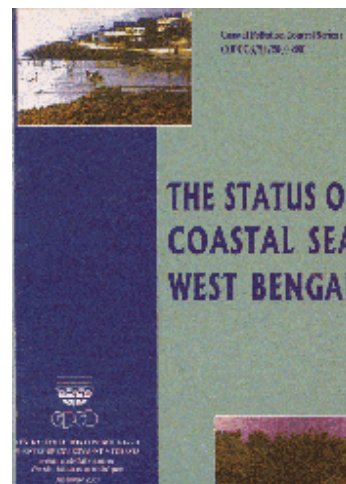


List of Publications



The state of Coastal Sea West Bengal Foreword

For monitoring the health of the sea, a scheme on the Coastal Monitoring and Prediction System (COMPAS) has been sponsored by the Department of Ocean Development (DOD), Government of India. This scheme, through the Central Pollution Control Board, through its Zonal Office at Calcutta, is involved in monitoring the coastal sea of West Bengal. This document is the outcome of the work carried out by the Zonal Office at Calcutta for the last ten years. The data collected so far indicate that this coastal stretch carries a substantial quantity of suspended solids throughout the year. This has adversely affected the primary production, especially at the Hugli river mouth. The metals monitored in the sediments such as mercury and cadmium were found in varying concentrations. The Pollution Load Index derived for the metals in the sediment was found to be less than 2, which indicates that the coastal sediment of West Bengal is relatively less polluted as compared to other regions of the country in terms of metal contamination.



Sedentary animals like mussels and clams, which are sentinel organisms for coastal water quality, were also analysed for their metal content.

The work was carried out by a team of my colleagues including B.R. Naidu, Dr. A. B. Bhunia, Dr. D. P. Mukhopadhyay and Shri V. K. I hope, this document will be useful for research organisations, universities and planners, who are involved in the planning and management of the coastal environment.

Dilip Biswas
Chairman, CPCB