



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Shri Arun Kumar Rai, Judicial Officer, for appointment as a Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand in the following terms:

On 13 September 2023, the then Chief Justice of the High Court of Jharkhand made the above recommendation in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues. The Chief Minister and the Governor of the State of Jharkhand concurred with the recommendation.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the sole consultee-Judge in the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Jharkhand was consulted to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the candidate.

For the purpose of assessing the merit and suitability of Shri Arun Kumar Rai for elevation to the High Court, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. We have also perused the observations made by the Department of Justice in the file.

Shri Arun Kumar Rai joined the judicial service on 5 May 2012 and has served as a judicial officer in various capacities in the State of



Jharkhand. Prior to joining the service, he practiced at the Bar for more than 15 years in Delhi at the trial courts as well as the High Court on criminal and civil side. Our sole consultee-colleague has opined that the officer is suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court. The Judgment Evaluation Committee constituted by the Chief Justice of the High Court has rated the quality of judgments authored by him as “Good”. He has consistently been rated as a “Very Good” officer in his ACRs throughout his entire career. The inputs provided by the Department of Justice in the file indicate that he enjoys a good personal and professional image and that nothing adverse came to notice against his integrity.

Bearing in mind the above, the Collegium is of the considered view that Shri Arun Kumar Rai is suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand.

While considering the above proposal, we have also taken note of the fact that the above proposal involves non-recommendation of two senior judicial officers. Cogent reasons have been recorded by the Collegium of the High Court for not recommending their names. We are, therefore, in agreement with the High Court Collegium for overlooking them.



In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Shri Arun Kumar Rai, Judicial Officer be appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

18 January 2024.



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Shri Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, Additional Judge, for appointment as a permanent Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand.

On 10 November 2023, the Collegium of the High Court of Jharkhand unanimously recommended the name of Shri Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava for appointment as a permanent Judge of that High Court.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, we have consulted a Judge of the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Jharkhand with a view to ascertain the suitability of Shri Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava for being appointed as a permanent Judge.

A Committee of two Judges of the Supreme Court constituted by the Chief Justice of India in terms of the Resolution dated 26 October 2017 of the Supreme Court Collegium has assessed the judgments of Shri Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava.

With a view to assess the merit and suitability of Shri Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava for appointment as a permanent Judge, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. Having taken into consideration all aspects of the matter, the Collegium is of the



view that Shri Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, Additional Judge, is fit and suitable for being appointed as a permanent Judge.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Shri Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, Additional Judge, be appointed as a permanent Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand against one of the existing vacancies.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

18 January 2024



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Smt Justice Shoba Annamma Eapen, Additional Judge, for appointment as a permanent Judge of the High Court of Kerala in the following terms:

On 27 September 2023, the Collegium of the High Court of Kerala unanimously recommended the name of Smt Justice Shoba Annamma Eapen for appointment as a permanent Judge of that High Court.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, we have consulted the Judges of the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Kerala with a view to ascertain the suitability of Smt Justice Shoba Annamma Eapen for being appointed as a permanent Judge.

A Committee of two Judges of the Supreme Court constituted by the Chief Justice of India in terms of the Resolution dated 26 October 2017 of the Supreme Court Collegium has assessed the judgments of Smt Justice Shoba Annamma Eapen. The Committee has rated the quality of her judgments as "Very Good".

With a view to assess the merit and suitability of Smt Justice Shoba Annamma Eapen for appointment as a permanent Judge, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. Having taken into consideration all aspects of the matter, the Collegium is of the



view that Smt Justice Shoba Annamma Eapen, Additional Judge, is fit and suitable for being appointed as permanent Judge.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Smt Justice Shoba Annamma Eapen, Additional Judge, be appointed as a permanent Judge of the High Court of Kerala against one of the existing vacancies.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

18 January 2024



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the names of two Additional Judges for appointment as Permanent Judges and for appointment of an Additional Judge for a fresh term of one year, in the High Court at Calcutta, in the following terms:

On 14 March 2023, the Collegium of the High Court at Calcutta unanimously recommended the Additional Judges whose names are set out above for appointment as permanent Judges of that High Court. The Chief Minister and the Governor of the State of West Bengal have conveyed their agreement with the above recommendation.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Judges of the Supreme Court who are conversant with the functioning of the High Court at Calcutta were consulted with a view to ascertain the suitability of the above Additional Judges for appointment as permanent Judges.

On 12 July 2023, the Supreme Court Collegium *inter alia* deferred consideration of the above proposal in the following terms:

“Having considered all aspects of the matter and on an overall consideration of the above proposal, the Collegium resolves to recommend that:

...the proposal for appointment of Justices (a) Ms. Ananya Bandyopadhyay, (b) Smt Rai Chattopadhyay, and (c) Shri



Subhendu Samanta, Additional Judges, be deferred for being taken up for consideration at an appropriate stage.”

Fresh views of the consultee-Judges were sought on the above proposal.

The Committee of two Judges of the Supreme Court constituted by the Chief Justice of India in terms of the Resolution dated 26 October 2017 of the Supreme Court Collegium assessed the judgments of the above Additional Judges. On evaluation of their judgments, the Committee has reported that they are suitable for confirmation as permanent Judges.

With a view to assess the merit and suitability of the above Additional Judges for appointment as permanent Judges, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. Having considered all aspects of the matter and on an overall consideration of the above proposal, the Collegium is of the view that (i) Ms Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay, and (ii) Ms Justice Rai Chattopadhyay, are fit and suitable for being appointed as permanent Judges.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend as under:

- (i) Ms Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay and Ms Justice Rai Chattopadhyay be appointed as permanent Judges of the High Court at Calcutta, and



- (ii) Shri Justice Subhendu Samanta be appointed as an Additional Judge for a fresh term of one year with effect from 18 May 2024.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

18 January 2024.



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the names of three Additional Judges for appointment as Permanent Judges in the following terms:

- (i) Ms Justice Shampa Dutt (Paul),
- (ii) Shri Justice Raja Basu Chowdhury, and
- (iii) Ms Justice Lapita Banerji.

On 5 April 2023, the Collegium of the High Court at Calcutta unanimously recommended the Additional Judges whose names are set out above for appointment as permanent Judges of that High Court. The Chief Minister and the Governor of the State of West Bengal have conveyed their agreement with the above recommendation.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Judges of the Supreme Court who are conversant with the functioning of the High Court at Calcutta were consulted with a view to ascertain the suitability of the above Additional Judges for appointment as permanent Judges.

On 12 July 2023, the Supreme Court Collegium deferred consideration of the above proposal in the following terms:



“In view of the opinion of two of our consultee-colleagues and on an overall consideration of the proposal, the consideration of the above proposal is deferred for the present and would be taken up some time in October 2023”

Fresh views of the two consultee-Judges were sought on the above proposal.

The Committee of two Judges of the Supreme Court constituted by the Chief Justice of India in terms of the Resolution dated 26 October 2017 of the Supreme Court Collegium assessed the judgments of the above Additional Judges. On evaluation of their judgments, the Committee has reported that they are suitable for confirmation as permanent Judges.

With a view to assess the merit and suitability of the above Additional Judges for appointment as permanent Judges, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. Having considered all aspects of the matter and on an overall consideration of the above proposal, the Collegium resolves to recommend as under:

- (i) Ms Justice Shampa Dutt (Paul) and Shri Justice Raja Basu Chowdhury, Additional Judges, be appointed as permanent Judges of the High Court at Calcutta.



(ii) Ms Justice Lapita Banerjee, Additional Judge, High Court of Punjab and Haryana (PHC: Calcutta), be appointed as permanent Judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana against a vacancy of permanent Judge in the High Court at Calcutta.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

18 January 2024.