

17

India—Our Rights and Duties

Lesson Plan

Contents

- ▶ Our Independence and Constitution
- ▶ The guidelines for citizens of India
- ▶ Fundamental Rights
- ▶ Fundamental Duties
- ▶ Directive Principles

Objectives

- ▶ Understanding what independence and freedom mean
- ▶ India's Constitution
- ▶ Why the constitution is important for the citizens of India
- ▶ What are the guidelines it lays down for us to follow?
- ▶ Fundamental Rights
- ▶ Fundamental Duties
- ▶ Directive Principles

Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Copy of the Constitution of India – hard or soft copy
- ▶ News items, etc., about the rights of individuals

Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Explain the difference between freedom and licence to the students. This is important, especially when they enter their teens.
- ▶ Use examples from home and school – harmless and harmful actions done by individuals.

Gear Up, Background and Reading

- ▶ Gear Up shows the picture of Dr B R Ambedkar.
- ▶ Explain about the Constituent Assembly and its task; written constitutions as in India and the USA and unwritten constitutions as in the UK.

- ▶ What is the task of the Parliament regarding the Constitution and how the judicial system has to check if it is not followed. The Government functions according to the Constitution of India.
- ▶ The significance of Independence Day and the Republic Day in India.
- ▶ What is the Preamble of India's Constitution and what does it mean?
- ▶ Learning the meaning of words Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic

/// **Fundamental Rights**

- ▶ Constitution gives six rights to citizens of India:
Equality; freedom of speech; follow any religion; choose any profession; live and travel anywhere in India; free and compulsory education for children up to the age of 14 years.
- ▶ Explain what each of these means when translated into action.
- ▶ Equality – of opportunity, pay, wages, work, etc., without caste, gender, colour bias.
- ▶ Freedom of speech – does not mean right to be abusive and rude; expressing yourself without hurting the values of others.
- ▶ Follow any religion – but not harmful social rituals and codes like sati, dowry, etc.
- ▶ Choose any profession – not an illegal or criminal one.
- ▶ Live and travel anywhere in India – in order to create a feeling of oneness and unity.
- ▶ Free and compulsory education so that everyone becomes literate.

/// **Fundamental Duties**

- ▶ Constitution expects citizens to perform or abide by ten duties:
- ▶ Follow the Constitution of India
- ▶ Respect the National Flag and the National Anthem
- ▶ Protect the unity and integrity of India
- ▶ Help to defend the country when it is in danger
- ▶ Treat all citizens of India as equal
- ▶ Protect and improve the natural environment
- ▶ Protect and take care of public property
- ▶ Preserve the rich heritage of India
- ▶ Avoid acts of violence
- ▶ Work hard for the progress of the country

/// **Directive Principles**

- ▶ These are guidelines for the government of India to ensure the welfare of the people:
- ▶ Provide proper living conditions
- ▶ Provide work for everyone

- ▶ Ensure that some people do not become rich by exploiting others
- ▶ Provide free and compulsory education to all
- ▶ Protect the interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes