



Co-occurrence of arsenic, fluoride and uranium in a fluvial environment

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Co-occurrence of arsenic (As), fluoride (F⁻) and uranium (U) was studied in the groundwater of Brahmaputra flood plains (BFP), Assam, India. Principal components analyses and hierarchical cluster analysis reveals that desorption under elevated pH in isolated drier aquifers of the region appears to be the main mechanism of As and F⁻ co-occurrence. While in this study uranium was detected only in the sediment samples, actual concentrations in the groundwater is still unknown along with the possible mode of its release, which will require further investigation. The implication of this study is alarming from the perspective of co-occurrences of geogenic contaminants in many parts of the world which is likely to increase in future owing to saturation states of the water.