



BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAM PURA, DELHI-110034

CLASS –VII

SUBJECT: - SOCIAL SCIENCE

CHAPTER- Role of Government in Health (Part 2)

GUIDELINES:

- Read the notes and the Chapter 2 of Political Science- 'Role of Government in Health' and follow the instructions given below.
- Do not copy the notes in the notebook.
- All the activities and questions are to be done in the Social Science notebook.

Reference Book - Social and Political Life II (NCERT Political Science book class VII)

Chapter Link - <http://ncert.nic.in/textbook/textbook.htm?gess3=2-9>

RECAPITULATION FROM PART 1:

- ❖ Health means our ability to remain free of illness and injuries.
- ❖ There are number of factors that affect healthcare.
- ❖ India has the largest number of medical colleges in the world and is amongst the largest producer of doctors. It is known globally for its medical tourism.
- ❖ Despite the above achievements, we are not able to provide proper health care facilities to all.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Difference between public health services and private health services

<u>Public health services</u>	<u>Private health services</u>
1. The public health service is a chain of health centers and hospitals run by the government.	1. Private health facilities are not owned or controlled by the government but by individuals or groups.
2. Public health services run in rural as well as in urban areas.	2. Private health services are concentrated mainly in urban areas.
3. Patients usually have to wait in long queues in public hospitals.	3. People do not face such problem in private hospitals.
4. It is difficult to avail proper services as there is a lack of equipment. The public health centers are very crowded, and service is	4. The service is easily available as private health centers use modern and advanced techniques. They are also not very crowded. They are more accountable to the patients.

slow and inefficient.	
-----------------------	--

PUBLIC HEALTH CARE SYSTEM:

Village Level: At the village level, there are health centers where there is usually a nurse and a village health worker. They are trained in common illnesses and work under the supervision of doctors at the **Primary Health Centre (PHC)**. Such a center covers many villages in rural India.

District Hospital: At the district level, it is the District Hospital that supervises all the health centers. These hospitals have more facilities. Large cities have many government hospitals. They have an Out Patient Department (OPD), where people are first brought in and treated in a hospital without being admitted to any special ward.

A public health care system:

- Is meant to provide quality health care service either free or at a nominal cost so that even the poor can seek treatment.
- Is supposed to take action for preventing diseases. For example, creating awareness about different diseases.

Activity: Paste a picture of the campaign initiated by the government to spread awareness about any disease. (Source: Newspaper/Internet)

According to our Constitution it is the primary duty of the government to ensure the welfare of the people and provide health care facilities to all. The government must safeguard the Right to Life of all people. If a hospital cannot give timely medical treatment to a patient, it means the right to life is not being safeguarded. The courts in India have always given the duty to provide necessary health services to the government.

PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM:

As the name suggests, private health facilities are not owned/controlled by the government. Since these are privately owned, they charge a lot of money. Hence poor people cannot afford these facilities.

- There are a number of private health facilities in India. Many doctors run their own private clinics.
- In rural areas, one finds many **Registered Medical Practitioners (RMPs)**.
- Urban areas have a large number of doctors also providing specialized services. There are many hospitals, nursing homes, and diagnostic centers that are privately owned.
- There are many large companies that run many hospitals and are engaged in manufacturing and selling medicines. Medicine shops are found in every corner of the country.

EQUALITY: HEALTHCARE PERSPECTIVE

In India, we find that the private facilities are increasing but the public facilities are not. Hence, mainly private services are available to people. The disadvantage of this is:

- Location: These are mainly concentrated in the urban areas.
- High cost: Since these are run with a profit motive they charge high. Hence, poor people cannot afford the same.
- In order to earn profit, these private services engage in many malpractices. They unnecessarily recommend many tests and even hospitalization even in cases that can be treated with simple medicines.

Medical expenses

- Only 20% of the population can afford to pay all their medical expenses.
- Therefore many people have to borrow money (which starts a vicious circle) or sell their possessions for paying for their medical requirements.

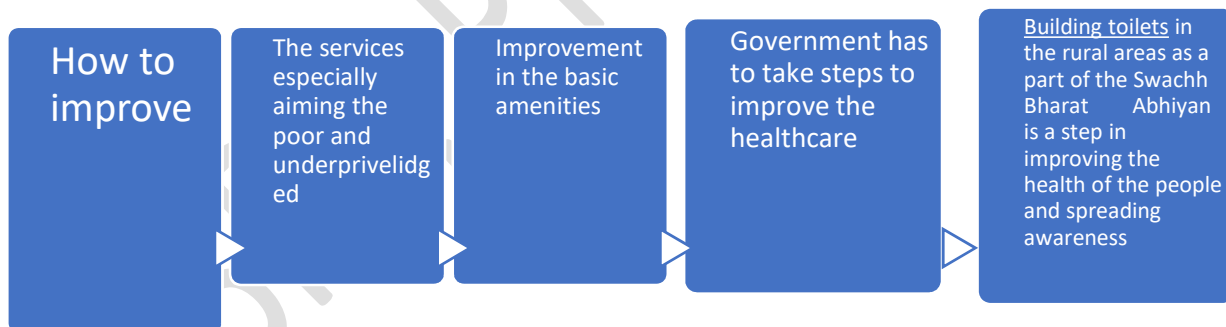
For those who are poor, every illness causes a lot of anxiety and stress. They also tend to fall ill repeatedly. This is because of the following reasons:

Malnourishment

Lack of basic facilities

Other aspects that contribute to ill health:

- Women's health is often neglected.
- Tribal areas have few health centers.



It is clear from the above points that the health of many people in our country is not in a good condition.

Solutions and Conclusion

- In a democratic country like India, it is the responsibility of the government to provide proper healthcare facilities to all its citizens.
- Basic medical facilities should be available to everyone, everywhere, and not just to rich people in the cities.
- A country's government and people have to work together to improve the health of the nation.

The Kerala Experience

- In 1996, the government of the state of Kerala gave 40% of its budget to the rural Panchayats, and the freedom to plan and provide for the needs in their villages.
- This led to some positive changes as the money was used for the betterment of all the facilities in the village. For example: proper planning was done for water supply, education, working of schools, etc.

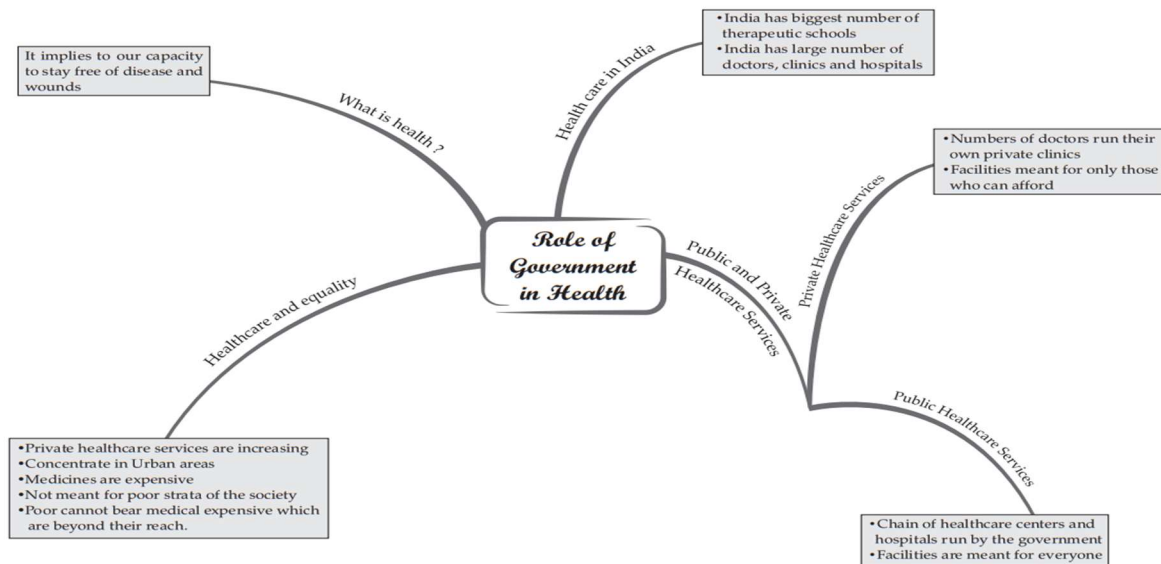
The Costa Rica Approach

- Many years ago, the Costa Rican government took an important decision of not having a national army. This meant that all the money which was used to manage the army could be used for other, more useful projects such as health, education, and meeting other basic needs of the people.
- The Costa Rican government took this step because it believes that a healthy population is the most important factor in the development of any country.

Video Link: Watch this Ted Talk:It's Time to Focus on Health Prevention and Promotion.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOhv5gF987s>

Summary



Assignment:

- Q1. Compare Public and Private healthcare systems in India.
- Q2. Enlist the steps taken by the government of Costa Rica to improve healthcare in the country.
- Q3. Suggest any two steps that can help to improve the health of the people in our country.