







calculate the activity, the corrected counts for detector efficiency and yield of the corresponding line, per second are divided by the total area of detector and it is converted per meter square. The calculations carried out on the data at the place Dodamarg are presented in Table No.3. Due to the low resolution of the detector, the activity calculated from each line show deviation but within the limit of resolution,

obtained activity from each line in decay series matches good. The calculation of uranium and thorium activity for the data at Dodamarg (presented in Fig.2) is presented in the Table No. 3. To calculate the activity, the observed corrected counts per second are divided by detector area and it is converted per square meter.

**Table 2:** Calculation of effective dose at the place of Natal.

| Baseline voltage (V) | Observed counts | Energy (keV) | Conversion factor (PSv.cm <sup>2</sup> ) | Efficiency of detector | Corrected counts for efficiency | Fluence (cm <sup>-2</sup> ) | dose in mSv/year |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 0.5                  | 235             | 75.6         | 0.5200                                   | 0.9500                 | 247.4                           | 3.4414                      | 0.001870         |
| 1.0                  | 166             | 151.2        | 0.8900                                   | 0.9500                 | 174.7                           | 2.4309                      | 0.002272         |
| 1.5                  | 183             | 226.8        | 1.3220                                   | 0.9338                 | 196.0                           | 2.7264                      | 0.003785         |
| 2.0                  | 104             | 302.4        | 1.8000                                   | 0.8354                 | 124.5                           | 1.7319                      | 0.003274         |
| 2.5                  | 54              | 378          | 2.2270                                   | 0.7360                 | 73.4                            | 1.0207                      | 0.002387         |
| 3.0                  | 66              | 453          | 2.6850                                   | 0.5923                 | 111.4                           | 1.5502                      | 0.004371         |
| 3.5                  | 23              | 529.2        | 3.0779                                   | 0.4779                 | 48.1                            | 0.6695                      | 0.002164         |
| 4.0                  | 29              | 604.8        | 3.4400                                   | 0.4276                 | 67.8                            | 0.9435                      | 0.003408         |
| 4.5                  | 17              | 680.4        | 3.4688                                   | 0.3840                 | 44.3                            | 0.6159                      | 0.002244         |
| 5.0                  | 23              | 756          | 4.1732                                   | 0.3477                 | 66.1                            | 0.9202                      | 0.004033         |
| 5.5                  | 11              | 831.6        | 4.5071                                   | 0.3120                 | 35.3                            | 0.4904                      | 0.002322         |
| 6.0                  | 14              | 907.2        | 4.7900                                   | 0.2747                 | 51.0                            | 0.7090                      | 0.003567         |
| 6.5                  | 12              | 982.7        | 5.1262                                   | 0.2446                 | 49.1                            | 0.6825                      | 0.003674         |
| 7.0                  | 10              | 1158.4       | 5.3700                                   | 0.2309                 | 43.3                            | 0.6025                      | 0.003398         |
| 7.5                  | 14              | 1133.9       | 5.6420                                   | 0.2145                 | 65.3                            | 0.9080                      | 0.005380         |
| 8.0                  | 0               | 1209.6       | 5.8800                                   | 0.2018                 | 0.0                             | 0.0000                      | 0.000000         |
| 8.5                  | 19              | 1285.1       | 6.1860                                   | 0.1963                 | 96.8                            | 1.3465                      | 0.008748         |
| 9.0                  | 13              | 1360.7       | 6.4240                                   | 0.1796                 | 72.4                            | 1.0070                      | 0.006793         |
| 9.5                  | 5               | 1436.3       | 6.6960                                   | 0.1637                 | 30.5                            | 0.4249                      | 0.002988         |
| 10.5                 | 0               | 1511.9       | 6.9340                                   | 0.1557                 | 0.0                             | 0.0000                      | 0.000000         |
| 10.5                 | 20              | 2000.0       | 7.0360                                   | 0.1188                 | 168.4                           | 2.3421                      | 0.017305         |
|                      | 15              | 2500.0       | 8.6000                                   | 0.0988                 | 151.8                           | 2.1121                      | 0.019075         |
|                      | 7               | 3000.0       | 11.1000                                  | 0.0850                 | 82.4                            | 1.1457                      | 0.013355         |

**Table 3:** Activity calculation of observed data  
Nuclei in Uranium Series

| Sr.No | Nuclei in the decay series | Energy keV | % Yield | Efficiency of detector at corresponding energy | Position of line on the graph (at baseline voltage) | Observed counts for 90 Sec. | Corrected Counts for Efficiency and Yield | Mean corrected counts per 90 Sec. | Calculated Activity KBq / m <sup>2</sup> |
|-------|----------------------------|------------|---------|--|---|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1.    | Pb <sup>214</sup>          | 295.3      | 18.50   | 0.8360   | 1.2   | 45.0                        | 290                                       | 257.5                             | 0.941                                    |
| 2.    | Pb <sup>214</sup>          | 352.0      | 35.60   | 0.7560   | 1.5   | 76.0                        | 282                                       |                                   |  |
| 3.    | Bi <sup>214</sup>          | 609.3      | 45.49   | 0.4270   | 3.2   | 31.0                        | 159                                       |                                   |  |
| 4.    | Bi <sup>214</sup>          | 1120.0     | 14.90   | 0.2245   | 6.6   | 10.0                        | 299                                       |                                   |  |

Nuclei in Thorium Series

|    |       |       |       |        |     |       |     |       |       |
|----|-------|-------|-------|--------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-------|
| 1. | Pb212 | 238.0 | 43.00 | 0.9333 | 0.9 | 120.0 | 272 | 230.0 | 0.841 |
| 2. | Tl208 | 510.0 | 13.80 | 0.4879 | 2.5 | 15.0  | 222 |       |       |
| 3. | Tl208 | 583.0 | 30.60 | 0.4370 | 2.8 | 29.0  | 216 |       |       |
| 4. | Bi212 | 727.0 | 6.27  | 0.3770 | 4.0 | 6.2   | 244 |       |       |
| 5. | Ac228 | 911.0 | 25.80 | 0.2747 | 5.2 | 12.0  | 169 |       |       |
| 6. | Ac228 | 965.0 | 15.80 | 0.2546 | 5.6 | 10.4  | 258 |       |       |

### 3. Results and Discussion

The observed average gamma radiation effective dose from terrestrial radioactive sources and cosmic rays, at one foot above the earth surface in open atmosphere, in mSv/y and nSv/h at twenty six different places in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra state is presented in Table No.4. The activity of U-238 and Th-232 and the uranium thorium activity ratio at the places is also presented in Table No.4

The mean effective gamma radiation dose at the places of observation is found to be 0.5244 mSv/y with range of variation, from 0.2864 mSv/y to 0.8044 mSv/y. The mean effective dose is slightly higher than the effective mean dose reported for Maharashtra state and is close to the mean value reported for Goa state.[4,9] For the coastal places such as Vijayadurg, Devgad, Chidar, Vengurla, Parule the effective dose is found to be higher while for the places near to the Sahyadri ghat mountain such as Bhuibawada, Nandgaon, Phonda, Natal, Dukanwad, Godagewadi have lower value of effective dose. The coastal region contain porous rocks, in

local language called as Jamba and the soil formed from it while the region near the Sahyadri ghat contain black and hard igneous rocks and soil formed from it. Uranium-238 activity varies from 0.466 KBq/m<sup>2</sup> to 1.133 KBq/m<sup>2</sup> with mean value of 0.751 KBq/m<sup>2</sup>. Thorium-232 activity varies

from 0.552 KBq/m<sup>2</sup> to 1.267 KBq/m<sup>2</sup> with mean 0.8466 KBq/m<sup>2</sup>. The U238 to Th232 activity ratio varies from 0.494 to 1.2 with mean 0.886. The variation in uranium thorium ratio is found to be high than the global ratio of 0.3

**Table 4:** Effective gamma radiation dose, U-238 and Th-232 activity and activity ratio

| Sr. No. | Place of observation | Effective gamma dose In mSv/y | Effective gamma dose In nSv/h | Activity of U-238 KBq/m <sup>2</sup> | Activity of Th-232 KBq/m <sup>2</sup> | U-238 to Th-232 Activity Ratio |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1       | Vijayadurg           | 0.6025±0.0540                 | 68.77                         | 0.929                                | 1.267                                 | 0.733                          |
| 2       | Padel                | 0.5379±0.0409                 | 61.40                         | 0.757                                | 0.636                                 | 1.189                          |
| 3       | Devgad               | 0.5925±0.0312                 | 67.63                         | 1.133                                | 1.111                                 | 1.019                          |
| 4       | Talebazar            | 0.4889±0.0364                 | 55.81                         | 0.937                                | 1.009                                 | 0.928                          |
| 5       | Phanasgaon           | 0.4866±0.0224                 | 55.54                         |                                      |                                       |                                |
| 6       | Nandgaon             | 0.3301±0.0224                 | 37.68                         | 0.493                                | 0.592                                 | 0.833                          |
| 7       | Bhuhawada            | 0.3670±0.0220                 | 41.89                         | 0.466                                | 0.702                                 | 0.664                          |
| 8       | Vaibhavwadi          | 0.4428 ± 0.0340               | 50.54                         | 0.870                                | 0.899                                 | 0.967                          |
| 9       | Phonda               | 0.3630±0.0156                 | 41.43                         | 0.811                                | 0.522                                 | 1.470                          |
| 10      | Kankavali            | 0.4936±0.0770                 | 56.34                         | 0.658                                | 0.632                                 | 1.040                          |
| 11      | Nathal               | 0.2864±0.0046                 | 32.69                         | 0.533                                | 0.705                                 | 0.756                          |
| 12      | Chindar              | 0.7510±0.03180                | 85.73                         | 0.949                                | 1.053                                 | 0.901                          |
| 13      | Malvan               | 0.3847±0.0115                 | 43.91                         | 0.576                                | 1.168                                 | 0.492                          |
| 14      | Kasal                | 0.7408±0.0239                 | 84.56                         | 0.875                                | 0.934                                 | 0.936                          |
| 15      | Oros                 | 0.3815±0.0270                 | 43.55                         |                                      |                                       |                                |
| 16      | Salagaon             | 0.8044±0.0424                 | 91.82                         | 0.674                                | 1.053                                 | 0.640                          |
| 17      | Dukanwad             | 0.4665±0.01500                | 53.25                         | 0.751                                | 0.828                                 | 0.907                          |
| 18      | Vetora               | 0.6269±0.0610                 | 71.76                         | 0.746                                | 0.887                                 | 0.755                          |
| 19      | Vengurla             | 0.5843±0.0190                 | 66.70                         | 0.789                                | 0.658                                 | 1.2                            |
| 20      | Kerawada             | 0.5259±0.0380                 | 60.03                         | 0.727                                | 0.972                                 | 0.748                          |
| 21      | Parule               | 0.7627±0.0280                 | 87.06                         | 1.115                                | 1.103                                 | 1.011                          |
| 22      | Sangeli              | 0.4258±0.0300                 | 48.60                         | 0.676                                | 1.162                                 | 0.848                          |
| 23      | Majagaon             | 0.6868±0.0540                 | 78.40                         | 0.746                                | 0.927                                 | 0.804                          |
| 24      | Dodamarg             | 0.5595±0.0210                 | 63.86                         | 0.650                                | 0.727                                 | 0.894                          |
| 25      | Banda                | 0.5466±0.0384                 | 62.39                         |                                      |                                       |                                |
| 26      | Godagewadi           | 0.3973±0.0210                 | 45.35                         | 0.614                                | 0.731                                 | 0.84                           |

#### 4. Conclusions

The measured absolute activities of U-238 and Th-232 at different places of observation have presented in this paper and it forms the baseline data for these places. The variation in U-238 to Th-232 ratio is larger; the change in activity of U-238 is smaller while Th-232 activity changes by larger amount. Effective gamma radiation dose changes from place to place. Higher level is observed for the coastal region and lower level in the region near to the Sahyadri Mountain. At all these places radiation level is well within prescribed limits recommended by ICRP.

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