

Discussion

Pollution Problems of The Philippines

Environmental Pollution is a global phenomenon and it is man-made. It knows no national boundaries and it is more intense in developed countries. These countries have prudently alerted themselves to the dangers of a ravaged environment and their governments are now taking steps to protect their people and their environment from being exposed further to such dangers.

The Philippines can consider itself more fortunate in this regard and its recognition of this problem is therefore very timely.

The adoption of a national policy which will guide the country in its efforts to bring about social and economic development through environmental planning and control is therefore in order.

Pollution Problems Today

Environmental pollution is a by-product of industrialization, urbanization and rapid population growth.

While industrialization boosts the economy of

the country, it produces as by-products toxic liquid wastes that eventually find its way to our rivers and coastal waters and cause pollution. Toxic gases, fumes and particulates are likewise emitted into the atmosphere which can cause harm to human, plants and even physical property.

The industries that contribute to the pollution of the environment are cement plants, chemical and fertilizer plants, textile mills, distilleries, wood processing plants, pulp and paper mills, desiccated coconut processing plants, soap and detergent plants, refineries, ocean vessels, and boats, gasoline stations, etc.

Likewise domestic sewage contribute greatly to the pollution of our rivers and coastal waters. This is primarily due to the fact that cities and urban communities are not provided with sewerage systems.

Tomorrows quality of our environment will depends on how we direct our present efforts to control pollution. Let us not wait for that doomsday to come. The time to plan and act to preserve our natural environment for man's survival is now