

City gets sewage treatment plant

Our Bureau
HYDERABAD

THE CITY can boast of Asia's biggest sewage treatment plant (STP), with Nagarjuna Construction Company (NCC) setting up a Rs 100-crore plant. "Around 339 million litres of sewage will be treated daily at this plant. Sewage from the northern and southern parts of the city reach the Musi river through pipelines and are diverted through special pipelines to the plant, said an NCC official.

The plant is jointly funded by the National River Conservation Directorate, ministry of environ-

ment and forest and the state government. It took over three years for NCC to build the plant.

Once treated, the water will be released back into the Musi river in a phased manner ensuring that the water does not contaminate. "The Musi river will get a new lease of life with this plant. It will no longer be an open sewer. We expect the river to become a fresh water body in the next

three to four months," said state chief minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy while inaugurating the plant.



The plant is also using green technology to generate power. "The plant generates biogas from waste for power generation. It requires less power to run the plant and the treated water can be reused for industrial purposes after tertiary treatment," an official said.

Gas generated from this

sewage treatment plant is collected through pipelines and stored for power generation. This gas contains methane, a bio-fuel, and it is used generate about 1 megawatt of power. The Hyderabad Water & Sewage Board has applied for carbon credits. Carbon credits provide a way to reduce greenhouse effect emissions on an industrial scale by capping total annual emissions and letting the market assign a monetary value to any shortfall through trading. Credits can be exchanged between businesses or bought and sold in international markets at the prevailing market price.