

CHARTER ON CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (CREP)

Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) launched the Charter on "Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP)" in March 2003 with the purpose to go beyond the compliance of regulatory norms for prevention & control of pollution through various measures including waste minimization, in-plant process control & adoption of clean technologies. The Charter set targets concerning conservation of water, energy, recovery of chemicals, reduction in pollution, elimination of toxic pollutants, process & management of residues that are required to be disposed off in an environmentally sound manner. The Charter enlists the action points for pollution control for various categories of highly polluting industries. The Task Forces were constituted for monitoring the progress of implementation of CREP recommendations/ action points.

Action Points under CREP for Tannery Sector

1. Chrome Recovery

- i) All the chrome-tanning units in the country will have the Chrome Recovery Plant either on individual basis or on collective basis in the form of Common Chrome Recovery Plant and use the recovered chrome in the tanning process. By December 2004
- ii) Common Chrome Recovery Plant is to be installed and commissioned at Kanpur, for which the Feasibility Report has already been prepared. All the chrome tanning units will make their financial contribution to the extent of 10% By June 2003
- ii) Recovered Chromium is to be utilized in tanning process By December 2005

2. Waste Minimization Measures

- i) Waste minimization circles will be formed in all the clusters of tanneries in the country to implement waste minimization measures and for adoption of clean technologies March 2004
- ii) Waste minimization measures as identified by the Task Force to be implemented in all the tanneries By December 2005

3. Reduction of Water Consumption in Tannery Units

- i) All the tanneries will install water meters and flow meters to measure actual consumption and waste water discharge. By December 2003
- ii) Water consumption rates will be brought down to 28 m³/tonne of hides by taking water conservation measures. By December 2003

4. Compliance of standards

All CETPs and ETPs will take the following measures:

- i) Deployment of qualified and well trained staff for O & M of the ETPs/CETPs. By December 2003
- ii) Installation of automatic monitoring instruments by CETPs/large tanneries. By December 2003
- iii) Separate Energy meters for ETPs/CETPs By December 2003
- iv) Replacement of open anaerobic lagoons with cleaner technology options will be implemented By December 2005
- v) Implementation of guidelines developed by CPCB for Health & Safety of worker employed in the industry / ETP/ CETP.
- vi) All large tannery units (processing more than 5 tonne/day of hides/skins) will undertake Environmental Auditing on annual basis. By June 2004
- vii) Modification/up-gradation of the CETPs/ETPs wherever necessary will be taken up by tannery units and CETP management By December 2005

5. Management of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

For TDS management the following methods will be adopted:

- i) Manual/mechanical desalting By December 2003
- ii) Use of cleaner technology for less use of salt By December 2005
- iii) High Rate Transpiration System for effluent treatment will be adopted wherever feasible By December 2004
- iv) Treated wastewater will be mixed with the sewage wherever feasible and further treated and the treated combined effluent will be used on land for irrigation. By December 2005

6. Solid Waste Management

For solid waste management the following methods will be adopted:

- i) Utilization of process sludge for by-product recovery. By December 2004
- ii) Resource recovery from process sludge and ETP sludge in the form of Biogas By December 2004
- iii) Safe disposal of hazardous sludge and non-hazardous solid wastes By December 2005

7. Salts from Solar Evaporation

The following methods will be adopted depending on the site specific conditions:

- i) Reuse of recovered salt. By December 2005
- ii) Safe land disposal or Sea disposal

8. Use of Boron bearing compounds will be dispensed with.

By December 2003

- 9. Ground water quality monitoring to be strengthened wherever the treated effluents are applied on land for irrigation. By December 2004

- 10. Implementation of recommendations of the Task Force constituted by the MOEF, Govt. of India will be commenced by June 2003. By June 2003

Note: Non-complying units not meeting notified standards under Environment (Protection), 1986 will submit action plan with PERT chart along with Bank Guarantee to SPCB By June 30, 2003