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## Rights without duties will create imbalance: Modi

Times News Network

New Delhi: Duties of citizens came in for sharp emphasis on the "Constitution Day" as President Ram Nath Kovind, PM Narendra Modi, Vice-President Venkajah Naidu and Speaker Om Birla stressed that rights without a focus on responsibilities would create an imbalance.

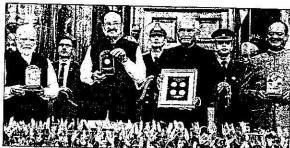
Addressing a joint sitting of Parliament on the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution on Tuesday. the Prime Minister said citizens'rights were stressed upon earlier as many people felt deprived of justice, but it was now time to focus on their responsibilities as well.

"Let us think about how we can fulfil duties enshrined in our Constitution," he said.

Recalling that architect of the Constitution Bhim Rao Ambedkar had asked people if the country can uphold freedom and democracy, Modi said had he been alive, he would probably have been the happiest.

President Kovind quoted Mahatma Gandhi to say, "The true source of rights is duty. If we all discharge our duties, right will not be far to seek. If leaving duties unperformed we run after rights, they escape us like a will-o'-the-wisp.'

Full report: www.toi.in



PM Modi, Vice-President Naidu, President Kovind and Lok Sabha Speaker Birla at a joint sitting of Parliament on the occasion of 70th Constitution Day celebrations on Tuesday

## ongress protests at

New Delhi: The Congress on Tuesday held a protest in front of the statue of BR Ambedkar here with former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Congress president Sonia Gandhi and party MP Rahul Gandhi participating in it.

The Congress during the protest tried to make a point that the Constitution written by Ambedkar is being undermined today by the BJP-led government.

Sonia Gandhi read out the preamble of the Constitution at Ambedkar statue and said that the government actions in Maharashtra are contrary to the Constitutional values.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has said in his tweet, "Congratulations and best wishes to all fellow citizens. On this day, tributes to our great leaders for their contributions and we are committed to save the Constitution as we are proud of it."

The Congress along with its allies also boycotted the event organised in the Central Hall of the Parliament on the Constitution Day Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said, "Let's resolve today the soul of Constitution shall not be mortgaged to an autocratic govt blinded by insatiable lust for power." PT