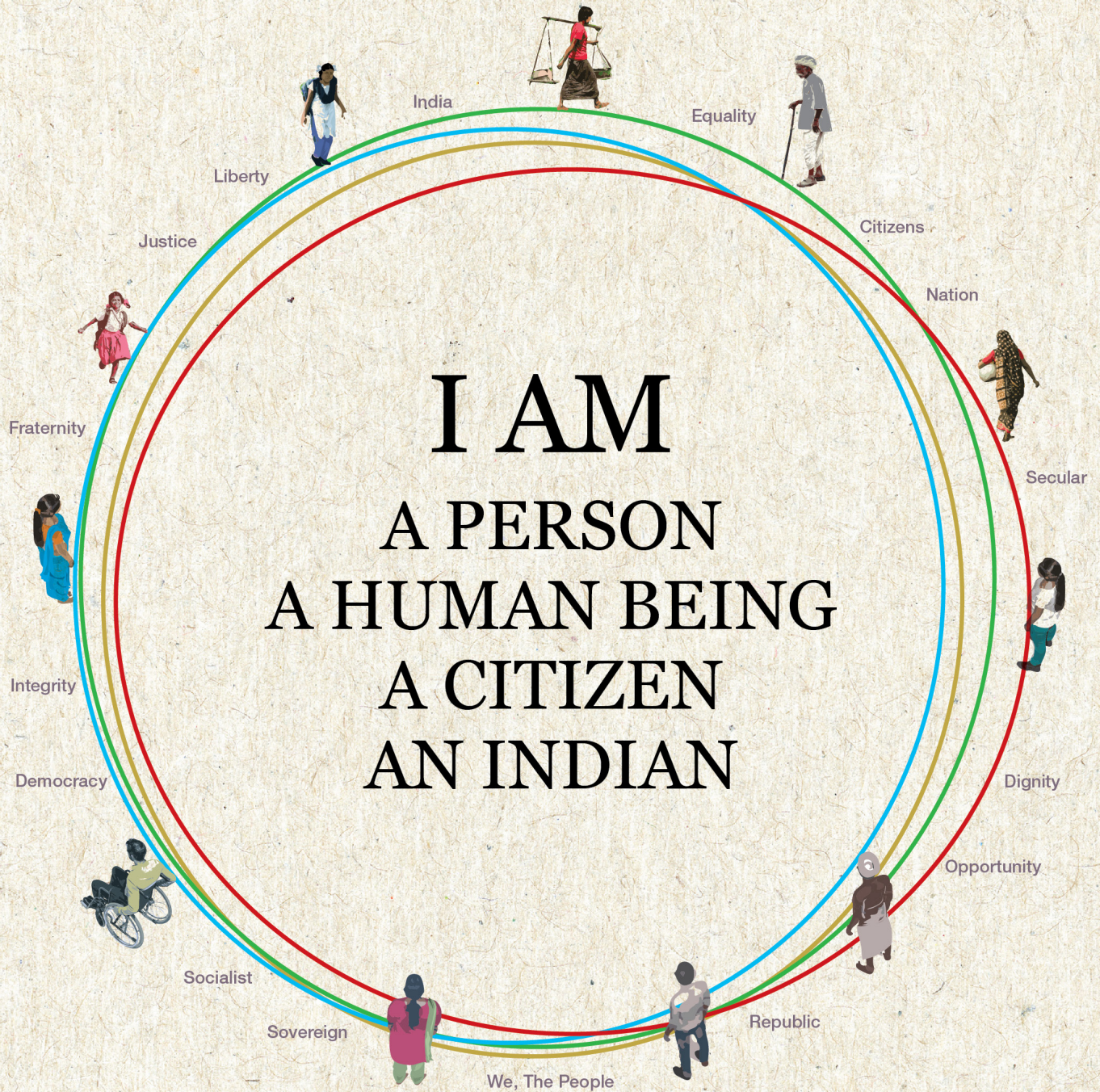


I AM
A PERSON
A HUMAN BEING
A CITIZEN
AN INDIAN



The Constitution of India as a guide to daily life

OUR LIVES AND THE CONSTITUTION

Our lives are made up of many aspirations, opportunities, big and small issues, dilemmas, struggles and challenges. Amidst all this, we constantly make efforts to expand our welfare and well-being.

In fact, human welfare and well-being has been a concern universally since many years. It was the main concern during our struggle for independence. And it became the guiding principle for our Constitution as it set down the fundamental values, principles and systems for our nation.

On 26th January 1950, our Constitution came into force. It named our country: "India, that is Bharat" and gave the definition of who is a citizen of India. It established a written system:

Of law for all citizens: anywhere and everywhere in the country, in cities, towns and villages, rich or poor, farmers, businessmen, transgenders, women, men, children, youth, elderly, people who differ in looks, religion, stature, thoughts, culture, habits...

Where no person, however powerful they may seem, is outside or above the law.

Where citizens have the right to choose and elect their representatives and participate in decision making.

In which the core concern of governance is that every citizen gets a life guaranteed of basic rights that no power can take away.

Where power and duties of institutions are defined and distributed to ensure checks and balances.

Which is based on human values of equality, liberty, justice and fraternity, that are the foundation of human rights and the essence of life itself.



The Constitution consists of the Preamble and 22 Parts with 395 Articles and 12 Schedules.

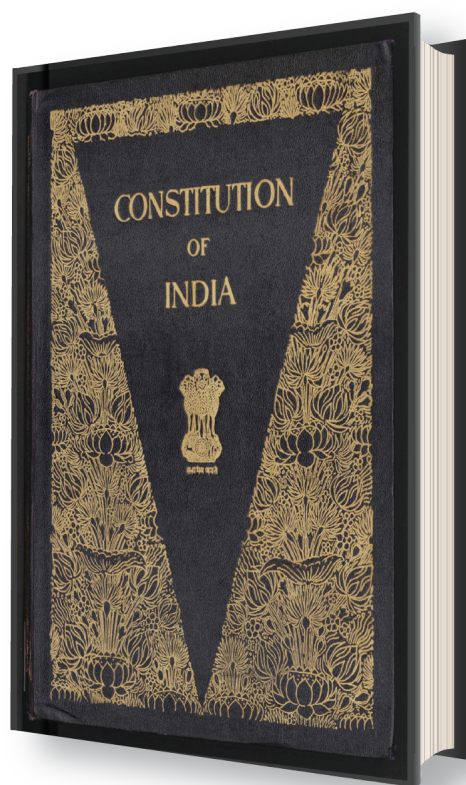
The Constitution was originally written in Hindi and English. Its copies are now available in all official languages and also on the internet.

It took 2 years, 11 months and 17 days of intense discussions to finalise the full document.

The Constitution was made by the Constituent Assembly formed in 1946 with 389 members. After Partition, some members moved to Pakistan and 299 members continued. They represented diverse professions, communities, regions and religions.

The Constitution was adopted on 26th November 1949. This day is celebrated as Constitution Day.

There were 15 women members in the Constituent Assembly.



The Constitution was handwritten by Prem Behari Narain Raizada and Vasant Krishan Vaidya. It was illustrated by artists led by Nandalal Bose.

There were more than 17 Committees looking at different topics. The Drafting Committee was headed by Dr B R Ambedkar.

OUR GUIDE THE PREAMBLE

The Constitution starts with the Preamble. It serves as a purposeful introduction. It is written as a resolution taken by the people of India to:

1. Constitute India into a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic

This means we have organized ourselves into a system of governance with these qualities. These are the features of the Indian State.

2. Secure to all citizens: Justice, Liberty and Equality

These are the fundamental human values that guide all our individual and collective efforts. As we go about our lives, we must uphold and practice these values

3. Promote among us all Fraternity, assuring the dignity of the individual and unity and integrity of the nation

This fundamental human value guides us to actively support fellowship and togetherness among all, while respecting the dignity of each person

4. Adopt, enact and give to ourselves this Constitution

This is a conscious act of ownership. We are giving the Constitution to ourselves. We are taking ownership of its aspirations, ideals and the vision for a fair system that works for the rights of all

When the Constitution was being made, there were riots, famine, poverty. Still, these human values were held important.



Let us remind ourselves that these values give us direction to move forward even in the most difficult periods.



ARE THERE ANY VALUES YOU APPLY TO YOUR DAILY CONDUCT?



WHAT ARE THESE VALUES?

HOW DO THEY COMPARE WITH THE VALUES SET OUT IN THE PREAMBLE OF OUR CONSTITUTION?



We, the people of India means all people; past, present and future; from all regions, religions, castes, classes, genders, languages and ideologies.

Sovereign means people are free from any external powers and make their own laws, through their elected representatives.

Socialist means the State will work to achieve equal status and opportunities, equal distribution of wealth and decent standard of living for all. This is a commitment to a welfare State.

Liberty means the freedom to speak and express ourselves the way we want and to practice any belief or faith or religion or none.

Republic means that the head of the State, the President, is an elected position, not a hereditary one. Any citizen of India is eligible to become the President.

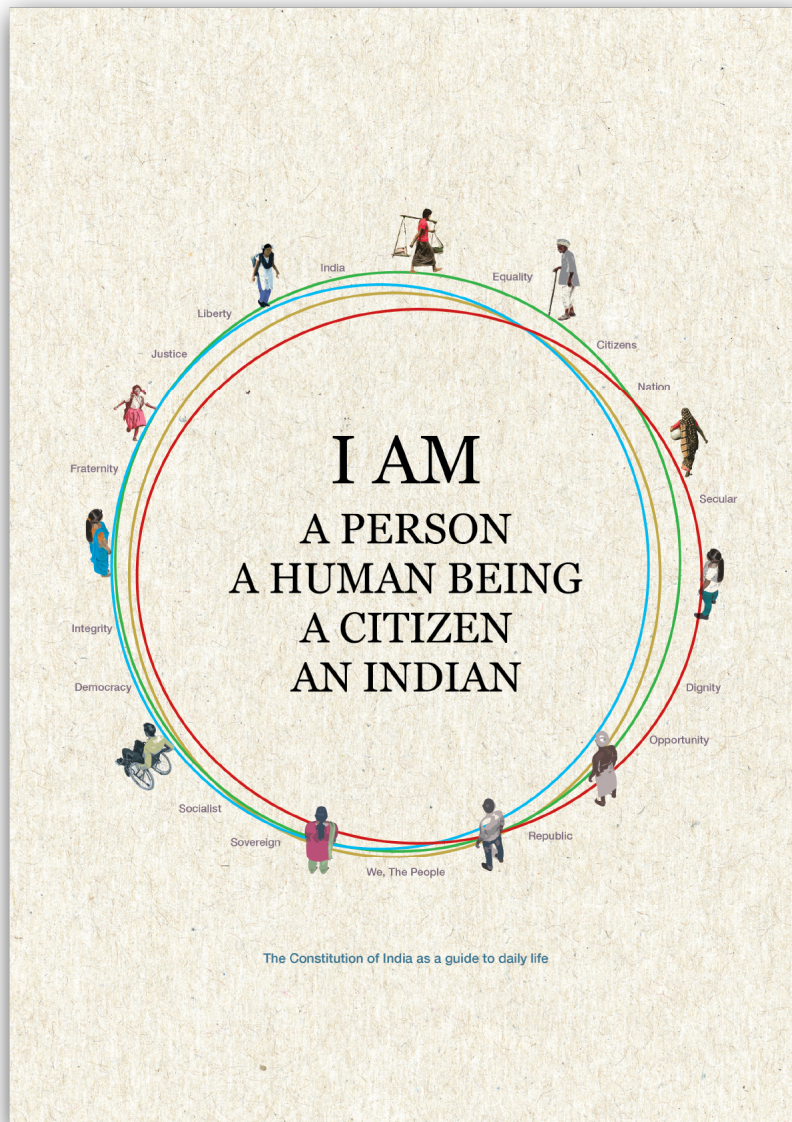
Democratic means that we have the right to elect our representatives at all levels (national, state and local). Every citizen above 18 years enjoys the right to vote without any discrimination. It also underlines our right to take part in decision-making.

Justice means the value of fairness and impartiality. This means ensuring a fair opportunity for people in social, economic and political spheres.

Secular means the State has no specific religion and will hold all religions equal.

Equality doesn't mean we're all the same. It means we are to secure equality in status and opportunity, however different we may be, wherever we start from.

Fraternity means respecting each one's dignity and supporting togetherness.



It seems to me that the Preamble of our Constitution is of extreme importance and the Constitution should be read and interpreted in the light of the grand and noble vision expressed in the Preamble”

S M Sikri,
Former Chief Justice of India



OUR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

The Constitution guarantees protection of basic human rights in the form of fundamental rights. It safeguards rights of all and puts special attention to the rights of the vulnerable. All these rights emerge from the foundation of human values.

The State is duty bound to protect these fundamental rights. No law can be made that goes against these rights. If any action of the State violates or fails to protect these rights, it can be challenged directly in the Supreme Court and High Courts.

The rights underline that the Constitution is committed to protection of all - those who are majority or in minority, who have high incomes or low, who have powerful connections or not, those who are specially-abled or different - against discrimination and injustice.

Fundamental Rights are written in Part III of the Constitution.

Some of the Articles related to Fundamental Rights are given here

Fundamental Rights

PART III

Right to Equality

14

Equality before law

15

Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth

16

Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment

17

Abolition of Untouchability

18

Abolition of titles

To implement and fortify these supreme purposes set forth in the Preamble, Part - III of our Constitution has provided for us certain fundamental rights”

The Supreme Court of India



A group of citizens in Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh approached their Municipality to repair a big broken drain. The Municipality said that they did not have funds to repair. The citizens then filed a petition in the Supreme Court stating violation of right to life.

The Supreme Court upheld this right and stated that Municipality cannot give defense of shortage of funds for carrying out basic duties. It directed Ratlam Municipality to secure the budget and repair the drain.



Right to Freedom

19 Protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech, etc.

20 Protection in respect of conviction for offences

21 Protection of life and personal liberty

21 A Right to Education

22 Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases



Right to Freedom of Religion

25 Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion

26 Freedom to manage religious affairs

27 Freedom as to payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion

28 Freedom as to attendance at religious instruction or religious worship in certain educational institutions



Right against Exploitation

23 Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour

24 Prohibition of employment of children in factories, etc.



Right to Constitutional Remedies

32 Remedies for enforcement of rights conferred by this Part



29 Protection of interests of minorities

30 Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions

Cultural & Educational Rights



HAVE YOU HEARD OF PEOPLE APPROACHING THE COURTS WHEN THEIR RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED? WHY DO YOU THINK IT'S NECESSARY?



MINORITIES HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THEIR SCRIPT, LANGUAGE AND CULTURE. DO WE USE THIS RIGHT? DO WE HELP MINORITIES USE THIS RIGHT?



OUR FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES

The Constitution elaborates certain Fundamental Duties that serve as a guide for playing our role as responsible citizens. These duties take us further on the path of practicing values of equality, liberty, justice and fraternity. Each of the duties encourages us to reflect and take action within our families and communities so that we contribute fully in bettering our lives.

Fundamental Duties are written in Part IVA of the Constitution.



DO YOU THINK YOUR DUTY IS ONLY TOWARDS YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS? DO YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR DUTY TO THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND TOWARDS THOSE WHO WORK FOR YOU?

DO YOU RESPECT PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENT FROM YOU? IN A COUNTRY WITH SO MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE, WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T RESPECT DIFFERENCES?

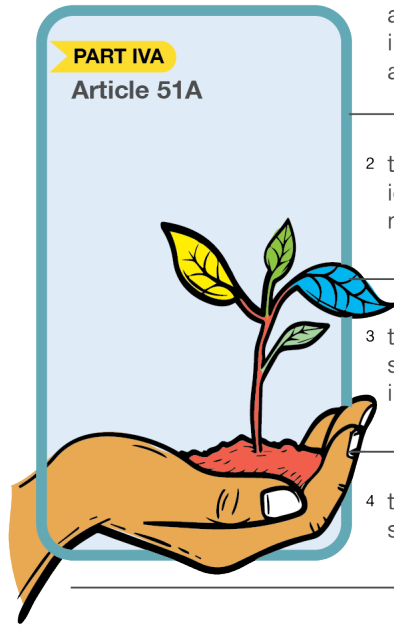
WHEN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING, DO YOU QUESTION?

Jadav Molai Payeng is called the Forest Man of India. He worked hard to fulfill his duty towards the environment. He has been planting trees for more than 30 years now. He turned the vast barren land where animals were dying, into a lush green forest.



For his efforts he received Padma Shree Award from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

It shall be the duty of every citizen of India:



1 to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem

2 to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom

3 to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India

4 to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so

5 to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending:

religious	linguistic	regional or sectional diversities	to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women
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6 to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture

7 to protect & improve the natural environment including:

forests	lakes	rivers	wild life	to have compassion for living creatures
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8 to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform

9 to safeguard public property and to abjure violence

10 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

11 who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years

SOME PRACTICES IN OUR FAMILY OR COMMUNITY
REDUCE THE DIGNITY OF WOMEN.
IT IS OUR DUTY TO GIVE THEM UP. ARE YOU READY?



OUR DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

The Constitution directs that it will be the duty of the State to apply these fundamental principles for governance in making laws and policies. These are critical guiding principles for securing justice, equity and the welfare of all people, especially those among us who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

Directive Principles of State Policy are written in Part IV of the Constitution.

Some of the Articles related to Directive Principles of State Policy are given here

DO YOU KNOW IT WAS THE DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLE RELATED TO EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WHICH PAVED THE WAY FOR ADDITION OF A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT I.E. ARTICLE 21A, RIGHT TO EDUCATION IN THE CONSTITUTION?



If we see inequalities increasing around us, we must question why the Directive Principles are not being followed

Kusum Jain and a group of parents from Delhi were concerned about the increasing number of incidents where students were being beaten by teachers in schools. They took it up with teachers who said that **Delhi School Education Rules, 1973** has a provision that allows a light beating to ensure discipline among students. The parent's group challenged this in the court



The Delhi High Court directed to remove the provision as it was a violation of a person's dignity, and also a violation of equality

WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK. WHEN THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN, DO WE RAISE OUR VOICE?

Have you ever insisted on primary school instruction in your mother tongue? It is an important safeguard given by the Constitution

If you don't get the benefits that are meant for you, remind yourself that it is your right, not a favour



Article 38	State to secure a social order for the promotion of welfare of the people;
Article 39	Certain principles of policy to be followed by the State;
Article 39A	Equal justice and free legal aid;
Article 40	Organisation of village panchayats;
Article 41	Right to work, to education and to public assistance in certain cases;
Article 42	Provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief;
Article 43	Living wage, etc., for workers;
Article 43A	Participation of workers in management of industries;
Article 43B	Promotion of co-operative societies;
Article 44	Uniform civil code for the citizens;
Article 45	Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years;
Article 46	Promotion of educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections;
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 48A	Protection and improvement of environment and safeguarding of forests and wild life;
Article 49	Protection of monuments and places and objects of national importance;
Article 50	Separation of judiciary from executive;
Article 51	Promotion of international peace and security.



THE RULE OF LAW

Rule of law is not mentioned as a term in the Constitution. But it is a fundamental principle on which the entire Constitution is based. This means that we are governed by a system of law; where all laws are made and implemented keeping our rights and welfare in focus. It also means all laws must be based on the Constitution, the supreme law. No law can be made outside the Constitution, because then it would not conform to the interest of citizens and the fundamental values, rights and systems. It will be unconstitutional.

Rule of law also means that all people and institutions are accountable under the law. No person or institution, however much money or power they may have, is above the law. For example, we may think sometimes that particular individuals or authorities like Government officers or MLAs or MPs or Ministers are very powerful, and they can do anything they want. But actually, all their powers are given to them for the protection of our rights and promotion of our welfare. They are given under some law and they are all accountable under that law.



HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF YOURSELF AS ABOVE THE LAW?

DO POWERFUL PEOPLE SEEM ABOVE THE LAW?

Remind yourself that the Constitution is the supreme law. And no one is above it.



WHEN YOU FEEL HELPLESS, OPPRESSED, OR VIOLATED DO YOU EVER CONSIDER THE CONSTITUTION AS SOMETHING IN YOUR SUPPORT?

ARE THERE ANY LAWS OR RULES THAT YOU THINK ARE UNEQUAL OR UNJUST OR REDUCING YOUR FREEDOM?

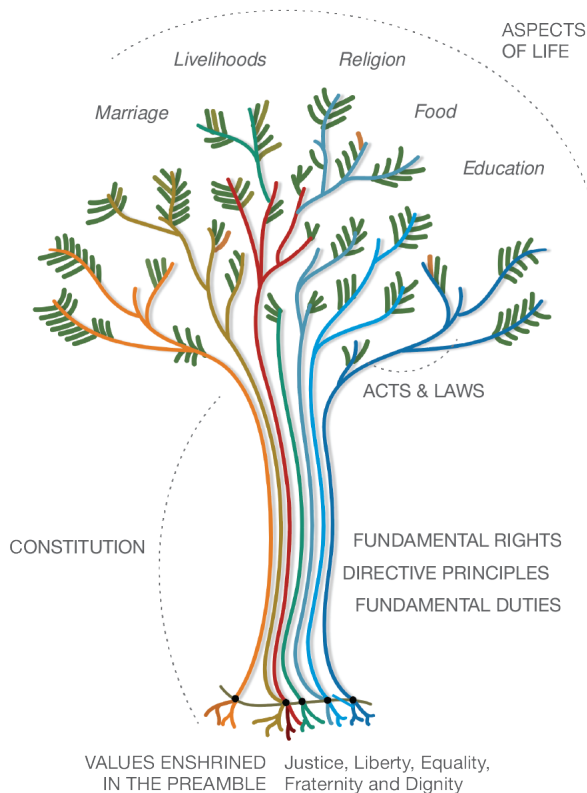
Be alert. Discuss. Take action.



The Parliament has powers to amend the Constitution under conditions detailed in Part XX. Several court judgements including the landmark *Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala* (1973) have laid down that the basic structure of the Constitution cannot be changed under any condition. The basic structure broadly includes supremacy of the Constitution, republic and democratic form of government, secularism, separation of powers, federalism, welfare State, unity and integrity, sovereignty, fundamental rights, free and fair elections, and power of judicial review.

OUR LAWS

Every aspect of our life is governed by some law or the other. Even a simple act like brushing our teeth is governed by so many laws. For example, the toothpaste has to mention its contents so we know what's in it; it should have Maximum Retail Price (MRP) mentioned so that we are not cheated. These aspects are covered by laws like Food Safety and Standard Authority of India Act, 2006 and Consumer Goods (Mandatory Printing of Cost of Production and Maximum Retail Price) Act, 2006.



Further, each of these laws is based on the Constitution and is made to protect and enforce our rights. For example, the Acts mentioned above are to ensure our safety and are connected to our Right to Life and Personal Liberty. Like in the tree depicted here, various issues of our life are connected to laws and the laws are in turn based on the Constitution.

Laws also define which institutions are responsible for implementation and what we can do if we have any issues. In this way, the Constitution provides a tapestry of laws that protect rights and promote welfare in all aspects of our lives.



IF WE SEE A POLICE OFFICER
BEATING UP ANYONE,
DO WE OBJECT?
DO WE THINK OF OBJECTING?

Police cannot punish by slapping or beating even if anyone is accused or under investigation



DO YOU KNOW THE LAWS
RELATED TO CHILDREN
GOING TO SCHOOL?

These are laws related to safety and welfare of children as given in Right to Education Act, 2009 (school infrastructure, teacher, education)
POCSO Act, 2012 (protection from any kind of sexual abuse)
Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 (child walks on the road or uses public transport), etc.



OUR STATE INSTITUTIONS

To ensure a law-based system for our rights and welfare, the Constitution assigns duties and powers to various institutions and individuals. These are institutions for making laws (Legislature), implementing laws (Executive), and interpreting and ensuring application of laws (Judiciary). Together, these are called the State.

These institutions are created such that they balance and distribute power and keep a check on each other. The Legislature and Executive are closely connected with each other. Some members of the Legislature overlap and form the Council of Ministers who become the head of the Executive. The Executive is responsible to the Legislature for ensuring implementation. The Judiciary, however, is independent of Legislature and Executive as it must ensure impartial application of law by both these institutions.

Further, keeping in mind the welfare of all and ensuring better law-making and implementation as per the local needs, powers have been divided between Center (including Union Territories) and different States. This division of powers is secured through a federal structure. Subjects on which the Parliament and State Legislatures can make laws on are divided according to 3 lists given in the Seventh Schedule.



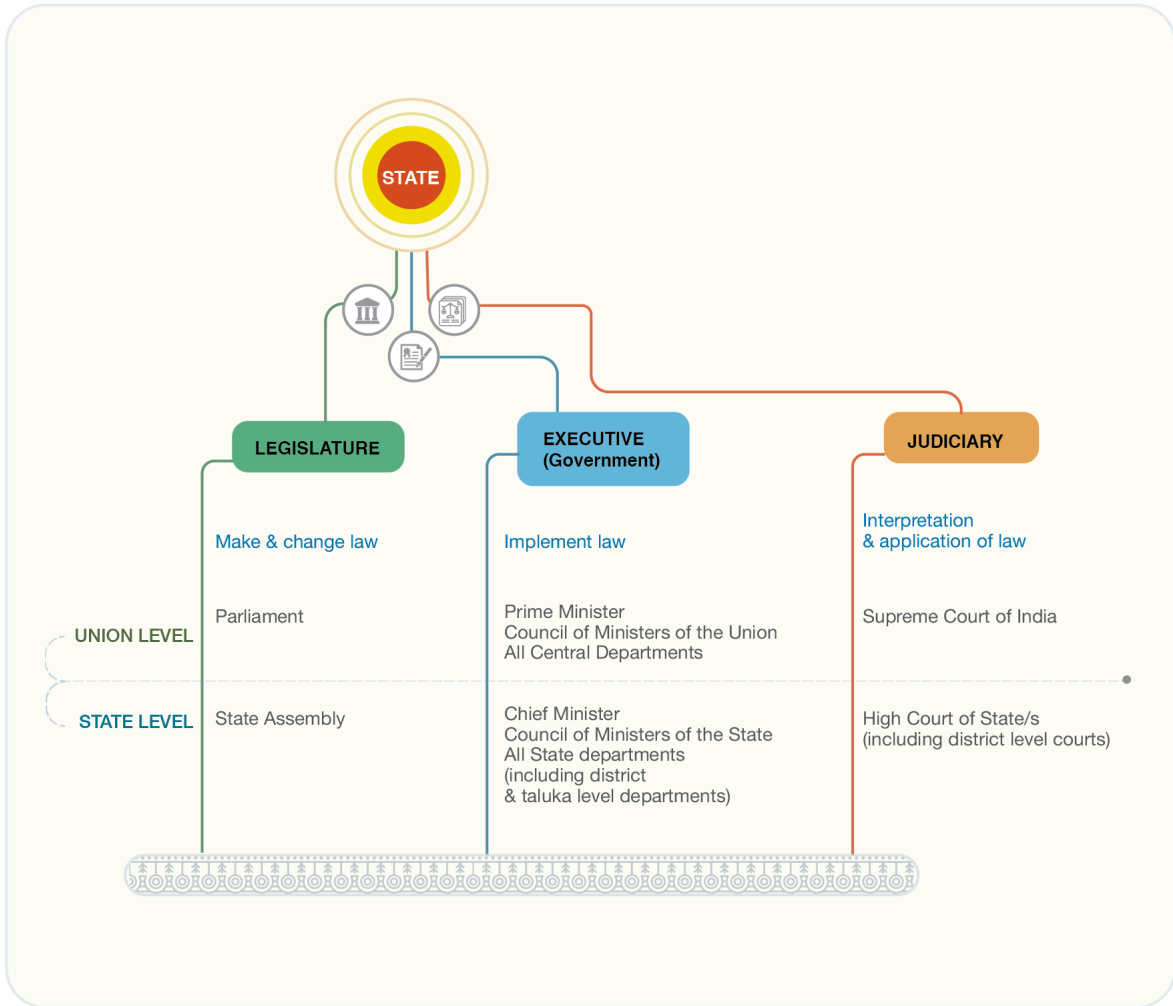
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE STATE WAS IN CONTROL OF ONE PERSON? WHAT IF YOUR RIGHTS HELD NO VALUE FOR THAT PERSON?

Police, govt. school teacher, PHC doctor, forest officer, collector, sarpanch, magistrate, CM and PM are all working towards ensuring protection of your rights.

For every right we have, there is a duty holder.

Identify who is responsible for what and work with them to address problems.





The primary duty of the Judiciary is to uphold the Constitution and the Laws without fear or favour, without being biased”



The Supreme Court of India

OUR INSTITUTIONS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

Powers are also distributed at local levels to ensure that decision-making reflects the needs of people and is not concentrated in few institutions alone. With this purpose, in 1992, two amendments to the Constitution were made: the 73rd and 74th Amendments given in Part IX of the Constitution. Self-government was established as a part of the Constitution as per the provision given under the Directive Principles of the State Policy.

Flowing from these amendments, Panchayati Raj Acts and Municipal Acts were passed or strengthened in all states. These Acts detailed the responsibilities and powers of Panchayats and Municipalities.

Panchayats have the power and the responsibilities to prepare plans, budgets and implement schemes for economic development and social justice pertaining to matters such as poverty alleviation, village industry, women and child development, agriculture, land, irrigation, animal husbandry, forestry, housing, drinking water, roads, education and others listed in Eleventh Schedule.

Similarly, Municipalities have duties on matters such as urban planning, land, roads, water, public health and sanitation, slum improvement, forestry, gardens and others listed in Twelfth Schedule.

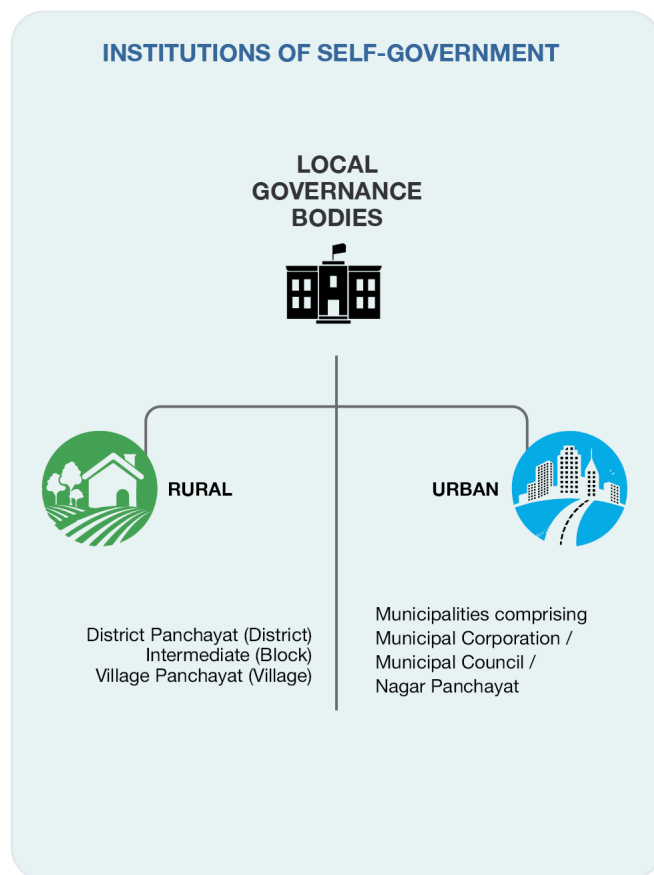
Like any State Institution (legislature, executive and judiciary), Panchayats and Municipalities cannot take any action or make any rules that violate the Constitution.



There are 2,53,380 Gram Panchayats in the country, there are 31 lakh public representatives. Of these, 14.39 lakh or 46% are women representatives. I have seen that women go a long way into bringing inclusive policies to the Panchayats”



Shri N S Tomar



Do all men, women and transgenders attend gram sabha meetings? We must ensure that they attend, discuss and raise the right questions. Together we can bring the change we dream of!

WHAT ARE ALL YOUR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS? WHO ARE THE MOST OPPRESSED IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST DEVELOPMENT OBSTACLES THAT HOLD BACK YOUR COMMUNITY?

AS PER THE PROVISIONS IN THE CONSTITUTION, PARLIAMENT, IN ORDER TO GIVE SPECIAL SAFEGUARD TO PEOPLE LIVING IN SCHEDULED AREAS, PASSED PANCHAYATS (EXTENSION TO SCHEDULED AREAS) ACT, 1996, ALSO CALLED AS PESA.

ARE YOU MAKING SURE THESE SAFEGUARDS ARE IMPLEMENTED PROPERLY?



OUR DEMOCRACY

Democratic representation is the powerful thread that runs through the Constitution putting citizens at the center of its vision. We are the reason why the Constitution is. It is for our lives, our welfare and well-being that it has provided vision, values, system and structures. It is to ensure that our voice is reflected in every aspect of governance, that we have the right to elect our representatives at all levels. And each one of us has this right, equally. The duties and powers related to Elections is given in Part XV of the Constitution.

This constitutional right of democratic representation has been enforced through many laws like, the Representation of People's Act, 1950, (through a secret and non-transferable right to vote), Panchayati Raj Act(s), (through Gram Sabha and Ward Committees) Right to Education Act, 2009 (through School Management Committees), and National Food Security Act, 2013 (through inspection committees).

Democratic representation ensures that we elect people from among ourselves and give them the responsibility to makes laws for our welfare. These representatives are accountable to us. They also play a role in ensuring proper implementation of laws and delivery of services. Courts play an important role in ensuring that the Constitution is upheld in every situation.

The entire system is of us, by us and for us. And it is run on the collective finances of the people. Our taxes, small or big, direct or indirect, contribute to ensuring that the mandate of the Constitution is carried out effectively. And we, the people of India, progress our lives towards the vision of fairness, dignity, welfare and well-being.



THE CONSTITUTION GIVES A LIST OF RECOGNIZED SCHEDULED TRIBES AND SCHEDULED CASTES AND ENSURES RESERVATION OF SEATS IN LEGISLATURE AND PANCHAYATS AND MUNICIPALITIES.

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS LIST? ONCE ELECTED, DO YOU ENSURE THAT THEY DO THEIR JOB PROPERLY?

DO YOU KNOW, EXACTLY, WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF YOUR MLA/MP?



This reflected our genuine faith in the fundamental principles of democracy and in the establishment of secular State without distinction of caste, creed or class"



Sardar Patel
on Universal Adult Franchise

LIVING BY THE CONSTITUTION

The Constitution gives us power, responsibility and the system to do many things. How can we work, individually and together with others, to continue to use it to better our lives and communities?

Use the values of equality, justice, liberty and fraternity as a compass for our daily actions. Every day, for ourselves, with our families, our friends, our neighborhood, our community - we must reflect and act in alignment with these values. This is not an easy task as it means questioning our own patterns of behavior and social practices, and changing those that are not in line with these values

Vote after careful consideration that the candidate will be able to protect the rights of all citizens

Be alert that no law is violating any fundamental rights. If any law is violating rights, we must raise our voice and take action

If we feel that any law is not being implemented properly, we must raise our concern and take action with our local administration – Panchayat, BDO, DM, Municipal Commissioner

If we are facing any issue related to basic civic needs like roads, ration, education, health, sanitation, raise a complaint in our Panchayat or Municipal Corporation

If we feel a new law needs to be made, we must mobilise people and demand from our MLA or MP to bring this up in the legislature

Be involved in local governance – in our Panchayats and Municipalities – to voice our opinion, to raise concerns, to ask for accounts, to ensure implementation of plans and budgets

And read and refer to the Constitution. Any time. Every time.





When Rashmi found that the school in her village did not have any drinking water, she decided to act. Supported by SHG members, she put up this issue in her Gram Sabha for 2 years. With no progress, she registered a complaint at the block office and then at district office. They tried to repair the handpumps but the problem continued. Rashmi then filed an online grievance. She included all the relevant articles and provisions from the Constitution. Within 2 weeks, officials from Public Health Department repaired the handpumps. Clean water now flows in the school.

WE MUST NOT BE HELD BACK BY OUR OWN LIMITING BELIEFS

How we learn, how we cope, and how we overcome – are all part of a lifelong journey. The journey of a citizen is not easy. It is a struggle, for our rights, our power. As we achieve more and more, we see there is so much more to do. Sometimes, we may not be able to stand up. Sometimes we feel tired. But if we are always conscious and we always reach out for support, we will continue the journey.

Remember that the full power of the Constitution is with us. Each one of us. All the time.




I understand democracy
as something that
gives the weak the same
chance as the strong”

Mahatma Gandhi



A group of women from the Armed Forces claimed that they are not being treated equally, as they are not being appointed as Colonels or Brigadiers.

The argument presented to them was that since more soldiers are men from rural backgrounds who are not “mentally schooled to accept women officers in command”, women should not be promoted to such posts.

The Supreme Court negated this argument and held that women have an equal right, and not promoting them on the basis of their gender is a violation of equality.

Gram Panchayat Tikekarwadi in Maharashtra is producing electricity from solar and wind energy. It is also producing bio-gas from cow dung, kitchen and agricultural waste. Many families are using this bio-gas in their kitchens.



Tikekarwadi produces more than 15000KW electricity that is used in schools, temples, Gram Panchayat office and streetlights. This is part of their annual development plan.

A group of citizens started ‘The Right to Food (RTF) Campaign’ and mobilized people to talk about hunger, malnutrition, and other food-related issues. Public Interest Litigation (PIL) was also filed in 2001, by the People’s Union for Civil Liberties, Rajasthan. Soon a lot of other people joined the group and it became a national network.

The Campaign belief was that ‘everyone has a fundamental right to be free from hunger and that the primary responsibility for guaranteeing basic entitlements rests with the State’.

As a result **The National Food Security Act, 2013** was passed to ensure the protection of the right to food under Article 21.



FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (Explanations)

RIGHT TO EQUALITY

Equality before law (Article 14)

This means two things. First, a law shall apply to all equally. Second, law shall protect the rights of all equally.

Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth (Article 15)

All have an equal right to access any public place. The State can make special provisions for women and children, socially and educationally backward classes, Scheduled Castes, and the Scheduled Tribes.

Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment (Article 16)

All have a right to equal opportunity in public employment. No citizen can be ineligible or discriminated against on the ground of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth or residence.

Abolition of Untouchability (Article 17)

Practice of untouchability in any form is a violation of equality. Any person who practices untouchability will be punished under The Untouchability (Prohibition) Act, 1955.

Abolition of titles (Article 18)

State shall not give the title e.g. 'Maharaja' to anyone, as it violates equality. A title or award can only be given based on performance in military or in academics.

RIGHT TO FREEDOM

Protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech, etc. (Article 19)

All citizens have the right to freedom of speech and expression; to assemble peacefully; to form associations or unions; to move freely; to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India; and to practice any profession. The State can impose some reasonable restrictions on these freedoms.

Protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20)

This article has three parts. First, a person who has committed any offense can only be punished as per the law which was applicable at the time of the commission of the offense. Second, a person cannot be punished twice for same offense. Third, no person can be forced to give a statement against oneself.

Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21)

This article has two parts. First, 'right to life'. It includes all those aspects, which are basic and important for a life with dignity. Second, 'personal liberty' means no physical restraint or confinement. No one, including the State (police is part of State), can curtail this liberty without following a fair legal procedure.

Right to education (Article 21A)

All children aged between 6 to 14 have a right to get free and compulsory education.

Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases (Article 22)

A person can only be arrested after informing him about the ground of arrest. Such a person also has a right to consult a lawyer. A person arrested must be produced before the nearest magistrate within 24 hours of arrest. This may not be applied in cases of preventive detention.

RIGHT AGAINST EXPLOITATION

Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour (Article 23)

There should be no trafficking of human beings. No person should be forced to work without wages or as a bonded labour.

Prohibition of employment of children in factories, etc. (Article 24)

No person below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment.

RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion (Article 25)

All have an equal right to freely follow their own moral guide and/or to express, practice, and spread their religion.

Freedom to manage religious affairs (Article 26)

Every religious group has the right to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes, manage their religious

affairs, and also own and acquire property, etc.

Freedom as to payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion (Article 27)

No person shall be forced to pay taxes, which are to be used for the promotion or maintenance of a particular religion or religious group.

Freedom as to attendance at religious instruction or religious worship in certain educational institutions (Article 28)

Educational institutions established to impart religious instruction are free to do so. A person is free to attend or not to attend, even if the institution is administered by State. In case of educational institutions wholly funded by State, religious instruction cannot be imparted.

CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS

Protection of interests of minorities (Article 29)

Any section of citizens has a right to conserve their distinct language, script, or culture.

Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions (Article 30)

All minorities (based on religion or language) have a right to establish and run educational institute of their choice.

Compulsory acquisition of property (Article 31) - Removed.

RIGHT TO CONSTITUTIONAL REMEDIES

Remedies for enforcement of rights conferred by this Part (Article 32)

In case of violation of any fundamental right, anyone can go to the Supreme Court

DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY (Explanations)

State to secure a social order for the promotion of welfare of the people

(Article 38)

The State shall work towards the welfare of the people by promoting social, economic, and political justice. And also, reduce inequalities in income, status, facilities and opportunities.

Certain principles of policy to be followed by the State

(Article 39)

The State shall work towards ensuring, firstly, equality of men and women in terms of employment opportunity; secondly, ownership of community resources for common good; thirdly, the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth; fourthly, equal pay for equal work; fifthly, no one is forced to do work which is not suitable considering their age and strength, and lastly, children get opportunities to develop fully.

Equal justice and free legal aid

(Article 39A)

The State shall ensure a legal system that promotes justice. It shall also provide free legal aid so that no one is deprived of justice because of economic or other disabilities.

Organisation of village panchayats

(Article 40)

The State shall organize village Panchayats and give them powers and facilities. This is to promote local self-governance.

Right to work, to education and to public assistance in certain cases

(Article 41)

The State shall secure the right to work, education, and provide support in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness, and disablement, etc.

Provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief

(Article 42)

The State shall provide for just and humane conditions of work and also provide for maternity relief.

Living wage, etc., for workers

(Article 43)

The State shall provide security of work, living wages, work conditions, and a decent standard of life, to all the workers agricultural and industrial, etc.

Participation of workers in management of industries

(Article 43A)

The State shall secure the participation of workers in management of any industry or any other organization.

Promotion of co-operative societies

(Article 43B)

The State shall promote voluntary formation, independent functioning, democratic control and professional management of co-operative societies.

Uniform civil code for the citizens

(Article 44)

The State shall bring a uniform law, applicable to all, that includes matters like marriage, divorce, custody and inheritance.

Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years

(Article 45)

The State shall provide for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of six years.

Promotion of educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections

(Article 46)

Further, the State shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

Duty of the State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health

(Article 47)

The State shall consider the nutrition level and the living standard while mapping the improvement of public health. The State shall also prohibit the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs, which are injurious to health.

Organisation of agriculture and animal husbandry

(Article 48)

The State shall develop agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines.

Protection and improvement of environment and safeguarding of forests and wildlife

(Article 48A)

The State shall protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wild life

Protection of monuments and places and objects of national importance

(Article 49)

The State shall try to protect every monument or place or object of artistic or historic interest.

Separation of judiciary from executive

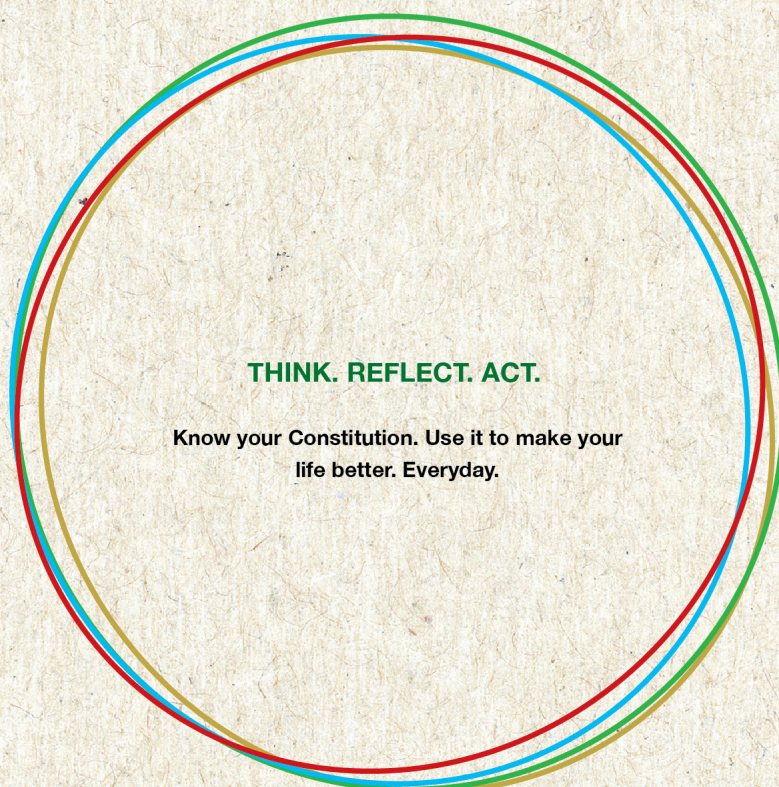
(Article 50)

State has three organs. It shall take steps to keep them separate from each other to ensure check and balance of power.

Promotion of international peace and security

(Article 51)

The State shall try to promote international peace and security by maintaining just relations and respecting international laws.



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