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Class : 12th Biology
Chapter- 16 : Environmental Issues

Environmental Issues

Air Pollution

- Smoke stacks from thermal plants, garbage decomposition, burning of fossil fuels are common sources.
- Can be controlled by electrostatic precipitator, scrubber and catalytic converters

Global Warming

Causes

increased concentration of greenhouse gases

Effects

- Odd climatic changes (El nino effect).
- Melting of Polar ice caps.
- Rise in sea level.

Methods of control

- Reducing the use of fossil fuels
- Use of bio-fuels
- Improving energy efficiency
- Use of renewable source of energy such as CNG etc.

Water Pollution

Effects

- Biomagnification
- Eutrophication
- Increased BOD

Sources

Intergrated waste water Management

- Treat Wastewater in integrated manner. E.g., in town of Areata situated along Northern coast of California.
- Use of Ecosan toilets for ecological sanitation

Deforestation

Conversion of forested areas to non-forested areas

Noice Pollution

Noise is undesirable high level of sound.

Solid Wastes

- Types: Biodegradable and non-biodegradable.
- Disposal methods are sanitary landfills, rag pickers, Incineration, recycling

Remedy of plastic waste

Ahmed Khan developed Polyblend. It is a fine powder of recycled modified plastic used to lay roads.

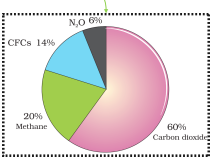
Zone Depletion

CFCs (used as refrigerants) causes ozone depletion. It has formed ozone hole over the Antarctic region

Montreal Protocol was signed to control the emission of ozone depleting substances

Green House effect

Green house effect



Definition

Naturally occurring phenomenon, responsible for heating of earth's surface and atmosphere.

Redioactive waste

- Wastes generated from radioactive materials.
- Nuclear wastes should be buried in rocks.

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