

Late Shri Pavani Parameswara Rao **Senior Advocate**

Pavani Parameswara Rao (P. P. Rao; 5 August 1933 – 13 September 2017) was a Senior Advocate^[1] practising in the Supreme Court of India. Widely considered a doyen of Constitutional Law, he had argued a number of landmark cases before the Supreme Court. He died on 13 September 2017 in a private hospital in South Delhi following a cardiac arrest, India.

He was born on 5 August 1933, in Mogalicherla Village, Lingasamudram Mandal in the Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh. He completed his B.A. from V.R. College, Nellore, Andhra University and his LL.B. and LL.M. from Osmania University, Hyderabad. Mr. Rao started his career teaching law in the University of Delhi in 1961. He was enrolled as an Advocate by the Bar Council of Delhi in 1967 and thereafter started practice in the Supreme Court. He was the chamber junior to Shri N.C. Chatterjee, Senior Advocate and Parliamentarian. Thereafter when Mr. NC Chatterjee left for Kolkata, due his ailing health in 1967, he joined the chambers of his former teacher, Shri Raja Vasudev Pillai, Senior Advocate. During this time he assisted leading lawyers of the time like H.M. Seervai, M.C. Setalvad, C.K. Daphtary, N.C. Chatterjee, S.V. Gupte, A.K. Sen, Niren De, etc. In February 1969, he became an Advocate-on-Record. He was Advocate-on-Record for the State of Andhra Pradesh and a Junior Standing Counsel for the Central Government before he was designated as Senior Advocate by the Supreme Court in August 1976. He was elected the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association in 1991, and in 2006, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan. On 4 March 2010, he was awarded an LL.D. (Honoris Causa) in recognition of his eminence and contributions to the cause of public interest.