

# Phycolinc Technologies: Suggesting the best way to treat waste

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A chemical manufacturer at Padra in Vadodara district was struggling to comply with the state pollution control board's norms till an Ahmedabad based startup, Phycolinc Technologies, provided them with a customised, microbiology-based waste water treatment solution. This not just helped the company comply with the norms but also reduced cost of compliance by 90%.

Past journey

An IIT-Kharagpur graduate, Sumeet Mohanty, worked with an American startup after his graduation in 2013. For three years, he did his research on waste water treatment through microbiology-based solutions and decided to commercialize it. In 2016, he incorporated Phycolinc Technologies. The startup is supported by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India in Gandhinagar. It currently operates from Ahmedabad and employs a team of 10 people. It has been serving clients along the golden corridor belt of Gujarat – primarily in Vapi, Ankleshwar and Vadodara.

Next steps: This year, the startup was selected among 25 social sector startups nationally, to be the recipient HDFC Parivartan grant worth Rs 21.2 lakh. Besides developing products to help treat industrial waste, it has also developed two products for treating waste water and impact of chemically polluted water on agriculture. We will commercialize these products and help reduce environmental impact of industrial waste water," said Sumeet.

## Challenges

"Our business is impacted by regulations. Nobody wants to spend on effluent treatment though we offer a cost-effective technology," said Sumeet.

## Secret to success

Sumeet feels that the entire team's belief in the cause is something that has worked in their favour. "We all believe in the cause we are working towards and we support each other every time there is any difficult. This has kept our dedication intact."

(As told to Niyati Parikh)