

Science

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(Chapter 15)(Our Environment)
Class - 10

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Question 1:

Why are some substances biodegradable and some non-biodegradable?

Answer 1:

Some substances which are degraded and broken down into simpler substances by the microorganisms, are called biodegradable substances.

For example: Cotton, wood, paper, wool, etc.

Substance (mainly man-made) that do not degraded or broken down into simpler substances by the action of enzymes secreted by microorganisms are called non-biodegradable substances.

For example: Plastic, polythene, DDT, etc.

Question 2:

Give any two ways in which biodegradable substances would affect the environment.

Answer 2:

- During decomposition process of biodegradable substances foul smell and some harmful gases are released which make problem for the nearby living person.
- During decomposition it provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes, insects and microbes responsible for diseases like cholera, diarrhoea, etc.

Question 3:

Give any two ways in which non-biodegradable substances would affect the environment.

Answer 3:

- Chemicals like BHC and DDT induce carcinoma (muscle cancer) and growth of tumours.
- Handling of waste materials may cause skin, respiratory and intestinal infections.
- Non-biodegradable substances do not decompose easily so it produces land and water pollution.