
Awareness of the Environment

Shubhangini Y. Akotkar
Librarian, Mauli Group of Institution's
College of Engg and Tec. Shegaon.

Abstract: We know that the world of today is suffering from the problem of environmental degradation. Some of these problems are at the global level, while some are at the regional level. At the global level, the problems are global warming, depletion of the ozone layer in the stratosphere, acid rain, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, etc. On the other hand, regional level problems include soil erosion, soil pollution, groundwater depletion, water pollution, solid waste pollution, noise pollution, etc. All these problems are the result of human activities. Whatever wrong has been done to the environmental needs to be rectified.

Objectives

1. Environmental deprivation:-

Environmental deprivation is the decrease of the environment through depletion of resources such as air, water, and soil; the destruction of ecosystems; habitat destruction; the extinction of wildlife; and pollution. There are many examples of environmental demoralization throughout the world. A current example is the Amazon burning down. It makes up 60% of all rainforests. It is the earth's lungs and with it getting devastated is posing a huge threat to the environment and the whole world. The effects of deforestation will posture major impacts on the world around us. The cutting down of trees is getting removed from our oxygen supply and the absorption of CO₂. With the continuation of cutting down the trees to a large scale be it forests, we will have less available oxygen in the world which could be a detrimental problem for human health. An alternate issue that results from this is the overconsumption and waste of the paper products that come from those trees. The waste is typically produced does not get recycled; therefore, an immense amount of waste is created. An additional harmful result from this is the degradation of the soil.

2. Causes of environmental demoralization:

- a. Soil, Wind, and Water:
- b. growth of population:
- c. increasing urbanization:
- d. Industrial activity

a. Soil, Wind and Water:- Pollution of earth and water has affected plants, animals and human beings. The quality of soil is the loss of agricultural land. The loss is about five to seven million hectares of land each year. Soil erosion, as a result of wind and water, costs the world deeply. The recurring floods have their peculiar casualties like deforestation, silt in the river bed, inadequate and improper drainage, loss of men and property. The vast oceans, after being turned in to dumping grounds for all nuclear wastes, have poisoned and polluted the whole natural environment.

b. Growth of population:

Population growth means more people to eat and breathe and putting excessive pressure on land and forest, and ultimately disturbing the ecological balance. Our growing population is putting pressure on land, leading to poor quality of productivity, deforestation the loss of forest land so necessary for ecological balance and extinction of wildlife leading to an imbalance in the ecological order, loss of wildlife heritage and ultimately dwindling of several species. The growing population is not only a problem for the natural environment; it is a problem for any other aspect of the environment, say, for example social, economic, political, etc.

c. Increasing urbanization:

Urbanization is a source of pollution, and therefore, a threat to the environment. Urbanization means a maddening race of people from villages to the cities. The net result of urbanization is garbage, disease, and calamity. In a state of growing urbanization, an environmental problem like sanitation, ill-health, housing, water supply, and electricity keep expanding. On the other, environmental degradation is caused in rural life due to the ungoverned collection of firewood, overgrazing, and depletion of other natural resources.

d. Industrial activity: Industrialization coupled with the development of the means of transport and communication has not only polluted the environment but also has led to the shrinking of natural resources. Both ways, the loss is really heavy. The increasing level of heat fluxes, carbon dioxide and particulate, radioactive nuclear wastes and the like create environmental hazards. On the other hand, the consumption of the conventional source of energy leads to the loss of natural resources. We are building a world without caring for future generations.

3. Awareness about Environmental demoralization in the past two decades, the environment has attracted the attention of decision-makers, scientists and even laymen in many parts of the world. They are becoming increasingly conscious of issues such as famines, droughts, floods, scarcity of fuel, firewood and fodder, pollution of air and water, problems of hazardous chemicals and radiation, reduce of natural resources, dying of wildlife and dangers to flora and fauna. People are now aware of the need to protect the natural environmental resources of air, water, soil and plant life that constitute the natural capital on which man depends. The environmental issues are important because the absence of their solutions is more dangerous than finding earth worth not living. The need for the earth and the needs of the human being have become one... There is no denying the fact that the environment has to be protected and conserved so to make future life possible. Indeed, man's needs are raised and as a result, the environment is also being changed, indeed, nature's capacity is too accommodating and too regenerative yet there is a limit to nature's capacity, especially when the pressure of exploding population and technology keep mounting. What are required are the livelihood, security, and improvement of the changing and fragile environment.

4. Sustainable growth :-Sustainable growth is the need of the present time not only for the survival of mankind but also for its future protection. All too often, progress is driven by one special need, without fully considering the wider or future impacts. Unlike the other great revolutions in human history the Green Revolution and the Industrial Revolution the 'sustainable revolution' will have to take place rapidly, consciously and on many different levels and in many different spheres, simultaneously.

Effects of Environment:

1. Natural atmosphere:

2. Financial atmosphere:

3. Political atmosphere:

4. Social atmosphere:

1. Natural atmosphere:

The healthy physical environment is the basic requirement for our economic and social soundness. The need of the hour is that there should not be air, water, and even noise pollution. The refreshing environment will improve the health standard of the people. It will build a sound mind and a sound body. Consequently, health, energetic and efficient working force will add considerably to the production and the productivity of the nation.

2. Financial atmosphere our economic development and growth are also considerably affected by the economic environment. The survival and success of a business enterprise are fully decided by the economic environment and market conditions.

3. Political Environment:

Political environment refers to the influence made by the political institution in an economy. In other words, economic development and growth are also affected by the ideologies, thinking, and policies of the government.

4 Social atmospheres:

The sociological and cultural factors have a considerable influence on the non-economic environment of the country. Balanced and rapid economic growth needs a harmonious social environment. It helps to arouse social consciousness among people. It requires that there must be a peaceful atmosphere in the country. In the case of social disturbances and unrest, all economic activities are stopped. Consequently, economic development suffers very badly. It is thus, greatly influenced by people's attitude, the role of family, religion, and education.

Suggestions to overcome the Problem:

To protect the environment, the following suggestions are given:

(i) General Awareness:

Social Awareness is the most important factor in the conservation and regeneration of environmental resources. It is the need to grow social awareness about the risk of pollution. Social awareness can encourage people to use biogas and solar energy or non-conventional energy instead of fossil fuels. It is also needful how every person can contribute to check this problem.

(ii) Population Control:

If the environment is to be protected it is essential to check population growth.

(iii) Environment Conservation Act:

The Environment (Protection) Act was passed in 1986 in India. Its objective was to check the deterioration in the quality of the environment. This legislative measure should be strictly enforced.

(IV) Industrial and Agricultural Pollution:

Ever since the human being mastered the art of using fire to their advantage, the industrialization of the Earth had begun. It is essential for environmental protection that air and water pollution caused by industrial development should be controlled properly. To avoid agricultural pollution, the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers should be minimized.

(V) Water Management:

Water is polluted more than air. River, Lake Water resources should be made clean. Supply clean drinking water to the rural population.

(VI) Management of Solid Waste:

Planned management of solid waste is very essential. Garbage is used for making compost. Majority of the solid waste is generated by mining and oil and gas production. Refilling of used cold drink bottles. Plastic is recycled to make new packs, soft waxes, greases and adhesives etc.

References:

1. Warner, K.; Hamza, H.; Oliver-Smith, A.; Renaud, F.; Julca, A. (December 2010). "Climate change, environmental degradation, and migration". *Natural Hazards*.55 (3): 689–715. DOI:10.1007/s11069-009-9419-7
2. Bharucha, E (2005) - Textbook of Environmental Studies for undergraduate courses, Universities Press, Hyderabad.
3. Datta, J.K., and Ghosh, A.R (2009) Environment: Issues and Challenges, vol-3, U.G.C. Academic Staff College, Burdwan University.
4. Bal, A.S (2005) - An Introduction to Environmental Management, Himalaya Publishing House.
5. Karpagam, M (2001) – Environmental Economica, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi.
6. <http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com>.
7. <https://futuretreasuretrove.com>
8. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>