# DO YOU REALLY KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA?

# SOME PECULIAR FACTS

## ♦ 1. It's the longest in the world!

The Indian constitution is the world's longest constitution. At the time of its commencement, the constitution had **395** articles in **22** parts and 8 schedules. It consists of almost 80,000 words.



### ♦ 2. It takes the best aspects of other countries' constitutions!

The Indian constitution is often called a bag of borrowings because it has taken various features and parts from other constitutions. The concepts of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity was taken from the French constitution, the concept of 5 year plans was taken from the USSR, the Directive principles (socioeconomic rights) were taken from Ireland, the law on which the Supreme Court functions was taken from Japan and a lot more other concepts were borrowed from other countries.



# → 3. It was handwritten in English and Hindi!

The Constitution of India was handwritten and calligraphed in both English and Hindi-- not typeset or printed. The original copies are kept in special helium-filled cases in the Library of the Parliament of India.

♦ 4. It took a long time to write!

It took 2 years 11 months and 18 days to build.

#### **♦** 5. Establishment of the Committee!

On August 29, 1947, the committee which would draft India's constitution was established. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was appointed as the Chairman of the committee.

#### ♦ 6. The Good Omen!

It was raining outside the Parliament on the day the Constitution was signed, and it was considered a good omen by the people who signed it.

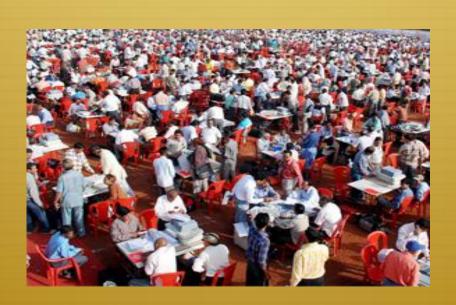


# ♦ 7. Guiding Path!

The Objectives Resolution was moved by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru on December 13, 1946. It served as a roadmap for the constitution.

# ♦ 8. Signatures!

284 members of the Constituent Assembly (which included 15 women) signed the hand-written documents on January 24, 1950 and it came into force on January 26 the same year.



#### ♦ 9. The best constitution in the world!

In more than 60 years since it was presented, the Indian constitution has been hailed as one of the best constitutions in the world because as of December 2014, there have been **99 amendments** to the Constitution of India since it was first enacted in 1950.

# ♦ 10. When was the national emblem adopted?

The national emblem of India (the adapted version of Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka with the wheel, bull, and horse) was adopted by the Government on 26 January, 1950.



# ♦ 11. Any Favorites?

The hymn "Abide with Me" is played on Republic day as it was Mahatma Gandhi's favorite songs.

