List of Fundamental Rights

There are six fundamental rights along with the constitutional articles related to them are mentioned below:

- 1. Right to Equality (Article 14-18)
- 2. Right to Freedom (Article 19-22)
- 3. Right against Exploitation (Article 23-24)
- 4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Article 25-28)
- Cultural and Educational Rights (Article 29-30)
- 6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32)

Why Right to Property is not a Fundamental Right?

There was one more fundamental right in the Constitution, i.e., the right to property.

However, this right was deleted from the list of fundamental rights by the <u>44th</u> Constitutional Amendment.

This was because this right proved to be a hindrance towards attaining the goal of socialism and redistributing wealth (property) equitably among the people.

Introduction to Six Fundamental Rights (Articles 12 to 35)

Under this section, we list the fundamental rights in India and briefly describe each of them.

1. Right to Equality (Articles 14 – 18)

Right to equality guarantees equal rights for everyone irrespective of religion, gender, caste, race or place of birth. It ensures equal employment opportunities in the government and insures against discrimination by the State in matters of employment on the basis of caste, religion, etc. This right also includes the abolition of titles as well as untouchability.

2. Right to Freedom (Articles 19 - 22)

Freedom is one of the most important ideals cherished by any democratic society. The Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom to citizens. The freedom right includes many rights such as:

- Freedom of speech
- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of assembly without arms
- Freedom of association
- Freedom to practise any profession
- Freedom to reside in any part of the country

Some of these rights are subject to certain conditions of state security, public morality and decency and friendly relations with foreign countries. This means that the State has the right to impose reasonable restrictions on them.

3. Right against Exploitation (Articles 23 - 24)

This right implies the prohibition of traffic in human beings, *begar*, and other forms of forced labour. It also implies the prohibition of children in factories, etc. The Constitution prohibits the employment of children under 14 years in hazardous conditions.

Read more on the Right against Exploitation in the linked article.

4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Articles 25 - 28)

This indicates the secular nature of Indian polity. There is equal respect given to all religions. There is freedom of conscience, profession, practice and propagation of religion. The State has no official religion. Every person has the right to freely practice his or her faith, establish and maintain religious and charitable institutions.

Read more on the Right to Freedom of Religion in the linked article.

5. Cultural and Educational Rights (Articles 29 - 30)

These rights protect the rights of religious, cultural and linguistic minorities, by facilitating them to preserve their heritage and culture. Educational rights are for ensuring education for everyone without any discrimination.

Read more on Cultural and Educational Rights in the linked article...

6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (32 - 35)

The Constitution guarantees remedies if citizens' fundamental rights are violated. The government cannot infringe upon or curb anyone's rights. When these rights are violated, the aggrieved party can approach the courts. Citizens can even go directly to the Supreme Court which can issue writs for enforcing fundamental rights.