## SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

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

- 1. Shri Sunil Kumar Mandal,
- 2. Shri Anand Kumar Ojha,
- 3. Shri Mohd. Nadim Seraj,
- 4. Smt. Nivedita Nirvikar

The above recommendation made by the then Chief Justice of the Patna High Court on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues, has the concurrence of the State Government of Bihar.

In order to ascertain suitability of the above-named recommendees for elevation to the High Court, we have consulted our colleague conversant with the affairs of the Patna High Court. Copy of letter of opinion of our consultee-colleague received in this regard 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 placed in the file including the observations made by the Department of Justice therein. Apart from this, we invited all the above-named 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 the above proposal deserves to be remitted to the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court. The Collegium recommends accordingly.

(Ranjan Gogoi), C.J.I.

(Madan B. Lokur), J.

(Kurian Joseph), J.

October 24, 2018.