
ABSTRACT

A study was carried out to assess the drinking water quality of Sheikhpura City. The water samples were collected from twenty one different locations of the city. The areas which were more populated, the number of samples from those areas were two to three. The total number of water samples collected for the study were thirty two. Sixteen physiochemical parameters (pH, taste, odour, colour, temperature, turbidity, total dissolved solids, total hardness, calcium, magnesium, alkalinity, chloride, electrical conductivity, arsenic, iron, fluoride and sulphate) and one biological parameter (total coliform) were tested for each sample and the results were compared with World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines for drinking water and national standard for drinking water quality. Based on the physiochemical parameter results, the water samples of ten different locations were unfit for human consumption. The presence of brown and green particles was found in two samples, the value of total dissolved solids was higher than the permissible limit at five samples and the value of arsenic was higher than the limit at three different samples. Thirty one water samples showed the biological contamination. Only one water sample was biologically fit. The possible cause of this contamination was that the waste water was mixing with the ground water. It is recommended that the water should be used after boiling or compulsory chlorination should be performed to eliminate biological contamination.