

6. PUBLIC PROPERTIES

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND THEIR PROTECTION

On the outskirts of the city was a school and a small railway station. One morning, there were several people on the platform, and a heated discussion was going on. Everyone was angry and worried. The incident was as follows-

After school some students threw stones at the lights and signals of the station. Since the incident was serious, the police officers reached there. The matter was settled after the intervention of headmaster.

Discuss with your class teacher about the nearest railway station



Pic 6.1 Railway Station

The headmaster asked the students to gather in the hall after prayers.

Headmaster: Those students who threw stones at the railway light and signals yesterday, kindly stand up.

Rajesh: Sir, we did this for fun.

Headmaster: Tell me, what would happen if you broke the lights and glass panes of someone's house or if someone else broke those of your house?

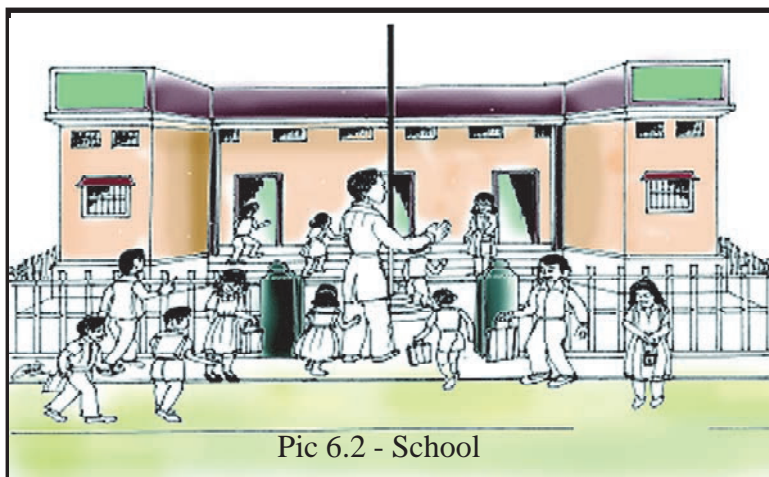
Chandan: If we damage someone's house they will scold us.



Kishore : If someone damages our house then we will get hold of him and shout at him.

Headmaster : Now tell me what do you think about the damage done yesterday? Would anybody scold you?

Kamla : Sir, we thought that no one is looking at us, and anyway they do not belong to anyone.



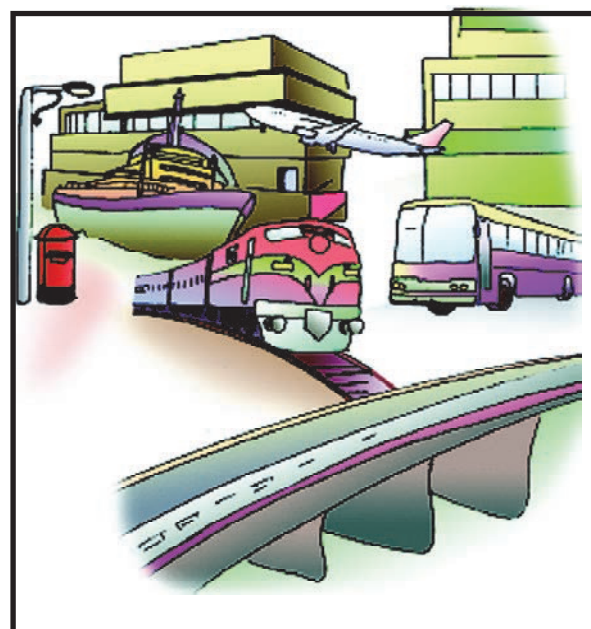
Pic 6.2 - School

Headmaster: Do you all agree with what Manjeet is saying?

Chandan: Sir, those signals and lights are necessary to run the trains. We all also use these trains.

Headmaster: Correct. It is not that these things belong to no one, they are our '**public property**'. Public means belonging to everyone. Now, tell me, what damage and inconvenience must have been caused because of this damage?

Kishore: The trains would have stopped going to and fro thus causing inconvenience to passengers who would have had a difficult time reaching to their destinations in time.

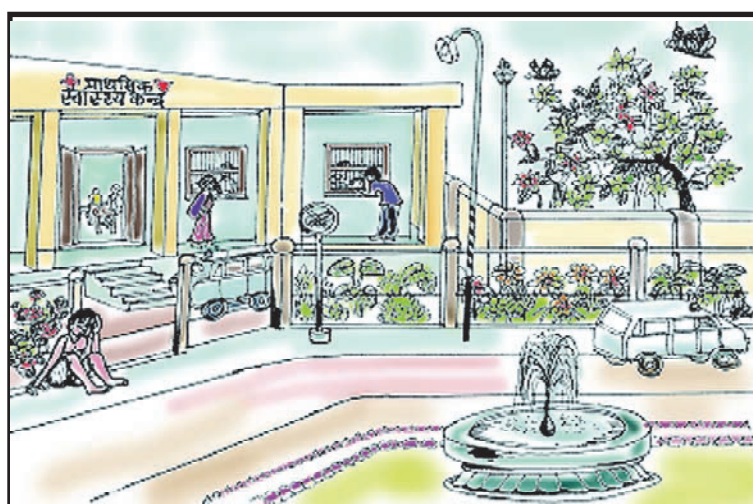


Pic 6. 3 Conveyance

Headmaster: Think what would happen to a patient travelling for treatment or some important item loaded in the goods trains does not reach in time?

Chandan: Many anti Social elements destroy the public property. Are they not punished?

Headmaster: They are punished but for this everyone's cooperation is needed. When we use these facilities it becomes our



Pic 6.4Hospital



duty to look after them. Your school is a very good example of ‘public property’. Everyone’s co-operation is needed in maintaining and running it.

Now you must have understood that there are several other facilities like trains which are used by all of us. Think and then tell if your bag, books, eraser, pencil are public properties? Can anyone use them without your permission? There are certain things which only you use and you have a right over it? Such things are called **private properties**. There are certain properties which are used by all without taking anyone’s permission- like trains, roads, schools, hospital, play ground etc. Our government builds and maintains them. We all have right on them. They are called **public properties** and it is the duty of all of us to safeguard them.



pic 6.5 Historical monuments

Discuss and make a list of those public facilities which are used by all.

Public properties are purchased by public money. Public money is collected by the government through different taxes. Our money thus is used in building these public properties.

Discuss with your teacher about the facilities we get from community health centres

LET US DO

In the table given below are a few facilities which are available in the school campus. Give suggestions for its better use and protection.

FACILITY	SUGGESTIONS
1. Preservation of historical monuments	
2. Black board	
3. Jute carpet	
4. Furniture	



5. Drinking water
6. Teaching aids
7. Library
8. Toilets
9. Plantation
10. Sports item

EXERCISE

1. Differentiate between public and private properties from the list given below.
bicycle, school, tractor, library, play ground, hospital, house, motor cycle, park or garden, postbox, plough.
2. What are public properties?
3. What will you do if someone is damaging a public property near you?
4. Make a list of those public properties which you use daily.

