

# Beijing

Business



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Almost all major industrial cities of the world made environmental errors and as a result have to pay for that damage. Beijing being one of the latest industrial power houses of the world faces a lot of environmental problems. The main environmental issues crippling the city of Beijing lately are air and water pollution, heavy traffic and high population density (Broudehoux, 2007). Air pollution is considered the greatest environmental problem facing the city of Beijing. Air pollution which results from industrial and vehicle emissions is crippling the social fabric of the nation with health sectors already feeling the effects.

The Ministry of Health of China, for instance, has ranked cancer resulting from pollution as the number one cause of Chinese deaths lately. Many deaths continue to be reported every year as a result of ambient air pollution alone. There is no doubt that air pollution in China is real and needs appropriate global solution since its implications are of global concern. Hence, pollution in Beijing is not only limited to air pollution as water pollution has been also one of the major environmental problems. It is reported that a whopping five hundred million Chinese lack access to safe drinking water, with Beijing taking a significant proportion (Broudehoux, 2007). Traffic jam in Beijing is continually escalating to unprecedented levels.

Lately, people take a lot of time to reach their work stations than before, something that does not auger well for a city that is one of the world`s greatest. Traffic jam in Beijing is due to a series of factors. First, the bumping economic growth of the country has created a pool of capital for city dwellers to afford cars. This has led to unprecedented increase in the number of

automobiles in the city, more so, private cars. Another reason for traffic jam in the city is rapid urbanization. Being the leading city of the country, Beijing has suffered the tragedy of rapid urbanization with people moving from the upcountry to Beijing, and others moving from other parts of the world to make a fortune there (Broudehoux, 2007).

Another striking environmental issue that is of concern to the city of Beijing is the high population density. Beijing's population is the second largest after Shanghai. In 2010, the population of the city was estimated to be twenty million. The implications of such enormous population are dire and require stringent planning. The high population density in the city has contributed to inefficiencies like heavy traffic jams, inadequacy in safe drinking water and pressure on accommodation (Broudehoux, 2007).