1. Role of the Indian Constitution

Worksheet 1

(A) Answer the following questions:

1. When was the Constitution passed by the Constituent Assembly?

2. Through what procedure are changes brought about in the Constitution?

3. What does it mean when we say that a country is sovereign?

4. Why is India considered a republic?

5. What are the three lists that show the division of powers between the Centre and the States?

6. What are the three organs of government? Describe the role of each.

7. What guarantees are given by the right against exploitation?

8. When did the Right to Information come into force?

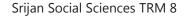
9. What is the aim of the Fundamental Duties?

10. What are the Directive Principles?

B Match the words in Column A with those in Column B:		
Column A	Column B	
1. Preamble	(a) Fundamental Duty	
2. Change in Constitution	(b) Articles 14-16	
3. House of Parliament	(c) Dr Rajendra Prasad	
4. Secular, Socialist	(d) Amendment	
5. Right to Freedom	(e) Introduction	
6. Constituent Assembly	(f) 42nd Amendment Act	
7. Respect the National Flag	(g) Rajya Sabha	
8. Right to Equality	(h) Articles 19-22	

Answers to Worksheet I

- A. 1. The Constitution was passed by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949.
 - 2. Changes are brought about in the Constitution through a procedure called Amendments.
 - 3. It means that India is free from external control; it formulates its own policies and is governed by its own government.
 - 4. India is a republic because the head of the state is the President; he/she does not have hereditary right and he/she is elected by an Electoral College.
 - 5. The three lists are subjects handled by the Centre and the States. They are: (i) State List-subjects on which the State has freedom to exercise powers (ii) Union List-subjects of national importance (iii) Concurrent List-subjects of common concern.
 - 6. The three organs of government are: (i) Legislature a body that forms the laws and rules (ii) Executive a body that executes the laws (iii) Judiciary a body that settles disputes and interprets law. The Constitution specifies the functions of each organ and each body acts as a check on the other by which a balance of power is ensured.
 - 7. The right against exploitation guarantees the dignity of individuals and the right to be recognised and protected against any type of exploitation such as human trafficking, begging and forced labour, which are prohibited by law. Children below 14 are prohibited from working in factories or doing any dangerous work.
 - 8. The Right to Information came into force on 12 October 2005.
 - 9. The aim of the Fundamental Duties is to promote patriotism and commitment among the citizens and to help them strengthen the nation.





- **10**. They are directives to the government to ensure social and economic reform and help the government to take steps to work for the nation's growth.
- B. 1. (e) 2. (d) 3. (g) 4. (f) 5. (h) 6. (c) 7. (a) 8. (b)





(A) Try to make a 'constitution' for the class-consisting of a Preamble-and the roles and functions of the Class Teacher [President], the Monitor, a Council and different students to ensure the daily tasks in class.

Answers to Worksheet 2

A. Any reasonable attempt is acceptable. The teacher may guide the students – one person can be the Monitor [PM], a council of four to make rules, individual students responsible for different tasks in class like ensuring handwriting is neat, homework done on time, cleanliness, punctuality, uniform, etc. One student can be selected to settle disputes or differences of opinion. The class has the right to change the 'government' if it does not behave in a responsible manner.

