



JGLS VIRION PUBLIC LECTURE INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES: UNDERSTANDING JUDICIAL CONSIDERATIONS

by

HON'BLE JUSTICE ARIJIT PASAYAT Former Judge, Supreme Court of India



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ABOUT THE SPEAKER

HON'BLE JUSTICE ARIJIT PASAYAT

Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

Hon'ble Justice Pasayat, often referred to as a bold and fearless judge, began his judicial career as an Additional Judge in the High Court of Odisha. He then went on to become the Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala in 1999. In 2000 he was appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi. In the next year, he was appointed as a Judge in the Supreme Court of India. Here, he delivered many significant judgments in cases like Ashok Kumar Thakur v. The Union of India concerning the findings of the Mandal Commission. He has also served as the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, the Executive Chairman, the National Legal Services Authority and the Vice-Chairman of the Special Investigation Committee on Black Money. From streamlining the functioning of the Lok Adalats to giving a directive on banning ragging in colleges; from ordering for compulsory registration for marriages to maintaining that political parties should not use colleges and universities for political purposes, he has reflected through his rulings, his faith in the system. He has taken to task the people who create injustices in the system. He is a person of integrity who has always acted in the best interest of the country!

ABSTRACT

In this short lecture, Hon'ble Justice Pasayat will discuss about the considerations that a Judge takes to apply a rule of interpretation to a statutory provision. This lecture will shine a light on how and to what extent the Judges in India exercise their discretion to interpret a statute while deciding a case. With examples, Hon'ble Justice Pasayat will demonstrate how a Judge chooses between two or more rules which can be applied at a given instance.

