

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW (CIL)

Tribute by Chairman, CIL, Professor Tommy Koh to the late Mr S. Tiwari

I would like to pay a tribute to Mr Sivakant Tiwari, whom I have known since his days as a law student. I had the great pleasure of teaching him and remember him as a friendly, conscientious and good student.

Mr Tiwari joined the Singapore legal service and served in several senior positions including, legal adviser to the Ministry of Defence and Head of the International Affairs Division of the Attorney-General's Chambers.

Our lives and careers intersected on several occasions. Mr Tiwari was a member of the Singapore delegation to the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea. He was a good delegate and earned the respect and friendship of his colleagues. He was of enormous help to me when I was elected as the President of the Conference.

Mr Tiwari was also a member of another delegation which I led in 1990. We were given the important assignment of negotiating an agreement with the PRC for the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. Mr Tiwari was extremely resourceful in his preparation. He looked at every previous agreement which the PRC had concluded for that purpose. His research enabled us to find a formula which the two sides could accept.

Mr Tiwari was also a highly valued member of the Singapore delegation which both negotiated and litigated with Malaysia in the land reclamation case.

Many of the breakthroughs in those negotiations occurred in an informal group consisting of the Malaysian Agent, AG and the two of us. The Malaysian AG's friendship with and goodwill for Mr Tiwari helped us to reach mutually acceptable solutions.

Mr Tiwari had made enormous contributions to Singapore and to the practice of international law in Singapore. I shall miss him very much because he was a colleague and good friend, and because we had fought so many battles together.

Tommy Koh
Chairman CIL