

Today's Paper » NATIONAL » TAMIL NADU**Stakeholders deliberate on wastewater treatment and reuse at NIT-T workshop**

Special Correspondent

Considering waste water as crucial for ensuring a clean environment and public health in the context of water scarcity at a global level, a workshop on 'Advanced Tools for Wastewater Treatment' was initiated here today by the Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology-Tiruchi, to understand and improve the biological processes for removing organics and nutrients to levels below effluent limits.

A plethora of different technologies were discussed at the workshop on the recent trends in water recycle and reuse and waste water treatment plants with a specific focus on development of computational mathematical models and their successful use for design, control, and optimization.

In his address, M.Dhinadhayan, Deputy Adviser, Central Public Health Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO), Ministry of Urban Development, New Delhi, said the manual on sewerage and sewage treatment has been revised.

As per the 2001 and 2011 censuses, urbanisation was on the rise.

The number of towns rose from 5,161 towns to 7,935 in a decade, but 26 per cent had no sanitation and 12.6 per cent of the population defecated in the open.

As per National Urban Sanitation Policy, total sanitation must be provided to all towns.

To curb open defecation, States and city corporations need to come out with sanitation policies factoring in the benchmarks formulated by the Ministry of Urban Development and funding provided under JNNURM (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission) for water supply, sewage, storm water drainage, and solid waste management, and the manual on sewage management for which guidelines have been prepared by the Centre of Excellence of Indian Institute of Technology-Chennai, Mr.Dhinadhayan said.

Inaugurating the workshop, Institute Director S.Sundarrajan said research and development will be accelerated through networking.

The curriculum of the courses offered at the NIT-T has been revamped to industry requirements, he said.

Supported by International Water Association and India Platform Ugent, the workshop meant for stakeholders in the field of water and waste water treatment, and management, including scientists, professionals, policy makers, utilities and students is a part of the AtWat Project entitled 'Advanced modelling, control, and decision support tools for flexible and optimal waste water treatment plants'.

New INDIGO (<http://www.newindigo.eu/>), a consortium of European and Indian Science & Technology organisations, has initiated and funded the networking project for development and integration of Indian and European research.

European speakers include Joaquim Comas Matas and Antonia Hadjimichael - LEQUIA-UdG(University of Girona), Spain; Thomas Maere, Vesvikar Mehul and Ingmar Nopens - BIOMATH, Ghent University, Belgium; and Hayrettin GucluInsel of Istanbul Technical University, Turkey.

A.Seshagiri Rao - Assistant Professor & Associate Dean (Academic-UG) spoke about the workshop while Vivek Ranade of National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, briefed about the AtWat project.