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GROUNDWATER FLUORIDE CONTENT AND WATER QUALITY IN NEEM KA THANA TEHSIL OF SIKAR DISTRICT (RAJASTHAN)

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ABSTRACT

In the present study, *Neem ka Thana, Tehsil* of Sikar district was selected as a study area. Water samples were collected and analysed for physico - chemical characteristics of ground water. It was observed that fluoride concentration range from 0.80 ppm to 10.50 ppm, pH from 7.3 to 8.9, electrical conductivity from 2500 mmhos/cm to 5040 mmhos/cm, calcium hardness from 51-360mg/L, total hardness from 95 to 520mg/L, alkalinity from 70-530mg/L, chloride from 196-840mg/L and TDS from 1780 to 3290 mg/L in the study area.

Keywords: *Fluoride, Fluorosis, Neem Ka Thana.*

INTRODUCTION

Fluoride is an element of halogen family found in nature as fluoride. Human beings are exposed to inorganic fluoride through water (mainly) and food. Small amount of fluoride (0.50-1.00 ppm) in drinking water is helpful in prevention of dental caries and in treatment of osteoporosis. Higher fluoride quantity causes fluorosis (dental, skeletal and non - skeletal) along with many neurological implications (WHO, 1984; 1996; Samal and Naik, 1986; Stanley *et al.*, 1997; Ashutosh *et al.*, 2006) In Rajasthan, groundwater is characterised by comparatively high concentration of fluoride ions. 22 districts out of 32 are presently consuming water contaminated with fluoride (Gupta, 1991 and Sharma *et al.*, 2005). The potable water should be free from pathogenic agents and chemical constituents, pleasant to taste and usable for domestic purposes. Water pollution is the contamination of water bodies such as river, lakes and ground water by human activities (Saini *et al.*, 2006). In the present study, water sample were collected from 25 villages of Neem ka thana Tehsil, district Sikar and analysed for physico - chemical characteristics.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample Collection

Groundwater sample were randomly and periodically collected in pre cleaned poly ethylene bottles from 25 villages of Neem ka Thana tehsil (Sikar district) of Rajasthan as given in Table 1. Total 125 water samples (5 samples per villages) were collected in pre cleaned poly ethylene bottles and brought to the laboratory for analysis, using standard techniques for physico-chemical parameters.

Physico - chemical analysis were conducted for Physico - chemical parameters like pH, Electrical conductivity, TDS (Total Dissolved Solid), Total hardness, Calcium Hardness, Chloride and alkalinity were determined with water testing kit (APHA prescribed) (model 161 E) as per standard methods given in APHA, (2005).

Fluoride concentration was determined with the help of selective ion meter 9 mettler Toledo MA 235 pH /ion Analyzer) standard procedure for determining the fluoride followed (APHA, 2005). Total ionic strength adjustment Buffer (TISAB) was used to maintain a suitable ionic strength and also to avoid complex formation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analytical results of different samples collected from the study area (25 villages) of Neem ka thana Tehsil are given in Table 1. Results reveal that pH ranges from 7.3 to 8.9 and pH of water samples remain within the permissible limit i.e. is 6.9 to 9.2. Minimum pH (7.3) was found in Jhilo village and maximum pH

Research Article

(8.9) was found in Thikaria village. A positive correlation has been seen between pH and fluoride. Total samples showed electrical conductivity more than permissible limit ranging from 2500 to 5040 mmhos/cm (Table 1). Calcium Hardness range from minimum of 51mg/L in Thikaria village to 360 mg/L in Jhilo village. 5% villages are having lower concentration and 5% villages are having total hardness more than permissible limit. Alkalinity of villages ranged from 70 mg/L to 530 mg/L against to 200 mg/L. As permissible limit suggested by WHO, 15% of samples possessed lower concentration of alkalinity, 60% samples fulfil WHO standard and 25% higher concentration of alkalinity. Chloride concentration varied from 196 mg/L in Dhani Neemkali to 840 mg/L in Thikaria village. 50% of sample possessed chlorides within the range of WHO standards where as 50% showed excess of WHO standard. In the study area concentration of fluoride ranged from 0.80ppm to 10.50ppm out of 25 villages. 10 villages showed fluoride concentration in water between 0.80 – 5 ppm, 14 villages between 5.0 ppm – 10 ppm and one village having concentration 10.50ppm.

Table 1: Chemical analysis of groundwater of Neem ka Thana, Sikar, (Raj.)

S. No.	Name of village	pH	Electrical conductivity (mmhos/cm)	TDS (mg/L)	Alkalinity (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	Total hardness (mg/L)	Calcium hardness (mg/L) as CaCO_3	Fluoride ppm
1	Puchala wali	7.5± 0.47	2998±0.16	1820±3.46	185±6.10	710±4.61	125±4.60	100±5.26	3.80±0.33
2	Nijhara	7.4 ± 0.15	2710±0.60	2015±5.02	130±5.52	202±2.82	135±6.34	210±5.65	5.50±0.16
3	Thikaria	8.92± 0.09	4800±0.028	1920±4.21	530±6.55	840±5.06	95±5.12	51±6.05	10.50±0.13
4	Aagwadi	7.5 ±0.30	5040±0.58	2089±4.77	105±5.49	695±5.24	98±4.76	310±6.22	4.60±0.08
5	Dhani aghran	7.9± 0.15	3510±7.59	3290±6.05	510±8.24	590±6.61	185±4.02	295±5.93	6.10±0.15
6	Basri khurd	8.1 ±0.18	4220±7.52	2115±4.30	385±6.02	245±4.26	478±4.97	290±6.34	7.10±0.54
7	Nai kothi	8.4± 0.30	3989±4.24	2515±5.02	159±4.39	785±4.50	350±7.09	300±7.79	8.88±0.46
8	Puranabas	7.9± 0.32	3515±5.01	1890±4.94	220±5.76	675±4.72	510±6.83	199±7.56	3.95±0.13
9	Godawas	7.8± 0.27	3210±5.65	2220±7.70	315±5.52	205±5.50	280±4.43	198±2.86	8.98±0.05
10	Maonda kala	7.4± 0.26	3005±3.56	2435±4.15	90±5.06	660±7.46	295±4.32	215±6.05	4.80±0.29
11	Dhani baniyala	7.8± 0.27	2819±5.43	2660±7.98	425±5.52	815±6.12	405±3.89	185±8.44	4.10±0.28
12	Dhani neem kali	8.2±0.25	3890±2.44	1990±6.06	310±8.09	196±5.16	302±22.94	350±4.30	9.10±0.06
13	Rupawas	8.1±0.27	2500±6.85	2775±7.01	120±5.80	798±54.96.83	99±5.12	305±4.72	7.50±0.19
14	Dabala	8.4± 0.3	4280±4.66	1780±5.52	75±3.34	705±	198±3.03	290±5.12	7.98±0.12
15	Badiya mod	8.3±0.22	4178±2.40	3055±5.01	70±6.61	210±5.11	229±5.26	275±6.73	7.15±0.07
16	Neem ka thana	7.8 ± 0.18	2610±6.06	3125±4.97	315±4.50	598±41.27	370±5.59	320±6.18	3.95±0.08

Research Article

17	Bharamod	8.05 ±0.24	4098±4.72	2910±6 .14	95±4.5 0	515±20. 73	415±7.21	280±7.40	6.95±0.08
18	Jhamrala	8.2±0.25	4013±3.27	2895±4 .76	189±3. 57	205±5.2 2	119±4.72	288±5.02	2.90±0.09
19	Jhilo	7.3±0.18	3115±4.43	1790±5 .31	199±5. 89	635±5.9 3	520±4.87	360±5.35	0.80±0.08
20	Raipur	7.6±0.15	2688±3.89	1885±7 .46	225±4. 70	650±10. 87	258±5.35	290±7.42	2.50±0.11
21	Noyorana kothi	7.5±0.33	2810±6.55	2120±7 .25	289±2. 24	201±3.5 0	166±3.89	259±4.26	6.55±0.14
22	Dhandhela	7.7±0.30	3185±6.30	2215±1 0.45	218±4. 72	208±6.0 9	415±7.46	179±4.08	8.15±0.11
23	Bharala	8.2±0.08	4001±7.21	1985±1 0.40	258±22 .69	492±3.9 3	150±5.67	195±4.66	9.50±0.21
24	Patan	7.5±0.02	3310±42.1 1	2005±5 .22	315±4. 91	210±6.1 4	105±7.33	315±5.54	6.90±0.22
25	Bhudoli	8.10±0.1 6	3200±4.14	1990±6 .30	296±6. 41	201±9.2 3	321±4.65	226±5.68	5.45±0.08

Average ± SD

Table 2: BIS Standards of permissible and excessive limits of various parameters

S. No.	PARAMETERS	P	E
1	PH	6.5	8.5
2	TDS	500	2000
3	ALKALINITY	200	600
4	FLUORIDE	0.5	1.5
5	CHLORIDE	250	1000
6	CALCIUM	75	200

P=permissible E= excessive

Table 3: Showing WHO and USPH Standards of Drinking water

Parameters	WHO	USPH
Fluoride(mg/L)	1-1.5	1.5
PH	6.9-9.2	-
E.C.(mmho/cm)	-	300
TDS(mg/L)	500-1500	-
Total hardness(mg/L)	100-500	-
Ca-hardness(mg/L)	75-200	-
Chloride(mg/L)	200-600	250
Alkalinity(mg/L)	200	-

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Research Article

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