SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Re: Appointment of Chief Justice in Himachal Pradesh High Court.

Office of the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court has been lying vacant consequent upon retirement of Mr. Justice M.A. Mir, Chief Justice of that High Court on 24th April, 2017. Therefore, appointment to that office is required to be made.

Mr. Justice Surya Kant is the senior puisne Judge from Punjab & Haryana High Court and is serving in that High Court since his elevation on 9th January, 2004. Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium finds Mr. Justice Surya Kant suitable in all respects for being appointed as Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court. The Collegium resolves to recommend accordingly.

It is deemed necessary to add here that while making the above recommendation, we have also considered the name of Mr. Justice A.K. Mittal, who hails from the same High Court as does Mr. Justice Surya Kant. Though Mr. Justice A.K. Mittal is senior to Mr. Justice Surya Kant in the seniority of Judges of the Punjab & Haryana High Court, having regard to all relevant factors and since we consider Mr. Justice Surya Kant more suitable than Mr. Justice A.K. Mittal, we are not recommending name of the latter, for the present, for appointment as Chief Justice.

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(Dipak Misra), C.J.I.

(J. Chelameswar), J.

(Ranjan Gogoi), J.

New Delhi, January 10, 2018.