

Seven **fundamental rights** were originally provided by the Constitution – the **right** to equality, **right** to freedom, **right** against exploitation, **right** to freedom of religion, cultural and educational **rights**, **right** to property and **right** to constitutional remedies.

The **Fundamental Duties** are defined as the moral **obligations** of all citizens to help promote a spirit of patriotism and to uphold the unity of India. These **duties** set out in Part IV–A of the Constitution, concern individuals and the nation.

## Text of Article 51-A

### PART IVA FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES

51A. Fundamental duties.—It shall be the duty of every citizen of India—

1. to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem;
2. to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom;
3. to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;
4. to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so;
5. to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;
6. to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture;
7. to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures;
8. to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;
9. to safeguard public property and to abjure violence;
10. to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement;
11. who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.

They aim at achieving social and economic democracy for establishing a welfare state. **Directive Principles** are classified under the following categories: Gandhian, economic and socialistic, political and administrative, justice and legal, environmental, protection of monuments and peace and security.

In India, **president's rule** is the suspension of state government and imposition of direct central government rule in a state. ... However, during president's rule, the Council of Ministers is dissolved, vacating the office of Chief Minister.

**Emergency Provisions** are contained in Part Eighteen of the Constitution of India. The President of India has the power to impose emergency rule in any or all the Indian states if the security of part or all of India is threatened by "war or external aggression or armed rebellion".

**Federalism** is part of the basic structure of the Indian constitution which cannot be altered or destroyed through constitutional amendments under the constituent powers of the Parliament without undergoing judicial review by the Supreme Court.

The **salient features** of the Constitution i.e. its most fundamental features can be described as: Preamble, **Fundamental Rights**, Directive Principles, Secularism, Federalism, Republicanism, **Independence of Judiciary**, Rule of Law, and Liberal Democracy.

Why is a **constitution important**? A **constitution is important** because it ensures that those who make decisions on behalf of the public fairly represent public opinion. It also sets out the ways in which those who exercise power may be held accountable to the people they serve.