

SOURCES OF AIR POLLUTANTS:-

(1) **INDUSTRIES**: These use fuels in form of coal and petroleum products to get energy. Their combustion emits varieties of air pollutants such as carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, hydrogen sulphide, hydrocarbons etc. Roasting of sulphide ores of mercury releases mercury vapours. Chemical industries release oxide of various metals in the air. Industries are the major source of pollution because clear from the observation that chamber industrial complex shows six times more pollution in comparison to the rest part of the city.

(2) **MOBILES**: Exhausts of mobile (locomotives, automobiles, aeroplanes etc.) release carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons and lead compounds. On photochemical reactions these produce secondary air pollutants like ozone, PAN and lachrymator. Combustion of each gallon of petrol produce 3 lbs of CO and 15 lbs of nitrogen oxide. Each pound of CO contaminates about 600000 cc of air. Each pound of nitrogen oxide contaminates about 100000 cc of air. The percentage of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons in the gas released by automobile exhaust is about 77.2, 7.7 and 13.7 respectively.

(3) **IONIZING RADIATIONS**: These are emitted during atomic explosion and testing of

nuclear weapons mainly in the form of X-rays, β -rays, γ -rays, neutrons etc.

(4) **RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES**:- When there are very long half life (such as Strontium-90, Cesium-137 about 28 yrs) then they also serve as air pollutants.

(5) **SMOG**:- The accumulation of smoke or fog is called smog. It is more common in industrial areas in the low land areas. Stagnant air causes trapping of smoke for longer period.

(6) **INSECTICIDES**:- Use of various types of these either to drive away or kill the insects in house and farms also causes pollution due to their toxic property.

(7) **BIOLOGICAL POLLUTANTS**:- Air borne pollutants such as bacteria, fungi and pollen grains also serve as sources of pollution.