Constitution Day, 2025

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

President Droupadi Murmu recently released the digital version of the Constitution of India in 9 languages during Constitution Day celebrations at Samvidhan Sadan in New Delhi.

- **Date -** Constitution Day also known as 'Samvidhan Divas', is celebrated in our country on ***26th November*** every year to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India.
- **Theme -** "Hamara Samvidhan – Hamara Swabhiman" ("Our Constitution – Our Pride"), with a focus on constitutional values of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.
- **Digital Initiatives -** The 9 languages in which the digital version of the Constitution was released were Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Punjabi, Bodo, Kashmiri, Telugu, Odia and Assamese.
- It is the first time that the Bodo and Kashmiri editions of the Constitution are being introduced in the history of India.
- The Punjabi edition of the Constitution is also being updated after almost 50 years.

Constitution of India

- On 26th November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, which came into effect from 26th January 1950.
- The Constitution of India was framed by a Constituent Assembly set up under the ***Cabinet Mission Plan of 1946.***
- The Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946, and elected Dr. Sachhidanand Sinha, the oldest member of the Assembly as the Provisional President.
- On December 11, 1946, the Assembly elected **Dr Rajendra Prasad** as its permanent Chairman.
- The Constituent Assembly set up 13 committees for framing the

constitution, including a Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.**

- Based on the reports of these committees, a draft of the Constitution was prepared by a seven-member Drafting Committee.
- It is the ***longest written Constitution in the world,*** containing 395 Articles, 22 Parts, and 12 Schedules.
- The Constitution of India was not typeset or printed but was handwritten and calligraphic in both **English and Hindi.**
- It was entirely handcrafted by the artists of Shantiniketan under the guidance of **Acharya Nandalal Bose**, with the calligraphy texts done by **Prem Behari Narain Raizada** in Delhi.
- When the Constitution was adopted in the year 1949, there were no provisions regarding Fundamental Duties to the Citizens, though there was a Part III for Fundamental Rights.
- The Fundamental Duties of citizens were added to the Constitution upon the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee that was constituted by the Government.
- By way of the 42nd Constitution (Amendment) Act, 1976, a new Chapter IV-A, which consists of only one Article i.e 51-A was added which dealt with a Code of **10 Fundamental Duties** for citizens.
- Later on, by virtue of 86th Constitution the Amendment in year 2002, 11th duty was added.

Reference

[The Indian Express | Constitution Day]

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