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**Point for discussion this month**

Usefulness of plants and microbes in dealing  
with pollution

(For private circulation only)

Dear Readers,

From last so many years we were observing this area on the way to Nashik from Pune. This scenic area is near Chandanapuri Ghat, Sangamner. Due to paucity of rains, the area was dry and stony as if there was no life. However, this year the scene is totally changed beaming with white splashing waterfalls and teeming with biodiversity.

Next month in the first week only, SERI is completing its 11 years. It was a long journey for an organization with aims and objectives to develop SAAT (Suitably Applicable & Affordable Technological) methods to control the pollution when the environmental business in India was relying on imported concepts and technologies.

Sandeep Joshi, our Environment Technologist, kept striving to generate awareness about indigenous E3T – **E**ffective, **E**conomic, **E**cological **T**echnologies among the various sectors, organizations and individuals linked with environment pollution control and sustainable development.

We vow to work ardently for the betterment of environment by developing simple but affordable techniques to control pollution.

We seek your blessings and support in creating awareness among the masses for maintaining healthy environment, improving standard of living and leading India to be number ONE in Environment Technology also.

Thanking you,  
Chief Editor

## Completion of 11 years

Shrishti Eco-Research Institute (SERI) is completing 11 years on Oct. 3, 2006. The institute was started in 1995 at Dhule with an aim towards the clean environment with the help of natural technologies, Eco -technologies to treat wastes.

The first Soil Scape Filters were installed in two units of Bosch Chassis Systems India Ltd. (formerly Kalyani Brakes Ltd.). This was possible because of prudence of Mr. S. B. Akut, then Project Manager of Pune unit and Mr. S. R. Joshi, then Vice President of Jalgaon Unit.

The field scale units were installed only after confirmation of results by studying the performance of pilot plant at Jalgaon.



Latter on the Soil Scape Filtration technique was applied to treat different types of industrial wastewaters including electroplating, food, edible oil, pharma, chemical, petrochemical, coolant etc.

Recently, SERI has been successful in treating the textile industry waste with kind co-operation of M/s. Pradeep and Mala Sinha using coconut coir filter and cloth filter as pre-treatment to remove suspended solids with Soil Scape Filter as major ETP unit. Another unit is under progress at Jaipur with the co-operation of Ms. Brigitte Singh.

With the increasing support from industries and CSOs SERI is working on various problems of treating pollution from point and non-point sources.

- Amit Naregalkar

## SERI's Ecotechnology

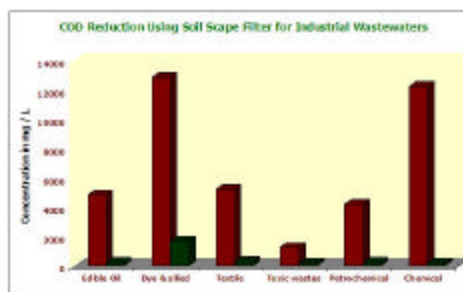
### 1. Soil Scape Filter

Useful for domestic and industrial wastewaters

- The filtration of water or wastewater through the layers of bio-active (i.e. biologically activated) soil - ECOFERT - developed from non-toxic and non-hazardous wastes.



- The process harnesses the ecological principles of interactions and interrelationships of biota with their environment and ecotransformations of substrates into assimilable form to treat and detoxify the pollutants.
- The effectiveness of the Soil Scape Filter is shown in following fig.



It is experienced that the technique is useful in reducing the operational costs.

- Sayali Joshi

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