

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS UNDER INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Fundamental Rights are the basic rights of the people and the charter of rights contained in Part III of Constitution of India. It guarantees civil liberties such that all Indians can lead their lives in peace and harmony as citizens of India. The Seven Fundamental rights Recognized by Indian Constitution are as below:

1. **Right to equality (Article 14-18):** It includes [equality before law](#), prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, gender or place of birth, and equality of opportunity in matters of employment, abolition of untouchability and abolition of titles. Right to equality is provided from Article 14 to Article 18 of Indian constitution.
2. **Right to freedom (Article 19-22):** It includes freedom of speech and expression, assembly, association or union or cooperatives, movement, residence, and right to practice any profession or occupation, right to life and liberty, protection in respect to conviction in offences and protection against arrest and detention in certain cases. Right to freedom is provided from Article 19 to 22 of constitution.
3. **Right against exploitation (Article 23-24):** It prohibits all forms of forced labour, child labour and traffic of human beings. It is provided under Articles 23 and 24 of Indian constitution.
4. **Right to freedom of religion (Article 25-28):** It includes freedom of conscience and free profession, practice, and propagation of religion, freedom to manage religious affairs, freedom from certain taxes and freedom from religious instructions in certain educational institutes. Article 25 to 28 enumerates the right to freedom of religion.

5. **Cultural and Educational rights (Article 29-30):** Preserve the right of any section of citizens to conserve their culture, language or script, and right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. Article 29 and Article 30 of Indian constitution provides for cultural and educational rights.
6. **Right to constitutional remedies (Article 32):** This is present for enforcement of Fundamental Rights. It is provided under Article 32 to 35 of Indian constitution.
7. **Right to Education:** The Right to Education is added by introducing a new Article 21A in the Chapter on Fundamental Rights in 2002 by the 86th Constitutional Amendment. It is a major step forward in making the country free of illiteracy. But it could not be enforced until 2009 when the Parliament passed the Right to Education Act, 2009. It is this Act which aims at ensuring that every child who is between 6-14 years of age and is out of the school in India, goes to school and receives quality education, that is his/her right.

Fundamental Duties noted in the Indian Constitution under Article (51A) are as follows.

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 endeavor 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.