

DRINKING WATER STANDARD - First Revision
(Sri Lanka Standards for potable water – SLS 614: 2013)

PARAMETER	Requirement
A. Physical-Organoleptic requirements	
Colour, Hazen Units, (max.)	15
Odour	Unobjectionable
Taste	Unobjectionable
Turbidity, (NTU) (Nephelometric Turbidity Units), (max.)	2
pH at 25°C ± 2°C	6.5 to 8.5
B. Chemical requirements	
Aluminium (as Al) (mg/l)	0.2
Ammonia;	
Free ammonia (as NH ₃) (mg/l)	0.06
Albuminoid ammonia (mg/l)	0.15
Anionic detergents (as MBAS (Methylene Blue Active Substances)) (mg/l)	0.2
Calcium (as Ca) (mg/l)	100
Chloride (as Cl ⁻) (mg/l)	250
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) (mg/l)	10
Copper (as Cu) (mg/l)	1.0
Fluoride (as F ⁻) (mg/l)	1.0
Free residual Chlorine (mg/l)	1
Iron (as Fe) (mg/l) *	0.3
Manganese (as Mn) (mg/l) *	0.1
Magnesium (as Mg) (mg/l) **	30
Nitrate (as NO ₃ ⁻) (mg/l)	50
Nitrite (as NO ₂ ⁻) (mg/l)	3
Nickel (as Ni) (mg/l)	0.02
Oil and grease (mg/l)	0.2
Phenolic compounds (as C ₆ H ₅ OH) (mg/l)	0.001
Sodium (as Na) (mg/l)	200
Sulphate (as SO ₄ ²⁻) (mg/l) **	250
Total alkalinity (as CaCO ₃) (mg/l)	200
Total dissolved solids (mg/l), (max.)	500
Total hardness (as CaCO ₃) (mg/l)	250
Total Phosphates (as PO ₄ ³⁻) (mg/l)	2.0
Zinc (as Zn) (mg/l)	3.0
Arsenic (as As) (mg/l)	0.01
Cadmium (as Cd) (mg/l)	0.003
Chromium (as Cr) (mg/l)	0.05
Cyanide (as CN ⁻) (mg/l)	0.05
Lead (as Pb) (mg/l)	0.01
Mercury (as Hg) (mg/l)	0.001
Selenium (as Se) (mg/l)	0.01

C. Bacteriological requirements	
(a) Treatment works and piped distribution system	
<i>E.coli</i> /100ml or thermotolerant coliform /100ml	Not detected
Total Coliforms / 100 ml	(i) Shall not exceed 3 in any 100ml sample (ii) Not detected in any two consecutive samples
(b) Large water supplies	
<i>E.coli</i> /100ml or thermotolerant coliform /100ml	Not detected
Total coliforms	(i) Shall not be present in 95% of samples in a year and (ii) In remaining 5% samples, shall not exceed 10/100ml
(c) Individual or small community supplies (include wells, bore holes and springs)	
<i>E.coli</i> /100ml or thermotolerant coliform /100ml	Not detected
Total Coliforms / 100 ml	Shall not exceed 10

- * - Total concentration of Manganese (as Mn) and Iron (as Fe) shall not exceed 0.3mg/l
- ** - Not more than 30 mg/l Magnesium (as Mg) if there is 250mg/l Sulphate. If there is less Sulphate, Magnesium upto 150 mg/l may be allowed.