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NCERT Class 7 Political Science Chapter 2: Role of the Government in Health YouTube Lecture Handouts

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- Right to health as fundamental right but provisioning is unequal
- Democracy: Govt. to work for welfare - education, health, employment, housing or development of roads, electricity etc.

Health

- Remain free from illness or injury
- Adequate food
- Clean drinking water
- Pollution free environment
- Without mental stress
- From fitness to wellness
- AYUSH mission

Healthcare in India

- Largest medical colleges in world
- Largest number of doctors
- Medical tourism from many countries
- Pharmaceutical industry is 3rd largest in volume and 14th largest in value

Issues Faced

- TB is the biggest killer
- Malnutrition

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- Communicable diseases
- Plight of rural areas

(Refer Upcoming lecture on Rural Health – Kurukshetra July 2017)

Public Health Care System

- Run by government
- Look after health of large number of people
- Mission Indradhanush – Vaccination
- National Health Assurance Mission – free drug and diagnostics & insurance coverage
- Improper healthcare facilities to people
- Rush in OPD (Out Patient Department – people first brought in without being admitted), long queue
- Both Rural and urban areas
- PHC: At village level
- District: District hospital
- Money to run these comes from taxes paid
- Free and low cost services
- Prevent the spread of diseases such as TB, malaria, jaundice, cholera
- According to UNICEF, more than 2 million children die every year in India from preventable infections
- Safeguard the right to life

Private Health Care System

- Doctors have private clinics
- Rural Areas: Registered Medical Practitioners (RMPs)
- Urban Areas: Specialized Services
- Diagnostic services
- Pharmaceutical shops
- Not controlled by the government
- Patient needs to pay more

Healthcare & Equality

- Private sector in healthcare is increasing
- Private sector confined to urban areas
- Services of private sector run by profit
- Private sector has higher cost with expensive medicines
- Incorrect practices by private sector
- Doctors prescribe unnecessary medicines, injections or saline bottles when tablets or simple medicines can suffice
- Only 20% can afford medicines when ill
- 40% admitted patients have to borrow money
- Illness – leads to anxiety and distress for poor mainly the bread earner
- Lack of money – no proper medical treatment
- Tribal areas lack health centers


Resolving Issues

- Responsibility of government
- Equal healthcare to poor and disadvantaged
- Health depends on basic amenities and social conditions of people
- 1996: Kerala gave 40% budget to panchayats – water, food, development and education, anganwadis, healthcare (focus on insufficient beds and doctors)

Costa Rica: healthiest country in South America, maintains no army and uses the budget on health, education and basic needs of people – safe drinking water, sanitation, nutrition and housing

Constitution: duty of the State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health

-Mayank

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