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Mode of Appointment of Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer in Universities in the State

Need for Reform

1. Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer are called the Branch Officers in the University system who are duty bound to lead the academic, administrative and financial machinery of the University. Most of our universities are finding it difficult to get a national or international level rating in terms of academic excellence and research output. The situation prevailing in our universities is not conducive for such a robust academic growth.
2. There is no uniformity in the mode or appointment of Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer in universities in Kerala. In the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit the Registrar is appointed only for 4 years, while in other universities the Registrar on satisfactory completion of probation period, is appointed till the age of retirement, which has been increased to 60 years by a government order in 2015.
3. In Cochin University of Science and Technology there is no statutory post of Controller of Examination and the charge of CE is usually given to a faculty member on a yearly basis.
4. In all leading universities and institutions of national importance, such as IITs and IISc, the tenure of the Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer is limited to a period of 3 or 4 years. In some of them, they are academics with administrative experience in higher education institutions.
5. In some cases these Branch Officers are appointed by deputation from government service or from the service of autonomous higher education institutions of the state.
6. In all the universities in Kerala, Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer are given pay scales equivalent to UGC pay scales applicable to professors in the university even though they are part of non teaching staff of the universities as clearly mentioned in the university ordinances/statutes.
7. Hence for bringing about uniformity and greater efficiency in the university administration in state, the mode of appointment and tenure of Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer may be reviewed.

The following suggestions may be considered in this regard.

a) Mode of Appointment

1. The Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of 1 year in the first instance, on the recommendation of the selection committee consisting of the Vice Chancellors as chairman two other Syndicate members and one expert nominated by the Syndicate. He shall be full time salaried officer of the university and he shall be appointed by a written order. In

case his appointment is continued beyond a period of one year, he shall be deemed to be on probation for a period of one year within a continuous period of two years commencing from the date of his appointment. The order of his appointment shall be lodged with the Vice chancellor.

2. On satisfactory completion of probation of one year, his appointment shall be confirmed by a written order. He shall hold the office for a period of 4 years or till he attains the age of 56 years whichever is earlier and shall be eligible for reappointment for another term, provided he is within the age limit.
3. Notwithstanding anything contained in clause 1 and 2 above, the Syndicate may in the interest of the university and reasons recorded in writing, appoint a person as Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer by deputation from the service of the state government or other public funded higher education institutions in the state.

b) Qualification for direct recruitment to the post of Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer

1. Master's degree with at least 55% of marks or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.
2. At least 10 years of experience as Asst. Professor in the academic level 11 and above or with 8 years of service in the academic level 12 and above including as Associate professor along with experience in educational administration or
3. Comparable experience in research establishment and / or other public funded institutions of higher education.
4. In the case of Finance Officer the Syndicate may fix qualifications other than those mentioned

c) Emoluments

1. Registrar/ Controller of Examinations/ Finance Officer shall receive such salary as may be determined by the Syndicate.



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