

THE FLUORIDE DISTRIBUTION IN GROUND WATER IN THE BATTICALOA DISTRICT

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An analytical study was carried out to determine the fluoride content in ground water in the Batticaloa district. For this study, 66 samples were collected from various places in Batticaloa district and fluoride content in these samples were analysed using fluoride ion selective electrode. The study revealed that the well water at Vantharumoolai contained the minimum amount of fluoride (0.29mg/l) meanwhile the well water at Aiyithiyamalai contained the maximum amount of fluoride (0.685mg/l). The study indicated that in most of the areas fluoride content is lower than the recommended level (0.5 – 1.5mg/l). From this preliminary study, it can be suggested that some preventive measures should be taken to protect the water quality for drinking purposes and to prevent dental caries. Further investigation about dental caries with relate to the fluoride distribution in ground water in this district should be done.