

HIS EXCELLENCY, JUDGE NAGENDRA SINGH1914 - 1988

13 December 1988

The following information is made available to the Press by the Registry of the International Court of Justice:

The International Court of Justice deeply regrets to announce the death on 11 December 1988 of Judge Nagendra Singh, who died from a heart attack in the Bronovo Hospital, The Hague. He had been a Member of the Court since 6 February 1973, having been its Vice-President from 1976 to 1979 and its President from 1985 to 1988. His term of office would have ended in February 1991.

The body will lie in state in the Japanese Room of the Peace Palace on Tuesday 13 December 1988 from 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. A register of condolences will be open for signature also on Wednesday 14 December from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. in the New Wing of the Palace.

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Judge Nagendra Singh, who was born at Dungarpur, Rajasthan, on 18 March 1914, as the son of His late Highness Maharawal Bijawa Singhji, K.C.I.E., of Dungarpur and Maharani Devendra Kunwar Saheba, had a long and distinguished career both in the service of his country and in the international field.

(1) Education

B.A. (Agra); M.A., LL.D. (Cantab); M.A. (Bihar), B. Litt. LL.D (Dublin); D.Sc. (Law) Moscow; D.C.L. (Delhi); D.Litt., D.Phil. (Calcutta); awarded the Viceroy's Medal for the Diploma Examination and the Pinhey Medal for the B.A. Examination of Agra University for standing first in first class; Barrister-at-Law (1942); awarded the Langdon Medal for distinction at the Bar-at-Law Examination by the Council of Legal Education, London (1942); Honorary Master of the Bench, Grays Inn, London (1974). Visiting Professor of International Law and Maritime Law at the Universities of Madras, Delhi and Bombay and Tribhuvan University, Nepal. Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge (1974).

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(ii) Career in the Government of India

Appointed to the Indian Civil Service by the Civil Service Commissioners of London after an open competition examination held by the Commission in 1938 at which was awarded the Cama Prize by St. John's College, Cambridge, for high distinction, Member of the Constituent Assembly of India (1947-1948); District Magistrate and Collector in Madhya Pradesh (1938-1946); Regional Commissioner, Eastern States (1948); Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence (1955) and a member of the Imperial Defence College, London (IDC, 1951); Director-General of Shipping (1956-1964) and Secretary to the Government of India, Transport Ministry (1965); Director-General All-India Radio (1949), Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (1964); Secretary to the President of India (1966-1971); Chief Election Commissioner to the Government of India (1972).

(iii) Judicial Field

Constitutional Adviser to the Government of Bhutan (1970), Justice of the Peace (Bombay, 1958); Supreme Appellate Authority, Prize Court Law of India (1972).

Judge ad hoc of the International Court of Justice in the Appeal relating to the Jurisdiction of the ICAO Council, 1972; elected Judge of the International Court of Justice by the General Assembly and Security Council of the United Nations as a Member of the Court for nine years from 6 February 1973; re-elected as Judge, International Court of Justice, from 6 February 1982 for another term of nine years; Vice-President, International Court of Justice (1976-1979); President of the Court (1985-1988).

Member of "Institut de droit international" since 1963; Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague (since 1967); member of the Governing Council of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (1963). Became in 1964 a member and in 1969 the leader of the Indian Delegation to the Afro-Asian Legal Consultative Committee; President of the Committee (1973); elected Vice-President of the Indian Law Institute (1983).

(iv) Environment

President of the Indian Academy of Environmental Law and Research - a national body affiliated as a Member of the IUCN with a regular vote; deputy Chairman of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration (CEPLA), Gland, Switzerland; Life Member of the Board of Governors of the International Council for Environmental Law (ICEL), Bonn, Germany; Member of the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development, Geneva, 1984; Founder Trustee of the Elizabeth Haub Foundation on Environment.

(v) Art and Culture

Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science, New York (1975). Invited by Unesco as Legal Expert (1983) for the revision of The Hague Convention 1954, "Protection of Cultural Property in the event of Armed Conflict"; invited by Unesco to address the 30th anniversary

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celebrations of the Convention on Cultural Property (1984). Member of Unesco Commission of India (1984). Founder of JDM Trust on Protection of Cultural Heritage in Rajasthan. Life Member of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage.

(vi) International Organizations

Leader of the Indian delegation in various bilateral negotiations and at international conferences (1956-1973); Representative of India to the United Nations General Assembly in 1966, 1969 and 1971 for the Sixth Committee; Member (1966-1972) and Vice-Chairman (1969) of the International Law Commission; delegate to the Second Conference on the Law of the Sea (Geneva, 1960); Vice-Chairman (1969) and Chairman (1971) of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law; Leader of delegation to the meetings of the Shipping Group of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Geneva, 1965); Chairman of the Expert Group on Shipping of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (1965); President of the Assembly of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (1963-1965); Vice-President of Brussels diplomatic conferences on maritime law (1961 and 1967); Chairman of the Legal and General Committee of the Load-Line Conference (London, 1966); President of the maritime session of the International Labour Organization (Geneva, 1970); Legal Expert appointed by Atomic Energy Agency (1960); Chairman of the First Commission of the Conference of Governmental Experts of the International Committee of the Red Cross (Geneva, 1971 and 1972).

(vii) Miscellaneous

Accorded rank of Ambassador (1972); Padma Vibhushan (1973); Member of the Executive Council of the International Law Association (London); Member of the Executive Council of the Indian Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies; President of the Indian Society of International Law and of the Maritime Law Association of India; President of National Labour Law Association; elected Judge for the Templeton Foundation Awards (1982-1985); elected Judge of the Court of Arbitration for Sports of the International Olympic Committee (IOC); LL.D. honoris causa of the Universities of Bhopal (1973), Kurukshetra (1975), Jodhpur (1976), Guru Nanak (1977), Punjab (1978) and Rajasthan (1982), Osmania University, Hyderabad (1986) and the Catholic University of Salta, Argentina (1987), the LL.D. honoris causa which Judge Singh received from Beijing University in 1986.

(viii) Human Rights and Peace

Member of the International Foundation for Human Rights, Paris. Author of publication Human Rights and the Future of Mankind, 1981. Member of the Bureau of the International Academy of Human Rights, Paris (1985). Member of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, San Remo (1985). Distinguished Fellow of the Delian Institute of International Relations, Athens (1986). Honorary Member of the Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI) (1987).

(ix) Publications

Termination of Membership of International Organizations, 1958; Nuclear Weapons and International Law, 1959; Amendments to IMCO Constituent Instrument, Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Endowment Lectures,

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Andhra University, Waltair, 1959; "The International Law Problems of Merchant Shipping", Recueil des cours, Academy of International Law, The Hague, 1962; Defence Mechanism of the Modern State, 1963; British Shipping Law Series, Vols. 8 and 13, on Shipowners, 1967, and International Conventions of Merchant Shipping, 1973; The Legal Régime of Merchant Shipping, Trimbak Telang Lectures, Bombay University, 1968; Recent Trends in the Development of International Law and Organization, Nehru Lectures, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, 1969; Human Rights and International Co-operation, King Tribhuvan Lectures, University of Nepal, 1969; The Concept of Force and Organization of Defence in the Constitutional History of India, 1969; Achievements of UNCTAD I and II in the Field of Invisibles, 1969; India and International Law, 1969, The State Practice of India in the Field of International Law, Vol. I, 1973; Bhutan, 1978; Commercial Law of India, 1975; Maritime Flag and International Law, 1978; Kingsley Martin Memorial Lecture, University of Cambridge, 1978; Sir Benegal Rau Memorial Lecture on "Juristic Concepts of Ancient India Polity" (1979) and Motilal Nehru Memorial Lecture on Human Rights (1980). Lecture at the Institute of International Law at Thessaloniki, Greece, on "The Role and Record of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees" (1983) published by Macmillan, 1984; Lecture on "Human Rights in Peace and War"; Their Enforcement and the Future of Humanity" at the University of Thessaloniki, Greece (1985); contributed numerous articles to law journals in India and abroad.

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