Notes for **Class** VIII

Subjects:- Civics

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| S.No. | Main Points | Explanation |
| 1. | Constitution | A constitution is a body of fundamental rules according to which the government of a country functions |
| 2. | Rule of Law | Every citizen of the country is equal in the eyes of law. |
| 3. | Needs of Constitution | The constitution provides a set of rules, principles and laws acceptable to almost all, as the basis of life and governance of the country. |
| 4. | Privy purse | The king of the Princely states who merged them with India after independence, were paid a fixed annual amount of money as a stipend. It was called privy purse. |
| 5. | Preamble  (Soul of the constitution) | The preamble is an introduction to the constitution and is non –justiciable. It contains the political aims, objective and basic purposes of the constitution |
| 6. | Sovereign state | The country is free from all the external control. |
| 7. | Socialist state | India is against exploitation in all forms and will try to establish economic justice without being attached to any particular ideology. |
| 8. | Secular state | All religions enjoy equal freedom. |
| 9. | Democratic state | Our government is elected by the people. |
| 10. | Republic | Head of the state , our president an elected head from amongst the people |
| 11. | Parliamentary form of the government | The head of the state, the president in case of India, is a nominal head. President enjoys many powers, but in practice all the these powers are exercised by the council of minister headed by the Prime minister |
| 12. | Federal form of government | Powers divide into centre and state |
| 13. | Universal adult suffrage | Every citizen of India who is above 18 years and above is entitled to vote in the without any discrimination. |
| 14. | Fundamental Rights | Fundamental rights is one of the most aspirations of the people was that they should have some basic rights which cannot be violated.  The constitution of India provides six fundamental rights-  1 .Right to equality 2. Right to freedom, 3.Right to freedom of religion 4. Right against exploitation 5. Cultural and educational right 6. Right to constitutional remedies. |
| 15. | RTE | Right to Education has been included in the constitution 2002 for the first time as a fundamental right .According to this , the state shall provide free and compulsory education to all the children in the age group of 6-14 years. |
| 16. | RTI | The right to information enables people to seek information from the government departments and institutions on matters affecting the society. However, information may be denied if it is likely to impair the security of the country. |
| 17. | Fundamental Duties | Fundamental duties were added to our constitution in 1976 through 42nd amendment There are 11 fundamental duties for all the citizens of India. |
| 18. | Directive principle of State policy | The governments at all level are expected to frame their policies in accordance with these principles with an aim to establish a welfare state in India. |
| 19. | Single Citizenship | Every citizen of India , irrespective of the place where he/she lives, is a citizen of India . |
| 20. | Single integrated judicial system | The judiciary is one hierarchy of courts.We do not have separate federal and state courts. |
| 21. | Independent judiciary | India has an independent judiciary free from the influence of the executive and the legislature. |

Notes for **Class** VIII

**The Union Government and Legislature**

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| S.No. | Main Points | Explanation |
|  | Union Government | The legislature, The Executive, The Judiciary |
| 1. | Federal System | This device is governance at different level National/Central government and State government |
| 2. | Head of the Government | Chief Minister is known as head of the government. (In Rajsathan Mrs. Vasundhara Raje Sindhia) |
| 3. | Head of the State | Governor is known as head of the state. (In Rajsathan Mr.Ramnaik) |
| 4. | Parliament (Sansad) | President, Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha |
| 5. | Union List | In union list no. of subjects are 97 (100) .Example-Defence, Railways, Currency  Only the parliament has the exclusive powers to legislate them. |
| 6 | Concurrent list | The concurrent list contains 47 (50)subjects and includes subjects such as marriage, agriculture land, labour welfare. The parliament as well as the state legislatures both may make laws on the subjects enlisted in the concurrent list, The central law prevails over the state list. |
| 7. | State list | The state list contains 66 (61) subjects like police, local government, agricultural. The state legislature has exclusive power to make laws on these subjects. |
| 8. | Residuary Subject | The subjects not included in the Union , State and Concurrent list or any such matter which will arise with the passage of time is given to the centre and the parliament makes laws on it. Example: Computer, Software, Hardware, e-commerce, IT etc. |
| 9 | Universal Adult Franchise | All citizens who are 18 or more than 18 years of age have the right to vote. This right gives the people an opportunity to actively participate in political process of the country. |
| 10 | Lok Sabha | Total Members-550  From States-530  From UT-20  Nominated by president-02 (Anglo Indians community is not represented adequately in the lok sabha)  Tenure-5 years (President of India can dissolve it earlier.)  Qualifications-He/She must be a citizen of India  He/She must completed the age of 25 years.  His /her name must be there in voters list.  He/she should not be a government servant.  **Financial Powers**-Regarding money matters, Lok Sabha is much more powerful than Rajya Sabha. The money bills can only be introduced in Lok Sabha. |
| 11 | Speaker | Chairman of the Lok Sabha.  The speaker preside over the meetings of Lok Sabha.  The speaker maintain the discipline and decorum of the Lok Sabha.  It is the Lok Sabha Speakar who preside over the joint meeting of the both houses (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) |
| 12 | Rajya Sabha | Total members-250  From States and UT-238  Nominated by president-12 (President can nominate 12 members are distinguished personalities who are excel in various fields arts, literature, Science or Social service)  Tenure-6 years  Age -30 years  Rajya Sabha is a permanent house which can never be dissolve. After every two years one third of its members of Rajya Sabha complete a term of six years. |
| 13 | Impeachment | The parliament is empowered to remove the President, The judges of the supreme Courts and high courts the procedure adopted for this purpose is called impeachment |
| 14. | Power to amend the Constitution | Regarding amendment of the constitution both the houses enjoy equal power. |
| 15. | Question Hour | The period when questions are asked is called question hour. |
| 16. | Collective responsibility | In the parliamentary form of govt, the council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha . In case a vote of non – confidence is passed against any one Minister , the whole council of ministers has to resign collectively. |

**Secularism**

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| S.No. | Main Points | Descriptions |
| 1. | Secular | The word secular was introduced in the Preamble in 1976 by the 42nd amendment of the constitution. |
|  |  | **Purpose-**The purpose behind adding this word in the preamble was mainly to reiterate that secularism was a part of the basic ideology of India. |
| 2 | Article 25-28 | In Indian Constitution regarding freedom of religion fulfil the declared objectives of secularism in India. |
| 3. | Secularism | Every Citizen of India is free to profess, practise, and propagate his /her own religion but there is a restriction attached to it that right will be exercised to the norms of public order ,morality and health. |
| 4 | Article 26 | Every religious group, the right to manage its own affairs in matters of religion. They can establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purpose but without compromising with public order and morality. |
|  |  | The state will not compel any person to pay any taxes which are specifically to be spent for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion. |