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RESEARCH ARTICLE

ASSIGNING RANK AND WEIGHTAGES TO LANDSCAPE PARAMETERS TO WORK GROUNDWATER POTENTIAL - CASE OF MIDC, BUTIBORI, NAGPUR.

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Abstract

In Nagpur region, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is monitoring the ground water quality of the district since the last four decades through its established monitoring wells. Ground water trace and exploration has become a cumbersome task in central India in due to irregularities in annual rainfall. The objectives behind the monitoring are to develop an overall picture of the ground water quality of the district. Hydrological traces and possibilities is sought with the help of natural landscape elements like topographical landforms, drainage patterns and watersheds, vegetative land use, soils patterns etc. by image interpretation techniques. The present study was carried out in an area covering around 520.86 sq.km. to deduce the groundwater potential zones in urban industrial fringe area of Nagpur (Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation - MIDC, Butibori), based on the remote sensing techniques and interpreting and overlaying basic natural landscape parameters.

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Assigning Rank and Weightages:-

The weights and rank have been taken considering the earlier works carried out. The maximum value is given to the feature with highest groundwater potentiality and the minimum given to the lowest potential feature. The higher rank factors are assigned to low drainage density because the low drainage density factor favors more infiltration than surface runoff. Lower value followed by higher drainage density. The primary study of slope gradients was carried using top sheet of Survey of India, Nagpur region, while soils data was taken from National Bureau of soil survey and land use planning and remote sensing data was referred from Maharashtra Remote Sensing Applications Centre, Nagpur. The overall analysis is tabulated in following table no.1as:

Table. No. 1:- Showing various parameters with ranking and weightages.

Parameter	Classes	Rank	Groundwater prospect	Weightages (%)
Slope Gradients	Almost Flat (1-3%)	5	Very good	40
	Gently sloping (3-5%)	4	Good	
	Sloping (5-10%)	3	Moderate	
	Steep Sloping (10-15%)	2	Poor	
	Very Steep Sloping (15-35%)	1	Very poor	
Soil Types (based on sand, silt and clay contents)	Tamboli	5	Very good	30
	Paunar	4	Good	
	J Yenwa	4	Moderate	
	Pangagoan	3	Moderate	
	Jawal	2	Poor	
Geology	Basalt	5	Very good	15
Drainage density (Km/Km2)	0 – 1.2	5	Very good	15
	1.2 – 2.4	4	Good	
	2.4 – 3.6	3	Moderate	
	3.6 – 4.8	2	Poor	
	4.8 – 6	1	Very poor	

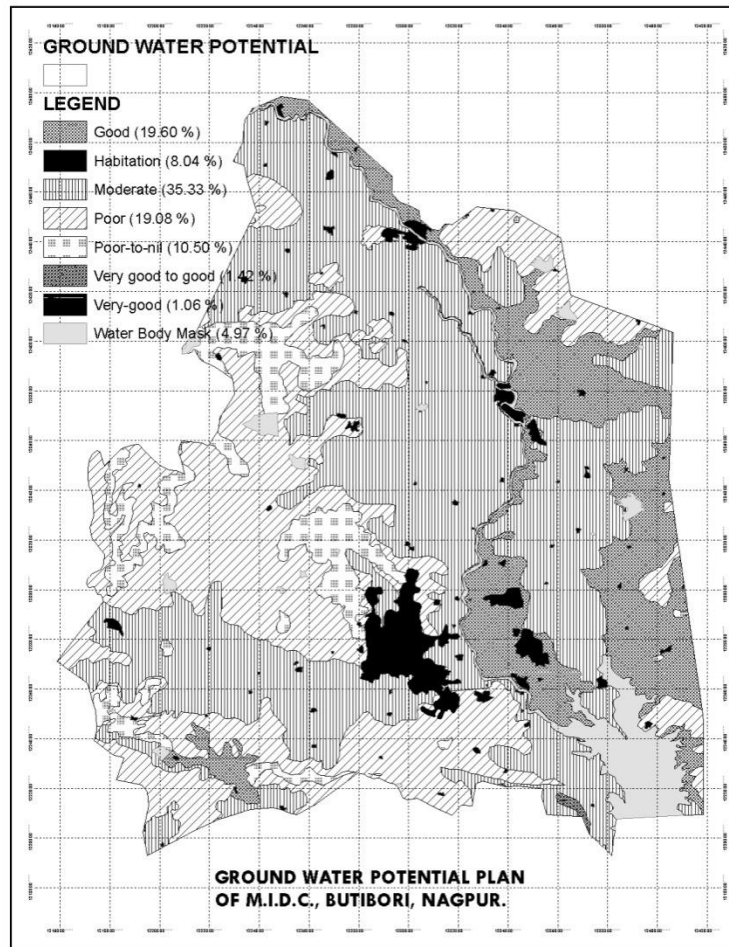


Figure showing Derived Ground Water Potential Plan of Butibori, Nagpur.

Table 2: Area and Percentage wise Ground Water Potential of Various Zones:

Sr. No	Potential zones	Area (Km ²)	Area (%)
1	Very Good	5.52	1.06
2	Very Good to Good	7.39	1.42
3	Good	102.09	19.60
4	Moderate	184.03	35.33
5	Poor	99.38	19.08
6	Poor to Nil	54.69	10.50
7	Habitat Mask	41.88	8.04
8	Water Body	25.88	4.97

Conclusions:

1. Different thematic layers such as geology, slope gradients, soil types drainage density and the other relevant associated detail give a broad idea about the groundwater prospect of the area. Remote sensing proves to a very effective tool for delineation of groundwater.
2. Geographical information system and remote sensing has proved to be powerful and less time consuming method for determining groundwater potential in parts of MIDC, Butibori, Nagpur.
3. The study reveals that integration of basic natural landscape parameters such as drainage density (with 15 as weight percentage), slope gradients (40%), geology (15%) and soil types (30%) as combination gives first hand information to local authorities and planners about the areas suitable for groundwater exploration.
4. Moderate ground water potential is been observed in one third of the study area while one sixth share is been taken by both good and poor categories. Very Good and Good categories received a negligible share of around 1 -2 %. The major factor being the dominance of clayey soils with less sand contents having average to flat slope conditions.
5. This groundwater potential information will be useful for effective identification of suitable locations for utilization of water for biomass and other environment friendly development. Further, it is felt that the present methodology can be used as a guideline for further research to determine further combinations using other landscape parameters.

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