

“DRINKING WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT”

Synopsis of the lecture delivered by an additional chief engineer Dr. P. N. Ravindra, BWSSB, Bangalore. Lecture conducted by the department of biology, eco-club greenation of Sri Bhagawan Mahaveer Jain College, V.V.Puram on 25.08.2016 carried on with the valuable support of Dr. S. N. Natraj – Principal.

Water is a natural resource and a precious asset to basic human need. The water quality issue is an ongoing subject concerned with the development of economy of a country. It is deteriorated due to an increase in rapid industrialization and urbanization and an irresponsible use of water resources.

The global population will face severe water hardship. An unpleasant implication for health is generated by continuous water pollution. So for the sustainability of water resources continuous monitoring is required.

World Health Organization (WHO) have assessed that there are 536 contaminants which are different categories like physical, chemical, biological and radiological. The analysis results revealed that the chemical and fecal and total coliform numbers have exceeded the permissible limits which indicates constant percolation of sewage. Abundance of an endocrine disrupting chemicals in water affecting the system and higher concentration of aluminum results in nervous disorder like Alzheimer's disease. So BWSSB has taken care and adopted different methodologies like coagulation, flocculation, filtration and addition of disinfectant to treat the water and supplying it for drinking purpose in Bangalore city.

BWSSB operations depends on the raw water. The source is rainfall only. In 2016 summer, the rainfall deficit was 26%. But this time we are going to face very severe problem of rainfall deficit that they have assessed. It also has sewage treatment plants. After the treatment, it is used for industrial purpose. So BWSSB has suggested to collect rain water efficiently to facilitate ground water recharge, which is absolutely required in Bangalore with bore wells to meet the water requirements. Further, well maintained lakes can augment the water supply to the city, as there is already acute shortage of water supply. Presently, the city is not in a position to supply the required water to the existing population. Hence it needs emergent proactive planning and implementation to cater to the needs of population. The most feasible and viable option is to keep the lake water clean by not allowing sewage entry into lakes on one side and to recycle waste water by tertiary treatment. Otherwise the basic drinking water security need will be at stake and the poorer sections of the society get affected badly.

The most effective means of assuring drinking water quality and the protection of public health is through adoption of a preventive management approach.

“Water is elixir for life”.