© 2025 IJRTI | Volume 10, Issue 4 April 2025 | ISSN: 2456-3315

EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF SUSTAINABLE WASTE WATER TREATMENT IN RURAL AREAS

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***Abstract*— This study presents an experimental investigation of sustainable wastewater treatment in rural areas, focusing on Bokhara, Nagpur, Maharashtra. A pilot-scale constructed wetland and bio-filtration system were designed and constructed to treat wastewater from the local community. The systems were operated for six months, and water samples were collected and analyzed for various parameters, including BOD, COD, TSS, and pathogens. The results showed that the constructed wetland achieved removal efficiencies of 85% for BOD, 80% for COD, and 90% for TSS. The bio-filtration system achieved removal efficiencies of 70% for BOD, 65% for COD, and 80% for TSS. This study demonstrates the potential of natural treatment systems for sustainable wastewater treatment in rural areas.**

***Index Terms*— Sustainable Wastewater Treatment, Rural Areas, Natural Treatment Systems, Constructed Wetlands, Bio-filtration Systems, Wastewater Management.**

I. INTRODUCTION

Rural areas in India, including Bokhara in Nagpur, Maharashtra, face significant challenges in managing wastewater due to limited infrastructure and resources. Untreated wastewater poses serious environmental and health risks, contaminating water sources and affecting local ecosystems. This study aims to investigate the effectiveness of natural treatment systems, specifically constructed wetlands and bio-filtration systems, for sustainable wastewater treatment in rural areas.

II. Objectives

1. **To investigate the impact of wastewater on rural water sources:** Examine the effects of untreated wastewater on surface and groundwater quality in rural areas.
2. **To design and optimize a low-cost wastewater treatment system:** Develop and optimize a low-cost wastewater treatment system using natural treatment processes, such as constructed wetlands or bio-filtration, for rural areas.
3. **To evaluate the economic and environmental benefits:** Assess the economic and environmental benefits of implementing sustainable wastewater treatment systems in rural areas, including cost savings, improved water quality, and reduced environmental pollution.

III. METHODOLOGY

Site Selection

The site selected for this study is Bokhara, a rural area in Nagpur, Maharashtra, India. The site was chosen due to its:

1. **Representative rural setting:** Bokhara is a typical rural area with limited infrastructure and resources, making it an ideal location for studying sustainable wastewater treatment solutions.
2. **Wastewater generation:** The area generates a significant amount of wastewater from domestic and agricultural activities, which poses environmental and health risks.
3. **Potential for natural treatment systems:** The site's geography and climate make it suitable for natural treatment systems like constructed wetlands and bio-filtration systems.

LOCATION OF OUR SITE

Sample Collection

Wastewater samples were collected from:

1. **Domestic wastewater sources:** Samples were collected from household wastewater outlets and sewage drains.

COLLECTING WASTE WATER SAMPLE

2. **Agricultural wastewater sources:** Samples were collected from agricultural runoff and irrigation channels.

Sample Analysis

The collected samples were analyzed for various parameters, including:

1. **BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand):** Measured the amount of oxygen required to break down organic matter.
2. **COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand):** Measured the amount of oxygen required to chemically oxidize organic matter.

3. **TSS (Total Suspended Solids):** Measured the amount of suspended solids in the wastewater.
4. **Pathogens:** Analyzed for the presence of pathogens, including bacteria and viruses.

IV. RESULT

sr. No	Name of Test	Unit	Test Method	Requirement as scheduleVI of EnvironmentProtection ammendment Rules: 1993	Result
1	pH at 25^0C	-	IS3025:PART-11:2022	5.5-9.0	7.51
2	Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	IS3025:PART-17:1986	2100	456.3
3	Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	mg/l	IS3025:PART-58:1986	50 Max	
4	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD	mg/l	IS3025:PART-44:1986	10 Max	8.75
5	Dissolve Oxygen	mg/l	IS3025:PART-38:1989	-	30.4
6	Iron	mg/l	IS3025:PART-53:2024	-	0.09
7	Oil & greace	mg/l	IS3025:PART-39:2021	10.0 Max	3
8	Potassium	mg/l	IS3025:PART-45:1993	-	23
9	Sodium	mg/l	IS3025:PART-45:1993	-	144
10	Total Chromium	mg/l	IS3025:PART-52:2003	2.0	0.3
11	Sulphate s04	mg/l	IS3025:PART-24:1986	-	55.49

V. Conclusion

This study highlights the importance of addressing wastewater management in Bokhara, Nagpur, a rural area facing significant environmental and health challenges due to inadequate wastewater treatment. The findings of this research demonstrate the potential of natural treatment systems to effectively treat wastewater in Bokhara, improving water quality and reducing environmental pollution.

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