

Sol<sup>n</sup>

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OTEC

Principle of OTEC → The principle of OTEC system is that there is a Temperature difference b/w water at the bottom and Top of the sea.

→ this Temperature can be used to operate a heat engine and most of Radiation is being absorbed at the surface layer of water.

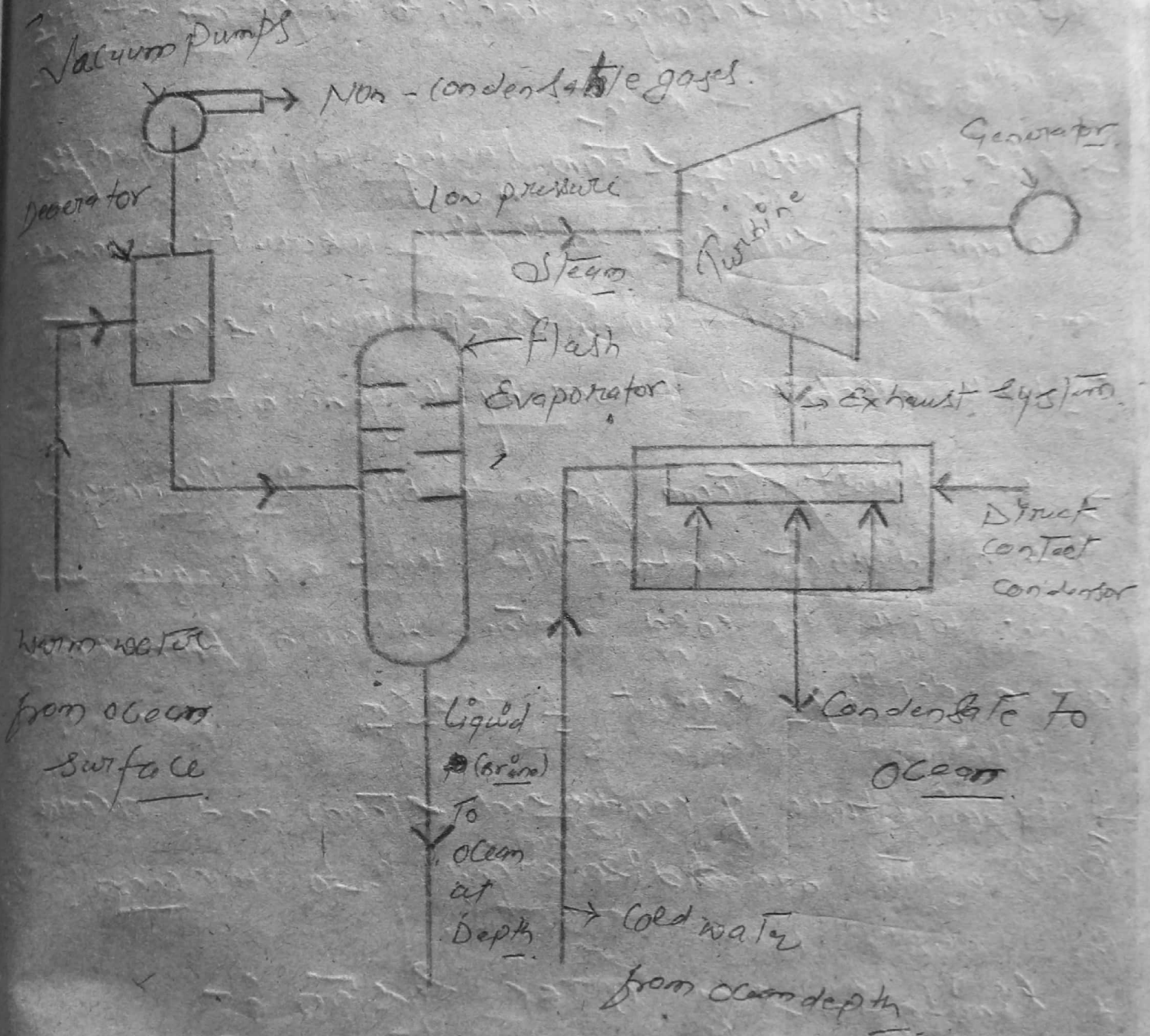
Types of OTEC systems :-

There are two types of OTEC systems -

- ① Closed cycle system or Anderson cycle system.
- ② open cycle system or Claude cycle system.
- ③ Hybrid cycle.



# Open cycle system or Claude cycle system -



→ In this system, the warm water from ocean surface is admitted through the deaerator to the flash evaporator, which is maintained under high vacuum.



→ As a result, a low pressure steam is generated due to throttling effect on the remainder liquid is discharged back to the ocean at high depth.

→ This low pressure steam having very high specific volume is supplied to turbine where it expands and mechanical power so developed is converted into the electrical power by the generator.

→ The exhaust steam from turbine is discharged into a direct contact type heat exchanger and mixes with the cold water drawn from ocean at a depth of about 1 to 2 km.

→ The mixture of condensed steam and ocean cold water are discharged into the ocean.

\* Limitations of OTEC System :-

Following are the limitations of OTEC system :-

- ① Low thermal efficiency (2-3%) because of low temperature difference of water available.
- ② Large size pump is required to handle large volume of water.

- ② The Capital cost is more.
- ③ Plant should be capable of withstanding severe ocean storms and seasons.
- ④ Plant size above 100 MW is limited because it requires large size components (Requires 30m diameter pipe of 1 km long).