

A STUDY ON AIR QUALITY AND AIR QUALITY INDEX OF WADI TOWN

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Abstract - The humans are exposed to air pollution, it can cause respiratory related diseases and aggravate the conditions such as asthma, bronchitis etc. Energy needs of the industries and domestic activities are met by burning fuels which also emit poisonous wastes leading to air contamination. Sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) are known to be the major air pollutants in India. Degradation of air quality in Indian cities is mainly due to emissions from the vehicles on road and railway tracks. In the past few decades or so, there has been a tremendous raise in road transportation, increase in the number of fuel consuming vehicles and establishment of large number of industries have resulted in drastic increase in the concentration of gaseous and particulate matter in air.

Key Words: Air quality measurement, air quality index of wadi town

1. INTRODUCTION

Air pollution is a major threat to human health. The United Nations Environment Programmed has estimated that, globally, 1.1 billion people breathe in unhealthy air. Epidemiological studies have shown that concentrations of ambient air particles are associated with a wide range of effects on human health, especially on the cardio-respiratory system. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that urban air pollution is responsible for approximately 800,000 deaths and 4.6 million people lose their lives every year around the globe. Air pollution is associated with increased risk of acute respiratory infections (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality in developing countries

Ambient Air Quality (AQI) of Wadi town and its surroundings was monitored using a set of dust samplers, viz., APM-460, APM-550 and APM-433. The pollutants considered for the assessment of air quality were Sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ammonia (NH₃) and particulate matter (PM₁₀) which gave a measure of pollution content in the air. The sampling sites have been monitored for 24 hours on an 8 hourly. Air quality was quantified in terms of concentrations of PM₁₀, NO₂, SO₂ and NH₃. Annual Air Quality index of presently selected sites of Wadi town has been determined to assess the degree of atmospheric pollution [1]. Human activities since preindustrial time have resulted in large increase in air pollution. Air pollutants are substances which when present in the atmosphere adversely affect the human health, animals, plants, or microbial life;

damage materials, or interfere with the normal activities of life. In this project the air quality index in industrial places of Wadi town will be calculated.

1.1 OBJECTIVES

- Appreciate that air is important type of matter that can be polluted as a result of rapid industrialization.
- To measure the concentration levels of (PM₁₀) and gaseous pollutants like Sulphur dioxide(SO_x), Nitrogen dioxide(NO_x).
- To evaluate the air quality index (AQI) of Wadi town.

2 MATERIALS

Monitoring Particulate matter

Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) PM₁₀:

Respirable Suspended Particulate matter are particulate matters with aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 micrometers, thus also named as PM₁₀. They are produced from combustion processes, vehicles and industrial sources.

Envirotech APM 460BL:

The APM 460 sampler uses an improved cyclone with sharper cut-off (D₅₀ at 10 microns) to separate the coarser particulates from the air stream before filtering it on the glass microfibre filter. By using the APM 460, measurement of respirable Particulate Matter can be done accurately and TSPM (Total Suspended Particulate Matter) can also be assessed by collection of dust retained in the cyclone cup.

Monitoring SO_x NO_x

Gas sampling is done to characterize the chemical, thermal, and hydrological properties of a surface or subsurface hydrothermal system. Various methods are applied to obtain samples used for determination of the composition of gases present in soils or hydrothermal discharges The APM 411 TE is designed as an attachment to operate with Envirotech's Respirable Dust or High-Volume Samplers and PM_{2.5} samplers. When paired with an appropriate dust sampler, the APM 411 TE allows the user to collect gaseous pollutant samples (for monitoring SO₂, NO_x, NH₃, Ozone, etc.) as well as dust samples simultaneously.

2.1 METHODS

Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) in ambient air (Gravimetric Method)

Principle of the method

Air is drawn through a size-selective inlet and through a 20.3 X 25.4 cm (8 X 10 in) filter at a flow rate, which is typically 1132 L/min. Particles with aerodynamic diameter less than the cut-point of the inlet are collected, by the filter. The mass of these particles is determined by the difference in filter weights prior to and after sampling. The concentration of PM₁₀ in the designated size range is calculated by dividing the weight gain of the filter by the volume of air sampled

Sulphur dioxide in ambient air (Improved West and Geake method)

Principle of the method:

Modified West & Geake Method (IS 5182 Part 2 Method of Measurement of Air Pollution: Sulphur dioxide). Sulphur dioxide from air is absorbed in a solution of potassium tetrachloromercurate (TCM). A dichloro sulphitomercurate complex, which resists oxidation by the oxygen in the air, is formed. Once formed, this complex is stable to strong oxidants such as ozone and oxides of nitrogen and therefore, the absorber solution may be stored for some time prior to analysis. The complex is made to react with para-rosaniline and formaldehyde to form the intensely coloured Pararosaniline methylsulphonic acid. The absorbance of the solution is measured by means of a suitable spectrophotometer.

Place 30 ml of absorbing solution in an impinger and sample for four hours at the flow rate of 1 L/min. After sampling measure the volume of sample and transfer to a sample storage bottle.

Nitrogen dioxide in ambient air (Modified Jacob and Hochheiser Method)

Principle of the method:

Modified Jacobs & Hochheiser Method

(IS 5182 Part 6 Methods for Measurement of Air Pollution: Oxides of nitrogen).

Ambient nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) is collected by bubbling air through a solution of sodium hydroxide and sodium Arsenite. The concentration of nitrite ion (NO₂) produced during sampling is determined colorimetrically by reacting the nitrite ion with phosphoric acid, sulphanilamide, and N-(1-naphthyl)- ethylenediamine di-hydrochloride (NEDA) and measuring the absorbance of the highly coloured azo-dye in a spectrophotometer at 540 nm.

Place 30 ml of absorbing solution in an impinger and sample for four hours at the flow rate of 0.2 to 1 L/min. After sampling measure the volume of sample and transfer to a sample storage bottle.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The air quality monitoring of the SIX selected locations have been monitored in and around Wadi town is discussed in this chapter. The concentration of primary pollutants like Suspended Particulate Matter, Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulphur Dioxide were determined. The data and results are presented in tables and graphs for convenient of analysis. Based on the data and results documented discussions were made.

Table 3.1: 24 Hour average Concentration of Suspended Particulate Matter, Sulphur Dioxide, Nitrogen Dioxide during summer. (all values in µg/m³)

SL No	Code	Location	PM10	SO _x	NO _x
1	ARW1	CPP ACC Cement	385.9	98.5	92.6
2	ARW2	ACC hospital	324.6	70.6	81.5
3	ARW3	Hanuman temple Zafhrawadi	95.6	21.9	11.2
4	ARW4	D.A.V Public school	98.7	8.4	7.6
5	ARW5	SBI Bank	224.6	29.5	25.6
6	ARW6	Super market	361.5	34.6	44.6

3.2 Particulate matter PM10

The concentration of PM₁₀ in locations ARW1, ARW2, ARW5, ARW6 were exceeding the standard limits (100µg/m³) prescribed by NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards) except sampling points ARW3 and ARW4 were the values are well within the limits during summer season.

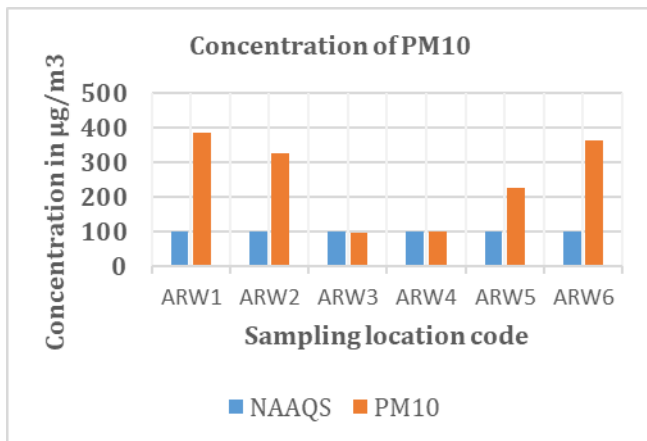


Fig 3.2.1

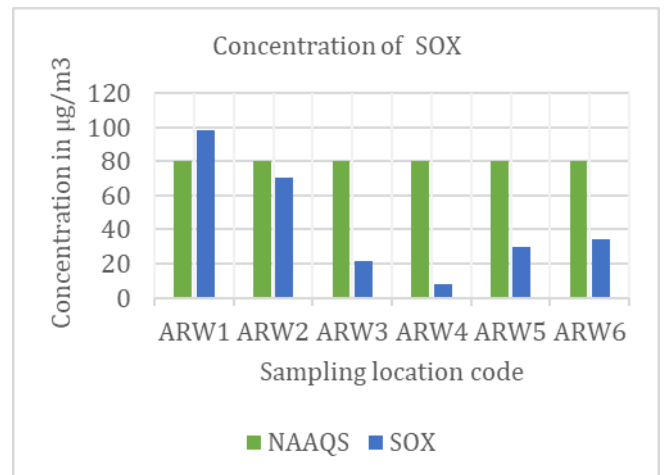


Fig 3.3.1

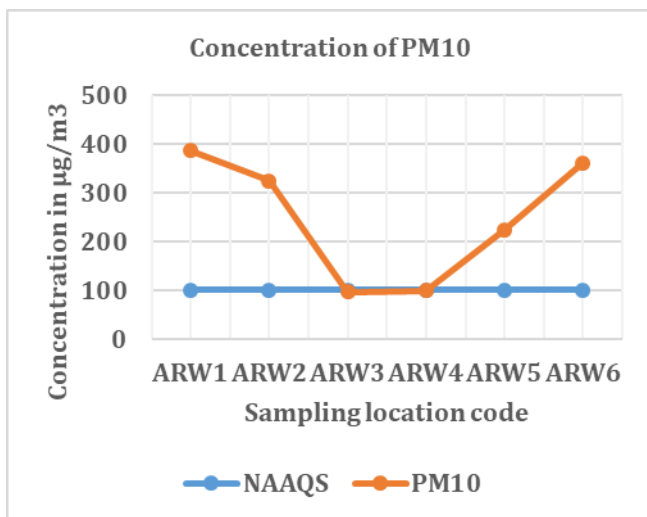


Fig 3.2.2

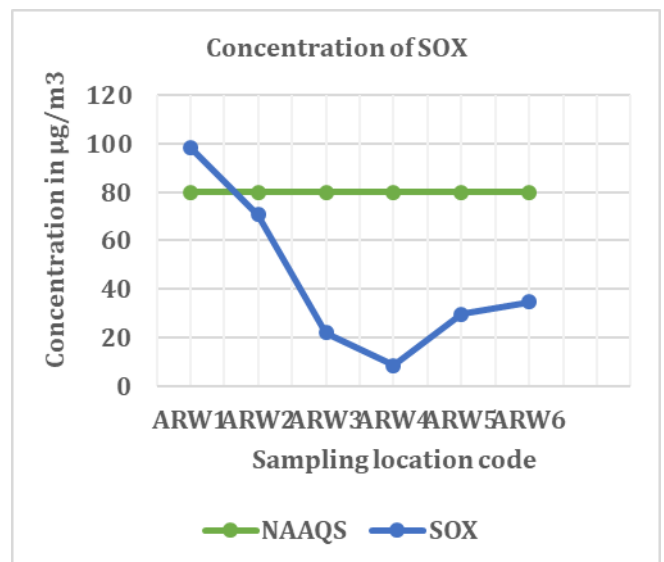


Fig 3.3.2

3.3 Sulphur dioxide SO_x

The concentration of SO_x in all six locations were almost five locations of sampling ARW2, ARW3, ARW4, ARW5 and ARW6 the values from these locations are well within the limits (80µg/m³) as per NAAQ volume. While the location AEW1 were the concentration of SO_x exceeds its limits during summer season.

3.4 N Nitrogen dioxide NO_x

The concentration of NO_x in sampling location ARW1 and ARW2 were exceeds the standard limits (80µg/m³) prescribed by NAAQS volume. While other five sampling location ARW3, ARW4, ARW5, ARW6 were we got values well within the limits during summer season.

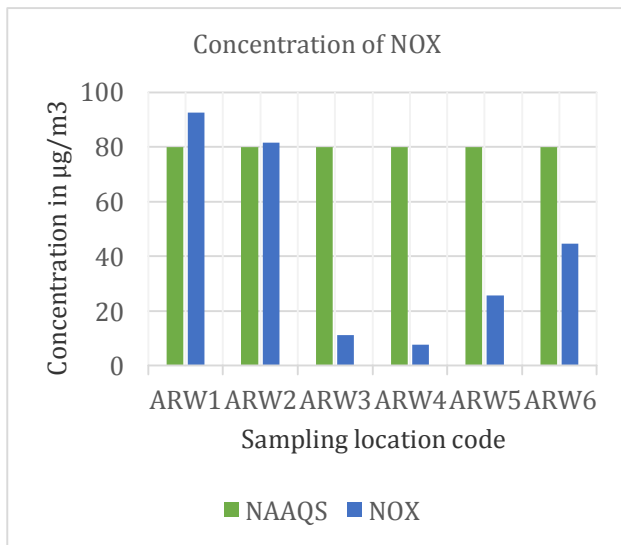


Fig 3.4.1

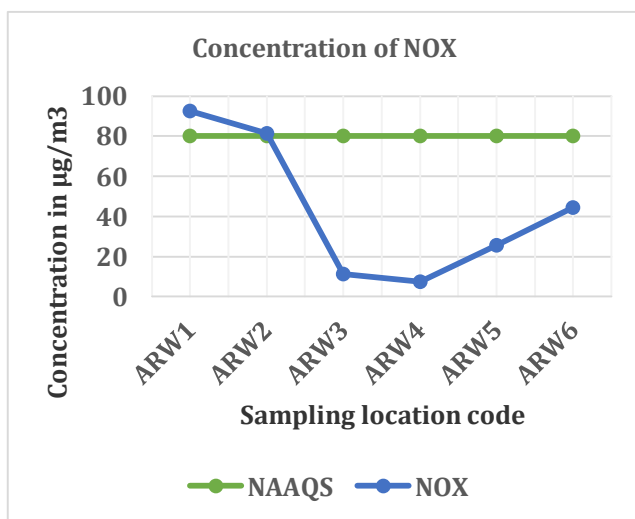


Fig 3.4.2

3.5 AIR QUALITY INDEX

The data obtain from monitoring of ambient air at six locations within the study area are used to calculate the AQI for each area during study period using CPCB’s AQI calculator XL spread sheet.

Sampling locations	AQI	Associate health impact
ARW1	345	Severe
ARW2	275	Unhealthy
ARW3	101	Poor
ARW4	96	Moderate
ARW5	183	Poor
ARW6	314	Severe

Fig 3.5.1

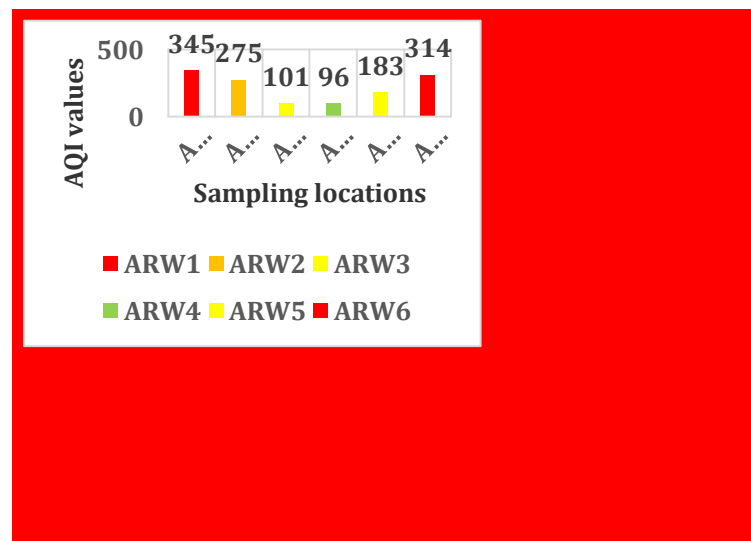


Fig 3.5.2

4. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results the following conclusions are drawn.

1. Among all six sampling locations the all-time worst air quality was found at CPP ACC cement (ARW1) and wadi super market (ARW2).
2. The lowest air pollution was found at D.A.V Public school (ARW4).
3. Except CPP ACC Cement and super market the concentration of sulphur dioxide SO_x and Nitrogen dioxide NO_x are within permissible limits of NAAQS (National ambient air quality standards)
4. AQI of CPP ACC cement and super market were severely polluted areas and it is very unhealthy for the public causes some various health problems
5. Overall AQI of wadi town is within permissible limits.

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