

## **Concept of CETP**

The concept of effluent treatment, by means, of a collective effort, has assumed reasonable gravity by being especially purposeful for cluster of small scale industrial units. Common effluent treatment plant (CETP) not only helps the industries in easier control of pollution, but also act as a step towards cleaner environment and service to the society at large. Small scale industries, by their very nature of job cannot benefit much from economies of scale and therefore the burden of installing pollution- control equipment, falls heavy on them. Realizing this practical problem, under the policy statement for abatement of pollution the Govt. felt to extend the scheme for promoting combined facilities for treatment of effluent and management of solid waste for clusters of small scale industrial units and also to provide technical support to them. Accordingly, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, had instructed various State Pollution Control Boards, to examine the possibilities of establishing CETPs in various Industrial estates in the respective states.

The concerted approach of joint or common effluent treatment provisions has many advantages. Wastewater of individual industries often contain significant concentration of pollutants; and to reduce them by individual treatment up to the desired concentration, become techno-economically difficult. The combined treatment provides a better and economical option because of the equalization and neutralization taking place in the CETP.

Other important issues for the merit of common treatment include scarcity of land at the industry's level and a comparatively easier availability of professional and trained staff for the operation of CETP, which can otherwise be difficult, at the individual industry level. For the regulatory authorities also, common treatment facility offers a comparatively easier means of ensuring compliance of stipulated norms. The handling and disposal of solid- waste

also becomes increasingly easier as the infrastructure is created in the project itself. The concept of common treatment, based on feasibility, should be part of the new industrial estates as essential component of infrastructure, In fact, the location of industries should always be such that units with compatible nature of activity are located in a cluster which in-turn can facilitate in providing common treatment .