11-24663252 (O)

Born on 28th May, 1952.

Obtained B.Com. from St. Xavier's College and LL.B degree from University of Calcutta and also became Attorney-at-Law at High Court of Calcutta.

Enrolled as an Advocate on November 30, 1976.

Practised in Civil, Commercial, Constitutional and Company matters in Calcutta High Court both in the Original and Appellate side.

He was appointed as a permanent Judge of High Court at Calcutta on July 17, 1997.

He held various positions such as -

Executive Chairman, West Bengal State Legal Services Authority since August 01, 2007.

Executive Chairman, Andaman & Nicobar State Legal Services Authority since January 02, 2007.

Member of the National Legal Services Authority w.e.f November 06, 2011.

He is a Life Member of Indian Law Institute, Delhi and was associated with Indian Law Institute (Calcutta Chapter) since 14.1.2005 as its Treasurer till 25.6.2012.

Was the Chairman of Institutional Ethics Committee of National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Kolkata.

He is associated with many philanthropic societies such as -

President of the Governing Body of Ramakrishna Mission Sikshana Mandir, Belur Math;

President of the Governing Body of Ramakrishna Mission, Sikra Kulingram, Basirhat, West Bengal.

Vice President of the Institute of Culture, Gol Park, Ramakrishna Mission, Kolkata.

Vice-President of the Governing Body of Swami Vivekananda Ancestral House, Ramakrishna Mission, Kolkata.

He was a Member of the Executive Council of the National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata and a Member of Academic Council of National Law School of India University, Bangalore.

He was the Chancellor of National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR), University of Law, Hyderabad.

He was appointed as the Acting Chief Justice of High Court of Andhra Pradesh w.e.f 25.6.2012; On 12.12.2012, took oath as permanent Chief Justice High Court of Andhra Pradesh.

Thereafter elevated as Supreme Court Judge on 8.3.2013 and retired on 27.5.2017.

After retirement, he has been appointed as a Member of National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi and he joined the post on 29.6.2017.

JUSTICE SHRI CYRIAC JOSEPH

Member, NHRC
91-11-24663252 (O)

Born at Kaipuzha in Kottayam District of Kerala State on January 28, 1947.

Studied in St. Margarette's U.P. School, Kaipuzha; St. George's High School, Kaipuzha; St. Thomas College, Pala; St. Berchmans' College, Changanacherry; and Government Law College, Trivandrum.

Educational Qualification: B.Sc. & B.L.

Enrolled as Advocate on October 12, 1968.

Practised in the District Court at Kottayam and later in the Kerala High Court at Kochi.

Worked as High Court Government Pleader from 1976 to 1979 and as Liaison Officer and Senior Government Pleader in the High Court from 1979 to 1987.

Served as Additional Advocate General, State of Kerala, from July 6, 1991 to July 5, 1994.

In the capacity of Additional Advocate General, he had the rare privilege of addressing the Kerala Legislative Assembly on April 24, 1994, to explain the constitutional validity of the Kerala Panchayat Raj Bill.

Appointed as a Permanent Judge of the Kerala High Court w.e.f. July 6, 1994. Transferred to the Delhi High Court w.e.f. August 5, 1994. Transferred back to the Kerala High Court w.e.f. September 24, 2001.

Appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court of Uttaranchal (now Uttarakhand) w.e.f. March 20, 2005.

On transfer to Karnataka High Court, assumed office as Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court on January 7, 2006.

In June 2006, at the invitation of the U.S. Justice Department, he visited U.S.A. to study the legal system in the U.S.

In June 2007, at the invitation of the U.S. Justice Department, he led a Judicial Delegation to U.S.A. to study the ADR system in the U.S.

Elevated as Judge, Supreme Court of India on July 7, 2008.

Retired from the Supreme Court on January 27, 2012.

Appointed as Member, National Human Rights Commission on May 27, 2013.

The Karunya University, Coimbatore (Karunya Institute of Technology and Sciences) conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa) on June 29, 2013.

SHRI SHARAD CHANDRA SINHA

Member, NHRC

91-11-24663258 (O)

Shri Sharad Chandra Sinha took office as a Member of the National Human Rights Commission on 8th April, 2013. He is a 1975 batch IPS officer of Haryana Cadre. Born on 30th October, 1953, Shri Sinha belongs to Lucknow, (UP). He did Masters in Physics from Lucknow University before joining the IPS. Prior to his appointment to the NHRC, he was heading the National Investigation Agency as its Director General. He headed the NIA for 3 years and presided over the growth of NIA into the premier counter terrorism Investigation Agency of the country. He has held several important positions in the State and Central Government, including the posts of Director General, State Vigilance Bureau, Haryana and has worked in CBI in various capacities including that of a Superintendent of Police, Joint Director, Additional Director and Special Director.

Shri Sinha has a formidable reputation for always upholding the rule of law and for protection and promotion of human rights. His penchant for protecting the human rights was fully discernible while he was serving the Haryana police in different capacities and also in his handling investigations during his tenure in the CBI and the NIA. He is also credited with expeditious investigations into several complaints referred to the CBI by the NHRC. These related to alleged fake encounters by police and wrongful detentions. He was awarded Police Medal for Meritorious Service in 1992 and President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service in 2003.

He, in a time bound manner, successfully investigated cases, which had hogged the headlines in media for human rights violations. Investigation into recovery of dead bodies of two women of Shopian Town in Jammu & Kashmir and completing the same in a short span of three months leading to normalcy in the State in 2009 is one such example. Similarly bringing guilty to justice in the killing of a young man in a police encounter in Dehradun City in 2009, investigation into burning of 40-50 houses of 'Pardis' (a de-notified criminal tribe in Madhya Pradesh), and in the mysterious murder of a journalist Umesh Dobhal of Pauri Garhwal are some other examples of most talked about cases handled by Shri Sinha.

It is to his credit that during his 3 years tenure as NIA Chief, the Agency investigated cases of terrorism, North-Eastern insurgency and Left wing extremism, without even a single complaint of human rights violations in the process. His re-investigation into Malegaon bomb blast post-CBI enquiry prepared the ground for the release of 9 persons lodged in jail since 2006 in the case who were found to be wrongly accused while the real perpetrators were arrested.

Shri Sinha has participated in a number of national and international conferences on terrorism and counter-terrorism in addition to the Asian Regional Conference, Interpol, Manila. He also led the Indian delegation to UN Conference on Transnational Organised Crime at Vienna and OECD Conference on Bribery in International Business in Paris, France.