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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Radon concentration indoor levels in building of college of basic education - Al Muthanna University.

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Manuscript Info Abstract

Manuscript History:	In this study, was accomplished to get radon concentration at 15 locations in
Received: 18 February 2016 Final Accepted: 19 March 2016 Published Online: April 2016	building of college of basic education, which divided for three levels .In ground level, has three locations as labs. Second and third have six locations as students class .The measurements did in natural time with normal ventilation and using the locations by lecturers and students .Duration 24
<i>Key words:</i> Radon, CRM, Building Materials, Al Muthanna area.	hours was reading concentration of radon each location from February to April. The higher radon concentration was 14.4 Bq/m3 in class No. 4 and lower was 5 Bq/m3 in class No.1.
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Introduction:-

Radon (²²²Rn) is a radioactive noble gas sent out by the decay of ²²⁶Ra.its element of the ²³⁸U decay series. Radon (²²²Rn) becomes decayed to a series of another radioactive element, like ²¹⁴Po and ²¹⁸Po are importance. They contribute the plurality of radiation dose when snuff. The next a number of decay series (218Po) convert from to (210Po) and it decays at stable (206Pb). Radon (²²²Rn) decays and products reason as main causes of lung cancer [1].Radon is an odor less, color less radioactive gas, generated from the decay of radium. It is original from uranium that current naturally in rocks, fossil fuels, and soil. Radon is an alpha emitter that decays to one series of alpha emitters' progenies as fully. When we inhale radon gas and these have high energy alpha particles posed health risk to the lung. After smoking, radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer in human as estimated [2].

Presently, Al Muthanna University doesn't have any reading of radon concentration. The aim of this study sharing data with radon gas field studying that will helping the relevant researchers in the arrangement, formulating with this field in future

Methodology:-

Study site:-

The building of basic education college includes three levels. Al Muthanna University in south Iraq. Ground level has three areas and using as labs, second and third levels have six areas for each level as students' classes. The materials of building studying areas in general are Iron and a concrete structure, gypsum bricks, limestone bricks and clay bricks. The classes and labs walls are often covered with cement, gypsum and several of these materials are expecting sources of indoor radon to contribute significantly

Radon monitoring (CRM):-

In this study used Continuous radon monitor (CRM model 1029) to measure radon gas, using diffused junction photodiode sensor, manufactured by Sun nuclear company –USA. The CRM be able to produce hourly interval radon concentration which the expert measurement average was manufacturer, recognized and calibrated by the USFPA. Indoor study, the CRM was set and fixed in each area in the ceiling of lab or class and had distance (1m) from the wall and the middle of the area almost.

The measurement stopped after (24 hrs.) later and the recorded hourly internal radon concentration and average concentration for the period of measurement (24 hours), was printing.

Results and discussions:-

The figure (1) shows temporary change time of Rn. Con. for (24 hours) in each the study area. In the figure (1) for each level the indoor variation for comparison purpose, plotted on the same graph. The figure (2) shows distribution of radon concentration for all building levels and shows which location has higher and lower radon concentration. The figure (3) shows distribution of EPA average inside the student's classes / labs and shows also the higher and lower radon concentration in studying case.

In general, the results present that the indoor concentrations in every location in second level are higher than another levels.





Figure1. Indoor radon concentration (24) hour temporary change time in A-Ground level- First level and second level.



Workplaces (students halls /labs)

Figure2. Distribution of radon concentration inside the students halls / labs.



Figure 3 .Distribution of EPA average inside the student halls / labs.



Figure4. A comparison between each level of building as radon concentration.



Figure5. A comparison between each level of building as EPA average.

Indoor radon concentration average value, rate of ventilation, workplace temperature, workplace humidity, air pressure and EPA average indoor radon are summarized in table 1. The indoor radon concentration higher found in (No. 4 of student hall) in second level (14.4 Bq/m³). The indoor radon concentration lower found in (No. 1 of student hall) in second level also (5 Bq/m³).

No.	Workplaces (students	Average indoor	Rate of	Workplace	Workplace	Air pressure	EPA		
	halls / labs)	radon	ventilation	temperature	Humidity	(Kpa)	average		
		concentration	(h/day)	(c^{0})	(%)		indoor		
		(Bq/m^3)					radon		
		(overall Avg:)					(Bq/m3)		
1	(1) students halls	5	8	24	39	100	5.6		
2	(2) students halls	8.1	8	25	29	101	7		
3	(3) students halls	7.8	6	19	43	101	7.3		
4	(4) students halls	14.4	8	20	36	102	15.6		
5	(5) students halls	9.7	8	21	38	102	10.6		
6	(6) students halls	5.5	8	22	37	102	6.3		
7	(7) students halls	8.1	6	24	37	101	8.3		
8	(8) students halls	8.6	5	24	41	101	9.3		
9	(9) students halls	9.6	5	24	38	101	10.6		
10	(10) students halls	9.4	6	25	37	102	10		
11	(11) students halls	12.3	6	25	39	101	12		
12	(12) students halls	5.8	6	24	46	101	5.6		
13	(13) labs of physics	9.3	5	24	48	101	9.9		
14	(14) labs of biology	9.1	5	24	42	101	10.6		
15	(15)labs of chemical	7.5	6	26	35	101	8		

Table1. Radon concentration indoor and EPA average.

The differential of results refers to the different ventilation rate, time and date of taken reading. The figure 4, 5 shows a comparison between each level of building as radon concentration with overall average and EPA average respectively.

Conclusion:-

Radon concentrations indoor have been measured inside (15) locations in building college of basic education / Al Muthanna University –Iraq from February to April season. The levels, Veneration rate, material of building and time lecturing effect on the indoor radon concentration and its offspring locations of selected labs or students' hall had different locations in same building. The CRM used to measure the radon concentration and its offspring during spring season .The indoor radon concentration higher and lower were in second level.

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