

Chapter-1

The Indian Constitution

The Fundamental Rights in Indian Constitution include -

1. Right to Equality
2. Right to Freedom
3. Right to Freedom of Religion
4. Right against Exploitations
5. Cultural and Educational Right
6. Right to Constitutional Remedies

Keywords -

Arbitrary - When nothing is fixed and is instead left on one's judgement or choice. This can be used to refer to rules that are not fixed, or decisions that have no basis, etc.

Ideal - A goal or a principle in its most excellent or perfect form.

Indian National Movement -

The Indian National movement emerged in nineteenth-century India and saw thousands of men and women coming together to fight British rule. This culminated in India's independence in 1947.



Polity -
A society that has an organised political structure. India is a democratic country.

Sovereign -
In the context of this chapter it refers to an independent people.

Human Trafficking -
The practise of the illegal buying and selling of different commodities across national borders. In the context of Fundamental Right discussed in this chapter it refers to illegal trade in human being, particularly women and children.

Tyranny -
The cruel and unjust use of power or authority.



Question/Answers :-

Ques 1 Why does a democratic country need a constitution?

Ans = i) Constitution brings uniform rules and laws

Constitution treats everyone equal.

Constitution is always in written form. Hence, easy to understand and follow.

With constitution only a country can develop.

For the democratic country constitution is the main book for the government.

Ques 2 What is a democracy? Write its key features.

Ans = It is a form of government where the ruler of the country is elected by the common people.

Key features of democracy -

1. Federalism -

This refers to the existence of more than one level of government in the country. In India, we have governments at the state level and at the centre.

2. Parliamentary Form of Government -



In the form of representatives who are elected by the people to run the country.

3. Separation of powers -

According to the constitution, there are three organs of government. These are the legislature, the executive and judiciary. In order to prevent the misuse of power by any one branch of government the constitution says that each of these organs should exercise different powers.

4. Fundamental Rights -

The constitution of India has given certain rights to the citizens of India. These are called Fundamental Rights.

5. Secularism -

A secular state is one in which the state does not officially promote any one religion as the state religion.

4. In each of the following situations, identify the minority. Write one reason why you think it is important to respect the views of the minority in each of these situations.

(a) In a school with 30 teachers, 20 of them are male.



⇒ Minority female, female teachers must be allowed to raise their voice so that their teaching efforts must not be hindered.

b. In a city, 5 per cent of the population are Buddhists.

⇒ Minority Buddhists, all person have the right to choose religion and other have to respect for that.

c. In a factory mess for all employees, 80 per cent are vegetarians.

⇒ Minority non-vegetarians, everybody has the right to choose the type of food they want.

d. In a class of 50 students, 40 belong to more well-off families.

⇒ Minority well-off families, everybody has right to get respect equally.

4. What is the difference in who exercises 'Executive Power' in the above two Constitutions of Nepal?

Ans: In 1990 the executive power was vested among Majesty and the Council of Ministers but in 2007 it was vested only to Council of ministers.

5. What would happen if there were no restrictions on the power of elected representatives?



Ans. In a democracy people choose their leaders so that they can exercise power & responsibility on their behalf but there is always possibility that their leaders might misuse their authority as per their wish. Hence is a safeguard against the misuse of power by our political leaders. It is necessary to have restriction on their powers.

