Effects of Water Pollution on Human Health in Unnao District

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Abstract

Pure drinking water is the basic need for human life. No life can exist or survive without water on earth. In India, inspite of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, more than 44% villages lack proper wastewater disposal systems. More than 50% villages in India lack proper system for domestic waste disposal. Though, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has brought down open defication in rural areas of India, a lot of work has to be done yet in this field.

Lucknow and Kanpur are the most important cities of Uttar Pradesh, one of the largest states of India. Unnao is a town situated between these two metropolitan cities of Uttar Pradesh. This town is not only an important area of rice cultivation, but an important industrial area as well. However, untreated industrial waste from this town and nearby areas is directly exposed to the river Ganga and other water bodies near Unnao and Kanpur.

This has lead to contamination of the land of Unnao and nearby areas with intoxicants such as Chromium, Arsenic and Floride; and the quantity of such elements is increasing day by day. Furthermore, massive usage of chemical fertilizers and pesticides has added to the devastation of water pollution in this area.

The present study deals with the effects of water pollution in Unnao district and their solution of this problem.
INTRODUCTION

Polluted water is the main cause of a number of diseases. Polluted water not only affects the life of present generation but it also affects the life of upcoming generations because its effect remains for long. Bhopal gas tragedy case can be named as an example. Bhopal Gas tragedy is the world’s worst industrial disaster. Study by official scientific agencies shows that ground water contamination has spread 40 meters deep and upto 3.5 km from the abandoned factory. Nearly 40000 persons have consumed this contaminated water over the past 14 to 20 years and cancers, birth defects and diseases related to skin, lungs, brain, kidneys and liver are several times more prevalent in that community than anywhere else in the country.1

The use of water is multifold. The survival of human being is not possible without the water. Human being cannot live without the water. For a healthy life pure and pollution free water is indispensable. If in any area the water is polluted then people or the other living creatures are forced to drink that polluted water because they have no other option nor can they live without it. In recent years, water pollution has become a serious problem across the country, mostly due to the presence of untreated effluents, chemicals and pesticides in it.2

There are many causes of water pollution. These causes can be removed or at least controlled with the awareness amongst the people and by the strong implementation of the legislative measures. But because of the activism of judiciary in India this right to clean and sufficient water is
embodied in Article 21 of the Constitution of India. If the water is not clean or is polluted then Constitution of India also provides remedy which can be claimed under the law of torts and under Article 226 of the Constitution in the form of filing writ in the High Court of the respective State and under Article 32 writ can be filed in the Supreme Court.

The present study finds that the right to access clean water is not specifically guaranteed either by the constitution of India or by any other Acts. Duty is imposed on the state to provide clean water and prevent and control the water pollution. The present study reveals that Water pollution is a major issue in India. The power of the Supreme Court under Article 32 is not only injunctive in ambit that is preventing the infringement of fundamental rights, but it is also remedial in scope and provides relief against a breach of the fundamental rights already committed.39 This paper unravel that the waste water treatment plants in India are not adequate. Efforts are being made. To save aquatic life in the Ganga and to effectively treat waste water, two pilot projects have been initiated by WWF in the city.40 The study stresses to establish sewage treatment plant in every urban settlement. Preferably the sanction to the urban settlement should be given only after the establishment of the sewage plant. In India there is lack of clean drinking water and sanitation. Level of ground water is reducing. There is need of an effective water policy. The first policy was adopted by National Water Resources Council in 1987. This was revised and updated in April 2002. Government, NGO’s and educated people should have done efforts to aware the people about the water pollution and its effects. The NGO Green Earth organized competitions Programme, poster making, slogan writing and an environment quiz for creating awareness about the environment, health and sanitation at Brahm
Sarovar of Kurukshetra. Such type of activities should be done on war footing. The study stresses to establish the separate environmental courts in each state to reduce the burden of the judiciary and to implement the recommendations of the 186th Report of India’s Law Commission.

REFERENCES:

