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chapter 15

Pollution - Types and Sources

→ Introduction

Pollution

- any activity that violates the original character of nature and leads to its degradation is called pollution.

* A substance that causes pollution is called a pollutant.

eg: Carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide etc.

Types and Sources of pollution

→ Air Pollution

Air pollution is the contamination of air due to the presence of substance called pollutant in the atmosphere that are harmful for humans and environment.

Primary air pollutant

- These are directly released into the air.
- also known as SPM.
- eg: Smoke, dust, ash, nitrogen oxide.

Secondary air pollutant

- formed due to chemical interactions between the atmospheric components and primary pollutant.
- eg: Smog, Ozone etc.

Major gaseous air pollutants

- It includes carbon dioxide, Hydrogen Sulphide, Nitrogen oxide etc

Natural Sources

- Volcanic eruption, forest fires, dust storms etc

Manmade Sources(a) Automobile Pollution

- It is caused by Automobiles, Aeroplanes, Ships that releases Carbon Monoxide

(b) Industrial Air Pollution

- It is caused by Manufacturing Industries, oil refineries etc that releases gases like Ammonia, Hydrocarbons and Sulphur.
- Aluminium plants releases fluoride dust.

(c) Burning Garbage:

- The burning of Garbage releases Carbon dioxide and Nitrogen oxide.
- open burning releases Sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

(d) Brick kilns:

- They release huge amount of Carbon dioxide and SPH that are harmful.

(e) Dead animals and plants

- decompose to give Methane and Ammonia gas in air.

(f) Radio active elements

- emits α , β , γ rays in air.