



# Human Rights Important questions answers

## 1. State Reports and Parallel Reports

- **State Reports:** These are official reports submitted by a government to international human rights bodies, such as the UN, to show how they are fulfilling their obligations under human rights treaties. They describe the actions taken by the government to protect and promote human rights.
- **Parallel Reports (or Shadow Reports):** These are reports submitted by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or independent groups to provide an alternative view to the official State Reports. They often highlight issues or human rights violations that may have been omitted or underreported in the State Report.

## 2. Protection of Human Rights Act 1993

The **Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993** was enacted in India to protect human rights and establish the **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)**.

### Salient Features:

- Defines human rights as rights related to life, liberty, equality, and dignity.
- Establishes the NHRC and State Human Rights Commissions.

- Empowers these commissions to investigate complaints of human rights violations.
- Provides mechanisms for inquiry, intervention, and recommendation of remedies.

### **3. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**

The **UDHR** is a landmark document adopted by the United Nations in 1948. It outlines fundamental human rights to be universally protected.

#### **Provisions:**

- Right to life, liberty, and security of person (Article 3).
- Freedom from slavery and torture (Articles 4 & 5).
- Right to equality before the law and fair trials (Articles 6-11).
- Right to work, education, and participation in cultural life (Articles 23-27).

### **4. Protection of Human Rights Act 1993**

This act ensures that human rights in India are respected and upheld. It establishes:

- The **National Human Rights Commission** (NHRC) at the national level.
- **State Human Rights Commissions** for regional matters.
- Mechanisms to investigate violations, take action, and offer compensation to victims.

### **5. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)**

The **ICESCR** is a UN treaty adopted in 1966, focusing on ensuring economic, social, and cultural rights.

#### **Key Areas:**

- Right to work, fair wages, and safe working conditions (Article 7).
- Right to social security (Article 9).
- Right to education (Article 13).
- Protection of family and adequate standards of living (Article 11).

### **6. Structure of ICCPR**

The **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)** protects civil and political freedoms.

**Structure:**

- **Part I:** Right to self-determination.
- **Part II:** Legal obligations of states to respect civil and political rights.
- **Part III:** Specific rights, including freedom from torture, right to a fair trial, and freedom of speech.

## 7. Important Features of Third Generation of Human Rights

Third-generation human rights, also known as **Solidarity Rights**, go beyond individual rights to collective rights.

**Key Features:**

- Right to peace and security.
- Right to a healthy environment.
- Right to development, which emphasizes global cooperation.  
These rights focus on ensuring the well-being of entire communities or groups.

## 8. Definition and Features of Human Rights

**Human Rights** are basic rights that every individual has simply because they are human. They are universal and inalienable.

**Features:**

- **Universal:** They apply to all people regardless of race, nationality, or gender.
- **Inalienable:** They cannot be taken away.
- **Indivisible:** All human rights are interconnected.

## 9. ICESCR and Tackling Violence Against Women

The **ICESCR** protects various economic, social, and cultural rights, which are crucial in addressing **Violence Against Women (VAM)**.

**Relevant Articles:**

- **Article 7:** Right to just and favorable work conditions.

- **Article 10:** Protection of family and maternity, ensuring women are safeguarded from violence in both public and private spheres.