



# WATER QUALITY IN RAJASTHAN: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

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# RAJASTHAN



It covers an area of 342,239 square Kilometers with 33 districts



Also known as the gateway of thar desert as most of the northwestern part of Rajasthan is covered by thar desert



Famous for its printed textile in various forms like, *sanganeri* prints, *bandhej*, block prints etc.



Largest producer of marble and limestone

# MAJOR ISSUES

Scarcity of surface  
and groundwater

High TDS in ground  
water

High Fluoride  
Content in ground  
water

Heavy metal  
contamination in  
surface and  
groundwater

# FLUORIDE CONTAMINATION

16,560  
fluoride  
endemic  
habitation

50%  
districts are  
highly  
affected by  
fluoride

It ranges  
between  
0.03 ppm to  
a high as  
82 ppm in  
most of the  
places in  
Rajasthan

Prevalence  
of Fluorosis  
is reported  
in more  
than 45 % of  
population  
of Rajasthan

# CAUSES FOR HIGH FLUORIDE

- Presence of rocks like Pegmatite , Gabbros etc. containing minerals like Fluorspar, Fluorite, Lepidolite, Tremolite

- Presence of calcite and dolomite which accelerate the leaching of fluoride to the groundwater

- The arid climate with high evaporation and insignificant natural recharge increase fluoride concentration in the groundwater

# HIGHLY AFFECTED REGIONS

**Northern Region**

Jaipur

**Southern Region**

Bhilwara and  
Bundi

**Eastern Region**

Dausa

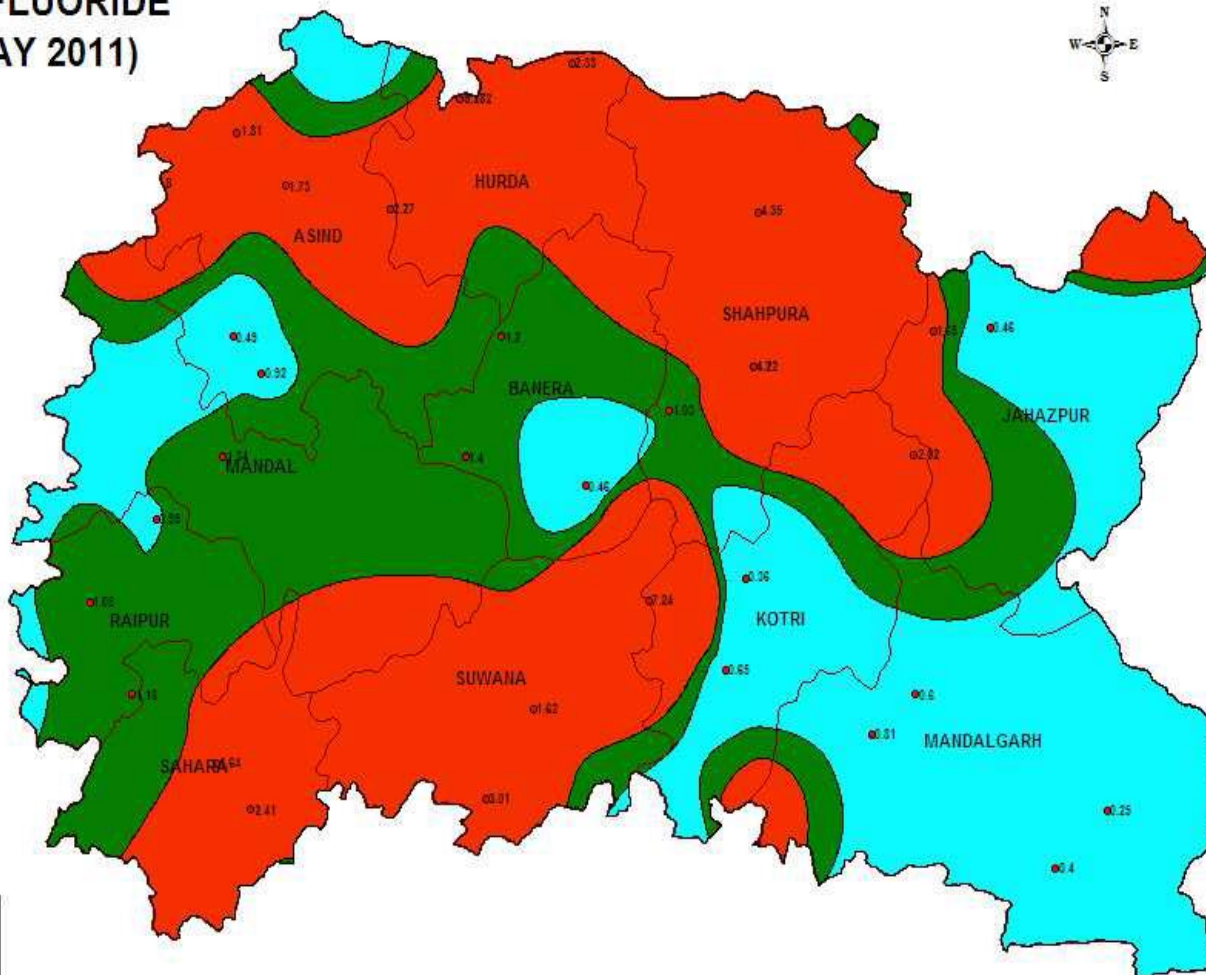
**Western**

Ajmer

# DISTRICT BHILWADA, RAJASTHAN

## ISO FLUORIDE

(MAY 2011)



Fluoride concentration  
in mg/l

- < 1
- 1 to 1.5
- > 1.5

# EFFECTS OF FLUOROSIS



**Rural people are highly affected due to lack of information and reach of technology**



# High Total Dissolved Solids

- Aquifer structure in most places of Rajasthan affect the quality of water with respect to hardness, alkalinity and TDS

- Mineral composition of aquifers is Ca-Mg Cl SO<sub>4</sub> NO<sub>3</sub> type

- Thus Sulphate, Calcium, Magnesium, Chloride and nitrate ions are dominant increasing the Hardness, Alkalinity and TDS of water

# Ground and surface water contamination by toxic metals



Rajasthan has clusters of textile printing units emitting wastewater containing dyes leading to heavy metal pollution of surface and groundwater



*Jaipur, Pali* and *Bhilwara* are the major hubs of textile printing units in Rajasthan

# **WATER QUALITY ISSUES IN SELECTED DISTRICTS OF RAJASTHAN**

# JAIPUR



Capital city of Rajasthan known as the **PINK** city



Famous for *Sanganeri* block print textile

# A cluster of 865 Textile printing units in *Sanganer* area of Jaipur



# MAJOR ISSUES

- Large quantities of wastewater generated from the textile printing units
- Effluent Treatment plants are of low capacity as compared to the wastewater generated
- Wastewater disposed off without treatment in to *Amahnisha Nalla*

# AMAHNISHA NALLA

- Amahnisha Nala runs approximately 35 km across the city of Jaipur
- In 1874 water of *Amanishah Nala* supplied to Jaipur city through network of pipeline
- Soon after the damming of the *Amanishah Nala*, low inflow and silting of the dam reduced its capacity but was still a source of surface water transporting water through a canal and collecting this water into kunds
- At present drainage canal with cocktail of chemicals



**Untreated Wastewater directly dumped  
into *Amahnisha nalla* by textile units**





**Polluted water in**  
***Amahnisha nala***



**Various studies on Wastewater analysis from *Amahnisha nalla* shows high levels of toxic metals**

<b>Metal</b>	<b>Concentration</b>	<b>Permissible limit</b>
Lead	2.01-6.35mg/l	0.1 mg/l
Zinc	3.5-5.8mg/l	5.0 mg/l
Chromium	4.5-7.63mg/l	0.05mg/l
Cadmium	2.3-8.62mg/l	0.05mg/l
Copper	5.1-7.54 mg/l	1.0 mg/l

**Goyal and Chauhan (2014), Jaishree and Khan(2014),Jhamaria and Bhatnagar(2016)**

## EFFECT OF HEAVY METALS ON HUMAN HEALTH

METAL	EFFECTS
<b>Cadmium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Kidney Damage</li><li>❖ Adversely affects the production of progesterone and testosterone</li><li>❖ Bone Damage(low grade of bone mineralization, high rate of fractures, increased rate of osteoporosis, and intense bone associated pain)</li><li>❖ Carcinogenic</li></ul>
<b>Chromium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Hexavalent chromium is a human carcinogen</li><li>❖ Chronic exposure causes adverse effects on Liver ,Kidney, gastrointestinal and immune system</li><li>❖ Mutagenic</li></ul>
<b>Nickel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Mutagenic</li><li>❖ Interfere with the metabolism of iron, calcium, magnesium, or manganese to produce its toxic</li><li>❖ Carcinogenic</li></ul>
<b>Lead</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Encephalopathy in children</li><li>❖ Peripheral neuropathy, chronic nephropathy, and hypertension in adults</li><li>❖ Adversely affects gastrointestinal, immune, skeletal and reproductive system</li><li>❖ Disrupts heme biosynthesis</li><li>❖ Carcinogenic</li></ul>





**Pumps used to apply wastewater directly from the  
*Amahnisha nala* in the agricultural Fields**



**Agricultural fields near  
*Amahnisha Nalla***

**Wastewater  
directly used for  
agriculture**

**Heavy metals  
are  
transferred to  
higher trophic  
levels**

**Groundwater  
contains toxic  
chemicals**

**INDUSTRIAL  
WASTEWATER**

**Soil is loosing  
its fertility due  
to toxicity  
caused by  
metals**

**Coloured water  
in wells and  
handpumps  
near textile  
printing units**

*Common vegetables like Spinach, Brinjal, Mint, Lady Finger grown on waste water irrigated agriculture fields*

*Concentration of heavy metals like Pb, Cr, Ni found above permissible limits in vegetables*



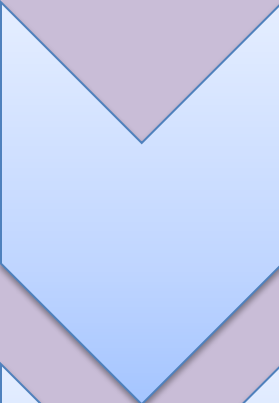
# BHILWARA



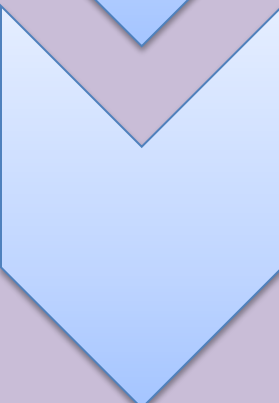
Bhilwara is a city in the Mewar region of Rajasthan

**Also known as manchester of Rajasthan**

About 500 synthetic textile units in outskirts of bhilwara on chittorgarh, Gangapur and Mandal road which are the main water guzzelers

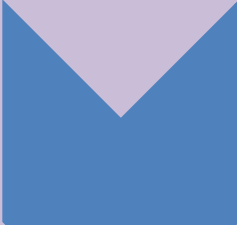
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- 500 units require 24.80 million liters of water per day(Mewar Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

- 
- Processing units use around 80% of water

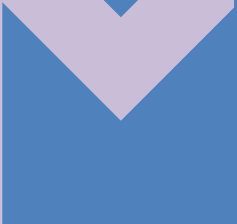
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- Untreated wastewater is disposed in the nearby Kothari river

- According to a study conducted by PHED , open wells in the villages near the Kothari river flowing besides industrial belt showed high levels of Chromium,Lead,Iron Zinc and Sodium much above the permissible limits set by Bureau of Indian standard



- 
- Effluent treatment plant are non functional as the treatment costs approx Rs. 4.5 lakh per day for three stages of effluent treatment

- 
- Untreated effluents are dumped in the Kothari river

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- After order of Zero discharge from Rajasthan pollution control board eucalyptus trees are grown in the area using untreated waste water thus injecting the wastewater in ground



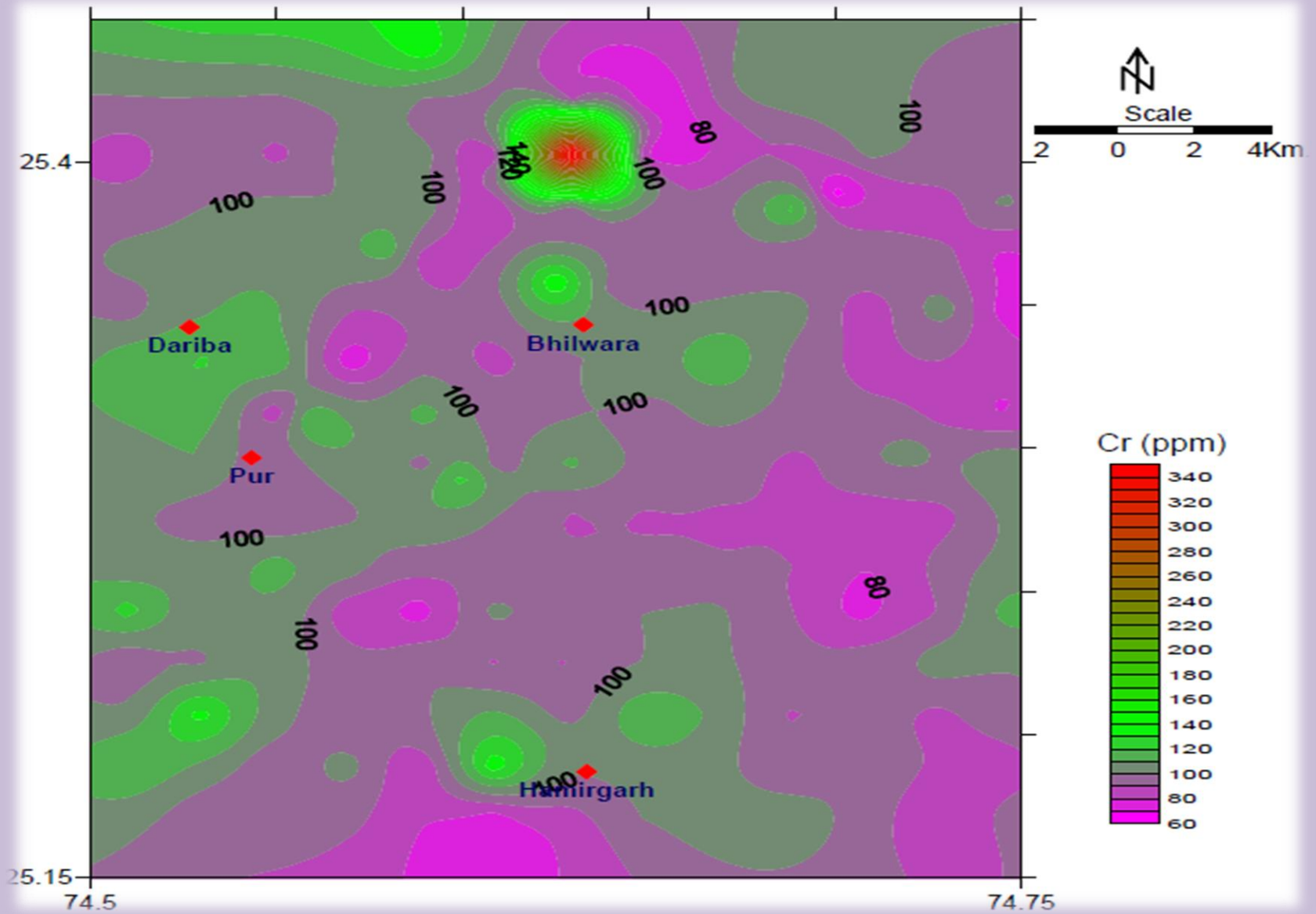
**Partially treated wastewater in Kothari river**



**Toxic effluent released from the textile units in Kothari river**

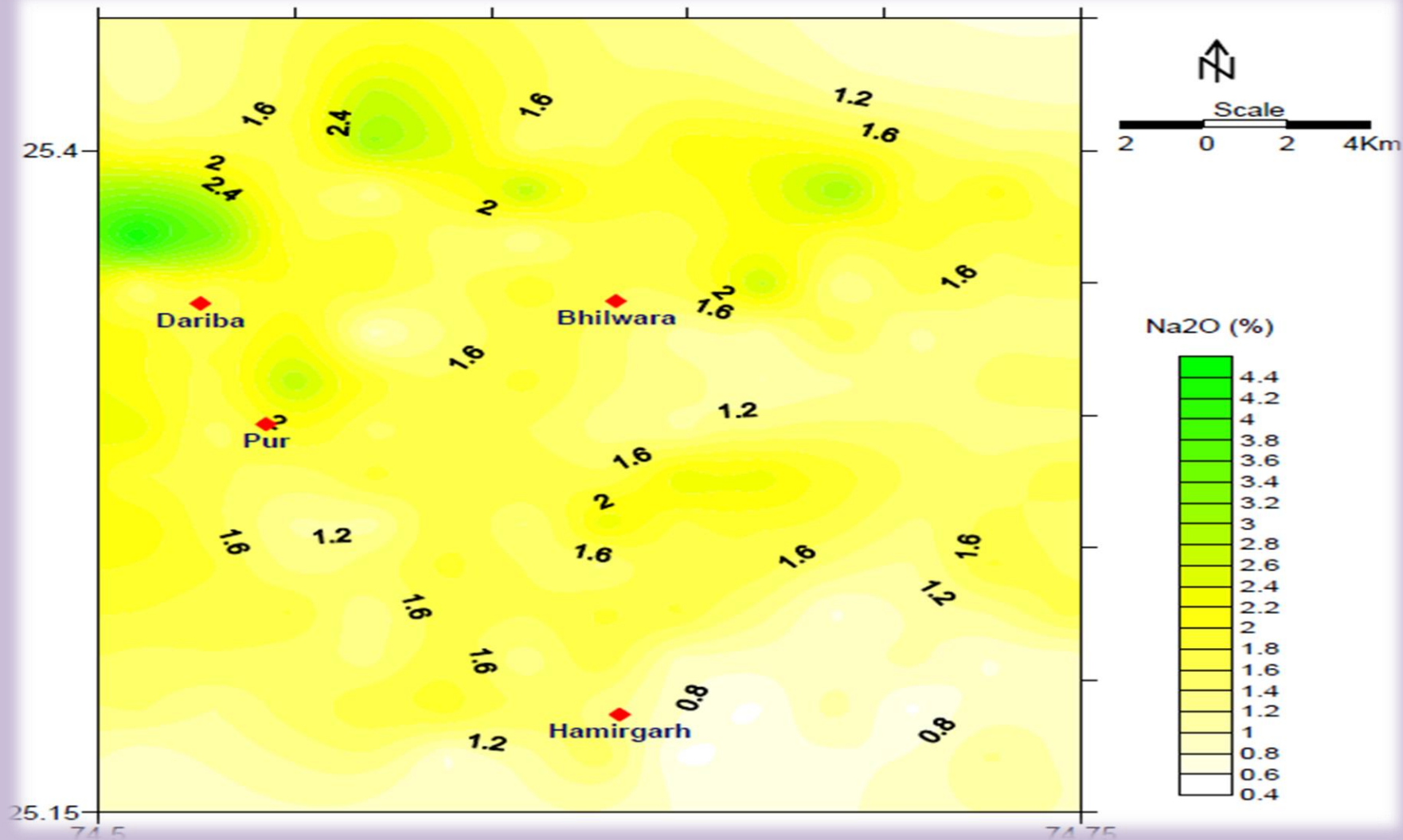


**Toxic effluents allowed to percolate through the sandy bed**

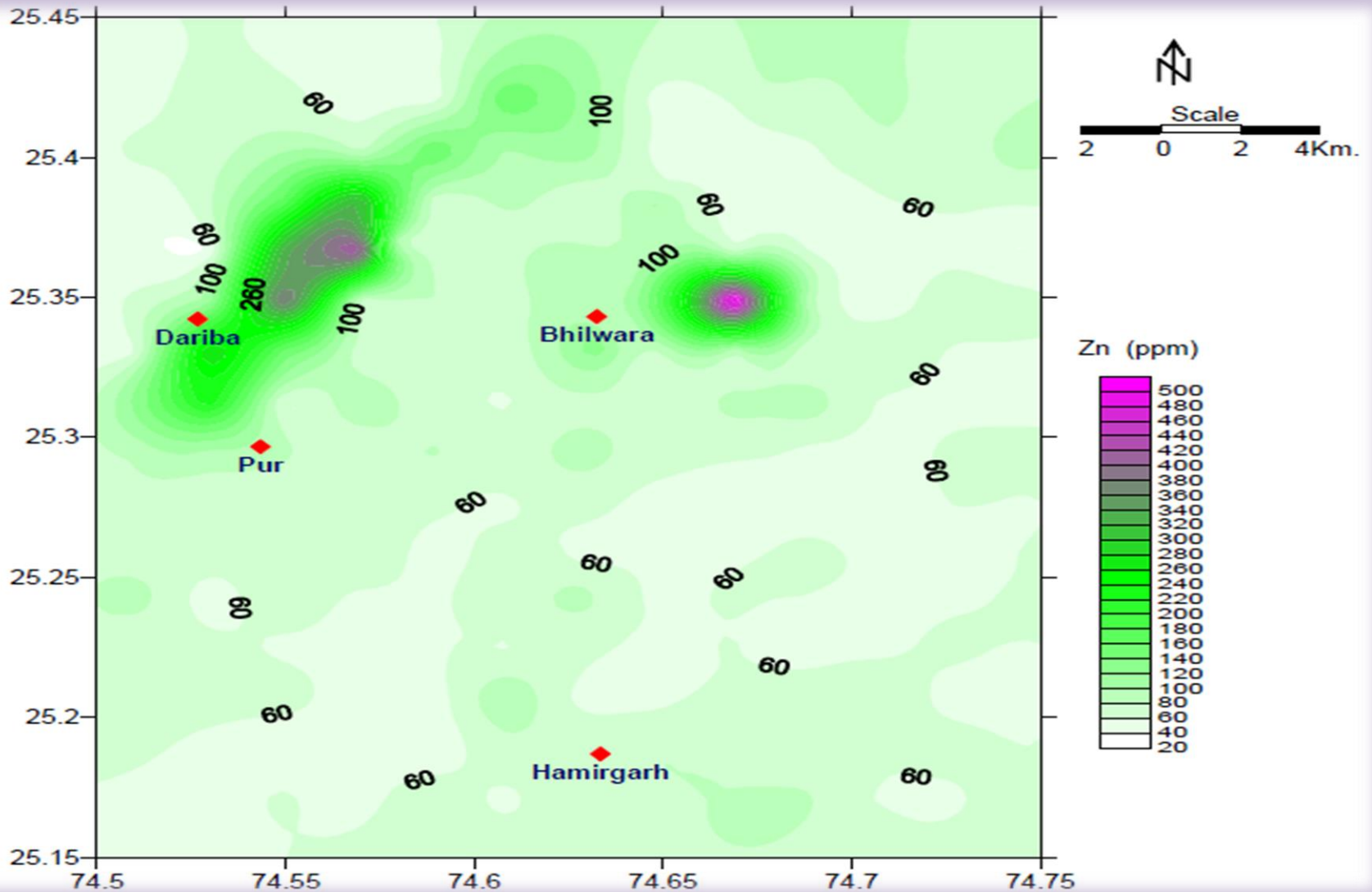


***Distribution of Cr in the industrial belt of Bhilwara, Rajasthan(GSI report, 2014)***





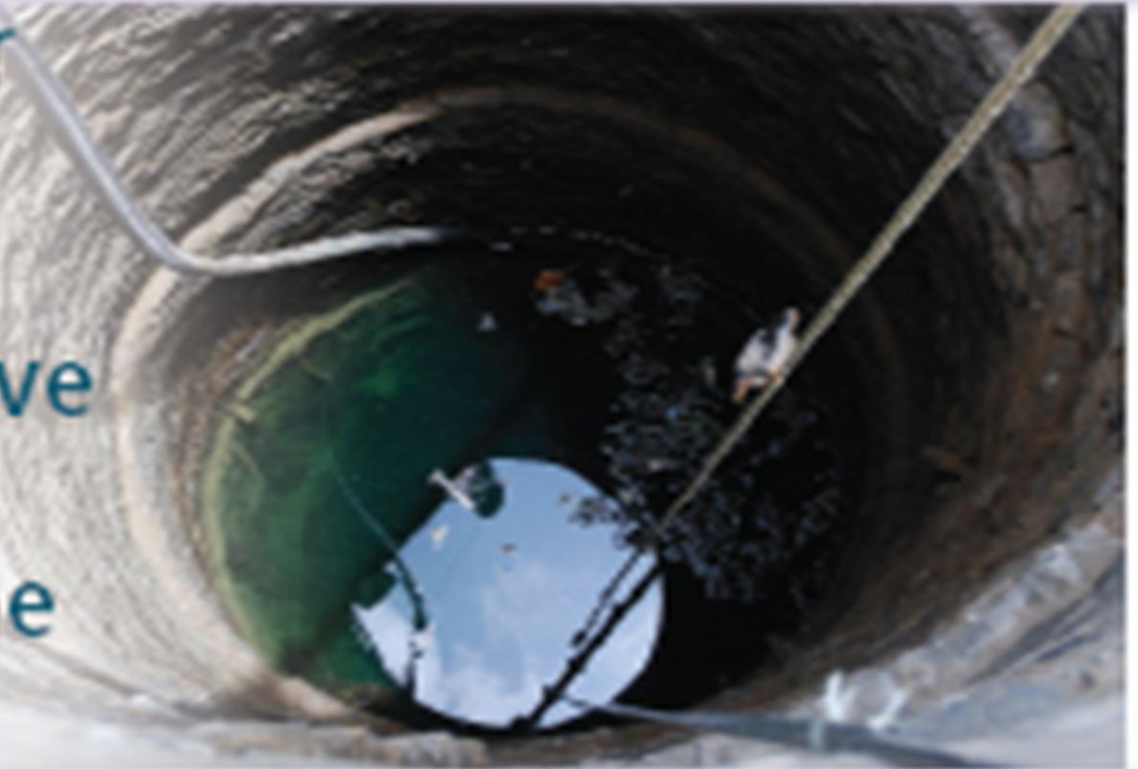
***Distribution of Na<sub>2</sub>O in the industrial belt of Bhilwara, Rajasthan (GSI report 2014)***



***Distribution of Zn in the industrial belt of Bhilwara(GSI Report 2014)***

- *Water in open wells have turned blue green in colour and water from hand pumps have smell and taste of chemicals(CSE report 2014)*

Green water in wells are proof that effluents have seeped very deep into the ground



Polluted ground water is not anymore used by the industries itself due to its poor quality

Industries get water from outside city in tankers

# HIGH PREVALENCE OF HEALTH ISSUES

**Gastroenteritis**


**Stomach disorders**

**Skin diseases**

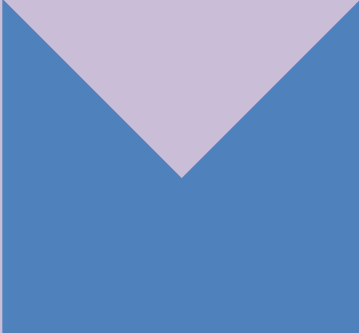
# PALI


- Pali district is 70 km east of Jodhpur and on the bank of Bandi river
- 11,562 registered textile printing units in Pali
- Common effluent treatment plant of capacity 34.86 million liters a day is installed **for treating alkaline effluent**

- 
- Due to changing market trends industries replaced cotton fabric with synthetic fabric Effluent thus become **acidic in nature** which could not be treated in the existing CEPT

- 
- Untreated wastewater discharged in the seasonal river Bandi and Nehra dam with no flow in lean period

- 
- Wastewater has contaminated groundwater along adjacent banks of Bandi river up to 55 km downstream (CSE report 2014)

- 
- Chloride, sulphate, dissolved solids and heavy metals (lead, arsenic, chromium and nickel) above permissible limits (CSE report 2014)

- 
- Chloride ions ranged between 1027 to 2020 mg/l and fluoride ranged between 2.1-3.6 mg/l in Bandi river



# *Water quality of wastewater from textile industry in Pali*

<b>Parameters</b>	<b>Concentration</b>
EC $\mu$ S/cm	8210
BOD mg/l	28.4
COD mg/l	314
Cl <sup>-</sup> mg/l	1507
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	405
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	1540

Source: Rathore, J(2012)

# Pali textile units have turned water toxic, unusable: CSE

By *[illegible]*

Water pollution caused by several textile units in Pali district has turned the water unusable for drinking and irrigation, says a report by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

The report says that several textile units in Pali district have been discharging effluents into the water bodies, which are being used for drinking and irrigation. The CPCB has advised the state government to take steps to control the pollution.

The report also says that the effluents contain high levels of chemical oxygen demand (COD) and biological oxygen demand (BOD), which are harmful to the environment. The CPCB has advised the state government to take steps to control the pollution.

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The effluents from textile units have turned water toxic and unusable for drinking and irrigation.

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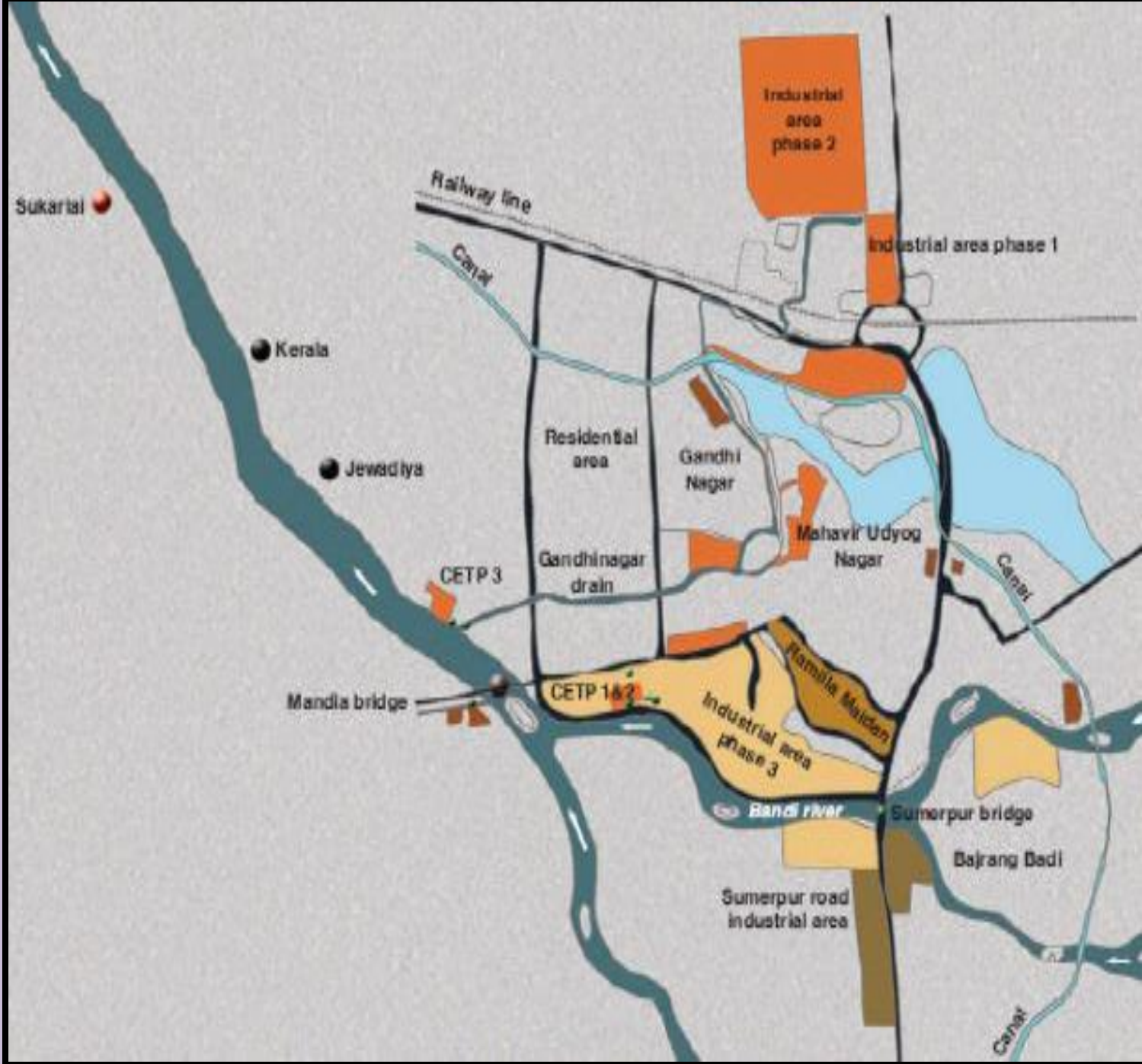


Polluted *Bandi* River at Pali

# राजस्थान पत्रिका



*“Poisonous water flowing in the Bandi river”*



# NEED OF THE HOUR



- Development of low cost effluent treatment plants
- Cost effective Technologies for use of natural dyes in textile printing industries
- Development of technologies for remediating the polluted surface and ground water

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**THANK YOU**