



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Ms Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Additional Judge, for appointment as permanent Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in the following terms:

On 18 November 2023, the Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh made the above recommendation for appointment of Ms Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, as permanent Judge.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, we have consulted Judges of the Supreme Court who are conversant with the functioning of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh with a view to ascertain the fitness and suitability of Ms Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi for appointment as 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 Ms Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi. The Committee has rated the quality of her judgments as “good” and “reasonably well written”.



With a view to assess the merit and suitability of Ms Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi for appointment as permanent Judge, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record.

Having regard to all the relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that Ms Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Additional Judge, is suitable for appointment as permanent Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend Ms Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Additional Judge, be appointed as a permanent Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

4 January 2024



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Shri Justice Rahul Bharti, Additional Judge, for appointment as permanent Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in the following terms:

On 21 August 2023, the Collegium of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh unanimously recommended the name of Shri Justice Rahul Bharti for appointment as permanent Judge of that High Court.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Judges of the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh were consulted with a view to ascertain the suitability of Shri Justice Rahul Bharti for being appointed as 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 Rahul Bharti. The Committee has rated the quality of his Judgments as “Good” and “fairly reasonable”.



With a view to assess the merit and suitability of Shri Justice Rahul Bharti for appointment as 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 Rahul Bharti, Additional Judge, is fit and suitable for being appointed as permanent Judge.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Shri Justice Rahul Bharti, Additional Judge, be appointed as permanent Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh against one of the existing vacancies.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

4 January 2024



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Shri Justice Abhay Ahuja, Additional Judge, for appointment as permanent Judge of the High Court of Bombay in the following terms:

On 4 September 2023, the Collegium of the High Court of Bombay unanimously recommended the name of Shri Justice Abhay Ahuja for appointment as permanent Judge of that High Court.

The Chief Ministers and the Governors of the States of Maharashtra and Goa have concurred with the above recommendation.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, we have consulted Judges of the Supreme Court who are conversant with the functioning of the High Court of Bombay with a view to ascertain the fitness and suitability of Shri Justice Abhay Ahuja for appointment as permanent Judge.

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 has assessed the judgments of Shri Justice Abhay Ahuja. The Committee has reported that his judgments are up to the mark.



With a view to assess the merit and suitability of Shri Justice Abhay Ahuja for appointment as permanent Judge, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record, including the opinion of our consultee-colleagues.

Having considered all aspects of the matter and on an overall consideration of the above proposal including the opinion of our consultee-colleagues regarding his suitability, the Collegium is of the considered view that Shri Justice Abhay Ahuja is fit and suitable for being appointed as permanent Judge of the High Court.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Shri Justice Abhay Ahuja, Additional Judge, be appointed as permanent Judge of the High Court of Bombay

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

4 January 2024



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the names of (i) Ms Shamima Jahan, Advocate and (ii) Ms Yarenjungla Longkumer, Judicial Officer, for appointment as Judges of the Gauhati High Court in the following terms:

The recommendation for appointment of the above two candidates as Judges of the Gauhati High Court was made by the Collegium of the High Court on 29 May 2023.

On 17 October 2023, the Supreme Court Collegium scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. Further consideration of the recommendation was deferred with a view to seek a report from the Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court in consultation with members of the High Court Collegium on the suitability of the candidates, in light of the inputs provided by the Government.

The Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court by letters dated 19 October 2023 and 7 November 2023 forwarded the minutes of the Collegium regarding suitability of the above mentioned candidates.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Judges of the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the Gauhati High Court were consulted to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the two candidates.



Having regard to the above and the opinion of our consultee-colleagues and on an overall consideration of the recommendation made by the Collegium of the High Court, the Collegium is of the considered view that (i) Ms Shamima Jahan, Advocate and (ii) Ms Yarenjungla Longkumer, Judicial Officer, are suitable for appointment as Judges of the Gauhati High Court.

The Collegium, therefore, resolves to recommend that (i) Ms Shamima Jahan, Advocate and (ii) Ms Yarenjungla Longkumer, Judicial Officer, be appointed as Judges of the Gauhati High Court. Their inter se seniority be fixed in terms of the existing practice.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

04 January 2024.



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Shri Rohit Kapoor, Advocate, for appointment as Judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana in the following terms:

The recommendation for appointment of the above candidate as Judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana was made by the Collegium of the High Court on 21 April 2023.

On 17 October 2023, the Supreme Court Collegium scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record.

Further consideration of the recommendation was deferred with a view to seek a report from the Chief Justice of the High Court of the Punjab and Haryana in consultation with members of the High Court Collegium on the suitability of the candidate in light of the inputs placed before us.

The Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana by a letter dated 28 November 2023 forwarded the minutes of the Collegium dated 23 November 2023 regarding suitability of the candidate.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Judges of the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Punjab and



Haryana were consulted in order to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the candidate.

The Chief Minister and the Governor for the States of Punjab and Haryana have conveyed their concurrence to the above recommendation.

We have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record, including the report of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana forwarding the recommendation of the Collegium dated 23 November 2023, based on the response / compilation of statistics submitted by Shri Rohit Kapoor relating to his performance as arguing counsel. The enquiries made by us with reliable sources to ascertain suitability of the candidate reveal that Shri Rohit Kapoor is a competent advocate suitable for elevation to the High Court. The Collegium, therefore, is of the considered view that Shri Rohit Kapoor is fit and suitable for appointment as Judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Shri Rohit Kapoor, Advocate, be appointed as Judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

The Collegium further resolves to recommend that two Advocates namely S/Shri (i) Harmeet Singh Grewal and (ii) Deepinder Singh Nalwa, whose names have been approved by this Collegium earlier in



point of time i.e. on 17 October 2023, be given precedence in the matter of appointment over Shri Rohit Kapoor. The inter se seniority of all the three Advocates be fixed as per the existing practice.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

4 January 2024



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Shri Arvind Kumar Verma, Judicial Officer, for appointment as Judge of the High Court of Chhattisgarh in the following terms:

On 6 August 2023, the Chief Justice of the High Court of Chhattisgarh in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues made the above recommendation. The Chief Minister and the Governor of the State of Chhattisgarh have concurred with the recommendation.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, a Judge of the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Chhattisgarh was consulted to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the candidate.

For the purpose of assessing the merit and suitability of Shri Arvind Kumar Verma for elevation to the High Court, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record.

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 “Very Good”.

Bearing in mind the views of the consultee-Judge on the suitability of the candidate, the report of the Judgment Assessment Committee and the assessment made by the Government of India in the file, the Collegium is of



the considered view that the officer is suitable for appointment as a judge of the High Court of Chhattisgarh.

While considering the above proposal, we have also taken note of the fact that the above proposal involves non-recommendation of some 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 Arvind Kumar Verma, Judicial Officer, be appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Chhattisgarh.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

04 January 2024



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Smt. Chaitali Chatterjee (Das), Judicial Officer, for appointment as Judge of the High Court at Calcutta in the following terms:

On 26 September 2023, the Chief Justice of the High Court at Calcutta made the above recommendation in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues.

The Chief Minister and the Governor for the State of West Bengal have not conveyed their views on the above recommendation. The Department of Justice has forwarded the above recommendation by invoking para 14 of the Memorandum of Procedure which provides that if the comments of the constitutional authorities in the State are not received within the prescribed time-frame, it should be presumed by the Minister of Law and Justice that the Governor and the Chief Minister have nothing to add to the proposal and proceed accordingly.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Judges of the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court at Calcutta were consulted to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the candidate.

For the purpose of assessing the merit and suitability of Smt Chaitali Chatterjee (Das) for elevation to the High Court, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record.



All the three consultee Judges have unanimously and emphatically opined that the candidate is suitable for being appointed as a High Court Judge.

We have duly considered the inputs provided by the Government. The professional competence of the officer is reported to be good.

The candidate joined judicial service in 2009. Prior to that, after enrolment at the Bar in 1993 she practiced at the High Court and City Civil Court for about 16 years and thus has extensive experience at the Bar and the Bench. She has held various positions as judicial officer at sensitive postings in the State and is presently posted as Registrar General of the High Court at Calcutta. The Judgment Evaluation Committee constituted by the Chief Justice of the High Court has rated the quality of judgments authored by her as very good by awarding 70 marks.

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

Having regard to the positive opinion of the consultee-judges and on an overall assessment of the proposal, the Collegium is of the considered view that Ms. Chaitali Chatterjee (Das) is suitable for being appointed as Judge of the High Court at Calcutta.



In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Ms Chaitali Chatterjee (Das), Judicial Officer, be appointed as judge of the High Court at Calcutta.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

4 January 2024