

# THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

## PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC 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 of the Nation;

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

### List of Fundamental Duties

**Article 51A, Part IVA** of the Indian Constitution, specifies the list of Fundamental Duties of the citizens. It says "it shall be the duty of every citizen of India:

1. to abide by the constitution and respect its ideal and institutions;
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 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.

Further, one more Fundamental duty has been added to the Indian Constitution by 86<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the constitution in 2002.

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.

### Why are Fundamental Duties important?

We should all acknowledge our responsibility to perform our fundamental duties. The importance of fundamental duties are highlighted below:

- The fundamental duties enumerated in Article 51A constitute a constant reminder to the citizens that they have duties in building up a free, egalitarian, healthy and responsible society. These are expected to act as damper to reckless and anti-social activities on the part of some individuals.
- India is a multi-racial and multi-religious country. Such a vast democratic country like India can prosper only when the citizens of this country respect its integrity and promotes cultural harmony.
- Environmental pollution has become a great cause of concern, not only for Indian, but for the entire humanity. Unless, we all take the pledge to keep our environment free from pollutants, there remains the threat of undesirable consequences.
- The inclusion of providing opportunity for education for children as a Fundamental duty is a big step forward towards safeguard of human-rights and abolition of social injustices