

**OBITUARY REFERENCE ADDRESS BY HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHANSHU DHULIA, CHIEF JUSTICE OF GAUHATI HIGH COURT, GUWAHATI, ON 18-03-2021 AT 3.30 PM, ON ACCOUNT OF SAD DEMISE OF BRIGADIER NABHOJYOTI DEKA, MEMBER OF THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION SITTING IN THE COURT NO.1 (NEW BLOCK).**

**THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT AT GUWAHATI  
(THE HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)**

**BEFORE**

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N. KOTISWAR SINGH  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANASH RANJAN PATHAK  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MICHAEL ZOTHANKHUMA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMAN SHYAM  
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE RUMI KUMARI PHUKAN  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ACHINTYA MALLA BUJOR BARUA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KALYAN RAI SURANA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANTA KUMAR DEKA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AJIT BORTHAKUR  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HITESH KUMAR SARMA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MIR ALFAZ ALI  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR MEDHI  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANISH CHOUDHURY  
AND  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PARTHIVJYOTI SAIKIA**

**Reference by:**

1. Mr. Jiten Payeng, Secretary, Gauhati High Court Bar Association.
2. Mr. Putul Chandra Deka, President, Gauhati High Court Advocates' Association.
3. Mr. P.D. Nair, Vice Chairman of Bar Council of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. Mr. Dilip Mozumder, Additional Advocate General, Assam.

4. Mr. N.N.B. Choudhury, Additional Advocate General, Arunachal Pradesh.
5. Mr. Sudipto Bhattacharjee, Government Advocate, Mizoram.
6. Mr. Ranjit Kumar Deb Choudhury, Assistant Solicitor General of India.
7. Ms. M. Kechii, Additional Senior Government Advocate, Nagaland.

**Reply by: Hon'ble the Chief Justice**

1. My esteemed colleagues on the Bench.
2. Mr. Jiten Payeng, Secretary, Gauhati High Court Bar Association.
3. Mr. Putul Chandra Deka, President, Gauhati High Court Advocates' Association.
4. Mr. P.D. Nair, Vice Chairman of Bar Council of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.
5. Mr. Dilip Mozumder, Additional Advocate General, Assam.
6. Mr. N.N.B. Choudhury, Additional Advocate General, Arunachal Pradesh.
7. Mr. Sudipto Bhattacharjee, Government Advocate, Mizoram.
8. Mr. Ranjit Kumar Deb Choudhury, Assistant Solicitor General of India.
9. Ms. M. Kechii, Additional Senior Government Advocate, Nagaland.
10. Members of the Registry.

Today, we have assembled here to mourn the sad demise of Brigadier Nabhojyoti Deka, who left for heavenly abode on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. He was 77 years of age and a practicing lawyer before this Court.

Brig. Nabhojyoti Deka was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 1944 at Kolkatta. His father late Justice Holiram Deka was the first Judge of Assam origin to

become Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court. Brigadier Deka, was a veteran of the 1965 and 1971 wars and was a highly decorated and brave soldier of the Indian Army.

After completing his early schooling at Sonaram High School, Guwahati, he was admitted to the prestigious Rashtriya Indian Military College, i.e. RIMC at Dehradun. He was only 11 years of age at that time. Later he qualified in the NDA examination and joined National Defence Academy, Pune. After graduating from NDA, he then completed his training from the Indian Military Academy at Dehradun, from where he was commissioned as an officer in the Indian Army. He was an Infantry Officer of the Indian Army as he was a Commissioned Officer in the Gorkha Rifles, where he reached the rank of a Brigadier in the Indian Army. He eventually retired as Director General, NCC for North Eastern Region in the year 1998.

He then started a fresh innings as a lawyer, by enrolling as an Advocate on 04.09.2003. He joined the Gauhati Bar by becoming a member of the Gauhati High Court Advocates' Association on 18.12.2003. He was the Standing Counsel for the Armed Forces Tribunal at Guwahati. Late Brigadier Deka is survived by his wife Smt. Reba Deka, son Dr. Amitabh Deka and daughter Smt. Amrita Verma, who is an engineer.

The untimely demise of Brig. Nabhojyoti Deka is a great loss to the legal fraternity, where his valuable services were needed. Though I did not get an opportunity to meet him personally, but I am told that he was a very knowledgeable person though he never paraded his knowledge. He was a true gentleman. He was loved and respected for his simplicity and clear submissions before the Court. He was truly an officer of the Court.

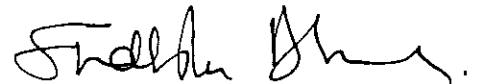
I and my esteemed colleagues on the Bench fully associate with the sentiments and feelings expressed by the members of the Bar for Late Brig. Nabhojyoti Deka.

I, on my behalf as well as on behalf of my colleagues in the High Court and members of the Registry convey our heartfelt condolence to the members of the bereaved family and pray the Almighty to grant eternal peace to the departed soul and give sufficient strength and courage to the family members to bear the irreparable loss.

As a mark of respect to the departed soul, I request the learned members of the Bar and Bench to observe a minute's silence.

The Court work on the judicial side will remain suspended for the rest of the day as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

The Registry is directed to communicate the proceedings and convey our heartfelt condolence to the members of the bereaved family.



(Sudhanshu Dhulia)

Chief Justice

Gauhati High Court, Guwahati