



FYBCom / BAF – Indian Constitution



MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS (FINAL LIST)

1. Explain the **salient features / characteristics of the Indian Constitution**.
2. Discuss the **Preamble of the Indian Constitution** and explain its **importance**.
3. Explain the **Basic Structure of the Indian Constitution**. *(Backup)*
4. Explain the **Fundamental Rights** guaranteed under the Indian Constitution with **Articles**.
5. Explain the **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)**.
6. Examine the **relationship between Fundamental Rights and DPSP**.
7. Explain the **powers and functions of the Supreme Court of India**.
8. What is **Public Interest Litigation (PIL)**? Explain its **importance**.
9. Explain **Judicial Review**. *(Backup)*

MOST IMP Questions

- 1 Characteristics / Features of Indian Constitution
- 2 Preamble of Indian Constitution – meaning & importance
- 3 Fundamental Rights – explain with Articles ★
- 4 Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) ★
- 5 Relationship between Fundamental Rights & DPSP ★★ ★
- 6 Powers & Functions of Supreme Court ★★ ★
- 7 Public Interest Litigation (PIL) + Judicial Activism

1 Characteristics / Features of Indian Constitution

Introduction:

The Indian Constitution is the supreme law of India. It lays down the framework of government and protects the rights of citizens.

Main Features:

1. **Written Constitution** – The longest written Constitution in the world.
2. **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic** – Mentioned in the Preamble.
3. **Federal Structure with Unitary Bias** – Division of powers between Centre and States with a strong Centre.
4. **Parliamentary System** – Executive is responsible to Legislature.
5. **Fundamental Rights** – Guaranteed under Part III (Articles 12–35).
6. **Directive Principles of State Policy** – Guidelines for welfare state (Part IV).
7. **Independent Judiciary** – Protects Constitution and Fundamental Rights.
8. **Universal Adult Suffrage** – Right to vote to all citizens above 18 years.
9. **Single Citizenship** – One citizenship for all Indians.
10. **Blend of Rigidity and Flexibility** – Constitution can be amended.

Conclusion:

Thus, the Indian Constitution combines democracy, justice, liberty and equality.

2 Preamble of Indian Constitution – Meaning & Importance

Meaning:

The Preamble is the introduction of the Constitution. It reflects the aims and philosophy of the Constitution.

Key Words Explained:

- **Sovereign** – India is independent.
- **Socialist** – Economic and social justice.
- **Secular** – Equal respect to all religions.
- **Democratic** – Government by elected representatives.
- **Republic** – Elected Head of State.

Importance of Preamble:

1. Source of authority – “We, the people of India”
2. Explains nature of Indian State
3. Guides interpretation of Constitution
4. Reflects goals – Justice, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity
5. Acts as the soul of the Constitution

Conclusion:

The Preamble is the guiding light of the Indian Constitution.

3 Fundamental Rights – Explain with Articles

Introduction:

Fundamental Rights are basic human rights guaranteed to citizens under **Part III (Articles 12–35)**.

Types of Fundamental Rights:

1. **Right to Equality (Art. 14–18)**
Equality before law, abolition of untouchability, no titles.
2. **Right to Freedom (Art. 19–22)**
Speech, expression, movement, life and liberty.
3. **Right against Exploitation (Art. 23–24)**
Prohibition of trafficking, forced labour and child labour.
4. **Right to Freedom of Religion (Art. 25–28)**
Freedom to practice and propagate religion.
5. **Cultural & Educational Rights (Art. 29–30)**
Protection of minorities.
6. **Right to Constitutional Remedies (Art. 32)**
Right to approach Supreme Court for enforcement.

Conclusion:

Fundamental Rights ensure dignity, liberty and equality of citizens.

4 Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)

Introduction:

DPSP are guidelines to the State for achieving a welfare state. Mentioned in **Part IV (Articles 36–51)**.

Types of DPSP:

1. **Socialistic Principles**
Equal pay, right to livelihood, social justice.
2. **Gandhian Principles**
Village panchayats, cottage industries, prohibition.
3. **Liberal-Intellectual Principles**
Uniform Civil Code, free education, judiciary separation.

Importance:

- Promote social & economic justice
- Help in law-making
- Aim at welfare state
- Moral obligation on State

Conclusion:

Though non-justiciable, DPSPs are fundamental in governance.

5 Relationship between Fundamental Rights & DPSP(Directive Principles of State Policy)

Introduction:

Fundamental Rights and DPSP together form the conscience of the Constitution.

Relationship:

- Fundamental Rights are **justiciable**
- DPSP are **non-justiciable**
- Initially FR had priority
- Later courts held both are **complementary**

Important Case Laws:

- **Champakam Dorairajan Case (1951)** – FR superior
- **Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973)** – Balance required
- **Minerva Mills Case (1980)** – Harmony between both

Conclusion:

FR and DPSP are complementary and essential for social democracy.

6 Powers & Functions of Supreme Court

Introduction:

The Supreme Court is the highest judicial authority of India (Article 124).

Powers & Functions:

1. **Original Jurisdiction** – Disputes between Centre & States
2. **Appellate Jurisdiction** – Appeals in civil, criminal & constitutional cases

3. **Advisory Jurisdiction** – Advice to President (Art. 143)
4. **Judicial Review** – Can declare laws unconstitutional
5. **Protector of Fundamental Rights** – Article 32
6. **Guardian of Constitution**

Conclusion:

The Supreme Court plays a key role in protecting democracy and Constitution.

7 Public Interest Litigation (PIL) & Judicial Activism

Public Interest Litigation (PIL):

- Filed for public welfare
- Any public-spirited person can file
- Helps poor and weaker sections
- Deals with environment, labour, human rights

Judicial Activism:

- Active role of judiciary
- Expands scope of Fundamental Rights
- Ensures social justice
- Corrects failures of legislature/executive

Conclusion:

PIL and Judicial Activism strengthen democracy and access to justice.

Add the explanation to each point from the book provided by the university