

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES

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PROLOGUE

- **Who is a political representative?**
 - **Why we need someone to represent us politically?**
 - **What purpose ideally a political representative need to serve?**
 - **Who are our political representatives?**
 - **What powers and functions our Constitution entrusted to the political representatives?**
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WHY WE NEED SOMEONE TO REPRESENT US POLITICALLY?

- Representatives
 - Delegates
 - Agents
 - Trustees
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WHO IS A POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE?

- WHO HOLD ELECTED OFFICES (**THAT DETERMINES THE LAW AND POLICY**) IN A DEMOCRATIC POLITY
 - ELECTED BY **QUALIFIED** ELECTORS
 - WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF A **SYSTEMATIC FRAMEWORK**
 - UNDER THE MONITORING OF AN **IMPARTIAL AND INDEPENDENT** BODY
 - LAID DOWN, MOSTLY, BY A **CONSTITUTION**
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Contd...

- While democracy is often poetically described as government ‘of the people, by the people, for the people’, it is not only ‘the people’ who are represented.
 - Political parties, ideologies, beliefs, business, unions, the civil society movement (to name a few) are also represented.
 - Even the very notion of ‘**by the people**’ is vague as a representative cannot possibly represent the full diversity of ‘the people’ and all their divergent and conflicting interests.
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WHAT PURPOSE IDEALLY A POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE NEED TO SERVE?



THE
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA , having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a **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 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.**

WHO ARE OUR POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES?

- THE PRESIDENT
 - THE VICE-PRESIDENT
 - THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
 - THE MEMBERS OF STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES AND STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES
 - **THE MEMBERS OF THE TERRITORIAL COUNCILS**
 - THE MEMBERS OF THE AUTONOMOUS COUNCILS (DISTRICT AND REGIONAL)
 - THE MEMBERS AND OFFICE BEARERS OF PANCHAYAT AND MUNICIPALITIES
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WHAT POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OUR CONSTITUTION ENTRUSTED TO THE POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES?

- Legal
 - Financial
 - Executive
 - **Control of Executive**
 - **WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE**
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THANK YOU

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