12. Ultra Health: Water Fun Station

Preamble:

Diarrheal diseases are a major contributor to childhood malnutrition and growth retardation. Access to improved quality drinking water is a simplest way to tackle this problem. Schools are the key locations where most of the children are present throughout the year and spend nearly 8 hours daily. Improved drinking water quality at school level is an important option. Typical problems associated with rural schools include 1) poor quality water source, 2) lack of water purification systems, 3) lack of assured power supply and 4) lack of water storage facility. These limitations need to be taken into account while developing a technology.

Technology:

Development of a suitable water purification system, particularly for rural schools, is a challenge. Under a project sponsored by Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission, Govt. of Maharashtra, a simple gadget has been developed by Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai. The system called "Ultra Health: Water Fun Station" is a child centric design with easy hand operated pump and Silver Ceramic Candle with nano Silver technology which filters microorganisms. The system has a capacity of filtering 100 litres of water per hour. There is no operating cost and no wastage of water as it is hand operated. Water is obtained only when the pump is operated manually. The system has been field tested at schools and has given encouraging results.



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