

ANALYSIS OF HEAVY METALS IN EFFLUENT AND SOIL FROM RANIPET DISTRICT, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The present study was focussed about the analysis of selected heavy metal in the five sampling stations from the Ranipet district. Effluent and soil (surface:<30cm and deep: >30cm) samples are collected from all the stations (TCC limited, Emerald Nagar, Puliyanaganu lake, Puliyanaganu and Karai SRP nagar). By acid digestion method, the heavy metal composition of the samples were analysed. Among the five stations, effluent chromium levels found high in Puliyanaganu (S4) whereas high incidence of surface and deep soil Cr levels observed as 990.28 ± 121.3 and 1685.47 ± 221.6 mg/Kg respectively. Our results evidenced that the heavy metal levels in the tested sampling stations were above the permissible limits.

KEY WORDS : Heavy metals, Ranipet, Effluent, Surface soil

INTRODUCTION

Many Asian countries are rapidly increasing their industrial sector for the enrichment of urban society which eventually develop a serious challenge to the environmental sustainability (Chhonkar *et al.*, 200b). In this industrial era, the aquatic ecosystems (fresh

and marine) are considered as the ultimate sink of the various domestic and industrial effluents. Release of heavy metals, charged ionic particles and pathogens into the water system pose a serious threat to the life forms in both aquatic and terrestrial (Yadav *et al.*, 2005).

Figure 1 showed the summary of the heavy metal

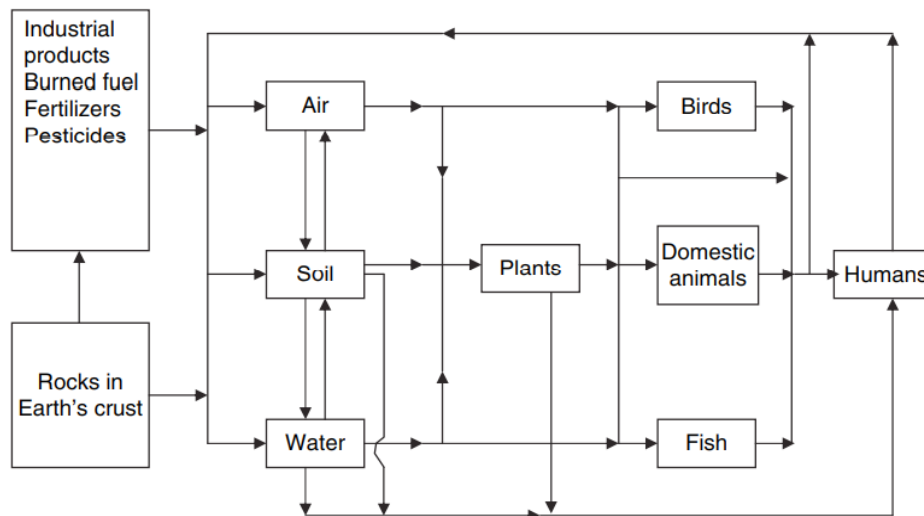


Fig. 1. Overall summary of the heavy metal augmentation from abiotic to biotic agents

augmentation from source to sink through abiotic and biotic factors (Purakayastha and Chhonka, 2010). Heavy metals are the common source of contamination from the industrial effluents. Either metals or metalloids with $6\text{Mg}/\text{m}^3$ density are classified as heavy metals which are ultimately become toxic to flora and fauna (Alloway, 1990). Chromium (Cr), Lead (Pb) and Iron (Fe) metals small doses also induces various health illness such as genetical and neurological disturbances, embryo growth impairment, severe anaemia and demineralization (Gupta and Gupta, 1998; Satish and Amit, 2015).

Tannery effluents are rich in chromium ions which are the potential hazardous source to the environment. Due to the increased release of heavy metal (Cr, Fe) rich effluents resulted the accumulation of these metals into the terrestrial environment particularly on the river banks, irrigation fields (Asfaw, 2014). The main objective of this study is to collect the effluent and soil (surface, deep) from the selected sampling stations - TCC limited, Emerald Nagar, Puliyanaganu lake, Puliyanaganu and Karai SRP nagar (S1-S5) from the industrial areas of Ranipet district. The heavy metal (Cr, Pd and Fe) composition of effluent and soil (surface and deep) samples are analysed by acid digestion method.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area

In North East Vellore, the Ranipet town is located at 79.20°E and 12.56°N (long. & lat.). In Ranipet town, Karai and Pulianganu areas are the high population zone with many leather and chemical industrial

sectors. Five different sampling stations (Fig. 1) such as S1-TCC limited (Lat. 12.952 , Long. 79.310), S2-Emerald Nagar (Lat. 12.951 , Long. 79.312), S3-Puliyanaganu lake (Lat. 12.943 , Long. 79.308), S4-Puliyanaganu (Lat. 12.935 , Long. 79.306) and S5-Karai SRP nagar (Lat. 12.941 , Long. 79.314) stations from Ranipet district were selected for this study.

Sample collection

In the sampling stations, effluents and soil samples were collected during the pre-monsoon season (during summer season). Clean and sterile sample containers (20 ml) were used for the effluent collection. For the soil samples (Sparks, 1996), two methods were followed. For the surface soil collection, in a clean and sterile sample bags with a clean spatula, 5gm of soil from the depth of less than 30cm ($<30\text{cm}$) and above 30cm ($>30\text{cm}$). Effluent and soil samples were transported to the laboratory for heavy metal analysis.

Heavy metal analysis

For acid digestion method, modified Hossner mixture was prepared by three chemicals – sulphuric acid, HClO_4 and HNO_3 (3:2 v/v). The effluent water samples were mixed the hossner solution and the residues were dissolved completely and filtrate was filtered through Whatmann filter paper (no.42) (Sinha *et al.* 2001). The filtrate was subjected to atomic absorption spectrophotometer and their heavy metal composition were analysed. Soil samples were air dried in the laboratory and sieved with mesh (2mm) to remove the dirt. Soil samples were repeatedly washed with deionized water the soil samples and again air dried (Adugnaw *et al.*, 2021). Soil samples were also subjected to heavy metal analysis.

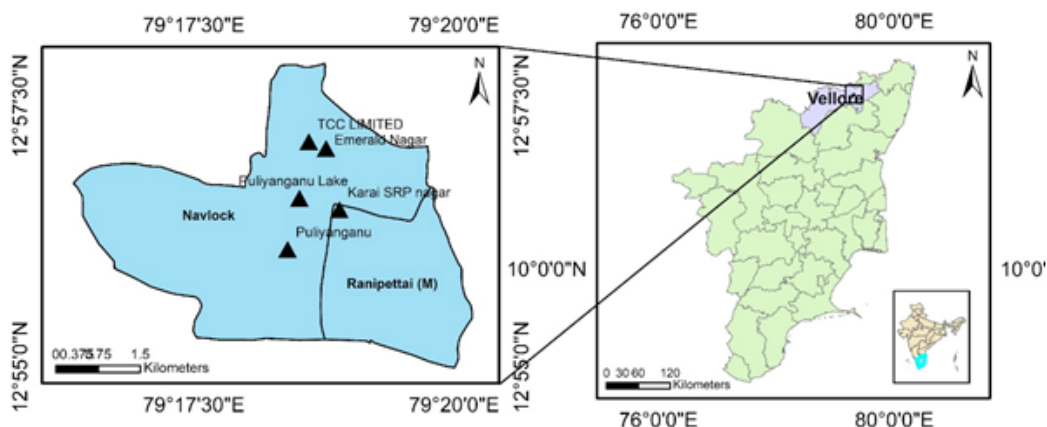


Fig. 1. GPS location of the sampling stations in Ranipet district

Statistical analysis

The collected data are evaluated and expressed as mean±SD. Results are expressed as cluster bar diagram (with exponent power potential axis) by using SPSS software (17.0).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 showed the mean±SD of the summary results of the heavy metals in effluents, surface soil and deep soil collected from five different sampling stations in Ranipet district. High incidence of heavy metal pollution (mostly Cr and Fe) due to the

tannery industrial effluent into the aquatic system than compared to the unpolluted zone were evidenced by various studies, Tariq *et al.* (2005), Sinha *et al.* (2006), Gupta and Sinha (2006).

In TCC limited (S1) sampling station, the effluent water heavy metals were observed as 2344±97.34, 38.9±3.4 and 5389±134.3 mg/l for Cr, Pb and respectively. Surface and deep soil Cr heavy metals also observed as 190.28±89.8 and 225.47±76.7 mg/Kg, 16.41±4.5 and 37.86±5.6 mg/Kg for Pb and 4.3±0.9×10³ and 5.3±0.8×10³ mg/Kg for Fe metal (Figure 2 and 3).

In Emerald Nagar (S2) sampling station, 3906±85.6 mg/l of Cr, 44.5±6.7 mg/l of Pb and

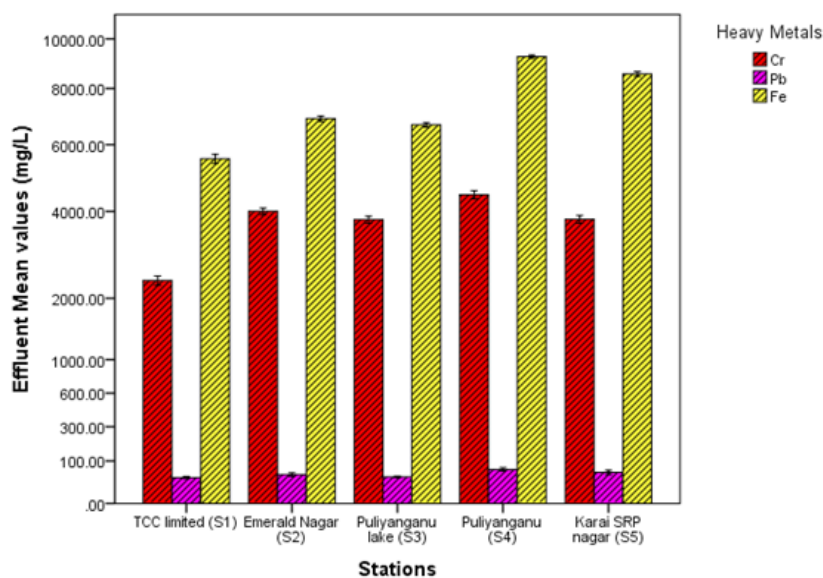


Fig. 2. Heavy metal analysis in sampling station industrial effluent

Table 1. Heavy metals analysis in effluent water and soil (surface and deep) collected from the industrial sector of Ranipet district.

Stations	Heavy metals	Effluent water (mg/L)	Soil (mg/Kg)	
			<30cm depth	>30cm depth
TCC limited (S1)	Cr	2344±97.34	190.28±89.8	225.47±76.7
	Pb	38.9±3.4	16.41±4.5	37.86±5.6
	Fe	5389±134.3	4.3±0.9×10 ³	5.3±0.8×10 ³
Emerald Nagar (S2)	Cr	3906±85.6	594.20±98.5	788.13±109.3
	Pb	44.5±6.7	11.32±2.06	28.94±4.3
	Fe	6789±189.3	5.9±1.2×10 ³	6.6±1.4×10 ³
Puliyanaganu lake (S3)	Cr	3678±234.5	390.28±78.6	537.17±76.8
	Pb	41.2±9.8	16.74±3.4	27.15±4.1
	Fe	6583±867.4	4.8±0.7×10 ³	5.5±0.9×10 ³
Puliyanaganu(S4)	Cr	4344±564.2	990.28±121.3	1685.47±221.6
	Pb	61.2±8.9	21.49±2.7	57.06±7.9
	Fe	9197±789.9	2.4±0.8×10 ³	4.1±1.1×10 ³
Karai SRP nagar(S5)	Cr	3684±245.6	720.08±119.4	965.73±145.6
	Pb	49.9±8.7	36.24±12.3	65.16±9.9
	Fe	8457±675.5	5.9±0.7×10 ³	7.8±1.4×10 ³

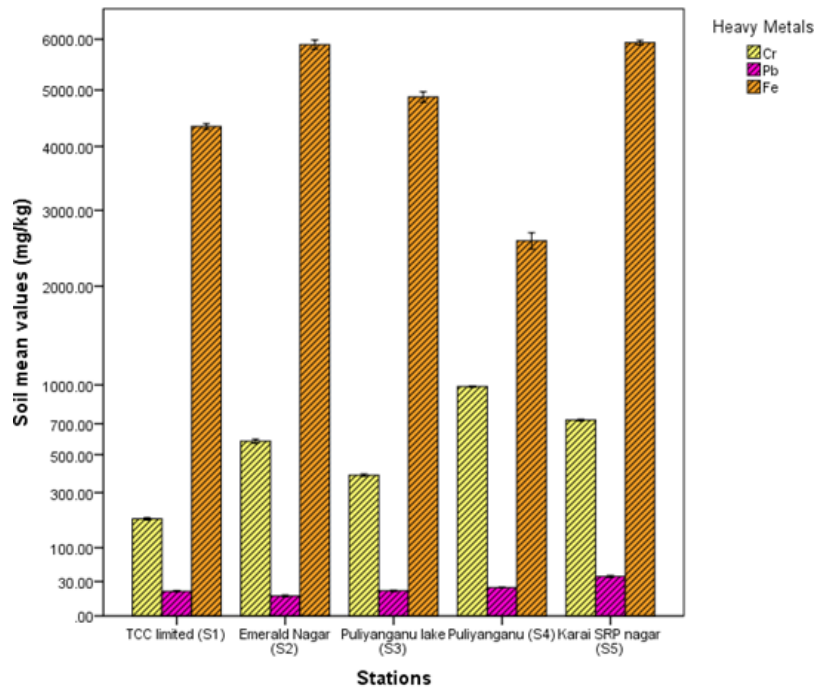
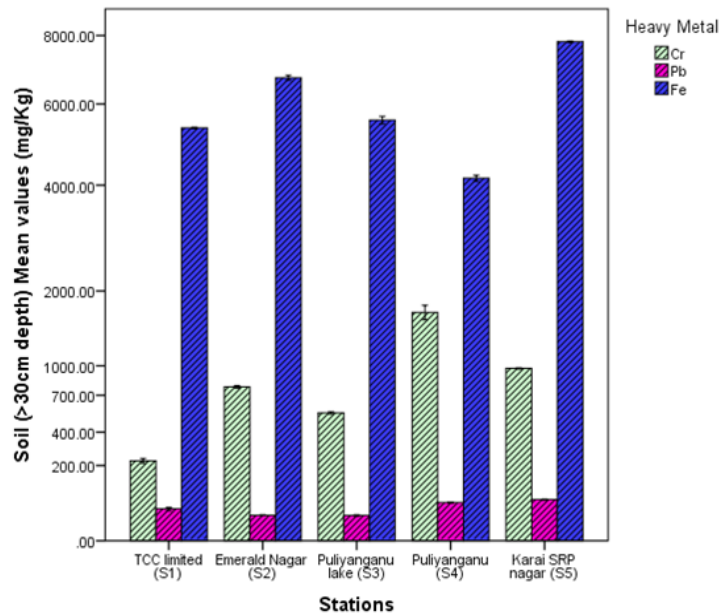


Fig. 3. Heavy metal analysis in surface and deep soil from sampling stations

6789±189.3 mg/l of Fe metals whereas the surface soil (<30cm) Cr, Pb and Fe levels were found as 594.20±98.5, 11.32±2.06 and 5.9±1.2×10³ mg/Kg respectively. 788.13±109.3, 28.94±4.3 and 6.6±1.4×10³ mg/Kg concentrations of Cr, Pb and Fe were observed. In Puliyanaganu lake (S3) and Puliyanaganu (S4) stations, the Cr levels was observed as 3678±234.5 mg/l, 390.28±78.6 mg/Kg, 537.17±76.8 mg/Kg and 4344±564.2 mg/l, 990.28±121.3 mg/Kg, 1685.47±221.6 mg/Kg in effluents, surface soil and

deep soil sample. Lead (Pb) levels were observed as 41.2±9.8 mg/l, 16.74±3.4mg/Kg, 27.15±4.1mg/Kg and 61.2±8.9 mg/l, 21.49±2.7 mg/Kg, 57.06±7.9mg/Kg for S3 and S4 sites respectively. Iron (Fe) levels were observed as 6583±867.4 mg/l, 4.8±0.7×10³ mg/Kg, 5.5±0.9×10³ mg/Kg and 9197±789.9 mg/l, 2.4±0.8×10³ mg/Kg, 4.1±1.1×10³ mg/Kg for S3 and S4 sites respectively.

In Karai SRP nagar (S5) sampling station, effluent Cr, Pb and Fe levels were found as 3684±245.6 mg/



l, 49.9 ± 8.7 mg/l and 8457 ± 675.5 mg/l respectively. Surface and deep soil Cr levels found as 720.08 ± 119.4 and 965.73 ± 145.6 mg/Kg whereas Pb and Fe levels found as 36.24 ± 12.3 mg/Kg, 65.16 ± 9.9 mg/Kg and $5.9 \pm 0.7 \times 10^3$ mg/Kg, $7.8 \pm 1.4 \times 10^3$ mg/Kg respectively. Similar to our results were evidenced by Abdelazeem *et al.* (2015) from Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) dumping site sludge as 2086, 29.7 and 5341mg/kg for Cr, Pb and Fe metals respectively. Krishna and Govil (2008) reported the high concentrations of chromium content in the soil sample collected from the tannery effluent treatment plants in Chennai (South India). The permissible limit of the chromium, lead and iron in the sludge were reported as 750-1200 mg/Kg, 750-1250 mg/Kg and varied by CEC (1986). According to TPCB (2010), the Cr, Pb and Fe levels in the sludge collected from the Ranipet district was measured as 190 mg/Kg, 1.5 mg/Kg and 34545 mg/Kg.

CONCLUSION

Heavy metals like Cr and Pb cause serious deleterious effects to both plant (irrigation) and animals (genetical and neurological disturbances). Analysis of heavy metals from the sampling stations evidenced the percentage of contamination were high. The study results evidenced the values are above the permissible limit. It is essential to perform immediate remedial measures to the contaminated zones.

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