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News: Process to appoint ad hoc judges must be less cumbersome: SC

- The Supreme Court on Thursday suggested a less cumbersome and even “out of the box” thinking, including roping in senior lawyers to act as ad hoc judges in High Courts, to meet the rising tide of pendency.

Ad hoc Judge

- When there is a **lack of quorum** of the permanent judges to hold or continue any session of the Supreme Court, **the Chief Justice of India can appoint a judge of a High Court as an ad hoc judge** of the Supreme Court for a temporary period.
- He can do so **only after consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned and with the previous consent of the President.**
- The judge **so appointed should be qualified for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court.**
- It is the **duty** of the judge so appointed to **attend the sittings of the Supreme Court, in priority to other duties of his office.**
- While so attending, he **enjoys all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges (and discharges the duties) of a judge of the Supreme Court.**