

Pollution control act

Define Pollution

Pollution is the contamination of natural substances such as land, air and water pollution. There is one more type of pollution called noise pollution. Now I will show the causes and the effects of it.

Air Pollution

Air Pollution is the contamination of air.

Causes

Smoking
Industries

The effects of Air pollution are:

Asthma

Increased level of carbon dioxide

Smog (Smoke + Fog=Smog)

Water Pollution

Water pollution is the contamination of water.

Causes

Deforestation
Soil erosion
Acid rains

Effects

Sea animals dying
Fresh water is not available
People are getting diseases

Noise Pollution

Noise pollution is undesirable or unwanted sound.

Causes

Loud noise in houses.
Festival 's noise.
Traffic noise
The low flying of fighter planes.
Railway engines.
Construction.
Industrial Noise

Effects

Deafness
Buildings destroyed
Birds and plants get disturbed

Land Pollution

Land pollution is the contamination of land.

Causes

Throwing of chemical and toxic wastes
Excretion
Local areas have no dust bins
Acid rains

Effects

Plants dying
Infertile land
People having diseases in their nervous systems

Major Pollution Control Acts

- i) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act- 1981.
- ii) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act- 1974.
- iii) The Environment (Protection) Act-1986.

Chronology of Air Pollution Act

1948 – Factories Act and Amendment in 1987 was the first to express concern for the working environment of the workers. The amendment of 1987 has sharpened its environmental focus and expanded its application to hazardous processes.

1981 – Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act provides for the control and abatement of air pollution. It entrusts the power of enforcing this act to the Central Pollution Control Board.

1982 – Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules defines the procedures of the meetings of the Boards and the powers entrusted on them.

Chronology of Air Pollution Act

1982 – Atomic Energy Act deals with the radioactive waste.

1987 – Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Act empowers the central and state pollution boards to meet with grave emergencies of pollution.

1988 – Motor Vehicles Act states that all hazardous waste is to be properly packaged, labeled and transported.

Features of Act

- ★ Ambient Air quality standards established.
- ★ Provides means for Control/ Abatement of Air Pollution.
- ★ Prohibits use of Polluting fuels/substances
- ★ Requires concerted efforts from pollution Control boards for establishing, operating polluting industries.
- ★ Pollution control boards to test air quality, inspect control appliances

Features of Act

- ★ National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) notified – 1994.
- ★ Standards specific to industrial residential rural and other sensitive areas.
- ★ Pollution Control Boards – have powers to deal with grave emergency.
- ★ Given power to recover the cost of control from the offenders.
- ★ In 1998 Salient features of Air Act included in Motor Vehicles Act.
- ★ Supreme Court issued Stringent Euro 1 & Euro 2 norms for car manufacturers.

Preliminary to act

Short title, extent & commencement

Definitions

- "air pollutant" means any solid, liquid or gaseous substance²[including noise] present in the atmosphere in such concentration as may be or tend to be injurious to human beings or other living creatures or plants or property or environment

Central And State Boards

- ★ Central Pollution Control Board
- ★ State Pollution Control Boards constituted under section 4 of Act 6 of 1974 to be State Boards under this Act
- ★ Terms and conditions of service of members
- ★ Constitution of State Boards
- ★ Central Board to exercise the powers and perform the functions of a State Board in the Union Territories
- ★ Vacation of seats by members

Functions of Boards

- ★ - advise the Central Government on any matter concerning the improvement of the quality of air and the prevention, control or abatement of air pollution
- ★ - plan and cause to be executed a nation -wide programme for the prevention, control or abatement of air pollution
- ★ - co-ordinate the activities of the State Boards and resolve disputes among them
- ★ - provide technical assistance and guidance to the State Boards, carry out and sponsor investigations and research relating to problems of air pollution and prevention, control or abatement of air pollution
- ★ - plan and organise the training of persons
- ★ - organise through mass media a comprehensive programme
- ★ - lay down standards for the quality of air
- ★ - collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data relating to air pollution and the measures devised for its effective prevention, control

Prevention and Control of Air Pollution

- ★ Power to declare air pollution control areas
- ★ Power to give instructions for ensuring standards for emission from automobiles
- ★ Restrictions on use of certain industrial plants
- ★ Person carrying on industry, etc. not to allow emission of air pollutants in excess of the standards laid down by State Board
- ★ Power of entry and inspection
- ★ Power to obtain information

Water Act 1974

- ★ The need for legislating the act was felt in the year 1962, it was the same year when Independent India fought its first war with China. A committee was set up in 1962 to draw a draft enactment for the prevention of water pollution.
- ★ The reason for legislating the act was given as “ The problem of pollution of rivers and streams has assumed considerable importance and urgency in recent years as a result of the growth of industries and the increasing tendency to urbanization”.
- ★ The object for legislating the act was given as “ It is, therefore, essential to ensure that the domestic and industrial effluents are not allowed to be discharged into the water courses without adequate treatment as such discharges would render the water unsuitable as sources of drinking water as well as for supporting fish life and for use in irrigation. Pollution of rivers and streams also causes increasing damage to the country’s economy.”

Penalties

- ★ Offences by companies- (18 m/6 Yrs/5000)
- ★ Offences by government departments
- ★ Protection of action taken in good faith
- ★ Reports and returns

The Environment (Protection)Act 1986

- ★To provide the protection and improvement of environment.
- ★In EPA, article 48A, specify that the State shall protect and improve the environment.
- ★Also to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.
- ★Acc. to sec 51(A) every citizen shall protect the environment.
- ★EPA is applicable to whole India, including J&K
- ★With all these objectives the basic objective for the formation of EPA
- ★Was “SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”

Powers Provided by Act to central govt

- ★ To make rules to regulate environmental pollution;
- ★ To notify standards and maximum limits of pollutants of air, water, and soil for various areas and purposes;
- ★ Prohibition and restriction on the handling of hazardous substances, and location of industries (Sections 3-6)

Powers Provided by Act to central govt

- ★ Under Sec (3): may constitute authority or authorities for the purpose of exercising or performing such of the powers and functions;
- ★ Under Sec (4): may appoint a person for inspection;
- ★ Under Sec (5): may issue directions in writing to any officers or any authority to comply;
- ★ Under Sec (6): it empower the government to make rules to achieve the object of the Act.