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Title: Need to review the decision to close down more than twenty tanneries in Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadue and open a common Effluent Treatment Plant in the area.

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN (VELLORE): Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

In Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has issued notice to more than 20 tanneries in Sembattu of Tiruchirapalli. They have closed all the tanneries. More than 15,000 families have been affected. They are without work and food. The effluent treatment plant is to be established by the Central Government. The Government has already promised, but they have failed to do it until now. The Pollution Board has issued the notice showing the reason that the tanneries have failed to establish the effluent treatment plant

The same danger is there in Vellore district also in Vaniambadi, Ambur, Pernambattu, Dindigul and in Paallavaram and Chromepet areas in the neighbourhood of Chennai. More than 10 to 12 lakh workers have been affected by this attitude. Therefore, I request the hon. Speaker to direct the Government, particularly the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to put a stop to this closure of tanneries and permit all the tanneries to work and make the people work in the tanneries. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER : It is an important issue, no doubt it will be looked into.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Those who wait patiently will be rewarded.