

CJI brings out a roster to allot cases

The publication of such a roster is a first in the history of the court. The move follows a decision of a Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice Misra declaring the Chief Justice of India's dominance as the master of the roster in order to protect the Supreme Court from "anarchy". The five-judge Bench, on November 10 last year, proclaimed it was the Chief Justice's sole prerogative to decide what case has to be heard by which judge.

The new roster shows that CJI has kept the PIL jurisdiction entirely to the Bench he is presiding over.

Cases on medical and engineering college admissions/transfer cases, allocation of 15% all-India quota in medical admissions/transfers and establishment and recognition of educational institutions would be heard by Justice Arun Mishra's Bench.

Justice S.A. Bobde, the seventh senior-most judge and in line to be the Chief Justice of India, gets a share of cases on medical/engineering admissions and transfer. Justice Rohinton Nariman's Bench has also been given cases of establishment and recognition of education institutions.

The rosters of the four senior-most judges who called the joint press conference largely remain the same.

Justice Chelameswar includes labour, matters pertaining to judicial officers, simple money and mortgage cases, land acquisition, consumer protection, criminal cases, among others. Justice Gogoi has been allocated labour cases, company law, contempt of court, personal law, criminal matters, among others. Justice Lokur would continue to hear ecological matters and social justice cases.

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