

A very Good morning to all the members of the MITS fraternity!!

We are all here to celebrate the 69th Republic day of our Nation. We celebrate this day because the Indian constitution was accepted by the Constituent Assembly on 26th November, 1949 but it came into force on 26th January, 1950. Therefore 26th November is celebrated as the Constitution Day while 26th January is celebrated as the republic day.

A constitution is a set of rules through which a country or state is operated and governed; However some democratic counties like United Kingdom, Israel and do not have a written constitution. In such countries the New Zealand constitutional rules are originated from important statutes, or laws and principles decided in various legal cases and conventions.

The Great Constitution of India is the longest written Constitution all over the world; it cannot be read in a single day; it has "448 Articles in 22 Parts, 12 Schedules and 101 Amendments".

The constitution has a unique preamble:

1. The Preamble states that the Constitution derives its authority from the people of India.

Therefore even the Parliament cannot override the **basic structure** of the constitution.

- 2. The Preamble declares India to be of a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republican polity.
- 3. The preamble promises justice, liberty, equality and fraternity to all Indian citizens.

The beauty of the Indian Constitution lies in its adaptability, flexibility and provisions for carrying out amendments under Article 368, to keep pace with the changing times.

When we look around us we can clearly observe that the world is changing very fast, in all fields. Rate of change that we are experiencing today is unprecedented in the history of civilization. Paradoxically, "Change" is the only thing that is 'Constant' in this world.

To survive in the new world, there is a need to adjust to various changes that are taking place; 'inertia' and 'resistance' must be replaced with 'curiosity' and 'acceptance'.

The great genius Albert Einstein described himself as "I am neither clever nor especially gifted, I am only very very curious". Hence we all should constantly endeavour to learn new things, bring in fresh ideas and come up with novel solutions.

According to Winston Churchill "To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often".

Unless each one of us commits himself or herself 100% to the task in hand, quality and perfection cannot be achieved. The primary duty of an institution is to fulfill the aspirations and expectations of its stakeholders, and it is possible only if we all march together towards this common goal.

Change is the law of life and those who are stuck in the past or present are certain to miss the future.

According to Mahatma Gandhi, You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

Therefore old institutions like ours must take a lead, be flag bearers, in adapting to the changing format of technical education along with the various good practices associated with it, and set an example before others.

Our constitution teaches us to be flexible, alive, relevant and vibrant.

Today, we all must salute the great scholars, freedom fighters and above all the father of the Indian Constitution, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar who have given us an excellent constitution which is inimitable and dynamic.

Finally, With Freedom in our Minds, Faith in our words, Pride in our Souls..... Let us salute our great nation.

Jai Hind!