

'Codebook for Dataset on Indian High Court Judges'

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This document was created on 31/05/2021 and revised on 12/09/2022 and on 21/09/2022

Note: For Information collected for all judges in the High Courts of India appointed after **6th October 1993** and 31st May 2021 being the cut off date of all the data recorded.

List of sources for data curation:

1. High Court Websites
2. Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India
3. Supreme Court Website
4. Websites of official bodies like tribunals, Lok Sabha etc.

General Clarifications:

1. In case of conflict between information of Judges available in different sources, the information provided in the website of the Parent High Court of that Judge has been given priority.
2. In case the profile of a Judge does not mention the details of any kind of specified empanelment during litigation career, then it has been presumed that there is no such empanelment.

Column A - Name of the Judge

Definition - Name of the judge as it appears in source website

Type - Text

Column B - Gender

Format - Male/Female

Type - Categorical

Note - There is no instance of a transgender person being appointed in any of the High Courts

Column C – Date of Birth

Format - DD-MM-YYYY/Not Available

Type - Date

Column D – State of Birth

Name of the State/ Not Available

Type - Text

Column E – Place of Birth

Format - City/Town/Village/District (Either - Whatever is available)/ Not Available

Type - Text

Column F - Date of Appointment

Definition - The date on which the person was elevated as a Judge of any High Court (appointment as an Additional Judge is also considered here)

Format - DD-MM-YYYY/Not Available

Type - Date

Column G - Date of Retirement

Definition - The date on which the person demits office as a Judge of High Court or of the Supreme Court (if elevated to it)

Format - DD-MM-YYYY/Not Available

Type - Date

Note - For Sitting Judges, the column records their prospective date of demitting office.

Column H - If Died in Office

Format - Yes/No

Type - Categorical

Column I - If resigned from office

Format - Yes/No

Type - Categorical

Column J – Parent High Court

Definition - The High Court in which a person first became a judge.

Type - Text

Column K – If transferred to any other High Court

Format - Yes/No

Type - Categorical

Note - Mention the name of the high-court at the time of transfer.

Column L – If yes, which High Court 1

Definition - Name of the High Court

Type - Text

Note: In case of no such transfer leave the cell blank

Column M – Date of such transfer - 1

Format - DD-MM-YYYY

Type - Date

Note: In case of no such transfer leave the cell blank

Column N – If yes, which High Court 2

Definition - Name of the High Court

Type - Text

Note: Incase of no such transfer leave the cell blank

Column O – Date of such transfer – 2

Format - DD-MM-YYYY

Type - Date

Note: Incase of no such transfer leave the cell blank

Column P – If yes, which High Court 3

Definition - Name of the High Court

Type - Text

Note: Incase of no such transfer leave the cell blank

Column Q – Date of such transfer - 3

Format - DD-MM-YYYY

Type - Date

Note: Incase of no such transfer leave the cell blank

Column R – If appointed Chief Justice in any High Court*

Format - Yes/No/Not Available

Type - Categorical

Note - If the Judge was/is an acting Chief Justice, then in that case, select No. Acting CJs are not recognized as CJs and do not have any post-retirement eligibility which CJs have. If a judge was not appointed Chief Justice in another High Court then leave the cell blank.

Till 21/09/2022, the dataset captured details of only such judges who became Chief Justices in a High Court other than their Parent High Court. The data entries have been updated on 21/09/2022 to include judges who became Chief Justices in their Parent High Court as well.

Column S – If yes, which High Court – 1

Definition - Name of the High Court/Not Applicable

Type - Text

Column T - If yes, which High Court – 2

Definition - Name of the High Court/Not Applicable

Type - Text

Column U - If yes, which High Court – 3

Definition - Name of the High Court/Not Applicable

Type - Text

Column V – If appointed to the Supreme Court

Format - Yes/No

Type - Categorical

Column W – Date of appointment to the Supreme Court

Format - DD-MM-YY

Type - Date

Column X – Cadre

Format - Service/Bar

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable identifies the professional stream from which a judge has been appointed.

Service- High Court judges who were serving in the lower judiciary at the time of being appointed to the High Court

Bar- High Court judges who were practicing as advocates at the time of being appointed to the High Court

Column Y – Experience in Subordinate Judiciary

Format - Yes/No

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable ascertains if a judge in the High Court ever served in the subordinate judiciary. For all judges in the Cadre of service, the answer would be Yes. For judges in the cadre of Bar, the answer would be Yes if they had joined the subordinate judiciary and then resigned from the service. Otherwise, for judges in the cadre of Bar, it would be 'No'.

Column Z – Litigation Experience

Format - Yes/No

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable ascertains if a judge in the High Court ever practiced as an advocate. For all judges in the Bar cadre, the answer would be yes. For judges in the Service cadre, the answer would be Yes only if they practised as an advocate before joining the judicial service.

Column AA – If a Senior Advocate

Format - Yes/No/Not Applicable

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable is meant for judges with litigation experience. For judges from the service cadre with no litigation experience, the answer would be NA.

Column AB – Experience in High Court Administrative Post

Format - Yes/No/Not Applicable

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior experience in subordinate judiciary. For judges without such experience, the answer would be Not Applicable.

Column AC – If served as Counsel for Government/PSU/Statutory Body

Format - Yes/No/Not Applicable

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior litigation experience as an advocate. For judges without such experience, the answer would be Not Applicable

Column AD – If served as Advocate General

Format - Yes/No/Not Applicable

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior litigation experience as an advocate. For judges without such experience, the answer would be Not Applicable

Column AE – If empanelled by Banks

Format - Yes/Not Available/Not Applicable

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior litigation experience as an advocate. For judges without such experience, the answer would be Not Applicable

Column AF – If empanelled by Private Companies

Format - Yes/Not Available/Not Applicable

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior litigation experience as an advocate. For judges without such experience, the answer would be Not Applicable

Column AG – Chamber Details

Format - Yes/Not Available/Not Applicable

Type - Categorical

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior litigation experience as an advocate. For judges without such experience, the answer would be Not Applicable.

Generally, lawyers in India join the offices of a senior counsel and learn the nuances of the profession. This is known as joining a chamber. The chamber a lawyer joins can be categorized as part of his/her employment history, although the typical arrangement is not always formal.

Column AH – Schooling Information

Definition - Name of the School/Not Available

Type - Text

Column AI – Graduation Institution

Definition - Name of the Institution/Not Available

Type - Text

Column AJ – Graduation Specialization

Definition - Name of the Specialization/Not Available

Type - Text

Column AK – Law Degree Institution

Definition - Name of the Institution/Not Available

Type - Text

Column AL – Law Degree Year

Format - YYYY/Not Available

Type - Text

Column AM – Bar Enrolment Year

Format - YYYY/Not Available

Type - Text

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior litigation experience as an advocate. For judges without such experience, the answer would be NA.

Column AN – State Bar Association where enrolled

Format - Name of the State/Not Available/Not Applicable

Type - Text

Note - This variable is meant for judges with prior litigation experience as an advocate. For judges without such experience, the answer would be Not Applicable

Column AO – Foreign Degree in Law

Format - Yes/No/Not Available

Type - Categorical

Column AP – Post-Graduate in another subject

Format - Yes/No/Not Available

Type - Categorical

Column AQ – Post-Graduate in Law

Format - Yes/No/Not Available

Type - Categorical