

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING FOR TEXTILE
INDUSTRIES IN SRI LANKA

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The textile industry today plays a major role in the country's economy. Consequently when approving such industries the decision-maker tends to minimise the environmental problems that this type of industry creates.

In Sri Lanka, the majority of these operations fall into the small or medium scale category. Up to now in the country's planning efforts, such a scale of operations did not warrant special provision of infrastructure facilities. Since these facilities are only available near town centres these industries more often than not obtained approval for location in urban areas where the existing infrastructure and facilities could not absorb the added waste load due to these industries, leading to a problem whose environmental dimensions are significant.

Environmental planning of these industries involves a better understanding of the process, and its wastes. These aspects have to be studied if realistic solutions are to be sought.

This paper deals with the textile processing industry and its resource needs, the underlying reasons for the present widescale pollution they have caused, and presents guidelines for better control and management of pollution caused by these industries.

References:

Environmental Aspects of Textile Industry in
Sri Lanka. N.B.R.O. - Environmental Series - 2.