



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the names of the following Judicial Officers for appointment as Judges of the High Court of Delhi:

1. Ms Shalinder Kaur, and
2. Shri Ravinder Dudeja.

On 30 May 2023, the Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues recommended the elevation of the above judicial officers as judges of that High Court.

In order to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the above-named persons for elevation to the High Court, we have consulted our colleagues conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Delhi.

For the purpose of assessing the merit and suitability of the above-named candidates for elevation to the High Court, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record including the observations made by the Department of Justice in the file.

1. Ms Shalinder Kaur

The Judgment Evaluation Committee has given an 'A' rating to the judgments of the officer. Both the consultee-judges have indicated that the officer possesses merit and ability. The assessment made by the



Government in the file does not indicate anything adverse to the integrity or the reputation of the officer. There is a need to ensure greater representation to women on the Bench to promote diversity and inclusion. The collegium is conscious of the fact that the officer has recently retired from the Delhi Higher Judicial Service on 30 September 2023. Despite this, having regard to the fact that the officer has a proven track record and possesses both merit and integrity, the Collegium is of the considered view that she is suitable for appointment as a judge of the High Court of Delhi.

2. Shri Ravinder Dudeja

The Judgment Evaluation Committee has given an 'A' rating to the judgments of the officer. Both the consultee-judges have indicated that the officer has merit and ability. The assessment made by the Government in the file does not contain any observation adverse to the integrity or reputation of the officer. Considering the long experience of the officer in judicial service, merit and integrity, the Collegium is of the considered view that the officer is suitable for appointment as a judge of the High Court of Delhi.

While considering the above proposals, we have also taken note of the fact that the above proposal involves non-recommendation of a senior judicial officer. Cogent reasons have been recorded by the Collegium of the High Court for not recommending his name. We are, therefore, in agreement with the Collegium of the High Court for not recommending his name.



In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that (1) Ms Shalinder Kaur and (2) Shri Ravinder Dudeja, Judicial Officers, be appointed as judges of the High Court of Delhi. Their *inter se* seniority be fixed as per the existing practice.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

10 October 2023