

Constitution of India

Formation of Constitution Assembly:

M.N. Roy had given the idea of a constitution in India in 1934. He was a pioneer of the communist movement in India. In 1934 Indian National Congress demanded a constituent assembly to frame the constitution of India. In 1938 Jawahar Lal Nehru announced that the constitution of India was made by the constituent assembly without any external interference and this demand was accepted by the British Parliament in 1940 which was known as August Offer.

In 1942 under Cripps India Mission Sir Stafford Cripps announced that Constituent Assembly will be set up, but it was set up after the Second World War. And finally, in 1946 under Cabinet Mission Plan constituent assembly of India was set up by Cripps Lawrence and Alexander.

Constituent Assembly Members

All the important personalities of India were included in the Constituent Assembly except Mahatma Gandhi and M.A. Jinnah. On 9th December 1946, the first meeting of the Constituent Assembly took place under the leadership of Dr Sachidanand Sinha. Later, he was replaced by Dr Rajendra Prasad as the permanent president of the constituent assembly and by H.C Mukherjee as the Vice President of the Constituent Assembly. Mr B.N. Rau was appointed as the advisor of the Constituent Assembly. Dr Bhima Rao Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution.

- The Constituent Assembly presented three drafts of the Constitution on 4th November 1948, 15th November 1948 and 14th November 1949. After an enormous number of changes, the Constituent Assembly accepted the Constitution on 26th November 1949.
- The last session of the Constituent Assembly was held on 24th January 1950 where Dr Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of India and 284 members of the assembly signed the official copies of the Constitution.
- The remaining provisions of the Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950, and this date of its commencement was celebrated as the Republic Day.
- The Constituent Assembly took 2 years, 11 months and 18 days in making the Constitution and the cost of making the Constitution was approximately 64 lacs.
- Dr. B.R Ambedkar played a major role and was the chairman of the drafting committee of the constitution that is why he is also known as the father of the Indian Constitution.

Features of Indian Constitution:

- Constitution of India is a legal document of our country with the help of it our country's affairs are managed. It is a document which establishes the doctrine of limited government and democratic rule within our country.
- The nature of the Indian Constitution is Quasi-federal i.e. most of it is federal and less unitary in nature. During the normal circumstances, it is federal but during the proclamation of National Emergency under article 352, the nature of the constitution becomes unitary in nature.
- India's Constitution is the longest written constitution in the history of the world having a Preamble, 395 Articles, 22 Parts, and 8 Schedules although presently it has around 465 Articles, 25 parts, 12 Schedules, and more than 100 Amendment.
- Indian constitution is a single document which contains the fundamental rights, fundamental duties, and directive principles.

- Indian constitution is the combination of both rigid and flexible in nature. Flexible in the sense some parts of it can be amended by it on the simple majority and some part of it is rigid that is which require two-thirds of majority and not less than one-half of the state legislatures.
- Indian constitution is independent and impartial in nature.

Drafting Committee Members:

The drafting committee was set up on 29th August 1947. The drafting committee consists of seven members.

1. Bhimrao Ambedkar (Father of the Constitution)
2. Gopala Swamy Ayyar
3. Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar
4. Syed Mohammad Saadullah
5. K.M Munshi
6. Madhava Rau (replaced B.L Mitra)
7. T Krishnamachari (replaced D.P. Khaitan)

The Drafting Committee took less than six months to prepare the draft.
