



Impact of River Bed Mining on Environment: A Case Study of Yamuna River

Mujaffar Ahmad, Shakeel A. Khan *

Centre for Environment Science & Climate Resilient Agriculture, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi-110012, India

Address for Correspondence: Shakeel A Khan; shakeel_jari@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT: Mining of construction material (Bajri, Sand & Boulder) is increased day by day in many parts of the India due to rapid economic development and subsequent growth of building activities. But it is now well understood that indiscriminate sand mining from rivers and its basin areas imposes many harmful effects on the environment. The impact of sand mining may vary depending upon geologic and geomorphic settings, river size, resource availability, climatic conditions, etc. In order to mitigate the impact of sand mining on the environment, a scientific evaluation assessment is a pre-requisite for framing sustainable development strategies for the mining-hit areas. The River Yamuna originates from the Yamunotri glacier at the Banderpoonch peak in the Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand. The catchment of the river extends to states of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and the entire union territory of Delhi. Environment impact assessment (EIA) is one of important criteria by which mining can be sustainable and protect the river Yamuna. As most of the rivers in north India are severely affected by indiscriminate sand mining from in stream and flood plain areas, an attempt has been made in this study to assess the environmental impact of sand mining from the river catchments of Yamuna. It has been found that approximately 50, km area in Utrakhand and 180 km in Haryana and U.P. is shoddily deteriorated due to illegal and unscientific mining. © 2014 iGlobal Research and Publishing Foundation. All rights reserved.

**Conference Proceedings: International Conference on Life Sciences, Informatics, Food and Environment;
August 29- 30, 2014**

Indo Global Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences(ISSN 2249 1023 ; CODEN- IGJPAI; NLM ID: 101610675) indexed and abstracted in EMBASE(Elsevier), SCIRUS(Elsevier),CABI, CAB Abstracts, Chemical Abstract Services(CAS), American Chemical Society(ACS), Index Copernicus, EBSCO, DOAJ, Google Scholar and many more. For further details, visit <http://iglobaljournal.com>