

The Judicial Training & Research Institute, UP, Lucknow organized a '**One Day Orientation Workshop on Motor Accident Claim Matters**' for Presiding Officers of MACT & senior most Additional District & Sessions Judges of the State of Uttar Pradesh on 01 March, 2020.

Hon'ble Sri Justice Govind Mathur, Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court was the Chief Guest in the introductory session.

The function was attended by large number of Hon'ble Judges of the Allahabad High Court and in the Introductory Session the dais was graced by Hon'ble Sri Justice Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari, Hon'ble Sri Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya, Hon'ble Sri Justice Yashwant Varma and Hon'ble Sri Justice Rajnish Kumar, Judges, Allahabad High Court, Hon'ble Sri Justice Mahboob Ali and Smt. Saroj Yadav, THE Director, JTRI. The dais was also graced by the two prominent resource persons for the Workshop, Hon'ble Sri Justice Krishnamoorthy Kannan, Former Judge, Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and Hon'ble Sri Justice Vishnu Chandra Gupta, Former Judge, Allahabad High Court.

Hon'ble Sri Justice Govind Mathur, Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court in his inaugural address highlighted the fact that around 88, 000 cases are pending before the district courts of which the largest burden is shared by district court Kanpur Nagar which has pendency of 4567 Motor Accident Claim Tribunal (MACT) Matters. Hon'ble the Chief Justice also pointed out the fact that on an average large number of accidental deaths and grievous injuries are caused due to road accidents and in the year 2018 for which the data is available, more than 1,50,000 deaths and around 5,00,000 grievous injuries have been caused. A major chunk of these accidents takes place on the national highways, which constitute around two percent of the road network of our country. Uttar Pradesh has 42 national highways cutting across the State, which constitutes about 5599 kilometers. While creation of infrastructure in the form of wonderful highways and roads is something that we should be proud of, but at the same time the problem areas need to be addressed.

Some of those problems may be poor awareness about traffic discipline, laws and rules in the matter and the unnecessary and avoidable thrill of over-speeding. Bad traffic sense has led to loss of life in huge numbers, coupled with loss of national property in the form of destroyed vehicles.

His Lordship stressed on the need of the courts becoming sensitive to provide expeditious justice and taking the responsibility of providing timely and adequate compensation to the victims and their family members. To address the situation, in compliance of the directions passed by seven Judges Bench of the High Court, twenty seven MAC Tribunals have become functional, Nineteen more would become functional by the month of March, 2020 and twenty nine additional Tribunals should be established by the end of this year. The Chief Justice also pointed out the special legal provisions under the Motor Accident Act, 1988 which make provision for timely compensation.

During the course of day, the technical sessions were organized in the MEEMANSA Lecture Hall of the JTRI, wherein different topics of concern were discussed by Hon'ble Sri Justice Krishnamoorthy Kannan and Hon'ble Sri Justice V.C. Gupta. The discussions were very lively and large numbers of legal and practical issues were discussed.