

Presidents and Vice-Presidents of India Codebook 1.0

<https://github.com/tcpd/pres-vp-release>

Last Updated: 10 May, 2022

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1. Introduction

This dataset contains information on the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of India. The data has been carefully extracted and verified from official government websites that document their names and tenure dates.

We table it in an orderly manner, to systematically place the information under variables such as the names of the candidates, gender, start date of appointment, end date of appointment, number of days in office, and further sociological information. The data also mentions the sources of information for each instance captured, so that users can verify the same.

We have provided the documentation process in the following sections which list the various sources and how they were used to populate the data. Moreover, we have also listed detailed exceptions that we came across while populating and checking the dataset, clarifying the assumptions we have made.

2. Terms and conditions

The Presidents and Vice-Presidents of India dataset is a list of all Indian Presidents and Vice-Presidents from 1950 to 2021. The users are free to download, display or include the data in other products for non-commercial purposes at no cost subject to the following limitations:

Data Citation: "TCPD Presidents and Vice-Presidents of India Dataset (TCPD-PVPD), 1950-2021". Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

Codebook Citation: Neelesh Agrawal, Prachi Arya, Srishti Gupta and Dipanita Malik. 2022. "TCPD Presidents and Vice-Presidents of India Dataset (TCPD-PVPD), 1950-2021 Codebook 1.0", Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

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No Warranty: The Centre makes no warranties with respect to the accuracy of the data. While we do our best to ensure that the numbers are accurate, there is room for error. And as such the user must agree that the Centre shall not be held responsible or liable to the user for any errors, omissions, misstatements and/or misrepresentations of the data though the user is encouraged to report the same to us ([send us a message](#) or write to us at tcpd-contact@ashoka.edu.in).

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Acknowledgement: The user must agree that the use of the Data presented within the application can be seen as the acknowledgement of unconditionally accepting the Terms of Use presented by the Centre.

3. Table 1: Variable names, type, and labels in the Presidents of India Dataset

| No. | Variable Name | Variable Type | Variable Label |
|-----|-----------------------|---------------|---|
| 1 | ID | alphanumeric | This is a unique personal identifier across tenures and the two datasets. For instance, VV Giri's "ID" is PRES004 for both instances of the President tenure as well as the Vice-President tenure. |
| 2 | Name | string | Name of the President |
| 3 | Gender | string | Gender of the President |
| 4 | Start_Date | date | The date (in yyyy-mm-dd format) on which the President took office |
| 5 | End_Date | date | The date (in yyyy-mm-dd format) on which the President left office |
| 6 | Reason_for_Tenure_End | string | Reason why the tenure ended. |
| 7 | Days_in_Office | numeric | The duration (in days) for which the President held office |
| 8 | Acting | logical | Indicator whether the President was serving as an acting President. |
| 9 | Date_of_Birth | date | The date in yyyy-mm-dd format on which the President was born. |
| 10 | Year_of_Death | date | The year (yyyy) in which the President died. Coded as NA if the person is a former President and living. |
| 11 | Degrees_Earned | string | Refers to the highest educational degree obtained. Excludes honorary degrees. |

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---------|--|
| 12 | Political_Affiliation | string | The political party on whose ticket the President contested Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha elections in the past. Contains FALSE if they were not affiliated with any political party. |
| 13 | Married | logical | <p>TRUE if the President was married and the information is publicly verifiable from official government sources;</p> <p>FALSE if the President was not married and the information is publicly verifiable from official government sources;</p> <p>NA if no publicly verifiable information is available on the President's marital status from official government sources.</p> |
| 14 | Lok_Sabha | string | <p>The value is FALSE if the President never contested to be an elected Member of Parliament.</p> <p>The values contain the TCPD-IED "keys" in the case that the President contested to be an elected Member of Parliament and the corresponding information is available in the TCPD-IED. The key is a concatenation of the values "State_Name", "Assembly_No", "Constituency_No", "Poll_No" and "Position" as in the TCPD-IED. A single key can be used to derive the "pid" from the TCPD-IED, which can then be used to look at all tenures for the person in the TCPD-IED. Example key: "Uttar-Pradesh-10-63-0-2" for PRES016 indicates that the person contested an election to the 10th Uttar Pradesh Lok Sabha assembly, for constituency number 63, during the regular election cycle and ranked 2.</p> <p>TRUE if the President contested to be an elected Member of Parliament but did so before 1962, or the records for which are not available in the TCPD-IED.</p> |

| | | | |
|----|-------------|---------|--|
| 15 | Rajya_Sabha | logical | <p>TRUE if the President served as a Member of Parliament for the Rajya Sabha in the past;</p> <p>FALSE if the President did not serve as a Member of Parliament for Rajya Sabha in the past.</p> |
| 16 | MLA | string | <p>FALSE if the President never contested to be an elected Member of a State Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>The values contain the TCPD-IED "keys" in the case that the President contested to be a Member of a State Legislative Assembly and the corresponding information is available in the TCPD-IED. This is a concatenation of the values "State_Name", "Assembly_No", "Constituency_No", "Poll_No" and "Position" as in the TCPD-IED. A single key can be used to derive the "pid" from the TCPD-IED, which can then be used to look at all tenures for the person in the TCPD-IED.</p> <p>Example key: "Uttar_Pradesh-15-279-0-3" for PRES016 indicates that the person contested an election to the 15th Uttar_Pradesh state assembly, for constituency number 279, during the regular election cycle and ranked 3.</p> <p>TRUE if the President contested to be an elected Member of a State Legislative Assembly but did so before 1962, or the records for which are not available in the TCPD-IED.</p> |
| 17 | MLC | logical | <p>TRUE if the President served as a Member of Legislative Council for a state assembly;</p> <p>FALSE if they did not serve as a Member of Legislative Council for a state assembly.</p> |

| | | | |
|----|------------------|-----------|---|
| 18 | Governor | string | <p>FALSE if the President has never served as a Governor or Lieutenant Governor of any state.</p> <p>Contains the ID in numerical format for Presidents that served as Governors or Lieutenant Governors of a state and can be matched with the TCPD-GID. For example: "380" for PRES016 maps to the row in TCPD-GID, indicating that the person served as Governor for the state of Bihar.</p> |
| 19 | Union_Cabinet | logical | <p>TRUE if the President served as a Minister in the Union Cabinet in the past;</p> <p>FALSE if the President did not serve a Minister in the Union Cabinet in the past</p> |
| 20 | State_Cabinet | logical | <p>TRUE if the President served as a Minister in the Cabinet of a state in the past;</p> <p>FALSE if the President did not serve a Minister in the Cabinet of a state in the past.</p> |
| 21 | Source_Sociology | hyperlink | Sources used to determine the sociological and political history variables i.e., variables #11-#20 |
| 22 | Mercy_Accepted | numeric | Number of mercy petitions filed by death row convicts commuted to life sentences by the President under Article 72 of the constitution during their tenure. |
| 23 | Mercy_Rejected | numeric | Number of mercy petitions filed by death row convicts rejected by the President during their tenure. |
| 24 | Mercy_Disposed | numeric | Number of mercy petitions accepted and rejected by the President during their tenure. |

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|----|----------------|---------|--|
| 25 | Ordinances | numeric | Number of central ordinances promulgated by the President on advice of the Union government while the Parliament was not in session under Article 123 of the constitution. |
| 26 | President_Rule | numeric | Contains in numerical format the sum of the number of instances in which President's rule was imposed in states during the tenure of the President. |

4. Table 2: Variable names, type, and labels in the Vice-Presidents of India Dataset

| No. | Variable Name | Variable Type | Variable Label |
|-----|-----------------------|---------------|---|
| 1 | ID | alphanumeric | This is a unique personal identifier across tenures and the two datasets. For instance, VV Giri's "ID" is PRES004 for both instances of the President tenure as well as the Vice-President tenure. |
| 2 | Name | string | Name of the Vice-President |
| 3 | Gender | string | Gender of the Vice-President |
| 4 | Start_Date | date | The date (in yyyy-mm-dd format) on which the Vice-President took office |
| 5 | End_Date | date | The date (in yyyy-mm-dd format) on which the Vice-President left office |
| 6 | Reason_for_Tenure_End | string | Reason why the tenure ended. |
| 7 | Days_In_Office | numeric | The duration (in days) for which the Vice-President held office |
| 8 | Appointment_Delay | numeric | The duration from the end date of the previous Vice-President to the start date of the current Vice-President |
| 9 | Date_of_Birth | numeric | The date in yyyy-mm-dd format on which the Vice-President was born. |
| 10 | Date_of_Death | numeric | The date in yyyy-mm-dd format on which the Vice-President died. NA for living former Vice-Presidents. |

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---------|--|
| 11 | Degrees Earned | string | Refers to the highest educational degree obtained. Excludes honorary degrees. |
| 12 | Political_Affiliation | string | The political party on whose ticket the Vice-President contested Lok Sabha or State Legislative elections in the past. Contains FALSE if they were not affiliated with any political party. |
| 13 | Married | logical | <p>TRUE if the Vice-President was married and the information is publicly verifiable from official government sources;</p> <p>FALSE if the Vice-President was not married and the information is publicly verifiable from official government sources;</p> <p>NA if no publicly verifiable information is available on the Vice-President's marital status from official government sources.</p> |
| 14 | Lok_Sabha | string | <p>FALSE if the President never contested to be an elected Member of Parliament.</p> <p>The values contain the TCPD-IED "keys" in the case that the President contested to be an elected Member of Parliament and the corresponding information is available in the TCPD-IED. This is a concatenation of the values "State_Name", "Assembly_No", "Constituency_No", "Poll_No" and "Position" as in the TCPD-IED. A single key can be used to derive the "pid" from the TCPD-IED, which can then be used to look at all tenures for the person in the TCPD-IED.</p> <p>Example key: "Uttar-Pradesh-10-63-0-2" for PRES016 indicates that the person contested an election to the 10th Uttar_Pradesh Lok Sabha assembly, for</p> |

| | | | |
|----|-------------|---------|---|
| | | | <p>constituency number 63, during the regular election cycle and ranked 2.</p> <p>TRUE if the President contested to be an elected Member of Parliament but did so before 1962, or the records for which are not available in the TCPD-IED.</p> |
| 15 | Rajya_Sabha | logical | <p>TRUE if the Vice-President served as a Member of Parliament for the Rajya Sabha in the past;</p> <p>FALSE if the Vice-President did not serve as a Member of Parliament for Rajya Sabha in the past.</p> |
| 16 | MLA | string | <p>FALSE if the President never contested to be an elected Member of a State Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>The values contain the TCPD-IED "keys" in the case that the President contested to be a Member of a State Legislative Assembly and the corresponding information is available in the TCPD-IED. This is a concatenation of the values "State_Name", "Assembly_No", "Constituency_No", "Poll_No" and "Position" as in the TCPD-IED. A single key can be used to derive the "pid" from the TCPD-IED, which can then be used to look at all tenures for the person in the TCPD-IED. Example key: "Uttar_Pradesh-15-279-0-3" for PRES016 indicates that the person contested an election to the 15th Uttar_Pradesh state assembly, for constituency number 279, during the regular election cycle and ranked 3.</p> <p>TRUE if the President contested to be an elected Member of a State Legislative Assembly but did so before</p> |

| | | | |
|----|---------------|-----------|--|
| | | | 1962, or the records for which are not available in the TCPD-IED . |
| 17 | MLC | logical | <p>TRUE if the Vice-President served as a Member of Legislative Council for a state assembly;</p> <p>FALSE if they did not serve as a Member of Legislative Council for a state assembly.</p> |
| 18 | Governor | string | <p>FALSE if the President has never served as a Governor or Lieutenant Governor of any state.</p> <p>Contains the ID in numerical format for Presidents that served as Governors or Lieutenant Governors of a state and can be matched with the TCPD-GID.</p> <p>For example: "380" for PRES016 maps to the row in TCPD-GID, indicating that the person served as Governor for the state of Bihar.</p> |
| 19 | Union_Cabinet | logical | <p>TRUE if the Vice-President served as a Minister in the Union Cabinet in the past;</p> <p>FALSE if the Vice-President did not serve as a Minister in the Union Cabinet in the past</p> |
| 20 | State_Cabinet | logical | <p>TRUE if the Vice-President served as a Minister in the Cabinet of a state in the past;</p> <p>FALSE if the Vice-President did not serve a Minister in the Cabinet of a state in the past.</p> |
| 21 | Source_Socio | hyperlink | Sources used to determine the sociological and political history variables i.e., variables #8-#18 |

5. Table 3: Data Sources

Presidents of India

| No | Source | Variables |
|----|--|-----------|
| 1 | https://presidentofindia.nic.in/former-presidents.htm | #1-#10 |
| 2 | https://knowindia.gov.in/general-information/presidents-of-india.php | #1-#10 |
| 3 | https://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/reports/report262.pdf https://rashtrapatisachivalaya.gov.in/mercy-petition-0 | #22-#24 |
| 4 | https://legislative.gov.in/documents/legislative-references | #25 |
| 5 | http://abdulkalam.nic.in/profile.html | #11-#21 |
| 6 | http://pranabmukherjee.nic.in/profile.html | #11-#21 |
| 7 | http://pratibhapatil.nic.in/profile.html | #11-#21 |
| 8 | https://doj.gov.in/about-us/minister/former-minister/sh-bdjatti | #11-#21 |
| 9 | https://presidentofindia.nic.in/profile.htm | #11-#21 |
| 10 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/dr_radhakrishnan_1.asp | #11-#21 |
| 11 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/dr_z_husain_3.asp | #11-#21 |
| 12 | https://www.jmi.ac.in/aboutjamia/profile/history/Past_Vice_Chancellors_Profile-16/Dr_Zakir_Husain-2157 | #11-#21 |
| 13 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/sdsharma_9.asp | #11-#21 |
| 14 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/v_v_gri_4.asp | #11-#21 |
| 15 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/pre_member/1952_2003/s.pdf | #11-#21 |
| 16 | https://siwan.nic.in/dr-rajendra-prasad/ | #11-#21 |
| 17 | https://speakerloksabha.nic.in/former/Nsanjivareddy.asp | #11-#21 |
| 18 | https://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/former-vice-president/sh-kr-narayanan | #11-#21 |
| 19 | https://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/former-vice-president/sh-r-venkataraman | #11-#21 |
| 20 | https://web.archive.org/web/20140728063226/http://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/hiday.asp | #11-#21 |
| 21 | https://web.archive.org/web/20170729054858/http://www.rtrtd.nic.in/fakhruddinaliahmed.htm | #11-#21 |

Vice-Presidents of India

| No | Source | Variables |
|----|---|-----------|
| 1 | https://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/former-vice-Presidents | #1-#13 |
| 2 | https://knowindia.gov.in/general-information/vice-presidents-of-india.php | #1-#13 |
| 3 | https://doj.gov.in/about-us/minister/former-minister/sh-bdjatti | #11-#21 |
| 4 | https://mhamidansari.nic.in/profile | #11-#21 |
| 5 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/chairman/gsp.asp | #11-#21 |
| 6 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/chairman/kant.asp | #11-#21 |
| 7 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/dr_radhakhishan_1.asp | #11-#21 |
| 8 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/dr_z_husain_3.asp | #11-#21 |
| 9 | https://www.jmi.ac.in/aboutjamia/profile/history/Past_Vice_Chancellors_Profile-16/Dr_Zakir_Husain-2157 | #11-#21 |
| 10 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/sdsharma_9.asp | #11-#21 |
| 11 | https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/picture_gallery/v_v_gri_4.asp | #11-#21 |
| 12 | https://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/former-vice-president/sh-bhairon-singh-shekhawat | #11-#21 |
| 13 | https://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/former-vice-president/sh-krishna-narayanan | #11-#21 |
| 14 | https://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/former-vice-president/sh-ramesh-venkataraman | #11-#21 |
| 15 | https://web.archive.org/web/20140728063226/http://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/hiday.asp | #11-#21 |
| 16 | https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/whos-who/vice-president | #11-#21 |

6. Documentation Process

The list of Presidents and Vice Presidents of India was scraped from <https://presidentofindia.nic.in/former-presidents.htm> and <https://vicepresidentofindia.nic.in/former-vice-Presidents> respectively, along with the dates they took and left office. Next, this was cross-checked through <https://knowindia.gov.in/general-information/>, which was also used to get the data on acting Presidents as well as the current President and Vice-President. The term durations were calculated based on the scraped dates. The delay in appointment of Vice-Presidents was similarly calculated.

Further information on their sociological and political history was derived using TCPD's existing dataset [TCPD-IED](#) as well as various data sources as listed out in table 3.

The Law Commission report provides information on the number of mercy petitions disposed of by all Presidents including and before Pranab Mukherjee, further disaggregated into the number of petitions rejected and accepted. Data on the petitions disposed of by the current President, Ram Nath Kovind, has been obtained from the President's Secretariat. This information has been incorporated in variables #22-#24.

The count of ordinances passed by each has been obtained from <https://legislative.gov.in/documents/legislative-references>. The list of ordinances, by year and president, is also maintained in a spreadsheet (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12eA596xDGOSR6DlS5DRGa9pOULUkLxuDoQ72IRp69fA/edit>).

7. Exceptions

VV Giri studied law and English at the University College Dublin (<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/north/story/university-college-dublin-announces-special-scholarships-for-indian-students-219875-2013-12-06>). This has been codified as equivalent to a BA LLB.