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NCERT Class 8 Political Science Chapter 9: Public Facilities YouTube Lecture Handouts

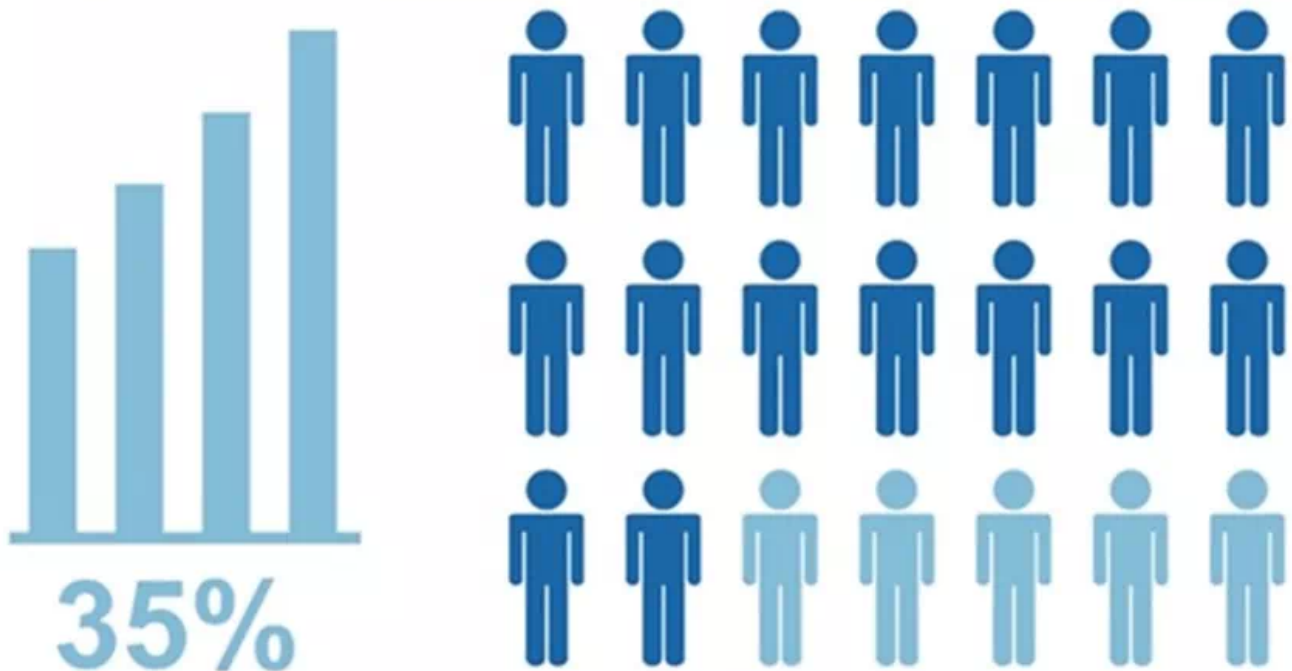
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Water Issues

Who has access to clean water?



In 2015, 35 percent of the world's population still doesn't have access to water-based sanitation. That's 2.5 billion people, or 7.8 times the population of the United States.

Image of Water Issues

- Prosperous Areas – Abundant water for spraying in & around bungalows – if shortage is there – immediate water tanks are made available
- Other Areas – Borewell water (brackish – not potable) – water purification systems

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- Further other Areas – People get bottled water – water once in 4 days
- Slums – common tap (water available for 20 minutes – twice a day – maximum limit per family is 3 buckets) and common toilets – long hours for water

Water as Fundamental Right

- Essential for life
- Safe drinking water – prevent water related diseases
- About 1600 child below 5 years die everyday because of water related diseases
- Constitution of India recognises the right to water as being a part of the Right to Life under Article 21
- 2007: Andhra Pradesh High Court - hearing a case based on a letter written by a villager of Mahabubnagar district on the contamination of drinking water by a textile company that was discharging poisonous chemicals into a stream near his village (Collector ordered to supply 25 liters of water to each person)

Public Facilities



Image of Public Facilities

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- Healthcare
- Sanitation -68% households in India have access to drinking water & 36% have access to sanitation
- Electricity
- Public Transport – Buses to metros (Rs. 11,000 crore in Delhi), Mumbai Suburb – 65 lakh passengers commute daily
- School and Colleges
- Benefits can be shared by many people

Government’S Role

- Someone to carry responsibility to provide it to people – Government
- Private companies operate for profit - Chapter “Story of Shirt” in Class 7
- Water tanks by private companies - private companies provide public facilities but at a price that only some people can afford
- Those who can’t pay will be deprived – Govt. takes care
- Central Govt. spends on interest, defence, subsidy, economic services, social services, grants, police etc.
- Budget is presented in Parliament – expense of government & how much it plans to spend
- Sources of revenue – comes from taxes, charges of water price

Water Supply

- Closer areas – more water
- Far areas – lesser water
- Municipal supply meets only half of the need
- Shortfall burden- falls on poor
- Middle Class – dig Borewell, buy bottled water, buy tankers
- Universal access to ‘sufficient and safe’ water
- Water coming to urban areas from nearby places – ground water levels have dropped in nearby places

Water Alternatives

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- Water is increasingly being filled by an expansion of private companies who are selling water for profit
- Great inequalities in water use
- Supply of water/person in urban area – 135 l/day (about seven buckets) as by Urban Water Commission in India – for slums it is less than 20 l/day (one bucket) & for luxury hotels it is 1,600 l/day (80 buckets).
- Shortage of municipal water – sign of govt. failure
- There are areas in the world where public water supply has achieved universal access - Porto Alegre, Brazil – lower infant deaths – average price is low & poor is charged at half the rate – working of department is transparent and they vote on priorities
- Water handed to private companies witnessed huge rise in price – protests in Bolivia
- Water department in Mumbai raises enough money through water charges to cover its expenses on supplying water
- Hyderabad – increased coverage & performance in revenue collection
- Chennai – initiates for rainwater harvesting – used service of private companies to operate – on contract

Sanitation

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Image of Sanitation Development Goals

- Sulabh, NGO for 3 decades - to address the problems of sanitation facing low-caste, low-income people in India.
- Constructed more than 7,500 public toilet blocks and 1.2 million private toilets, giving access to sanitation to 10 million people.

Conclusions!

- Poor localities are underserved
- Handing over to private companies might not be a solution
- Provide rights on equitable manner

-Mayank

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