

# Book Review

## Introduction to the Constitution of India

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Constitution of India is a terminology which should be in the heart, mind and tongue of each and every true citizen of the country as a need, respect and tribute to the motherland. The present book is very strong in approaching the mind of the learner to make him understand the emotional as well as the professional pulse of the constitution of India and its various distributaries. The book is commanded by very simple, economical and lucid expressions all the way with an appropriate citing of examples in Indian content. The book is divided into nine parts, where Part 1 contain Chapters 1-10; Part 2 contain Chapters 11-12; Part 3 contain Chapters 13-15; Part 4 contains Chapter 16; Part 5 contain Chapters 17-19; Part 6 contains Chapter 20; Part 7 contain Chapters 21-23, Part 8 contain Chapters 24-28 and Part 9 contain Chapters 29-34. The individual chapters are followed by references and at the end, the presence of required tables and index is giving a fruitful close to the present book.

### Part 1: Nature of the Constitution

The first chapter deals with the historical background of the constitution of India where the chapter start with utility a historical retrospective followed by the Government of

India Act, 1858. The Morle- Minto reform and Montague-Chelmsford report are presented as a landmark in the constitutional development of India. The Simon commission followed by the communal award of 1932 are elaborated well to give perfect glimpse of the status of constitution remark in pre independence decade in India. Atlast, the changes introduced by the Indian independence act, 1947 is clearly elaborated in the chapter.

The second chapter 'The Making of the Constitution' starts with the note on demand for a constitution framing by a constituent assembly, formation of constituent assembly and the passing of the constitution in a more precise and remarkable language.

The third chapter 'The Philosophy of the Constitution' starts with a note on 'The objective resolution of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru' followed by a correct explanation of the phrases of the Preamble of the constitution.

The fourth chapter 'Outstanding features of our Constitution' deals with all the important salient features of constitution of India along with the detailed example of Golak Nath versus Kehvananda Bharti as a two opposite views on 'Amendment in the basic features of constitution'

The fifth chapter 'Nature of the Federal System' supports Indian Constitution as federal with unitary features followed by the salient features of federal polity and Indian federalism.

The Sixth chapter 'Territory of the Union' clearly depicts the boundaries of Union/State, formation of new states in the course of time since independence.

The Seventh and the Eight chapter deals with clear understanding of citizenship, the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Indian citizen under various articles, Directive Principles of State Policy in a very economical language.

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The Tenth chapter presenting the procedure for amendment in Constitution of India as and when required in different circumstances.

Overall, the Part First of the book revives the knowledge of the learner or professional to grab the basics of Constitution of India in one go with great efficiency.

## **PART 2: Government of the Union**

The Chapter 11&12 are clearly describing the authorities & its offices at the union level under Constitution of India with respect to their qualification and other eligibility for Selection or Nomination, Powers, Status & Recognition in various aspects. The concept, nature of the union legislature is clearly dealt in this Part of the book with a prominent description on Money Bill in the Parliament.

## **PART 3: Government of the States**

The chapter 13, 14, 15 in this part clearly specifies the State Executive ranging from the Governor to the Advocate General with respect to their Status, Recognition, Power and Authority in various circumstances followed by the State Legislature at various levels of the state boundaries with special detailing on the Jammu & Kashmir state.

## **PART 4: Administration of Union Territories & Acquired Territories**

This part has a brief start with Genesis of the Union Territories, Legislative Power of parliament over Union Territories, President Power and a very critical briefing of acquired territories. In my view, the concept of 'Acquired territories' should be made in more deep and broad way to be understood by the learner with great ease.

## **PART 5 and PART 6: Local Government and Administration of Special Areas**

This part finishes in only three small chapters 17, 18, 19 giving a very superficial knowledge about the government and authorities working at local level through Panchayats, Municipalities and Co-operative Societies and the various administrative bodies in tribal areas. In our view, this part could be elaborated more to make sure the learner's knowledge expanded with great ease.

## **PART 7: Judicature**

In this part, within three chapters 21,22,23; it is well mentioned by the authors about the hierarchy of Judicature from union to states in the form of the Supreme Court and the respective High Court in various state and Union Territories system. This part makes all the learner well equipped with the knowledge of complete Judicature system acting under Constitution of India as a whole.

## **PART 8: The Federal System**

The part is divided in five chapters from chapters 24 to 28 which are well enough to provide the knowledge to the learner or any law professional about distribution of legislative and executive powers in the country, limitation in the territorial jurisdiction of parliament, distribution of financial powers, principles of tax system, detailing of various finance commissions so far, the administrative relations between the union and states in term of mutual delegation of functions and overall Inter-State relation in a more understandable way. The chapter 28 deals with the provisions of emergency powers and its uses in various circumstances within the boundaries of the country.

## **PART 9: Miscellaneous**

This part is covered under Chapters 29-34 where chapter 29 clearly mentions the rights and duties of government and other public servants prescribed under the Constitution of India. The chapter 30 deals with the position of civil servants in Public Service Commission under constitutional remark.

The Chapter 31 clearly describes various types of election, Constituencies to be made, formation of various Election Commissions.

The Chapter 32 deals with the status and privileges set forth for Minorities, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes under Constitution of India with the brief description of language and its recognition at various level under Constitution of India in chapter 33.

The Chapter 34 is all about the working of the constitutional framework treating it as a living instrument followed by description on turning point for Indian democracy in a more lucid manner.

Atlast, the book shows factual data of Constitution of India and its various components through various Table 1 –XXI followed by the Index to aid the reader with a fast recap of the various chapters presented in the book.

## CONCLUSION

The book is written in a simple, economical language which can be easily grasped by the readers. The main target readers are the law and political science students, law professionals and the student of various competitive examinations under Public Service Commission and others. The book has many illustrations in the form of real

cases which will help the readers to associate with the concept. At the end of ever chapter references can be seen for further reading on the subject. The present book traces the constitutional history of India since the Government of India Act, 1935. The all contents which are presented in the book will surely be a boon for the perspective readers.

According to our view, the book is very good for understanding the pulse of the Constitution of India as a need of hour for the Students, Researchers, Practitioners and other Law Professionals to ensure their well start in and gradually a well settled career in the core field.