

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2115  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009  
DAMAGE TO ENVIRONMENT  
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**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the damage caused to the environment by the discharge of effluents from leather and textile units in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof , State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to give incentives to these industries for installation of pollution control plants; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b): The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has identified 17 categories of highly polluting industries which includes Tannery, i.e., Leather Industry. Most of the tannery and textile units fall under small and medium enterprises (SME) sector and are located mainly in clusters. The major States accounting for tanneries are Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Punjab. As per the information available with the CPCB, the discharge of effluents has been one of the causes of water quality deterioration of Sutlej river by tanneries located at Jalandhar (Punjab), of river Ganga by tanneries of Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) and of river Palar by tanneries of Vanyambadi (Tamilnadu).

Textile units are mainly located in the States of Tamilnadu, Gujarat, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. A total of 1,683 textiles units are established in these five States, out of which 1,479 units are reported to be complying with the effluent norms.

(c) & (d): The Central Government provides financial assistance to the tune of 25% of the project cost for installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for small scale industrial units including textile and tannery clusters. CETPs have been installed at major tannery clusters in Jalandhar (Punjab), Jajmau, Unnao, Banthera (all in U.P.), Vanyambadi (Tamilnadu) and Kolkata (West Bengal). CETPs have also been installed in major textile clusters liker Tirupur (Tamilnadu) and Pali (Rajasthan).