



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the names of three Additional Judges for appointment as Permanent Judges in the following terms:

- (i) Ms Justice Shampa Dutt (Paul),
- (ii) Shri Justice Raja Basu Chowdhury, and
- (iii) Ms Justice Lapita Banerji.

On 5 April 2023, the Collegium of the High Court at Calcutta unanimously recommended the Additional Judges whose names are set out above for appointment as permanent Judges of that High Court. The Chief Minister and the Governor of the State of West Bengal have conveyed their agreement with the above recommendation.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, the Judges of the Supreme Court who are conversant with the functioning of the High Court at Calcutta were consulted with a view to ascertain the suitability of the above Additional Judges for appointment as permanent Judges.

On 12 July 2023, the Supreme Court Collegium deferred consideration of the above proposal in the following terms:



“In view of the opinion of two of our consultee-colleagues and on an overall consideration of the proposal, the consideration of the above proposal is deferred for the present and would be taken up some time in October 2023”

Fresh views of the two consultee-Judges were sought on the above proposal.

The Committee of two Judges of the Supreme Court constituted by the Chief Justice of India in terms of the Resolution dated 26 October 2017 of the Supreme Court Collegium assessed the judgments of the above Additional Judges. On evaluation of their judgments, the Committee has reported that they are suitable for confirmation as permanent Judges.

With a view to assess the merit and suitability of the above Additional Judges for appointment as permanent Judges, we have scrutinized and evaluated the material placed on record. Having considered all aspects of the matter and on an overall consideration of the above proposal, the Collegium resolves to recommend as under:

- (i) Ms Justice Shampa Dutt (Paul) and Shri Justice Raja Basu Chowdhury, Additional Judges, be appointed as permanent Judges of the High Court at Calcutta.



(ii) Ms Justice Lapita Banerjee, Additional Judge, High Court of Punjab and Haryana (PHC: Calcutta), be appointed as permanent Judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana against a vacancy of permanent Judge in the High Court at Calcutta.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

(B R Gavai), J

18 January 2024.