



1196, Sadashiv Peth, Limayewadi Road, pune - 411030.
contact- 020-29526979/ 9699644930 E-Mail- ssf@ssfoffice.co.in

Constitution Day: By the people for the people

Honouring India's Democratic Legacy and Inclusive Vision

Introduction:

Constitution Day, observed on November 26th, stands as a poignant tribute to the remarkable journey of India's constitutional evolution. This significant occasion commemorates the adoption of the Constitution of India, a living document that encapsulates the nation's democratic values and pluralistic ethos. As we reflect on the profound significance of this day, it is imperative to recognize the contributions of the visionary leaders, the pivotal role of the Drafting Committee, and the enduring spirit of inclusivity that continues to shape India's democratic narrative.

Making of Constitution:

A distinctive document with many extraordinary features, the Constitution of India is the longest written constitution of any sovereign nation in the world. The original text of the Constitution contained 395 articles in 22 parts and eight schedules. It came into effect on January 26, 1950, the day that India celebrates each year as the Republic Day. The number of articles has since increased to 448 due to 100 amendments.

The Constitution was framed by the Constituent Assembly of India, established by the members of the provincial assemblies elected by the people of India. Dr Sachidanand Sinha was the first president of the Constituent Assembly. Later, Dr Rajendra Prasad was elected its president. Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the chairman of its Drafting Committee, is considered the chief architect of the Indian Constitution that's why constitution has a comprehensive and dynamic framework to guide and govern the country, keeping in view her unique social, cultural and religious diversity.

Embracing Constitutional Values of Social Equality:

The foundation of the Indian Constitution rests upon the pillars of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity, principles that serve as the cornerstone of a progressive and inclusive society.

The profound commitment to social equality and unity, embodied in the Constitution, underscores the nation's unwavering dedication to uplifting marginalized communities and ensuring their active participation in the nation-building process. Constitution Day serves as a timely reminder of the imperative to uphold these constitutional values in our collective pursuit of a more equitable and just society.

The Architect of the Constitution:

On this momentous day, it is crucial to pay homage to the stalwart leaders, including Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel, and Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, among others, who spearheaded the drafting and adoption of the Constitution. In addition to these stalwart leaders, the contribution of Dakshayani Velayudhan, the only Dalit woman member of the Constituent Assembly, signifies the importance of inclusive representation and the need to amplify the voices of marginalized communities in the constitutional discourse. Their visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to the democratic ideals of the nation laid the groundwork for a robust constitutional framework that has withstood the test of time. Particularly, the pivotal role played by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, stands as a testament to the inclusive vision that continues to guide the nation's constitutional journey.

Recognizing Artistic Contributions to the Constitution:

Amidst the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly, the artistic contributions of Nandalal Bose and his students from Santiniketan's Viswa Bharati school added a unique dimension to the Indian Constitution. Their artistic renditions, depicting India's rich historical tapestry, transformed the Constitution into a cultural artifact, symbolizing the nation's diverse heritage and cultural unity. The integration of artistic representations within the Constitution serves as a poignant reminder of the interconnectedness of art, history, and governance, fostering a deeper appreciation for India's cultural legacy.

Protecting Diversity, Fostering Unity:

India, known for its cultural diversity and pluralistic society, embraces a multitude of languages, religions, and traditions. The Constitution acts as a shield, safeguarding the rights of every individual, irrespective of their background. It guarantees fundamental rights and promotes the empowerment of marginalized communities, ensuring their active participation in the nation-building process. Through affirmative action and provisions for the upliftment of socially disadvantaged groups, the Constitution strives to create a level playing field, promoting social justice and inclusivity.

Conclusion:

As India commemorates Constitution Day, let us reaffirm our dedication to upholding the democratic ideals and values enshrined in the Constitution. By embracing the legacy of the

founding leaders, honouring the contributions of all communities, and fostering a culture of inclusivity, we can strengthen the democratic fabric of our nation and pave the way for a more equitable and prosperous future. Constitution Day serves as a powerful reminder of the resilience and unity that defines India's democratic spirit, urging us to continue our journey toward a more just and inclusive society for all.

Prajvalant Kavthekar (prajvalant.k@gmail.com)