

CHAPTER – 9
Public Facilities
❖ EXERCISES

Question 1:

Why do you think there are so few cases of private water supply in the world?

Answer:

There are very few cases of water supply in the world because of the following reasons:

- (a) First of all the main point is that all the private companies in the world only operate to earn profit as supplying of clean, pure water at an affordable rate is not very affordable.
- (b) Secondly, private companies provide those facilities which are not affordable by all.

Question 2:

Do you think water in Chennai is available and affordable by all? Discuss.

Answer:

According to me water in Chennai is not available and affordable by all because:

- (a) There are many areas like Anna Nagar where mainly the government officials reside who have tap water for a major part of the day. Not only this when there is scarcity of water at that time also a tank of water is being arranged for them.

(b) In Mylapore area people only get municipal water once in two days.

(c) If we look Madipakam that people gets water once in four days.

(d) Water is basic and very necessary need of humans but still it is not affordable to all. People who belongs to middle class or rich class can get it by buying water tankers or bottled water but poor have the least to water.

Question 3:

How is the sale of water by farmers to water dealers in Chennai affecting the local people? Do you think local people can object to such exploitation of ground water? Can the government do anything in this regard?

Answer:

This sale of water is affecting local peoples in the following ways:

(a) The main cause of loss of drinking water to the local residents is due to the decrement in the level of groundwater.

(b) There are many private companies who pay farmers an advance for the rights to exploit water sources on their land.

(c) This scarcity of water to the farmers also results in the less production of food grains.

Local people can object to such groundwater exploitation as it creates a shortage of water resources. The government can take several steps like penalizing the culprit so as to control the

exploitation. It can take strict action against private players by charging higher prices.

Question 4:

Why are most of the private hospitals and private schools located in major cities and not in towns or rural areas?

Answer:

Private hospitals and private schools are located in major cities and not in towns or rural areas because of the following reasons:

(a) The first and most important factor is that in towns or rural areas the infrastructural and modern facilities to run such institutes are not available.

(b) No doctors would ever like to shift to the rural areas from cities which is also main cause of having private hospitals and schools in the cities.

Question 5:

Do you think the distribution of public facilities in our country is adequate and fair? Give an example of your own to explain.

Answer:

According to me, the distribution of public facilities in our country is not adequate and fair because:

(a) First of all, if we look in the cities than all the houses of people living there are pucca houses but the image of villages is completely different as people still living there in the kuchcha houses and this thing is not fair for the biggest democratic country of the world.

(b) Still, in our country, there are many areas where good roads, proper schools, hospitals, good sanitation conditions, proper supply of pure water and electricity are not accessible.

(c) All the big hospitals and private schools are located only in the cities which is not fair.

Question 6:

Take some of the public facilities in your area, such as water, electricity, etc. is there scope to improve these? What in your opinion should be done? Complete the table.

	Is it available?	How can it be improved?
Water		
Electricity		
Roads		
Public Transport		

Answer:

	Is it available?	How can it be improved?
Water	Yes	Quality of drinking water should improve
Electricity	Yes	The number of Ac's per house should be limited.
Roads	Yes	Need of all-weather roads.
Public Transport	Yes	The buses should have a proper timetable.

Question 7:

Are all the public facilities shared equally by all the people in your area? Elaborate.

Answer:

If we look our area than all the facilities are not equally shared among the various people. Still more than 20% percent people are living below the poverty line. Not only food they do not have access to pure and drinking water.

If we look rich people than they have easy access to all the things. They can purchase sealed water bottles of branded companies also they have pure drinking water connection from the private companies.

Question 8:

Data on some of the public facilities are collected as part of the Census. Discuss with your class teacher when and how the census is conducted.

Answer:

Last census was conducted in the year 2011. Census is conducted every ten years. Or this the government appoints special people who collects the data by going door to door. This collected data is compared with last figures in which suitable actions are taken.

Question 9:

Private educational institutions-schools, colleges, universities, technical and vocational training institutes are coming up in our country in a big way. On the other hand, educational institutes

run by the government are becoming relatively less important. What do you think would be impact of this? Discuss.

Answer:

There are various impacts of privatization of education. Some of these are as follows:

- (a) Privatization of education makes it more costly.
- (b) Modern instruments are used in the new technique of education due to the private companies, in the competition, try to lend better facilities.
- (c) Privatization of education has created inequality in the society as only those children can study in private institutions who belongs to rich family or whose families afford the cost of this education.

❖ Intext Question Pg-108

Question 1:

You have seen the four situations illustrated above. Based on these, what impression do you get of the water situation in Chennai?

Answer:

From the above four situations it is clearly visible that the water situation in Chennai is drastically worse. The people who get water do not value it rather keeps on wasting it abruptly whereas the others suffer due to them. They have to travel long or wait with a lot of patience in order receive water. In most of the areas of Chennai, there isn't any direct supply of water rather the

people either go to the nearby water source to fill their pots or they hire the water tankers in order to get the water.

Question 2:

Pick out the various sources of water for household use from the description alongside.

Answer:

Various sources of water for household use are as follows:

- (a) Water tankers
- (b) Tap water
- (c) Bore well water
- (d) Water purification system

Question 3:

What, in your view, is similar, and what is different in Subramanian's and Padma's experiences.

Answer:

Both the families of Subramanian and Padma experiences scarcity of water. Both of them have bore well as their water source. But at the same time the difference is that Subramanian uses bore well water only for washing clothes and toilets whereas for drinking he hires water tankers which give him pure water. On the other side Padma has to use bore well water both for drinking and washing clothes. Hence, Padma faces a severe water crisis.

Question 4:

Write a paragraph describing the water supply situation in your area.

Answer:

In my case, I live in the region of New Delhi where there is a shortage of pure water. We use bore well water coming into our taps only for washroom purpose and washing utensils whereas for drinking and cooking purpose we have to purchase the filtered water daily which costs around 30-35 rupees on a daily basis.

Question 5:

Why does water flow in a trickle in summer in most places in India? Find out. Discuss: Is there a general shortage of water for everyone in Chennai? Can you think of two reasons why different people get varying amounts of water?

Answer:

This is because due to the dense rays of the sun the level of ground water decreases and along with this there is less rainfall during summer season.

Yes, there is general shortage of water for everyone in Chennai except government officials as even in the shortage of water families of these officials are provided with the water tankers efficiently but other people do not even get the water for their basic needs. They have to struggle for getting water on a regular basis.

Two reasons are as follows:

- (a) As water is costly there so everyone cannot afford the equal amount of water on regular basis.
- (b) Government provides facility of water only to the government officials and the other have to suffer.

❖ Intext Question Pg-111

Question 1:

Whose point of view do you agree with?

Answer:

I agree with the point of view of Amu. Yes, she is right in her way because our constitution only talks about facilities which are provided to the people living in the cities and colonies and not about the people living in the slums which is actually a disappointment to the nation. These people are too the citizens of our nation and they too have the equal right to have their basic living and government need to find a way to enhance their situation.

❖ Intext Question Pg-112

Question 1:

What are public facilities? Why should the government be responsible for providing public facilities?

Answer:

Public facilities are considered as the universal infrastructure facilities which are needed by every citizen of the country.

In order to live a basic life, the public facilities are very necessary for every citizen which makes the government responsible for providing them efficiently. Also provision of public facilities needs to be affordable as they require high investment to set up.

Question 2:

The government can get private companies to deliver some of the public facilities. For instance, contracts for building roads are given to private contractors. Distribution of electricity in Delhi is done by two private companies. However, the government must keep a close watch on these and ensure that they fulfill their commitment to reach these facilities to all people and at affordable prices.

Why do you think the government must assume the overall responsibility for public facilities even when if it gets private companies to do part of the job?

Answer:

In my opinion government must assume the overall responsibilities for the public facility because government is one which is elected by the people and hence it is the responsibility of the government to provide every basic need to the public at an affordable cost. Even if private companies gives us the facility but the government has to look over in order to see if they are working properly.

Question 3:

Look at your water bill and find out what the minimum rate is for municipal water in your area. Does the rate increase as the use of water increases? Why do you think the government charges a higher rate for greater use of water?

Answer:

The minimum rate of municipal water in my area is 300 rupees per month.

Yes, the rate of the water increases as the use of water rises.

The government increases the rate of water as water is a resource which needs to be conserved and when the prices of water will be higher than people will use water more sincerely and hence it would decrease the wastage of water.

Question 4:

Find out the various kinds of taxes people pay to the government by talking to a salaried person, a person running his or her own factory/business and a shopkeeper. Share your findings in the classroom with your teacher.

Answer:

Students have to do it by their own.

❖ Intext Question Pg-114

Question 1:

Discuss: Do you think this would be a right step? What do you think would happen if the government withdraws from the task of supplying water?

Answer:

No, in my opinion this won't be a right step because if the government withdraws from the task of supplying water and leaves on the private companies to provide us the water then there will be an alarming rise in the cost of water which will make water unaffordable for most of the people due to which the poor people will be deprived of one of their basic needs that is safe drinking water.

❖ Intext Question Pg-115

Question 1:

Discuss the main ideas in the above section. What do you think can be done to improve water supply?

Answer:

The major idea in the above section is that the water supply is made transparent and the rates of water are kept very low and for poor people it is even half of the price which makes the water affordable for all.

In my opinion, the main thing we can do to improve water supply is decrease the rates of water and expand its access to

every corner of the nation and also makes the water supply system transparent to the public.

Question 2:

Do you think it is also important to conserve resources like water and electricity, and to use more public transport?

Answer:

Yes, it is very important to conserve resources like water and electricity as these are the basic needs of human beings. One cannot live without getting water and without electricity as it is the era of technologies one cannot do any work neither the nation can develop or even can sustain longer. Also, we must use public transport often in order to conserve petrol and diesel because they are the non-renewable source of energy and are at verge of getting extinct.

❖ Intext Question Pg-116

Question 1:

Do you think that lack of access to proper sanitation facilities affects peoples' lives? How?

Answer:

Yes, lack of access to proper sanitation facilities indeed affects the lives of the people adversely. Lack of such facilities leads to Cholera, typhoid and also respiratory and skin problems. Lack of proper sanitation facility can also lead to death of adults and infants.

Question 2:

Why do you think that this would impact women and girls more acutely?

Answer:

Lack of adequate sanitation would have an adverse effect women and girls in particular. Women and girls don't only have different physical needs from men but they even have larger requirements for privacy when using toilets and when bathing. Inaccessible toilets and bathrooms make them more vulnerable to rape and other forms of gender-based violence. Moreover, women and girls who defecate in the open, especially in the bush, face the risk of animal attacks. Women and girls don't need toilets and bathrooms only for defecation but they also need it for the sake of privacy and dignity when menstruating.