

E- Bulletin of Water Quality National Water Monitoring Programme (NWMP)



Water Quality Index Summary of 206 Stations in Maharashtra

WATER QUALITY

The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) regularly monitors the water quality across 250 Water Quality Monitoring Stations (WQMS) for both surface (155 on rivers, 34 on sea/creeks, 10 on drains, 1 dam) and ground water (24Borewells, 24Dugwell, 1 Handpumps, 1 Tubewell) under two programs of NWMP (National Water Monitoring Programme) project titled GEMS (Global Environment Monitoring System) and MINARS (Monitoring of Indian National Aquatic Resources). Surface water samples are monitored every month whereas the ground water samples are monitored every six months.

The quality of water is affected by various factors like rate of monsoon, dilution during monsoon, high evaporation rate during the summers, sporadic pollution loads from various anthropogenic activities, flow rate of water and so on. Hence, there could be varied fluctuations in the quality of water at the same monitoring location leading to seasonal variations.

Water Pollution

Any change in the physical, chemical and biological properties of water that has a harmful effect on living things is termed as 'water pollution' (WHO 1997)

Water pollution results from various point sources such as industrial effluents and domestic waste, and non-point sources such as fertilizer and pesticide run-offs in rural areas from the agricultural fields. Along with human activities, various microbiological agents like bacteria, viruses and protozoa also cause water pollution which may cause various water-borne diseases.

When toxic substances enter lakes, streams, oceans, and other water bodies, they get dissolved or lie suspended in water or get deposited on the bed. This results in the pollution of water whereby the quality of the water deteriorates, affecting aquatic ecosystems. Further the pollutants can also seep down and affect the groundwater deposits and aquifers.

The effects of water pollution are not only devastating to humans but also to flora and fauna. Water pollution can also significantly increase the rate of algal blooms which can cause depletion of oxygen in the water affecting the aquatic life. The consumption of water contaminated with pesticides can result in cellular and Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) damage, suppression on immune system, cancers, tumours and lesions on fish and animals. Physical deformaties such as hooked beaks in birds and thinning of egg shell can occur in avifauna. The consumption of polluted water may lead to not only poisoning of humans, animals, birds, but also disturbs the fragile aquatic and riparian ecosystem.

Dumping of solid wastes is also an important factor resulting in deterioration of the groundwater quality. Solid waste includes all the discarded solid materials from commercial, municipal, industrial, and agricultural activities.

WATER QUALITY INDEX FOR 206 LOCATIONS OF MAHARASHTRA

Monthly Bulletin of Water Quality

A water quality index provides a single number (like a grade) that expresses overall water quality of a certain water sample (location and time specific) for several water quality parameters. The objective of developing an index is to simplify the complex water quality parametric data into comprehensive information for easy understanding. A water index based on important parameters provides a simple indicator of water quality and a general idea on the possible problems with the water in the region.

WQI for surface water

The National Sanitation Foundation, USA developed the Water Quality Index (NSFWQI), a standardized method for comparing the water quality of various water bodies. It is one of the most respected and utilized water quality index.

Given the parameters monitored in India under NWMP and to maintain the uniformity while comparing the WQI across the nation, the NSF WQI has been modified and relative weights have been assigned by CPCB. Four parameters (pH, Dissolved Oxygen, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Fecal Coliform) are used for calculating WQI for surface water.

Upon determining the Water Quality Index, the water quality is described for easy understanding and interpretation.

Water Quality Index – Surface Water						
WQI	Quality Classification	Class by CPCB	Remarks	Colour Code		
63 - 100	Good to excellent	Α	Non Polluted			
50 - 63	Medium to Good	В	Non Polluted			
38 - 50	Bad	С	Polluted			
38 and less	Bad to Very Bad	D, E	Heavily Polluted			

WQI for ground water

MPCB monitors ground water quality once in six months. Based on the stringency of the parameters and its relative importance in the overall quality of water for drinking purposes each parameter has been assigned specifc weightage by CPCB. Theseweights indicate the relative harmfulness when present in water. Nine parameters (pH, Total Hardness, Calcium Hardness, Magnesium Hardness, Chloride, Total Dissolved Solids, Fluoride, Nitrate, Sulphate) are considered for calculating Water Quality Index of ground water.

Water Quality Index - Ground Water					
WQI	Water Quality	Colour Code			
<50	Excellent				
50-100	Good Water				
100-200	Poor Water				
200-300	Very Very Poor Water				
>300	Water Unsuitable for drinking				

Water Quality Index for 156 locations during December - 2018

WQI Category	WQI	Number of WQI values in different category		
		No. of WQI	% of WQI	
Good to Excellent	63-100	99	75.00	
Medium to Good	50-63	14	10.6	
Bad	38-50	13	9.85	
Bad to Very Bad	38 and less	6	4.55	
Total WQI values		132	100	

Summary:

- 1. 113 WQI values or 85.6 % values are in category of Good to Excellent and Medium to Good.
- 2. 13 WQI values or 9.85 % are in category of Bad.
- 3. 6 WQI values or 4.55 % are in category of Bad to Very Bad.

Pune Region

(Bad)

- 1189 Bhima River at Pune (Mutha river) at U/s of Vithalwadi near Shankar Mandir, Village- Vithalwadi, Taluka- Haweli, District- Pune.
- 1912 Chandrabhaga River at D/s of Pandharpur town rear Vishnupant Mandir, Village- Gopalpur, Taluka- Pandharpur, District- Solapur.
- 2191 Mutha River at Sangam Bridge near Ganapathyghat, Vill. Shivaji Nagar, Tal. & District Pune.
- 2192 Mula Mutha River at Mundhawa Bridge, Vill. Mundhawa, Tal. Haweli, District Pune.
- 2193 Mula River at Aundh Bridge, Village- Aundhgaon, Taluka- Haweli, Dist.- Pune.
- 2195 Nira River at D/s of Jubilant Organosis, Village- Nimbut, Taluka- Baramati, District Pune.
- 2196 Pawana River at Sangavigaon, Village- Sangavigaon, Tal. Haweli, Dist. Pune.
- 2197 Indrayani River at D/s of Alandigaon, Vill. Alandigaon, Tal. Haweli, District Pune.
- 2668 Indrayani River at D/s of Moshi village. Vill. Moshi, Taluka- Haweli, District- Pune.
- 2679 Mutha River at Deccan Bridge, Village- Deccan, Taluka- Pune, District- Pune.
- 2682 Nira River at U/s of Jubilant Organosis, Village- Nira (Dattaghat), Taluka-Baramati, District- Pune.
- 2693 Pawana River at Chinchwadgaon, Vill. Chinchwadgaon, Tal. Haweli, District- Pune.
- 2694 Pawana River at Pimprigaon, Village- Pimprigaon, Tal. Haweli, District-Pune.

(Bad to Very Bad)

- 1190 Bhima River at D/s of Bundgarden, Village Yerwada, Taluka- Haweli, District- Pune.
- 2194 Mula River at Harrison Bridge near Mula-Pawana sangam, Village-Bopodi, Taluka- Haweli, District- Pune.
- 2678 Mutha River near Veer Savarkar Bhavan, Village- Pune M.C, Taluka- Pune, District -Pune.
- 2690 Pawana River at Kasarwadi, Village- Kasarwadi, Taluka- Haweli, District-
- 2691 Pawana River at Dapodi bridge, at Pawana- Mulla Sangam, Village- Dapodi, Taluka- Haweli, District- Pune.

Mumbai Region

(Bad to Very Bad)

2168 - Mithi River near Road Bridge, Village- Mahim, Taluka- Bandra, District-Mumbai.