



Chapter - 19

UNDERSTANDING SECULARISM

NOTES:

- The Indian Constitution aims to establish a secular state.
- In a secular state every person is allowed to practise any religion of his/her choice.
- Right to Freedom of Religion is a Fundamental Right in India.
- This chapter discusses in detail the fundamental right of religious freedom. A secular country is one that gives all its citizens the freedom to practise the religion of their choice and no majority can deprive them of this freedom.
- The chapter also talks about why it is important to separate religion from the state and how power can be used in the wrong way to stop people from practising their own religion.
- Also, this chapter discusses why India is a secular country. India can be said to be a secular country because it is not dominated by the people of a single religion and also because the state or central power cannot force the people to follow a certain religion.
- The chapter, 'Understanding secularism' makes it easier for the students to understand the concept of secularism and also why it is important to let the citizens of the country be fundamentally free to practise any religious belief.

