

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY (DPSPS)

1. Fundamental Rights (Part III, Articles 12–35)

Definition:

Fundamental Rights are the **basic human rights guaranteed by the Constitution** to all individuals, protecting them from arbitrary actions of the state and ensuring human dignity, liberty, and equality.

Characteristics:

- **Justiciable:** Enforceable in a court of law.
- Available to both **citizens** and **non-citizens** (some rights).
- Can be suspended during a **national emergency** (except Articles 20 and 21).

Categories of Fundamental Rights:

Type of Right	Articles	Description
Right to Equality	14–18	Equality before law, prohibition of discrimination, abolition of untouchability and titles.
Right to Freedom	19–22	Freedom of speech, movement, assembly, association, residence, profession, and protection in respect of conviction and arrest.
Right against Exploitation	23–24	Prohibits human trafficking, forced labour, and child labour.
Right to Freedom of Religion	25–28	Freedom of conscience, profession, practice and propagation of religion.
Cultural and Educational Rights	29–30	Rights of minorities to preserve culture and establish educational institutions.
Right to Constitutional Remedies	32	Right to move the Supreme Court for enforcement of Fundamental Rights (called the "heart and soul" of the Constitution by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar).

2. Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV, Articles 36–51)

Definition:

DPSPs are **guidelines to the central and state governments** of India, to be followed while framing laws and policies. They reflect the **ideals of the Constitution's framers** to establish a welfare state.

Characteristics:

- **Non-justiciable:** Not enforceable by courts.
- Aimed at **socio-economic justice**.
- Act as a **moral compass** for governance.

Classification of DPSPs:

Type	Examples
Socialist Principles	Equal pay for equal work (Art. 39(d)), right to work, education, and public assistance (Art. 41), living wage (Art. 43).
Gandhian Principles	Promote cottage industries (Art. 43), village panchayats (Art. 40), prohibition of alcohol (Art. 47).
Liberal-Intellectual Principles	Uniform civil code (Art. 44), environment protection (Art. 48A), international peace (Art. 51).