

List of Publications



Water Quality Monitoring - an Indian Experience Foreword

The present volume is the fifteenth publication of the series (ADSORBS) on assessment and development study of river basins in India undertaken (by the Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution). It is devoted to the study of the current status of pollution in the Subarnarekha basin.

Though the Subarnarekha basin is the smallest of the 14 major river basins of India draining an area of 19,296 square kilometres and covering hardly 0.6 percent of India's land surface, yet it is an important inter-State river flowing through one of the most important industrial belt and mineral-rich areas of India. The basin therefore needs careful environmental management planning.

Having completed the study of the Ganga basin in three volumes, the Center for Study of Man and Environment was commissioned for the



present between different aspects of economic activities within the basin and the resultant water quality in the Subarnarekha river. The Subarnarekha and its major tributaries have been classified into segments on the basis of designated best use of the stream water, thereby laying down the current minimum levels of water quality requirements for different stream segments. The Subarnarekha in its upper and middle sections is now highly polluted, as has been observed in this study based on the water quality data collected by the Bihar State Pollution Control Board. Finally, an action programme has been suggested here integrating water resource plan and water quality management within the Subarnarekha basin.

The data base for socio-economic information incorporated in this volume generally relates to 1981 situation. The stream water quality data used here, however, concern a longer period from 1979 to 1985. It is obvious that preparation of a comprehensive report like the present one requires cooperation of different Central and State Government organizations and relevant statutory bodies. In this regard, the Central Board recognizes the cooperation received from the State Pollution Control Board of Bihar in particular as also from those of Orissa and West Bengal.

The Center for Study of Man and Environment was entrusted with the difficult task of collection of information from the States, analysis of the data, and final preparation of the report along with the drafting and preparation of the multicoloured maps appended with this volume. The Center saw through the final printing of the report as well. The Central Board acknowledges the service thus rendered by the Center for Study of Man and Environment, particularly by Shri S. P. Das Gupta (Editor and Chief Coordinator), Professor A. K. Saha and Shri A. B. Biswas of the Center.

This report has been prepared in the hope that the recommendations and action plan put forward here would go a long way to help set up a suitable environment management authority for ecological development and pollution abatement in the Subarnarekha basin.

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