

भारत सरकार
रेल मंत्रालय (रेलवे बोर्ड)
Government of India
Ministry of Railways
(Railway Board)

No. 2017/PR/17/1

New Delhi, dated: 01.12.2017

Chief Public Relations Officers,
All Zonal Railways/ Production Units

Sub: Use of Table of precedence to invite dignitaries and officials in the public functions- clarifications.

Kindly refer to Board's letter of even number dated 25.01.2017 regarding the above mentioned subject.

2. In the wake of receipt of complaints raised by various MPs/MLAs, it is imperative upon the Board to reiterate that all zonal railways must adhere to the Table of Precedence (http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/table_of_precedence.pdf) as notified in the President Secretariat's letter dated 26th July 1979. Preference should be given to the aforementioned Table of Precedence (issued by MHA) over the Warrant of Precedence issued by any State Government.
3. Whenever Railways organize a public function, the local MPs/MLAs and the Chief Minister or the Minister of the State Government **hailing from the area where function is to be held** should invariably be included among the invitees.
4. Invitations to local Rajya Sabha MPs to attend functions taking place in their nodal districts covered under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) are also to be sent at the MPs' local and permanent addresses.
5. The invitation cards and media events, if organized for the function held in the constituency, may include the names of the Members of that constituency who have confirmed participation in these functions. If a constituency of any Member of Parliament is spread over more than one District, the MP should invariably be invited to all the functions held in any of the Districts which are part of his/her constituency.
6. Proper and comfortable seating arrangements at public functions and proper order of seating on the dais should be made for Member of Parliament keeping in view the fact that they appear above officers of the rank of Secretaries to Government of India in the Warrant of Precedence.

7. For all such functions which are to be attended by Hon'ble Prime Minister, or Minister of Railways, Minister of State for Railways invitations should also be extended to the Governor and Chief Minister of the concerned State/Union Territory.

8. There are a large number of people outside the Warrant of Precedence who in effect are more important than those people who are in the warrant of Precedence and who, on occasions, may rank higher than those who are included in the Warrant. Thus, many eminent public persons, scientists, artists and other non-officials are not included in the Warrant but on any particular function they may be given seats much higher than those included in the list.

9. It is possible that such eminent persons may figure in a particular article in the Table of Precedence by virtue of their holding some official position. The above principle (Para no. 8) will also hold good in regard to such dignitaries and they could accordingly be given higher position in State/Ceremonial/public functions on the strength of their eminence or status in public life notwithstanding their position in the Table.

10. All of the above mentioned instructions are already incorporated in Para 4 of Chapter-V of Manual for Public Relations Department. Hence, you are requested to adhere to these instructions.



(Ved Prakash)
Director, Information & Publicity
Railway Board