



## **STATEMENT**

The Supreme Court Collegium in its meeting held on 06<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 deliberated on and discussed the names of Chief Justices and senior puisne Judges of the High Courts eligible for appointment to the Supreme Court.

After carefully evaluating merit, integrity and competence and also accommodating a plurality of considerations, the Collegium has recommended appointment of Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi, presently a Judge of the High Court at Calcutta, as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India.

Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi was appointed as a Judge of the High Court at Calcutta on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and transferred to the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021. He was repatriated to the High Court at Calcutta on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and has been functioning there since then. He has served as a Judge of the High Court for more than 13 years. During his long tenure as a Judge of the High Court, Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi has acquired significant experience in diverse fields of law.

After the retirement of Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013 as Chief Justice of India, there has not been any Chief Justice of India from the High Court at Calcutta. On the retirement of Mr. Justice K.V. Viswanathan on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2031, Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi would be in line to assume office as the Chief Justice of India till his retirement on 02<sup>nd</sup>



October 2031. Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi would have a tenure of more than six years before he assumes the office of the Chief Justice of India.

The Collegium has also taken into consideration the fact that, at present, the Bench of the Supreme Court is represented by only one Judge from the High Court at Calcutta. Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi stands at Sl. No. 11 in the combined all-India seniority of High Court Judges, including Chief Justices.

The Collegium has, therefore, unanimously resolved to recommend that Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India.

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