

R&D hub on dyes to come up at IITGn premises

dna correspondent @dnaahmedabad

Ahmedabad: To help dye industries comply with the pollution control norms, IIT Gandhinagar (IITGn) is gearing up to set up a Common Research and Technology Development Hub (CRTDH) of chemical processes on its premises.

Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) will provide a fund of Rs4crore for the project which will have a chemical process technology lab along with a pilot plant facility.

The centre will also help MS-MEs in the dye sector for research, training and testing of raw materials and products to give them an advantage in the competitive market. In addition, IITGn will put in about Rs2crore to help dye clusters in Gujarat.

Principal investigator of the project, professor Chinmay Ghoro of IITGn, said, "Gujarat contributes to about 80% of the total dye production capacity of India. Gujarat has about 1,050 dyestuff units in Ahmedabad, Vatva, Naroda, Odhav, Vadodara, Ankleshwar, Surat, Valsad and Vapi."

He added, "The sector is performing badly in terms of waste generation and its treatment. The CRTDH will be an opportunity for IITGn faculty to work together to solve industrial problems which are truly interdisciplinary."

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