

## **SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

This file relates to the proposal for appointment of eleven Advocates, whose names are mentioned below, as Judges of the Punjab & Haryana High Court:

1. Ms. Manjari Nehru Kaul
2. Shri Sukant Gupta
3. Shri Harsimran Singh Sethi
4. Shri Arun Kumar Monga
5. Shri Sanjay Vashisth
6. Shri Jasdeep Singh Gill
7. Shri Manoj Bajaj
8. Shri Mansur Ali
9. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh Panwar
10. Shri Deepinder Singh Nalwa
11. Shri Harsh Bungler

The above recommendation was made by the then Chief Justice of the Punjab & Haryana High Court on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2017, in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues.

We have perused the letters of opinion of Chief Ministers and the Governors for the States of Punjab & Haryana placed in the file.

In order to ascertain suitability of the above-named recommendees for elevation to the High Court, we have consulted our colleagues who are conversant with the affairs of the Punjab & Haryana High Court. Copies of letters of opinion of our consultee-colleagues 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 in the file including the observations made by the Department of Justice therein. On the basis of material on record and having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that (1) Ms. Manjari Nehru Kaul, S/Shri (2) Harsimran Singh Sethi, (3) Arun Kumar Monga, and (4) Manoj Bajaj, Advocates (mentioned at Sl. Nos. 1, 3, 4 and 7 above) are suitable for being appointed as Judges of the Punjab & Haryana High Court.

As regards S/Shri Sukant Gupta, Sanjay Vashisth, Jasdeep Singh Gill, Mansur Ali, Sunil Kumar Singh Panwar, Deepinder Singh Nalwa, and Harsh Bunger (mentioned at Sl. Nos. 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 11 above), having regard to the material on record and all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that consideration of their cases be deferred. The proposal in respect of S/Shri, Deepinder Singh Nalwa, and Harsh Bunger, Advocates would be taken up for consideration by the Collegium after some time.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that (1) Ms. Manjari Nehru Kaul, S/Shri (2) Harsimran Singh Sethi, (3) Arun Kumar Monga, and (4) Manoj Bajaj, Advocates be appointed as Judges of the Punjab & Haryana High Court. Their *inter se* seniority be fixed as per the existing practice.

( Dipak Misra ), C.J.I.

( Ranjan Gogoi ), J.

( Madan B Lokur ), J.

September 04, 2018.

