

Physico-chemical and heavy metals evaluation of the groundwater for the irrigation purpose with the water quality index studies at the Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra, India

Ajay Vilas Goud¹, Ashish Shantaram Musale², Pandurang Yashwant Patil³

^{1,1,1}Department of Environmental Science, University of Mumbai, Charitrakar Padma Bhushan Dr. Dhananjay Keer Ratnagiri Sub-Campus, P-61 MIDC, Mirjole, Ratnagiri 415639

*Corresponding Author: Pandurang Y. Patil, Associate Professor

Department of Environment Science, Ratnagiri Sub-Campus pypatil@ratnagiri.mu.ac.in

ABSTRACT

Groundwater sources are widely used for domestic and agricultural purposes by human beings and Water Quality Index (WQI) quantifies the suitability for the use. Although, groundwater resources are getting polluted by the various anthropogenic activities. Ratnagiri is an urbanising city and polluting activities are increasing nowadays. The study area chosen is from a 74 km stretch of coastal areas at the Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra, India. A total of 25 no. of samples from different locations were collected for the physicochemical, heavy metals analysis and water quality index (WQI) have dominantly carried out for the suitability of drinking and irrigation purposes in the present study. Water analysis methods are followed from the bureau of Indian standards (BIS) and world health organization (WHO) guidelines and compared accordingly to the BIS (ISO10500:2012) permissible limits. Chloride (Cl), Total dissolved solids (TDS), and Total Hardness (TH) values were above the permissible limit during the pre-monsoon period (PRM). Lead and Zinc values have increased (2 locations), which may lead by continuous human interventions. From the piper-trilinear diagram, it was observed that most of the samples are mixed type with Ca^{2+} as predominant cation, especially in the pre-monsoon period. According to the permeability index (PI), sodium percentage (SSP), Kelly's Ratio (KR), Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR), Magnesium Hazard (MH), Percent Sodium (NA%), and Residual Sodium Carbonate (RSC) all the samples during PRM and post-monsoon period (POM), were found to be good for the irrigation purpose. As per the WQI, excellent water quality during PRM is observed only at one location (1 sample of 25) and during POM it has increased by 48 % (12 samples of 25), showing that the groundwater quality has increased after the monsoon. A suggestion is that to minimize pollution of groundwater, rainwater harvesting be preferably done.

KEYWORDS: Groundwater, Physico-chemical, Water Quality Index (WQI), Irrigation, Ratnagiri

INTRODUCTION

All over the world, water sources are available as oceanic resources, surface water resources and groundwater resources. Groundwater resources have been broadly used for industrial, agricultural, and domestic purposes (Patil and Saptarshi 2012; Taiwo et al. 2011; Korany et al. 2013; Popoola et al. 2019; Adan and Iqbal 2014; Aydin 2007) by applying some of the necessary treatments. Earth contains 97.2 % water as saltwater in oceans, while 2.15% water is frozen in the form of ice and the remaining 0.65% water is available in the form of surface or groundwater (Santra 2001). The sources of water have been critically polluted by the various materials and anthropogenic activities such as effluents from industrial treatment

plants, transportation of toxic & hazardous material from residential & industrial areas via leaching into the underground, municipal landfills, microbiological and chemical contamination, and extensive use due to population growth, and urbanization (Kumar et al. 2009; Longe and Balogun 2010; Adan and Iqbal 2014; Kupwade and Langade 2013). Also, groundwater contamination is being a very percussive problem for decades. Patil and Saptarshi (2012) opined in their study that the groundwater resources although are renewable and inexhaustible, considering the present conditions should be treated as an exhaustible and depletable resource. As looking into the world, India uses groundwater for agricultural purposes on a large scale which can nominate India as the biggest user of groundwater in the world (Dahariya et al., 2016). In India, there are 15,32,850 water bodies over all the states and 46,851 water bodies are in the Maharashtra state (Ministry of Jal Shakti, India 2022).

Water Quality Index (WQI) is developed to assess the groundwater and surface water for drinking as well as irrigation purposes dominantly (Banerji and Mitra 2019). Several researchers in Maharashtra have assessed the groundwater quality for drinking and irrigation purposes, on the basis of Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR), Kelly's Ratio (KR), Soluble Sodium Percentage (SSP), Residual Sodium Carbonate (RSC), Percent Sodium (%Na), Permeability Index (PI), Magnesium Hazard (MH) and Magnesium Ratio (Mg/Ca Ratio) (Panaskat et al. 2014; Elbeltagi et al. 2021; Aher 2017; Anbazhagan and Nair 2014; Wagh et al. 2016). The researchers found the suitability of groundwater for drinking and irrigation purposes with some exceptions due to the contamination from industrial, domestic and/or agricultural waste. Industries showing faster development in the areas of Ratnagiri and Raigad which are emerging to the contamination sources of groundwater through toxic effluents discharge to surface and waste disposal in industrial areas (Raje et al. 2005). Patil (2013), studied the groundwater quality at Kalbadevi estuary in Ratnagiri Tahsil and concluded that the seawater intrusion makes adjoining groundwater unsuitable for drinking purposes and also, reduces the availability of water for human consumption and agriculture. Ratnagiri is at the coastal area of the Konkan region in Maharashtra, where the groundwater resources are dominantly used by the people for domestic and agriculture purposes in rural as well as in urban areas. Several studies have been carried out by the researchers for the WQI mostly for non-coastal cities in Maharashtra, but there are no studies according to the WQI for the Ratnagiri coastal area. So, in the current region, this study is aimed to assess the groundwater quality at various locations of Ratnagiri district during the pre and post-monsoon season from the perspective of Physico-chemical, heavy metals as well as WQI study for drinking and irrigation purposes.

ABOUT STUDY AREA

In this study, a patch (an area) from the western coastal part of India had been chosen for the study which lies in the district of Ratnagiri, Maharashtra state, India. Ratnagiri district is placed at the latitude 16° 59' 39.9984" N and longitude 73° 18' 0.0108" E. This area is at the southwest part of Maharashtra state and falls on the western coast of India and this coastal is popularly known as the Konkan Coast. The coastal length of Ratnagiri district is about 167 km.

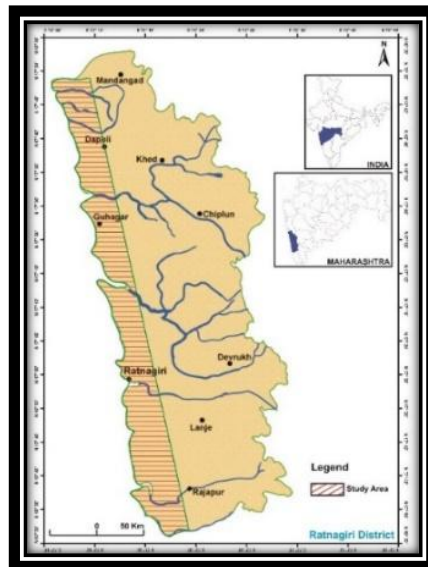


Figure 1 Map of the Study area

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Total 25 no. of sampling locations were selected and samples are analysed for one year or two seasons like summer and winter. The samples were collected in the pre-monsoon period i.e. of summer in 2016 (summer in India is from Feb-May) and post-monsoon period i.e. winter of 2016 (winter in India is from Oct-Jan). The samples were collected in a plastic container and then brought to the laboratory for further analysis. The methods for groundwater sample collection and preservations were followed through different standards of international and national method APHA, AWWA, WPCF (1998), BIS- 1991-10500.

Piper tri-linear plot itself states that it has three components, at the base there are two triangulated diagrams and a triangle representing the cations at its lower left and the anions are shown at lower right triangle. Aqua-chem 4.0 software is used for piper plots.

WQI method has been used for the appraisal of the groundwater quality. For the calculation of WQI parameters which analysed are; pH, electrical conductivity (EC), total dissolved solids (TDS), total hardness (TH), calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg), sodium (Na), potassium (K), chloride (Cl), bicarbonate (HCO_3), sulfate (SO_4), nitrate (NO_3), and phosphate (PO_4) (Hamza et al. 2017; Wagh et al. 2016; Adimalla et al. 2018). For the calculations and as of the standards the World Health Organization (WHO, 2011) limits have been used.

The relative weight (RWi) is calculated with following equation,

$\text{RWi} = \text{Awi} / \sum \text{AWi}$; Where, RWi = Relative weight, AWi = Assigned Weight, n = Number of parameters

The quality rating scale for each parameter is expressed with the following equation,

$q_i = (c_i/s_i) * 100$; Where, q_i = Quality rating for i^{th} parameter, C_i = Concentration of i^{th} chemical parameter of water sample (mg/l), S_i = permissible standard for i^{th} parameter set by BIS

Sub index (SIi) for each parameter is calculated by equation,

$SL_i = RW_i * q_i$; Where, SL_i = sub index of i^{th} parameter, q_i = rating based on concentration of i^{th} parameter

Finally, WQI is proposed by following equation,

$WQI = \sum SL_i$; Where, SL_i indicates the sub index of i^{th} parameter

Irrigation Water Quality classification is based on the several calculations of Kellies Ratio (KR), Soluble Sodium Percentage (SSP), Residual Sodium Carbonate (RSC), Magnesium Hazards (MH), and Sodium Percentage (Na%), Ion exchange Processes (CAI 1 and CAI 2) (Adimalla et al. 2018; Elbeltagi et al. 2021; Panaskar et al. 2016; Aher 2012; Aher et al. 2019; Panaskar et al. 2016).

Kellies Ratio (KR)

$$\text{Kelly's Ratio} = \frac{Na^+}{Ca^{2+} + Mg^{2+}}$$

Soluble Sodium Percentage (SSP)

$$SP = \left(\frac{Na^+}{(Ca^{2+} + Mg^{2+} + Na^+)} \right) * 100$$

Residual Sodium Carbonate (RSC)

$$RSC = (CO_3 + HCO_3) - (Ca + Mg)$$

Magnesium Hazards (MH)

$$MH = \frac{Mg^{2+}}{(Ca^{2+} * Mg^{2+}) * 100}$$

Sodium Percentage (Na%)

$$\% Na = \left(\frac{Na^+ + K^+}{(Ca^{2+} + Mg^{2+} + Na^+ + K^+)} \right) * 100$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Physico-chemical Parameters

pH is a measure of acidity or alkalinity of water (Thangavelu 2013) and from the analysis of samples of the present study area, it ranged from 6.52 – 7.3 and 6.52 – 7.41 (Table No. 1) for pre and post-monsoon season respectively. The pH values show that the groundwater samples lies under the permissible limit of potable. Temperature plays a major role in the dissolution of various chemical ions and cations in water. The temperature of the sample varies from 26 to 29°C (Table No. 1). The water samples in the case of drinking water should be clean in visualization. The suspended sediments in the water give a muddy or turbid appearance in the study area ranging from 0.55 to 3.75 NTU with a mean of 1.54 NTU for PRM season, while the turbidity ranges from 0.30 to 2.15 NTU with a mean of 0.93 NTU for POM season (Table No. 1). EC is an important measure of salinity and it affects the taste of water (Thangavelu 2013). EC ranged during the pre-monsoon period 323 – 2904 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ and during the post-monsoon period 128 – 845 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ (Table No. 1), which shows medium conductivity for 11 samples during pre-monsoon season as of the post-monsoon season. Chloride can be found naturally in all types of water. The pre-monsoon sample is having high chloride concentration due to evaporation of water and intrusion of salt seawater into groundwater.

Chloride of samples was found above permissible (<250 mg/l) limit in 17 samples of 25 i.e. 68%. TDS is an amount of inorganic salts & small amounts of organic matter dissolved in water (Thangavelu 2013). Total, 14 samples out of 25, have TDS above the permissible limit (<500mg/l) according to the Indian Standards (IS 10500:2012). Total hardness is the presence of multivalent metal ions which come from minerals dissolved in water and if in excess causes kidney problems (Godghate et al. 2013). During PRM 76% of samples fall under the very hard category which is considered unsuitable (without treatment) for drinking, domestic, and irrigation purposes. During the PRM period, it is clearly seen that 76% (19 samples) of the samples are found to be very hard water category, which is not suitable for drinking purposes. There is no permissible limit for DO, COD, and BOD as per the standards (ISO10500:2012). In the present study area, the values of DO ranged from 4.2 – 6.2 mg/l; COD values ranged from 10 - 58 mg/l; BOD values ranged from 4 – 25 mg/l (Table No. 1). Values of the samples for sulfate and nitrate ranged from 12 to 200 mg/l and 2 to 40 mg/l respectively, which are under the permissible limit (Table No. 1).

Table 1 Parameters range of Samples

Sr. No.	Parameters	Parameters Range	ISO Standards	Unit
1	pH	6.52 – 7.3	6.5-8.5	--
2	Temperature	25 – 29	---	°C
3	Turbidity	0.7 – 3.5	1	NTU
4	EC	323 – 2904	---	µs/cm
5	Cl	90 – 650	250	mg/l
6	F	0.0029 – 0.0042	1.0	mg/l
7	Salinity	0.163 – 1.174	---	mg/l
8	TDS	210 – 1888	500	mg/l
9	TH	150 – 769	200	mg/l
10	TA	26 – 130	200	mg/l
11	SO ₄	12 – 200	200	mg/l
12	NO ₃	2 – 40	45	mg/l
13	TKN	0.63 – 12.6	---	mg/l
14	COD	10 – 58	---	mg/l
15	BOD	4 – 25	---	mg/l
16	DO	4.2 – 6.2	---	mg/l

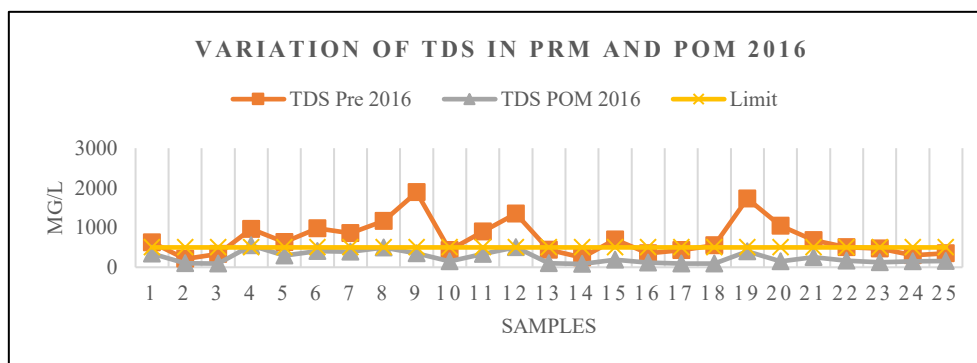


Figure 2 Variation of TDS in PRM and POM 2016

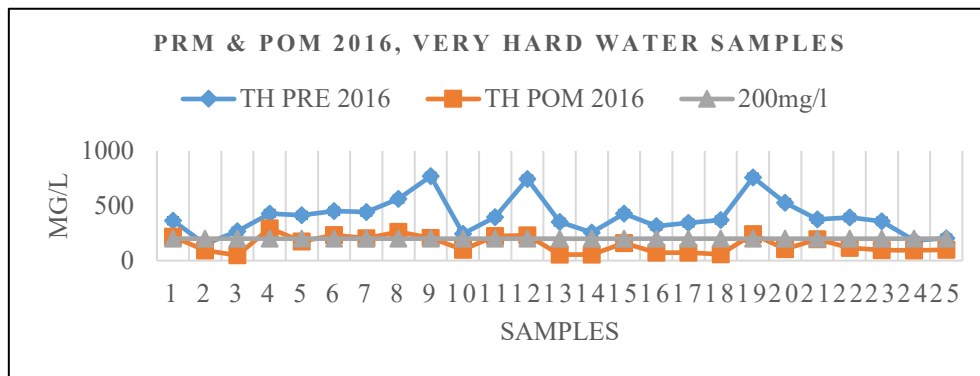


Figure 3 PRM & POM 2016, Very Hard Water Samples

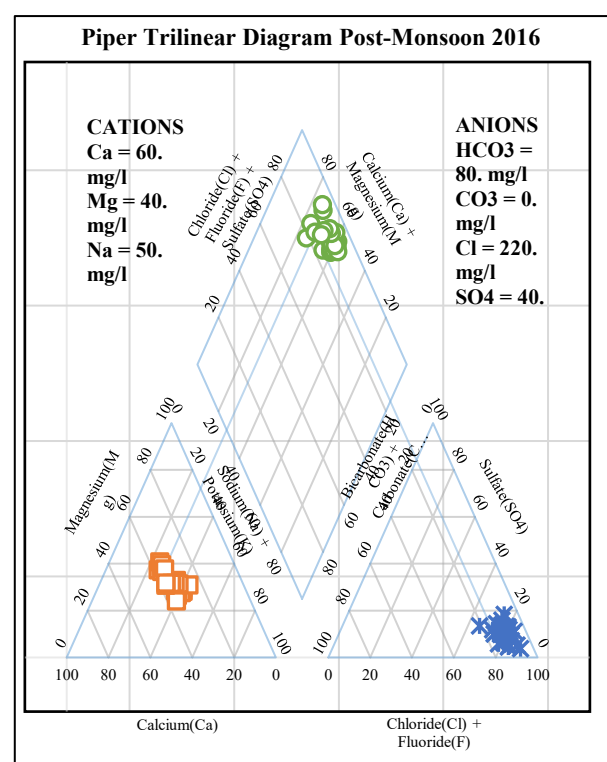
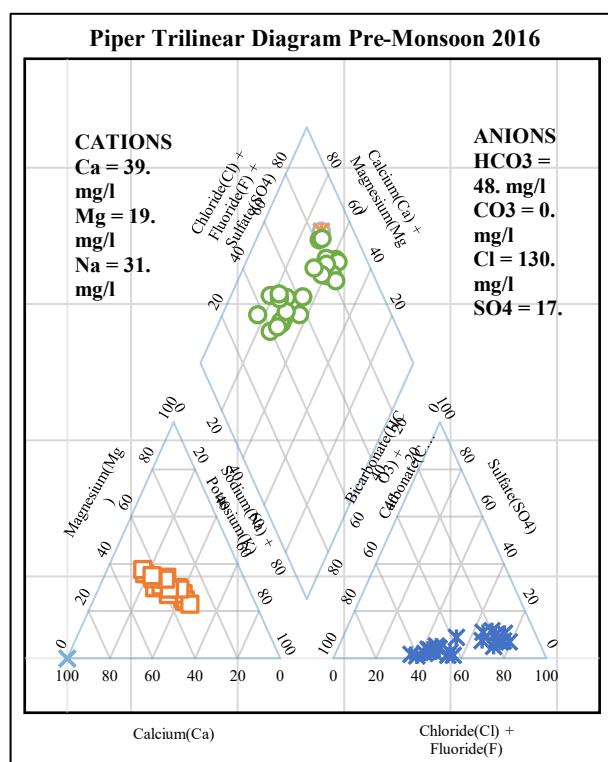


Figure 4 Piper Trilinear Diagram Pre-Monsoon 2016 Monsoon 2016

Figure 5 Piper Trilinear Diagram Post-Monsoon 2016

Piper Trilinear observed that changing of $\text{Ca} + \text{Mg} - \text{HCO}_3 + \text{CO}_3$ to $\text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{SO}_4 + \text{Cl}$ is more in bore well than dug well (Rajmohan and Elango, 2005). This is due to a greater depth of bore well wherein, high residence time groundwater exists due to the increased rock-water interaction. On a spatial scale, it is observed that maximum samples are showing the $\text{Ca} + \text{Mg} - \text{HCO}_3 + \text{CO}_3$ water facies present along the hill slopes in the study area. While in the middle part $\text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{HCO}_3 + \text{CO}_3$ water facies develops during the summer months. In the downstream $\text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{SO}_4 + \text{Cl}$ water facies dominates as a result of evaporation dominance. The wells from alluvial aquifers show $\text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{SO}_4 + \text{Cl}$ dominance due to the excellent change of Ca with Na from clay minerals.

Four major groups of water facies were observed in the study area:

1) $\text{Ca} + \text{Mg} > \text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{HCO}_3 + \text{CO}_3 > \text{Cl} + \text{SO}_4 + \text{NO}_3$

2) $\text{Ca} + \text{Mg} > \text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{Cl} + \text{SO}_4 + \text{NO}_3 > \text{HCO}_3 + \text{CO}_3$

3) $\text{Na} + \text{K} > \text{Ca} + \text{Mg} - \text{HCO}_3 + \text{CO}_3 > \text{Cl} + \text{SO}_4 + \text{NO}_3$

4) $\text{Na} + \text{K} > \text{Ca} + \text{Mg} - \text{Cl} + \text{SO}_4 + \text{NO}_3 > \text{HCO}_3 + \text{CO}_3$

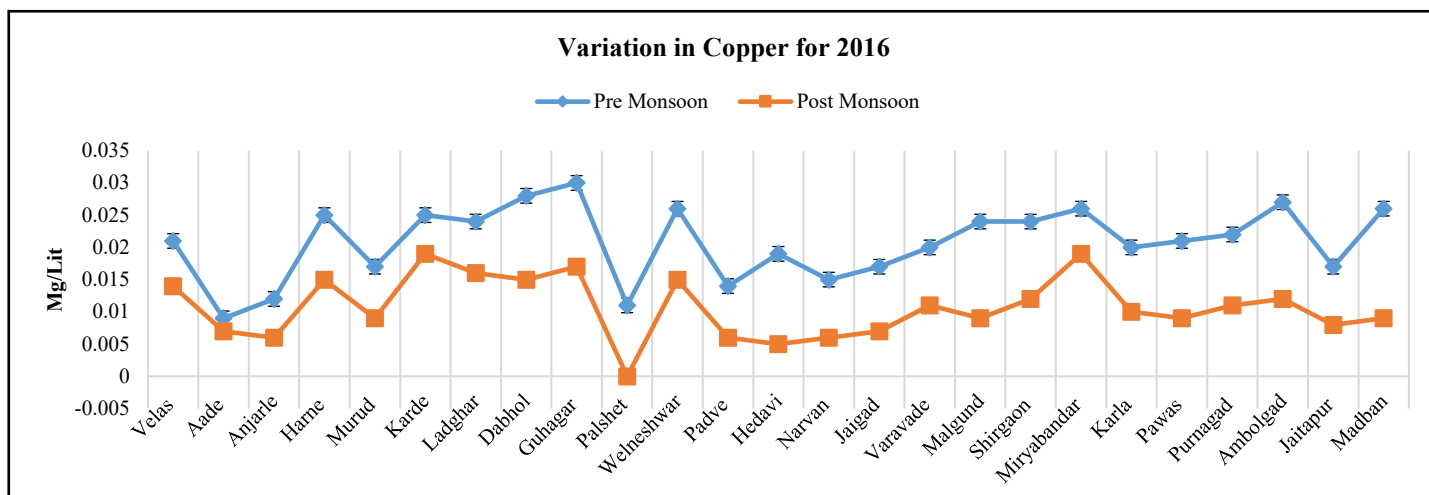


Figure 6 Variation in Copper for 2016

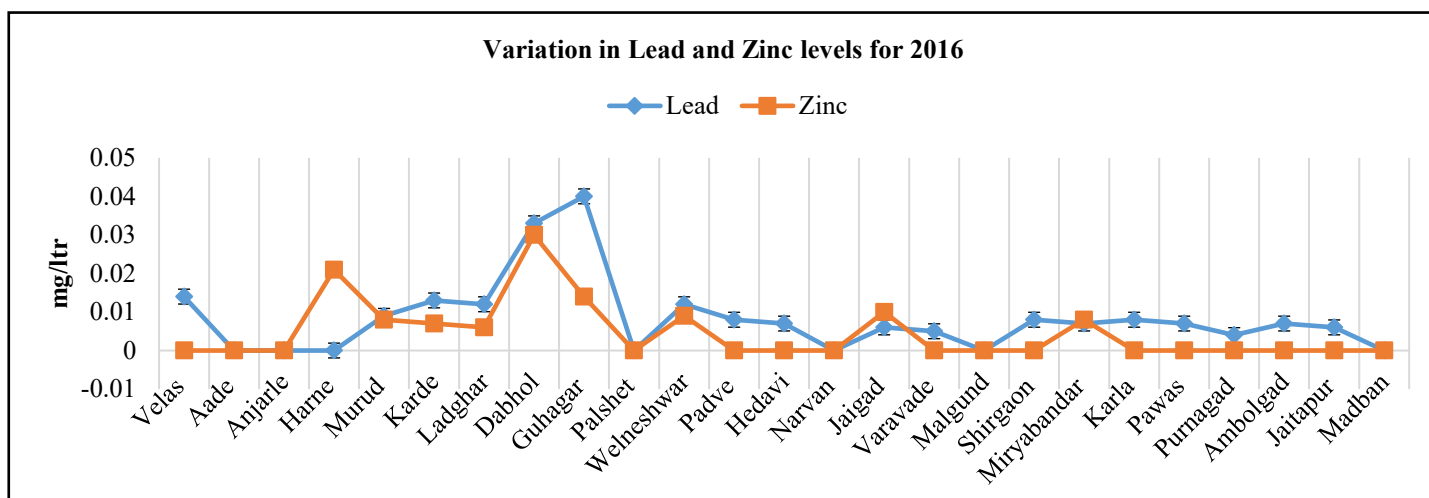


Figure 7 Variation in Lead and Zinc for 2016

Heavy metals during pre-monsoon season have ranged; Copper (0.009 – 0.03 mg/l); Lead (0.004 – 0.04 mg/l); Zinc (0.006 – 0.03 mg/l); Iron (0.1- 0.28 mg/l) and Chromium, Cadmium, Arsenic, Mercury, and Magnesium are under below detection level (BDL). During post-monsoon season concentrations are ranging; Copper (0.005 – 0.019 mg/l); Lead (0.007 – 0.02 mg/l); Iron (0.07- 0.14 mg/l) and Chromium, Cadmium, Arsenic, and Mercury are under BDL. At only one location i.e. Ladghar, Zinc concentration is 0.011 mg/l and at Dabhol, Padve locations concentration of Manganese is 0.013 and 0.095 mg/l respectively. The levels of copper in the year 2016 were varying in all sampling locations. From Dabhol and Guhagar locations higher concentrations were found, reasoned higher population densities. However,

the presence of copper at the locations is due to an interaction of geology and groundwater aquifers. The maximum concentration of copper was below 0.019 mg/l during both seasons. Also, during the post-monsoon period, higher concentrations of lead were observed at Dabhol and Guhagar locations. The continuous human interventions in this area may lead to an increase in the concentration of lead and zinc particularly.

Water Quality Index

The WQI is used to quantify the suitability of groundwater for irrigation and drinking purposes. According to the water quality index of the samples, only 4% of samples (i.e. only 1 sample out of 25) falls under excellent water quality and 8% of samples are of very poor water quality, whereas, most of the samples fall under good (48%) and poor (40%) water quality during PRM (Table 1 & Fig. 8). So, it can be said that the human intervention to the groundwater is degrading the groundwater quality preventing the necessary use. Whereas, during the POM period groundwater quality seems to improve. Excellent water quality has increased by 48% (i.e. 12 samples of 25) that of PRM and there were no poor and very poor water quality have observed (Table 1 & Fig. 9). Hence, it can be said that after the monsoon, groundwater quality has been improved significantly. However, According to the PI, SSP, KR, SAR, MH, NA%, and RSC al the samples during PRM and POM, are found to be good for irrigation purposes.

Table 2 WQI based Water quality classification

Sam ple ID	Pre- mons oon 2016	Water quality	Post - mon soon 2016	Water qualit y
1	97.55	Good	61.9 2	Good
2	42.32	Excele nt	29.6 7	Excel lent
3	65.1	Good	21.7 3	Excel lent
4	123.1 2	Poor	85.6 6	Good
5	103.9 4	Poor	52.3 9	Good
6	127.3 6	Poor	68.6 7	Good
7	124.4 5	Poor	63.8	Good
8	151.5 2	Poor	76.5 9	Good
9	226.8 5	Very poor	63	Good
10	64.82	Good	32.7 3	Excel lent

11	113.87	Poor	62.98	Good
12	195.7	Poor	75.7	Good
13	86.67	Good	22.73	Excellent
14	54.96	Good	22.5	Excellent
15	110.32	Poor	47.13	Excellent
16	74.71	Good	27.41	Excellent
17	85.01	Good	25.93	Excellent
18	93.36	Good	23.1	Excellent
19	221.24	Very poor	71.98	Good
20	141.64	Poor	34.18	Excellent
21	102.91	Poor	56.36	Good
22	92.25	Good	35.38	Excellent
23	85.81	Good	31.62	Good
24	51.83	Good	32.13	Excellent
25	58.88	Good	32.9	Excellent

Table 3 Relative weights against each parameter

Sr. No.	Chemical parameters	WHO standard (2011)	Weight (Wi)	Relative weight
1	pH	6.5 -8.5	4	0.091
2	EC	500	4	0.091
3	TDS	500	5	0.114
4	TH	100	3	0.068
5	Ca	75	3	0.068
6	Mg	50	3	0.068
7	Na	200	4	0.091
8	K	10	2	0.045
9	HCO ₃	500	1	0.023
10	SO ₄	250	5	0.114
11	Cl	250	5	0.114
12	NO ₃	45	5	0.114

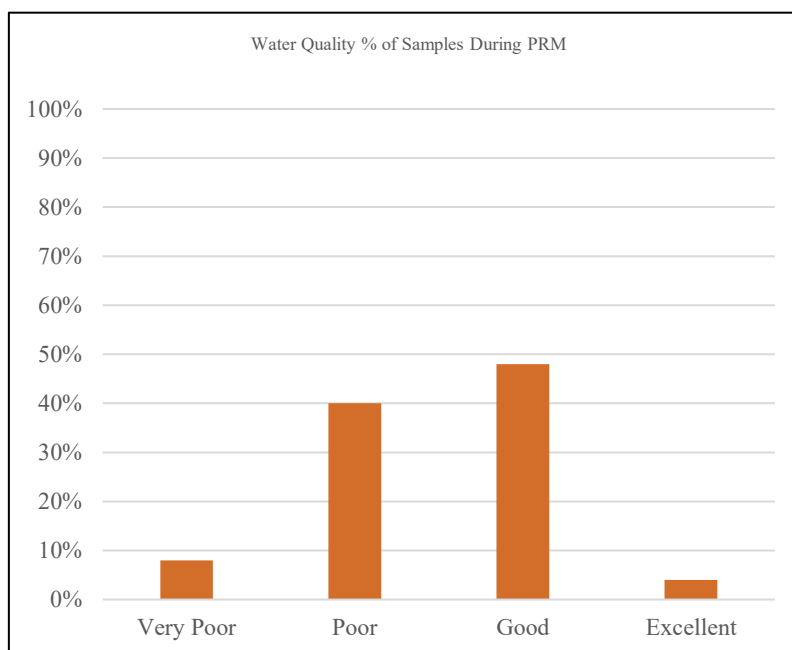


Figure 8 Water Quality % of Samples During PRM

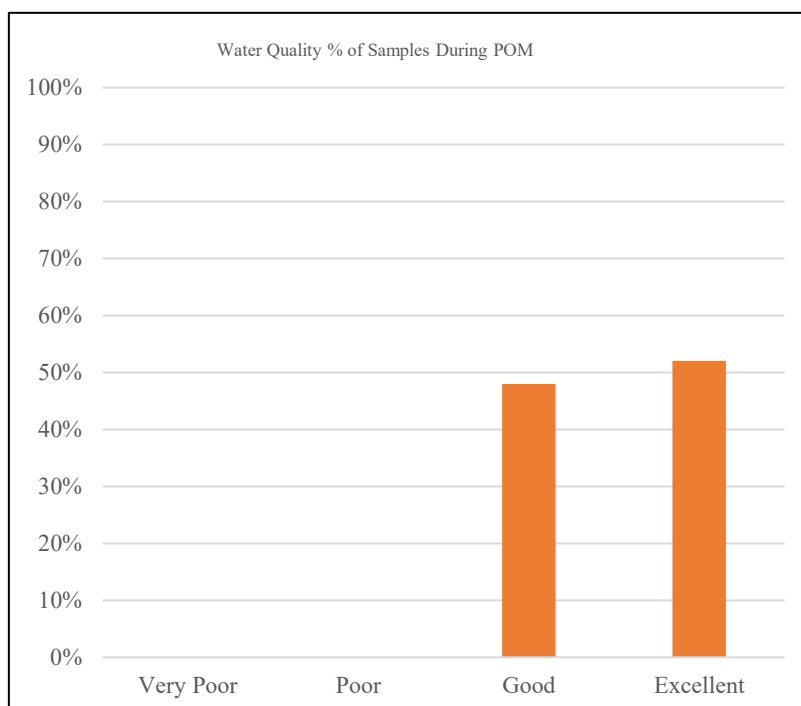


Figure 9 Water Quality % of Samples During POM

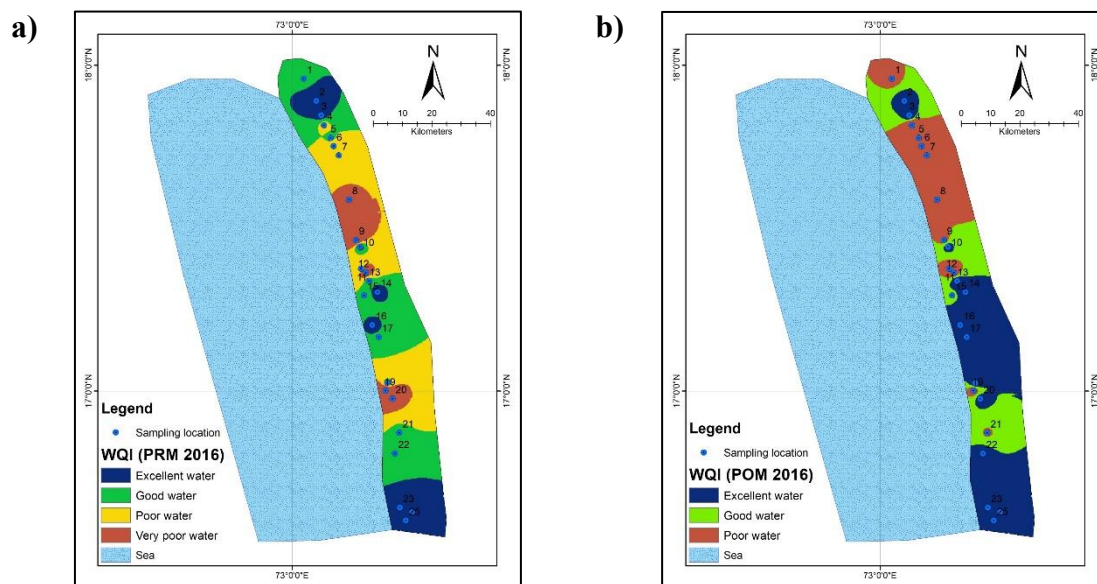


Figure 10 a) Water Quality Index Map of PRM 2016 b) Water Quality Index Map of POM 2016

Table 4 Groundwater quality index value for irrigation during pre-monsoon

Sample ID	Na%	PI	RSC	KR	MH	SSP	CAI 1	CAI 2	SAR
1	39.23	46.5	-5.057	0.6	48.47	37.81	-7.651	-0.49	2.21
2	25.73	40.68	-1.85	0.31	46.56	23.91	-8.783	-0.29	0.79
3	25.75	33.3	-3.376	0.31	51.16	24.15	-4.547	-0.28	0.95
4	35.04	41.17	-6.298	0.5	47.39	33.58	-9.174	-0.43	2.14
5	38.97	45.63	-5.905	0.59	47.46	37.34	-13.74	-0.54	2.35
6	39.06	46	-7.204	0.61	47.02	37.91	-11.74	-0.6	2.5
7	38.93	45.62	-7.188	0.6	45.61	37.5	-8.83	-0.53	2.62
8	47.12	52.31	-8.309	0.85	50.61	45.96	-11.56	-0.66	3.94
9	41.22	46.37	-11.56	0.66	45.14	39.79	-8.19	-0.55	3.63
10	28.05	33.48	-3.88	0.34	52.84	25.86	-5.27	-0.3	1.1
11	38.5	42.8	-5.81	0.59	48.79	37.14	-15.49	-0.51	2.28
12	42.06	47.68	-11.54	0.68	49.42	40.72	-13.55	-0.57	3.86
13	43.01	49.04	-5.99	0.7	46.14	41.37	-12.96	-0.56	2.59
14	28.15	32.68	-4.64	0.33	50.71	25.33	-21.57	-0.41	1.05
15	40.22	46.79	-6.77	0.63	46.65	38.76	-10.31	-0.54	2.68
16	27.48	34.4	-5.31	0.33	51.37	25.06	-6.72	-0.34	1.24
17	36.85	45.25	-3.74	0.54	43.73	35.21	-9.19	-0.4	1.94
18	37.94	44.7	-5.72	0.57	43.65	36.33	-12.64	-0.48	2.21
19	42.297	47.795	-12.33	0.69	51.89	41.11	-9.81	-0.62	3.87
20	48.864	54.089	-8.865	0.916	47.309	47.818	-15.862	-0.723	4.187
21	40.373	45.716	-7.52	0.637	42.187	38.93	-9.083	-0.59	2.611
22	39.301	44.964	-6.484	0.605	49.229	37.686	-11.711	-0.57	2.293
23	39.257	45.401	-6.619	0.605	48.47	37.703	-12.186	-0.568	2.339
24	28.014	35.645	-3.5	0.348	43.942	25.826	-4.75	-0.365	0.953
25	30.144	36.007	-3.394	0.375	49.14	27.271	-5.298	-0.341	1.128

Table 5 Groundwater quality index value for irrigation purpose during post-monsoon

Sample ID	Na%	PI	RSC	KR	MH	SSP	CAI 1	CAI 2	SAR
1	29.522	36.363	-3.229	0.366	48.746	26.818	-5.528	-0.34	1.086
2	18.478	27.192	-0.974	0.186	43.942	15.662	-6.536	-0.222	0.359
3	36.274	43.807	-0.112	0.543	42.799	35.175	-18.43	-0.349	0.752
4	41.546	49.095	-3.415	0.663	43.234	39.87	-11.408	-0.477	2.278
5	30.643	38.583	-2.402	0.384	44.504	27.724	-5.123	-0.328	1.017
6	36.915	44.134	-4.213	0.53	47.562	34.659	-7.088	-0.538	1.621
7	40.581	46.219	-2.997	0.627	46.25	38.527	-8.924	-0.525	1.793
8	43.074	49.305	-3.897	0.708	42.553	41.441	-13.027	-0.549	2.287
9	43.035	50.759	-2.868	0.7	43.519	41.181	-10.158	-0.551	2.02
10	16.594	22.476	-1.139	0.173	45.147	14.781	-13.164	-0.246	0.347
11	38.23	47.792	-2.669	0.573	44.138	36.435	-11.291	-0.467	1.715
12	46.071	54.146	-3.136	0.799	42.707	44.414	-11.752	-0.604	2.43
13	29.621	40.289	-1.061	0.397	45.147	28.443	-15.343	-0.663	0.588
14	29.621	40.289	-1.061	0.397	45.147	28.443	-15.343	-0.76	0.588
15	34.002	43.681	-2.056	0.46	40.936	31.485	-18.611	-0.518	1.166
16	29.707	38.889	-0.576	0.388	45.147	27.931	-20.881	-0.376	0.662
17	26.106	31.837	0.257	0.335	40.398	25.114	-7.943	-0.198	0.566
18	28.697	41.59	-0.261	0.38	43.173	27.542	-15.343	-0.309	0.575
19	38.154	46.601	-4.215	0.564	47.472	36.071	-7.86	-0.611	1.758
20	28.54	34.992	-2.038	0.375	47.309	27.266	-28.598	-0.84	0.766
21	33.188	40.583	-3.584	0.432	43.997	30.15	-5.927	-0.498	1.21
22	26.437	31.061	-2.287	0.337	46.12	25.225	-28.598	-0.632	0.727
23	29.317	39.81	-1.807	0.388	47.516	27.95	-13.027	-0.702	0.757
24	23.422	34.883	-1.775	0.279	43.942	21.786	-5.779	-0.51	0.539
25	22.22	31.975	-1.09	0.26	45.147	20.646	-7.135	-0.272	0.521

CONCLUSION

Physico-chemical and heavy metal parameters of the study area compared with BIS (ISO10500) standards and has showed that more than 50% of samples have Cl, TDS, and TH values above permissible limits. Which interns shows unsuitability of water for potable. Also, lead (Pb) and zinc (Zn) values have increased (2 locations), which may lead by continuous human interventions. Piper plot observed that the maximum samples are showing the Ca + Mg – HCO₃ + CO₃ water facies present along the hill slopes in the study area. WQI study is being firstly assessed in this study area. Good, poor, and very poor water quality (48%), rather than excellent water quality (only 1 sample) is mostly observed during the PRM period. Where during the POM period excellent water quality has shown a 48% increase (12 samples of 25) which shows the decrease in pollution at the same locations after the monsoon. Also, from the PI, KR, SAR, MH, NA%, and RSC, all the samples during PRM & POM have found to be good for the irrigation purposes. However, the suggestion is to be made that rainwater harvesting can be purposely used to mitigate the contamination of groundwater.

REFERENCES

1. Kumar S. K., Rammohan V., Sahayam J. D., Jeevanandam M. Assessment of groundwater quality and hydrogeochemistry of Manimuktha River basin. Tamil Nadu. *India Environ Monit* 2009; 159: 341–351.
2. Taiwo A. M., Adeogun A. O., Olatunde K. A., Adegbite K. I. Analysis of Groundwater Quality of Hand-Dug Wells in Peri-Urban Area of Obantoko, Abeokuta, Nigeria for Selected Physico-Chemical Parameters. *The Pacific Journal of Science and Technology* 2011; 12(1).
3. Korany E. A., Tempel R. N., Gomaa M. A., Mohamed R. G. Detecting the Roles of the Physicochemical Processes on Groundwater evolution, Assiut Area, Egypt- Applications of Hydrogeochemical and Isotopic Approaches. *Egyptian Journal of Geology* 2013; 57: 63-83.
4. Longe E. O., Balogun M. R. Groundwater Quality Assessment near a Municipal Landfill, Lagos, Nigeria, Research Journal of Applied Sciences. *Engineering and Technology* 2010; 2(1): 39-44.
5. Adan S., Iqbal J. Spatial Analysis of the Groundwater quality in the Peshawar District, Pakistan. *Procedia Engineering* 2014; 70: 14-22.
6. Aydin A. The Microbiological and Physico-Chemical Quality of Groundwater in West Thrace, Turkey. *Polish Journal of Environmental Studies* 2007; 16(3): 377-383.
7. Godghate A. G., Sawant R. S., Jadhav S. D. An Evaluation of Physico-chemical Parameters to Assess Borewell Water Quality from Madyal and Vadgaon Villages of Kagal Tahsil, MS, India. *International Research Journal of Environment Sciences* 2013; 2(5): 1-5.
8. Ashiyani N., Parekh F., Suryanarayana T. M. V. Analysis of Physico-Chemical Properties of Groundwater, International Journal of Innovative Research in Science. *Engineering and Technology* 2015; 4(3).
9. Saravanakumar K., Kumar R. R. Analysis of water quality parameters of groundwater near Ambattur industrial area, Tamil Nadu, India. *Indian Journal of Science and Technology* 2011; 4(5).
10. Kumari S., Singh A. K., Verma A. K., Yaduvanshi N. P. S. Assessment and spatial distribution of groundwater quality in industrial areas of Ghaziabad, India. *Environ Monit Assess* 2014; 186(1): 501-14.
11. Singh A. K., Mondal G. C., Kumar S., Singh T. B., Tewary B. K., Sinha, A. Major ion chemistry, weathering processes and water quality assessment in upper catchment of Damodar river basin, India. *Environmental Geology* 2008; 54: 745–758.
12. WHO. Guidelines for drinking-water quality—4th ed. Geneva. Switzerland 2011 (<http://www.who.int>)
13. WHO. Recommended health based limits in occupational exposure to trace metals. *Technical Reports Series* 1980; no. 647, Vienna Austria.
14. Jarup, L. Hazards of heavy metal contamination. Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Imperial College. London. UK 2003. <http://bmb.oxfordjournals.org>
15. IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer). IARC monographs on the evaluation of the carcinogenic risk of chemicals to humans: chromium, nickel, and welding Lyon: IARC. *World Health Organization* 1990; 49.
16. Ifegwu, C., Anyakora, C. Screen for eight heavy metals from groundwater samples from a highly industrialized area in Lagos, Nigeria. *African Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacy* 2012; 3(1): 1–16.
17. Khan M. M. A., Umar R., Lateh, H. Study of trace elements in groundwater of western Uttar Pradesh, India, Scientific Research and Essay. 2010; 5(20): 3175–3182.

18. Omotayo S. A., Isiaka A. A., Yung-Tse, H. Radioactive element removal from contaminated groundwater by agricultural waste-based activated carbon. *International Journal of Water Resources and Arid Environment* 2011; 1(1): 71–82.
19. Pathak H. Assessment of Physico-Chemical Quality of Groundwater by Multivariate Analysis in some Populated Villages nearby Sagar City, MP, India. *Journal of Environmental & Analytical Toxicology* 2012; 5.
20. Singh M. K., Jha D., Jadoun J. Assessment of Physico-chemical Status of Groundwater Samples of Dholpur District, Rajasthan, India. *International Journal of Chemistry* 2012; 4(4).
21. Hadian M. S., Azy F. N., Krismadiyanti I., Arfani L., Sofyan E. T., Prayogi T. E. Groundwater Quality Assessment for Suitable Drinking and Agricultural Irrigation Using Physico-Chemical Water Analysis in the Rancaekek-Jatinangor District, West Java, Indonesia. *International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology* 2015; (84).
22. Thangavelu A. Mapping the groundwater quality in Coimbatore city, India based on physico-chemical parameters, *IOSR Journal of Environmental Science. Toxicology And Food Technology* 2013; 3(4): 32-40.
23. Kupwade R.V., Langade A. D. Pre and Post Monsoon Monitoring of Ground Water Quality in Region Near Kupwad MIDC, Sangli, Maharashtra. *International Journal of ChemTech Research* 2013; 5(5): 2291-2294.
24. Raje G. B., Muley D. V., Mankar D. D. Analysis of Heavy Metals in Groundwater from Lote Industrial Area in Ratnagiri District (Maharashtra). *Journal of Industrial Pollution Control* 2005; 21(2): 417 – 422.
25. Umrikar B. N., Devi N. M. Groundwater Quality Assessment for Guhagar Coastal Maharashtra, India. *Journal of Environmental Research and Development* 2011; 5: 4.
26. Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, State-wise no. of water bodies. (Accessed on 12th January 2022 at 12.49 P.M.)
https://jsactr.mowr.gov.in/public_dash/Public_record.aspx
27. Godghate A. G., Sawant R. S., Jadhav S. D. An Evaluation of Physico-chemical Parameters to Assess Borewell Water Quality from Madyal and Vadgaon Villages of Kagal Tahsil, MS, India. *International Research Journal of Environment Sciences* 2013; 2(5): 1-5.
28. Patil P., Saptarshi P. G. Groundwater fluctuation in the Pondhra Watershed Basin of Karmala Tahsil, Solapur (MS). *Universal Journal of Environmental Research and Technology* 2012; 2(5): 450-455.
29. Ashiyani N., Parekh F., Suryanarayana T. M. V. Analysis of Physico-Chemical Properties of Groundwater. *International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology* 2015; 4(3).
30. Saravanakumar K., Kumar R. R. Analysis Of Water Quality Parameters Of Groundwater Near Ambattur Industrial Area, Tamil Nadu, India. *Indian Journal of Science and Technology* 2011; 4(5).
31. Sudharsanam A., Anand B. A., Subramaniam S. Assessment Of Physico-Chemical Characteristics of Groundwater: A case study. *International Journal of Environmental Health Engineering* 2013; 2(6).
32. Pathak H., Assessment of Physico-Chemical Quality of Groundwater by Multivariate Analysis in some Populated Villages nearby Sagar City, MP, India. *Journal of Environmental & Analytical Toxicology* 2012; 2(5): 1000144.
33. Singh M. K., Jha D., Jadoun J. Assessment of Physico-chemical Status of Groundwater Samples of Dholpur District, Rajasthan, India. *International Journal of Chemistry* 2012; 4(4).

34. Hadian M. S., Fikri N. A., Krismadiyanti I., Arfani L., Sofyan E. T., Prayogi T. E. Groundwater Quality Assessment for Suitable Drinking and Agricultural Irrigation Using Physico-Chemical Water Analysis in the Rancaekek-Jatinangor District, West Java, Indonesia. *International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology* 2015; 84.
35. Mukhopadhyay S., Mukherjee R. Physico – Chemical and Microbiological Quality Assessment of Groundwater in Adjoining Area of Tamla Nala, Durgapur, District: Burdwan (W. B.), India. *International Journal of Environmental Science* 2013; 4(3).
36. Singh D. N., Ramteke S., Sahu B. L., Patel K. Urban Groundwater Quality in India. *Journal of Environmental Protection* 2016; 7(6).
37. Jadhav S. D., Sawant R. S., Godghate A. G., Patil S. R., Patil R. S. Assessment of Ground Water Quality of Ajara Tahsil from Maharashtra. *Rasayan Journal of Chemistry* 2012; 5(2): 246-249.
38. Kupwade R.V., Langade A.D. Pre and Post Monsoon Monitoring of Ground Water Quality in Region Near Kupwad MIDC, Sangli, Maharashtra. *International Journal of ChemTech Research* 2013; 5(5): 2291-2294.
39. Richards, L.A. Diagnosis and Improvement of Saline and Alkaline Soils, United States Salinity Laboratory Staff. Agricultural Handbook No 60. *United States Department of Agriculture* 1954; 160p.
40. WHO. Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality. 2nd edition, Geneva 1963; 1: 56.
41. BIS 2012. IS: 10500, Indian Standards For Drinking Waters, Bureau of Indian Standard, New Delhi, India. 1-9: 179-182.
42. Patil P. Assessment of Ground Water Quality Studies at Kalbadevi Estuary and Adjoining Area of Ratnagiri Tahsil, Maharashtra. *Electronic International Interdisciplinary Research Journal* 2013; II(VI): 79-85.
43. Adimalla N., Li P., Venkatayogi S. Hydrogeochemical Evaluation of Groundwater Quality for Drinking and Irrigation Purposes and Integrated Interpretation with Water Quality Index Studies. *Environmental Processes* 2018; 5: 363-383.
44. Elbeltagi A., Pande C., Koudri S., Islam A. Applications of Various Data-driven Models for the Prediction of Groundwater Quality Index in the Ashok Basin, Maharashtra, India. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-021-17064-7>
45. Panaskar D., Wagh V., Pawar R. Assessment of Groundwater Quality for Suitability of Domestic and Irrigation from Nanded Tehsil, Maharashtra, India. *SRTMU's Research Journal of Science* 2016; 71-83.
46. Aher K. Geochemistry and Assessment of Groundwater Quality for Drinking and Irrigation Purposes: A Case Study of Sukhana River Sub Basin, District Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India. *International Journal of Recent Trends in Science And Technology* 2012; 4(1): 45-49.
47. Aher K., Deshpande S., Varade A. Groundwater Quality Assessment Studies in Yeola Block of Nashik District, Maharashtra, India. *Journal of Geosciences Research* 2019; 4(1): 11-22.
48. Wagh S., Panaskar D., Mukate S., Lolage Y., Muley A. Groundwater Quality Evaluation by Physicochemical Characterization and Water Quality Index for Nanded Tehsil, Maharashtra, India. *Environment and Chemistry* 2016; 98: 39-44.
49. Hamza S. M., Ahsan A., Ghazali M. GIS-based FRATIC model for pollution vulnerability assessment of fractured-rock aquifer systems. *Environment Earth and Science* 2017; 76: 1–21.

50. Banerji S., Mitra D. Geographical information system-based groundwater quality index assessment of northern part of Kolkata, India for drinking purpose. *Geocarto Int.* 2019; 34: 943-958.
51. Wagh V., Panaskar D., Mukaate S., Lolage Y., Muley A. Groundwater Quality Evaluation by Physicochemical Characterization and Water Quality Index for Nanded Tehsil, Maharashtra, India. *International Proceedings of Chemical, Biological, and Environmental Engineering* 2016; 98(6): 39-44.
52. Anbazhagan S. and Nair M. Geographic Information System and Groundwater Quality Mapping in Panvel Basin, Maharashtra, India. *Environmental Geology* 2004; 45: 753-761.
53. Aher K. R. Delineation of Groundwater Quality for Drinking and Irrigation Purposes: A Case Study of Bori Nala Watershed, District Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India. *Journal of Applied Geochemistry* 2017; 19(3): 321-338.
54. Elbeltagi A., Pandey C. B., Koudri S., Islam T. Applications of Various data-driven Models for the Prediction of Groundwater Quality Index in the Akot Basin, Maharashtra, India. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-021-17064-7>
55. Panaskar D. B., Wagh V. M., Pawar R. S. Assessment Of Groundwater Quality For Suitability Of Domestic And Irrigation From Nanded Tehsil, Maharashtra, India. *SRTMU's Research Journal of Science* 2014; 71-82.