

Bahrain: \$18m plant on the way

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The Kingdom has given its nod to Indian engineering company with a major presence in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, Gemsil Engineering and Management Services Company (Pvt) Ltd to set up a \$18m desalination plant in Bahrain.

Gemsil Aquatech Bahrain, the owning and promoter-company of the proposed seawater reverse osmosis water desalination plant project, said the project with a daily capacity of 3.5m litres will be located inside the Arab Ship Repair Yard (Asry) in Hidd area.

This will be equipped with the latest expertise and technology from Spain, the largest user of desalination technology in the Western world.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce welcomed the project and attributed it to the businessfriendly regulatory climate of Bahrain, which aims to attract more foreign investments in all vital sectors of the national economy.

"The Ministry of Commerce and Industry assured us fast track clearances and availability of land for downstream projects," said S.Ramachandran, its Chairman and A Rajeswaran, Group Managing Director.

Gemsil also proposes to invest in downstream oil and gas sectors in Bahrain in future.

Based in Chennai, South India, the parent company Gemsil Engineering and Management Services Company (pvt) Ltd. has over 20 years experience in implementing projects for Saudi Aramco, Saudi Chevron, Adnoc, Kuwait Oil Company.

The company already signed a build-operate-transfer (BOT) contract with Asry for a 25-year period to cater to its entire water consumption needs with a facility to sell surplus production in the Bahrain market.

"The desalination project is seen as a vote of confidence in the economic climate of the Kingdom and also a result of the initiatives spearheaded by the Ministry of the Industry and Commerce to promote Bahrain as a destination of choice for the foreign investments," the ministry added.