



Industrial Pollution in Jalna City: Reasons & Remedies

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Introduction:

Industrial development is the backbone of economic progress as it creates jobs, increases production, and improves living standards. It plays a crucial role in modernizing agriculture, building infrastructure, and enhancing trade and commerce. However, along with these benefits, industrialization also brings serious environmental challenges. One of the most alarming issues is the problem of pollution, which has grown rapidly with unchecked industrial growth. Factories emit smoke and harmful gases that cause air pollution and respiratory diseases. Many industries discharge untreated waste into rivers and lakes, resulting in severe water pollution and loss of aquatic life. Solid waste and chemicals dumped on land lead to soil contamination, reducing fertility and harming crops. Industrial noise from machines and vehicles adds to the problem, disturbing both humans and animals. These forms of pollution collectively threaten human health, natural resources, and biodiversity. They also contribute to climate change by releasing greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. If not controlled, industrial pollution can destroy the very foundation of sustainable development. Hence, there is a pressing need to balance growth with environmental care. Adoption of cleaner technologies, recycling methods, and strict laws are vital to reduce the damage. Public awareness and responsible industrial practices can ensure development without destruction. Ultimately, industrial progress must go hand in hand with protecting nature to secure a healthy future.

Jalna City:

Jalna city, known as the “Steel City of Maharashtra,” has emerged as a prominent industrial hub in the Marathwada region. It is famous for its steel re-rolling mills and accounts for a large share of Maharashtra’s steel production. Along with steel, Jalna is



also known for seed industries, with major seed companies operating here. The city's industrial growth is supported by its location on important road and rail routes. Availability of raw material and skilled labor has further boosted industrial activities. Agro-based industries such as dal mills and oil mills also contribute significantly to Jalna's economy. The MIDC area in Jalna hosts several small and medium enterprises. Industrialization has generated employment opportunities for the local population. However, rapid growth has also created challenges of pollution and urban crowding. Overall, Jalna stands as a key center of trade, industry, and economic progress in Maharashtra.

Factors leading to pollution by industries

1. Emission of Toxic Gases

Industries burn fossil fuels and release gases like carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides. These pollutants mix with the atmosphere and reduce air quality. They cause smog formation, respiratory problems, and acid rain. Long-term exposure leads to chronic diseases and global warming.

2. Discharge of Industrial Effluents

Factories often release untreated wastewater into rivers and lakes. This effluent contains chemicals, heavy metals, and dyes. It contaminates drinking water and harms aquatic organisms. Water-borne diseases spread rapidly in polluted areas.

3. Solid Waste Dumping

Industries generate hazardous solid waste such as plastics, ash, and chemicals. Improper disposal contaminates soil and groundwater. Toxic waste also enters the food chain through crops. It results in long-lasting ecological damage.

4. Use of Fossil Fuels

Industrial boilers, furnaces, and power units consume coal and oil. Their combustion emits huge amounts of carbon dioxide. This accelerates climate change and global warming. It also depletes natural fuel reserves.

5. Excessive Use of Chemicals

Industries rely on pesticides, dyes, solvents, and acids. Leakages or careless handling pollute soil and water. These chemicals destroy microorganisms essential for soil fertility. They also cause cancer and genetic disorders in humans.



6. Noise from Heavy Machinery

Industrial machines, engines, and generators create loud noise. Noise pollution leads to stress, hearing loss, and insomnia. It disturbs wildlife and their reproductive cycles. Prolonged exposure weakens human nervous systems.

7. Thermal Pollution

Industries discharge hot water into nearby water bodies. This sudden rise in temperature kills aquatic species. It reduces oxygen levels in water, harming fish. Thermal shocks damage entire aquatic ecosystems.

8. Deforestation for Industrial Expansion

To set up factories, forests are cleared on a large scale. This destroys habitats and reduces biodiversity. It also increases carbon dioxide due to loss of trees. Soil erosion and desertification become long-term effects.

9. Mining and Extraction Activities

Industries dependent on minerals carry out deep mining. This creates dust, toxic gases, and land degradation. Mining effluents pollute rivers and underground water. It leads to health hazards for nearby communities.

10. Plastic and Non-Biodegradable Waste

Factories produce large amounts of plastic packaging and materials. These do not decompose and remain in the environment for centuries. They clog rivers, drains, and harm marine life. Microplastics ultimately enter human food and water systems.

Factors for Industrial Pollution Control

1. Adoption of Clean Technologies

Industries should replace outdated, polluting machines with modern eco-friendly technologies. Cleaner production methods reduce emissions and waste at the source. Automation also helps optimize resource use. This minimizes overall environmental damage.

2. Treatment of Industrial Effluents

Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) must be installed in all factories. They remove harmful chemicals, dyes, and heavy metals from wastewater. Treated water can be reused for gardening or cooling. This reduces water pollution drastically.



3. Use of Renewable Energy Sources

Industries should shift from coal and oil to solar, wind, or biomass. Renewable energy reduces greenhouse gas emissions. It ensures sustainable energy supply without harming nature. Such practices cut down the carbon footprint.

4. Recycling and Reuse of Waste

Solid waste like scrap metal, plastic, and paper must be recycled. This reduces dumping in landfills and saves raw materials. Recycling also generates new business opportunities.

Thus, industries become more resource-efficient.

5. Installation of Air Pollution Control Devices

Factories must use filters, scrubbers, and electrostatic precipitators. These devices trap dust, smoke, and toxic gases. As a result, air quality improves significantly. It prevents respiratory diseases and smog formation.

6. Green Belt Development

Planting trees around factories absorbs carbon dioxide. Green belts act as natural filters for air pollution. They also reduce noise pollution and soil erosion. Industries should allocate space for afforestation.

7. Strict Enforcement of Laws

Government regulations like the Environment Protection Act must be followed. Industries violating norms should face strict penalties. Regular inspections ensure compliance with pollution standards. This creates accountability among factory owners.

8. Waste Minimization Techniques

Industries should adopt “Reduce, Reuse, Recover” principles. By improving efficiency, waste generation can be minimized. Production planning should focus on less raw material use.

This approach lowers pollution and saves costs.

9. Worker and Public Awareness

Training workers about eco-friendly practices improves implementation. Public campaigns encourage industries to act responsibly. Awareness creates pressure for pollution-free production. Thus, society participates in pollution control.



10. Proper Land Use and Zoning

Industries should be located away from residential areas. Industrial clusters must have common waste treatment facilities. Zoning prevents direct impact of pollution on people. It ensures balanced development of cities and industries.

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