

Industrial Pollution – Definition, Cause and Control

Ajeet Kumar Dubey

Ph.D. Scholar Shri Satya Sai University of Technology and Medical Science, Sehore MP

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I. What is Industrial Pollution?

With the coming of the industrial Revolution, humans were able to advance further into the 21 century. Technology developed rapidly, science became advance, and the manufacturing age came into view. With all these came one more effect industrial pollution, Earlier, Industries were small factories that produced smoke as the primary pollutant..

However, since the number of factories were limited and worked only a certain number of hours a day the level of pollution did not grow significantly. But when these factories became full-scale industries and manufacturing units, the issue of industrial pollution started to take on more importance.

Any form of pollution that can trace its immediate source to industrial practice is known as industrial pollution. Most of the pollution on the planet can be traced back to industries of some kind. In fact, the issue of industrial pollution has taken on grave importance for agencies trying to fight against environmental degradation.

Countries facing sudden and rapid growth of such industries are finding it to be a serious problem that has to be brought under control immediately. Industrial pollution takes on many faces. It contaminates several sources of drinking water, releases unwanted toxins into the air and reduces the quality of soil all over the world.

Major environmental disasters have been caused due to industrial mishaps which have yet to be brought under control. Below are a few of the causes of industrial pollution that have resulted in Environmental Degradation.

II. Industrial Pollution Facts :

Industrial pollution is wreaking havoc on Earth. Every nation is affected, and there are people who are working tirelessly to increase awareness and advocate for change. The activities causing pollution include –

1. Burning coal,
2. Burning fossil fuels like oil, natural gas, and petroleum,
3. Chemical solvents used in dyeing and tanning industries,
4. Untreated gas and liquid waste being released into the environment
5. Improper disposal of radioactive material.

III. Causes of Industrial Pollution

1. Lack of policies to control pollution –

Lack of effective policies and poor enforcement drive allowed many industries to bypass laws made by the pollution control board, which resulted in mass-scaled pollution that affected the lives of many people.

2. Unplanned industrial growth –

In most industrial townships, unplanned growth took place wherein those companies flouted rules and norms and polluted the environment with both air and water pollution.

3. Use of outdated technologies –

Most industries still rely on old technologies to produce products that generate a large amount of waste. To avoid high cost and expenditure, many companies still make use of traditional technologies to produce large amount of waste. To avoid high cost and expenditure, many companies still make use of traditional technologies to produce high-end products.

4. Presence of large number of small scale industries –

Many small scale industries and factories that don't have enough capital and rely on government grants to run their day-today business often escape environment regulation and release a large number of toxic gases in the atmosphere.

5. Inefficient waste disposal –

Water pollution and soil pollution are often caused directly due to inefficiency in the disposal of waste. Long term exposure to polluted air and water causes chronic health problems, making the issue of industrial pollution into a severe one. It also lowers the air quality in surrounding areas, which causes many respiratory disorders.

6. Leaching of resources from our natural world –

Industries require a large amount of raw material to make them into finished products. This requires the extraction of minerals from beneath the earth. The extracted minerals can cause soil pollution when spilled on the earth. Leaks from vessels can cause oil spills that may prove harmful to marine life.

7. Natural resource use –

Raw material is a must for industries, which often requires them even pulling out underground elements. One of the most common forms of leaching from natural resources is fracking for oil. When industries extract minerals, the process causes soil pollution and also causes oil leaks and spills that are harmful and even deadly to people and animals.

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