

SUBJECT - CHEMISTRY

Page No 01

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TOPIC - AIR POLLUTION AND its CONTROL

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Air pollution refers to any physical, chemical or biological change in the air. It is the contamination of air by harmful gases, dust and smoke which affects the plants, animal, and humans drastically.

There is a certain percentage of gases present in the atmosphere. An increase or decrease in the composition of these gases is harmful to survival. This imbalance in the gaseous composition has resulted in an increase in earth's temperature which is known as global warming.

Types of Air pollutants

There are two types of air pollutants.

Primary pollutants

The pollutants that directly cause air pollution are known as primary pollutants. Sulphur-dioxide emitted from factories is a primary pollutant.

Secondary pollutants

The pollutants formed by the intermingling and reaction of primary pollutants are known as secondary pollutants. Smog, formed by the intermingling of smoke and fog, is a secondary pollutant.

Causes of Air pollution

Following are the important causes of air pollution.

Burning of fossil fuels

The Combustion of fossil fuels emits a large amount of Sulphur dioxide. Carbon monoxide released by incomplete Combustion of fossil fuels also results in air pollution.

Automobiles

The gases emitted from vehicles such as jeeps, trucks, cars, buses, etc. pollute the environment. These are the major sources of greenhouse gases and also result in diseases among individuals.

Agricultural Activities

Ammonia is one of the most hazardous gases emitted during agricultural activities. The insecticides, pesticides and fertilizers emit harmful chemicals in the atmosphere and Contaminate it.

Factorises and Industries

Factorises and Industries are the main source of Carbon monoxide, Organic Compounds, hydrocarbons, and chemicals. These are released into the air degrading its quality.

Air pollution Control

Avoid using vehicles

People should avoid using vehicles for shorter distances. Rather they should prefer public modes of transport to travel from one place to another. This not only prevents pollution but also Conserves energy.

Energy Conservation

A large number of fossil fuels are burnt to generate electricity. Therefore, do not forget to switch off the electrical appliances when not in use. Thus, you can Save the environment at the Individual level. Use of energy-efficient devices such CFLs also Controls pollution to a greater level.

* Use of Clean Energy Resources.