

Sustainable Export market and Relocation of Tanning Industry in Bangladesh

Problems and Possibilities

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Bangladesh Leather

Leather Industry is a multifarious environment polluting industry, as well as the fifth largest export-earning sector.

Leather industry is a highly pollution oriented and dangerous types of industry, based on mainly indigenously available raw Hide & Skins and processed with more than 15,000 Tons of anti- environment chemicals

The full flourish of leather industry is significant for country's economy.

There is also huge possibility of foreign investment in leather sector, particularly shoe and leather goods production sector.

The pollution load emanating from Tanneries is directly effecting surface water, ground water, soil & air of Dhaka City .

5 Million Cubic meter/year wastewater discharge from the Tanneries, polluting the Buriganga river water and making the water body completely unsuitable for any intended use by Chadni Ghat water treatment plant of Dhaka WASA.

One portion of breeding section of the Hilsha fish in the Bay of Bengal has shifted to the coastal areas of Burma and Thailand. Burmese and Thai Hilsha fish now exported to London and New York.

3 Governments without any financial preparation have made efforts of Tannery Relocation from Hazaribagh 3 times in last 13 years.

The long waited Tannery Relocation project " LEATHER INDUSTRIAL PARK AT SAVAR" was approved by ECNEC on 16th August '2003 at the cost of Tk 176 crore. On the amount UN Environment Agency will provide Tk 82 crore as grant.

The main features of Tannery Industrial Park at Savar

- Chemical Analysis of the underground water
- Engg. Design of the Tannery City should done by UNIDO
- Provision for subsidiary industry like poultry feed From Tannery Solid Waste
- Land for Residential Accommodation for Labour & Leather Technologist

**ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR
LEATHER & LEATHER PRODUCTS EXPORT
TO EU, USA & JAPAN AFTER 2005**

- A. Facilities available for the Treatment of Tannery Effluents and Safe disposal of Tannery emitted solid wastes in the Country.
- B. Ensuring the absence of Hazardous / Band Elements in Leather :
1. PCP (Penta Chloro Phenol) from fungicide
 2. Use of AUX free Fat liquoring Agent
 3. Dioxin & Formaldehyde in Leather Finishing

C. Banned Amines from dyestuffs:

- 4-Aminodiphenyl
- Benzidine
- 4-Chlor-O-toluidine
- 2-Naphthylamine
- O-Aminoazotoulene
- 2-Amino-4-nitrotoulene
- P-chloroaniline
- 4-Methoxy-m-phenylenediamine
- 4,4'-Diaminodiphenylmethane
- 3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine
- 3,3'-Dimethoxybenzidine
- 3,3'-Dimethylbenzidine
- 3,3'-Dimethyldiaminodiphenylmethane
- 2-Methoxy-5-methylaniline
- 4,4'-Methylene-bis-(2-chloro-aniline)
- 4,4'-Oxydianiline
- 4,4'-Thiodianiline
- O-Toluidine
- 4-Methyl-1,3-phenylenediamine
- 2,4,5-Trimethylaniline

**WEAKNESS OF BANGLADESH TANNING
INDUSTRY & ITS REMEDY**

1. Poor Raw Hide Preservation system

- Cause : Use of Chittagong Sea Salt only
- Remedy : Use of special Hide Curing Chemicals with Sea Salt.

2. Poor Liming Action on Raw Hide / Skins

Cause : Use of Impure Quicklime in lamps form

Remedy : Use of Pure Hydrated Lime Powder

3. Avoid Strong Chemicals Reaction in De-liming

Cause : Use of Ammonium Sulphate / Chloride only

Remedy: Use of mild complexing Agent at the beginning

4. Poor Enzymatic Activity in Bating Operation

Cause: Use of cold water

Remedy: Use of water at 37° C

5. Non- removal of Natural Grease in Pickling

Cause: non use of special additives

Remedy: Use of special Additives after salt before Acid.

6 Poor Basification in Chrome Tanning

Cause: Use of low cost Sodium Bi Carbonate

Remedy: Use of Magnesium Oxide + Special Additives

Tanned and un-tanned solid waste generated in Hazaribagh while processing 74,000 tons of wet salted raw materials as estimated by UNIDO

Solid waste	% On raw	Quantity generated
	weight	Ton / year in 365 days
Raw Trimmings	10%	7,400
Fleshing/pelt trimmings	30%	22,200
Buffing dust	10%	7,400
Chrome Shaving	1%	740
Crust/Finished leather cuttings	1.4%	1,036
	Total	38,776 Tons

Export performance of the Leather sector in last one decade 1990-2003

Year	TK in Core	In Million US\$
1990-91	483.54	137.13
1991-92	566.66	148.85
1992-93	616.27	158.63
1993-94	765.18	192.02
1994-95	903.77	225.33
1995-96	986.31	241.15
1996-97	945.52	222.06
1997-98	1,081.46	233.75
1998-99	1,072.25	223.49
1999-2000	1,252.11	249.93
2000-2001	1,668.50	290.68
2001-2002	1,449.62	252.50