

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6079**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2018**

**Indian Legal Service**

**6079. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria of selection for the post of Additional Secretary, Special Secretary and Secretary for the Indian Legal Service in the Ministry of Law and Justice;
- (b) whether the criteria of merit and seniority has been relaxed by the Government for promotion of officers of Indian Legal Service for the post of Additional Secretary/Special Secretary/ Secretary;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of cases of supersession of officers of Joint Secretary and above level during the current and preceding three years?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) to (d) : The post of Additional Secretary and Secretary are not the encadred posts in the Indian Legal Service. Presently, there is no post of Special Secretary. However, selection for the post of Additional Secretary and Secretary in the Ministry of Law & Justice is made by a Search-cum-Selection Committee in terms of DOP&T's orders of 1999 on the

subject. Presently the Indian Legal Service consists of the four different cadres, the details of which are as follows:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of Cadre</b>	<b>Name of the Grade-I post in the Cadre</b>
1.	Legal Advisers' service cadre	Joint Secretary & Legal Adviser
2.	Government Advocates' service cadre	Senior Government Advocate
3.	Law Officers' Service Cadre	Joint Secretary & Law Officer
4.	Legislative Counsels' Service Cadre	Joint Secretary & Legislative Counsel

The officers holding Grade-I posts in each of the above four cadres are considered for appointment to the post of Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Law & Justice by the aforementioned Search-cum-Selection Committee, on the criterion of suitability. Seniority of these four cadres is maintained separately and no inter-cadre seniority is maintained. Further, the officers holding the posts of Additional Secretary are similarly considered by the Committee for the post of Secretary in the Departments in the Ministry of Law & Justice. No officer of the Joint Secretary and above level has been superseded during the current year and the preceding three years in their respective cadres.