

What are the factors responsible for environmental pollution? (5)

① Environmental Pollution:-

The addition of a contaminant in the environment which degrades it and make it unsuitable for plants and living organisms is called environmental pollution.

Our environment includes water, land, and air. So, unwanted change in any of these components is termed as environmental pollution.

② Factors responsible for environmental pollution:-

Following are the factors contributing to environmental pollution:-

(i) Use of fertilizer:-

Excessive agricultural activities to ensure food security of increasing population contributes to environmental pollution. The use of fertilizers results in accumulation of excess nutrients, like nitrogen and phosphorus, in water bodies. This can cause eutrophication which is detrimental for marine life.

(ii) Urbanization:-

Increasing urbanization, either due to movement of people from rural to urban areas or increasing urban population, degrades our environment. To build factories and houses, trees are cut down which are natural carbon sinks. This activity releases a lot of CO_2 in the atmosphere; thus contributing to Global Warming.

(iii) Veicular emissions:-

Toxic chemical coming out of vehicles exhaust degrades quality of air. The oxides of nitrogen plays their role in ozone depletion.



(iv) Inadequate waste management:-

Open dumping of solid waste not only degrades the quality of water but also destroys the aesthetics of land. Open dumping releases toxic chemicals in water bodies. Moreover, it creates foul smell which become a breeding place for rats, flies, and other insects. These all activities are harmful for humans.

(v) Industrial Emissions:-

Industries emit a lot of harmful chemicals in atmosphere including oxides of Sulphur. These oxides give rise to acid rain. Moreover, industries discard different chemicals into nearby water bodies, contributing to water pollution.

