



## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON SOCIETY

**Achala Srivastava\***

Department of Botany, S.S.Khanna Girls' Degree College, Allahabad.U.P.India-211003

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article History:

Received 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

Received in revised form 21<sup>st</sup>

January, 2018 Accepted 05<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

Published online 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018

#### Key words:

Environment, Primary Pollutant,

Secondary Pollutant, CSE (Center for Science & Environment), e-Waste

### ABSTRACT

Science & technology made our life easy and comfortable. It has conquered time and space to a great extent. It has also made means of transport and communication easier and quicker. The means of education through television, Internet etc. has made it interesting for man to spend his leisure time as well as learn a lot. The word, 'Environment' refers to the physical surroundings and regional setting or segment around the earth. It also indicates the surroundings of a place and community. Man is not just an organism but a sociological organism living and interacting with biology and ecology. Any type of disturbances in a natural cycle which creates ecological imbalance are the root cause of environmental pollution, increasing at a terrific rate such as, the rapid depletion of the ozone layer, growing greenhouse effect, massive deforestation and pollution of water etc. are needed to be halted without delay.

Copyright©2018 Achala Srivastava. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

## INTRODUCTION

The environmental problems in India are growing rapidly. The increasing economic development and rapid growth of population that has taken the country from 300 million people in 1947 to more than one billion people today is putting a strain on the environmental infrastructure, and the country's natural resources. Industrial pollution, soil erosion, deforestation, rapid industrialization, urbanization, and land degradation are all worsening problems as reported by Negi (2005). Overexploitation of the country's resources is its land or water and the industrialization process has resulted environmental degradation of resources. Environmental pollution is one of the most serious problem facing humanity and other life forms on our planet today is focused by some renowned environmentalists e.g. Hill (1995), Mishra and Mani (2009).

### Types of Pollution

#### Water pollution

Water is the basic requirement for existence of life. Currently water pollution is a serious worldwide problem. Many rivers have been deemed to be unsafe for human consumption which leads to water scarcity. Water pollution in India also makes irrigating crops difficult due to the limited sources of water. There is shortage of potable water in India. Surface waters are the natural water resources of the Earth.

They are found on the exterior of the Earth's crust which includes Oceans, rivers, lakes etc. The water can become polluted in number of ways, and is called surface water pollution.

#### Microbiological water Pollution

Microbiological water pollution is usually a natural form of water pollution caused by microorganisms. Many types of microorganisms live in water and cause fish, land animals and humans to become ill. The pathogenic organism may belong to any of the group of microorganisms such as: Bacteria, Viruses, Protozoan, Helminthes (worms) etc.

#### Air Pollution

An air pollutant is known as a substance in the air that can cause harm to humans and the environment. Pollutants can be in the form of solid particles, liquid droplets, or gases. In addition, they may be natural or man-made.

Air pollutants can be classified as primary and secondary. The primary pollutants are directly emitted from a process, such as ash from a volcanic eruption, the carbon monoxide gas from a motor vehicle exhaust or sulfur dioxide released from factories. Secondary pollutants are not emitted directly. Rather, they form in the air when primary pollutants react or interact.

The chief pollutants of air are Carbon monoxide, Sulphur dioxide, Nitrogen oxide, certain hydrocarbons and various other particulate matters. Carbon monoxide is highly dangerous to human health. When inhaled it combines with the blood hemoglobin about 2.9 times faster than oxygen resulting into oxygen deficiency and suffocation. In the same way Sulphur dioxide formed by the burning of fossil fuels is quite harmful causing eye-shores and several respiratory diseases.

\*Corresponding author: Achala Srivastava

Department of Botany, S.S.Khanna Girls' Degree College, Allahabad.U.P.India-211003

Sulphur dioxide reacting with oxygen forms SO<sub>3</sub> which combine with water produces Sulphuric acid. Other problems from air pollution to the humans are breathing ailments, heart disease, lung infections and even cancer make us difficult to survive also reported by Lodha (2005). The world Health Organization estimates that about two million people die prematurely every year as a result of air pollution.

The air pollutants effect plants, animals, human beings and as well as our precious architectural monuments. The crop yields decreased due to atmospheric blockage of sunlight and the brilliant white of the famous Taj-Mahal is slowly fading to a sickly yellow.

Studies conducted by the high altitude Zoology field station of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) based in Himachal Pradesh have recorded a drastic fall in butterfly numbers in the western Himalayas, famous for their biodiversity.

### **Noise pollution**

Noise pollution like other pollutants is also a by-product of industrialization, urbanizations and modern civilization. Broadly speaking, the noise pollution has two sources, i.e. industrial and non-industrial. Most leading noise sources will into the following categories; roads traffic, aircraft, railroads, construction, industry, noise in buildings, and consumer products.

On Human Being, Animal and Property Noise has always been with the human civilization but it was never so obvious, so intense, so varied & as pervasive as it is seen in the last of this century. Noise pollution makes men more irritable. The effect of noise pollution is multifaceted & inter related. There are many ill effects of Noise Pollution on human beings, animals and properties. It may decrease the efficiency of a man, lack of concentration, fatigue, abortion, etc. The blood pressure, temporary or permanent deafness among humans are very commonly reported whereas the nervous system of animals are also found to be effected. There is a quantitative and qualitative decrease in production of crops.

The process of contamination of the land surface of the Earth is referred to as nature. Dumping human and industrial waste, harmful agricultural practices and exposing the land to harmful chemicals leads to the pollution of land.

### **Land pollution**

It results from human activities that is causing imbalance in the environment. Plastic bags, plastic thin sheets and plastic waste is also a major source of pollution. Plastic bags pollution in the country is the biggest hazards. Plastic bags are difficult and costly to recycle and most end up on landfill sites where they take around 300 years to photo degrade. They break down into tiny toxic particles that contaminate the soil and waterway and enter the food chain when animal accidentally ingest them.

### **Pollution due to Mining**

On December 29, 2007 the mining was causing displacement as reported by New Delhi based Center of Science and Environment (CSE). Pollution is also enhanced by forest degradation and social unrest. The CSE report has made extensive analysis of environment degradation and pollution due to mining, wherein it has said, in 2005-06 alone 1.6 billion tons of waste and overburden from coal, iron ore, limestone and bauxite have added to environment pollution. With the

annual growth of mining at 10.7 per cent and 500- odd mines awaiting approval of the centre, the pollution would increase manifold in the coming years.

### **Pollution due to biomedical waste**

Pollution due to biomedical waste is likely to spread disease dangerous to life and making atmosphere is noxious to health. In early April, 2010 a machine from Delhi University containing cobalt- 60, a radioactive metal used for radiotherapy in hospitals, ended up in scrap yard in the city.

### **Pollution due to e- Waste**

India produces about 3,80,000 tons of e- waste per annum, which includes only the waste generated out of television sets, mobile phones and PCs, a major chunk of which comes from organizations. E-waste produced in India over 1000,000 tons from refrigerators, 275,000 tons from TVs, 56,300 tons from personal computers, 4,700 tons from printers and 1,700 tons from mobile phones. The un-organized recycling sector which fails to practice eco-friendly e-waste recycling methods release large amount of toxic chemicals. The toxic gases and the large amount of Electronic waste add to the environmental pollution in India. India imports almost 50,000 tons or more of e- waste yearly.

### **Global warming: Its impact on India**

Melting of Himalayas, flooding of rivers as in Bihar and other places in the last few years, tsunamis and cyclones are all natural calamities resulting out of climate change and global warming brought on indirectly by human beings. Unrestricted use of fossil fuels increases the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, causing a greenhouse effect, leading to global warming.

### **Greenhouse gases in India**

Elevated carbon dioxide emission from industries, factories, vehicles etc. have contributed to the greenhouse effect, causing, causing warmer weather that lasted long after the atmospheric shroud of dust and aerosols had cleared. India is the world's fifth-biggest polluter, a new study confirmed on April 11, 2010, with its greenhouse gas emissions growing by more than 3 percent annually.

### **Global Warming: Measures to check global warming**

The Government is trying its level best to control Pollution and Global Warming in India. But, we being a responsible people of the country should also do the following to save our planet (Michael and Robert, 2004):-

1. Control of population growth by decreasing the birth rate.
2. Aforestation ( Planting more trees on new areas)
3. Deforestation reversal by reforestation.
4. Reduction in the use of chloro-floro-carbons (CFC) .
5. Shift from coal to natural gas on electricity as energy resources.
6. More use of non conventional source of energy like wind power and solar energy.
7. Automobiles should be made fuel efficient and less taking on the environment.

### **Measures to control pollution**

#### **Save Water**

- Do not throw any poisonous substances in the drains of our house.
- Repair the leaking tapes, pipes, faucets and other sources of water.
- Taking the bath can be replaced by taking a shower and the shower water can be used for gardening Do not. Do the laundry of dishes until the washer is full.

**Save Air**

- Use the lead free gasoline, & use of alternate fuels(CNG, LPG, Bio-diesel, Hydrogen etc)
- Try to use the public transport or a car pool.
- Plant trees, plants, bushes in the neighborhood.
- Do not burn leaves and other garbage.
- Use the car horn only in emergency.
- Keep the volume of TV and radio low.
- Check the car and motorbike. They should not make the noise.

**References**

1. Hill. M.K. 1995: Understanding Environmental Pollution:A Primer.
2. Lodha. R. M. 2005: Environmental Ruin- The Crisis of Survival
3. Michael L and Robert M. Schoch 2004: Environmental Science - Systems and Solutio
4. Mishra S.G. and Mani Dinesh 2009: Ecosystem pollution
5. Negi S.S.2000:Environmental Degradation & Crisis in India

**How to cite this article:**

Achala Srivastava (2018) 'Environmental Impact on Society', *International Journal of Current Advanced Research*, 07(3), pp. 10657-10659. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.24327/ijcar.2018.10659.1816>

\*\*\*\*\*