

- No external power can dictate the government of India.

SOCIALIST

- Wealth is generated socially and should be shared equally by society.
- Government should regulate the ownership of land and industry to reduce socio-economic inequalities

SECULAR

- Citizens have complete freedom to follow any religion.
- But there is no official religion.
- Government treats all religious beliefs and practices with equal respect.

DEMOCRATIC

- A form of government where people enjoy equal political rights, elect their rulers and hold them accountable.
- The government is run according to some basic rules.

REPUBLIC

The head of the state is an elected person and not a hereditary position.

JUSTICE

- Citizens cannot be discriminated on the grounds of caste, religion and gender.
- Social inequalities have to be reduced.
- Government should work for the welfare of all, especially of the disadvantaged groups.

LIBERTY

There are no unreasonable restrictions on the citizens in what they think; how they wish to express their thoughts and the way they wish to follow up their thoughts in action.

EQUALITY

- All are equal before the law.
- The traditional social inequalities have to be ended.

- The government should ensure equal opportunity for all.

FRATERNITY

- All of us should behave as if we are members of the same family.
- No one should treat a fellow citizen as inferior

Institutional design

- A constitution is mainly about embodying these values into institutional arrangements.
- It is a very long and detailed document.
- Therefore it needs to be amended quite regularly to keep it updated. Those who crafted the Indian Constitution felt that it has to be in accordance with people's aspirations and changes in society.
- They made provisions to incorporate changes from time to time.
- These changes are called constitutional amendments.
- The Constitution describes the institutional arrangements in a very legal language.

It puts limits to what the government can do by providing some rights to the citizen that cannot be violated.