

Community water pollution monitoring programme in Pali

First monitoring report

August 2008:

The first monitoring was undertaken on August 22, 2008. When the farmers group visited the CETP for sampling, they observed bypass of untreated effluents and the district administration and the pollution control board was informed of the same. On the complaints of the community, the regional officer, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board and the CETP officials rushed to the site. Samples from CETP outlets were collected and tested by the farmers in their presence under the supervision of the CSE staff. It was found that the heavy metals in CETP effluents were much higher than the effluent discharge standards specified by the pollution control Board. Arsenic and zinc were found in concentrations exceeding the effluent discharge standards.

On the same day, the farmers along with the CSE staff called upon the collector and appraised him of the sad state of CETPs. SKPSS handed over the first monitoring report to the District Collector and requested him to upgrade the CETP in such a way that it can remove the heavy metals. District Collector promised action to permanently close the bypass arrangement in the CETP and also assured that the issue of heavy metals would be dealt with seriously.

Table: First monitoring report: CETP 1&2 in Pali

S. No.	Heavy Metal	Results as tested on Aug 22, 2008 (ppm)	Effluent Standard (ppm)	Observations
1.	Arsenic	0.25	0.2	Violating the standards
2.	Chromium (VI)	0.03	2.0	Meeting the standards
3.	Lead	ND	0.1	Meeting the standards
4.	Zinc	15.0	5.0	Violating the standards

Source: Anon 2008, First report of the Community Water Pollution Monitoring Programme in Pali, , CSE and SKPSS, Pali, August 22, mimeo

Photographs

Field test kits for heavy metal monitoring being handed over to the community





Community correlating the testing data with the colour code

