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Tender Heart High School,
Sector 33B, Chandigarh

Class IX

22.4.24

Subject: History and Civics

Chapter 2 Salient Features of the Constitution I

Teacher:- Ms. Rameel-

Good Morning Students!

This lesson is of Class IX History and Civics Chapter 2 Salient Features of the Constitution I starting on Page No. 138 of your textbook titled Total History & Civics ICSE 9 and is being submitted to you on 22.4.24.

Students, in this chapter we will study about the features of the Constitution. We begin here with Single Citizenship. Citizenship denotes a legal status of an individual. It bestows upon individuals "full rights, civil, political as well as socio-economic, in return for the allegiance and loyalty which he owes to the country. The Indian Constitution recognises a single citizenship. Every Indian is a citizen of India and has the same rights of citizenship, no matter in which State resides. So a person born in Punjab or Kerala will be citizen of India only, not of the State of their domicile.

Our Constitution is based on the principle of Universal Adult Franchise. In 1989, the voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 years. The Constitution gives voting right to every person who is a citizen of India and is not less than 18 years of age. In this context we may mention that some seats are reserved

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for candidates from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The core of the Indian Constitution lies in Part III that relates to the Fundamental Rights. The Fundamental Rights are essential for all-round development of the human being. They are secured to preserve human dignity and to promote social progress in larger freedom. Some rights are available to all persons, others are available to citizens alone. The rights are not absolute as state may if required put restrictions on the rights. The Fundamental Rights are suspended during the times of Emergency. The Fundamental Rights are classified into basically six categories. We will first study about the Right to Equality. Article 14 guarantees to every person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India.

The Constitution of India prohibits the State to discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, etc. So no citizen can be denied access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment. There shall also be equality in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State. There may be some limitations as the State may reserve posts for members of Scheduled Castes or Tribes if they are not adequately represented in the

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services under the state.

The Constitution of India declares that "untouchability is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. Article 18 of the Constitution prohibits the State from conferring any titles, except military or academic distinctions.

These titles were abolished as they went against the principle of 'equality of status'.

Let us take a short break. You are requested to read the above assignment carefully and answer the following questions in your notebooks.

1. In which Part of the Constitution are the Fundamental Rights given?
2. Write two features of Fundamental Rights.
3. Which article abolished the title?

Answers

1. Part III
2. Not absolute, Suspendable during emergency
3. Article 18.

Let us continue with our lecture and study about Right to Freedom. Article 19 of the Constitution ensures the citizens of India six essential freedoms

1. Freedom of speech and expression - It enables us to participate in public activities. Reasonable restrictions on this right can be imposed in the interest of public order.

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2. Freedom to assemble peaceably and without arms.
3. Freedom to form associations or unions - Reasonable restrictions may also be imposed in the interest of morality, public order and integrity.
4. Freedom to move freely throughout India.
5. Freedom to reside and settle in any part of India. However certain limitations are there as one cannot displace Tribal communities and settle in their territory.
6. Right to practise any profession, trade or business. However certain professional or technical qualifications may be prescribed for practising any profession.

As studied earlier the Fundamental Rights guaranteed under Article 19 remain suspended during emergency. We will briefly study here about the rights of person arrested under ordinary circumstances.

1. First, No person shall be detained in custody without being informed of the grounds of arrest.
2. He shall have the right to be defended by a lawyer of his choice.
3. He has the right to be produced before the magistrate within twenty-four hours of such arrest.

Finally we will study about Preventive Detention. It is the detention of a

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person without trial. The object of preventive detention is not to punish a person for having committed a crime, but to prevent him from doing so. No one shall be detained for a period longer than three months.

The Constitution 86th Amendment Act 2002 inserted a new Article 21A dealing with Right to Education. It says, "the state shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age 6 to 14 years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine".

Students, we will continue with the chapter next week.

Home assignment

1. Short Answer Questions 2,3,5
2. Structured Questions 1(a,b) 2(a,b,c); 3(a,b,c)

With this we end this lesson.