

**ADDRESS BY HON'BLE SMT. JUSTICE V.K. TAHILRAMANI,
ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE
AT BOMBAY AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE
TO LATE MR. PRAFULLA KESHAV PANDIT,
SENIOR ADVOCATE AND SENIOR MEMBER OF ADVOCATES'
ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA,
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH MARCH 2018 IN THE CENTRAL COURT**

My esteemed colleagues

Mr. Ashutosh Kumbhakoni,
Advocate General of Maharashtra

Mr. Anil Singh, Additional Solicitor General of India, and
on behalf of Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa

Dr. Milind Sathe, President,
Bombay Bar Association

Mr. Rajiv Chavan, President,
Advocates' Association of Western India

Mr. Kaiwan Kalyaniwalla, President,
Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Learned Senior Advocates, respected members of the Bar

Members of the bereaved family

Ladies & Gentlemen.

We have assembled here this morning to mourn the sad demise of late Mr. Prafulla Keshav Pandit, a distinguished Senior Advocate and a Senior Member of the Advocates' Association of Western India, who left us for his heavenly abode on 28th December 2017 in Mumbai at the age of 80 years.

Mr. P.K. Pandit was born on 5th July 1937 in Pune. He spent his childhood in the rustic surrounding in Sangli Village till Xth standard. After his Inter Science, he pursued law studies and obtained his LL.B Degree with First Class from the Government Law College, Mumbai, in the year 1960. He passed LL.M. with specialization in Jurisprudence Principles of Legislation and International Law from Mumbai University in 1962. He enrolled himself as an Advocate on 9th August 1961.

He was a Professor at the Government Law College from 1965 to 1971, and Part-time Professor at K.C. Law College in Jurisprudence from 1971 to 1973 as well as at the University of Mumbai from 1972 to 1974. He was also a Visiting Lecturer in Jurisprudence at the Salgaonkar Law College, Goa in 1975-1976. He was also a Visiting Lecturer under the auspices of Maharashtra Bar Council for Junior Advocates in 1986-1987. He also worked as an Examiner for the First and Second Year LL.B. at the Mumbai University for three years from 1968 to 1971. He was also a Member of the Board of Studies of the University of Bombay from 1972 to 1974. Mr. Pandit was interviewed by the Bombay Doordarshan on its Programme for three times on the topics of Law of Succession, Municipal Law and the Development Control Regulations. He was a Member of Legal Aid Committee till his death.

His father was a Professor of English at the Ferguson College in Pune and also the Principal of Willingdon College at Sangli. His mother Mrs. Vijayalaxmi Pandit was a Social Worker and was associated with Bal Gangadhar Tilak. She was instrumental in

encouraging the girls' education and had started Kamalabainchi Shala which was the first school for girls in Girgaon. His wife Mrs. Asha Pandit was a housewife, who predeceased him about 15 years ago.

Mr. Pandit was appointed as an Assistant Government Pleader on 15th October 1971, thereafter as an Additional Government Pleader on 10th April 1976 and later on, as Chief Government Pleader on 1st October 1981 in the Bombay City Civil Court. He served as Chief Government Pleader for 36 years, probably the longest tenure held by anyone. He was a Standing Counsel for the Mumbai Municipal Corporation as well as B.E.S.T. for last 30 years.

Mr. Pandit was designated as a Senior Advocate of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay with effect from 1st May 1992. He specialized in Property Law, Ownership Flats Act, Contract Act, Hindu Law and Municipal Law. He was an Honorary Trustee of Students' Literary and Scientific Society.

Mr. Pandit was fond of trekking and he had visited Vaishno Devi at the age of 70. His passion was to visit mountains, forests and sea. He was also fond of swimming in sea and growing vegetables.

Mr. Pandit was a keen sportsman and a good Tennis Player. He won the Western India Junior Tennis Championship in the year 1957-1958 held at the Bombay Gymkhana. He was also a legal advisor to the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association. He was fond of listening Indian Classical Music and old songs of Lata Mangeshkar.

Mr. Pandit distinguished himself at the Bar by his qualities, one of which was his outstanding confidence to put a weakest case in strongest manner. He was an epitome of nobility in legal profession. He had a tremendous capacity and stamina to handle dozen of cases involving complicated questions of law. He was very devoted to the profession till his last day. He was associated with almost every important and major legal proceedings in City Civil Court at Mumbai. He handled the important matters like Tata Press Yellow Pages, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Aarey Colony, Shaw Wallace Corporate Case and many more.

Mr. Pandit was a very jovial and lively person and was a staunch in his decision. He was a good teacher and even a junior most lawyer could approach him for any legal guidance at any time till his very end.

He is survived by the only son Mr.Niranjan Pandit, who is also an Advocate practicing in the Bombay High Court as well as City Civil Court. His daughter-in-law Mrs. Rupa is an Architect by profession. His grandson Tej is doing Masters in Computer Science from New York, USA and will be pursuing his Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence from August 2018.

My colleagues and I share the feelings of all those who have gathered here in expressing our heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family. May the Almighty give them strength to bear the great loss and overcome the grief.

May the departed soul rest in eternal peace.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI A.A. KUMBHAKONI, ADVOCATE GENERAL OF
MAHARASHTRA AT FULL COURT REFERENCE
TO SHRI PRAFULLA KESHAV PANDIT, SENIOR ADVOCATE AND SENIOR
MEMBER OF ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA,
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH MARCH 2018 AT 10.30 A.M.
IN THE CENTRAL COURT**

My Ladyship, Hon'ble the Acting Chief Justice,

Hon'ble Judges of this Hon'ble Court,

Shri Anil Singh, the Additional Solicitor General of India,

Respected office bearers of all the esteemed organizations of the legal fraternity

My professional colleagues at the Bar,

Family members of Late Shri P.K. Pandit, Senior Advocate.

My first personal interaction, with Advocate Shri P.K. Pandit, was in a Rent Act matter. I was representing the landlord. I was tense about this first meeting, nay, conference. I had just shifted to Bombay from the District Place, Solapur and did not even know that such meetings held, for briefing the Senior Advocates, are called 'conferences' and not just 'meetings'.

It was a very pleasant surprise for me, the way Shri P.K. Pandit treated me, a lawyer who had just arrived from a District place. He made me very comfortable and treated with with warmth, affection and above all with respect. Since I had personally argued the matter in the District Court, he considered all my suggestions appropriately. At the end of the meeting, nay, the conference, he

assured my client that he had a very good case on merits and very politely yet firmly, declined to accept the brief, since in his view, there was no need to engage a senior, to conduct the matter, as only factual issues were involved in the matter.

Later on, I learnt that neither it was an extraordinary meeting nor was I treated exceptionally well. Shri P.K. Pandit used to treat all the juniors the same way he treated me and was always there to extend his helping hand to everyone. In all probabilities that is the reason that he has left behind him a legacy of very good lawyers, most of whom are today, leading practitioners in the City Civil Court.

Not just the juniors, but he was equally helpful to his colleagues. Whenever anybody would approach him for guidance, he would open a register meticulously maintained by him personally wherein, in his and, he used to note down important reported Judgments, topic-wise which were arranged systematically, in an alphabetical order. I am sure, his son Shri Niranjan will preserve this register, as the most valuable asset that he has inherited from his beloved father and will provide free access to it, the same way his esteemed father did, to all of us.

Shri P.K. Pandit was not techno savvy person. Probably that is the reason, why instead of finding a relevant case-law by using a software, he would finish studying each fresh volume of AIR and Mah. L.J. Immediately, on their arrival and update his register, that I just mentioned.

Even at the 80 years of age, he was physically fit in true and real sense. His son informed me that, without any medication, his cholesterol levels, both the HDL and the LDL, the good and the bad one, were always within the normal limits, which I am sure, each one of us, not just those who are 50+, would find it unbelievable, having ourselves finding it almost impossible to maintain these standards, even with medication.

The secret of his good health, probably, was in the fact that, he was a sportsman. As Her Ladyship just mentioned, he had won the Western India Junior Championship Lawn Tennis tournament. He always remained closely associated, throughout his life, with the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association, which has its office just across the street of "Vidhi". Even at this stage, he used to play tennis, almost twice a week, at Bombay Gymkhana. I am informed that, for last 25 years, everyday religiously he used to go for a morning walk, at Five Gardens, from his residence situate at Parsee Colony, Dadar.

He was the second Designated Senior Advocate practicing basically in the City Civil Court. He used to also appear, though only in exceptionally important cases, in this Hon'ble High Court. He opposed Mr. Arun Jaitley, our present Law Minister at the Centre, in an Appeal from Order and Mr. P.P. Rao, the renowned Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court, in a First Appeal. Both these matters related to the very well-known case of "Tata Press Yellow Pages", which Her Ladyship just mentioned. If I mistake not, his son Mr. Niranjan can correct me on this, his last appearance in the Bombay High Court, was

almost a decade ago, in the Court Room No.40, in the case related to the Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

After Advocate Dara Zaiwala, he was appointed as the Chief Government Pleader on 1st October 1981, having, by that time, put in a decade long spell in the City Civil Court, as an Assistant Government Pleader. He rendered his most valuable assistance to the Government as a Chief Government Pleader, at the City Civil Court, Bombay, till he breathed last, for a continuous period of 36 years, to my knowledge, the longest continuous tenure anyone ever has, if not in our country, certainly in our State, as My Ladyship, Hon'ble the Acting Chief Justice mentioned.

Obviously, therefore, while working as the Advocate General of the State, with his departure, suddenly a huge void is felt by me, having lost the senior-most law officer, who had an impeccable reputation, integrity, sincerity and above all, a truly exceptional experience, of handling the Government briefs, which by any standards, is a very tricky job.

I fully join in the sentiments expressed by My Ladyship, Hon'ble the Acting Chief Justice. On behalf of the Bar, I extend our deepest condolences to the entire bereaved family of late Shri P.K. Pandit.

May his soul rest in peace.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI ANIL SINGH, ADDITIONAL SOLICITOR
GENERAL OF INDIA, AT FULL COURT REFERENCE
TO SHRI PRAFULLA KESHAV PANDIT, SENIOR ADVOCATE AND
SENIOR MEMBER OF ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA,
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH MARCH 2018 AT 10.30 A.M.
IN THE CENTRAL COURT**

My Lady, Hon'ble the Acting Chief Justice,
Other Hon'ble Judges of this Court,
Shri Ashutosh Kumbhakoni, Advocate General of Maharashtra,
Shri Milind Sathe, President of Bombay Bar Association,
Shri Rajiv Chavan, President,
Advocates' Association of Western India
Shri Kalyaniwala, President, Incorporated Law Society
Family members of Late Senior Advocate, Shri P. K. Pandit,
Members of the Bar,
ladies and Gentlemen.

Mr. P. K. Pandit was amongst the undisputed doyens of the City Civil Court Bar for the last several years. An affable man having a gentle and calm personality who was respected by Bar and Bench alike. His knowledge of law was profound and according to me, almost incomparable.

I personally had the privilege of interacting with him in several matters. It so happened that when I joined the chambers of Mr. D.T. Gandhi in the year 1985 who was practicing in the City Civil Court, almost the entire practice in the City Civil Court was

monopolised by three Advocates – Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Sakhardande and Mr. Pandit. Thus, routinely there would be several matters in a day where my senior Mr. Gandhi would be appearing against Mr. Pandit. Mr. Pandit was known for his persuasive, precise, logical, well researched and well reasoned arguments. His propositions and research in the field of Town Planning Act, Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, Maharashtra Ownership Flat Act, Transfer of Property Act, Administrative Law, Forest Act, to name a few, have been accepted with approval in Landmark Judgments. He always had a passion for developing law, be it in Administrative Law, Contracts or Constitutional Law. He had amazing intellect and a capacity to handle complex matters. His ability to interpret a statute or a judgment with simplicity and accuracy was commendable. However, he was always fair to his opponent and to the Court. Mr. Pandit had a habit of maintaining a case law diary which was a small tattered notebook which he used to use during a conference and also during his arguments to verify the citation.

Mr. Pandit was extremely helpful to junior members of the Bar. I have personally benefited from his benevolence towards junior Advocates. I remember, approaching him for help and/or advise at times and he would always spare the time to help and put me on the right path. Mr. Pandit over the years, in fact, was almost a father figure to me for whom I have highest respect both as a lawyer and more importantly, as a human being. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Pandit recently just four days prior to his demise, at the wedding of Mr. Bhadang's son where he and I spent almost an hour recalling the earlier days.

His ability to impart knowledge and encourage young lawyers is borne out by the illustrious careers of several of his juniors such as Mr. Joaquim Reis, Mr. G.V. Aiman, Mr. Bhadang, Mr. Bharat Chaudhary, Mr. Niranjana Pandit, who have themselves become stalwarts in their own right.

Mr. Pandit was well received by all Courts. In fact, I am told that once while appearing in a matter, a Judge who had been recently transferred to the City Civil Court, Mumbai, enquired of Mr. Pandit his name. Mr. Pandit replied that I am "Mr. Pandit". To which the judge questioned are you the "Mr. P.K. Pandit". Mr. Pandit nodded and enquired why such a query was being raised. The learned Judge stated that since he had been transferred to Mumbai, he had heard several brother judges talk in praise of one Mr. P.K. Pandit all the time and hence, the learned Judge was happy to have the pleasure of Mr. Pandit address him as well.

Apart from his various accomplishments in the field of law such as having been a Government Pleader from 1981 onwards till his sad demise, he has set a record for one lawyer to have held the post of Government Pleader for almost 35 years. Even the Bar Association of City Civil Court, Bombay had held a grand celebration to celebrate Mr. Pandit completing 50 years of practice somewhere in the year 2012. Several of the then High Court Judges such as His Lordship the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chandrachud was also present at the function and spoke high praise for Mr. Pandit.

He was fond of trekking, swimming, driving, playing tennis and being with nature.

The standard set by Mr. Pandit is unparalleled. He leaves a great legacy in contribution to law. His son Niranjan Pandit carries the torch forward.

In his passing away, I have personally suffered a great loss. The loss to the Bar and the legal fraternity is immense. I, on behalf of myself and the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa, express my deepest condolence for the family of the departed soul. May his soul rest in peace.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI MILIND SATHE, PRESIDENT OF BOMBAY BAR
ASSOCIATION AT FULL COURT REFERENCE TO SHRI PRAFULLA
KESHAV PANDIT, SENIOR ADVOCATE AND SENIOR MEMBER OF
ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA,
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH MARCH 2018 AT 10.30 A.M.
IN THE CENTRAL COURT**

Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice Mrs. Vijaya K. Tahilramani and Hon'ble Judges of the Bombay High Court.,

Advocate General Shri Ashutosh Kumbhakoni,

Additional Solicitor General Shri Anil Singh,

President, Advocates Association of Western India Shri Rajiv Chavan,

President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society Shri Kaiwan Kalyaniwalla,

Members of the Bar,

Members of Family of late Mr. P.K. Pandit,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

We assemble this morning to mourn the sad demise of Shri P.K. Pandit, who left for his heavenly abode on 28th December 2017.

I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon'ble Chief Justice and my fellow speakers.

Mr. P.K. Pandit was a versatile civil lawyer and has handled large number of cases on civil side which included Civil Procedure Code, Property Law, Co-operative Societies, Revenue, Forest and several other branches of civil law. He represented State Government for over 40 years in both this Hon'ble Court and the City Civil Court.

Late Mr. P.K. Pandit represented the State Government for over 40 years regardless of the changes in the political executive governments is a testimony to his ability, forthrightness, sincerity, honesty, integrity, fearlessness and absolute professionalism. I think his example is almost similar to former Advocate General of Gujarat late Shankarbhai Thakore who remained Advocate General for a period of about 40 uninterrupted years.

Forest Law was one of the subjects in which he excelled and represented the Government in large number of forest cases. I had an opportunity to oppose him in one of the forest cases – Maharashtra Land Development Corporation vs. State of Maharashtra, which case has six rounds of litigation on remands from Supreme Court of India, this Court and the Maharashtra Revenue Tribunal.

Mr. Pandit was designated by this Court as Senior Advocate, yet Bombay City Civil Court was where he maintained his principal battle field. He was doyen of the City Civil Court Bar. A well respected and revered person and was regarded as Bhishma Pitamah of the City Civil Court Bar.

Until recently he was very active and played few sets of Tennis on daily basis at the Bombay Gymkhana.

In demise of Mr. P.K. Pandit, we have not only lost a versatile civil trial lawyer but a guiding light for several youngsters and one of the finest gentleman one could come across.

On behalf of all the members of the Bombay Bar Association, I convey my heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family which includes his son Mr. Niranjana Pandit, who is our colleague at the Bar. I pray the Almighty to give them courage to bear the loss. Let the departed soul rest in peace.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI RAJIV CHAVAN, PRESIDENT OF ADVOCATES'
ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA
AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE TO SHRI PRAFULLA KESHAV
PANDIT, SENIOR ADVOCATE AND SENIOR MEMBER OF
ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA,
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH MARCH 2018 AT 10.30 A.M.
IN THE CENTRAL COURT**

Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice Smt. Vijaya Tahilramani,
Hon'ble Judges of the High Court,
Learned Advocate General Shri A.A. Kumbhakoni,
Learned Additional Solicitor General Shri Anil Singh,
President of Bombay Bar Association Dr. Milind Sathe,
President of Incorporated Law Society Shri Kaiwan Kalyaniwala,
Members of family of late Shri P.K. Pandit,
Members of Bar,
Ladies & Gentlemen.

I would like to begin this tribute to late Shri Prafulla Pandit with an anecdote that was fondly told to me by Advocate Shekhar Prabhawalkar, who was a junior of late Senior Advocate Shri Milind Sakhardande. Shri P.K. Pandit and Shri Sakhardande were close friends. Every morning both of them would unfailingly discuss matters which they would be conducting against each other on the phone, including the judgments that they would be citing. Once inside the courtroom, their bonhomie would be all forgotten and they transformed into fierce opponents to the extent that few could guess that just a few hours ago they had discussed these matters in great

detail with each other. But then yet again all their fierce court room stand forgotten they would get back to being great friends the instant they were outside the courtroom.

As fate would have it late Shri Milind Sakhardande passed away on 24th February 2001 and it was then that many saw that side of Shri Pandit's personality which they had only heard of until then. Late Shri P.K. Pandit returned all the briefs in the matters in which Shri Sakhardande was his opponent. The logic he gave for this action was that while conducting those matters in which they were opposing each other, he would remember Shri Milind Sakhardande and that would affect his concentration and he would not be able to do justice to his brief. Such was Shri Pandit's sincerity and commitment to a friend he loved and respected even after he was gone.

Those who have seen him in courts tell us that once inside the court premises, he would never be seen in the canteen or in the Bar Room chatting away. Rather he would most definitely be either inside or outside the courtrooms waiting until his matter came up. And if not within court premises then he would be in his office working on other matters. He was known to be a fair opponent amongst lawyers.

Aggressive when pleading for his client, it was indeed a treat to hear his arguments. He quite literally ruled the Bombay City Civil Court in terms of arguing matters. A gentleman advocate to the core, he always treated even a fresher Advocate with dignity and respect. He never ridiculed their lack of knowledge in the bar. I would like to convey what my father Justice Balasaheb Chavan, a retired judge of this High Court, recounted about him. I quote, "Shri Prafulla

Pandit came from a family of academic background. His father Shri K.G. Pandit was the Principal of Willindon College at Sangli. Simultaneously while pursuing their academic careers the Pandit brothers excelled in sports. Particularly tennis was Shri Prafulla Pandit's passion. He used to play tennis regularly at Bombay Gymkhana till his abrupt end.

After completing law, Shri Prafulla Pandit started practicing in Mumbai Courts. Very soon, he set up a lucrative practice in Bombay City Civil Court. He was persuasive in his advocacy and at the same time very sweet tongued. He never annoyed the judge nor his adversary counsel. Soon he came to be considered a “motion specialist”. One who is conversant with litigation in Bombay City Civil Court knows how the “motion” stage assumes great importance because once an order is passed in a notice of motion, it is good for years to come since it takes umpteen number of years for a long cause to come on board for final hearing. So success at motion stage was crucial to the fate of a party and late Shri P.K. Pandit with his studied persuasion many a times succeeded in getting relief for his clients.

On account of the reputation he had by then acquired, the then State Government appointed him as Government Pleader in the Bombay City Civil Court. He continued in that post for a number of years. A few years back, a grand function was held to celebrate his 75th birthday which was very well attended by Judges, Lawyers and his well wishers.

Sometime ago, Shri Pandit suffered the loss of his life partner. He took it with great equanimity and continued to attend to his legal work as before. His was a life of hard work and fulfillment to be emulated by upcoming legal fraternity.” recalled my father fondly.

Senior Advocate Shri Joquiem Reis who had been Shri Pandit's junior and a colleague recalls, I quote, “As a Junior in the Chamber of Shri P. K. Pandit and as a colleague of Shri Pandit in the Government Pleaders' Office, I have known him closely for more than three decades. Shri Pandit has always been a vociferous champion of propounding development of law. He has always been a very hard working lawyer, a legion in his right, innovative in his approach and for whom only incentive is achieving excellence. He has always had a passion for developing law, be it in Administrative Law, Contracts or Constitutional Law. His four sterling qualities were: (1) to be effective by selectively addressing right issues in his matters, (2) simple in his presentation and expression of his cases, (3) candor in admitting the weak points in his cases and (4) resiliency in giving answers when questioned by the Court. His persuasiveness and techniques of advocacy was his art. His unfailing courtesy to his colleagues is something which many of us would like to emulate. His unflagging and effervescent enthusiasm in developing law is something which is known to all”.

Shri P.K. Pandit passed away on 28th December 2017 at the age of 79. Today we pay our homage to this brilliant, hard working Gentleman Lawyer. My Lady, I on behalf of Advocates' Association of Western India, fully associate with the sentiments that have been

expressed here by Your Ladyship as well as my colleagues at the Bar and pay my humble respects on behalf of the Association to the departed soul and offer our deepest condolences to the bereaved family, his son Advocate Niranjana and other family members, his large number of juniors & colleagues and mourn his death.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI KAIWAN KALYANIWALLA, PRESIDENT OF THE
BOMBAY INCORPORATED LAW SOCIETY
AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE TO SHRI PRAFULLA KESHAV
PANDIT, SENIOR ADVOCATE AND SENIOR MEMBER OF
ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA,
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH MARCH 2018 AT 10.30 A.M.
IN THE CENTRAL COURT**

My Lady the Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice,
the Hon'ble Judges of the Bombay High Court,
Mr. Advocate General,
Mr. Additional Solicitor-General,
Presidents of the Bombay Bar Association and the Western India
Advocates' Association.

I have the honour, albeit sadly, to address this Reference as President of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society on whose behalf, I express condolences on the sad demise of Shri P.K. Pandit.

Much has already been spoken in praise of the man, Mr. Pandit was. Even so, that would not be enough.

Mr. Pandit had a distinguished career as Senior Counsel of this Court and of the City Civil Court and served as Government Pleader for a very long period. He was a trustee of several community trusts. The likes of Mr. Pandit, who stood tall amongst his peers, will always be remembered.

I had the pleasure of briefing Mr. Pandit on several occasions. His ability to quickly grasp key issues, made an instructing Attorney's task much easier. In the passing away of Mr. Pandit, not only have we lost an accomplished lawyer, but also a fine gentleman.

I wish to convey our heartfelt condolences to his son Niranjan and the members of his family.

May the departed soul rest in peace.
