

CHAPTER 4
WARRANT OF PRECEDENCE

Table of Rank and Precedence

The following Table with respect to the rank and precedence of the persons named therein is for general information :

1. President.	Members of the Planning Commission.	1. <i>President's Secretariat</i> <i>No. 68-Pres/63,</i> <i>3.9.1963.</i> <i>Govt. of Assam,</i> <i>No. GAG. 308/60/74,</i> <i>2.1.1964.</i>
2. Vice-President.	Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha.	
3. Prime Minister.	Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha.	
4. Governors and Sadar-i-Riyasat, Jammu and Kashmir, within their respective charges.	17. Rulers of Indian States with a salute of 15 guns or 13 guns.	
5. Ex-Presidents and ex-Governors-General.	18. Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers, Plenipotentiary accredited to India.	
6. Lieutenant-Governors within their respective charges.	19. Judges of the Supreme Court.	
7. Chief Justice of India.	20. [Secretary General in the Ministry of External Affairs.] ¹	
8. Cabinet Ministers of the Union.	Cabinet Secretary.	
9. Holders of the Bharat Ratna decoration.	*Visiting Class I Ambassadors of India.	
10. Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary accredited to India.	Foreign Ambassadors visiting India.	
High Commissioners of Commonwealth Governments in India.	*Visiting Class I High Commissioners of India and High Commissioners of other Commonwealth countries visiting India.	
11. Rulers of Indian States with a salute of 17 guns and above within their States.	21. Charge d'Affaires and Acting High Commissioners a pied and ad interim.	
12. Governors and Sadar-i-Riyasat, Jammu and Kashmir outside their respective charges.	22. Chiefs of Staff holding the rank of full General or equivalent rank.	
13. Lieutenant-Governors outside their respective charges.	23. Chief Justices of High Courts.	
14. Rulers of Indian States with a salute of 17 guns and above outside their States.	Chairmen of Legislative Councils in States.	
15. Chief Ministers of States.	Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in States.	
16. Ministers of State of the Union.	Chief Commissioners of Union Territories having Council of Ministers, with-	

[¹] Amended vide President's Secretariat Notification No. 14-Pres/65 dt 3.2.1965, republished vide Govt. of Assam No. GAG. 308/60/124 4-6-1965.

- in their respective charges.
- Chief Commissioner of Delhi within his charge.
24. Cabinet Ministers in States.
Deputy Ministers of the Union.
Attorney-General.
Comptroller and Auditor-General.
Chief Ministers of Union Territories within their respective territories.
25. Chiefs of Staff holding the rank of Lieutenant-General or equivalent rank.
26. Rulers of Indian States with a salute of 11 guns or 9 guns.
27. Chairman, Union Public Service Commission.
Chief Election Commissioner.
Ministers of State in States.
Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories within their respective territories.
Ministers of Union Territories within their respective territories.
[Deputy Chairmen and Deputy Speakers of State Legislatures.]¹
28. Puisne Judges of High Courts.
29. Deputy Ministers in States.
Chief Commissioners of Union Territories not having Council of Ministers, within their respective charges.
30. Members of Parliament.
31. Officers of the rank of full General or equivalent rank.
Secretary to the President.
Secretaries to the Government of India and Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister.
- * Visiting Class I and Class II Ambassadors and High Commissioners of India.
Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
Officiating Chief of Staff holding the rank of Major-General or equivalent rank.
Visiting Ministers Plenipotentiary of India and Foreign Ministers Plenipotentiary visiting India.
Chairman of the Railway Board.
Financial Commissioner for Railways.
Solicitor-General.
Members of the Railway Board.
Chief Commissioners having Council of Ministers outside their respective charges.
Chief Commissioner of Delhi outside his charge.
32. Ministers of Foreign and Commonwealth Missions other than Ministers Plenipotentiary. Officers of the rank of Lieutenant-General or equivalent rank.
Chief Ministers of Union Territories outside their respective territories.
33. Additional Secretaries to the Government of India.
Chairman, Tariff Commission.
Chairman, Central Water and Power Commission.
Vice-Chairman of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
Financial Advisor, Ministry of Finance (Defence).
P.S.Os of the Armed Forces of the rank of Major General or equivalent rank.

¹ Amended vide President's Secretariat Notification No. 36-Pres/64 dt. 8.4.1964, republished vide Govt. of Assam No. GAG. 308/63/97 dt. 28-7-1964.

- Visiting Class III Ambassadors and High Commissioners of India.
 Political Officer in Sikkim.
 Director, Intelligence Bureau.
 Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories outside their respective territories.
 Ministers of Union Territories outside their respective territories.
34. Chairman of the Public Service Commission of a State.
 Chief Secretaries to State Governments.
 Financial Commissioners.
 Members of the Union Public Service Commission.
- Flag Officer Commanding Indian Fleet.
 Members of a Board of Revenue.
35. Director-General, Health Services.
 General Managers of Railways.
 Establishment Officer to the Government of India.
 Joint Secretaries to the Government of India (including Joint Secretary to the Cabinet).
 Visiting Class IV Ambassadors and High Commissioners of India.
- Officers of the rank of Major-General or equivalent rank.
 Surveyor General.
 Members of the Tariff Commission.
 Inspectors-General of Police in States.
 Commissioners of Division.
 Director-General of Civil Aviation.
 Director-General of Supplies and Disposals.
 Director-General of Ordnance Factories.
 Indian Navy Commodores in Charge, Naval Ports or Areas.
 Commanders of Indian Air Force Commands of the rank of Air Commodore.
 P.S.Os of Naval and Air Headquarters of the ranks of Commodore and Air Commodore.
 Chief Commissioners of Union Territories not having Council of Ministers, outside their respective charges.
 Director-General, All India Radio.
 Military Secretary to the President.
 Counsellors of Foreign and Commonwealth Missions in India.
 Deputy Comptroller and Auditor-General.
 [Members, Posts and Telegraphs Board.]¹

Note 1. The order in this Table of Precedence is meant for State and ceremonial occasions and may not be strictly followed on more informal occasions.

Note 2. Officers in the Table of Precedence will take rank in order of the numbers of the entries, those included in one number will take precedence *inter se* according to the date of entry into that number.

Note 3. This Table will not affect the precedence enjoyed by Rulers, etc. within former Indian States by virtue of local usage and custom; nor will it affect the local precedence *inter se* of Rulers as in force immediately before 15th August, 1947.

[¹ Amended vide President's Secretariat Notification No. 36-Pres/64 dt. 24.10.64, republished vide Govt. of Assam No. G.A.G. 308/60/97. dt. 28-7-1964

Note 4. Rulers with a higher gun salute will take precedence over Rulers with a lower gun salute. Rulers with the same salute will take precedence *inter se* according to date of succession.

***Note 5.** Whether a visiting Class I Ambassador or Class I High Commissioner of India should be placed in Article 20 or Article 31 will be decided by the Ministry of External Affairs having regard to the seniority of the particular person.

Note 6. The Chairman of State Legislative Councils will rank above the Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in cases where they were elected on the same date.

Note 7. When members of Parliament are invited en bloc to major state functions, the enclosure reserved for them should be next to the Governors, Chief Justice, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Ambassadors, etc.

Note 8. Members of State Legislatures who owing to their presence in Delhi happen to be invited to State functions should be assigned rank just after Members of Parliament.

Note 9. For the purpose of the Table of Precedence, the Chief Commissioner of Delhi will rank in Article 31 along with Secretaries to the Government of India at State functions held in New Delhi and the Red Fort.

Note 10. Should a P.S.O. hold the rank of Lieutenant-General, his seniority in the Table of Precedence will continue to remain the same as laid down for officers of the rank of Lieutenant-General or equivalent rank in Article 32 of the Table.

Note 11. Chief Secretaries to State Governments will take precedence over Members of a Board of Revenue irrespective of the date of their entry into Article 34.

Note 12. Major-Generals, irrespective of their date of entry into Article 35, will rank above Indian Navy Commodores-in-Charge and Indian Air Force Commodores.

Note 13. Speakers of Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories, irrespective of their date of entry into Article 27 and Article 33, will take precedence over Ministers of Union Territories.

Order of Precedence for State Functions

2. *Govt. of Assam, No. GAG. 140/61/121, 19.4.1964.*
2. The order of precedence at all State functions in the State of Assam is as follows:—
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| 4. The Governor. | [Deputy Speaker of Legislative Assembly.] ¹ |
| 15. Chief Minister. | 28. Puisne Judges of the High Court. |
| 23. Chief Justice of the High Court. | Presiding Officer, Industrial Tribunal. (If held by a Judge or retired Judge of the High Court.) |
| Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. | 29. Deputy Ministers of State Government. |
| 24. Cabinet Ministers of the State Government. | 30. Members of Parliament. Parliamentary Secretaries. |
| 27. Ministers of State of the State Government. | |

[¹] Amended vide Govt. of Assam Notification No. GAG. 129/64/17 dt. 8-9-1964.

34. Chairman of the Public Service Commission.
Chief Secretary to Government.
Adviser to the Governor.
- 34A. Advocate General.
Chairman, State Electricity Board.
35. General Manager, N. F. Railway.
Commissioners of Division.
Inspector General of Police.
Officers of the rank of Major-General or equivalent rank.
- 35A. Development Commissioner.
Vice-Chancellor of Gauhati University.
General Manager, Assam Oil Refinery.
Member (Chairman), Board of Revenue.
36. Secretaries, Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries to the Government.
Deputy Commissioners.
Chief Conservator of Forests.
Legal Remembrancer.
District and Sessions Judges.
Registrar, Assam High Court.
Chief Engineers.
Accountant General.
Members of the Public Service Commission.
Members, Board of Revenue.
Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly.
Postmaster General.
37. Brigadiers in command of Brigade.
Commissioner of Income-tax.
Collector of Central Excise and Customs.
Director of Postal Services.
Director of Telegraphs.
Director of Land Records.
Commissioner of Excise.
Chief Traffic Superintendent, N. F. Railway and officers of equivalent rank.
38. Brigadiers not in Command.
State Transport Commissioner.
Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
Director of Public Instruction.
Director of Health Services.
Director of Agriculture.
Other Major Heads of Departments.
Major Heads of Departments of NEFA and Nagaland.
Officers of equivalent rank in the N. F. Railway.
Deputy Director of Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau.
Deputy Inspectors-General of Police.
Additional Chief Engineers.
Officers of equivalent rank in the NEFA and Nagaland stationed at Shillong.
Principals of Medical Colleges.
Principals of Engineering Colleges.
Conservators of Forests.
39. Assistant High Commissioner for Pakistan in India (at Shillong).
Presiding Officer, Labour Court.
Colonels and Group Captains of the Indian Air Force.
40. Minor Heads of Departments.
Deputy Secretaries to Government.
Deputy Commissioner of Taxes.
Additional District Magistrates.
Additional District and Sessions Judges.
Assistant Inspectors-General of Police.
Deputy Accountant General.

Additional Heads of Departments (Major Departments).
 Military Secretary to Governor.
 Private Secretary to Governor.
 Principal, Cotton College, Gauhati.
 Controller of Immigrant Labour.
 Chief Inspector of Boilers.
 Chief Inspector of Factories.
 Joint Heads of Departments.
 District Council Judges.
 Public Health Engineer.
 Minor Heads of Departments under the NEFA and Nagaland.
 Director of Pasteur Institute.
 Deputy Chief Engineers.
 Superintending Engineers.
 Lt.-Colonels and Wing Commanders of the Indian Air Force.
 Principal, Assam Agricultural College.
 Superintendents of Police.
 Additional Superintendents of Police.
 Secretary, State Electricity Board.
 Agent, State Bank of India, Shillong.
 General Manager, Assam Government Marketing Corporation Ltd.
 Managing Director, Assam State Warehousing Corporation.
 General Manager, Assam Gas Company Ltd.
 Assistant Directors of Intelligence Bureau.
 Commandants of Battalions and Officers of equivalent rank.

41. Subdivisional Officers.
 Under-Secretaries to Government.
 Government Pleaders.
 Principal Private Secretary to Chief Minister.

Secretary, Assam Public Service Commission.
 Deputy Trade Advisor, Calcutta.
 Deputy Director of Health Services.
 Deputy Directors of Surveys.
 Civil Surgeons.
 Medical Superintendent, Ganesh Das Hospital.
 Superintendent, Reid Chest Hospital.
 Superintendent, Mental Hospital.
 Station Director, All India Radio.
 Divisional Engineers, Telegraphs.
 Assistant Accountant General.
 Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax.
 Assistant Collectors of Central Excise and Land Customs.
 Regional Coal Controller.
 Assistant Commissioner of Taxes (State).
 Assistant Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
 Examiner of Local Accounts.
 Assistant Director of Posts and Telegraphs.
 Assistant Controller of Exports and Imports.

42. Divisional Forest Officers and Officers of equivalent rank in the Forest Department.
 Deputy Heads of Departments.
 Sub-Judges.
 Chief Inspector of Plantations.
 Assistant Accounts Officers.
 Secretary, State Transport Authority.
 Principal, Engineering Institute at Gauhati.
 Principal, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales Institute, Jorhat.
 Executive Engineers.

Regional Agricultural Engineer.

Secretary, Basic Education.

Private Secretaries to Ministers (Selection Grade).

43. Vice-Principal, Cotton College, Gauhati.
 Professors of Government Colleges.
 Assistant Director of Public Instruction.
 Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories.
 Principal, Sericulture Training Institute.
 Principal, Government Textile Institute.

Inspectors of Schools.

Assistant Labour Commissioners.

Majors and Squadron Leaders of I.A.F.

District Agricultural Officers.

District Officers of other Departments.

Deputy Directors.

Principal, Extension Training Centre.

Mycologist and equivalent officers in the Agriculture Department.

Officer-in-charge of Seismological Observatory.

Superintendent, Government Press.

Note 1. As between officers in the same article, the date of entry into the article will be the basis for determining the relative seniority in the Warrant unless there are other rules or orders determining relative seniority, in which case, such orders will be followed. The order in which the posts are mentioned in any one article is not the basis for determining the seniority *inter se*.

Note 2. Except in the case of ladies who hold a post mentioned in the Warrant of Precedence, all ladies will take their places along with their husbands in their respective Warrant of Precedence.

Note 3. Government Whip, Leaders of Opposition in the State Legislature and all members of the State Legislature who are invited to state functions should be assigned rank just after Members of Parliament in Article 30. They will take rank in the following order:—

- (i) Members of Rajya Sabha.
- (ii) Members of Lok Sabha.
- (iii) Members of Legislative Assembly. (In alphabetical order in each category.)

The following members of the Legislature may, however, take precedence over other members thereof:—

- (a) Leader of Opposition.
- (b) Leaders of Parties.
- (c) Ex-Ministers.
- (d) Ex-Speaker.
- (e) Government Whip.

Note 4. Notwithstanding the precedence allotted in the table, all officers belonging to a given service will, as between themselves,

take their place according to their relative seniority in the respective cadres irrespective of the post they hold.

Note 5. The order of this Table of Precedence is meant for State and Ceremonial occasions and may not be strictly followed on more informal occasions.

Order of precedence for civilian award-holders

3. *Govt. of India,
Ministry of
Home Affairs No.
12/28/59-Pub. II.
15.9.1959.*

*Govt. of Assam,
No. GAG. 77/
59/34,
22.10.1959.*

3. No rank as such has been assigned in the Warrant of Precedence to the recipients of civilian awards other than holders of Bharat Ratna decorations. However, for the purpose of seating order at State or formal functions, such of them as are Government officials of sufficiently high status and already figure in the Warrant of Precedence may be allotted seats in accordance with their position in the Warrant. The rest of them, whether officials or non-officials, may be provided seats along with other non-officials of similar position and status.