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| CLASS: VIII | SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE | TOPIC: CIVICS | CH-1 |
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THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Multiple Choice Type Questions

1. The Constitution can be defined as a **all of these**.
2. Which of the following is not the national objective of India as laid down by constitution.
discrimination.
3. Which form of government exist in India **parliamentary**.
4. How many years did it take to draft constitution of India **2 years 11 months 17 days**.
5. **Fraternity** means the feeling of brotherhood towards one and all.

Fill in the blanks

1. A group of people who make and implement laws is called **government**.
2. India is known for its **diversity** .
3. The preamble contains all the **objectives** of the constitution.
4. Fundamental rights advocate ideals such as **equality, liberty** and The **justice**.
5. The **45th** amendment lays down that all religions are equal.

Write “T” for true or “F” for false statements.

1. Dr. BR Ambedkar is the father of Indian constitution . **(T)**
2. The constitution was approved on January 26, 1950. **(F)**
3. Republic means that the head of state is elected by the people . **(T)**
4. The right to equality is fundamental duty.**(F)**
5. The judiciary protects the interests of the people. **(T)**

Short Answer Questions

1. **What is a universal adult franchise?**

Every citizen who is 18 years of age or above has the right to vote irrespective of their caste, creed ,race ,religion & gender etc.

2. What do you understand by the term ‘socialist’ ?

The word ‘socialist’ was added in the preamble in 1976 through the 42nd amendment. It means that a person who believes in freedom of all kinds of exploitation, be it social , political or economical.

3. Why do we need a constitution?

We need a constitution to protect individual rights , establish a framework for governance, uphold the rule of law , provide stability, promote citizen participation & safeguard against tyranny.

4. What does government do?

- The government protects our freedom, rights , and maintains law & order so that all the citizens can lead a better life.
- A government also runs educational institutions, hospitals, public transport, upholds the rule of law, maintains law & order, makes policies & programmes that helps the industries, corporate houses & general public to lead a better life.

5. What were the problems that the drafting committee faced ?

The problems that the drafting committee faced were :

- There were political unrest as partition of India was imminent.
- There were many princely States whose status was not yet decided.
- Maintaining unity by preserving diversity was another great challenge.
- The farmers also had to work on socio – economic reforms to eliminate poverty.

Long Answer Questions

1. What do you understand by the term ‘Justice’. Explain ?

Justice ensures social, economical & political justice to every citizen of India. It can be further divided :

- **Social Justice**, it means no discrimination against any citizen on the basis of caste, creed ,colour , religion, etc.
- **Economical Justice**, it means no discrimination between men & women on the basis of income, wealth & economical status.
- **Political Justice**, means equal, free & fair opportunities for the people to participate in the political process.

2. Explain in brief fundamental rights.

There are six fundamental rights enriched in the constitution, these are :

- **Right to equality:** This right states that every person is equal before law. It means that every person is equally protected by the law of the country, and also states

that no person will be discriminated against on the basis of caste, religion, creed, race, gender, etc.

- **Right to freedom:** It ensures freedom of speech, expression to form association, to reside in any part of the country and to practice any profession , occupation & business.
- **Right against exploitation:** It prohibits human trafficking, forced or bonded labours, employment of children below the age of 14 years in any hazardous or dangerous area.
- **Right to freedom of religion:** This right provides religious freedom to every citizen of India; everyone has the right to Profess, propagate or practice any religion of their choice.
- **Cultural and educational rights:** These rights state that any minority whether religious or linguistic can set up their own educational institutions in order to preserve and develop their own culture .
- **Constitutional remedies:** These rights ensure that the right of any citizen do not get violated. In case of any violation a person can move to a court.

3. State any five fundamental duties of every Indian citizen.

Fundamental duties which have been mentioned in the constitution are :

- To abide by the constitution and respect its ideals and Institutions.
- To respect the national flag and the national anthem.
- To cherish and follow the noble ideas which inspired our nation's struggle for freedom.
- To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India .
- To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.

4. Give a brief description of the salient features of our constitution.

The salient features or principles highlighted in our constitution are as follows :

- **Federalism:** A federal setup is one in which every individual state enjoys independence in matters related to their states, when it comes to matters of national importance they have to follow orders of the Central Government.
- **Parliamentary form of Government:** In this type of government the representatives are chosen by the people through Universal adult franchise ,the Indian Constitution guarantees Universal adult franchise to all the citizens who are 18 years of age or above. This gives political equality to all the sections of society.
- **Separation of powers:** The constitution defines the powers of three organs of the state: the legislature ,the executive and the Judiciary. The legislature is made up of a group of elective representatives who makes laws on the behalf of people, the executive implements those rules and regulation it is also answerable to the

legislature, the Judiciary protects the interest of people & is the guardian of constitution . It makes sure that none of the rules are breached by any of the organs.

- **Fundamental rights and duties:** The Indian Constitution guarantees its citizens certain basic rights, these basic rights safeguard the citizen against arbitrary and absolute use of authority by state. Along with the fundamental right some fundamental duties are also mentioned in the constitution these duties though not enforceable by law, were included in the constitution.