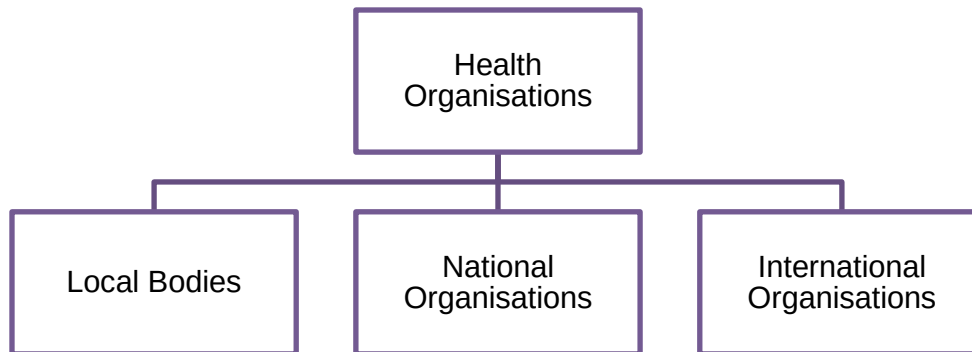


Health Organisations

- Health is one of the primary concerns of all the governments of the world.
- Governments strive to take steps individually, at the national level and globally to safeguard the health interests of their citizens.



Common Health Problems in India

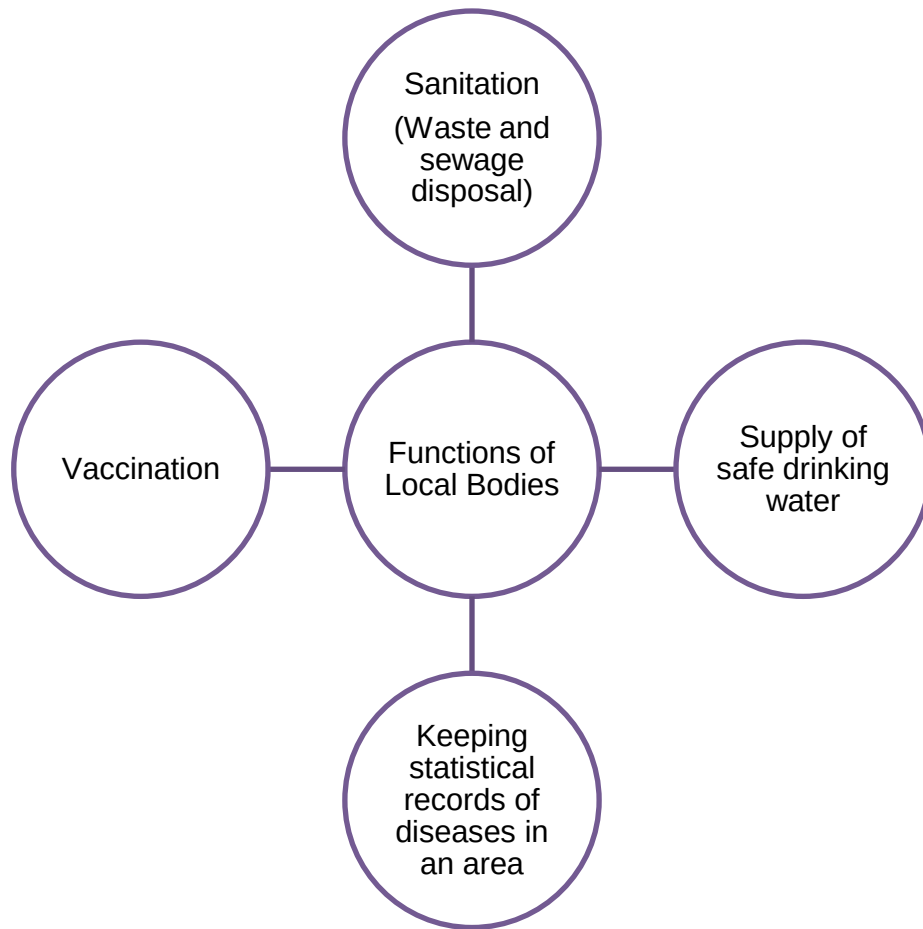
- India is a vast country with highly diverse geographical and climatic conditions.

A. Food and Water Borne Diseases	• Contaminated food and water cause several diseases. • Examples: Diarrhoea, gastroenteritis, typhoid and dysentery
B. Insect and Air Borne Diseases	• Lack of cleanliness leads to breeding of houseflies and mosquitoes which are carriers of certain diseases. • Example: Malaria • Tuberculosis, whooping cough, pneumonia and diarrhoea are air borne diseases.
C. Lack of Medical Facilities	• Lack of medical facilities, especially in rural areas, leads to unavoidable deaths and damage to health.
D. Professional Hazards	• Child labour in different industries (e.g. carpet industry, fireworks industry and glass bangles manufacturing units) leads to health problems due to excessive physical and mental stress at a young age.

Categories of Health Organisations

Local Bodies

- Municipal Corporations
- Municipalities
- Town Area Committees



National Bodies

- For every disease, national bodies undertake:
 - A regular survey
 - Identification of the transmitting agent and its breeding places
 - Arrangement of prophylactic immunisation
- National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Delhi, conducts research on infectious diseases. This institute was earlier known as Malaria Institute.
- An extensive national programme **Pulse Polio** has been launched to eradicate poliomyelitis completely.

International Bodies

1. Red Cross



It is a national as well as international agency.

It was formally founded in 1864.

Its emblem is a red-coloured cross painted on a white background.

8 May is celebrated as Red Cross Day.

Major activities carried out by the Red cross are

- Extending relief and help to victims of flood, fire, famine or earthquakes.
- Procuring and supplying blood to victims of war or other calamities.
- Extending all possible first-aid in any accident.

2. World Health Organization (WHO)



WHO was established in 1948.

It is a specialised agency of the United Nations Organization.

Its headquarters are located in Geneva.

Major activities of WHO include

- Collecting and supplying information about the occurrence of diseases of an epidemic nature.
- Laying pharmaceutical standards for important drugs to ensure purity and size of the dose.
- Organising campaigns for the control of epidemic (widespread) and endemic (local) diseases.