

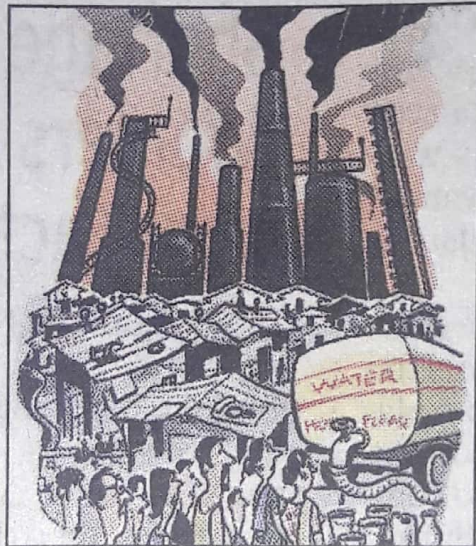
# Over 100 pollution board staff sign up for BITS course

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**Panaji:** As the coal pollution issue dominates the minds of many Goans, the BITS Pilani K K Birla Goa campus has trained and continues to enrol close to 100 staffers of the Goa state pollution control board (GSPCB) and that from different industries in Goa for a course on pollution control. The programme trains the officials in carrying out risk assessment and impact assessment studies and at carrying out checks of their various equipments from time-to-time to help reduce pollution in the state, professor S D Manjare of BITS Pilani Goa campus, said.

Undergoing the programme also helps the employees chosen for it as they are awarded a MTech in environmental engineering after completion of the programme of two years' duration.

"Suitable course modules are formulated for these personnel. BITS is offering the training course to two categories of employees from GSPCB and from the industry



## BREATH EASY

personnel. The first batch passed out in December 2016. The second batch has been admitted from August 2017. We have got very good response from the industry. We have around 26 participants from industries operating in Goa that deal with paints, beverages, chemicals. A similar number from the industry have already completed the programme," said Manjare.

He said that the training helps the industry personnel to stay updated with the latest advancements to be able to effectively tackle pollution.

Participants have to complete about 70 credits, inclu-

ding six months project work under the programme.

"The project work is specific to industry-related problems and addressing these problems using the latest advancements, which help participants to keep abreast with new developments," said Manjare.

BITS Pilani K K Birla Goa campus has an ongoing collaboration with GSPCB for environmental pollution control and quality improvement programme for pollution control personnel. Besides the MTech course, shorter duration training programmes are held on environmental management systems for the Goa industry personnel.

BITS Pilani Goa campus faculty members are also serving on various state-level panels to address energy and environmental issues of the state. "Our leadership and senior management including BITS Pilani university vice-chancellor and our Goa campus director, professor Raghurama, are supportive and encourage us to address local problems," said Manjare.