

Benefits of diversity and gender representation in Supreme court:

1. Increased Transparency, inclusiveness, and representation.
2. By their mere presence, women judges enhance the legitimacy of courts, sending a powerful signal that they are open and accessible to those who seek recourse to justice.
3. By elucidating how laws and rulings can be based on gender stereotypes, or how they might have a different impact on women and men, a gender perspective enhances the fairness of the adjudication.
4. Women judges bring those lived experiences to their judicial actions, experiences that tend toward a more comprehensive and empathetic perspective.
5. Improving the representation of women could go a long way towards a more balanced and empathetic approach in cases involving sexual violence.

Challenges to women's entry into judiciary:

The eligibility criteria to take the entrance exams:

- Lawyers need to have seven years of continuous legal practice and be in the age bracket of 35-45.
- This is a disadvantage for women as many are married by this age.

Further, **the long and inflexible work hours** in law, combined with familial responsibilities, force many women to drop out of practice and they fail to meet the requirement of continuous practice.

Insta Curious: Did you know that the Supreme Court currently has the highest number of women judges ever in its history? Reference: read [this](#).

InstaLinks:

Prelims Link:

1. What is collegium?
2. How are Judges of Supreme Court and high courts appointed?
3. Appointment of retired judges.
4. Related constitutional provisions.
5. Powers and functions.

Mains Link: Discuss the issues associated with collegium system for the appointment of judges.

Link: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.thehindu.com/news/national/cji-rues-lack-of-women-among-hc-judges/article65211469.ece/amp/>.

3. Appointment and removal of Chief Minister:

Context:

Pushkar Singh Dhami recently took oath as the 12th chief minister of Uttarakhand.

- Since, according to the constitution, the chief minister is appointed by the governor, the swearing in is done before the governor of the state.

Appointment of CM:

The Chief Minister is **appointed by the governor**.

- **Art. 164 of the Constitution** provides that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at its head to aid and advise the governor.

Who can be a Chief Minister?

After general election to the State Legislative Assembly, the party or coalition group which secures majority in this House, elects its leader and communicates his name to the Governor. The Governor then formally appoints him as the Chief Minister and asks him to form his Council of Ministers.

- When no party gets a clear majority in the State Legislative Assembly, the Governor normally asks the leader of the single largest party to form the government.

Tenure:

Theoretically, the Chief Minister holds office during the pleasure of the Governor. However, in actual practice the Chief Minister remains in office so long as he continues to be the leader of the majority in the State Legislative Assembly.

- The Governor can dismiss him in case he loses his majority support.
- The State Legislative Assembly can also remove him by passing a vote of no-confidence against him.