



# Somanathan Appointed as India's New Cabinet Secretary

[Source: IE](#)

The Indian government has appointed **TV Somanathan** as the **new Cabinet Secretary**, succeeding Rajiv Gauba.

- Earlier as Finance Secretary, Somanathan was noted for his careful management of finances and contributed to [Production Linked Incentive Schemes](#) and initiatives like [PM Garib Kalyan](#) and [Atmanirbhar Bharat](#).
- The Cabinet Secretary is the **highest-ranking civil servant in the Government of India**, ex-officio chairman of the **Civil Services Board, the Cabinet Secretariat**.
  - Appointed for a **fixed two-year term**, the Cabinet Secretary ranks eleventh in the Indian order of precedence and is **directly accountable to the Prime Minister**.
  - The Cabinet Secretary's tenure **can be extended up to four years, with an additional extension of up to three months possible**, as per the amended **All India Services (Death-Cum-Retirement-Benefits) Rules, 1958**.
  - Facilitates government operations, provides secretarial support to Cabinet, coordinates inter-ministerial efforts, and resolves conflicts through committees.

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