

TABLE OF PRECEDENCE
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
October, 2021

- ◆ This Table of Precedence is intended to be applied during state and ceremonial occasions.
- ◆ Religious and Ecclesiastical Dignitaries will be assigned appropriate courtesy precedence.
- ◆ The President may exercise his discretion to grant courtesy precedence to any persons or officers not placed on the Precedence Table.

1. President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka ⁽¹⁾ ^(1.1)
2. Prime Minister ⁽²⁾ ^(2.1)
3. Speaker
4. Chief Justice
5. (a) Leader of the Opposition
(b) Cabinet Ministers ⁽³⁾
(c) Field Marshall
(d) Governor of the Central Bank
6. Governors of Provinces ⁽⁴⁾
7. (a) Chief Ministers of Provinces ⁽⁵⁾
(b) State Ministers ^(5.1)
8. Deputy Speaker
Deputy Ministers
Deputy Chairman of Committees
Chief Government Whip
9. (a) Ambassadors and High Commissioners accredited to Sri Lanka in order of date of presentation of Letters of Credence
(b) Ministers Plenipotentiary and Envoys Extraordinary accredited to Sri Lanka in order of date of presentation of Letters of Credence
(c) Chargés d' Affaires en pied in order of date of presentation of Letters of Credence
(d) Chargés d' Affaires ad interim and Acting High Commissioners in order of date of assumption of duties
(e) Resident Representative of the United Nations
10. Members of the Constitutional Council
11. Attorney - General
12. (a) Supreme Court Judges
(b) President of the Court of Appeal
13. Judges of the Court of Appeal
14. Members of Parliament

15. (a) Chairmen of Provincial Councils, Provincial Ministers and Leaders of Opposition of Provincial Councils ⁽⁶⁾
 (b) Members of Provincial Councils ^(6.1)
16. Secretary to the President
17. Secretary to the Prime Minister
18. Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers
19. Auditor-General
20. (a) Secretaries to Cabinet Ministries ⁽⁷⁾ ^(7.1) / Senior Additional Secretaries to the President
 Secretary General of Parliament
 Chief of Staff of the Presidential Secretariat
 Chairmen of the Commissions established under Article 41 of the Constitution,
 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman) ^(7.2)
 Chief Secretaries ^(7.3) ^(7.4)
- (c) Advisors to the President
 Deputy Secretary to the Treasury
- (d) Secretary General of the Constitutional Council
 Chairman of the University Grants Commission
 Vice Chancellors appointed under the Universities Act
21. (a) Secretaries to State Ministries ⁽⁸⁾ ^(8.1)
 (b) Additional Secretaries to the President
22. Chief of Defence Staff
 Commanders of the Army/Navy/Air Force
 Inspector General of Police
23. (a) Solicitor General
 (b) High Court Judges ⁽⁹⁾
24. Visiting Sri Lankan High Commissioners, Ambassadors and Chargés d' Affaires ⁽¹⁰⁾
25. (a) Additional Secretaries to the Prime Minister
 (b) Members of the Commissions established under Article 41 (B) of the Constitution
26. State Officers on the salary scale SL 4-2006 of P.A Circular 06/2006, if not otherwise placed.
27. Additional Secretaries to Ministries
 District Secretaries / Government Agents and Secretaries of Provincial Ministries
28. Chief of Protocol
29. Representatives of United Nations Agencies, Director of the Colombo Plan Bureau and Heads of other International Organizations.

30. (a) Heads of Government Departments and other State Officers of similar rank (i.e. Heads of Departments and other State Officers on the salary scale SL 3 – 2006 of P.A. Circular 06/2006 and Officers in Grade I of the Sri Lanka Overseas Service while serving in Sri Lanka)
(b) Chairmen of State Enterprises (Under Category “A” of the Public Enterprises Department Circulars)
31. (a) Heads of other Government Departments, other State Officers on the salary scale SL 1- 2006 Step 22 of P.A. Circular 06/2006)
(b) Chairman of other State Corporations/Statutory Boards.
32. Honorary Foreign Consuls General, Honorary Consuls and Honorary Trade Commissioners.
33. Mayors, Chairmen of Municipal Councils ⁽¹¹⁾
Deputy Mayors, Vice Chairman of Local Authorities, Members of Municipal Councils and members of Local Authorities. ^(11.1)

NOTES TO THE TABLE OF PRECEDENCE

- (1) Precedence to be given to former Presidents immediately after the Prime Minister, with relative precedence among them governed by the dates of their vacating office.
- (1.1) Precedence to be given to spouses of Late Presidents immediately after the Chief Justice, with relative precedence among them governed by the dates on which the Late Presidents vacated office.
- (2) Precedence to be given to former Prime Ministers immediately after the spouses of Late Presidents referred to in Note 1.1, with relative precedence among them governed by the date of their vacating office.
- (2.1) Precedence to be given to spouses of Late Prime Ministers immediately after the former Prime Ministers referred to in Note 2, with relative precedence among them governed by the dates on which the Late Prime Ministers vacated office.
- (3) At ceremonies and occasions which relate primarily to subjects assigned to a particular Ministry, precedence to be given to subject specified Minister over other Cabinet Ministers.
- (4) At ceremonies and occasions of Provincial nature, precedence to be given to Governor of relevant province immediately after the Prime Minister.
- (5) At ceremonies and occasions of Provincial nature, precedence to be given to Chief Minister of relevant province immediately after Governor referred to in Note 4.
- (5.1) At ceremonies and occasions which relate primarily to subjects assigned to a particular Ministry, precedence to be given to subject specified State Minister over other State Ministers.
- (6) At ceremonies and occasions of Provincial nature, precedence to be given to Chairmen, Ministers and Leaders of Opposition of Provincial Councils immediately after Cabinet Ministers.

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- (6.1) At ceremonies and occasions of Provincial nature, precedence to be given to Members of Provincial Councils immediately after Members of Parliament.
 - (7) Precedence to be given in the order of dates of their original substantive appointments to the post in this category, and where two or more appointments have been made on the same day, according to the alphabetical order of their names.
 - (7.1) At ceremonies and occasions which relate primarily to subjects assigned to a particular Cabinet Ministry, precedence to be given to the Secretary of that Ministry over other Cabinet Ministry Secretaries.
 - (7.2) Precedence to be given in the order of dates of their original substantive appointments to the post in this category, and where two or more appointments have been made on the same day, according to the alphabetical order of their names.
 - (7.3) At ceremonies and occasions of Provincial nature, precedence to be given to Chief Secretary of relevant Provincial Council immediately after Secretary to the Prime Minister.
 - (7.4) Precedence to be given in the order of dates of their original substantive appointments to the post in this category, and where two or more appointments have been made on the same day, according to the alphabetical order of their names.
 - (8) Precedence to be given in the order of dates of their original substantive appointments to the post in this category, and where two or more appointments have been made on the same day, according to the alphabetical order of their names.
 - (8.1) At ceremonies and occasions which relate primarily to subjects assigned to a particular Ministry, precedence to be given to the State Secretary in charge of such subject over other State Ministry Secretaries.
 - (9) At ceremonies and occasions of Provincial nature, precedence to be given to High Court Judges immediately after Governor of the Central Bank.
 - (10) When a Sri Lankan Head of Mission or Acting Head of Mission visits Sri Lanka to participate in the visit of a dignitary of a country to which he is accredited or concurrently accredited, precedence to be given to him immediately after the Secretary, Foreign Affairs.
 - (11) At ceremonies and occasions held in their local areas of authority, precedence to be given immediately after Chief Ministers.
 - (11.1) At ceremonies and occasions held in their local areas of authority, precedence to be given immediately after Members of Parliament.