

Analysis of Various Physico-Chemical Factors of Gang Canal Near Sri Ganganagar (Rajasthan)

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Abstract - The present study describes the water quality of Gang Canal near Sri Ganganagar city. The result of this study efforts were made to evaluate the chemical characteristics of Gang canal. The Water samples were analyzed for pH, hardness, and dissolved O, which are essential parameters for human and animal consumption. The average value of Hardness is 150 mg/l which indicates that it is slightly hard water. The value of Do is 10.8 which represent good concentration in water for respiration needed by living organisms. The average value of pH recorded in Gang canal is 8.5 which decides that water is basic in nature. So we concluded that Gang Canal water is suitable for agriculture and fish production.

Keyword - Hardness, pH, Water, Agriculture, D.O

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INTRODUCTION

Civilization arose along the banks of the rivers, lakes and coastal stretches where the food security and water security were assured. The rivers and streams are the major features on any landscape. River streams & canal that flow over a sloping surface in a definite direction constitute the lotic system in a fresh water environment. During the 20th century, scientific and technological advancement coupled with population explosion and change in life style has resulted in exerting enormous pressure on natural ecosystem and resources. With increasing population and economic development the water requirements grew rapidly and storage reservoirs then became the most effective tools for eliminating the discrepancies of water availability in time and space. In the present day the reservoirs are used for multipurpose like flood control, generation of hydro electricity, drinking water supply irrigations, fishery and many more uses. Irrigation is a major purpose for building up dams. A complicated network of supply of channels is laid-out from the dam to the surrounding area depending on the amount of water available. The canal thus is akin to the river emanating from lakes. The contribution to the maintenance of depth and basin structure of the lake by removing the suspended load. Characteristics required for irrigation water are also specific. The irrigation water often brings in logging, salinity and alkalinity problems. It is, therefore, very important to know the quality of irrigation water so as to gauge the possible effects of this water on the soil. The chemical characteristics of irrigation water are more or less those required for fishery waters.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The study area (Gang Canal) is located in the district Ganganagar in the desert north western part of the state of Rajasthan (Lat 29° - 08' to 30° - 12' longitude 73° - 05' to 73° - 58') The canal system is brought to this region from Punjab and at present irrigates extensive tracts of this otherwise desert region. The Ganga Canal brought from the river Satluj is the precursor of the present Indira Gandhi Canal. This Gang Canal was built by Maharaja Ganga Singh of the erstwhile princely State of Bikaner in the year 1927. The canal flows almost throughout the year carrying water to these inhabitants of the area for their domestic and agricultural use. The morphometric features of Gang Canal are given in the table.

Morphometric features of Gang Canal

Latitude 29° - 08' to 30° - 12' Longitude 73° - 05' to 73° - 58' Attitude 550 m (above mean sea level) Total length of Gang Canal (Bikaner Canal) 129 Km. (all lined) Length of Gang Canal feeder 73 Km (all unlined) Width (of Gang Canal feeder) 90 ft. Full Supply depth of Gang Canal feeder 7 Ft. Full Supply discharge of Gang Canal feeder 1450 cusec.

REAGENTS AND STANDARD

Analytical reagent grade were used throughout the study without any further purification. To prepare all the reagents and calibrations standards desirable glass distilled water was used. The metal standards,

double glass distilled water was used. The metal standards were prepared from stock solution of 1000mg/l by successive dilution with ultra pure water. Deionised water was used throughout the study. The glassware were washed with nitric acid (1:5) followed by several portions to distilled water. All the experiments were carried out in duplication.

WATER SAMPLING

Water samples were collected in pre-cleaned and sterilized polyethylene bottles of one liter capacity. The sampling was done between 9-11 am and water sample were collected from middle of the canal. The samples were taken by holding the bottle at the bottom to avoid any contamination. The samples were brought to the laboratory and immediately tested for dissolved O₂ and B.O.D. Other selected parameters were measured within 6-12 hrs of collection of samples. The sampling was done two times from the same site each after one fortnight interval. The pH, total hardness, total alkalinity, chloride, dissolved oxygen, B.O.D. (biological oxygen demand), and free CO₂ of water samples was analyzed by following standards.

Table 1: Various Physico-chemical parameters

S.No	Month	Parameters								
		PH	DO	CO ₂	Hardness	Alkalinity	Chloride	BOD	Acidity	TDS
1	August	8.18	2.1	6	178	28	36.4	10.12	25	320
2	September-I	8.27	3.2	8	124	50	15.62	3.04	20	260
3	September-II	8.18	9.6	10	146	84	15.62	8.76	15	280
4	October-I	8.55	8.8	8	144	84	35.5	8	20	880
5	October-II	8.62	10.8	10	194	64	26.9	9.84	20	680
6	November	8.2	5.6	4	128	68	18.46	5.16	40	300
7	December-I	8.68	10.4	8	114	60	25.56	9.52	45	230
8	December-II	8.44	14	12	114	54	18.46	1.95	45	280
9	January	8.6	11.8	14	108	52	32.66	3.8	30	240

RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

The chemical nature of running water varies from region to region. In these variations, there is always a reflection of the local geography and climate. The biota of the water also exerts selective effect on many dissolved substances. Given below is the discussion of the chemical structure of the Gang Canal in relation to the similar studies elsewhere in the world.

pH

Drusilla et al (2004) have recorded pH from 7.15 - 3.0 in courtlum (Tamil Nadu). In present study High value of pH is recorded in winter (Dec) 8.68 and lower in monsoon - 8.18. The lower value of pH during July may be attributed to heavy rainfall during the month. It is clear from the observation that the season had a great influence on Ph. The pH showed a direct relationship with alkalinity.

TDS

TDS consists of diff. kinds of nutrients and minerals. High concentration of dissolved solids of irrigation water increases the salinity of soil. The pollution has direct relationship Dissolved solids. In present study maximum value was recorded in Monsoon 320 mg/l (Aug) and minimum value was recorded in Winter -230 mg/l (Dec.). High value in Monsoon was due to high turbidity and high value of Sediment loads. Sunpriya et al (2010) have recorded TDS from 72-169 in river Kuakhai (Odisha).

Chlorinity

There is a direct correlation b/w chloride concentration and pollution chloride is present in fresh water and in high abundance in all marine and coastal waters. In Gang Canal, High value of chlorinity occur in summer i.e. 36.40 (July), which can be attributed to consequent decrease in volume of water, due to the camel intake, bathing, and mixing of cattle excreta.

Low value in Rainy Season (September) 15.62 mg/l. Decrease in concentration of chloride in rainy season might have been caused by the dilution due to rain.

BOD

BOD is the measure of the amount of oxygen, required by bacteria and other micro-organisms while stabilizing decomposable organic matter. High value of BOD indicates the organic pollution. In Present study Maximum value 10.12 mg/l of BOD is reported in monsoon (Aug.). Minimum value of BOD is 1.95 mg/l in winter (Dec.). Due to increase in Bacterial growth, O₂ demand increases, organic matter increases in rainy season.

Hardness

Hardness is mainly due to (P) of carbonates and bicarbonates of Ca and Mg ions. In present study lowest value of Hardness obtained in January (108 mg/l) and highest value of hardness is obtained in August (198 mg/l). This is attributed to high temperature and low water level and addition of Mg & Casalts from detergents and soaps used for clothes washing by surrounding villages. Ikbal Hussain et al (2004) have recorded Total Hardness from 690-1940 in river Kothari (Rajasthan)

Dissolved Oxygen (D.O.)

The dissolved oxygen is one of the important parameter in water-quality assessment. Cold water holds more oxygen, than warm and salty water. DO have been fundamental requirement of life for plants and animal population in every water body. In present study, Minimum Value was recorded in August month (2.1 mg/l). This is due to impart of turbid water. Maximum value of DO was recorded (11.8 mg/l in January. This was due to moderate temperature and Productivity.

Total Alkalinity

Maximum value of total alkalinity was recorded in October month (84 mg/l) due to increased rate of decomposition and minimum value was recorded in August 28 mg/l. This is due to rain causing dilution of water. Ghosh and Sharma et al (1988) reported maximum alkalinity as 210 mg/l. in river, Ganga.

CONCLUSION

From the above analysis, it was found that in the water sample taken from the Gang Canal of Sri Ganganagar city of Rajasthan; all the parameters show more or less fluctuations during different seasons of the year. The outcome average value of Hardness, dissolved oxygen and pH showed that Gang Canal water is suitable for agriculture and fish production.

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