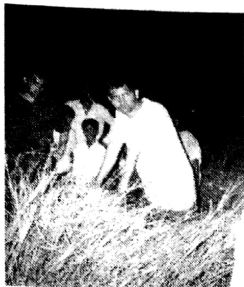


"The earth is a living organism and therefore it is time we try and protect it from dying a premature death."



Dr. Ajit

Dr. Ajit Gokhale, Manager - Technical, Ion Exchange, is one of the few people who go beyond their work commitment for rural welfare. Dr. Gokhale is deeply involved with research on water harvesting, organic farming and developing eco-friendly technologies for water refreshment.

After completing M.Sc. PhD, he completed his Diploma in EMS and ISO 14000. He has nine years of research experience in Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Ecotechnology. He has received the Young Scientist award from the Indian Society of Plant Physiology in 1990.

He taught Botany and Environmental Sciences at DAV College, Bhandup and Birla College, Kalyan. Six years later he moved to the position of Scientific Executive in the Research and Development Centre of Ion Exchange (I) Ltd. Here he worked on development of various ecofriendly wastewater treatment systems. From there, he went on to become Deputy Manager in-charge of Rural Development Cellmaking technological solutions for water and wastewater treatment available to the rural population, to his current position.

The failure of his first project on water harvesting in 1987 didn't deter him. He faced non-cooperation and lack of response from the villagers. However, he didn't give up the cause. It is his belief that our economy is highly dependent on rural India. It is here that the grassroots level enhancements need to be made. There is a need to preserve water and productivity of soil. It is to tap this potential that he strives. Currently, he is working to promote water and wastewater treatment, rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge with SHARE, an NGO. ●