

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU – PRESS RELEASE

The Hon'ble Governor, as the Chancellor of the State Universities of Tamil Nadu has constituted the Search Committee for identification of the candidate for appointment as Vice-Chancellor of the Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University (Chennai). The Search Committee of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University includes nominees of the Chancellor, Government of Tamil Nadu, Syndicate of the University and UGC Chairman's nominee, as per provision of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University Act and as per prevailing regulations of UGC, 2018. The inclusion of UGC Chairman's nominee in the Search Committee of State Universities are held to be mandatory by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Hon'ble Governor-Chancellor has directed the Government of Tamil Nadu, to notify the constitution of the Search Committee of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University vide letter dated 24th October, 2024 consisting of the above four members, including UGC Chairman's nominee.

The Youth Welfare and Sports Development Department has issued a Government Order G.O.(Ms.) No.13, Youth Welfare and Sports Development Department, dated: 28th January, 2025 notifying the Search Committee of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University and were published in the Official Gazette. The said Notifications purposefully excluded the UGC Chairman's nominee, in violation of the judgements of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has already held in the case of Prof. (Dr) Sreejith P.S. Vs. Dr.Rajasree M.S. & Others (Civil Appeal numbers 7634-7635 of 2022, SLP(c) Nos, 21108-21109 of 2021) that any appointment as a Vice Chancellor made on the recommendation of the Search Committee, which is constituted contrary to the provisions of the UGC Regulations shall be void ab initio.

The said notifications issued by the Government is in difference to the Search Committees constituted and is void ab initio; being contrary to the existing UGC regulations and prevailing orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The Chancellor has called upon the Government of Tamil Nadu, to recall the said notifications, which is in difference to the Search Committees, constituted and sent for issuing notification and directed to notify the Search Committees for appointment of the Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University (Chennai), as constituted by the Chancellor, which includes the UGC Chairman's nominee.

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Raj Bhavan, Chennai-22

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