Harmful effects of air pollution;-

Others include headaches, nausea, and allergic reactions. Short-term air pollution can aggravate the medical conditions of individuals with asthma and emphysema. Long-term health effects can include chronic respiratory disease, lung cancer, heart disease, and even damage to the brain, nerves, liver, or kidneys.

Prevention And Control of Air Pollution:

Different techniques are used for controlling air pollution caused by 'gaseous pollutants' and that caused by 'particulate pollutants'.

- **Methods of controlling gaseous pollutants:**
  
The air pollution caused by gaseous pollutants like hydrocarbons, sulphur dioxide, ammonia, carbon monoxide, etc can be controlled by using three different methods: Combustion, Absorption and Adsorption.
  
  1. **Combustion:**
     
     This technique is applied when the pollutants are organic gases or vapours. The organic air pollutants are subjected to 'flame combustion or catalytic combustion' when they are converted to less harmful product carbon dioxide and a harmless product water.
  
  2. **Absorption:**
     
     In this method, the polluted air containing gaseous pollutants is passed through a scrubber containing a suitable liquid absorbent. The liquid absorbs the harmful gaseous pollutants present in air.
  
  3. **Adsorption:**
     
     In this method, the polluted air is passed through porous solid adsorbents kept in suitable containers. The gaseous pollutants are adsorbed at the surface of the porous solid and clean air passes through.

- **Methods of controlling particulate emissions:**

  The air pollution caused by particulate matter like dust, soot, ash, etc, can be controlled by using fabric filters, wet scrubbers, electrostatic precipitators and certain mechanical devices.

  1. **Mechanical Devices:**
     
     It works on the basis of following:

     - **Gravity:**
       
       In this process, the particulate settle down by the action of gravitational force and get removed.
     
     - **Sudden change in the direction of air flow:**
       
       It brings about separation of particles due to greater momentum.

  2. **Fabric Filters:**
     
     The particulate matter is passed through a porous medium made of woven or filled fabrics.