MODALITIES FOR SENDING PROPOSALS FOR NOMINATION OF RESOURCE PERSONS FOR THE TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS AT THE REGIONAL JUDICIAL ACADEMIES

The District Judges-cum-In Charge of the Regional Judicial Academies (in short RJAs) as well as the District Judges of the cluster districts coming under the respective RJAs are hereby impressed upon to abide by the following modalities, which shall be in addition to the instructions issued earlier on that score and not in lieu thereof, while sending proposals for nomination of resource persons for the refresher training programmes meant for judicial officers to be organised at the RJAs;

a. the proposal for nomination of in-service judicial officers as resource persons shall be sent to the Director OJA well in advance, so that the same can be forwarded to the Hon'ble High Court without any delay for timely nomination of the in-service officers as resource persons;

b. organizing successful and meaningful training programmes at the RJAs not being the sole responsibility of the District Judges of the districts where the RJAs function, the District Judges of the other cluster districts under the concerned RJAs shall fully cooperate even in the matters of selection of names of officers to act as resource persons;

c. in addition to the services of in service judicial officers, services of judicial officers retired in the cadre of District Judge and residing at the station where a RJA situates or in the nearby stations (within 50 km radius of the RJA), as well as that of eminent professors/academicians (taking in to consideration the subject/topic of the training programme) residing in the nearby vicinity of the RJA (within 50 km radius of the RJA), may be availed as resource persons;

d. while considering recommendation of names of in-service officers, senior and experienced judicial officers of the cadre of District Judge shall always be preferred, and the District Judge-cum-In Charge of a

RJA, i.e. the District Judge of the district where the RJA situates, shall recommend his/her own name at least once in every quarter for taking at least one class in any of the training programmes for judicial officers to be organized at the concerned RJA;

e. an officer of the cadre of Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) shall be considered for recommendation, only if he/she has completed at least five years of service in the said cadre, and if no other senior and experienced officer is available, or though available is unable to take up the assignment for any justifiable reason;

f. under no circumstances name of an officer of the same cadre as like the nominated participants/trainees shall be recommended;

g. because of issues relating to distance and travelling time, ordinarily names of the in-service officers of the following judgeships shall not be recommended for nomination as resource persons at the RJAs mentioned against them;

   i. Judgeship of Keonjhar for RJA, Angul,
   ii. Judgeship of Kalahandi for RJA, Koraput at Jeypore,
   iii. Judgeship of Nuapada for RJA, Sambalpur, and
   iv. Judgeship of Kandhamal for RJA, Ganjam at Berhampur.

In addition to the above, even the officers of other cluster districts, who are stationed at places that situate at a distance of more than 130 kilometers from the location where the concerned RJA situates, shall ordinarily not be recommended for nomination as resource persons at the RJAs. To clarify with an example, even though the district of Sundargarh is not excluded vide the above list, yet officers stationed at Rourkela, which situates at a distance of around 180 Kms from Sambalpur, shall under normal circumstances not be proposed/recommended for being nominated as resource persons at RJA, Sambalpur. However, if the circumstances so demand then proposal for availing services of any such experienced officer of a far of district or station as aforesaid may be sent, but in such a case, the officer concerned shall impart

training as a resource person from his/her station itself by video conferencing mode;

h. in-service eligible officers of the following judgeships shall be considered for the purpose, only if no such senior eligible officer of the 'other cluster districts' of the concerned RJA is available, or though available is unable to take up the assignment for any justifiable reason;

   i. Deogarh for RJA, Angul,

   ii. Rayagada for RJA Koraput at Jeypore,

   iii. Bolangir for RJA, Sambalpur, and

   iv. Nayagarh for RJA, Ganjam at Berhampur.

It is clarified that the term 'other cluster districts' mentioned herein above shall not include the districts which have been expressly excluded vide point no. (g) herein before. For example, for RJA, Angul, the aforesaid term 'other cluster districts' shall include Angul and Dhenkanal only and not Keonjhar;

i. the District Judge of the cluster district, where the officer whose name is intended to be proposed is posted, shall be consulted by the District Judge-cum-In Charge, RJA, before making the proposal, and refusal (with or without reasons), if any, by the concerned District Judge shall be brought to the notice of the Director, OJA;

j. care shall be taken by the District Judge-cum-In Charge, RJAs as well as the District Judges of the cluster districts to see that the proposal for nomination of the eligible in-service officers is given by adopting a systematic rotation policy, so that any particular officer or officers is/are not overburdened;

k. in order to enable the officers, whose names have been sponsored for nomination as resource persons, to prepare themselves for the training sessions, the District Judges of the cluster districts shall intimate the officers concerned working under their administrative control, about the proposal of their/his/her nomination and about the subject/topic in which they/he/she shall be deliberating upon, soon after recommending their

names without waiting for their actual nomination by the Hon'ble Court; and

l. if for any special reason the District Judge-cum-In Charge of any of the RJAs is of the opinion that a recommendation or proposal, which is not in conformity with the aforesaid modalities, should be made in the interest of any particular training programme or the trainees thereof, then he may do so after prior consultation (in writing or over phone) with the Director, OJA.

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EXTRACT OF THE OBSERVATIONS MADE BY THE HON'BLE JUDICIAL ACADEMY & TRAINING COMMITTEE.

The Committee expresses its displeasure and concern on the following state of affairs at the Regional Judicial Academies of the State;

a. *that the senior officers of the cadre of District Judge of the cluster districts coming under different RJAs are as often as not showing reluctance in attending such training programmes as resource persons;*
b. *that the District Judges of many of the cluster districts are, on being asked by the District Judges-cum-In Charge of the concerned RJAs, refusing to propose name of any such senior officer on the ground that none of them is ready and willing to act as resource persons;*
c. *that on many occasions names of fairly inexperienced officers of the cadre of Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) and even Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) are being proposed by the District Judge-cum-In Charge of the concerned RJAs; and*
d. *that names of officers of far-off districts or stations, as the case may be, are being sponsored, who are required to travel a long distance only for taking one class, without assigning any reason as to why names of senior officers of the judgeships, where the RJAs function, or the nearby cluster districts have not been so sponsored instead.*

The committee is of the firm view that it is the pious duty and obligation of the senior officers of the cadre of District Judge, to share their knowledge, wisdom and experience with the young judicial officers, during the training programmes for judicial officers at the RJAs, which shall be of immense help in preparing the young officers to face all kinds of challenges and shall in turn strengthen the justice delivery system as a whole.