

**National Conference on Interpretation of Statutes for District Judiciary [P-1400]**

**13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
 National Judicial Academy (NJA), Bhopal  
**Programme Schedule**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Day-1 13.04.2024</b>	<b>Speakers</b>
10:00 AM -11:30 AM	<p align="center"><b>SESSION 1</b>  <b>Interpretation of Statutes: Scope &amp; Limits</b></p> <p><i>Proposed scope of discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope of Interpretation <i>vis à vis</i> Judicial Precedence</li> <li>• ‘Strict’ <i>versus</i> ‘Liberal’ Construction – Judicial Discretion</li> <li>• Role of foreign wisdom, pre-independence judgments etc.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Justice Akil Kureshi</i>  <i>Justice Sonia Gokani</i></p>
11:30AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Tea Break</b>	
12:00 PM - 01:30 PM	<p align="center"><b>SESSION 2</b>  <b>Standard(s) of Proof</b></p> <p><i>Proposed scope of discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the standards “binary” -.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ “Preponderance of Probabilities” – Civil Cases, and</li> <li>✓ “Proof Beyond Reasonable Doubt” – Criminal Cases</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Are the standards sacrosanct or do they have cross-domain applications?</li> <li>• Case Law jurisprudence</li> </ul>	<p><i>Justice Sonia Gokani</i>  <i>Justice D. S. Naidu</i></p> <p align="center"><b>Chair</b>  <i>Justice Aniruddha Bose</i></p>
01:30 PM - 02:30 PM	<b>Lunch</b>	
02:30 PM - 04:00 PM	<p align="center"><b>SESSION 3</b>  <b>Evolving Issues in Statutory Interpretation</b></p> <p><i>Proposed scope of discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differences in Interpreting Statutes &amp; Judgments</li> <li>• Poor Legislative Drafting</li> <li>• Canonical Interpretation and its Limitations                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cannons <i>versus</i> Statutes</li> <li>✓ Cannons <i>versus</i> Legislative History</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>Justice Jitendra S. Jain</i>  <i>Justice S. Talapatra</i></p>
04:00 PM	<b>Tea Break</b>	

Sunday	Day-2 14.04.2024	Speakers
10:00 AM -11:30 AM	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SESSION 4</b> <b>Common Errors in Interpretation</b></p> <p><i>Proposed scope of discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpreting ‘Conjunctions’ &amp; ‘Disjunctions’</li> <li>• Application of ‘Proviso’, ‘Exceptions’, &amp; ‘Non-Obstante Clauses’</li> <li>• Scope &amp; Limits of application of ‘May’ and ‘Shall’</li> <li>• Interpreting ‘Retrospective Effect’ versus ‘Retroactive Effect’ &amp; ‘Repeal’</li> <li>• Case Law Jurisprudence</li> </ul>	<p><i>Mr. Vijay Chandra</i> <i>Mr. E.V. Chandru</i></p>
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Tea Break</b>	
12:00 PM - 01:30 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SESSION 5</b> <b>Contours of Interpreting Judicial Decisions</b></p> <p><i>Proposed Scope of discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctrine of <i>Stare decisis</i> - Implications</li> <li>• Discerning the &amp; correct application of <i>Ratio Decidendi</i></li> <li>• Scope of <i>Obiter Dicta</i> by Constitutional Courts</li> <li>• Interpreting <i>Sub-silentio</i></li> <li>• Interpreting to ‘Distinguish’ applicability of a precedence</li> </ul>	<p><i>Mr. Vijay Chandra</i> <i>Mr. E.V. Chandru</i></p>
01:15PM - 01:30PM	<i>Audit of the Course by Participant Judges</i>	
01:30PM	<b>Lunch &amp; Departure</b>	

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**Administrative Assistance**

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