

Profile of Hon`ble Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar (R)

Hon`ble Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar is the President- National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi, INDIA since 01.11.2021.

Earlier he served as a Constitutional Court Judge, Madras High Court (Chartered High Court), Chief Justice (A) High Court of Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh and superannuated as Chief Justice Manipur High Court.

Hon`ble Justice Sudhakar has actively participated as a speaker during the INSOL Judicial Colloquium held at London in 2022 and in Tokyo in 2023.

He graduated in Life Sciences (Bachelor) from Loyola College, Chennai , India and was conferred a Degree in Law from Madras Law College.

He was enrolled to the bar in the year 1983, actively practicing in all branches of law with particular emphasis on Corporate Law, Customs, Central Excise and Sales Tax Law before all High Courts of Southern India, Madras High Court(Chartered High Court) and before the Hon`ble Supreme Court of India as well.

His appointment to the constitutional Court at Madras was in the year 2005 and a Permanent Judge in the year 2007.

As a judge, he dealt with the cases of all branches of law, like; Original Suits, Original Side Appeals, Writ Petitions under Article 226 of the Constitution of India; Writ Appeals, Company Law Cases, Arbitration and Admiralty Cases, Insolvency Cases, Civil Revision Petitions, Civil Miscellaneous Appeals, Referred Trials,

Criminal Appeals and Habeas Corpus Petitions and Second Appeals. Beside he rendered landmark judgement on Environment Law like restoration of Evergreen Shola Forest in the Western Ghats in South India, removal of exotics species, which cause of soil and ecological damage. His judgements focused on restoration of water bodies and removal of encroachments, afforestation of waste land and effective management of National Highways and also on the effect of deforestation and covid effect (https://www.livelaw.in/pdf_upload/pdf_upload-376440.pdf).

A landmark Judgement relating to Motor Accident Claims for early and prompt settlement of award to the beneficiaries has been affirmed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court for implementation all over India in a sort of class action litigation (<https://indiankanoon.org/doc/9055329/>).

He decided cases regarding the Enforcement of Foreign Awards in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act 1996. He undertook various administrative duties besides discharging his judicial work. As Member and Chairman of the Building Committee, he played a dominant role in ensuring the development of infrastructure of District Courts and the Madras High Court.

He was the Chairman of the Madras High Court Heritage Committee to restore the 125-year-old Madras High Court Heritage Building and was primarily instrumental in the 150th Year Celebration of the Madras High Court (Chartered High Court).

He served as Chairman of the High Court Legal Services Committee which enabled the settling of thousands of cases by way of alternate dispute resolution.

As a Member of the Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, he conceived the idea and implemented a programme called “Redefining Legal Practice for Advocates– Generation Next (0 to 10 Years)” to impart Continuing Legal Education to young lawyers hailing from rural sector.

He is presently holding the post of President of National Company Law Tribunal, which deals with the important issues of Company Law and Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

On his assumption to the office of the President of NCLT, the corporate insolvency process has shown a marked and visible change in the number of cases resolved under the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process. Number of resolution plans in the financial year 2022-2023 stood at 197 and for the financial year 2023-2024 it stands at 266 as on 20th March 2024 showing a marked improvement in the Insolvency Ecosystem.
