

Chapter - 18

THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

NOTES:

- 1. A Constitution is a set of rules and principles that all persons in a country can agree upon, to rule the country.
- 2. The Constitutional Assembly was established in July 1946.
- 3. The Constitution of India was adopted by the Constitutional Assembly on Nov. 26, 1949.
- 4. Preamble is a summary of the objectives and the basis of philosophy of the constitution.
- 5. Federal form of government exist in India.
- 6. The Indian constitution is established on parliamentary form of government.
- 7. India is a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic with a Parliamentary form of government which is federal in structure with unitary features.

 There is a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minster as its head to advice the President who is the constitutional head of the country.
- 8. Secularism means freedom of religion.
- 9. We celebrate Republic Day on 26th January.
- 10. Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted on 10th December 1948.
- **11.** There are six fundamental rights in India. They are Right to Equality, <u>Right to Freedom</u>, Right against Exploitation, <u>Right to Freedom of Religion</u>, Cultural and Educational Rights, and Right to Constitutional Remedies.

• FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES:

- It shall be the duty of every citizen of India
 - (a) to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem;
 - (b) to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom;
 - (c) to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;
 - (d) to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so;
 - (e) 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;
 - (f) to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture;
 - (g) to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures;
 - (h) to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;
 - (i) to safeguard public property and to abjure violence;
 - (j) to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective

activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement.

(k) to provide opportunities for education by the parent the guardian, to his child, or a ward between the age of 6-14 years.

