



SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

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

- (i) Shri Siddhartha Sah, and
- (ii) Shri Alok Mahra.

On 12 July 2023, the Chief Justice of the High Court of Uttarakhand in consultation with his two senior-most colleagues recommended the elevation of the above Advocates as Judges of that High Court.

We have considered the views of the Chief Minister and the Governor for the State of Uttarakhand on the above recommendation.

In order to ascertain the fitness and suitability of the above candidates for elevation to the High Court, we have consulted our colleague conversant with the affairs of the High Court of Uttarakhand.

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.



(i) Shri Siddhartha Sah

Our sole consultee-colleague has opined that the candidate has a wide range of work and good practice at the Bar and enjoys good standing inside as well as outside the Bar. The observation made by the Government should not come in the way of the recommendation particularly when the inputs placed in the file indicate that nothing adverse has come to notice against his integrity. The candidate has substantial practice at the Bar which is reflected in his professional income and the number of cases in which he appeared / argued. Having regard to all the relevant facts and circumstances, the Collegium is of the considered view that Shri Siddhartha Sah is fit and suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court.

(ii) Shri Alok Mahra

Our sole consultee-colleague has opined that the candidate has a wide range of work and good practice at the Bar and enjoys good standing inside as well as outside the Bar. The inputs placed by the Department of Justice in the file indicate that he enjoys a good personal and professional image and that nothing adverse has come to notice against his integrity. The candidate has extensive practice at the Bar which is reflected in his professional income and the large number of cases in which he appeared/ argued. As regards the observation made in the file on professional



competence of the candidate, it is for the judiciary to assess the same. Bearing in mind all the relevant facts and circumstances, the Collegium is of the considered view that Shri Alok Mahra 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) Siddhartha Sah, and (ii) Alok Mahra, Advocates, be appointed as Judges of the High Court of Uttarakhand. 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