

Fundamental Duties in India - Article 51A

42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added 10 Fundamental Duties to the Indian Constitution. 86th Amendment Act 2002 later added 11th Fundamental Duty to the list. Swaran Singh Committee in 1976 recommended Fundamental Duties, the necessity of which was felt during the internal emergency of 1975-77.

The Fundamental Duties are dealt with Article 51A under Part-IV A of the Indian Constitution. The topic is important for [IAS Exam](#) as questions are recurring in all its three stages- Prelims, Mains and Interview.

This article will mention in detail the 11 Fundamental Duties and their importance in India. The topic forms a significant part of UPSC Political Science, which is one of the major subjects in Prelims, Mains GS-II and also optional under the [UPSC Syllabus](#).

Introduction to 11 Fundamental Duties in India

The fundamental duties which were added by the 42nd Amendment Act of the Constitution in 1976, in addition to creating and promoting culture, also strengthen the hands of the legislature in enforcing these duties vis-a-vis the fundamental rights.

The list of 11 Fundamental Duties under article 51-A to be obeyed by every Indian citizen is given in the table below:

S.No	11 Fundamental Duties
1.	Abide by the Indian Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem
2.	Cherish and follow the noble ideals that inspired the national struggle for freedom
3.	Uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India
4.	Defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so
5.	Promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities and to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women
6.	Value and preserve the rich heritage of the country's composite culture
7.	Protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures
8.	Develop scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform
9.	Safeguard public property and to abjure violence
10.	Strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement

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| 11. | Provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years. This duty was added by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002 |
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The Fundamental Duties form an important topic for IAS Prelims as can be seen from the past year question papers. Aspirants preparing for [UPSC 2022](#) are advised to cover the topic with all facts and figures. The topic once understood can fetch you a great score in prelims and mains both.

Importance of Fundamental Duties- Part IV-A

Fundamental Duties are an inalienable part of [fundamental rights](#). The importance of these are given in the table below:

S.No	Importance of Fundamental Duties
1.	They remind Indian Citizens of their duty towards their society, fellow citizens and the nation
2.	They warn citizens against anti-national and anti-social activities
3.	They inspire citizens & promote a sense of discipline and commitment among them
4.	They help the courts in examining and determining the constitutional validity of a law