



The Indian Constitution is unique in its contents and spirit although it had picked up many best features from other constitutions of the world. The constitution of India has several salient features that distinguish it from the constitutions of other countries.

Many people criticise that the Indian Constitution is a *bag of borrowings* or just a *paper and scissor work*.

It is true that it had borrowed some features but drafted according to the **historical perspective, geographical diversity, cultural and traditional characteristics of India**.

The chairman of the drafting committee **Dr. Ambedkar** had said in this regard;

“As to the accusation that the Draft Constitution has reproduced a good part of the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935, I make no apologies. There is nothing to be ashamed of in borrowing. It involves no plagiarism. Nobody holds any patent rights in the fundamental ideas of a Constitution....”

List of Borrowed Features of Indian Constitution:

Name of Countries	Borrowed Features of the Constitution
Britain	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Parliamentary government2. Rule of Law3. Legislative procedure4. Single citizenship5. Cabinet system6. Prerogative writs7. Parliamentary privileges8. Bicameralism
Ireland	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Directive Principles of State Policy2. Method of Election of the president3. Members nomination to the Rajya Sabha by the President
Unites States of America	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Impeachment of the president2. Functions of president and vice-president3. Removal of Supreme Court and High court judges4. Fundamental Rights5. Judicial review

	<p>6. Independence of judiciary</p> <p>7. The preamble of the constitution</p>
Canada	<p>1. Centrifugal form of federalism where the centre is stronger than the states.</p> <p>2. Residuary powers vest with the centre</p> <p>3. Centre appoints the Governors at the states</p> <p>4. Advisory jurisdiction of the supreme court</p>
Australia	<p>1. Concept of Concurrent list</p> <p>2. Article 108 i.e. Joint sitting of the two houses</p> <p>3. Freedom of trade and commerce</p>
USSR (Now Russia)	<p>1. Fundamental duties</p> <p>2. The ideals of justice (social, economic and political), expressed in the Preamble.</p>
France	<p>1. Concept of “Republic”</p> <p>2. Ideals of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity(contained in the Preamble)</p>
Germany	<p>1. Fundamental Rights are suspended during Emergency</p>
South Africa	<p>1. Election of members of the Rajya Sabha</p> <p>2. Amendment of the Constitution</p>
Japan	<p>1. Concept of “procedure established by law”</p>

Borrowings from the Government of India Act of 1935

1. Federal Scheme
2. Office of governor
3. Judiciary



4. Public Service Commissions
5. Emergency provisions
6. Administrative details

