

INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM

(Allied Political science to History and Economics)

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Unit - 2

Features of the Indian Constitution

- (1) Biggest constitution of the world
- (2) Flexibility of the constitution
- (3) Parliamentary form of government
- (4) Federal system with unitary fundamental rights
- (5) Directive principles of State policy
- (6) Secularism
- (7) Independent judiciary
- (8) Fundamental rights

Directive principles of the State policy

Aim of the policy is to create social and economic conditions based on three principles classified for easy understanding such as (a) Socialistic (b) Gandhian (c) Liberal-Intellectual principles.

Fundamental rights (article 12 to 35)

The above rights have been derived from American constitution shaped in accordance to the Indian scenario. The six important fundamental rights are as follows

- (1) Right to equality
- (2) Right to freedom of religion
- (3) Cultural and educational rights
- (4) Right against exploitation
- (5) Right to freedom
- (6) Right to property (note: Recently, moved to common act)
- (7) Right to constitutional remedies

Fundamental duties

Fundamental duties of the Indian citizen are added under part IV-A of the constitution (Article 51A).

To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem; b) To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom; c) To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India; d) To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so; e) 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; f) To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture; g) To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures; h) To develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform; i) To safeguard public property and to abjure violence; j) 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; k) 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 to fourteen years. The duty was included in the list of fundamental duties by 86th Amendment to the constitution of India in the year 2002.

State-Centre relation

The Constitution has given dual polity with clear division of powers between the Union and the state each being supreme in the allotted stream. Article 245 to 255 describes legislative relations.