

# भारत का संविधान

## उद्देशिका

हम, भारत के लोग, भारत को एक <sup>1</sup>[संपूर्ण प्रभुत्व-संपन्न समाजवादी पंथनिरपेक्ष लोकतंत्रात्मक गणराज्य] बनाने के लिए, तथा उसके समस्त नागरिकों को :

सामाजिक, आर्थिक और राजनैतिक न्याय,

विचार, अभिव्यक्ति, विश्वास, धर्म

और उपासना की स्वतंत्रता,

प्रतिष्ठा और अवसर की समता

प्राप्त कराने के लिए,

तथा उन सब में

व्यक्ति की गरिमा और <sup>2</sup>[राष्ट्र की एकता

और अखंडता] सुनिश्चित करने वाली बंधुता

बढ़ाने के लिए

दृढसंकल्प होकर अपनी इस संविधान सभा में आज तारीख 26 नवम्बर, 1949 ई० (मिति मार्गशीर्ष शुक्ला सप्तमी, संवत् दो हजार छह विक्रमी) को एतद्वारा इस संविधान को अंगीकृत, अधिनियमित और आत्मार्पित करते हैं ।

- 
1. संविधान (बयालीसवां संशोधन) अधिनियम, 1976 की धारा 2 द्वारा (3-1-1977 से) "प्रभुत्व-संपन्न लोकतंत्रात्मक गणराज्य" के स्थान पर प्रतिस्थापित ।
  2. संविधान (बयालीसवां संशोधन) अधिनियम, 1976 की धारा 2 द्वारा (3-1-1977 से) "राष्ट्र की एकता" के स्थान पर प्रतिस्थापित ।

# THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

## PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a <sup>1</sup>[SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC] and to secure to all its citizens:

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;

and to promote among them all

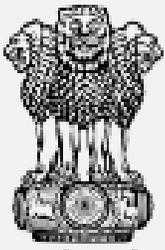
FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the <sup>2</sup>[unity and integrity of the Nation];

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

---

1. Subs. by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, s. 2 for "SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC" (w.e.f. 3-1-1977).

2. Subs. by *ibid*, for "unity of the Nation" (w.e.f. 3-1-1977).



सत्यमेव जयते

Ministry of Tourism  
Government of India

Incredible!ndia



# Preamble to the Constitution of India

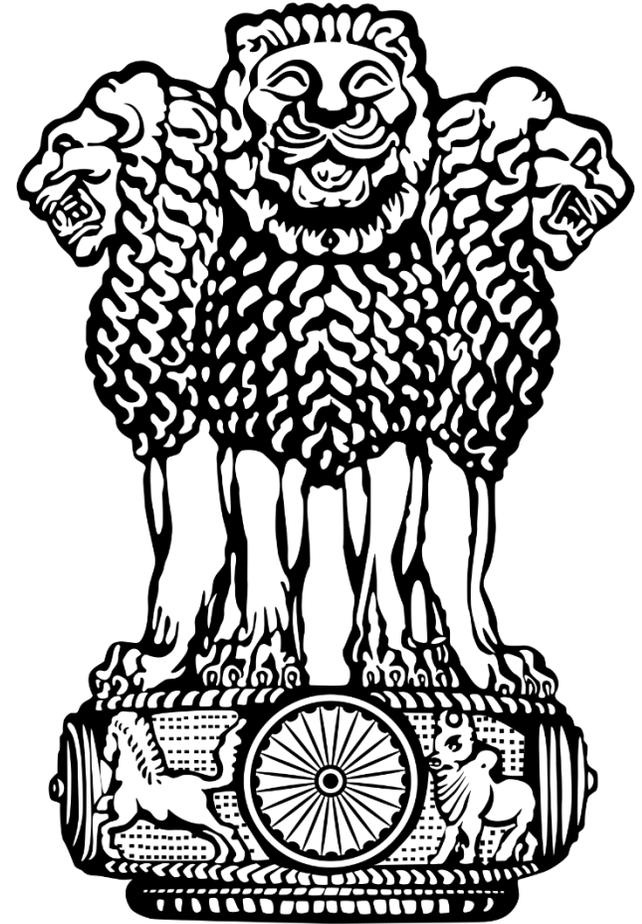


***“We are guided by the desire to empower 130 crore Indians and our guiding light is the Constitution of India”***

***- Hon'ble Prime Minister***

# Preamble to the Constitution of India

- The Preamble to the Constitution of free India is a beautifully worded prologue. It contains the basic ideas, objectives, and philosophical postulates the Constitution of India stands for. They provide justifications for constitutional provisions.
- The Preamble is called the introduction letter of the Indian Constitution. The preamble was amended by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1976, in which three new words Socialist, Secular, and Integrity were added.



सत्यमेव जयते

# The Preamble states:

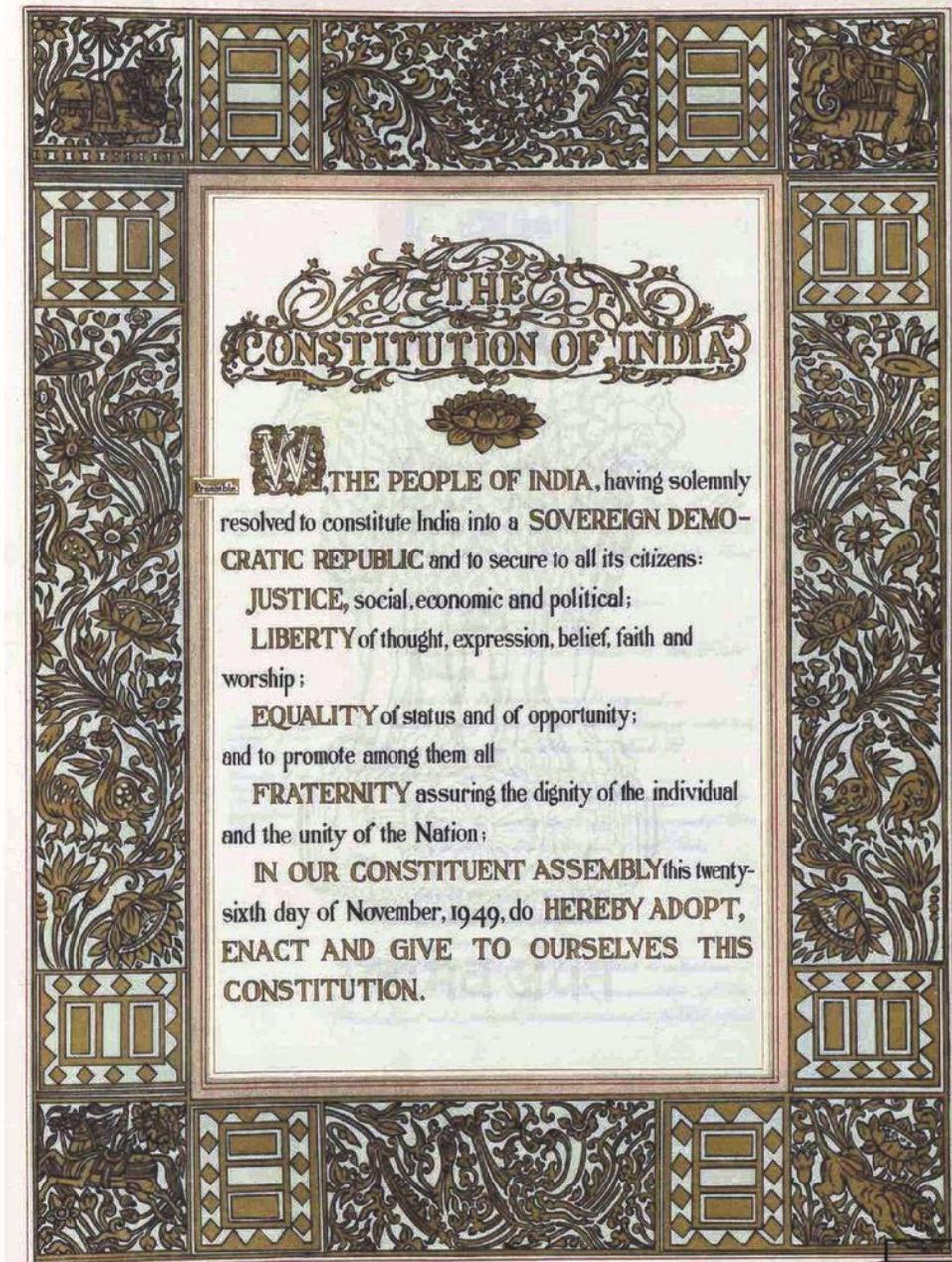
WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a <sup>1</sup>[SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC] and to secure to all its citizens:

- JUSTICE, social, economic and political;
  - LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship;
  - EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;
- and to promote among them all
- FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the <sup>2</sup>[unity and the integrity of the nation];

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

1. Subs. by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, s. 2 for "SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC" (w.e.f. 3-1-1977).

2. Subs. by *ibid*, for "unity of the Nation" (w.e.f. 3-1-1977).

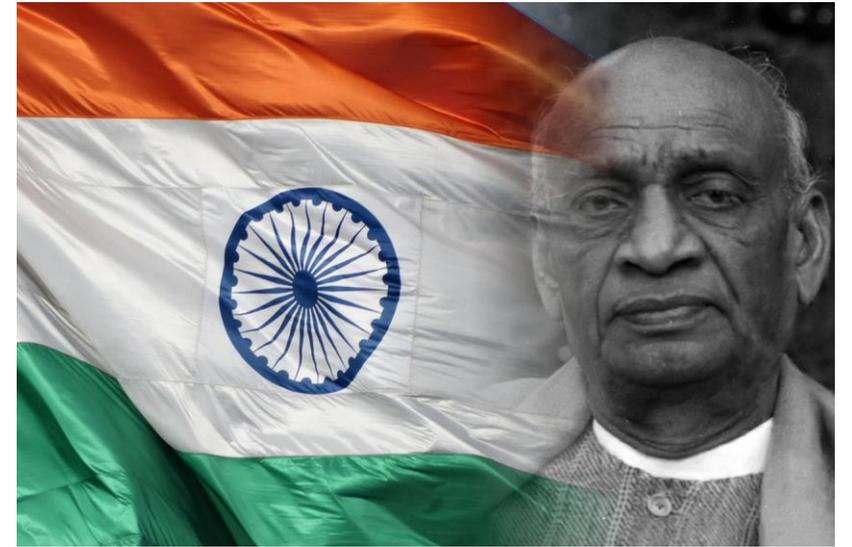


Signature of the artist Beohar Rammanohar Sinha as 'Ram'  
अलंकरणकर्ता ब्यौहार राममनोहर सिंहा के संक्षिप्त हस्ताक्षर 'राम'



# The Preamble states:

- *IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this **twenty-sixth day of November 1949**, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.*
- **The Four Components of the Preamble are:**



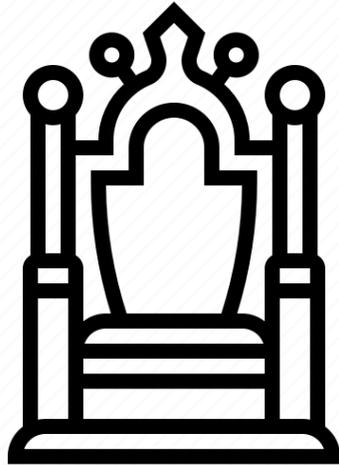
The Preamble indicates that the source of authority of the Constitution lies with the people of India.

It declares India to be a socialist, secular, secular, democratic and a republic nation.

It states its objectives to secure justice, liberty, equality to all citizens and promote fraternity to maintain unity and integrity of the nation.

It mentions the date (November 26, 1949) on which the constitution was adopted.

# The keywords in the Preamble are explained below:



## SOVEREIGN

The Preamble proclaims that **India is a Sovereign State**. 'Sovereign' means that **India has its own independent authority and it is not a dominion or dependent state of any other external power**. The Legislature of India has the powers to enact laws in the country subject to certain limitations imposed by the Constitution.

## SOCIALIST

The word 'Socialist' was added to the Preamble by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976. **Socialism means the achievement of socialist ends through democratic means**. India has adopted '**Democratic Socialism**'. Democratic Socialism holds faith in a mixed economy where both private and public sectors co-exist side by side. It aims to end poverty, ignorance, disease and inequality of opportunity.



# The keywords in the Preamble are explained below:

## SECULAR



The word 'Secular' was incorporated in the Preamble by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976. The term secular in the Constitution of India means that **all the religions in India get equal respect, protection and support from the state.** Articles 25 to 28 in Part III of the Constitution guarantee Freedom of Religion as a Fundamental Right.

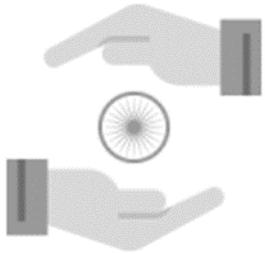
## DEMOCRATIC

The term Democratic indicates that the **Constitution has established a form of government that gets its authority from the will of the people expressed in an election.** The Preamble resolves India to be a democratic country. That means the supreme power lies with the people. In the Preamble, the term democracy is used for political, economic and social democracy. The responsible representative government, universal adult franchise, one vote one value, an independent judiciary, etc. are the features of Indian democracy.



# The keywords in the Preamble are explained below:

## REPUBLIC



In a Republic, the **head of the state is elected by the people directly or indirectly**. In India, the President is the head of the state. The President of India is elected indirectly by the people; that means, through their representatives in the Parliament and the State Assemblies. Moreover, in a republic, political sovereignty is vested in the people rather than a monarch.

## JUSTICE

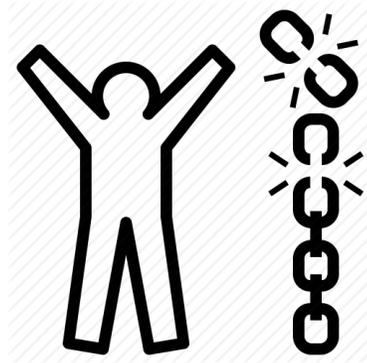
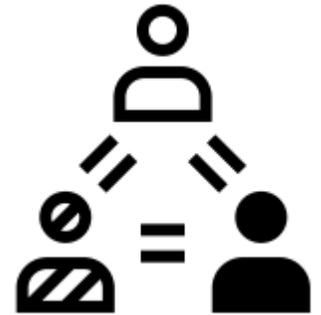
- The term Justice in the Preamble embraces three distinct forms: **Social, economic and political, secured through various provisions of the Fundamental and Directive Principles.**
- Social justice in the Preamble means that the Constitution wants to create a more equitable society based on equal social status. Economic justice means equitable distribution of wealth among the individual members of the society so that wealth is not concentrated in a few hands. Political Justice means that all citizens have equal rights in political participation. Indian Constitution provides for universal adult suffrage and equal value for each vote.



# The keywords in the Preamble are explained below:

## EQUALITY

**Equality means the absence of privileges or discrimination against any section of the society.** The Preamble provides for equality of status and opportunity to all the people of the country. The Constitution strives to provide social, economic and political equality in the country.



## LIBERTY

Liberty implies the absence of restraints or domination on the activities of an individual such as freedom from slavery, serfdom, imprisonment, despotism, etc. The Preamble provides for the **liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship.**

## FRATERNITY

**Fraternity means the feeling of brotherhood.** The Preamble seeks to promote fraternity among the people assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.



## **Amendment in the Preamble**

- In 1976, the Preamble was amended (only once till date) by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act. Three new terms, Socialist, Secular, and Integrity were added to the Preamble. The Supreme Court held this amendment validly.

## **Interpretation by the Supreme Court**

- The Preamble was added to the Constitution after the rest of the Constitution was already enacted. The Supreme Court in the Berubari Union case (1960) held that the Preamble is not a part of the Constitution. However, it recognised that the Preamble could be used as a guiding principle if a term in any article of the Constitution is ambiguous or has more than one meaning.
- In Kesavanand Bharti case (1973), the Supreme Court overturned its earlier decision and held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution and can be amended under Article 368 of the Constitution. Again, in LIC of India case, the Supreme Court held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution.