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Suresh Gandhi

**Contact**

Executive Editor  
Shrishti Eco -Research Institute  
B-106, Devgiri, Opp. P. L. Deshpande  
Garden, Near Ganesh Mala,  
Pune - 411 030. India. Phone: 91-20-65702809  
/Telefax: 91-20-66206539

Website: [www.seriecotech.com](http://www.seriecotech.com)

Email: [seri\\_news@yahoo.co.in](mailto:seri_news@yahoo.co.in)

**Point for discussion this month**

**Need to improve energy less bioprocessing  
of wastes**

(For private circulation only)

Dear Readers,

This is the photograph of untreated and treated wastewater from Textile unit in Jaipur where only ecotechnological treatment is given.

The plants with flowers tell the story of successful degradation of colouring material. This degradation is engineered by green plants with the help of mixed groups of microbes

Nature is always helpful. But we have to understand the natural processes and their importance in treating anthropogenic waste whether it is simple organic matter or complicated toxic materials.

It has been noted that powerful microbes are able to degrade RDX also. So be careful while dealing with microbes. Don't underestimate them and try to understand their ecology so that use of electricity will be zero in bioprocessing of waste.

Thanking you,  
Chief Editor

**Compulsions of Load Shedding : Impacts  
on Pollution Control**

**- Sandeep Joshi  
Environment Technologist**

Load shedding is on its peak as everyday's newspaper highlights the deficiencies in the electric supply and agitation, protests of masses. Industrial organizations requested their members to run night shifts instead of regular shifts day time so that the demand for electricity may be divided over 24 hours.

The situation is going worsen every day till it rains. Now it's clear that electricity generation is basically dependent availability of water at Hydroelectric Plants. As the water reduces in Koyana dam, the curse of load shedding grapples urban as well as rural areas.

When the electricity is not available routine productive work, industry and agriculture, then who is going provide it to run the pollution control equipment? The scarcity of the electricity is affecting the performance of pollution control units; that's why it is

leading to more pollution of our valuable ever decreasing clean water resources.

The situation is more or less same as to that of Ganga Action Plan. There are state-of-the-art treatment systems installed to treat wastewaters entering directly into the Ganga River. But these treatment systems do not have electricity to run efficiently to achieve the prescribed standards of discharges into water bodies. End result is that the untreated wastewater flows directly into the river and it remains highly polluted.

So, the problem of environment management persists as there is apathy towards the cleanliness of environmental resources and their overall contribution to development process and economic growth of the region, state and nation.

This summer it's very critical. The energy crisis is flaring up. Maharashtra may follow the path of U. P., Bihar in case of pollution control as there is no electricity available to run the systems.

Now, there is need to develop two approaches to deal with the pollution and electricity problems – one is to develop and support the pollution control technologies which require no electricity or develop electricity from the waste only!

Both are very difficult objectives as far as the urgency of the electricity demand is concerned. Because the decision process is lengthy, time consuming in India which involves a number of departments, government agencies including politicians and there are no full-proof validated technologies yet or workable demonstration units available to convert waste into energy.

Most of the time we rely on foreign sources for the technological inputs, designs, and guidance for which we are ready to spend a lot. But the support is not extended to indigenously developed technologies because we are not ready to believe technical competence of our own intelligent brains.

Therefore, we are facing a lot many problems in both the sectors – energy and pollution control. It needs to draw a long term policy to deal with both the issues simultaneously while encouraging indigenous technology developers.

It is logical to extract energy from waste

matter. It is proven that use of mechanistic systems is not economically viable option to extract energy from the waste. But the natural systems use solar energy as a basic source of energy; therefore it becomes techno-economically viable solution to convert waste into energy.

Use of natural systems for Waste-to-Energy (We) projects will really be helpful mankind to reduce the loads of pollution at very affordable costs, to reduce load shedding and no residue for disposal because every part of the waste becomes assimilable in nature through the action of organisms of detritus food chain. Then the pollution will remain curse but it will boost the economy and will add to national GDP and HDI positively.

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#### PhotoCapsule



✚ A Soil Scape filtration unit at Narad Ka Baug, Amer, Jaipur.



✚ A demonstration of purification project at Kanishtha Pushkar Lake, Pushkar, Ajmer, Rajasthan with technical support from SERI and monetary support from Shri. Ganerwalji, Trustee, Old Rangaji Temple, Pushkar is in progress.