

Voltas completes the Namami Gange Sewage Treatment Plants project in Bihar

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Mumbai, 14th September, 2020: Voltas, one of India's leading engineering solutions provider, from the house of the Tata Group, today announced the completion of two Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) in Bihar by Namami Gange (NMCG), funded by World Bank. The two projects ensure proper treatment of household sewerage to prevent flowing of untreated sewage to River Ganga. **Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi is scheduled to virtually inaugurate** both these Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation (BUIDCO) STP projects in Karmalichak and Beur on 15th September 2020. The virtual inauguration is expected to be graced by dignitaries like Mr. Fagu Chauhan, Governor, Bihar; Mr. Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister, Bihar; Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, Cabinet Minister, Government of India among others.

As part of the Namami Gange mission, Voltas was awarded the two projects worth Rs.150 Cr. with the capacity of 37 MLD and 43 MLD at Patna, Bihar for Design, Build and Operation. The foundation stone of these projects was laid by Hon Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi on 14th October 2017.

Since the new facilities are based on state-of-the-art technology and enabled with all required equipment, control instrument and automation, it will be less dependent on human intervention and generate the desired treated water quality. An important feature of the two projects is that earlier sewage was treated through continuous Aeration & Settling process whereas in the current SBR process continuous Aeration is not at all required. Hence, there is a substantial saving in power and as well as in space as all biological oxidation processes are being carried out in the same SBR basin, leading to improved efficiency.

Commenting on the milestone, **Mr. Pradeep Bakshi, MD & CEO, Voltas Limited**, said, *"Bearing in mind the increasing scarcity of potable water owing to the rise in global temperature, it is of utmost priority that we innovate and invest in proper water management and treatment systems. The Namami Gange initiative is a crucial step in saving one of the most precious resources and healing the River Ganga, which plays a very vital role in the life-cycle of many Indians. Voltas is leading the Namami Gange Projects in 5 Indian states across 29 projects spread over the banks of the longest river in the country. We are proud to be associated with such an important project and look forward to the success of the entire Namami Gange project in the near future."*

Interestingly, as per contract for the BEUR STP plant, Voltas was supposed to construct a new 23 MLD plant and repair/revamp the existing 20 MLD unit for treatment requirement of 43 MLD sewerage to keep the project cost low. **However, on receipt of the project Voltas assessed the old system and subsequently went beyond the scope of the contract to construct an all-new 43 MLD plant instead of revamping the old plant. Appreciating the gesture,** the differential cost was borne by the Company keeping in mind the long term advantage for local people as well as the best interest of clean Ganga mission under Tata's CSR policy. This new construction instead of revamping the old plant has led to saving in Land Use, Common Electrical instrumentation and control facilities and improved Treatment Quality of sewage water.

In sync with the local culture, all the structures at the project site are painted with the famous 'Madhubani Painting' of Bihar with the theme of saving water, the importance and impact of Ganga on life and culture. Being mindful of the environment, Voltas has shifted and replanted 13 different types of trees, as well as saved 27 trees by road rerouting and building relocation. Additionally, Voltas intends to plant hundreds of trees around the facilities and focus on introducing more social activities to engage with the local communities.

About Voltas

Voltas Limited is a premier air conditioning and engineering solutions provider and a Projects specialist. Founded in India in 1954, Voltas Limited is part of the Tata Group, and in addition to Air Conditioners, Air Coolers, Water Dispensers, Water Coolers, and Commercial Refrigeration products; Voltas offers engineering solutions for a wide spectrum of industries in areas such as heating, ventilation and air conditioning, refrigeration, electro-mechanical projects, electrification, textile machinery, mining and construction equipment, water management & treatment, cold chain solutions, building management systems, and indoor air quality. Voltas is among the top ten companies within the Tata group and is the undisputed market leader in room air conditioners in India with market share of close to 24.4%. It has also recently launched its range of Voltas Beko Home Appliances, through its new JV in India, in equal partnership with Arcelik of Turkey.

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