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SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Re: Appointment of Mr Justice Narendar G, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh (PHC: Karnataka) as Chief Justice of the High Court of Uttarakhand.

A vacancy in the office of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Uttarakhand would arise consequent upon the retirement of Ms Justice Ritu Bahri on 10 October 2024. Therefore, appointment to that office is required to be made.

Para 3 of the Memorandum of Procedure relating to appointment of Chief Justice of a High Court provides as under:

"A fair representation shall be given to various High Courts for selection of Chief Justices. For purposes of such selection, inter-se seniority of puisne Judges will be reckoned on the basis of their seniority in their own High Court. The consideration for appointment of Chief Justices shall be based on the criterion of seniority subject to merit and integrity."

The Collegium proposes to appoint Mr Justice Narendar G, presently serving as a Judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Uttarakhand with effect from the date on which the incumbent Chief Justice demits office on retirement.

Mr Justice Narendar G was appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Karnataka on 02 January 2015. He was transferred to the High Court

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of Andhra Pradesh on 30 October 2023 and has been functioning there since then. He is the senior-most Judge in his parent High Court and belongs to the Other Backward Class. Before his elevation as a Judge of the High Court, he practised before the High Court of Karnataka. He is an experienced Judge with considerable experience on the judicial and administrative sides of the High Courts of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

At present the High Court of Karnataka has no representation among the Chief Justices of the High Courts.

The Collegium is of the considered view that Mr Justice Narendar G is fit and suitable in all respects for being appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court of Uttarakhand.

The Collegium, therefore, resolves to recommend that Mr Justice Narendar G be appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Uttarakhand consequent upon the retirement of Ms Justice Ritu Bahri on 10 October 2024.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

24 September 2024.