DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

Present study was carried out on three freshwater bodies of Aligarh. These water bodies are man made and are the result of soil digging operation for house and road construction. These water bodies are also used as drainage basins into which the surface runoff water and sewage from the surrounding catchment area enter.

Medical Pond lies in the north of University campus. It is 3 km from the campus. It is a perennial pond receiving surface run off and sewage from the surrounding areas. It is used by the washermen, and, as a result, heavy input of detergent is found. The shoreline is almost rectangular. This one is the largest of three ponds. It is also used by cattles for drinking and bathing purposes.

Both, Pond I and II, are located on Qila Road near Wildlife Department. They are located on the north of university campus and are 3 km from the university campus. Pond I is larger than Pond II. Both the ponds are seasonal and have irregular shoreline. These are used by washermen. Main water supply is rain water and surface runoff from surrounding areas.

All these ponds are used for bathing and washing purposes that bring physico-chemical and biological changes regularly.