

SVNIT to have solar water desalination plant...

Developed by US-based Alumnus, It Will Make Varsity Self-sufficient In Water

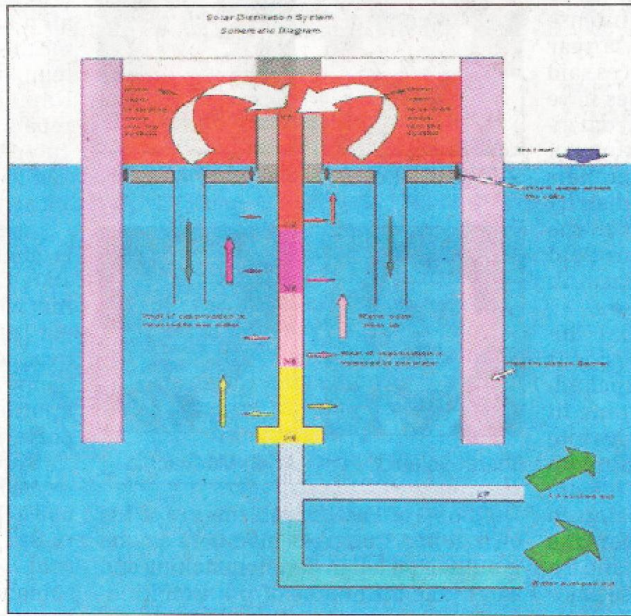
Yagnesh Mehta | TNN

Surat: For the first time in India, a US patented technology which purifies saline groundwater using solar energy, making it drinkable, is being installed at Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology (SVNIT). It has been developed by a US-based SVNIT alumnus and will make the institute self-sufficient in water.

The foundation stone of the plant was laid on Tuesday on SVNIT campus near the existing water storage tank.

SVNIT authorities consider it as a matter of pride as the institute will get a plant based on a unique technique.

The innovator, Perry Mehta, who changed his name from Parimal after shifting to US about 20 years ago, said that the plant purifies saline water using the simple method of accumulating steam. "It is unique for the reason that it uses solar



energy for heating the water. It is different from other solar products as the energy collected using solar cells will directly heat the water in a chamber in-

stead of storing it in the form of electricity," said Mehta. The plant is made of steel and will purify the groundwater available on SVNIT campus. The plant has the capacity to purify 2,30,000 litres of water in 24 hours.

"There is plenty of groundwater, but it is not drinkable. The plant will meet all the needs of the institute. Considering the future water shortage, we are planning for the alternatives," said PD Porey, director, SVNIT.

The total cost of the plant is estimated at Rs 3.5 crore and it will be completed in nine months. "The cost of water supplied by the municipal corporation is approximately Rs 15 per 1,000 litres. However, considering the 40-year life of the solar water desalination plant, its cost comes down to Rs 5 per 1,000 litres," said Porey.

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Industries in Ankleshwar, Panoli, Jhagadia asked to cut production

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Yogesh Pareek

Ankleshwar: In view of a leakage in effluent discharge pipeline of Bharuch Eco Aqua Infrastructure Limited (BEAIL) near Sajod village in Ankleshwar on Monday night, industries in Ankleshwar, Panoli and Jhagadia have been notified by Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) to reduce their production capacity.



The warning board put up by BEAIL

their production capacity with immediate effect."

Desai said, "The maintenance of 60 million litre per day capacity pipeline is expected to be completed by Wednesday evening."

"The reason for leakage is due to frequent fluctuation in power supply. We have requested for a change in power connection from other feeder for an uninterrupted power supply."

Regional officer, GPCB, Bharuch, MS Shukla said, "Due to the leakage, effluent has spread in nearby areas. However, as the quality of effluent is of 7 pH (the power of hydrogen), hence, there is no

EFFLUENT PIPELINE LEAKAGE

Chief executive officer BEAIL KR Desai told TOI, "The leakage in effluent