

17th Dec → Team

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NEWS TRACK

Lanxess is committed to its responsibility of protecting the environment. This has been a focus area ever since its inception in 2004. The new Nagda power plant will be run on biomass fuels. Following completion, it will cut net carbon dioxide emissions there to zero. At the second production site in Jhagadia in India, Lanxess is currently building a plant for the production of ion exchange resins. Energy here will be generated by an ultra-efficient plant run on environment friendly natural gas.

Additionally, the production site in Nagda is employing innovative technology for recycling domestic sewage water and harnessing it for industrial use.

Getting mechanised

While the municipal corporations across India are slowly adopting mechanized cleaning methods, the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation has recently obtained heavy duty road sweepers to keep their newly-made concrete roads clean. The Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation has recently purchased three heavy duty and two medium Kam-Avida road sweepers for mechanized cleaning of all the new main roads and internal roads. "Besides the new machines, we already have one heavy duty and two medium machines on the run. Over the year, we also bought 28 compactors for garbage collection," the Chief Health Officer, Dr Nagkumar Kunachgi,

told *CII*. "These machines have inbuilt sprinklers that keep the dust from being displaced. Unlike mechanised cleaning, manual cleaning is time-consuming, costlier and effective." The municipal corporation has also outsourced cleaning of its hospitals to BVG housekeeping contractors.

India – Novel rural sanitation prototype

This might come as a relief for women from rural Gulbarga. Sharan Desai, a technocrat from Gulbarga, has come out with the prototype of a toilet that meets the needs of rural women. The prototype has already evinced interest among government agencies, NGOs and local leaders as well. The model, conceived by Desai, promises to be simple, low-cost, and above all user-friendly. It is also easy to build and maintain. The cost of each unit ranges from Rs8,000 to Rs12,000. However if they are constructed for the community as a whole, the cost could be brought down drastically.

The toilets can be built using local materials like wooden poles, dry grass, bricks, stones and tin sheets. The toilet itself has adequate ventilation. Desai said it does not need much maintenance and waste is channelised into a pit. For general maintenance and cleanliness, one person can attend it. The structure does not need as much water as required in the urban flush out toilets. A barrel of water kept outside would meet the needs of the users.

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Your washroom may look