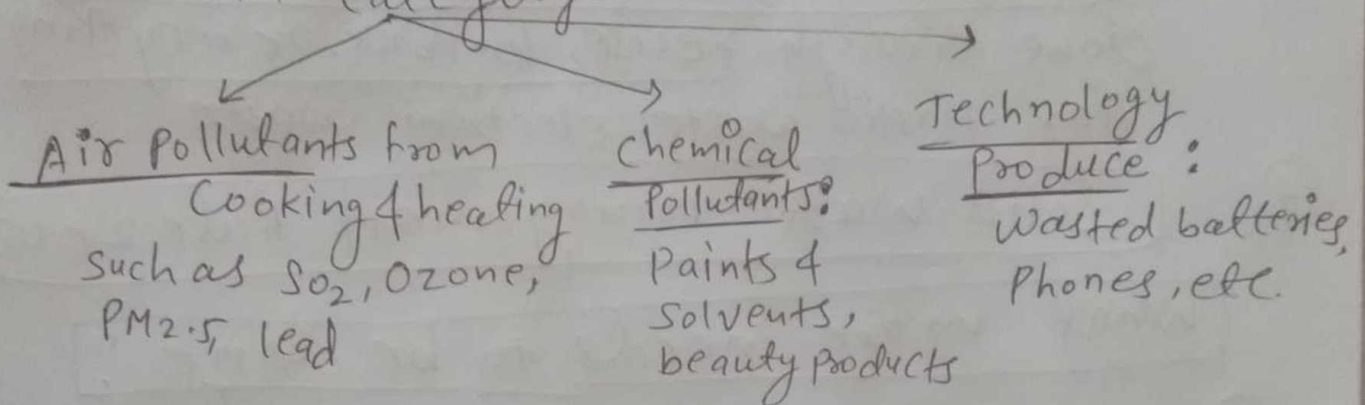


Q. Examine the measures taken by the government of India to handle the household pollution in the country effectively.

26-12-2020

Answer:— Household pollutants are contaminants that are released during the use of various products in daily life. It may fall into three main categories.



Impacts on Environment and Human life:

- ① Economic loss: India loses around \$36.8 billion or nearly 1.4% of 2019 GDP due to air pollution. Increasing air pollution is a significant obstacle for India's target to become a \$5-trillion economy by 2024.
- ② Health: Deaths due to air pollution in India in 2019 were (~1.67 million) of which 0.61 million due to household air pollution. It also decreases life expectancy, increases disease burden, premature deaths in developing world.

Governments initiative :-

- 1) Govt. of India launched National Clean Air Programme in 2019 aiming a 20-30% reduction in PM 2.5 & PM 10 concentration by 2024.
- 2) Unnat Chulha Abhiyan 2014 & the PM Ujjwala Yojana 2016. It helps in curbing household Air pollution.
- 3) Extended Producer responsibility is done through, reuse, buyback, or recycling - for plastic waste, electronic waste
- 4) Solid waste management Rule 2016.

What more needs to be done?

- 1) Fight against household air pollution needs to be intensified as it is large contributor to the overall PM pollution.
- 2) Need to tie taking air pollution with Social justice & alleviating poverty.
- 3) Decentralisation of waste management
- 4) We need to reduce the use of Chemical in cosmetics so that it reduces water pollution & help in marine biodiversity loss (specially coral reefs).
- 5) Need to implement existing policies effectively with coordinating with state & at basic panchayat level.