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Indian Constitution

SEMESTER IV

JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

BLOCK – 1

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COURSE INTRODUCTION

Indian Constitution is the second course of the fourth semester of BA in Journalism & Mass Communication programme. For a successful mass communicator, it is important to have a thorough knowledge of the Constitution of the country and its political system. The Constitution provides for the freedom of press, and an independent and powerful media is the foundation of a democracy, especially for one like India with diverse voices.

This course aims at providing a base for understanding the political system of the country and its Constitution to be able to communicate through media in a more effective way. This course has been divided into two blocks, with one block containing seven units and the other eight units.

BLOCK INTRODUCTION

This is the first block of the course on 'Indian Constitution'. This block comprises of seven units. In the first unit of the course you will learn the meaning of a Constitution, then you will be introduced to the Indian Constitution and its salient features. Citizenship and Indian Citizenship and Fundamental Rights & Duties will also be discussed in this unit. The second unit deals with the Directive Principles of State Policy in details, discussing its meaning, features, classification, implementation and constitutional significance, and the differences between Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights. In the third unit, you will learn about the Executives of the Central Government, President of India, and Vice President of India. In the fourth unit, we have discussed about the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, and the Parliament, its power and functions. The fifth unit describes the composition of the Parliament of India, the President, the Rajya Sabha, the Lok Sabha, Legislative procedure, and procedure for a Money Bill. The sixth unit discusses in details about the State Government and the Governor of a state. The seventh and last unit of this block will concentrate on the state council of ministers and the chief minister. While going through the units of the course, you will find that each unit is further divided into certain sections and sub-sections, wherever necessary, for your better understanding. Again, each unit carries certain *activities* after every section. These "ACTIVITIES" will provide you the opportunity to practically apply your own thoughts based on the knowledge gained from reading the text in a particular section. Besides, in order to give you additional information on certain relevant topics, you will find a category called "LET US KNOW" after the sections in each unit. Another category that has been included at the end of each section of a particular unit is "CHECK YOUR PROGRESS". The purpose of this category is to help you to asses for yourself as to how thoroughly you have understood a particular section. It will be better if you answer the questions put in these boxes immediately after you go through the sections of the units and then match your answers with "ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS" given at the end of each unit.Further more, the category called "MODEL QUESTIONS" is intended to give you a hint of the kind of questions you are likely to get in the examination.

UNIT -1 : INDIAN CONSTITUTION

UNIT STRUCTURE

1.1 Learning Objectives

1.2 Introduction

1.3 Meaning of a Constitution

1.4 Indian Constitution and its Salient Features

1.5 Citizenship and Indian Citizenship

1.6 Fundamental Rights and Duties

1.7 Let us Sum up

1.8 Further Readings

1.9 Answers to Check Your Progress

1.10 Model Questions

1.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit you will be able to:

- define a constitution
- describe the salient features of the Indian Constitution
- explain different ways of acquiring Indian Citizenship
- list the Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties of Indian citizens

1.2 INTRODUCTION

This unit introduces you to the Indian Constitution. All of you must have read or heard about a constitution in general and the Indian Constitution in particular. Some of you may have a fair understanding about what is there in our Constitution. But, some of you may not be aware of it. However, as a citizen of India all of us are expected to have an overall understanding of our Constitution. This unit gives you a fair idea of the Constitution of India.

1.3 MEANING OF A CONSTITUTION

Before we talk about the Indian Constitution, let us think in general about a constitution.

Almost all of you must have heard the term 'constitution'; haven't you? Do you have a preliminary understanding of what the term constitution means? Some of you must be members of some sports, music or reading clubs. For smooth running of the clubs, don't you have some or the other form of a constitution? If you do have, you will definitely have a fairly good understanding of what a constitution exactly means. The constitution of a club has certain objectives for which the club stands for. For example, the constitution of a sports club wants to promote the spirit of games amongst the youth and also to provide training and other necessary helps to the youth to become good sports men/women. It may also have some other objectives. It may also make provisions for certain committees for running the club smoothly. You will have an Executive Committee or a Governing Committee to run your club consisting of a President, two or three Vice-Presidents, General Secretary, Joint Secretaries, Treasurer, Executive Committee Members and also the general members. The constitution will also tell you the tenure, the election procedure as well as the functions of the Executive/Governing Committee. It will also lay down some rules and regulations towards running the club. It may also incorporate the rights and duties of the members of the club.

What do you understand from the above discussion on the constitution of a club? Haven't you understood the following?

- A constitution lays down the objectives of your club.
- A constitution lays down main rules to govern the club.
- It also contains provisions regarding the Committees to run the club.
- It also tells you how those Committees are elected and for how many years.
- A constitution also incorporates the rights and duties of its members.



LET US KNOW

Constitutions may broadly be classified into two types- written and unwritten. Again, on the basis of the procedure of amendment, constitutions may be classified as rigid and flexible. For example, the Constitution of the United States is written and rigid while the Constitution of Britain is unwritten and flexible.

It is very difficult to run a club without a constitution containing different rules and regulations. Now if a small club cannot run smoothly without a constitution, can we think of running a country without a constitution? Definitely not. So, all countries in the world have some form of constitution or the other. A constitution of a country is:

- The fundamental law of the land
- It tells us what kind of government the country will have
- It also tells us who its legitimate citizens are
- It lays down the rules to govern the country
- It also tells us about the rights and also the duties of its citizens.



ACTIVITY 1.1

Do you think a constitution is necessary to run a club, organization or a country? Give two reasons in support of your answer.

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ACTIVITY 1.2

Give a definition of a constitution

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ACTIVITY 1.3

Suppose you are a member of a sports club of your locality. Now prepare a constitution for the club specifying the organization procedure, qualifications and disqualifications of the members and various rules to govern the club

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1.4 INDIAN CONSTITUTION AND ITS SALIENT FEATURES



Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

By now you must have developed a fair understanding of what a constitution is all about. Now let us look at the Indian Constitution.

The Indian Constitution was framed by a Constituent Assembly. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, who became the first President of India, was the President of the Constituent Assembly. There were many important Committees of the Constituent Assembly. The most important among them was the Drafting

Committee. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was the President of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution.

Every constitution has some important and unique features. These are also known as Salient Features. The Preamble to the Indian Constitution helps us to know the salient features of the Constitution. The Preamble gives us an introduction to the Constitution. It mentions the basic ideals and values that the Constitution upholds. Therefore, the Preamble is regarded as the key to the Indian Constitution.

Let us read the Preamble to the Indian Constitution as it is shown in the box.



Preamble:
An introduction to a book or a written document.

LET US KNOW

The Preamble, which is regarded as the preface of the Indian Constitution, is as follows:

*"**WE THE PEOPLE OF INDIA** 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 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."

If you read the last line of the Preamble- "HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION", it clearly shows that the Constitution of India is a gift to the people of the country presented by the people themselves. Hence, it is important for all of us to know our Constitution.

Now let us turn towards the salient features of our Constitution. Can you look back at the Preamble? It refers to some ideals and values. It tells us about the system of government we have in India. At the same time it also speaks about the goal that India is striving to achieve. These are important features of our Constitution. But apart from these, there are a few other important and unique characteristics of our Constitution. These are as follows -



Amend:
to change a law, document or sta-tement to correct a mistake or to improve it.

- **Written Constitution:** The Indian Constitution is a written one. In section 1.3 you have read that a constitution may be unwritten also like the Constitution of Britain. The Indian Constitution was prepared by the Constituent Assembly.



Direct election:
the common voters directly elect their repres-entatives.

- **Rigid and Flexible:** This is an important feature of Indian Constitution. Rigid means very difficult to amend and flexible means very easy to amend. Indian Constitution is a combination of both. There are some provisions in the constitution, which cannot be easily amended. It requires the approval of both the Parliament and State Assemblies. On the other hand, there are some provisions, which can be amended by a simple majority of the Parliament.

- **Republic and Democratic form of Government:** A Republican form of Government stands for that government in which the Head of the State is directly or indirectly elected by the people and not a hereditary ruler. In India the President is the Head of the State. In our case, the President is elected by its people through the representatives in the Parliament and State Legislatures. So, India is a Republic. The United Kingdom is not a Republic because its Head of the State- the Queen or the King is hereditary and not elected by its people. Our Constitution also provides a democratic government. We, the people of India, elect our government from time to time. The Government is accountable to the people. This accountability is exercised through the Parliament and State Legislature.

- **Parliamentary and Federal form of Government:** The Indian Constitution provides us with a unique type of government, which is a combination of parliamentary as well as federal forms. We will come to know about this in detail in course of our study. In a parliamentary form of government the government is not elected directly. People elect their

representatives either to Parliament or to the State Assemblies. Do you enjoy the voting right? If yes, whom do you elect by exercising this right? Your MLA or MP. Is not it? You may also vote for a particular party. Do you directly vote for electing the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister? You do not. Now, the party or the alliance, which secure the majority in the Parliament, forms the Union Government and the Party or alliance that secures majority in the State Assembly forms the Government in the state.



Indirect election: a body elected by the common voters elects the representatives.

The Indian Constitution also provides for a federal form of government. In a federal government there are two sets of governments i.e. Union or Central Government and also State Governments. The Indian constitution divides the power between the two sets of governments. In Indian federalism more powers have been given to the Central Government.

- **Socialist and Secular Polity:** Preamble to the Constitution of India regards India a socialist and secular polity. By socialist it means that the Government will take care of the well being of its entire people. Therefore, Indian government adopts different policies to bring welfare to its common people. Have you heard about National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) or National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)? These policies are known as welfare or socialist policies. Basic aim of these policies is to help the poor people in the country.



Grassroots government : government at the bottom level or local level.

Again, according to the Constitution, India is a secular polity. It means there is no discrimination on the ground of religion in India and the government does not have its own religion. All its citizens are free to choose and practice their religion. The government will not promote any particular religion. All religions will be treated equally.

- **Grassroots Government:** All of you have heard about the Panchayat institutions in India. Some of you, your parents or relatives may be its members also. Panchayats are the government at the grassroots level. Nowadays it enjoys enormous powers in the sphere of local administration. The Panchayats have the powers to plan and implement developmental activities from village level to district level. For the urban areas (towns and

cities), municipalities have been created. Thus, the Indian Constitution, by making provision of the grassroots government, have decentralized the power and give the common people an opportunity to take part in the administration.



LET US KNOW

The Indian Constitution is the lengthiest written constitution of the world. It has 395 Articles grouped into 22 parts and has 12 schedules. One of the reasons for becoming the bulkiest constitution is that it incorporates rules and regulations for the Union as well as for the states also.



ACTIVITY 1.4

Find out the names of the states constituting Indian union.

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ACTIVITY 1.5

Do you think that the Preamble to Indian Constitution is the key to the Constitution? Give two reasons for your answer. (Hint— the Preamble

incorporates the goals of the Indian Constitution).

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CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1: Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the President of the Constituent Assembly. (True/False)

Q 2: Indian Constitution does not provide for a Republican form of Government. (True/False)

Q 3: In a Secular polity the government does have it own religion. (True/False)

Q 4: Who was the President of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly?

a) Jawaharlal Nehru b) Dr. B.R Ambedkar

c) Dr. Rajendra Prasad d) Sardar Ballav Bhai Patel

Q 5: Indian Constitution is

a) Rigid b) Flexible

c) Both rigid and flexible d) None of the above

1.5 CITIZENSHIP AND INDIAN CITIZENSHIP

In this section, we will briefly discuss the concept of citizenship and also the ways of acquiring citizenship in India. Now, who is a citizen of a country? A citizen can be defined as a person of a particular country who enjoys all political rights given by the constitution. He or she can take part in election

and can also reside permanently in the country. A foreigner can live temporarily in a country but is not allowed to enjoy political rights.



LET US KNOW

Before the French Revolution, the term 'citizen' was used in a narrow sense to denote the resident of a city. The French Revolution has widened the base of citizenship by including all the adult members of a state.

Citizenship is a very vital issue for all countries in the world today. So, almost all Constitutions of the world lay down the rules regarding granting of citizenship. Part II of the Constitution of India deals with the issue of Citizenship.

Before we discuss comprehensively about Indian citizenship, we need to know a few important things.

- The Indian Constitution does not comprehensively deal with the issue of citizenship. Part II of the constitution dealing with citizenship, only talks about who can be the Indian citizens on the day of the commencement of the Constitution.
- The comprehensive law regarding citizenship was enacted by the Indian Parliament in 1955, which is known as the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- Indian Constitution recognizes single citizenship.

All of you know that India was partitioned into two countries i.e. India and Pakistan on 15th August, 1947 i.e. the day of achievement of independence. The partition was followed by huge migration from one country to the other. So, it was really a difficult task to identify who would be an Indian citizen. Accordingly, the Constitution only determined who would be the citizen of India on the day of commencement of the Constitution. The Constitution defined three categories of people, who were residing in India and fall within the following three categories:

- who was born in India;

- either of whose parents was born in India;
- Who had been ordinary resident in India and had lived in India for not less than five years before the commencement of the Constitution.



LET US KNOW

According to the Indian Citizenship Act 1955, an Indian citizen can give up his citizenship voluntarily. Again, if an Indian citizen accepts the citizenship of another country, he loses Indian citizenship. Government by order may also cancel the citizenship of a person if he is a fraud or not loyal to the Constitution.

The comprehensive law regarding the Indian citizenship known as Citizenship Act 1955 provides five modes of acquiring the citizenship of India.

(a) By Birth:

Do you know why birth registration is compulsory today? It is because a person born in India is recognized as a citizen of India. The Citizenship Act says that any person born in India on or after January 26, 1950 shall be a citizen of India by birth.

(b) By Descent:

Do you have any relative, cousin, friend who was born outside India? Can they become a citizen of India? Yes, they can, but there is a condition. The condition is that a person born outside India on or after January 26, 1950 shall be a citizen of India by descent if his/her father or mother is a citizen of India at the moment of his/her birth.

(c) By Registration:

All of you know that Sonia Gandhi was not born in India. Is she an Indian citizen? The answer is yes, she is. But how? Sonia Gandhi is an Indian citizen by registration. According to the Citizenship Act, 1955, a woman, who is or has been married to an Indian citizen, can acquire Indian citizenship. There are a few other provisions through which a person can also become

an Indian citizen by registration.

(d) By Naturalization:

All of you must have heard the name of Mother Teresa. Was she an Indian citizen by birth? No, she was not born in India. Neither was she married to an Indian. But, she was an Indian citizen. How? It is through naturalization. There are many provisions under naturalization through which a person born in a foreign country can apply for Indian citizenship and acquire the same. For example, if one renounces the citizenship of the country to which he/she belonged can be granted Indian citizenship. One person who has rendered distinguished service to the cause of science; philosophy, art, literature and world peace can also be granted Indian citizenship without fulfilling any other provisions. A person acquiring Indian citizenship under naturalization has to take an oath of allegiance to the India Constitution and law established by it.

(e) By Incorporating Territory:

If any territory becomes a part of India, Indian Government may specify the persons who will be Indian citizens.



ACTIVITY 1.6

X and Y are the parents of Z. Both X and Y has Indian citizenship. But Z was born in America. How will Z acquire Indian citizenship?

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CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 6: Citizenship Act 1955 provides five modes of acquiring the citizenship of India. (True/ False)

Q 7: Indian Constitution provides for dual citizenship. (True/ False)

Q 8: The Indian Citizenship Act was adopted in the year

a) 1950 b) 1948 c) 1965 d) 1955

Q 9: Mother Teresa acquired Indian Citizenship through naturalization. (True/False)

Q 10: Mention two means of acquiring Indian citizenship.

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1.6 FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES

Do you read Newpapers or see television news? Very often you find that the common people are criticizing the government. How do they dare to do so? People can criticize the government as the Constitution gives us some rights called fundamental rights, which cannot be taken away. Right to Freedom of Expression is one of our fundamental rights. This provides us the guarantee that we will even have the right to criticize the government. Government cannot arrest/punish us for doing that.

During our struggle for independence, the people of India fought against the exploitation and atrocities of the colonial authority. Our leaders in the freedom struggle were keen to ensure rights for its own people. So, when the Constituent Assembly prepared, adopted and enacted our Constitution included the Chapter III- incorporating the fundamental rights of the people of India.

Let us know the following important points about the fundamental rights of Indian citizen.

- These rights are incorporated in the Part III of the Indian Constitution.

- Indian Constitution provides for six types of fundamental rights to its citizens.
- These rights are called fundamental because these are incorporated in the Constitution and the Constitution protects these rights.

Please see the box below to know the different types of Fundamental Rights of an Indian citizen.



LET US KNOW

The Fundamental Rights of Indian citizens incorporated in Part III of our Constitution are as follows

a) The Right to Equality (Art. 14 - Art. 18)
b) The Right to Freedom (Art. 19 - Art. 22)
c) The Right against Expoitation (Art. 23 - Art. 24)
d) The Right to Freedom of Religion (Art. 25 - Art. 28)
e) Cultural and Educational Rights (Art. 29 - Art. 30)
f) The Right to Constitutional Remedies (Art. 32)

Now let us try to understand the Fundamental Rights of an Indian citizen in detail.

i) The Right to Equality

Imagine the following situations.

Pallav Sarmah and Palash Das are good friends and went to visit a temple. When they expressed their willingness to go inside, the person in the door asked their names. Pallav was allowed to enter and Palash was not. Can you tell us why?

Let us take another example. There is a music club in your town. Both girls and boys are its members. Sixty percent of them are girls and forty percent are boys. Now, in the time of electing the President or Secretary of the club,

the members prefer a boy to hold the office. Why? It is believed that the girls are not capable of holding such important posts. But, is it true?

In case of the first instance, the caste and in the second instance the gender was the barrier. There are so many instances of this kind in our society. Right to Equality is incorporated as a fundamental right in our Constitution so that such discrimination on the grounds of caste, creed, religion, sex, colour etc. can be eliminated. It ensures equality before law as well as equal access to public places.



ACTIVITY 1.7

Write 5 lines on the importance of Right to Equality in India.

(Hints — Indian society is very diverse)

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ii) The Right to Freedom

Imagine the following situations.

A group of students from Manipur has decided to form an association to express their views against the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (1958) and to organize a few peaceful demonstrations in Guwahati. They seek permission of the Government. Government has denied it. They approached the High Court and the Court has directed the Government to accord the permission.

Paresh has been picked up by the police and kept in custody for more than 48 hours. He has not been informed on what ground he has been kept in the police custody. He is not allowed to defend himself before a magistrate

or court. Paresh's father appealed to the magistrate. The magistrate heard the case and set him free and also instructed the police not to do the same again.

These are two interesting examples of Right to Freedom. The first is related to right to freedom of expression and peacefully assemble without arms. The second is right to life and personal liberty. These are protected by the Constitution itself.

Right to Freedom as a fundamental right also incorporates some other rights/ provisions. However, no one can enjoy right to freedom if it threatens unity and integrity of the nation and takes arms into their hand. For example, the court does not defend ULFA's demand for an independent Assam as it threatens the unity and integrity of the nation.



LET US KNOW

Article 19 of the Indian Constitution guarantees six different types of freedoms.These are- right to freedom of speech and expression, freedom of assembly, right to form an association, freedom of movement, right to reside and settle at any place within the territory of India, freedom of profession, occupation, trade or business.

iii) The Right against Exploitation

Imagine the following situation-

Jayanta is a very powerful contractor in the village. He is carrying out a building construction work. He has brought a group of children below the age of 14, forced them to work for more than 12 hours and has not paid them except for food. An organization in the village wrote to a judge of the high court in this regard in a post card. The court, after receiving the complaint ordered the contractor to close down the work, to pay the wages and also

sent the contractor to the jail. Why? It is due the fact that the Indian Constitution recognizes Right Against Exploitation as a fundamental right. Engaging children below the age of 14 in hazardous work is considered as exploitation and not paying the minimum wage is also considered as exploitation. Jayanta- the contractor of the village doubly exploited the children and so he was sent to jail.

Such forms of exploitation of children and women are going on in many places. Sometimes they come to light, sometimes not. These are constitutionally prohibited.



ACTIVITY 1.8

Find out the name of any Act prohibiting child labour in India.

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iv) The Right to Freedom of Religion

Imagine the following situation

Both Ram and Rahim are studying in the same government aided school. Today there is a scheme called Mid-Day Meal Scheme. While serving food, the teacher Krishna asked Rahim to sit aside. Rahim's father informed it to the office of the Inspector of Schools. The teacher Krishna was given a show cause notice and he was asked not to do the same in future.

What lesson have you learnt from it? Perhaps you learn the lesson that in India, one cannot be discriminated on the ground of religion in public institutions and affairs. India has a secular polity. The government does not have its official religion. Religion is a personal matter. The constitution guarantees everybody the right to profess, practice and propagate his/her own religion. Everybody is free to convert his/her religion. Every religion is

Judicially Enforceable : violation of which can lead one to the court of law

equal before law. Every religion can have its own religious organizations. However, no religious activity is allowed which create social tension. Preservation/ practice of superstition in the name of right to religious freedom are also not allowed.



LET US KNOW

Part III of the Indian Constitution incorporated another fundamental right to its citizen's i.e, **Right to Property.** But the 44th Amendment Act of the Constitution has excluded it from the list of fundamental rights. Now it is only an ordinary legal right.

v) Cultural and Educational Rights

Have you ever seen any cultural event where different ethnic groups of Northeast India participate? See their dress, music, dance and language. One is different from the other. If you get a chance, you go and see an all India cultural event. That will be more diverse in nature. Even a small ethnic group- for example the Deuris in Assam- has its unique dress, music, dance and also musical instruments. Different ethnic groups possess unique characteristics. The Indian Constitution provides a guarantee of protection and preservation of this uniqueness. And accordingly, cultural and educational rights have been incorporated as a fundamental right. According to this right, all minorities, religious or linguistic, can set up their educational institutions to preserve and develop their culture. Government cannot discriminate these institutions while providing grant solely on the basis of their minority status.



ACTIVITY 1.9

How many different religious, linguistic communities can be found in

your locality? What are the different festivals observed by different communities of your locality?

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vi) The Right to Constitutional Remedies

Dr. Ambedkar has termed one fundamental right as the "heart and soul of the constitution." And that right is the 'Right to Constitutional Remedies'. Why? Merely proclaiming rights will be meaningless if those are not implemented and protected. So, the framers of the Constitution made the constitutional remedies as a fundamental right. If a citizen feels that his/her fundamental right has been violated he/she can approach a High Court and even the Supreme Court. The High Court and the Supreme Court can give direction to the government or any authority to implement these rights. Apart from these, the Government has also set up various commissions like National Commission on Minorities, National Commission on Women or National Commission on Scheduled Castes etc. to protect the rights of these categories.



ACTIVITY 1.10

How do you enjoy your Fundamental Rights as an Indian citizen?

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Fundamental Duties

Till now we have discussed only the rights of Indian citizens guaranteed by the Constitution. You may wonder whether we have any duty to perform towards the country. Yes, we do have. Fundamental duties, incorporated by the 42nd Amendment of 1976 of the Constitution incorporate certain duties of Indian citizens. These duties are incorporated in Part IVA of Indian Constitution. There are total ten duties incorporated under fundamental duties. Important among these duties are: we must abide by the Constitution, defend our country, promote harmony among all citizens and protect the environment.

These duties are not judicially enforceable. Besides, enjoyment of our rights is not dependent on fulfillment of these duties. In other words, even if I am not a person engaged in the movements for environment protection, I cannot be denied my right to freedom or right against exploitation.



ACTIVITY 1.11

Give three arguments justifying the incorporation of the fundamental duties in the Indian Constitution?

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CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 11: Right to freedom of expression is a Fundamental Right. (True/False)

Q 12: Can Fundamental Duties be legally enforced?

Q 13: Fundamental Rights are incorporated in

a) Part II of the Constitution

b) Part III of the Constitution

c) Part IV of the Constitution

d) None of the above

Q 14: The number of Fundamental Duties incorporated in the Indian Constitution is

(a) 11 (b) 6 (c) 10 (d) 12

Q 15: Which amendment incorporated Fundamental Duties in Indian Constitution?

(a) 42nd (b) 40th (c) 4th (d) 44th



1.7 LET US SUM UP

After going through this unit you have learnt to define a Constitution, explain the salient features of the Indian Constitution and the different ways of acquiring Indian citizenship. Besides them you have also learnt to describe the Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties of Indian citizens and their significance. However, a proper reading of this unit has helped you in understanding that the Indian Constitution is the fundamental law of the land and it lays down the overall framework of the Government in a country. The Indian Constitution has certain salient features like written Constitution, parliamentary and federal forms of government etc. A citizen enjoys all political rights given in the Constitution. Again, citizenship in India is acquired through different ways like by birth, registration, naturalization etc. The Indian Constitution guarantees six categories of fundamental rights. These rights are incorporated in Part III of the Constitution. These rights are also protected by the Constitution itself. The Indian Constitution also incorporates Fundamental Duties of its citizens.



1.8 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: True

Ans to Q No 2: False

Ans to Q No 3: False

Ans to Q No 4: b) Dr B. R. Ambedkar

Ans to Q No 5: c) Both rigid and flexible

Ans to Q No 6: True

Ans to Q No 7: False

Ans to Q No 8: d) 1955

Ans to Q No 9: True

Ans to Q No 10: i) By birth ii) By descent

Ans to Q No 11: True

Ans to Q No 12: No

Ans to Q No 13: b) Part III of Indian Constitution

Ans to Q No 14: c) 10

Ans to Q No 15: a) 42nd



1.9 FURTHER READINGS

1. SHARMA, B.K. (2015). Introduction to the Constitution of India (8th ed.). New Delhi, Delhi : PHI Learning PVT.



1.10 MODEL QUESTIONS

A.Very Short Questions

Q 1: How many modes have been provided to aquire Indian citizenship?

Q 2: Give example of a written and rigid Constitution.

B. Short Questions: (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q 1: What is a Preamble?

Q 2: What is the importance of Fundamental Duties?

C. Long Questions: (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q 1. Enumerate the salient features of Indian Constitution.

Q 2. Write an essay on Indian citizenship.

Q 3. What do you mean by the rights of the people? Elucidate the fundamental rights provided by the Indian Constitution.