DANGEROUS MAN-MADE OBJECTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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Human has seriously affected the natural part of the environment over the past century. Regular emissions of pollutants from industrial enterprises are considered to be the main causes of anthropogenic negative impact on nature. But even the most harmful emissions are nothing compared to the consequences caused by technological disasters which might occur at huge and dangerous man-made facilities.

In many countries, the danger of a man-made object is determined by the degree of danger and the amount of stored substance within the object. Based on the above-mentioned factor, certain environmental safety measures are applied on the premises of the object and outside it. But the danger of some objects is so great that it is impossible to completely protect both the population and the natural environment.

There are some cases of disasters that have affected the whole world. These disasters have altered natural and socio-economic environments, and changed the approach and attitude toward the objects they happened at. The emergency situation, which turned into a catastrophe for the whole world, was traced at nuclear power plants: Chernobyl (USSR, now the territory of Ukraine), Fukushima (Japan), Three Mile Island (USA); and at chemical, gas and oil production facilities: Seveso (Italy), Horizon Oil platform (Gulf of Mexico), Bhopal (India). And the bigger the disasters, the more they attract attention making people realize the potential threats they can pose on human communities and nature as a whole. To prevent future catastrophes, some countries are abandoning a number of industries; others are introducing strict environmental legislation regulating the activities of hazardous man-made facilities.

By observing and eliminating the consequences of disasters that have occurred, as well as regular emissions, scientists will come to more precise solutions that can help manage technological hazards more effectively and avoid serious environmental pollution in future.