

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The office of the Chief Justice of Madras High Court has been vacant for quite some time, since the retirement of Mr. Justice M N Bhandari. Therefore, appointment to that office is required to be made.

Mr Justice S V Gangapurwala is the senior-most Judge of the High Court of Bombay and has been functioning there since his elevation on 13 March 2010. He would be demitting office on 23 May 2024. His experience of having served as acting Chief Justice in the second largest High Court in the country (with benches at Aurangabad and Nagpur and a seat also at Goa) during the last four months would be useful for him in dispensing justice as Chief Justice in the Madras High Court. Besides, presently, there is only one Chief Justice from the High Court of Bombay. Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that he is fit and suitable in all respects to be appointed as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, consultation has been held with the consultee-Judge/s with a view to ascertain the suitability of Mr Justice S V Gangapurwala for appointment as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Madras. The consultee-Judge/s have concurred with the proposed appointment of Mr Justice S V Gangapurwala.

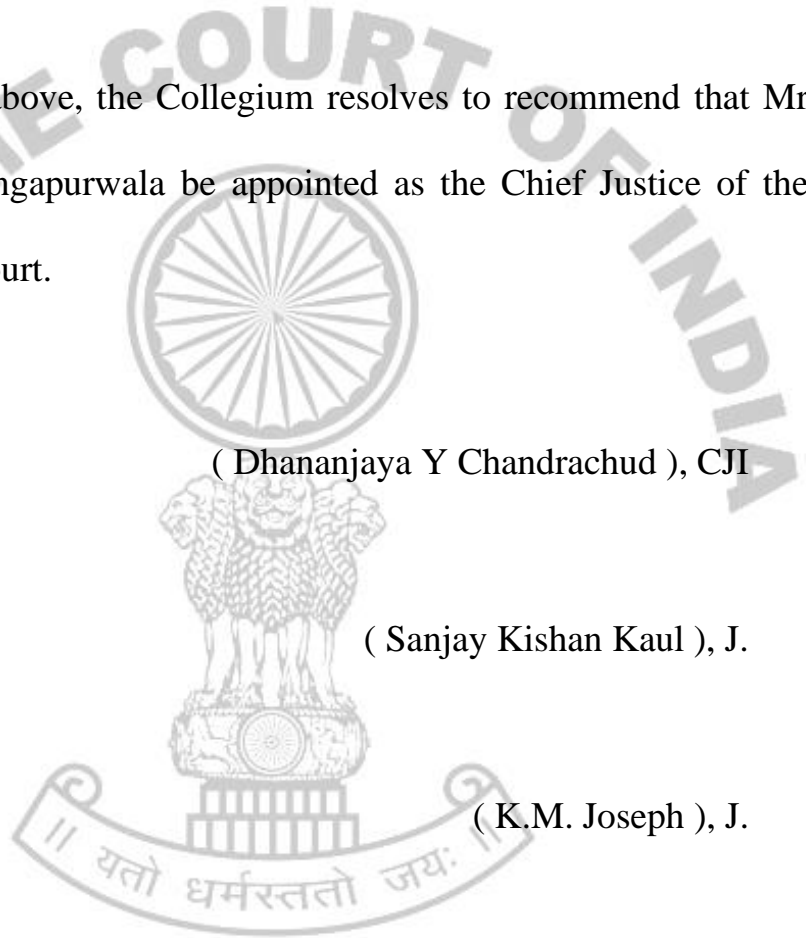
In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Mr Justice S V Gangapurwala be appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J.

(K.M. Joseph), J.

19 April 2023.



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The office of the Chief Justice of High Court of Bombay has been lying vacant for quite some time, consequent upon the elevation of Mr Justice Dipankar Datta to the Supreme Court. Therefore, appointment to that office is required to be made.

Justice Ramesh D Dhanuka was appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Bombay on 23 January 2012. He is due to demit office on 30 May 2023.

The Collegium has recommended the appointment of Justice S V Gangapurwala, the Acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Bombay as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court. Justice Ramesh D Dhanuka, who is next in order of seniority in the High Court of Bombay, will have a tenure of little over a month. He has served the High Court of Bombay with distinction since his appointment. Over the last 11 years, he has acquired sufficient experience on the judicial and administrative side as a puisne judge of the High Court. In view of the fact that Justice Ramesh D Dhanuka has a short tenure as noted above, in terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Collegium resolves to recommend his appointment as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Bombay, consequent of the appointment

of Justice S V Gangapurwala, Acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Bombay, as Chief Justice of Madras High Court.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, consultation has been held with the consultee-Judge/s with a view to ascertain the suitability of Mr Justice Ramesh D Dhanuka for appointment as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Bombay. The consultee-Judge/s have concurred with the proposed appointment.

The Collegium, therefore, resolves to recommend that Mr Justice Ramesh D Dhanuka be appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Bombay.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J

(K M Joseph), J

April 19 2023.

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The office of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh is vacant, consequent upon the retirement of Mr Justice Amjad A Sayed. Appointment to that office is required to be made.

Mr Justice M S Ramachandra Rao was appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on 29 June 2012. On the bifurcation of the State of Andhra Pradesh he opted for Telangana as his parent High Court. He is functioning on transfer as a judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana since 12 October 2021. He is the senior-most among puisne judges originating from the High Court for the State of Telangana. The State of Telangana has no representation among Chief Justices of the High Courts. Justice M S Ramachandra Rao has acquired experience of dispensing justice in two High Courts. Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that he is suitable in all respects for being appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, consultation has been held with the consultee-Judge/s with a view to ascertain the suitability of Mr Justice M S Ramachandra Rao for appointment as Chief Justice of the

High Court of Himachal Pradesh. The consultee-Judge/s have concurred with the proposed appointment.

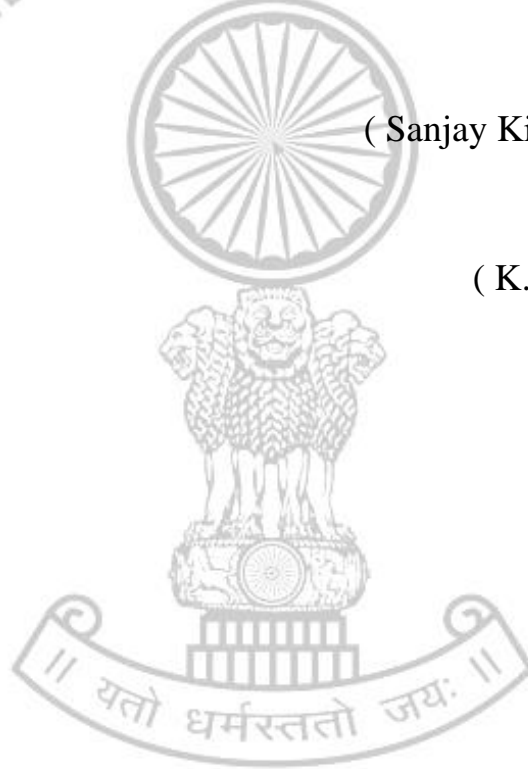
In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Mr Justice M S Ramachandra Rao be appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J.

(K.M. Joseph), J.

19 April 2023.



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The office of the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court has fallen vacant recently, consequent upon the elevation of Mr. Justice Pankaj Mithal to the Supreme Court. Therefore, appointment to that office is required to be made.

Mr Justice Augustine George Masih was appointed as a Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court on 10 July 2008. He has acquired experience of dispensing justice in a High Court having jurisdiction over two States. He is the seniormost puisne Judge in his parent High Court which presently has no representation among the Chief Justices of the High Courts. Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that he is suitable in all respects for being appointed as Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, consultation has been held with the consultee-Judge/s with a view to ascertain the suitability of Mr Justice Augustine George Masih for appointment as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court. The consultee-Judge/s have concurred with the proposed appointment.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Mr. Justice Augustine George Masih be appointed as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J.

(K.M. Joseph), J.

19 April 2023.



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The office of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala is going to fall vacant very shortly, consequent upon the retirement of Mr. Justice S Manikumar. Therefore, an appointment to that office has to be made.

Mr Justice S V Bhatti is the senior-most Judge from the High Court of Andhra Pradesh and is presently functioning, on transfer as the senior-most judge of the Kerala High Court. His experience as a senior puisne Judge in two High Courts would be useful for him in dispensing justice as Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala. Presently, there is no judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh is serving as Chief Justice. Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that Mr Justice S V Bhatti is fit and suitable in all respects to be appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, consultation has been held with the consultee-Judge/s with a view to ascertain the suitability of

Mr Justice S V Bhatti for appointment as Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala. The consultee-Judge/s have concurred with the proposed appointment of Mr Justice S V Bhatti.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Mr Justice S V Bhatti be appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J.

(K.M. Joseph), J.

19 April 2023.

