

**Title:** Need to check pollution caused by tanneries in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM (VELLORE): Sir, the effluent coming out from tanneries in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu does not conform to the stipulated limits. The Tanneries discharge the liquid effluents into various receiving bodies, like public sewers and inland surface waters, such as Ponds, Rivers etc. On the intervention of the Hon. Supreme Court of India, a common water treatment plant has been set up in Ranipet and Vaniambadi in Vellore district for treating the effluents from Tanneries.

Sir, it is given to understand that even after the water treatment at Ranipet and Vaniambadi, the Palar river water is still contaminated and not fit for drinking as well as for irrigation purposes. Thousands of acres of land have become infertile due to contaminated water. On the intervention of the Supreme Court, the State Government has agreed to collect funds from Tanneries and pay as compensation to these affected agriculturists. But so far, the aggrieved persons have not been compensated. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to intervene in the matter and take appropriate steps to advise the State Government Authorities to pay the compensation to the affected agriculturists immediately.

I, also request the Union Government to send a Central team with experts to assess the increasing pollution in Palar River and provide adequate funds to check the standard of the existing Common Water Treatment Plant set up for Tanneries effluents in Vellore District.