

Table 1 Comparison of concentration of Cd, Pb, Cu in Vembanad Lake with permissible limits (Mohan et al., 2012)

| Heavy metal | Concentration of heavy metals in Vembanad Lake | Background concentration |
|-------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Cadmium | 3.79 - 17.64 $\mu\text{g/g}$ | 2 $\mu\text{g/g}$, USPHS (1997) |
| Lead | 26–630 $\mu\text{g/g}$ | 0.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$, USPHS (1997) |
| Copper | 9.92–504.67 $\mu\text{g/g}$ | 30 $\mu\text{g/g}$, USPHS (1997) |