

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

Raj Bhavan, Gandhinagar, 10th July, 2017

I am deeply grieved to learn about the sad demise of Hon. Justice Shri P. N. Bhagawati, Former Chief Justice of India, who dies at New Delhi at 15.6.2017 at the age of 95 after a brief old age related illness.

Hon. Justice Shri P. N. Bhagawati was judge at the Gujarat High Court. Later on he also became the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court. Subsequently, he also worked as the Chief Justice of India where he worked from July, 1985 to December, 1986.

Hon. Justice Shri P. N. Bhagawati was the architect of a new concept called public Interest Litigation (PIL) for dispensing justice to the voiceless poor on whose behalf even a third person could approach either the High Court or the Supreme Court. He was also conferred upon the honour of "पद्मविभूषण", the second highest civilian award, in 2007 for many of his landmark judgments. He was hailed as the pioneer of judicial activism in the country.

Though Hon. Justice Shri P. N. Bhagawati is not in our midst today, his memory shall remain afresh with us for ever. Human life is mortal, body is perishable, but the same and fame that a man earns through his noble deeds lives for ever. He will always be remembered as the stalwart of India's legal fraternity.

I pray to the God Almighty to give everlasting peace to the departed soul and to give his family members the strength to bear this profound grief. I also offer my sincere and heart-felt condolences to the family members of the Hon. Justice Shri P. N. Bhagawati and my humble tribute to the great legal luminary.