Uploading the collegium’s decisions

Why in news?

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Recently Supreme Court collegium has decided to upload its decisions on website.

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What are the higlights of this move?

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- Decisions taken by SC including elevation, transfer and confirmation of judges will be uploaded.
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- The resolution is passed to ensure transparency and yet maintain confidentiality in the Collegium system.
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- The information posted online will also “indicate” reasons for the recommendation or rejection of a name for judicial appointment, transfer and elevation to High Courts and the Supreme Court.
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- As a start, the Supreme Court has posted online detailed reasons for judicial appointments to the Madras High Court and the Kerala High Court.
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What is the reason behind this move?

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- The Collegium has been criticised for its opaque mode of functioning while recommending judicial appointments.
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- Many senior lawyers of the the Supreme Court Bar Association criticised the closed-door decisions of the Collegium.
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- The mode of functioning of the Collegium had seen criticism, even within the Collegium itself.

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- This paradigm shift is after the resignation of Karnataka High Court judge shortly after his transfer to the Allahabad High Court.
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Way Forward

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- The proposal to upload the Collegium recommendations faced strong objections within the judicial community itself.
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- Posting such information online would cause judicial candidates, including senior advocates, sitting judges and judicial officers, acute embarrassment.
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Source: The Hindu, Indian Express

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