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## The Vice President of India - Know About Roles, Responsibilities, Job Profile & Salary!

The Vice-President of India is the second highest office in the Indian Constitution. As we unofficially say, Vice-President is the second citizen of India, first being the President. Read this article to know in detail about the history of the post of Vice-President of India, Articles of Indian Constitution relate to the post of Vice-President of India, Eligibility, Election Process, Salary and more!

### History of the Post of Vice President of India

- The post of Vice President was introduced in the year 1950 when the constitution of India was brought about in action.
- There have been **13 Vice-Presidents since its inception.**
- By taking an oath on May 13, 1952, Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan became the first Vice-President of India.
- After that, on account of the death of Zakir Hussain in 1969, V.V. Giri vacated the position of Vice-President in order to serve as an acting President of India.
- Out of these 13 Vice-Presidents, **6 VPs proceeded to turn into the President.**
- Krishna Kant has been the just a single to kick the bucket amid his tenure.
- On August 11, 2017, **Venkaiah Naidu was confirmed as the thirteenth VP of India.**





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Do You Know?

*By taking an oath on May 13, 1952,  
Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan  
became the **first Vice-President of India.***

## Articles of Indian Constitution Related to Vice President of India

### Article 63: The Vice-President of India

There shall be a Vice-President of India.

### Article 64: The Vice-President to be Ex-officio Chairman of The Council of States

- The Vice-President will by virtue of her/his position be the Chairman of the Council of States and will not hold any other office of profit.
- Given that amid any period when the Vice-President goes about as President or releases the responsibilities of the President under article 65, he will not play out the role of Chairman of the Council of States and will not be qualified for any compensation or remittance payable to the Chairman of the Council of States under article 97.

### Article 65: The Vice-President to act as President or to discharge his functions during casual vacancies in the office, or during the absence, of President

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(1) In case of resignation, impeachment or demise of the President, the Vice-President will go about as President until the date on which another President is chosen as per the constitution.

(2) On account of absence, illness or any other reason, if the President is unfit to release his functions, the Vice-President will release his responsibilities until the date on which the President continues his duties.

### **Article 66: Election of Vice-President**

As President of India, the Vice-President will also be elected through the process called 'Electoral College'.

The Electoral College is made up of the following:

- members of the Rajya Sabha - the upper house of the Parliament of India
- members of the Lok Sabha - the lower house of the Parliament of India

### **Article 67: Term of Office of Vice-President**

The Vice-President will be entitled to serve the tenure of five years subject to terms mentioned in the constitution of India.

### **Article 68: Time of holding an election to fill the vacancy in the office of Vice-President and the term of office of a person elected to fill a casual vacancy**

### **Article 69: Oath or affirmation by the Vice-President**

Each Vice-President will, before joining the position, will take an oath as mentioned in the constitution before the President.





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## Article 70: Discharge of President's functions in other contingencies

Parliament may make such arrangement as it supposes fit for the release of the functions of the President.

## Article 71: Matters relating to, or connected with, the election of a President or Vice-President

All issues emerging out of or regarding the election of a President or Vice-President will be asked into and chosen by the Supreme Court whose choice will be conclusive.

## Article 72: Power of President to grant pardons, etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases

## Article 73: Extent of executive power of the Union

## Eligibility Criteria for the Post of Vice President of India

To be eligible to be the Vice President of India, an individual must

1. be a citizen of India
2. Of 35 years of age or above
3. Not hold any office of benefit
4. Be qualified for election as a member of the Rajya Sabha

This distinction is on the grounds that the Vice President is to go about as the ex officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

## Candidates for the Post of Vice President of India

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- Though Vice-President is also elected through the process of the Electoral College, there is a subtle difference between the election of President and the election of Vice-President. In this case, the members of state legislatures are not included in the Electoral College.
- However, members who have been nominated are included in the Electoral College for the election process.

## Election Process for the Vice President of India

- The candidature of every person running for Vice-Presidency position must be backed by 20 proposers and 20 seconders.
- This is simply to guarantee that candidates who are not considered as less competent are excluded from the race for President.
- Every candidate has to deposit INR 15,000 to Reserve Bank of India.

### Do You Know?

*The election is carried out by the Election Commission of India (ECI). ECI is an autonomous body that is in accordance with the constitution of India.*

- The election for Vice-President has to be conducted within 60 days of the ascent of vacancy.
- For the purpose of election, a 'Returning Officer' is appointed. This position is usually served by the Secretary-General of either House of the Parliament, by rotation. She/He issues a public notice accepting nomination proposals. Nomination papers of the candidates who are satisfying the criteria of enough





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number of proposers and seconders will be scrutinized by the Reporting Officer.

All eligible candidates will be enlisted in the ballot.

- The election process follows a **proportional representation electoral system** through a single transferable vote by secret ballot.
- After the election and counting of votes, the Returning Officer announces the result to the Electoral College.

## Work Tenure for the Post of Vice President of India

As expressed by article 67 of the Constitution of India, Vice-Presidents may stay in position for a period of five years. This term gets altered in the following cases:

1. Resignation
2. Removal by impeachment
3. Death

In the absence of the President, Vice-President has to assume the role of President. A Vice-President is allowed to get re-elected any number of times. In the premature termination of the post of Vice-President, the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha can perform the Vice President's duties as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

## Salary for the Post of Vice President of India

- There is no arrangement for the pay of the Vice President of India.
- She/He gets compensation in the capacity as the ex officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, which is as of now Rs. 1,25,000 every month.
- Besides, the Vice-President is also qualified for a daily allowance, and other privileges.

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- The constitution gives that when the ex officio Vice President goes about as the President or releases the obligations of the President, the person in question is qualified for the pay and benefits of the President.
- The pension for the Vice President is half of the pay.

## Resignation Procedure for the Post of Vice President of India

If the Vice-President of India wishes to resign from the post, she/he will submit her/his resignation to the following persons,

1. President
2. (In case President is not there,) The Chief Justice of India.
3. (If Chief Justice is also not there,) The Speaker of Lok Sabha

## Procedure of Removal From the Post of Vice President of India

As per article 67, the Vice President of India can be removed from the position by a resolution (passed by majority) of the Rajya Sabha and agreed by the Lok Sabha. However, the resolution cannot be taken ahead without 14 days' advance notice.

## Powers, Roles & Responsibilities of Vice President of India

Vice President is the second highest constitutional post in independent India According to the Indian Constitution. Following are the responsibilities and powers of the Vice-President of India:





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- The Vice-President is responsible for the preservation of the rights of and privileges of the members of the Council of States.
- The Vice President plays the role of the President if the President is unavailable.
- When acting as the President, The Vice-President is entitled to the equal powers, immunities and privileges as that of the President.
- The Vice-President is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha.

Though Vice President assists the President in the being the head of the constitutional entities in India, we should remember that, as per the Constitution of India, the posts of the President and the Vice-President cannot be merged.

Hope this article was useful to know about the Vice president of India. Stay updated with more articles for competitive exams.

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