

## Role of the Government in Health

Q1. State True (T) or false (F).

- i. Ranjan got costly medical treatment. True
- ii. Private services are concentrated in rural areas. False
- iii. If people do not get adequate food to eat or have to live in cramped conditions, they will be prone to illness. True
- iv. The private health service is a chain of health centres and hospitals run by the government. False
- v. Adequate healthcare is available to all in India. False

Q2. Fill in the blanks.

- i. Most doctors settle in urban areas.
- ii. Tax money is utilised for relief and rehabilitation in case of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, tsunami etc.
- iii. In private facilities, patients have to pay a lot of money for every service that they use.
- iv. India is the third largest producer of medicines in the world and is also a large exporter of medicines.
- v. India gets a large number of medical tourists from many countries.

Q3. Give some water borne diseases.

Ans. Example - diarrhoea, worms, hepatitis, etc.

Q4. What do you mean by public health?

Ans. It refers to the health of general public.

Q5. Who runs public health care system?

Ans. Government runs public health care system.

Q6. What happened to Hakim Sheik?

Ans. One evening in 1992, Hakim Sheik accidentally fell off a running train and suffered head injuries. He was in a very serious condition and needed immediate treatment.

Q7. What is OPD?

Ans. This is the short form for 'Outer Patient Department'. This is where people are first brought in and treated in a hospital without being admitted to any special ward.

Q3. Why are women not taken to a doctor in a prompt manner?

Ans. Women are not taken to a doctor in a prompt manner because women's health concerns are considered to be less important than the health of men in the family.

Q4. What do you understand by public healthcare system?

Ans. This is a system of hospitals and health centres run by the government.

It has the ability to look after the health of a large section of its population scattered over hundreds of thousands of villages.

Q5. What do you mean by medical tourists?

Ans. This refers to foreigners who come to this country specifically for medical treatment at hospitals that offer world-class facilities at a lower cost than what they would have to pay in their own countries.

Q6. What does RMPs stand for?

Ans. Registered Medical Practitioners (RMPs).

Q7. What do people in democratic country expect from the government?

Ans. In a democracy people expect the government to work for their welfare.

Q8. What do you mean by living standard?

Ans. Living standard refers to the quality of housing, material comfort, and wealth experienced by an individual or group.

Q9. What are communicable diseases?

Ans. These are diseases that are spread from one person to another in many ways such as through water, food, air, etc.

Q10. What are the factors that affect our health?

Ans. Diseases, drinking water, adequate food, sanitation, environment and mental health are the factors that affect our health.

Q11. Why did Hakim Sheikh and PBKMS file a case in the court?

Ans. Hakim Sheikh and PBKMS filed a case in the court because of the indifferent attitude of all the hospitals that refused to admit him.

Q12. Why are poor people more likely to fall ill?

Ans. Those who are poor are in the first place undernourished. These families are not eating as much as they should. They are not provided basic necessities like drinking water, adequate housing, clean surroundings, etc., and therefore, are more likely to fall ill. The expenses on illness make their situation even worse.

Q13. What are the functions of public health system?

Ans. Functions of public health system are:

- i. To provide quality health care services either free or at a low cost, so that even the poor can seek treatment.
- ii. To take action to prevent the spread of diseases such as TB, malaria, jaundice, cholera, diarrhoea, chikungunya, etc.

Q14. Why government hospitals are less expensive as compared to private hospitals?

Ans. Government uses tax money for providing many public health services for the benefit of all citizens. Therefore, government hospitals are less expensive. As private health services are run for profit, the cost of these services is rather high