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ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

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Environmental pollution can be defined as the introduction of contaminants into the natural surroundings that cause adverse changes. It can be in any form whether of degrading the landscape or polluting the river or excessive use of greenhouse gases in atmosphere. The alarming effect of these pollutants can be gauged from the fact that they have become one of the biggest killers affecting more than 100 million people worldwide. More than 400 million metric tons of hazardous waste is generated each year. The United States alone produces 250 million metric tons of waste though it constitutes 5% of world population but produces roughly 25% of world pollution. China has taken United States as the world biggest producer of Carbon dioxide. India also ranks among the top five global polluters of world. A 2010 analysis estimated that 1.2 million people died prematurely in china because of air pollution. Recently Delhi the national capital of India was denoted as the most polluted city of the world.

It has been worldly accepted now that humans have become the primary cause of global environmental pollution. Vehicular emissions and rapid urbanization are the major reasons for the present condition of environment.

✓ The industrial developments without giving due attention to ecology had created a haphazard situation which had degraded the natural beauty of landscapes and forests. ✓

Environmental problems especially in developing countries can be seen due to poverty and due to process of development. Poor in order to their survival use the environment in their own way. On the other hand forests are being exploited for commercial interests without thinking much of its impact in environment.

Latest estimates shows that nearly 53% of Indian land has been subjected to land activities like excessive grazing, road construction, mining and shifting cultivation. Deforestation and uncontrolled cultivation had caused the massive soil erosion. There are also lot of projects going which have affected the environment badly without any good to the nearby surroundings. The effect of environmental degradation is now felt across the globe.

Sustainable development is one way which can satisfy the current needs of the population. It says that such type of development which meets the need of present without comprising the ability of future generations to meet their

own needs. It has to be understood that earth will be protected only if we will protect the earth. Lastly the world should follow what Mahatma Gandhi said : "There is enough in this world for everybody's need but not for everybody's greed".

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