



CP Radhakrishnan Elected as Vice President

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Why in News?

CP Radhakrishnan has been elected as **India's 15th Vice President**, defeating former Supreme Court Judge **B Sudershan Reddy** in the election following the resignation of **Jagdeep Dhankhar**.

In the election Radhakrishnan secured 452 votes, while Reddy garnered 300 votes with a high voting turnout of 98.2%.

CP Radhakrishnan

- He **served as the Governor** of Jharkhand, Telangana, Puducherry, and Maharashtra. An **agriculturist and industrialist by profession**, he is the **third leader from Tamil Nadu to hold the position of Vice President**.
- He was also a two-term member of the Lok Sabha from Coimbatore.

What are Key Facts About the Vice President (VP) of India?

- **About: VP** is the **second-highest constitutional authority** in India, following the President (Article 63).
- **Election & Eligibility:** Elected by **MPs from both Houses of Parliament** via proportional representation. The VP must be at least 35 years old, an Indian citizen, and **qualified for Rajya Sabha membership**.
- **Term & Vacancy:** Serves a **five-year term**, with the possibility of continuing until a successor is elected.
- **Primary Role:** As the **ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha**.
 - In the President's absence or vacancy, they act as President (Article 65).
- **Removal:** Can be **removed by a resolution in the Rajya Sabha** and approval from the Lok Sabha, with a 14-day notice (Article 67).

Some Unique Facts About Office of Vice President of India

- Only **Dr. S. Radhakrishnan** (1st & 2nd VP, elected unopposed both times) and **Mohammad Hamid Ansari** (13th & 14th VP, 2007-2017) have served two consecutive terms.
- Apart from **S. Radhakrishnan**, **M. Hidayatullah (7th VP)** and **Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma (9th VP)** were also elected unopposed.
- **Krishan Kant (10th VP, 1997-2002)** was the first and only Vice President to die while in office.
- **Justice Mohammad Hidayatullah** is the only person in Indian history to have served as **Chief Justice of India, Acting President, and Vice President**.

Vice-President of India

Occupies the second highest office in the country after President



Origin

Modelled on the lines of the American Vice-President

Const. Provisions

Article 63-71

Election

Indirectly elected by an electoral college

This electoral college consists of the elected members of LS and RS + nominated members of RS but not the members of State LAs (unlike electoral college for Presidential election)



The power of conducting elections to the office of VP rests with the ECI (Article 324)

Qualification

Citizen of India - at least 35 years of age

Term of Office

5 years; eligible for re-election

Removal from Office

- VP may resign
- Removal by a effective majority of RS (all the then members) and LS agreeing to it (simple majority)
 - Resolution for removal is introduced only in RS
- Constitution mentions no ground for removal

Powers

- Ex-officio Chairman of RS - Powers and functions similar to the LS Speaker
- Acts as President (max 6 months) - when a vacancy occurs in his office

This is different from the office of American VP who succeeds to the Presidency when the office falls vacant

When acting as the President, VP does not perform the functions of the Chairman of RS



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