

CHAPTER-5

COMMUNITY SERVICES

CLASS V

(20.7.20 TO 24.7.20)

INTRODUCTION

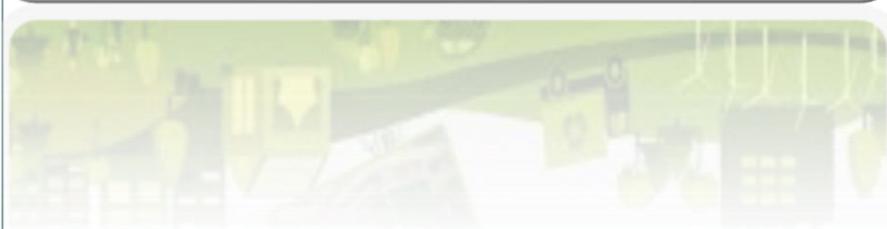


➤ *Human beings are social animals. They live together in the company of their fellow- beings in villages, towns or cities. The members of a community live in harmony and work for the benefit of one another. They also provide support to each other in times of emergency. Community living helps in building a peaceful society. The **Community Service** is the help or assistance that benefits the community . It may be assisting the elderly, participating in neighbourhood Watch programme, beautification of the locality,etc. Many people contribute to the community service programmes by donating money of their services. It gives them pleasure and satisfication.*



- **Community Service in Older Times-** *Community service has always been an important part of Indian history and Culture. People helped the poor with money, clothes ,food, shelter, or looked after the sick. In earlier times the kings/emperor took up many projects for the benefits of the common people like helping the travellers , planting trees , digging wells , etc.*
- **Comfort of Travellers-** *In older times most travellers were pilgrims, messengers, soldiers or merchants. They had to face many hardships on their journeys as there were no shelters, roads, means of transport or arrangements of food or water. The kings constructed rest houses for their comfort.*

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान





- **Trees on Roadsides-** Ashoka , a great ruler, understood the importance of good roads for the progress of trade as well as pilgrims. He arranged to construct rest houses, dig wells and plant trees on the roadsides for the comfort of the travellers.
- **Water for quenching the thirst-** In older times, most dharamshalas/ sarais settlements were constructed close to water bodies, rivers, lakes or ponds. The resting that were far away water, fulfilled their requirements of water from wells, steps wells, kunds and sisandras. **Wells** were the main source of water for drinking and other purposes. Step wells are called **Water Temples of India**.





➤ **Water harvesting in older times-** *Water harvesting is the technique of collecting, storing and using rain water for irrigations, drinking and other purposes. In olden times, India had a well –developed system of water harvesting. Each village saved rainwater to fulfill its requirement in the dry months. There were no shortage of water. Many of the traditional water sources exist even today; unfortunately most of them are in ruins due to the neglect and poor maintenance. In Recent times efforts have been made to revive the old water bodies and popularise water harvesting.*



- **Community Service in Modern Times-** *Community living requires organisation , co-ordination and tolerance. Instead of kings, now the government and its agencies look after the community services. Each neighbourhood requires essential services like water and electric supply, hospitals ,schools, roads , sanitation etc.*
- **Travelling-** *Travelling has undergone a great change in recent times. Today different means of transport are available for the convenience of the people. Many guest houses, restaurants , night shelters , motels and provide comfort and safety to the travellers. Better roads, bridges and flyovers ensure the smooth movement of vehicles. They may be cars, buses, trains, aeroplanes or ships.*





➤ **Water-** *Water is supplied through pipelines in most parts of the country. Some areas are still dependent on wells, springs, rivers or lakes. Tube wells provide water for irrigation and other purposes in areas that are far away from rivers, canals and streams. Even today in some parts of India women have to fetch water from distant places in pitchers. Water pollution has become a major concern in all parts of India. It is mainly caused by dumping of household and industrial waste.*





➤ **Trees-** *Tress provide a green cover to the earth. They are our best and most valuable friends. Life is not possible without tress. They give us innumerable gifts like wood, Flowers, Fruits , Vegetables , Medicines , spices etc. The most important gift of tress is that they clean the atmosphere by converting carbon dioxide into oxygen! In recent times forests have been cleared for agriculture , building houses , hotels ,resorts etc. The cutting of tress has distributed the balance of nature. It has created air pollution , lowered the level of underground water and reduced the number and species of animals , birds and plants. Our government has banned cutting of tress. Many projects have been started to plant more and more trees- Van Mahotsava , Each One Plant One plant, etc.*

Thank
you

