

## Long Answer Questions

**Q. 1. Describe briefly the key features of the Indian Constitution.**

**Ans.** The key features of the Indian Constitution are as follows:

**(i) Federalism:** It refers to the existence of more than one level of government in the country.

**(ii) Parliamentary form of government:** It provides for the different tiers of government that consist of representatives who are elected by the people. The elected representatives are accountable to the people. It guarantees universal adult suffrage for all citizens.

**(iii) Separation of powers:** In constitution, there are three organs of state. The legislative which makes forms of laws, the executives which implement the law and the judiciary which maintains the law and order and resolves disputes.

**(iv) Fundamental Rights:** Fundamental Rights are referred to as the 'conscience' of the Indian Constitution. They protect citizens against the arbitrary and absolute exercise of power by the state.

**(v) Secularism:** It means to give respect to all the religions, a secular state is one in which the state does not officially promote any one religion as the state's religion.

**Q. 2. Elaborate the rights to equality.**

**Ans.** Right to equality is among one of the fundamental rights:

(i) All persons are equal before the law.

(ii) All persons shall be equally protected by the laws of the country.

(iii) No citizen can be discriminated against on the basis of their religion, caste or sex.

(iv) Every person has access to all public places including playgrounds, hotels, shops, etc.

(v) The state cannot discriminate against anyone in matters of employment.

(vi) The practice of untouchability has been abolished.