

## Greenhouse effect

The greenhouse effect is a natural process that warms the Earth's surface. When the Sun's energy reaches the Earth's atmosphere, some of it is reflected back to space and the rest of it ~~reflected~~ is absorbed and re-radiated by greenhouse gases... The absorbed energy warms the atmosphere and the surface of the Earth.

## Consequences

- 1) Flooding in coastal cities
- 2) Increasing no. of draughts
- 3) Food shortage
- 4) Devastating hurricanes
- 5) Temperature rises

## Global Warming

We know that carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) is one of the components of air. It is used by plants to prepare their food through photosynthesis. Carbon dioxide itself is not a pollutant. But if there is an excess of  $\text{CO}_2$  in the air, it acts as a pollutant.

The content of  $\text{CO}_2$  in the air is increasing day-by-day because of the increasing number of automobiles. Deforestation leads to an increase in the amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  in the air because the number of trees which consume  $\text{CO}_2$  is reduced.

Human activities, thus, contribute to the accumulation of  $\text{CO}_2$  in the atmosphere.

Excess  $\text{CO}_2$  in the atmosphere traps the



heat of the and does not allow it to escape into space. As a result of this, the average temperature of earth's surface is gradually increasing. This unnatural increase in the temperature of earth's atmosphere is called Global Warming.

### Consequences

- 1) More frequent and severe weather. Higher temperature and worsening many types of disasters, including storms, heat waves, floods, and droughts, etc.
- 2) Higher death rates
- 3) Dirtier air
- 4) Higher wildlife extinction rates
- 5) More acidic oceans
- 6) Higher sea levels.