

The Hindu 26.05.2017

## Water purification plant at Soolai nearing completion

The Pollution Control Board (PCB) is confident that the model water purification plant on the verge of completion at Soolai in the city will draw broad attention of dyeing, bleaching, tanning and printing units in the district to the unique technology to be adopted for conversion of effluent into food grade water.

Advanced FPSTAR technology developed by a Bengaluru-based laboratory is to be deployed for conversion of the waste liquid into water fit for consumption.

The model plant that would use Aquatron Boomtube Resonator is stated to be the first of its kind facility in the state to convert sewage wastes and industrial effluent into food grade water.

As many as 40 to 50 industries have made substantial financial contributions at the initiative of Olirum Erodu Foundation for establishing the model plant.

Totally, Rs. 1.8 crore is the estimate for the model plant with capacity to treat 2.4 lakh litres a day with two similar units: one

to treat sewage waste from Pichakaranpallam Odai and the other to process effluent from tanning, dyeing and bleaching units brought in lorries.

The civil work has been completed and the machinery has also arrived. Installation would consume duration of at least two weeks, and trial run would be conducted thereafter.

In the meantime, the stakeholders of the model plant have reportedly approached the IIT Madras requesting for constitution of a technical committee to validate purity level of the treated water, and determine utility of the minimal sludge generated in the process as manure.

Once the purity is confirmed, industries will be encouraged and facilitated to form clusters and establish more number of such plants in geographical proximity, Pollution Control Board sources said.

District Collector S. Prabakar, who carried out an inspection on Wednesday, said the 545 dyeing, bleaching and printing units, and 34 tanning units were required to adopt Zero Liquid

## Discharge technology.

The treatment cost under the new technology will be much lesser. Also, only two % of the waste precipitates as sludge, he said.