



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the name of Shri Arun Kumar Rai, Judicial Officer, for appointment as a Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand in the following terms:

On 13 September 2023, the then Chief Justice of the High Court of Jharkhand made the above recommendation in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues. The Chief Minister and the Governor of the State of Jharkhand concurred with the recommendation.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the sole consultee-Judge in the Supreme Court conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Jharkhand was consulted to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the candidate.

For the purpose of assessing the merit and suitability of Shri Arun Kumar Rai for elevation to the High Court, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. We have also perused the observations made by the Department of Justice in the file.

Shri Arun Kumar Rai joined the judicial service on 5 May 2012 and has served as a judicial officer in various capacities in the State of



Jharkhand. Prior to joining the service, he practiced at the Bar for more than 15 years in Delhi at the trial courts as well as the High Court on criminal and civil side. Our sole consultee-colleague has opined that the officer is suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court. The Judgment Evaluation Committee constituted by the Chief Justice of the High Court has rated the quality of judgments authored by him as “Good”. He has consistently been rated as a “Very Good” officer in his ACRs throughout his entire career. The inputs provided by the Department of Justice in the file indicate that he enjoys a good personal and professional image and that nothing adverse came to notice against his integrity.

Bearing in mind the above, the Collegium is of the considered view that Shri Arun Kumar Rai is suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand.

While considering the above proposal, we have also taken note of the fact that the above proposal involves non-recommendation of two senior judicial officers. Cogent reasons have been recorded by the Collegium of the High Court for not recommending their names. We are, therefore, in agreement with the High Court Collegium for overlooking them.



In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Shri Arun Kumar Rai, Judicial Officer be appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

18 January 2024.