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CURRENT POLLUTION STATUS OF KARACHI HARBOUR AND ADJOINING COASTAL WATERS

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Abstract:

Pollution levels of Karachi harbour and adjoining backwaters were investigated recently. Nine sample locations in the region, seven in the backwaters and two on seaside, were selected for the study. Four locations were chosen to coincide with those selected in the previous study done in 1982 by Pakistan Council of Scientific & Industrial Research so as to afford a comparison with the present results. Samples were analysed for physical and chemical parameters such as pH, bicarbonate, total solids, volatile matter in total solids, chlorides, sulphates, calcium, magnesium, sodium and potassium.

The results show insignificant change in the pollution levels in the composition of sea water over the last ten Years except in the organic matter concentration. The reasons for this high organic loading and little change in other constituents are the subject of discussion for this paper.

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