



November 22, 2022

FOREWORD

The digital addition to our technology has, it is often said, transformed human communications in profound ways, and perhaps irreversibly. When Gutenberg invented the printing press it was stated so. From papyrus and other means of writing and communication we have moved a long way. But certain forms of gathering our thoughts and ideas namely an anthology, or a digest or an encyclopaedia will always remain as friendly and homely.

If one turns to the early ages of legal reporting and to the turn of gathering then came, we will find that the idea of digests like modern day legal search engines was a great appeal. Like a law reporter which can offer you in one place Judgments of courts on various subjects, a digest is a great guide and companion. Before the Internet law search engines or softwares entered the scene, we had comprehensive digests on almost all subjects many of which were proud possessions of any lawyer's library. Collections of law reports and Judgments in one place and arranged in an organised sequence are the handy ready reckoners which are not replicated by digital search. Perhaps the appeal of such digests is the expedition facilitating our reading and research and internal connectivity of the subjects chosen.

There will always be a need for such collections. The distinct way each one of us as lawyers and judges use and benefit from such legal materials will be filled and assisted by such collections.

The field of Arbitration is now an integral part of law and justice culture. The story of how such justice culture has evolved and factors which contributed to, it can be usefully gathered from the movement of legal ideas which have added value to Arbitration culture. Mere periodic reports may not fill this need. We do need such collections with possibly critical insights. Very soon we may be talking in the same vein about mediation culture.

A rich collection of Arbitration Judgments in one handy place was long overdue. Very few such collections in other subjects are available.

The collection that has been done is not only in great schematic order but provides the impetus for engaged reading.

The compendium of three volumes with Judgments spanning from the year 1988 till 2022 covering Arbitration Act 1940 and 1996 is the first of its kind.

The Judgments have been placed in ascending order beginning 1988 from Volume 1 onwards. To facilitate easy searching and to make the compendium more useful, four type of indexes have been provided, namely, (i) Subject Index, (ii) Section Index, (iii) Nominal Index and (iv) Year wise index. Additionally, each Judgment is supplemented with a lucid head note highlighting the ratio laid down in each case by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Cases have been covered under two sections namely Full Reports and Short Rulings to cover maximum number of Cases. Apart from CLA Citation, Parallel Citation of SCC has also been incorporated to add enhanced utility to the compendium. All these have added value and utility.

The work is the brain child of Dr. Manoj Kumar, head of Hammurabi and Solomon Partners.

Dr. Manoj Kumar besides leading Hummurabi & Solomon Partners (ranked as a top 20 amongst Indian Law Firms by the prestigious Asian Legal Business) as its Founder & Managing Partner, has several prestigious positions to his credit. I find him conferred with several awards and recognitions and his legal acumen is spread over several areas. True to the above, he has conceived the idea of Arbitration Judgments Compendium.

I would consider the compendium a valuable addition to the Arbitration Law Study and understanding. It will be a coveted inclusion in the lawyers' library and I strongly recommend its reception into the legal literature.


(R. Venkataramani)