

TRACE METAL ANALYSIS OF RIVER SEDIMENTS

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A programme for a systematic analysis of river sediments as an index of mineralisation and heavy metal deficiencies of significance to environmental studies has been initiated.

This paper reports results of a study of the stream sediments of the Rakwana sheet. Atomic absorption spectrophotometric analysis for Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, Ca, Mg and Co have been carried out. The analyses have been supplemented by use of Instrumental neutron activation techniques. The results indicate high Mn and Zn of the order of 1000 - 2000 ppm. Sediments from Timbolketiya sheet also indicate high U and Th as analysed using neutron activation analysis. Samples were separated from quartz and subjected to acid digestion.

The significance of these results and the need for extended study will be discussed.

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