



## **SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

Re: Appointment of Mr Justice Sheel Nagu, Judge, High Court of Madhya Pradesh as the Chief Justice of High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

A vacancy in the office of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana has arisen consequent upon the retirement of Mr Justice Ravi Shankar Jha. Therefore, an appointment to that office is required to be made.

Para 3 of the Memorandum of Procedure relating to the appointment of Chief Justice of a High Court provides as under:

“A fair representation shall be given to various High Courts for selection of Chief Justices. For purposes of such selection, inter-se seniority of puisne Judges will be reckoned on the basis of their seniority in their own High Court. The consideration for appointment of Chief Justices shall be based on the criterion of seniority subject to merit and integrity.”

The Collegium recommends the appointment of Mr Justice Sheel Nagu as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.



He was appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh on 27 May 2011 and has been functioning there since then. Before his elevation as a Judge of the High Court, he practised at the High Court of Madhya Pradesh in Constitutional, service, labour and criminal cases. As regards his contribution to the judiciary by way of disposal of cases, during his tenure of over 12 years as a Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, he has authored more than 499 reported judgments. He has acquired extensive experience in dispensing justice at the High Court. He is the seniormost puisne Judge in his parent High Court. He is considered to be a competent judge and possesses a high level of integrity and conduct required of a person holding high judicial office. While recommending his name, the Collegium is conscious of the fact that the High Court of Madhya Pradesh is already represented by a Chief Justice among the Chief Justices of the High Courts.



Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that Mr Justice Sheel Nagu is fit and suitable in all respects for being appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

In view of the above, the Collegium resolves to recommend that Mr Justice Sheel Nagu be appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

( Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud ), CJI

( Sanjiv Khanna ), J

( B R Gavai ), J

27 December 2023.