

Public Facilities and the role of Government

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* Short Answer Questions:

a. Name some of the public facilities.

Ans. Some of the public facilities are - healthcare, sanitation, water, public transport, electricity, schools, colleges, etc.

b. The government does not seek profit by providing public facilities. Justify the statement with an example.

Ans. The government does not seek profit by providing public facilities. It is one of the main functions of the government for which they are elected. For example: We know that water is essential for the survival of human beings. If the government says that water will be available only to those who can pay for it, then the people living in slums won't be able to access water.

which is like denying their right to live and hence shouldn't be applied.

c. What are the roles of the government in a democracy?

Ans. The main role of the government in a democracy is to provide the public facilities and the fundamental rights to the citizens of the country.

d. In what ways does the constitution work as the guiding factor for the government while formulating welfare policies?

Ans. The Directive Principles of the State Policy in the constitution work as the guidelines that the government has to keep in mind while formulating welfare policies.

* Long Answer Questions:-

a. Is water in Chennai accessible and affordable for everyone? Discuss.

Ans. No, the water in Chennai is not accessible and affordable for everyone. On average, the municipal supply meets only half of the city's needs. Those who can afford, resort to private solutions such as digging borewells or using electric water pumps and ensure the safety of their drinking water by using electric water purifiers. But the poor are left behind by only having a few supplies per day which contradicts the objective of universal access to sufficient and safe water.

b. The government should provide public facilities at an affordable price. Support your answer with suitable examples and reasons.

Ans. Facilities such as clean water, electricity

supply, transport and healthcare that are maintained by the government for the benefit of all in society are termed as public facilities. These are not luxuries that only a few or the wealthy have. Every human being has the right to get these basic facilities, irrespective of their economic and social condition. Hence these facilities should be provided at a rate which is affordable for everyone.

For example: A person, poor or rich, deserves to have sufficient amounts of water to fulfill his/her daily needs at a price he/she can afford.

c. Why should the government provide public facilities?

Ans. A democratic government is meant not only to govern people but also to serve and work for the welfare of its citizens, which includes providing them with the public facilities required.