



INTRODUCTION TO CONSTITUTION

The Constitution of India is the Law of the Land. It has more than 470 articles, 25 parts and 12 Schedules. 105 Amendments have been made to the Constitution. 42nd Amendment is also called as the “Mini Constitution”.

THE PREAMBLE:

1. It is known as the “Introduction to the Constitution”.
2. It sets out the main objectives of the Constitution.
3. It is based on the Objective Resolution drafted by Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru.
4. It contains the spirit and essence of the Constitution.

KEY COMPONENTS OF PREAMBLE:

1. Authority: People of India
2. Date of Adoption: 26th November 1949
3. Enforcement: 26th January 1950
4. Nature of India: Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic
5. Objectives: Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity

IMPORTANCE:

1. Key to minds of the makers of Constitution
2. 42nd Amendment added three new words: Socialist, Secular and Democratic
3. Non-Justiciable and cannot be enforced in court of law
4. Does not provide definite and real powers to the three organs of the state

KEY TERMS OF PREAMBLE:

1. **SOVEREIGN:** India is not dependent on the dominion of any country. It is an independent nation.
2. **SOCIALIST:** Ownership of productive forces by the government.
3. **SECULAR:** The state itself has no religion of its own. It respects all religions equally.

4. **DEMOCRATIC:** Types: Direct and Indirect. Direct: People directly vote on policy initiatives. (Referendum, Recall, Initiative and Plebiscite). Indirect: People vote for representatives.
5. **REPUBLIC:** No hereditary ruler. All authorities are elected.
6. **JUSTICE:** Political: Adult suffrage, Social & Economic Justice: No discrimination
7. **LIBERTY:** Thought, Expression, belief, faith and worship.
8. **EQUALITY:** Of Status and Opportunity
9. **FRATERNITY:** A sense of brotherhood prevails amongst all sections of people.

CASE-LAWS:

1. **Re Berubari Union (1960):** Preamble not a part of Constitution.
2. **Kesavnanda Bharati (1973):** Preamble is a part of Constitution.
3. **LIC of India Case (1995)**
4. **SR Bommai Case (1993)**
5. **Golak Nath V/s State of Punjab:** The Preamble contains in a nutshell ideals and aspirations of the Constitution
6. **K.S Puttuswamy V/s UOI:** Preamble emphasises the need to secure to its all citizens Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity