

Pachipala village of Rajasthan celebrated the inauguration of its Water Treatment Plant on January 7th, 2019. The CSR team from Wacker Metroark Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. who have financially supported the project inaugurated the plant, and senior officials from Barefoot College, Block Development Officer of Silora Block, Sarpanch and residents of the village were present. Eureka Forbes Limited fabricated the plant.

Pachipala village, which is located 30 kilometres from Kishangarh, town of Ajmer District, has only a few water sources in the village. People usually fetch water from the open well and use it for drinking and cooking purposes. After Barefoot tested the water from the open well, the results showed that the water is not potable to drink. Contamination including salinity, Fluoride, and Chloride is found to be high in this water. Hence, technology like this is proven as effective in removing high salinity and other contaminations from water.

Barefoot College is now responsible for inaugurating 11 RO plants in areas which before had only access to unsafe sources of water.

In recent years, the increasing threat to groundwater quality due to human activities has become a matter of critical concern. Due to lack of adequate infrastructure and resources, the waste is not properly collected, treated or disposed of; leading to accumulation and infiltration, resulting in groundwater contamination. In many of the areas groundwater is the only source of drinking water, thus a large population is exposed to the risk of consuming contaminated water.

The residents now have access to clean and safe drinking water. The community drinking water system is able to produce 1,000 litres of water every hour, making it able to cater to the entire village. Total project expenses are Rs. 7.5 Lakhs. Barefoot College was instrumental in mobilizing the community and successfully implementing the project. A water committee was formed in the village who will take care of the plant and a person was trained from the village to operate the plant. Therefore this plant is managed, controlled, operated and maintained by the community.