



## Leachate Treatment

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The South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) has commissioned a leachate treatment plant at the Okhla landfill to overcome the problem of seepage during monsoons.

- Leachate is the **black, foul-smelling toxic liquid** emanating from rotting garbage at landfills, which not just has fungus and bacteria in it but harmful chemicals as well.
- It gets accumulated at the bottom of the landfill and percolates down through the soil **contaminating the groundwater**. It contaminates surface water as well.
- Such contamination of groundwater resources poses a substantial risk to local resource users and to the natural environment.
- Leachate generation is a major problem for **municipal solid waste (MSW)** landfills.
- Leachate treatment options include recycling, on-site treatment, discharge to a municipal sewage treatment plant, or a combination of these approaches.