

Industries must contribute towards clean water and sanitation: Alina

BY A STAFF REPORTER

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Vasco: Science and Technology Minister Alina Saldanha inaugurated the two-day workshop on 'Environmental Management Systems for Industries in Goa' organised by the Department of Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani K K Birla Goa Campus in collaboration with Goa State Pollution Control Board at K K Birla Goa campus, Zuari-nagar.

The aim of the workshop was to provide working professionals in Goa a platform to enhance their knowledge about best management practices for reduction in all forms of pollution.

Speaking on the occasion, Alina Saldanha em-

phasised the role of industries in sustainable development. She mentioned that industries must contribute towards clean water and sanitation; affordable and clean energy; innovation and infrastructure development; sustainable cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; and actions on climate change. Alina further stated that we must harness solar energy and non conventional energy sources for power generation. The minister stressed that more efforts should be given to preserve and conserve water resources which are otherwise getting polluted due to large anthropogenic activities.

The minister added that the hotel industry in Goa is

expected to address the pollution issue by laying stress not only on legal compliance but on recycling and reusing waste by investing in modern technology for sustainable tourism.

Guest of honour Dr Mohan Girap, Scientist-C, Goa State Pollution Control Board, highlighted the amendments in exiting environmental laws and induction of new environmental regulations for e-waste. Director of BITS Pilani K K Birla Goa Campus, prof R N Saha stated that local environmental problems should be dealt jointly by academic institutions and industries supported by concerned government agencies.

The coordinator of the workshop, prof S D Man-

jare welcomed the dignitaries, introduced the theme of the workshop and outlined the importance of proactive measures along with reactive measure for environmental pollution control.

Prof S S Baral, head, Department of Chemical Engineering, presented the report on department activities and highlighted the avenues for academic and research collaboration with industries in Goa. Prof Sutapa Roy Ramanan proposed a vote of thanks.

In all 40 participants from various industries from Goa including officials from Goa State Pollution Control Board, Goa Biodiversity Board, and experts from various consultancies participated in the workshop.