



Table of Precedence

The Table of Precedence is related to the rank and order of the officials of the Union and State Governments. The present notification on this subject was issued on 26 July, 1979. This notification superseded all the previous notifications and was also amended many times. The updated version of the Table, containing all the amendments made therein so far (2016), is given below:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Prime Minister
4. Governors of states within their respective states
5. Former presidents
- 5A. Deputy Prime Minister
6. Chief Justice of India
 Speaker of Lok Sabha
7. Cabinet Ministers of the Union
 Chief Ministers of States within their respective States
 Vice-Chairperson, NITI Aayog
 Former Prime Ministers
 Leaders of Opposition in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha
- 7A. Holders of Bharat Ratna decoration
8. Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries accredited to India

- Chief Ministers of States outside their respective States
- Governors of States outside their respective States
- 9. Judges of Supreme Court
- 9A. Chairperson, Union Public Service Commission
 - Chief Election Commissioner
 - Comptroller & Auditor General of India
- 10. Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha
 - Deputy Chief Ministers of States
 - Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha
 - Members of the NITI Aayog
 - Ministers of State of the Union (and any other Minister in the Ministry of Defence for defence matters)
- 11. Attorney General of India
 - Cabinet Secretary
 - Lieutenant Governors within their respective Union Territories
- 12. Chiefs of Staff holding the rank of full General or equivalent rank
- 13. Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary accredited to India
- 14. Chairmen and Speakers of State Legislatures within their respective States
 - Chief Justices of High Courts within their respective jurisdictions
- 15. Cabinet Ministers in States within their respective States
 - Chief Ministers of Union Territories and Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi within their respective Union Territories
 - Deputy Ministers of the Union
- 16. Officiating Chiefs of Staff holding the rank of Lieutenant General or equivalent rank
- 17. Chairman, Central Administrative Tribunal
 - Chairman, Minorities Commission
 - Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Castes
 - Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
 - Chief Justices of High Courts outside their respective jurisdictions
 - Puisne Judges of High Courts within their respective jurisdictions
- 18. Cabinet Ministers in States outside their respective States
 - Chairmen and Speakers of State Legislatures outside their respective States
 - Chairman, Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission

Deputy Chairmen and Deputy Speakers of State Legislatures within their respective States

Ministers of State in States within their respective States

Ministers of Union Territories and Executive Councilors, Delhi, within their respective Union Territories

Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories and Chairman of Delhi Metropolitan Council within their respective Union Territories

19. Chief Commissioners of Union Territories not having Councils of Ministers, within their respective Union Territories

Deputy Ministers in States within their respective States

Deputy Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories and Deputy Chairman of Metropolitan Council, Delhi, within their respective Union Territories

20. Deputy Chairmen and Deputy Speakers of State Legislatures, outside their respective States

Ministers of State in States outside their respective States

Puisne Judges of High Courts outside their respective jurisdictions

21. Members of Parliament

22. Deputy Ministers in States outside their respective States

23. Army Commanders / Vice-Chief of the Army Staff or equivalent in other services

Chief Secretaries to State Governments within their respective States

Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities

Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Members, Minorities Commission

Members, National Commission for Scheduled Castes

Members, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Officers of the rank of full General or equivalent rank

Secretaries to the Government of India (including officers holding this office ex-officio)

Secretary, Minorities Commission

Secretary, Scheduled Castes Commission

Secretary, Scheduled Tribes Commission

Secretary to the President

Secretary to the Prime Minister

Secretary, Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha

Solicitor General

Vice-Chairman, Central Administrative Tribunal

24. Officers of the rank of Lieutenant General or equivalent rank

25. Additional Secretaries to the Government of India

Additional Solicitor General

Advocate Generals of States

Chairman, Tariff Commission

Charge d' Affairs and Acting High Commissioners a pied and ad interim

Chief Ministers of Union Territories and Chief Executive Councillor,

Delhi, outside their respective Union Territories

Chief Secretaries of State Governments outside their respective States

Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General

Deputy Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories and

Deputy Chairman, Delhi Metropolitan Council, outside their
respective Union Territories

Director, Central Bureau of Investigation

Director General, Border Security Force

Director General, Central Reserve Police

Director, Intelligence Bureau

Lieutenant Governors outside their respective Union Territories

Members, Central Administrative Tribunal

Members, Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission

Members, Union Public Service Commission

Ministers of Union Territories and Executive Councillors, Delhi, outside
their respective Union Territories

Principal Staff Officers of the Armed Forces of the rank of Major
General or equivalent rank

Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories and Chairman
of Delhi Metropolitan Council, outside their respective Union
Territories

26. Joint Secretaries to the Government of India and officers of equivalent
rank.

Officers of the rank of Major-General or equivalent rank

NOTES

Note 1 The order in this Table of Precedence is meant for State and Ceremonial occasions and has no application in the day-to-day business of Government.

Note 2 Persons in the Table of Precedence will take rank in order of the number of the articles. The entries in the same article are arranged alphabetically. Those included in the same article will take precedence inter se according to date of entry into that article. However, where the dignitaries of different States and Union Territories included in the same article are present at a function outside their States or Union Territories and there is difficulty in ascertaining their dates of entry, they may be assigned precedence inter se in the alphabetical order of the name of States and Union Territories concerned after those whose precedence is determined according to date of entry into that article.

Note 3 In Article 7, former Prime Ministers will take precedence over the Cabinet Ministers of the Union and the Leaders of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. The Chief Ministers of States within their respective States will take precedence over the Cabinet Ministers of the Union in official functions held in the respective States.

Note 4 In Article 8:-

- (a) Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries accredited to India will en bloc rank above Governors of States outside their respective States;
- (b) Governors of States outside their respective States will en bloc rank above Chief Ministers of States outside their respective States.

Note 5 The Ministry of External Affairs may assign appropriate ranks to foreign dignitaries and Indian Ambassadors, High Commissioners and Ministers Plenipotentiary during their visit to India.

Note 6 Notwithstanding the procedure laid down in Note 2, the rank inter se and precedence of the persons in Article 10 shall be assigned in the following order:-

- (1) Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha.
- (2) Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha.
- (3) Ministers of State of the Union and any other Minister in the Ministry

of Defence for defence matters.

(4) Deputy Chief Ministers of States.

(5) Members of NITI Aayog.

However, the Deputy Chief Ministers of States outside their respective States will always rank below all other dignitaries figuring in this article.

Note 7 The Chairmen of State Legislative Councils will rank above the Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in cases where they were elected on the same date.

Note 8 When Members of Parliament are invited en bloc to major State functions, the enclosures reserved for them should be next to the Chief Justice, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Ambassadors etc.

Note 9 Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories and Chairman of Delhi Metropolitan Council will take precedence over Ministers and Executive Councillors, included in the same article.

Note 10 In Article 23:-

- (a) Secretaries in the Ministry of External Affairs other than the Foreign Secretary, between themselves, will take precedence in the order of their seniority in Grade-I of the Indian Foreign Service and both of them will take precedence after the Foreign Secretary;
- (b) Members of the Minorities Commission, the Scheduled Castes Commission and the Schedule Tribes Commission will always take precedence over the Secretaries of these Commissions;
- (c) In official functions held at Delhi / New Delhi, Army Commanders / Vice-Chief of the Army Staff or equivalent in other Services will always rank after Secretaries to the Government of India.

Note 11 In Article 25:-

- (a) Additional Secretaries in the Ministry of External Affairs, among themselves, will take precedence in the order of their seniority in Grade-II of the Indian Foreign Service;
- (b) Additional Solicitor General will take precedence above the Advocate General of States;
- (c) Lieutenant Governors will take precedence over the Chief Ministers and Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi, and the latter will take precedence over Speakers of Legislative Assemblies and Chairman, Metropolitan Council, Delhi;

(d) Deputy Speakers of Legislative Assemblies of Union Territories and Deputy Chairman of Delhi Metropolitan Council will take precedence after Ministers of Union Territories and Executive Councillors, Delhi.

Note 12 For the purpose of Article 26, the posts equivalent to the posts of Joint Secretaries to the Government of India will be determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.