

ANALYSIS OF TOXIC EFFECT OF INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT ON LABEO ROHITA IN THE RIVER RAM GANGA AT MORADABAD

Bhupander Kumar¹, Vikas Gupta²

¹Research Scholar Shri Venkateshwara University, Gajurala J.P. Nagar (U.P)

²IFTM University, Moradabad-244001, (U.P)

Abstract

The industrial waste effluents generally contain heavy metals like Pb, Cr and Cu etc., dumped into rivers. In present study, the toxicity of industrial effluent was investigated using fish "Labeo Rohita" and found that fish was unable to survive even in 15% concentration of the effluent. An interesting feature of the study was that when the pH of the effluent decreased the toxicity of the effluent increased several times. It also found by the study that among three metals Pb, Cr and Cu, Chromium is more toxic than other two metals. The results also shows that the Cr toxicity in enhanced at lower pH- 5.5. This result is in agreement with the already established toxicity which reported that high Cr accumulation occurred at lower pH- 6.5 that of high pH- 7.8. It also established by the present investigation that as the pH decreases, the toxicity of the metal increases.

Keywords: Industrial Effluents, Heavy Metals, Labeo Rohita Fish, Aquatic Life.

1. INTRODUCTION

Water is abundantly available on the earth, three fourth to earth's surface is covered by water. Water is essential to all forms of life and makes up 50- 97% of the weight of all plants and animals [1]. In urban areas, the careless disposal of industrial effluents and other wastes in rivers & lacks may contribute greatly to the poor quality of river water [2-5]. Most of the rivers in the urban areas of the developing countries are the ends of effluents discharged from the industries. Asian countries experiencing rapid industrial growth during last few decade and this is making environmental conservation a difficult task [6]

Moradabad is a B-class city of Uttar Pradesh, having urban population more than 10 lakh. The city is full of brass, steel & glass cottage industries. A paper industry, some electroplating plants & other small-scale industries situated in Moradabad.. All these industries are in unorganized sector and thus have unplanned growth leaving to high degree of air, water and soil pollution. The most of the industries are dumping their effluents in two major rivers of the city- Ramganga River & Gagan River. The effluent containing heavy metals is largely the waste by product of industrial process. MATERIALS & METHODS

The samples collected at two different sites.

Site-1: Untreated Cu, Pb, & Cr effluents were collected from the small scale industry situated near the bank of Ram Ganga river which continuously discharging effluents into the river. The samples of effluents collected before mixing in the river.

Site- 2: Effluents sample carrying mixed discharge of industries & nearby locality after mixing with river water were collected at site II that is almost 1 kilometer far from the site-1.

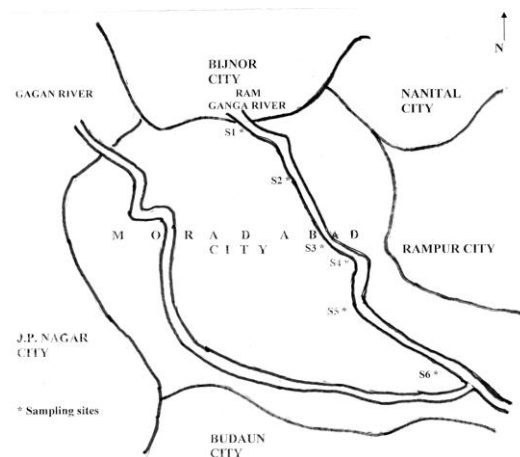


Figure-1: Map of sampling sites

Fig.1: Map of sampling sit

All the samples collected following standard procedure of sampling [8]. The toxicity test were conducted using "Labeo Rohita" (Hamilton) was acclimatized to the laboratory conditions for two weeks using diluents water prepared in the laboratory [9]. The fishes fed daily with a commercial food at a rate of 3% body wt. per day. The D.O. of the diluents water kept between 4.0-5.0 mg/lit [10]. The pH, hardness, alkalinity, Conductivity, COD of the diluents water kept almost same as that of fresh river water.

Different solution of effluents were prepared with diluents water (100%, 50%, 25%, 10%) and were taken separately in 5 lit capacity glass Jars and acclimatized fish (6 each) were put in all beakers. Before conducting the tests, the fish kept hungry for 24 hrs.

The acclimatized fish also kept in diluents water as control. The test conducted continuously for 96 hrs. The metal (Pb,

Cu, and Cr) concentration in effluents analyzed on AAS (Atomic absorption spectrophotometer) and the pH measured directly either in the effluent or in the river using a pH-meter. Table-1 shows a variation in both concentration and pH in sample collected from site-1 and site-2.

Table 1: Site wise estimation of Cu, Pb & Cr metals in industrial effluents mixing in Ram Ganga river (mg/lit)

S.No.	Metal	Site-1 (At the discharging source)	Site-2 (After mixing in river)
1.	Copper(Cu)	44.0	0.578
2.	Lead(Pb)	31.0	0.582
3.	Chromium(Cr)	29.0	0.429

2. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The findings of all the experiments summarized in Table 2. In case of Cr, it is clear from the table that all the six fishes died immediately after their transfer to the effluents. Even in case of 10% concentration of effluents sample, no fish survived after 24 hrs. It clearly indicates the toxicity of Cr metal. In the present investigation, it observed that survival is 70% after 24 hrs, 50% after 48 hrs and no survival after 96 hrs in undiluted sample containing Pb metal ion and it established that Pb has lesser toxicity than Cr.

Pb, Cr & Cu when mixed in 1:1:1 ratio shows a synergetic toxic effect. There was no survival immediately after transfer of fish at 100% concentration and 50% survival at 50% concentration. This river water has very small concentration of Pb, Cr & Cu but still showing severe toxic effect as only 2% survival observed after 96 hrs.

Table 2: Survival rates of fishes at various concentrations at different pH

S.No.	Solution	Concentration %	pH	No. of fish survived at different time interval				
				0	12	24	48	96
1.	Diluents water	100	8.5	**	**	**	**	**
2.	Copper effluent (42 mg/lit)	100	8.5	**	**	**	**	5
		50		**	**	**	**	5
		25		**	**	**	**	**
		10		**	**	**	**	**
		1		**	**	**	**	**
3.	Lead effluent (12 mg/lit)	100	8.5	**	**	4	3	None
		50		**	**	5	5	3
		25		**	**	**	4	4
		10		**	**	**	**	5
		1		**	**	**	**	5
4.	Chromium effluent (19 mg/lit)	100	8.5	None				
		50		5	None			
		25		**	5	None		
		10		**	**	None		
		1		**	**	4	3	2
5.	Copper, Lead & Chromium effluent (1:1:1)	100	8.5	None				
		50		3	None			
		25		**	4	2	None	
		10		**	**	4	None	
		1		**	**	**	5	5
6.	Copper effluent (0.478mg/lit)	100	5.5	**	**	**	5	4
		50		**	**	**	**	5
		25		**	**	**	**	**
		10		**	**	**	**	**
		1		**	**	**	**	**
7.	Lead effluent (0.122mg/lit)	100	5.5	**	4	4	3	None
		50		**	**	5	4	2
		25		**	**	4	4	3
		10		**	**	**	5	5
		1		**	**	**	**	5
8.	Chromium effluent (0.329mg/lit)	100	5.5	None				
		50		None				
		25		4	2	None		
		10		**	4	None		
		1		**	5	3	2	2

9.	Copper, Lead & Chromium effluent (1:1:1)	100	5.5	None				
		50		None				
		25		**	3	2	None	
		10		**	4	2	None	
		1		**	4	4	3	2
10.	River water containing effluent	100	5.5	**	**	5	3	1

**All survived

3. CONCLUSION

It is evident from the present investigation that among three metals Cr is more toxic and but when all the three metal effluents mixed in 1:1:1 ratio the toxicity of other two metals (Pb & Cu) increased several times (Table-2). As all the above metals are present in industrial waste and continuously accumulated in river water, pollute the water severely and have toxic effect an aquatic life.

The only solution of the problem is that Governments must do some honest and concrete efforts to stop this exercise of mixing untreated industrial effluents in rivers, and these industries should develop better R&D activities so that to adopt some different processes to minimize the waste production and ensure not to mix these effluents in the rivers

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