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Internal Assessment Test 1 – Sept. 2017

Sub:	AIR POLLUTION AND CONTROL	Sub Code:	10CV765	Branch:	CIVIL
Date:	21-09-17	Duration:	90 min's	Max Marks:	50
				Sem/Sec:	VII
<u>Answer any FIVE FULL Questions</u>					
				MARKS	OBE
					CO RBT
1	Explain the classification of air pollutants in detail.			[10]	CIV710.1 L2
2	Explain photo chemical smog and coal induced smog.			[10]	CIV710.1 L2
3	Briefly explain primary and secondary air pollutants with examples.			[10]	CIV710.1 L2
4	Explain briefly on air pollution episodes of London smog and Bhopal gas tragedy			[10]	CIV710.1 L2
5	Explain the effects of air pollution on plants.			[10]	CIV710.1 L2
6	Explain the effects of air pollution on materials			[10]	CIV710.1 L2

IAT 1 SOLUTION

AIR POLLUTION AND CONTROL (10CV765)

1. Based on origin of pollutants

a. Primary pollutants are those that are emitted from identifiable sources, typical pollutants are particulate matter such as ash, smoke, dust, fumes, mist and spray, inorganic gases such as SO_2 , H_2S , nitric oxide, ammonia, CO , CO_2 , hydrogen fluoride, and also radioactive components.

b. Secondary pollutants are those formed in the atmosphere by chemical reactions between primary pollutants and normal atmospheric constituents. Pollutants such as SO_3 , NO_2 , peroxy acetyl nitrate (PAN), ozone, aldehydes, ketones and various sulphate and nitrate salts are included in this category. Secondary pollutants are formed from the chemical and photochemical reaction in the atmosphere. The reaction mechanisms are influenced by concentration of reactants, the amount of moisture content, degree of photoactivation, Meteorological forces and local photography.

Based on Source

a. Natural sources include wind blown dust, pollen grains, volcanic gas and ash, smoking and trace gases from forest fires.

b. Anthropogenic sources: Power plants, industrial boilers, diesel generators, municipal and industrial incineration refuse.

Based on chemical composition

Organic Compounds- Compounds with Carbon and hydrogen

Eg: Hydrocarbons, Aldehydes, Ketones, Carboxylic acid, Alcohol etc...

Inorganic Compounds- eg: Sulphur oxides, Carbon monoxide, Hydrogen chloride, Nitrogen oxides, Hydrogen fluoride etc

2. PHOTO-CHEMICAL SMOG : Photochemical Smog was first observed in Los Angeles, USA in the Mid 1940's and since then the phenomenon has been detected in most major metropolitan cities of the world. The conditions for the formation of Photochemical Smog are air stagnation, abundant sunlight and high concentration of hydrocarbons and NO_x in the atmosphere. It occurs under adverse Meteorological conditions when the air movement is restricted in highly motorized areas and is caused by the interaction of some hydrocarbons and oxidants under the influence of sunlight giving rise to dangerous PEROXYACETYL NITRATE [PAN]. Its main constituents are NO_x , PANs, hydrocarbons, CO and Ozone. It reduces visibility, causes eye irritation, damage to vegetation and cracking of rubber.

Smog arises from photochemical reactions in the lower atmosphere by the interaction of hydrocarbons and NO_x released by the exhaust of automobiles and some stationary sources. This interaction results in a series of complex reactions producing secondary pollutants such as ozone, aldehydes, ketones and peroxyacetyl Nitrate [PAN].

COAL INDUCED SMOG : Another Form of smog is called industrial smog. This smog is created by burning coal and heavy oil that contains sulphur impurities in power plants, industrial plants, etc. The smog consists mostly of a mixture of SO_2 and Fog. Suspended droplets of H_2SO_4 were formed from SO_2 and a variety of suspended particulate matter. This smog is common during the winter in cities such as London [Dee 1952], Chicago, Pittsburg, when the cities burned large amounts of coal and heavy oil without control over the emissions, large scale problems were witnessed. In 1952, London, 4000 people died as a result of this type of smog. Today heavy oil and coal are burned only in large boilers and with reasonably good control or tall Chimneys so that industrial smog is less of a problem. However come countries such as China, Poland, Czechoslovakia and some other Eastern European countries still burn large quantities of coal without using adequate controlling measures.

3. Based on origin of pollutants

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4. a. London smog:

London, situated in Thames valley, experienced its worst air pollution episode due to fog from December 5 to December 9, 1952. The killer smog began on December 4 as a high pressure area created a subsidence inversion over southern England. A white smog was formed in London area. Because of extensive use of coal (sulphur content 1.5%) as fuel for space heating and electricity production, the particulate and sulphur dioxide levels in the atmosphere increased. The white smog became a black fog. Smoke concentrations during the fog were found to be five times greater than those found at other times. The average concentration of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere during the episode was about six times the usual level. The symptoms were cough, nasal discharge, sore throat, irritation of eyes and bronchi and vomiting. Most of people who died were old and those who had histories of chronic bronchitis, asthma, broncho-pneumonia and other lung or heart disease. This London disaster of 1952 caused 4000 deaths

b. BHOPAL GASTRAGEDY

Modern Technological developments have multiplied the hazards to which human beings are exposed

Nearly 5 million chemicals have been synthesized in the world during the last 40 years and some 50,000 to 70,000 chemicals are used extensively in millions of different commercial products without the availability of proper information on the majority of the chemicals.

On the fateful night on 2-12-1984, and in the early hours of 3-12-1984 more than 1 million residents of Bhopal, capital of M.P. India reported irritation of eyes that quickly became

unbearable, followed by the death dancing in their residences. A cloud of poisonous gas was released from the Union Carbide Factory. The plant was a pesticide manufacturing unit owned by Union Carbide India Ltd, a subsidiary of Union Carbide, a leading company based in the USA. The factory was licensed to produce Methyl Isocyanate (MIC) i.e. CH_3NCO , an extremely hazardous chemical which is used in the manufacture of several pesticides. The carbide plant has three storage tanks for MIC, each capable of holding 45 tonnes. The Union Carbide manual on standard operating procedure warns that if water leaks into the system, it results in the evolution of a lot of gas and liberation of heat. This is precisely what had happened on the fateful day of 2nd December 1984.

5. EFFECTS ON VEGETATION

EFFECT OF AIR POLLUTION ON PLANTS:

The primary factor which controls gas absorption by the leaves is the degree of the opening of the stomata. When the stomata are wide open absorption is maximum and vice versa. Consequently some conditions that enhance the absorption of the gas [CO_2 for photosynthesis] predispose the plant to injury [by absorption of a pollutant like SO_2] conditions that cause the stomata to open are

- 1) High Light intensity [morning hours]
- 2) High relative humidity
- 3) Adequate moisture supply to the roots of the plants.
- 4) Moderate temperatures

LIST OF AIR POLLUTANTS AFFECTING PLANTS

- i) SO_2
- ii) Fluoride compounds
- iii) Ozone
- iv) Chlorine
- v) Hydrogen Chloride
- vi) Nitrogen oxides [NO , NO_2 ,
- vii) Ammonia
- viii) Hydrogen Sulphide
- ix) Hydrogen Cyanide
- x) Mercury
- xi) Ethylene
- xii) PAN
- xiii) Herbicides

FORMS OF DAMAGE TO LEAVES

Damage to leaves takes several forms

- 1) **NECROSIS:** Necrosis is the killing or collapse of tissue.
- 2) **CHLOROSIS** It is a loss or reduction of the green plant pigment [chlorophyll]
The loss of chlorophyll usually results in a pale green or yellow pattern. Chlorosis generally indicates a deficiency of some nutrient required by the plant.
In many respects it is analogous to anaemia in animals.
- 3) **ABSCISSION** Leaf abscission is dropping of leaves.
- 4) **EPINASTY** Leaf epinasty is the downward curvature of a leaf due to high rate of growth on the upper surface.

KINDS OF INJURY TO PLANTS

- 1) **ACUTE INJURY:** It results from short time exposure to relatively high concentrations, such as might occur under fumigation conditions. The effects are noted within a few hours to few days and may result in visible markings on the leaves due to collapse and death of cells. This leads to necrotic patterns i.e. areas of dead tissues.
- 2) **CHRONIC INJURY**: It results from long term low level exposure and usually causes chlorosis (or) leaf abscission.
- 3) **GROWTH OR YIELD RETARDATION:** The injury is in the form of an effect on growth without visible markings [invisible injuries]. Usually a suppression of growth or yield occurs.

EFFECTS OF AIR POLLUTANTS ON PLANTS

POLLUTANT	DOSE	EFFECTS
Sulphurdioxide	a)Mild	Interveinalchloroticbleachingofleaves
	b)Severe	Necrosisin interveinalareasandskeletonizedleaves
Ozone	a)Mild	Flecksonuppersurfaces,prematureagingandsuppressed growth.
	b)Severe	Collapseofleaf,necrosisandbleaching
Fluorides	Cumulativeeffects	Necrosisatleaftip.

6.

EFFECTSONMATERIALSMECHANIS MOFDETERIORATION

Airpollutioncauseddamagetomaterialsby5mechanisms

1. **ABRASION:**Solidparticlesofsufficientsizeandtravellingathighvelocitiescancauseabrasiveaction.
2. **DEPOSITIONANDREMOVAL:**Solidandliquidparticlesdepositedonasurfacemaynotdamagethematerialitselfbutitmayspoilitsappearance
3. **DIRECTCHEMICALATTACK:**Someairpollutantsreactdirectlyandirreversiblywithmaterialstocausedeterioration.
Eg:ThebleachingofmarblebySO₂,tarnishingofsilverbyH₂S,etchingofmetallicsurfacebyanacidmist
4. **INDIRECTCHEMICALATTACK:**Certainmaterialsabsorbssomepollutantsandgetdamagedwhenthepollutantsundergochemicalchanges.
5. **CORROSION:**Theatmosphericdeteriorationofmetalsisbyanelectrochemicalprocessi.e.corrosion.Thisisduetotheactionofairpollutantsfacilitatedbythepresenceofmoisture

FACTORSINFLUENCINGATMOSPHERICDETERIORATION:

1. **MOISTURE:**Thepresenceofmoistureintheatmospheregreatlyhelpstheprocessofcorrosion.IncaseofSO₂andvariousparticulars,therateofcorrosionofmetalswillincreaseasrelativehumidityintheairincreases.
2. **TEMPERATURE:**Affectstherateofchemicalreactionandconsequentlyaffectstherateofdeterioration.
3. **SUNLIGHT:**Inadditiontoproducingdamagingagentssuchasozone,PANthroughseriesofcomplexphotochemicalreactions,sunlightcancausedirectdeteriorationofcertainmaterials.
4. **AIRMOVEMENT:**Winddirectionisanimportantfactortobeconsideredinplaceswheredeteriorationiscausedbypollutantsreleasedfromnearbyfactories.Similarlywindspeedisalsoanimportantfact

or in determining the impact of air pollutants on the receiving surfaces.

AIR POLLUTION DAMAGE TO VARIOUS MATERIALS

MATERIALS	PRINCIPAL AIR POLLUTANTS	EFFECTS
1. Metal	SO ₂ , Acid Gases	Corrosion, loss of metal, spoilage of surface, tarnishing
2. Building Materials	SO ₂ , Acid gases, particulates	Discoloration, leaching
3. Paint	SO ₂ , H ₂ S, Particulates	Discoloration
4. Textiles and Textile dyes	SO ₂ , Acid gases, NO ₂ , ozone	Deterioration, reduced textile strength and fading
5. Rubber	Oxidants, ozone	Cracking, weakening
6. Leather	SO ₂ , acid gases	Disintegration, powdered surface
7. Paper	SO ₂ , acid gases	Embrittlement
8. Ceramics	Acid gases	Change in surface appearance