

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

This file relates to the proposal for appointment of following five Advocates, as Judges of the Jharkhand High Court:

1. Shri Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi,
2. Shri Bhawesh Kumar,
3. Shri Deepak Roshan,
4. Smt. Sadhna Kumar, and
5. Shri Sudhir Kumar Sharma.

The above recommendation made on 8th May, 2017 by the then Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues, was considered by the Supreme Court Collegium on 8th August, 2018 and it was decided to defer the proposal.

In order to ascertain suitability of the above-named recommendees for elevation to the High Court, we have consulted our colleague conversant with the affair of the Jharkhand High Court. A copy of letter of opinion of our consultee-colleague received in this regard is placed below.

In view of the observations made in the file, the Supreme Court Collegium felt it necessary to seek views of the Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court on the recommendations made by the High Court Collegium headed by his predecessor-in-office. The Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court vide letter dated 10th November, 2018 has conveyed his comments as to the suitability of the above-named recommendees. A copy of the aforesaid letter of the Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court is 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 on record as well as the observations made by the Department of Justice in the file. Having regard to all relevant factors the Collegium is of the considered view that S/Shri (1) Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi, and (2) Deepak Roshan, Advocates, (mentioned at Sl.Nos. 1 & 3 above) are suitable for being appointed as Judges of the Jharkhand High Court.

As regards S/Shri (1) Bhawesh Kumar, (2) Smt. Sadhna Kumar, and (3) Sudhir Kumar Sharma, Advocates, (mentioned at Sl. Nos. 2, 4 & 5 above) the Collegium is of the considered view that proposal for their elevation deserves to be remitted to the Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that S/Shri (1) Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi, and (2) Deepak Roshan, Advocates, be appointed as Judges of the Jharkhand High Court. Their *inter se* seniority be fixed as per the existing practice.

(Ranjan Gogoi), C.J.I.

(Madan B. Lokur), J.

(A.K. Sikri), J.

December 04, 2018.