

List of Publications



Rationalization and Optimization of Water Quality Monitoring Network Foreword

Water Quality Monitoring is an important pre-requisite for water quality management. It helps us to know the nature and extent of pollution to which a particular water body is subjected to, and remedial measures required to restore it. CPCB initiated the water quality monitoring programme in 1976-77 with 18 stations on Yamuna river. The programme was gradually extended based on the available resources and existing water quality problems. Although, the monitoring network adequately covered the surface water resources of the country, the groundwater quality was not emphasised in the existing network. Specific pollutants like heavy metals, pesticides, industrial pollutants which were not so important in the past, are becoming more and more important in certain pockets of the country. Monitoring of such pollutants is hence a necessity. It is also important to optimise the frequency of sampling to minimise the expenditure and maximise the information on water quality.



A review exercise was undertaken in consultation with respective State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees. The review was in respect of sampling locations, frequency of monitoring, parameters, cost of analysis etc. and guidelines for Water Quality Monitoring. Based on the review, the monitoring programme has reoriented to yield more information on water quality with insignificant increase in financial burden.

We hope, this manual will be useful to all concerned with surface water quality evaluation and management.

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