

ABSTRACT

In the present study the research was done to find out arsenic contamination in drinking water of Lahore. Lahore is the second largest city of Pakistan and people living in Lahore rely on ground water for drinking purpose. This water is extracted from the ground with the help of tube wells, motor pumps and hand pumps. The main purpose of the study was to collect the data and information to check fitness of drinkable ground water with reference to arsenic concentration against WHO permissible limits of arsenic for drinking water.

Study was conducted by collecting 86 samples from 9 towns of Lahore. To analyze arsenic level in water samples arsenic Quant fix field kit was used.

Results showed significant variations in arsenic concentration in ground water of Lahore. It was also revealed many water samples had higher concentration of arsenic compare to WHO standards for arsenic concentration in drinking water. The study revealed that most of the water showed arsenic contamination in drinking water ranging between 5-100 ppb. The highest arsenic contamination was estimated in Main Out fall road and Qila Lachman Singh i.e., 100ppb.

Situation is a great concern for the local population which can receive this pollutant directly by drinking contaminated water, or indirectly (e.g in food chain through crops and cattle. The high level of arsenic in drinking water can lead to mild to serious health consequences and needs to be dealt immediately.