

**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

This relates to the proposal for appointment of Shri Sandipan Ganguly, Advocate and Shri Manojit Mondal as Judges of the Calcutta High Court.

The Collegium of the Calcutta High Court on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 had recommended names of two Advocates, including Shri Sandipan Ganguly, and four Judicial Officers, including Shri Manojit Mondal, for elevation to the High Court Bench. While the proposal in respect of Shri Sandipan Ganguly, Advocate and three Judicial Officers was approved by the Supreme Court Collegium on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, the proposal in respect of Shri Manojit Mondal was deferred. The proposal in respect of Shri Sandipan Ganguly was withheld and has been referred back by the Department of Justice to the Chief Justice of India for reconsideration in the light of the observations made in the file.

In order to ascertain suitability of the above-named recommendees for elevation to the High Court, we have consulted our colleagues conversant with the affairs of the Calcutta High Court. Copies of letters of their opinion in this regard are placed below.

As regards Shri Sandipan Ganguly, Advocate, we have carefully scrutinized the material placed on record including the reasons recorded in the file for seeking reconsideration of the proposal for elevation of Shri Sandipan Ganguly. Since the Collegium does not find any fresh material in the file referred back to it for reconsideration of the above proposal, the Collegium is of the considered view that Shri Sandipan Ganguly deserves to be elevated to the High Court Bench. The Collegium accordingly reiterates its recommendation dated 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 for appointment of Shri Sandipan Ganguly, Advocate as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

As regards Shri Manojit Mondal, Judicial Officer, for purpose of assessing merit and suitability of Shri Manojit Mondal for elevation to the High Court, we have carefully scrutinized the material on record as well as the observations made by the Department of Justice in the file. Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that Shri Manojit Mondal, Judicial Officer, is suitable for being appointed as Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Shri Sandipan Ganguly, Advocate and Shri Manojit Mondal, Judicial Officer be appointed as Judges of the Calcutta High Court. Their *inter se* seniority be fixed as per the existing practice.

( Ranjan Gogoi ), C.J.I.

( A.K. Sikri ), J.

( S.A. Bobde ), J.

January 16, 2019.

