

**BOARD OF REVENUE FOR RAJASTHAN**  
**THE TORCH OF JUSTICE BURNS BRIGHT**

**Address of V.Srinivas IAS, Chairman Board of Revenue to the Rajasthan Revenue Bar Association on completion of one year in office dated August 13, 2018**

**Distinguished Members of the Board of Revenue,  
President and Member Secretary of the Rajasthan Revenue Bar Association,  
Senior Advocates, Government Advocates,  
Members of the Rajasthan Revenue Bar Association,  
Senior Officials of the Board of Revenue**

A year has passed, since I assumed charge as the 47<sup>th</sup> Chairman of the Board of Revenue for Rajasthan. A year in the history of this great Institution with a 70-year legacy is small speck in time. Yet I notice that mine is among the longer tenures over the past 20 years. It has not been an easy transition for me to come from Government of India and head India's largest Board of Revenue and transform myself into a Judicial Officer understanding the complex nuances of the Civil Procedure Code, the Rajasthan Tenancy Act and the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act. I am grateful to the Members of the Board of Revenue and the Rajasthan Revenue Bar Association for enabling my transition.

I do miss the presence of Late Shri Bhawani Singh ji Senior Advocate on this occasion. His presence in the Revenue Bar was a matter of immense pride and moral authority. I am grateful to the senior advocates, Shri Onkarlal ji Dave, Shri Purna Sharkar ji Dashora, Shri Yagyadutt ji Sharma, Shri Hemant Sogani ji, Shri Gyaneshwar Vaddar ji, Shri J.P.Mathur ji, Shri Ashok Agarwal ji for their support and encouragement. Over the past one year my interactions with the Rajasthan Revenue Bar Association have been cordial and constructive.

Senior Advocates of the Bar were forthcoming to share their knowledge with younger colleagues in the workshops the Board of Revenue had conducted for the Sub-Divisional Officers, the Additional District Collectors, the Revenue Appellate Authorities and the Additional Divisional Commissioners. I would also like to thank the younger advocates for their enthusiasm and positive energy. You represent a bright future for the Board of Revenue. Advocates Shri Yogendra Singh ji, Shri Ajit Singh, Shri Pradeep Bishnoi, Shri Amritpal Singh, Shri Rajender Brar, Smt. Poonam Mathur, Smt. Jyoti Parikh have the potential to take over the legacy of their worthy seniors.

The Bar has supported the initiatives of the Board – digitalization represents a major step in transformational governance and radical reforms. SMS facility to advocates, online status of case work, online judgments, RCMS facility on e-mitra plus at every gram panchayat level, modernization of court rooms, construction of litigant shed have all been measures where collectively we have been successful in producing results.

The centrality of the justice system is the litigant – everything must be done to ensure his belief in the fairness, transparency and timeliness of justice is reinforced. In my visits to 32 districts of Rajasthan, I met over 7000 advocates. I have observed the high respect with which the Board of Revenue is held as a guiding force in laying down case law for interpretation by subordinate courts. I am certain that the torch of justice lit from the Board of Revenue will burn bright across the State. The initiatives of the Board of Revenue - digitalization, enhanced supervision, skill building, transparency in court proceedings, building infrastructure have evoked positive responses from the District Bar Associations.

Personally, it has been a remarkable year for me – I discovered that Revenue law is a subject of great beauty, it has tremendous spiritual strength. I have tried to conduct the court for several hours every day, for 5 days a week, for 21 days a month, and over 200 days in the year. When I leave this job I would hope to be remembered as “*the Chairman who conducted bench everyday*”. So great has been my love for conducting court work and providing justice that there were days when I held a Larger Bench in the Board of Revenue, a Double Bench in the Tax Board followed by Double Bench sittings in the Board of Revenue, listening to arguments from 1030 am to 4 pm. As I said, if the Bar is ready to argue a case, the Bench will always be ready to listen to the arguments. I have tried to focus on the basic principles of good governance – adherence to court timings, discipline in conducting court proceedings, reading files before coming to the bench, writing timely judgments and maintaining a positive energy in the Court Room. It is not easy for the Chairman to pronounce nearly 600 judgments in the Board of Revenue and 65 worth reportable judgments. I am extremely grateful to all the Members and the Advocates who helped me reach this personal milestone.

I have numerous happy memories of working with all of you in the Board of Revenue. As a gesture of my immense appreciation of your support, let me present the Rajasthan Revenue Bar Association with a memento – a kalamkari made by master craftsmen at the Kalakshetra Foundation depicting the “Maha Pattabhishekam” of Lord Sri Rama on his victorious return to Ayodhya. I look forward to your continued support in the coming days. We have miles to go before we rest.

Jai Hind.

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