

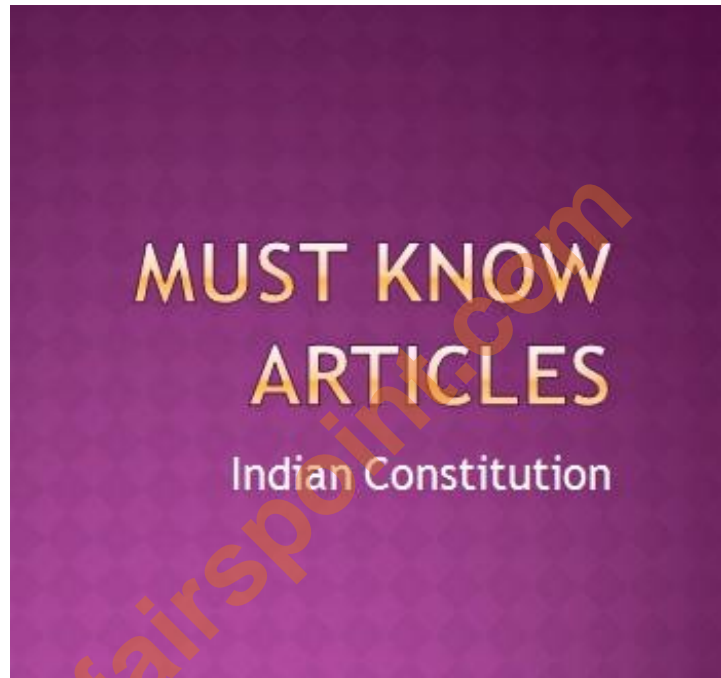
# Must Know Articles of Indian Constitution

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Original Indian Constitution, when adopted by Constituent Assembly in 1949, had 395 articles and 22 parts. Many other articles and three other parts were added to it by subsequent constitutional [amendments](#). [As of now, the Indian constitution has about 450 articles](#) in 25 parts.

In this post, let's learn the must-know articles of the Indian Constitution.



Article	Importance
Article 12 –35	Specify the Fundamental Rights available
Article 36-51	Specify the Directive Principles of state policy
Article 51A	Specifies the Fundamental Duties of every citizen
Article 80	Specifies the number of seats in the Rajya Sabha
Article 81	Specifies the number of seats in the Lok Sabha
Article 343	Hindi as official language

Article	Importance
Article 356	Imposition of President's Rule in states
Article 370	Special status to Kashmir
Article 395	Repeals India Independence Act and Government of India Act, 1935

*PS: It's not expected from a UPSC aspirant to by-heart all articles in Indian Constitution. But he/she is expected to have a fair idea about the nature and salient features of the Indian Constitution like Federalism, Separation of Powers, Fundamental Rights etc.*

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## Important Articles of the Indian Constitution

### Part 1 – Art. 1 to art. 4

- Article 1- Name and territory of the union.
- Article 2 – Admission and Establishment of the new state.
- Article 3 – Formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries, and the name of existing states.

### Part 2 – Art. 5 to art. 11

- Article 5 – Citizenship at the commencement of the constitution.
- Article 6- Rights of citizenship of a certain person who has migrated to India from Pakistan.
- Article 10- continuance of rights of citizenship.
- Article 11- Parliament to regulate the right of citizenship by law.

### Part 3 – Art.12 to art.35

- Article 12- Definition of the state
- Article 13 Laws inconsistent with or in derogation of the fundamental rights.

- Originally, the constitution provided for 7 basic fundamental rights, now there are only six rights, one Right to property U/A 31 was deleted from the list of fundamental rights by 44<sup>th</sup> amendment act 1978. It made a legal right U/A 300-A in Part XII of the constitution.

Some important Fundamental Rights are as:

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### **Right to Equality: Art. 14 to Art. 18**

- Article 14- Equality before the law.
- Article 15- Prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex. Or place of birth.
- Article 16- Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.
- Article 17- Abolition of the untouchability.
- Article 18- Abolition of titles

### **Right to Freedom: Art. 19 to art. 22**

Art.19 guarantees to all the citizens the six rights

1. · (a) Right to freedom of speech and expression.
  2. · (b) Right to assemble peacefully and without arms.
  3. · (c) Right to form associations or unions.
  4. · (d) Right to move freely throughout the territory of India.
  5. · (e) Right to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India.
  6. · (f) Right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade, and business.
- Article 20- Protection in respect of conviction for offences.
  - Article 21- Protection of life and personal liberty.
  - Article 22- Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases.

### **Right against Exploitation: Art.23 & art. 24**

- Article 23- Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour.
- Article 24- Prohibition of employment of children in factories and mines. Under age of 14.

### **Right to Freedom of Religion: Art.25 to art. 28**

- Article 25- Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

- Article 26- Freedom to manage religious affairs.
- Article 27- Freedom as to pay taxes for promotion of any particular religion.
- Article 28- Freedom from attending religious instruction.

### **Cultural and Educational Rights: Art.29 & art. 30**

- Article 29- Protection of interest of minorities.
- Article 30- Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions.
- Article 32- Remedies for enforcement of Fundamental Rights.

### **Part.4 Directive Principal of states Policy: Art 36 to art. 51**

- Article 36- Definition
- Article 37- Application of DPSP
- Article 39A- Equal justice and free legal aid
- Article 40- Organisation of village panchayat
- Article 41- Right to work, to education, and to public assistance in certain cases
- Article 43- Living Wages, etc. for Workers.
- Article 43A- Participation of workers in management of industries.
- Article 44- Uniform civil code.( applicable in Goa only)
- Article 45- Provision for free and compulsory education for children.
- Article 46- Promotion of educational and economic interest of scheduled castes, ST, and OBC.
- Article 47-Duty of the state to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health.
- Article 48-Organisation of agriculture and animal husbandry.
- Article 49- Protection of monuments and places and objects of natural importance.
- Article 50- Separation of judiciary from the executive.
- Article 51- Promotion of international peace and security.

### **Fundamental Duties: Part IV-A- Art 51A**

· It contains, originally 10 duties, now it contains 11 duties by 86<sup>th</sup> amendments act 2002.

### **Part 5 – Union ( 52-151)**

- Article 52- The President of India
- Article 53- Executive Power of the union.
- Article 54- Election of President
- Article 61- Procedure for Impeachment of the President.
- Article 63- The Vice-president of India.
- Article 64- The Vice-President to be ex-officio chairman the Council of States.
- Article 66-Election of Vice-president.
- Article 72-Pardoning powers of President.
- Article 74- Council of Ministers to aid and advise the President.
- Article 76- Attorney-General for India.

- Article 79- Constitution of Parliament
- Article 80- Composition of Rajya Sabha.
- Article 81- Composition of Lok Sabha.
- Article 83- Duration of Houses of Parliament.
- Article 93- The speakers and Deputy speakers of the house of the people.
- Article 105- Powers, Privileges, etc of the House of Parliament.
- Article 109- Special procedure in respect of money bills
- Article 110- Definition of "Money Bills". Article 112-
- Annual Financial Budget.
- Article 114-Appropriation Bills.
- Article 123- Powers of the President to promulgate Ordinances during recess of parliament.
- Article 124- Establishment of Supreme Court.
- Article 125- Salaries of Judges.
- Article 126- Appointment of acting Chief justice.
- Article 127- Appointment of ad-hoc judges.
- Article 128-Attendance of a retired judge at sitting of the Supreme Court.
- Article 129- Supreme court to be a court of Record.
- Article 130- Seat of the Supreme court.
- Article 136- Special leaves for appeal to the Supreme Court. Article
- 137- Review of judgement or orders by the Supreme court. Article 141-
- Decision of the Supreme Court binding on all the courts. Article 148-
- Comptroller and Auditor- General of India Article 149- Duties and
- Powers of CAG.

## Part 6 – States ( 152-237)

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- Article 153- Governors of State
- Article 154- Executive Powers of Governor.
- Article 161- Pardoning powers of the Governor.
- Article 165- Advocate-General of the State.
- Article 213- Power of Governor to promulgate ordinances.
- Article 214- High Courts for states.
- Article 215- High Courts to be a court of record.
- Article 226- Power of High Courts to issue certain writs.
- Article 233- Appointment of District judges.
- Article 235- Control over Sub-ordinate Courts.

## Part 7 – 238 – Repealed

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## Part 8 – 239-242 – Union Territories

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## Part 9 – 243-243 O – Panchayats

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- Article 243A- Gram Sabha

- Article 243B- Constitution of Panchayats

## Part 9A – 243 P-243 ZG – Municipalities

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## Part 10: Scheduled and Tribal Areas -244

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## Part 11: Center- State Relations 245 – 263

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## Part 12: Finance, Property, Contracts and Suits (264 – 300A)

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- Article 266- Consolidated Fund and Public Accounts Fund
- Article 267- Contingency Fund of India Article 280- Finance
- Commission Article 300-A- Right to property.
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## Part 13: Trade, Commerce and Intercourse within the territories of India (301-307)

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- Article 301-Freedom to trade, commerce, and intercourse.
- Article 302- Power of Parliament to impose restrictions on trade, commerce, and intercourse.

## Part 14 : Services Under Center and State (308-323)

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- Article 312- All- India-Service.
- Article 315- Public service commissions for the union and for the states
- Article 320- Functions of Public Service Commission.

## Part 14A: Tribunals (323 A – 323 B)

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Article 323A- Administrative Tribunals

## Part 15 : Elections (324 – 329)

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- Article 324- Superintendence, direction and control of Elections to be vested in an Election Commission.
- Article 325- No person to be ineligible for inclusion in or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste, or sex.
- Article 326- Elections to the house of the people and to the legislative assemblies of states to be on the basis of adult suffrage.

## Part 16: Special Provisions to SC, ST, OBC, Minorities etc (330 -342)

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- Article 338- National Commission for the SC, & ST.
- Article 340- Appointment of a commission to investigate the conditions of backward classes.

## Part 17: Official Language (343- 351)

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- Article 343- Official languages of the Union.
- Article 345- Official languages or languages of states.
- Article 348- Languages to be used in the Supreme Court and in the High Courts.
- Article 351-Directive for development of the Hindi languages.

## Part 18: Emergency (352-360)

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- Article 352- Proclamation of emergency ( National
- Emergency). Article 356- State Emergency (President's
- Rule) Article 360- Financial Emergency

## Part 19: Miscellaneous (361-367)

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Article 361- Protection of President and Governors

## Part 20: Amendment of Constitution (368)

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Article 368- Powers of Parliaments to amend the constitution.

## Part 21 : Special, Transitional and Temporary Provisions (369 – 392)

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- Article 370 – Special provision of J&K.  
Article 371A – Special provision with respect to the State of
- Nagaland Article 371-J: Special Status for Hyderabad-Karnataka
- region

## Part 22: Short Text, Commencement, Authoritative Text in Hindi and Repeals (392 – 395)

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Article 393 – Short title – This Constitution may be called the Constitution of India.

# IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS

India's constitution is neither rigid nor flexible. Parliament is empowered to amend the Indian Constitution under Article 368, subjected to 'Basic structure of Constitution'. It is done in three ways:

- 81 By simple majority
- 82 By special majority
- 83 By special majority with ratification by half of the states.

## Important Amendments in the Indian Constitution

### First Constitutional Amendment Act, 1951

- 396 Added Ninth schedule to protect land reforms and other laws from the scrutiny of Judicial review.
- 397 Insertion of new Article 31A and Article 31 B.
- 398 Amended Article 19 by adding three more ground of reasonable restriction on freedom of speech and expression.

### Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956

- 7. State reorganization on a linguistic basis. Abolished classification of states into four categories and reorganized them into 14 states and 6 UTs.
- 8. Appointment of a Governor for two or more states.
- 9. Establishment of common High Court for two or more states, extended jurisdiction of the High Court to union territories. Appointment of additional and acting judges of High Court.
- 10. Insertion of new Article 350 A (instruction in mother-tongue at primary education to children belonging to linguistic minority) and 350B (Special Officer for linguistic minorities is provided) in part XVII.

### Eighth Constitutional Amendment Act, 1960

- Extended reservation of seats for the SCs and STs and special representation for Anglo-Indians in the Lok Sabha and state legislature.

### Twenty-Fourth Constitutional Amendment Act, 1971

- Amended Article 368 and Article 13, affirming the power of Parliament to amend any part of the Constitution including fundamental rights.
- When an amendment to the Constitution adopted by both Houses of Parliament is submitted to the President for his approval, he is obliged to give his consent.



### **Twenty-Fifth Constitutional Amendment Act, 1971**

- Curtailment of the fundamental right to property.
- Insertion of new Article 31 C, which provides that if any law is passed in order to give result to the DPSP contained in 39(b) and (c), that law will not be considered to be void on the ground that it removes or reduces any of the rights under Article 14, 19 or 31 and will not be challenged on the ground that it doesn't give effect to those principles.

### **Twenty-Sixth Constitutional Amendment Act, 1971**

- Insertion of Article 363 A giving effect to the abolishment of Privy purse paid to former rulers of princely states.

### **Forty-Second Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**

- Amendment in Preamble by addition of three words- 'Socialist', 'Secular' and 'Integrity'.
- Addition of new Part IVA (Article 51 A) for fundamental duties.
- Insertion of new Article 31 D for saving laws in respect of anti-national activities, taking precedence over fundamental rights.
- Insertion of new Article 32 A for Constitutional validity of State laws not to be considered in proceedings under Article 32. Also added Article 226 A for Constitutional validity of Central laws not to be considered in proceedings under Article 226.
- Insertion of three new Articles regarding DPSP.
  - (i) Article 39 A: Free legal aid and Equal justice
  - (ii) Article 43 A: Participation of workers in the management of industries and
  - (ii) Article 48 A: Protection and improvement of environment and safeguarding of forests and wildlife.
- Curtailment of power of Supreme Court and High Court with respect to judicial review and writ jurisdiction.
- Made Constitutional amendment beyond judicial review.
- The tenure (period) of Lok Sabha and State Legislative assemblies raised to 6 years by amending Article 83 and Article 172.
- Frozen seats in Lok Sabha and State
- Parliament is empowered to decide the powers, privileges and immunities of the members and the committees of each House of Parliament and State Legislature by amending Article 105 and Article 194.
- Added new Part XIV regarding administrative tribunal and tribunal for other matters under Article 323 A and 323 B.
- Addition of new Article 257 A for assistance to States by the deployment of armed forces or other forces of the Union.
- Creation of All India Judicial Services under Article 236.

- Facilitated a Proclamation of emergency in operation in any part of the territory of India.
- Made President bound by the advice of Council of Ministers by amending Article 74.
- Amendment in Seventh Schedule by shifting five subjects from the state list to the concurrent list  
These are: (a) education, (b) forests, (c) protection of wild animals and birds, (d) weights and measures (e) administration of justice.
- Extended one-time duration of President's rule from six months to one year.

#### **Forty-Fourth Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978**

- Substituted term 'Armed rebellion' with earlier 'Internal disturbance' in case of national emergency.
- President can proclaim emergency only on the basis of written advice tendered by the cabinet.
- Removal of right to property from the list of fundamental right and recognized as a mere legal right.
- Provided that during national emergency fundamental right guaranteed under Article 20 and Article 21 cannot be suspended.
- Restored the original term of Lok Sabha and State Legislative assembly to five years.
- Restored the power of Election Commission in deciding matters related to election dispute of President, Vice-President, Prime Minister and Speaker of Lok Sabha.
- Guaranteed right of the media to report the proceedings in Parliament and the State Legislatures freely and without censorship.
- Set some procedural safeguards with respect to a national emergency and President's rule.
- Restored the powers of Supreme Court and High Court taken away in earlier amendments.
- In the case of issuing ordinances, the amendment did away with the provision that made the satisfaction of the President or Governor as final justification.
- President can now send back the advice of cabinet for reconsideration. Reconsidered advice, however, is binding on the President.

#### **Sixty-First Constitutional Amendment Act, 1988**

- Proposed to reduce the voting age from 21 years to 18 years for Lok Sabha and State legislative assembly election.

### **Sixty-Ninth Constitutional Amendment Act, 1991**

- Granted the National Capital a special status among the Union territories to ensure stability and permanence. Amendment also provided with a Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers for Delhi.

### **Seventy-Third Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**

- Added new Part IX that gave Constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj Institution. Inserted new Eleventh schedule having 29 functions of Panchayat.

### **Seventy-Fourth Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**

- Granted Constitutional status to Urban Local Bodies. Added 'The Municipalities' as new Part XI-A in the Constitution. Inserted Twelfth schedule having 18 functions of the municipality.

### **Eighty-Fourth Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002**

- Readjustment and rationalization of territorial constituencies, without altering the number of seats allotted in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative assemblies to be fixed on the basis of 1991 census till 2026.

### **Eighty-sixth Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002**

- Inserted new Article 21-A in the Constitution which provided for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 6 to 14 years.
- Inserted Article 51-A as a fundamental duty which provided for the education of a child between the age of 6 and 14 years.
- Changes in the DPSP Article 45 which provided free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14 years.

### **Eighty-Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003**

- Readjustment and rationalization of territorial constituencies in the states to be fixed as per 2001 census instead of earlier 1991 census.

### **Eighty-Ninth Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003**

- Creation of two separate bodies out of combined body namely 'National Commission for Scheduled Castes' under Article 338 and 'National Commission for Scheduled Tribes' under Article 338-A.

### **Ninety-First Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003**

- Inserted new clause Article 75 (1A): provides that the total number of ministers, including the PM, in the COM shall not exceed 15% of the total number of members of LS.  
PM- Prime Minister COM- Council of Ministers LS- Lok Sabha
- Inserted fresh clause Article 75 (1B): Provides that a member of either House of Parliament belonging to any political party that is disqualified on grounds of defection from being a member of that House shall also be disqualified from being a Minister.
- New clause Article 164(1A): Provides that the total number of ministers, including the CM, in the COM shall not exceed 15% of the total number of members of the State Legislative Assembly.  
CM- Chief Minister COM- Council of Ministers
- Inserted new clause Article 164 (1B) which says, a member of Legislative assembly of the State or either House of State Legislature belonging to any political party who is disqualified on the ground of defection for being a member of that House shall also be disqualified to be appointed as a minister.
- Removal of the provision in Tenth Schedule pertaining to an exemption from disqualification in case of the split by one-third members of the legislature party.

### **Ninety-Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011**

- It gave Constitutional protection to Co-operative societies by making the following changes.
- Right to form Co-operative society as a fundamental right under Article 19.
- Insertion of the new Directive Principle of State Policy under Article 45-B for promotion of Co-operative societies.
- Added new Part IX B under the Constitution as 'The Co-operative societies' under Article 243-ZH to 243-ZT.

### **Ninety-Ninth Constitutional Amendment Act, 2014**

- Insertion of new Article 124-A which provided for the establishment of National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) for the appointment and transfer of judges of the higher judiciary. However, it was later struck down by apex court and held as unconstitutional and void.

### **Hundredth Constitutional Amendment Act, 2015**

- This amendment gave effect to the acquisition of territories by India and transfer of certain territories to Bangladesh in pursuance of the Land Boundary Agreement and its protocol entered into between the Governments of India and Bangladesh.

### **Hundred and First Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016**

- Insertion of new Article 246-A, 269-A and 279-A for enrollment of Goods and Service Tax (GST) that made changes in Seventh Schedule and course of inter-state trade and commerce.

### **Hundred and Second Constitutional Amendment Act, 2018**

- It provided for the establishment of National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) as a Constitutional body under Article 338-B of the Constitution. It is vested with the responsibility of considering inclusion and exclusion of communities in the list of backward communities for reservation in jobs.

### **Hundred and Third Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019**

- In relation to the current reservation, the reservation of up to 10% for "economically weaker segments" in academic organizations and government jobs has been made.
- It gives effect to the mandate of the Directive Principle of State Policy under Article 46.
- It added new provisions under Article 15 (6) and Article 16 (6) to permit the government to ensure the advancement of "economically weaker segments."