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Dust-free chalk from Bhavnagar to help teachers

Vijaysinh Parmar | TNN

Bhavnagar: Teachers across the country can now breathe easy in classrooms. Finally they will get dust-free chalks, thanks to scientists at Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI) in Bhavnagar.

According to CSMCRI director Dr PK Ghosh, the teaching community and students have been suffering for long due to exposure to chalk dust.

“CSMCRI began working on calcium carbonate-based superior quality writing chalk nearly



I find it excellent, no dust, no screeching

Prof A Q Contractor
IIT, POWAI

Excellent improvement in quality of chalk, will help teaching community a lot

Prof H B Bohidar
DEAN OF SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCE, JNU, NEW DELHI

seven years ago,” said Dr Ghosh. “Chalks in India are mainly

manufactured by small-scale industries using gypsum as raw ma-

terial. Unfortunately, the bulk of the products in the market rarely meet the desirable attributes of a good chalk like minimum dust, improved resolution of writing, reduced tendency of breakage, enhanced visibility under high humidity conditions and ease of wiping. Chalk requirement is estimated to exceed 100,000 tonne per annum in the country,” Dr Ghosh told TOI.

“The latest version of the chalk was recently rated as the best available product by Indian Institution of Science Education and Research (IISER), Chandigarh, which has adopted it. The new chalk can write up to four times more than the gypsum-based chalks. Many other institutions like IITs have also provided favourable feedback to us,” said Dr Ghosh.

He said, “We have started the process of applying for a patent for this invention.” “As for the commercial production, we have already given license to a Tamil Nadu-based company and simultaneously distributed clean writing chalk to about 500 top institutions of the country for feedback,” he added.

