



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the names of the following Advocates for appointment as Judges of the Gauhati High Court:

- (i) Shri N Unni Krishnan Nair, and
- (ii) Shri Kaushik Goswami.

On 29 May 2023, the Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues recommended the elevation of the above Advocates as Judges of that High Court.

We have duly taken note of the views received from the constitutional authorities of the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland.

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 Gauhati High Court.

For the purpose of assessing the merit and suitability of the above 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 as well as the complaints, received against some of the candidates.



(i) Shri N Unni Krishnan Nair

All the four consultee-Judges have unanimously given a positive opinion on suitability of the candidate for appointment as a Judge of the High Court. The inputs provided by the Department of Justice in the file indicate that his professional competence is viewed to be good. However, an adverse observation has been made by the Department of Justice in the file. In our considered view, this should not come in the way of the recommendation of the candidate, particularly when the Government in its assessment has fairly put on record a report that nothing adverse has come to notice against his integrity. Bearing in mind that the candidate has extensive practice which is reflected in his substantially high professional income and a large number of reported judgments delivered in cases in which he appeared/argued and other relevant facts and circumstances, the Collegium is of the considered view that the candidate is fit and suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court.

(ii) Shri Kaushik Goswami

All the four consultee-Judges have unanimously given positive opinion on suitability of the candidate for appointment as a Judge of the High Court. The inputs provided by the Department of Justice in the file indicate that his professional competence is viewed to be good and nothing adverse has come to notice against his integrity. Bearing in mind all the relevant facts and circumstances, the Collegium is of the



considered view that the candidate is fit and suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that S/Shri (i) N Unni Krishnan Nair, and (ii) Kaushik Goswami, Advocates, be appointed as Judges of the Gauhati High Court. Their *inter se* seniority be fixed as per the existing practice.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J

(Sanjiv Khanna), J

17 October 2023