

# Preface

This is one of my over twenty books which had the chance of being publicly released in a function held at the premises of India's one of the premier law education institutes, Indian Law Society's Law College, Pune, at the hands of the then Honourable Law Minister, Mr Arun Jetley and in the presence of Honourable Justice Dr DY Chnadrachud. I am grateful to both the legal luminaries for their kind words of praise for my contribution by this book in the field of corporate law. The first edition of this book was published in 2001 by India's one of the well-known and oldest law reporting firm, All India Reporter Pvt Ltd. It was acclaimed by many and referred to in some judgments. And this time it is again a matter of pride for me that the book is being published by one of the renowned global law publishing company, LexisNexis Buttherworths, India.

My special thanks are due to Manjiri Harichnadrakar, practicing company secretary and my colleague, for her invaluable contribution in the updating of the book for the second edition. I am also thankful to Sayali Gujar, practicing company secretary, Kamyra Singh, company secretary, and Renuka Bapat and Tejal Waje for their assistance. Lastly, I thank LexisNexis Buttherworths, India for taking up the responsibility of the publication of this edition, and their efficient staff for the quality and speed in handling the process of editing, printing and publication, in particular Debarati Banerjee and Sheeba Bhatnagar.

I am confident that this edition of the book will be welcomed and found useful by the users in the same way as the first edition. I welcome readers' comments and suggestions which would enable me to improve the quality of the book further.

Pune, 31 January 2009

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## Preface to the First Edition

It gives me immense pleasure to present the first edition of my new book, 'Company Meetings: Law, Practice & Procedure'. Meetings have a very important role to play in every walk of life and in particular in the functioning any body where decision-making involves more than one person. As is rightly stated in the 'Horsley's Meetings-Procedure, Law and Practice', "In meetings is to be found perhaps the best practical expression of the democratic way of life in action as it has evolved in our communities. Through the exchange of ideas on proposals and problems of common concern, by concentrating on the possibilities of reaching agreement and on the overall welfare of the organizing body, and by ensuring that every decision reflects the opinion of the majority of those who choose to vote, the proceedings of properly conducted meetings exhibit, in general, the elements of realistic and practical democracy."

The subject of the book concerns each and every company registered under the Companies Act as no company is immune from the legal obligation of holding its shareholders and directors. The book encompasses the whole spectrum of company meetings with a sharp focus on practice

and procedures relating to general meetings and meetings of directors' and members' meetings. It also deals with meetings of special significance, such as class meetings, meetings of debenture holders and meetings in relating to winding-up of a company. In its three of the four appendices there are given numerous specimens of resolutions, notices and un-prescribed forms. I am of the honest belief that the book would be of a great assistance to everyone who has anything to do with law as well as practice of company meetings, especially professionals like Company Secretaries, Chartered Accountants and Lawyers. I would be too happy to receive comments and suggestions so as to enable me to improve the next edition.

I am thankful to Aditi Chirmule, Vikrant Gandhe, Swapna Keskar and Pallavi Kulkarni, all Company Secretaries from Pune, who have assisted me in various ways which enabled me to compile this book. My thanks are also due to a number of Company Secretaries who responded to my request for sending notices of general meetings of their companies, which has facilitated the preparation of Appendix IIB of the book. I am also indebted to Mr SP Dave, Company Secretary, Ahmedabad for contributing 'Case Studies on convening, holding and conducting annual general meetings' which has enhanced the value of the Chapter on the subject.

Last but not the least, I owe thanks to Mr WD Chitale and his team at All India Reporter Pvt. Ltd. for bringing out this quality publication befitting the AIR tradition.

Pune 2 October 2001

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