

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

This file relates to the proposal for appointment of following fifteen Judicial Officers as Judges of the Allahabad High Court:

1. Shri Ali Zamin,
2. Shri Ram Krishna Gautam,
3. Shri Umesh Kumar,
4. Shri Chandra Has Ram,
5. Shri Pradeep Kumar Srivastava,
6. Shri Anil Kumar-IX,
7. Shri Rajendra Kumar-IV,
8. Shri Mohd. Faiz Alam Khan,
9. Shri Vikas Kunvar Srivastava,
10. Shri Virendra Kumar Srivastava,
11. Shri Suresh Kumar Gupta,
12. Sushri Ghandikota Sree Devi,
13. Shri Narendra Kumar Johari,
14. Shri Raj Beer Singh, and
15. Shri Ajit Singh.

The above recommendation was made by the then Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court on 19th April, 2018, in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues.

We have perused the views of the Chief Minister and the Governor for the State of Uttar Pradesh placed in the file and the observations made therein.

In order to ascertain suitability of the above-named recommendees for elevation to the High Court, in terms of the Memorandum of Procedure relating to appointment of High Court Judges, we have consulted our colleagues conversant with the affairs of the Allahabad High Court.

Copies of letters of opinion of our consultee-colleagues received in this regard are placed below.

For purpose of assessing merit and suitability of the above-named recommendees for elevation to the High Court, we have carefully scrutinized the material placed on record, including certain complaints against some of the recommendees and the observations made by the Department of Justice in the file. Apart from this, we invited all the recommendees with a view to have an interaction with them. On the basis of interaction and having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that S/Shri (1) Ram Krishna Gautam, (2) Umesh Kumar, (3) Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, (4) Anil Kumar-IX, (5) Rajendra Kumar-IV, (6) Mohd. Faiz Alam Khan, (7) Vikas Kunvar Srivastava, (8) Virendra Kumar Srivastava, (9) Suresh Kumar Gupta, (10) Sushri Ghandikota Sree Devi, (11) Narendra Kumar Johari, (12) Raj Beer Singh, and (13) Ajit Singh (mentioned at Sl.Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 above) are suitable for being appointed as Judges of the Allahabad High Court.

As regards Shri Ali Zamin (mentioned at Sl.No. 1 above), the Collegium is of the view that his case deserves to be deferred for the present. The proposal for his elevation would be taken up for consideration by the Collegium after some time after receipt of certain inputs from the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court to be sought by the Chief Justice of India.

As regards Shri Chandra Has Ram (mentioned at Sl.No. 4 above), having regard to the material on record and all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that his case deserves to be remitted to the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.

We have also taken note of the fact that the above proposal involves non-recommendation of some senior Judicial Officers. In this regard, we have gone through Minutes dated 19th April, 2018 of the High Court Collegium, which has duly recorded reasons for not recommending names of these Judicial Officers. We are in agreement with the

justification given by the High Court Collegium in its Minutes dated 19th April, 2018 for not recommending these senior Judicial Officers.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that S/Shri (1) Ram Krishna Gautam, (2) Umesh Kumar, (3) Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, (4) Anil Kumar-IX, (5) Rajendra Kumar-IV, (6) Mohd. Faiz Alam Khan, (7) Vikas Kunvar Srivastava, (8) Virendra Kumar Srivastava, (9) Suresh Kumar Gupta, (10) Sushri Ghandikota Sree Devi, (11) Narendra Kumar Johari, (12) Raj Beer Singh, and (13) Ajit Singh, Judicial Officers be appointed as Judges of the Allahabad High Court. Their *inter se* seniority be fixed as per the existing practice.

(Ranjan Gogoi), C.J.I.

(Madan B. Lokur), J.

(Kurian Joseph), J.

October 31, 2018.

