

CIVICS

CHAPTER 9

PUBLIC

FACILITIES

PUBLIC FACILITIES



सत्यमेव जयते

WATER

- **WATER IS ESSENTIAL FOR LIFE AND FOR GOOD HEALTH**
- **TO MEET OUR DAILY NEEDS**
- **SAFE DRINKING WATER CAN PREVENT WATER RELATED DISEASES**
- **THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA RECOGNISES THE RIGHT TO WATER AS PART OF RIGHT TO LIFE UNDER ARTICLE 21**
- **IT MEANS IT IS A RIGHT OF EVERY PERSON, WHETHER RICH OR POOR**
- **THERE SHOULD BE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO WATER.**
- **RIGHT TO SAFE DRINKING WATER IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT**



Water as Part of the Fundamental Right to Life



Over 1600 Indian, most of the children are who below the five year were connected to water diseases.

**“.....right to water entitles
Everyone to sufficient,
Safe, acceptable,
physically accessible and
affordable water for
Personal and domestic
Use”**

United Nations (2002)

PUBLIC FACILITIES

PUBLIC FACILITIES ARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ITS CITIZENS. SOME OF THE IMPORTANT PUBLIC FACILITIES INCLUDE INFRASTRUCTURE, SANITATION, PUBLIC TRANSPORT, HEALTH CARE, WATER ETC.

THE IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS OF A PUBLIC FACILITY IS THAT ONCE IT IS PROVIDED, ITS BENEFITS CAN BE SHARED BY MANY PEOPLE. FOR INSTANCE, A SCHOOL IN THE VILLAGE WILL ENABLE MANY CHILDREN TO GET EDUCATED. THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY TO AN AREA CAN BE USEFUL FOR MANY PEOPLE: FARMERS CAN RUN PUMPSETS TO IRRIGATE THEIR FIELDS ETC.

GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

- One of the most important functions of the government is to ensure that these public facilities are made available to everyone.
- The government needs to play an active role in providing adequate access to proper health facilities for the entire population.
- This includes the eradication of preventable diseases like polio. Public facilities relate to people's basic needs.
- Any modern society requires that these facilities are provided so that people's basic needs are met.
- The Right to Life that the constitution guarantees is for all person's living in this country.
- The responsibility is to provide public facilities, therefore, must be that of the government.

Local Government Spending and Revenues

The Jobs of Local Government:

- Public school systems
- Law enforcement
- Fire protection
- Public transportation
- Public facilities, such as libraries and hospitals
- Parks and recreational facilities
- Record keeping (birth/death certificates, wills, etc.)

Local Government Revenues

- Property taxes: main source of local revenue.
 - people who own homes, apartments, buildings, or land.
- Optional Local taxes:
 - excise, sales, and income taxes as well.
- Room and occupancy taxes:
 - nonresidents/ non-property owners

Public Facilities



SOURCES FOR PUBLIC FACILITY

Every year the government budget being presented in the parliament. In the budget the government also announces the various ways in which it plans to meet these expenses. The main source of revenue for the government is the taxes collected from the people and the government is empowered to collect these taxes and use them for such programs. For instance, to supply water the government has to incur costs in pumping water, carrying it over long distances laying down pipes for distribution, treating the water for impurities and finally collecting and treating waste water. It meets these expenses partly from the various taxes that it collects and partly by charging a price for water. This price is set so that most people can afford a certain minimum amount of water for daily use.

ISSUES REGARDING SAFE DRINKING WATER

- **Municipal supply meets only about half the needs of the people of the city, on an average.**
- **There are areas which get water more regularly than others. Those areas that are close to the storage points get more water whereas colonies further away receive less water.**
- **The burden of shortfalls in water supply falls mostly on the poor. The middle class, when faced with water shortages, are able to cope through a variety of private means such as digging bore-wells, buying water from tankers and using bottled water for drinking.**
- **Apart from the availability of water, access to “safe” drinking water is also available to some and this depends on what one can afford. People who can afford it have safe drinking water, whereas the poor are again left out.**

IMPORTANCE OF ACCESS OF WATER

- **Water is essential for life and for good health.**
- **Not only is it necessary for us to be able to meet our daily needs but safe drinking water can prevent many water related diseases.**
- **The constitution of India recognizes the right to water as being a part of the right to life under Article 21.**
- **This means that it is the right to every person, whether rich or poor, to have sufficient amounts of water to fulfill his/her daily needs at a price that he/she can afford.**
- **Both the High court and the Supreme Court have held that the right to safe drinking water is a fundamental right.**

Public conveniences in India

TOILETS UNDER SWATCH BHARAT ABHIYAN

