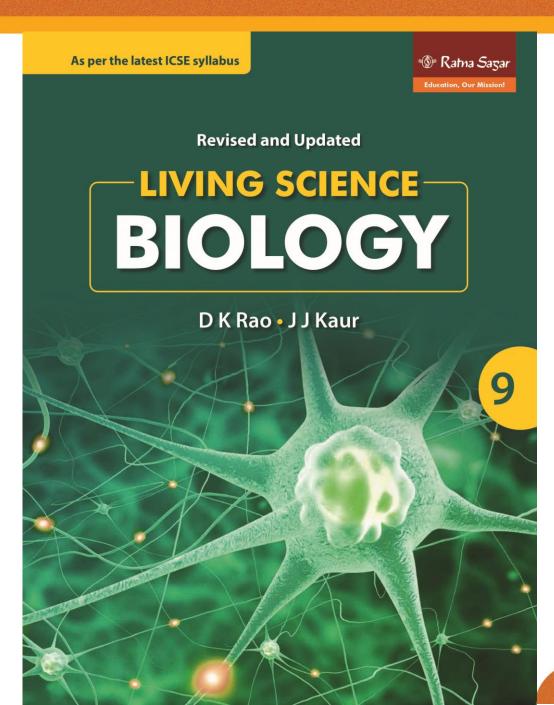


Education, Our Mission





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ICSE Living Science Biology

Class 9

Chapter 18 Health Organizations

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES Health Organizations

- International organizations
 Red Cross Society
- Emblem
- Activities of Red Cross Society
 World Health Organization
- Structure
- Main activities of WHO

What are the three types of diseases?

Waterborne diseases due to the consumption of contaminated or non-potable water. Diarrhoea, typhoid, dysentery and gastroenteritis are some such diseases.

Airborne diseases which spread due to droplet infection or coming in contact with a patient. Diphtheria, whooping cough, tuberculosis, some such diseases.

Vector-borne and insect-borne diseases. Houseflies, mosquitoes, cockroaches and rats are some vectors that spread diseases such as cholera, typhoid, malaria, dengue, etc.



Health Organizations

There are many health organizations working towards providing support to solve problems of health and hygiene. These organizations can be classified at three levels – Local bodies, National organizations and International organizations.

International organizations

Red Cross Society and World Health Organization (WHO) are two International organizations that are actively concerned with people's health.

Red Cross Society

The Red Cross Society is an international as well as a national organization. The main function of Red Cross Society is to undertake activities to prevent or remove human sufferrings in peace time as well as war time.

Emblem

The emblem of Red Cross Society is red-coloured cross painted on a white background. This emblem is used by ambulances, hospitals, doctors, nurses for quick identification. The members of Red Cross Society can go to battlefield and other disaster prone areas to help the wounded and affected people.



Activities of Red Cross Society

The main activities of the Indian Red Cross Society can be grouped under following categories:

Promoting fundamental principles and humanitarian values: It includes,

- protection of life, health and human dignity,
- non-discrimination on the basis of nationality, race, gender, religion, class or political opinion, and
- mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and restoring peace among people.
- Disaster preparedness and response: Red Cross Society with the assistance of other national societies provides services to the victims of calamities, procures and supplies food and other items for the needy in case of a calamity.
- Health and social services: This includes,
- ✤ to arrange for ambulance service in an emergency.
- to extend first-aid in case of an accident.

to provide mother and child health care programmes. Red Cross Society has many hospitals and dispensaries to provide medical support to the needy.
to train nurses and midwives.



✤ to provide hostels for working ladies and homes for elderly, physically and mentally challenged.

to procure and supply blood for the victims of war, other calamities and diseases. Indian Red Cross Society has blood banks at the major cities in India.

World Health Organization

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations Organization (UNO). WHO was established by the UN on April 7, 1948. It acts as a coordinating authority on international public health.

Structure

WHO has its headquarters in Geneva, regional offices, and other offices located in different countries. **WHO has six regional offices including one at Delhi in India.** The member states of WHO are bound by International Sanitary Regulations to send all relevant information about the internationally notifiable diseases such as malaria and small pox.

Main activities of WHO

To reduce excess mortality, disability and promote healthy life-style to reduce risk to human health.

* To develop health systems that improve health of the general public.

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- To collect, supply and manage information about the occurrence of
- epidemic such as cholera, typhoid, plague, small pox and yellow fever.
- To promote and support projects for research on diseases.
- To supply information about the new developments in the medical field, control of drug addiction and health hazards of nuclear radiation.
- To provide information and suggest measures to control deadly diseases such as HIV/AIDS.
- To suggest quarantine measures (isolation of patients) to prevent spread of diseases.
- To organize campaigns for controlling widespread (epidemics) and local (endemic) diseases.
- To lay pharmaceutical standards for important drugs and ensure their purity and dose size.



SUMMARY...

There are many health organizations working towards providing support to solve health and hygiene problems.

These health organizations can be classified at three levels – local bodies, national organizations and international organizations.

Red Cross Society and World Health Organization are two international bodies working for providing health support to the people.

Red Cross Society was founded in 1864 in Geneva. In India it was founded in 1920.

♦ WHO was founded in the year 1948. Its headquarters is situated in Geneva.

