

Beat: News

## India: A Representative Democracy, Not A Country Of Reservations

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Andhra Pradesh, India, 21.11.2024, 14:42 Time

**USPA NEWS** - India's democracy, rooted in its Constitution, is a model of representation and inclusivity. Yet, the misuse of the term "reservation" has fueled misconceptions, undermining the principles of equality and representation enshrined in the nation's legal framework.

### Misconceptions And Propaganda By Reactionary Forces

Critics argue that the term "reservation" has been weaponized by regressive elements to propagate false narratives. These narratives, often steeped in propaganda, claim that reservations undermine merit and weaken the country. However, the Constitution emphasizes "representation" to correct historical injustices and ensure equitable opportunities for all.

### No 'Reservations' in the Constitution—Only Representation

There is no mention of the term "reservation" in the Indian Constitution. Instead, it guarantees rights, opportunities, and benefits of representation to marginalized communities. This distinction is crucial but often overlooked due to the misuse of terminology by vested interests.

### Historical Context:

The British administration recognized and formalized the concept of representation. Today, it is imperative for society to understand and uphold this constitutional terminology. Misrepresenting constitutional provisions is not only misleading but also legally questionable.

### Call For Ban On Misuse Of Terminology

The misuse of terms like "reservation" has parallels with the derogatory language of the past, such as "Harijan" and "Dalit," which have since been legally prohibited. Advocates now demand similar legislative measures to eliminate the use of "reservation" in public discourse, urging a shift to constitutional terms like "representation" to foster respect and clarity.

### A Constructive Appeal For Reform

The Central Government, parliamentary institutions, and civil society are urged to enact comprehensive legislation prohibiting the use of unconstitutional terms. Mislabeling India as a "country of reservations" not only disrespects the Constitution but also undermines the dignity of its representative democracy.

### Preserving Constitutional Values For Future Generations

The misuse of language risks derailing India's progress toward equality and justice. Citizens are called upon to reject such misleading narratives, honor the sentiments of constitutional humanists, and educate future generations about the true essence of representation.

By reaffirming that India is a country of representation, rooted in democratic ideals, we uphold the dignity and vision of the Constitution, ensuring justice and inclusivity for all.

The views expressed in this column are solely those of Sangati Manohar Mahajan, Founder and National President of the Mahajana Rajyam Party (MRP).

**Article online:**

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-25061/india-a-representative-democracy-not-a-country-of-reservations.html>

**Editorial office and responsibility:**

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Paul J Babu D

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