

THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

As Amended

(Showing all Constitutional Amendments)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT)

NEW DELHI

August 3, 2025

Contents

PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly
resolved to constitute India into a [SOVEREIGN
SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC]¹ 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 of opportunity;
and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual
and the [unity and integrity]² of the Nation;

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth
day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT
AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

*[The words "Socialist", "Secular" and "unity and integrity" were inserted by
the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976]*

¹Substituted for "SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC" by Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, Preamble (w.e.f. 3-1-1977)

²Inserted: Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, Preamble (w.e.f. 3-1-1977)

PART I

THE UNION AND ITS TERRITORY

Article 1. Name and territory of the Union

- (1) India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.
- (2) The States and the territories thereof shall be as specified in the First Schedule.
- (3) The territory of India shall comprise—
 - (a) the territories of the States;
 - (b) the Union territories specified in the First Schedule; and
 - (c) such other territories as may be acquired.

Article 2. Admission or establishment of new States

Parliament may by law admit into the Union, or establish, new States on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

Article 3. Formation of new States and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing States

Parliament may by law—

- (d) form a new State by separation of territory from any State or by uniting two or more States or parts of States or by uniting any territory to a part of any State;
- (e) increase the area of any State;
- (f) diminish the area of any State;
- (g) alter the boundaries of any State;
- (h) alter the name of any State:

Provided that no Bill for the purpose shall be introduced in either House of Parliament except on the recommendation of the President and unless, where the proposal contained in the Bill affects the area, boundaries or name of any of the States, the Bill has been referred by the President to the Legislature of that State for expressing its views thereon within such period as may be specified in the reference or within such further period as the President may allow and the period so specified or allowed has expired.

Explanation.—In this article, in clauses (a) to (e), "State" includes a Union territory, but in the proviso, "State" does not include a Union territory.

PART II

CITIZENSHIP

Article 5. Citizenship at the commencement of the Constitution

At the commencement of this Constitution, every person who has his domicile in the territory of India and—

- (i) who was born in the territory of India; or
 - (j) either of whose parents was born in the territory of India; or
 - (k) who has been ordinarily resident in the territory of India for not less than five years immediately preceding such commencement,
- shall be a citizen of India.

Article 6. Rights of citizenship of certain persons who have migrated to India from Pakistan

Notwithstanding anything in article 5, a person who has migrated to the territory of India from the territory now included in Pakistan shall be deemed to be a citizen of India at the commencement of this Constitution if—

- (l) either of his parents or any of his grand-parents was born in India as defined in the Government of India Act, 1935 (as originally enacted); and
- (m)
- (1) he has been ordinarily resident in the territory of India since the date of his migration, or
- (a)
- (2) such person or either of his parents or any of his grand-parents was born in India as defined in the Government of India Act, 1935 (as originally enacted), and he has been registered as a citizen of India by an officer appointed in that behalf by the Government of the Dominion of India on an application made by him therefor to such officer before the commencement of this Constitution in the form and manner prescribed by that Government:

Provided that no person shall be so deemed to be a citizen of India if he has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of any foreign State.

Article 7. Rights of citizenship of certain migrants to Pakistan

Notwithstanding anything in articles 5 and 6, a person who has after the first day of March, 1947, migrated from the territory of India to the territory now included in Pakistan shall not be deemed to be a citizen of India:

Provided that nothing in this article shall apply to a person who, after having so migrated to the territory now included in Pakistan, has returned to the territory of India under a permit for resettlement or permanent return issued by or under the authority of any law and every such person shall for the purposes of clause (b) of article 6 be deemed to have migrated to the territory of India after the nineteenth day of July, 1948.

PART III

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

General

Article 12. Definition

In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, "the State" includes the Government and Parliament of India and the Government and the Legislature of each of the States and all local or other authorities within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India.

Article 13. Laws inconsistent with or in derogation of the fundamental rights

(1) All laws in force in the territory of India immediately before the commencement of this Constitution, in so far as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this Part, shall, to the extent of such inconsistency, be void.

(2) The State shall not make any law which takes away or abridges the rights conferred by this Part and any law made in contravention of this clause shall, to the extent of the contravention, be void.

(3) In this article, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "law" includes any Ordinance, order, bye-law, rule, regulation, notification, custom or usage having in the territory of India the force of law;

(b) "laws in force" includes laws passed or made by a Legislature or other competent authority in the territory of India before the commencement of this Constitution and not previously repealed, notwithstanding that any such law or any part thereof may not be then in operation either at all or in particular areas.

(4) [Constitution (Twenty-fifth Amendment) Act, 1971, s. 3 (w.e.f. 20-4-1972)]³

Right to Equality

³Inserted: Nothing in this article shall apply to any amendment of this Constitution made under article 368.

Article 14. Equality before law

The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India.

Article 15. Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth

(1) The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.

(2) No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to—

(a) access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment; or

(b) the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to the use of the general public.

(3) Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any special provision for women and children.

(4) [Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951, s. 2 (w.e.f. 18-6-1951)]⁴

Right to Freedom**Article 19. Protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech, etc.**

(1) All citizens shall have the right—

(a) to freedom of speech and expression;

(b) to assemble peaceably and without arms;

(c) to form associations or unions [Constitution (Ninety-seventh Amendment) Act, 2011, s. 2 (w.e.f. 12-1-2012)]⁵;

(d) to move freely throughout the territory of India;

(e) to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India; and

(f) [to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.]⁶

⁴Inserted: Nothing in this article or in clause (2) of article 29 shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

⁵Inserted: or co-operative societies

⁶Substituted for “to acquire, hold and dispose of property; and to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.” by Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978, s. 2 (w.e.f. 20-6-1979)

(2) Nothing in sub-clause (a) of clause (1) shall affect the operation of any existing law, or prevent the State from making any law, in so far as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right conferred by the said sub-clause in the interests of [Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951, s. 3 (w.e.f. 18-6-1951)]⁷ the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence.

Right to Life and Personal Liberty

Article 21. Protection of life and personal liberty

No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

Article 21A. Right to education

[Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002, s. 2 (w.e.f. 1-4-2010)]⁸

⁷Inserted: the sovereignty and integrity of India,

⁸Inserted: The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.

FIRST SCHEDULE

THE STATES

I. THE STATES

No.	Name	Territories
1.	Andhra Pradesh	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.
2.	[Assam] ⁹	The territories which immediately before the commencement of this Constitution were comprised in the Province of Assam, the Khasi States and the Assam Tribal Areas.
3.	Bihar	The territories which immediately before the commencement of this Constitution were comprised in the Province of Bihar.
4.	Gujarat	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960.
5.	Haryana	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966.
6.	Himachal Pradesh	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the State of Himachal Pradesh Act, 1970.
7.	[Constitution (Eighty-eighth Amendment) Act, 2003, s. 2 (w.e.f. 15-11-2000)] ¹⁰	[Constitution (Eighty-eighth Amendment) Act, 2003, s. 2 (w.e.f. 15-11-2000)] ¹¹
8.	Karnataka	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.

⁹Substituted for “Assam” by Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016, s. 15 (w.e.f. 16-9-2016)

¹⁰Inserted: Jharkhand

¹¹Inserted: The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Bihar Reorganisation Act, 2000.

No.	Name	Territories
9.	Kerala	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 5 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
10.	Madhya Pradesh	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 9 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.

II. THE UNION TERRITORIES

No.	Name	Territories
1.	[Andaman and Nicobar Islands] ¹²	The territory which immediately before the commencement of this Constitution was known as the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
2.	Chandigarh	The territory specified in section 4 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966.
3.	[Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Act, 2019, s. 3 (w.e.f. 26-1-2020)] ¹³	[Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Act, 2019, s. 3 (w.e.f. 26-1-2020)] ¹⁴
4.	Delhi	The territory which immediately before the commencement of this Constitution was comprised in the Chief Commissioner's Province of Delhi.
5.	[Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019, s. 2 (w.e.f. 31-10-2019)] ¹⁵	[Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019, s. 2 (w.e.f. 31-10-2019)] ¹⁶

¹²Substituted for "Andaman and Nicobar Islands" by Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016, s. 15 (w.e.f. 16-9-2016)

¹³Inserted: Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu

¹⁴Inserted: The territories which immediately before the commencement of the Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Act, 2019 were the Union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

¹⁵Inserted: Jammu and Kashmir

¹⁶Inserted: The territory which, immediately before the commencement of the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019, was included in the State of Jammu and Kashmir but excluding the territories specified in the Second Schedule to the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

No.	Name	Territories
6.	[Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019, s. 2 (w.e.f. 31-10-2019)] ¹⁷	[Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019, s. 2 (w.e.f. 31-10-2019)] ¹⁸
7.	Lakshadweep	The territory specified in section 6 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
8.	Puducherry	The territories which immediately before the commencement of the Constitution (Fourteenth Amendment) Act, 1962, were comprised in the Union territory of Pondicherry.

¹⁷Inserted: Ladakh

¹⁸Inserted: The territories specified in the Second Schedule to the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

Document Status

Compilation Status

This document is a work in progress. Current status:

Completed Parts

- Part I: The Union and Its Territory (Articles 1-4)
- Part II: Citizenship (Articles 5-11)
- Part III: Fundamental Rights (Articles 12-35) - Partially completed

Completed Schedules

- First Schedule: The States (Partially completed)

Remaining Work

- Parts IV through XXII (19 parts remaining)
- Schedules II through XII (11 schedules remaining)
- Complete article content for existing parts
- Full amendment tracking and citations
- Cross-references and indexing

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