

Chapter 2

Role of the Government in Health

Notes :-

① Health :-

It means our ability to remain free of illness and injuries.

* All of us would like to be active and in good spirits in whatever we may be doing.

* It isn't healthy to be dull, inactive, anxious or scared for long stretches of time.

* We all need to be without mental strain. All of these various aspects of our lives are a part of health.

② Health care in India :-

Positive :-

① India has the largest number of medicinal colleges in the world and is among the largest producers of doctors.

② Approximately 15,000 new doctors qualify every year.

③

India has a large number of medical tourists from many countries.

Negative :-

① Most of the doctors are settled in urban areas. The people of rural areas have to travel long distances to reach the doctors.

②

The number of doctors with respect to the population is much less in rural areas.

③

Half of the children in India do not get adequate food to eat and are undernourished.

③

There are two types of healthcare facilities in India :-

①

Public health services (provided by government)

②

Private health services (provided by privately owned and running firms that are privately owned)

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Healthcare and equality.

In India, we face a situation where private services are increasing but public services are not. What is then available to people are mainly private services which are concentrated in urban areas.

The cost of these services is rather high. Medicines are expensive. Many people can't afford them or have to borrow money when there is an illness in the family.

Q-1-3 Question 1 Answers

Q-1-3 In this chapter you have read the health is a wider concept than illness. Look at this quote from the Constitution and explain the terms 'living standard' and 'public health' in your own words.

Ans-1 The term 'living standard' means that the basic necessities like food and shelter available to the people living in different areas. The standard of living of the people living in urban areas is comparatively better than those in rural areas.

The term 'public health' denotes the well being of the people irrespective of their income, gender, education level etc. Every one has got the basic right to avail health-care services to remain disease-free and healthy.

Q-2-3 What are the different ways through which government can take steps to provide health-care to all? Discuss.

Ans-2 Different ways are :-

① Government can make different campaigns to alert people of diseases.

② They can make small clinics in small areas in a city, town or village so that it can be easily reached by the people.

③ A watchman should be placed to supervise the work of doctors.

Q-3-3 'Improvement in water and sanitation can control many diseases'. Explain with the help of examples.

Ans-3-3 Improvement in water and sanitation can control many diseases as the most of the communicable diseases are caused due to this reason. For example, diarrhoea, worms etc.