

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	South Asian Journal of Research in Microbiology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_SAJRM_129741
Title of the Manuscript:	FUNGAL and PHYSICOCHEMICAL CHARACTERISATION of WASTEWATER TREATMENT using CHARCOAL and CORN HUSK as FILTER MATERIALS.
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript is highly significant for the scientific community as it explores innovative and cost-effective methods for wastewater treatment, addressing critical issues of water scarcity and pollution, particularly in developing regions. By evaluating the efficiency of charcoal and corn husks as filtration media, the study introduces sustainable alternatives to conventional materials, which can be adopted in resource-limited settings. Additionally, the findings contribute to understanding the role of fungal isolates and physicochemical parameters in improving water quality for reuse in irrigation and other purposes. This research aligns with global efforts toward achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6, which emphasizes clean water and sanitation, thus offering practical solutions for environmental sustainability and public health.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	Title of the article is suitable.	
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	<p>The abstract of the article is well-structured and provides a clear overview of the study, including its objectives, methods, results, and implications. However, it could be enhanced by incorporating a few additional details to make it more comprehensive and engaging for readers.</p> <p>Suggested Additions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Study Rationale: Briefly mention why using charcoal and corn husks as filtration materials is significant in terms of cost-effectiveness and sustainability. Key Findings: Highlight the specific improvements in water quality metrics, such as the percentage reduction in BOD, COD, and fungal load, for greater emphasis on results. Practical Applications: Include a sentence about potential real-world applications, such as irrigation, and how the findings could benefit regions facing water scarcity. Novelty: State what makes this study unique compared to existing wastewater treatment research. <p>Suggested Deletions or Refinements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Redundancy: Avoid repeating information (e.g., listing the specific values of physicochemical results in detail, as they can be found in the results section). Simplification: Streamline technical terms for accessibility to a broader audience, particularly if the journal targets multidisciplinary readers. 	
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	The manuscript appears scientifically accurate, with clear objectives, detailed methodology, and robust results demonstrating the effectiveness of charcoal and corn husks in wastewater treatment. However, ensuring consistency in data, inclusion of statistical analysis, and clarity on reproducibility would enhance its rigor. The study aligns well with sustainable water management goals.	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	The manuscript references a variety of sources, including studies on wastewater treatment methods, physicochemical analysis, and fungal roles in water management. While the references appear relevant, a few points could improve the comprehensiveness of the citations: Observations:	

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	<p>1. Sufficiency: The number of references (approximately 20) seems adequate for the scope of the study. However, the inclusion of additional recent studies from the past 3-5 years could strengthen the manuscript's relevance.</p> <p>2. Recency: While some references are recent (2020–2021), others date back more than a decade. Including more current literature would ensure the research reflects the latest advancements in the field.</p> <p>Suggested Additional References:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Studies on innovative, low-cost filtration methods using agricultural byproducts published in the last 3-5 years. 2. Recent reviews or meta-analyses on sustainable wastewater treatment approaches. 3. Research on the role of fungal isolates in wastewater treatment and their health implications, particularly post-2020. 	
Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	The article's language is clear and appropriate for scientific communication, with accurate technical terminology and clear presentation of findings. However, minor improvements in grammar, sentence structure, and consistency are needed to enhance readability and scholarly tone. A final language review is recommended to ensure precision and alignment with academic standards.	
Optional/General comments	<p>The manuscript presents an innovative and practical approach to wastewater treatment using sustainable materials, contributing to environmental conservation and resource management. While the study is robust, minor refinements in language, statistical analysis, and the inclusion of recent references could further enhance its impact. Overall, it is a valuable contribution to the field.</p> <p>No ethical issues are there in the manuscript.</p>	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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