Invited Guest’s Reflection: Water Quality Issue in Selected Region in Orissa—An Eastern State of India

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The water quality issue is one of the critical issues of Nuapada district located in Odisha state of India. Ground water is the main source of drinking water for the majority of people. As per a report (1), out of 644 villages in Nuapada, three hundred eighty-seven of them (approx. 60%) are linked with fluoride problem. Similarly, 1752 tube wells (out of 6,153 tube wells in the district) in 906 habitations (in the district) are unusable because of the fluoride concentration exceeds 2.00 ppm limit (1). When the permissible fluoride limit, as per World Health Organization and Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) guidelines, is 1 ppm in drinking water, the situation in Nuapada is very alarming (1). More than one lakh (100,000) persons out of the total population of 6.20 lakhs depend upon these fluoride-affected sources. Most of them have already been affected by dental fluorosis, and some have developed deformity of bones. As the fluoride-contaminated water does not change the color, taste, or smell, the community consumes it until the disaster strikes them.


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