Appointment of VC

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Polity*

Why in News?

Recently, the Supreme Court overturned the Madras High Court stay on Tamil Nadu's Vice Chancellor appointment laws, directing a fresh hearing within a reasonable time for the state.

- A vice chancellor (VC) is the ***chief executive and academic head of a university.***
- **Qualifications –** Distinguished academic or professional with demonstrated leadership and administrative capabilities.
- ***Minimum 10 years of experience*** in one of the following,
  - Professor in a Higher Education Institution (HEI).
  - Senior-level in reputed research/academic or administrative organizations.
  - Senior-level in industry, public administration, public policy, or PSUs.
- **Selection Process –** Advertised in all-India newspapers; applications may come via nomination or talent search.
- A ***search cum Selection Committee constituted by the Chancellor/Visitor (President).***
- **Search cum Selection Committee – Chairperson –** A nominee of the Visitor (President for Central Universities) or Chancellor (Governor for State Universities) leads the committee.
- **Members –** A nominee of the UGC chairman.
- A nominee of the apex body of the university, such as Syndicate/ Senate/Executive Council/Board of Management.
- The committee must include eminent persons not connected to the university; it recommends a panel of 3–5 names.
- Mandatory for all universities under Central, Provincial, or State Acts.
- **Appointment Process – State Universities –** Appointed by the Chancellor (Governor) in consultation with the State Government.
- **Central Universities –** Appointed by the Visitor (President).
- **Tenure –**
  - **Central Universities –** 5 years or until age 70.
  - **State Universities –** 3 years or until age 70.
- Eligible for a second term.
- First VC term determined by Chancellor/Visitor.
- **Salary – State Universities –** Pay and allowances are determined by the State Government.

- **Central Universities –** Pay and allowances are decided by the Visitor (President) in consultation with the Central Government.
- **Vacancy & Resignation – Permanent vacancy –** Permanent vacancy is filled by the Chancellor or Visitor, with interim arrangements made.
- **Temporary vacancy –** Reported by Registrar to Chancellor or Visitor, and stop-gap arrangement advised by Government
- **Resignation –** VC *may resign with 60 days' notice*, and the effective date will be determined by the Chancellor or Visitor.
- **Role –** Principal academic, administrative, and executive officer.
- Overall supervision and control over University affairs.
- Can take immediate action in urgent matters and report to the relevant Authority, Board, or Chancellor.
- Can require Authorities to review actions or orders and refer to the Board or the Chancellor if unresolved.

References

1. IE | Vice-Chancellor
2. New IE | Vice-Chancellor

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