



Textile industry to phase out ozone depleting chemicals

Ozone depletion is a cause of concern for all and more important today is the awareness about it, from the environment conservation point of view.

India has been in the forefront of adopting environment friendly technologies and recently, the Textiles Committee of India conducted a workshop on the subject.

"India is steadily moving towards phasing out ozone depleting substances," said Markus Wypior, the program manager of GTZ, a German development agency, which is supporting India in controlling the level of substances causing damage to the ozone layer.

"India is well on track with regard to phasing out CFC (Chloro- Fluro Carbon) and CTC (Carbon Tetrachloride), and this is something we should be aware of that India is not keeping behind rather it is the other way around and India is well on track. This is all thanks to the Ozone Cell and the Ministry of Environment and Forest, who are doing a good job on this," added Wypior on the sidelines of a workshop, organized recently by Textile Committee of India, here.

The workshop worked towards sensitizing the textile industry over the use of ozone depleting stain removing chemicals in their manufacturing units and inviting suggestions for alternatives.

Major culprit - Carbon Tetrachloride (CTC) destroys the Ozone layer which shields the earth from receiving harmful ultraviolet radiations from sun and is widely used as a degreasing and cleaning agent in the dry-cleaning and textile industries.

India is a signatory to the Montreal protocol, which calls for global cooperation in environmental protection, and India has been firm on its commitment to phase out the use of ozone depleting substances.

According to Dr GS Nadiger, Director (Laboratories) Textile Committee of India, "CTC is one of the major ozone depleting substances. According to the Montreal Protocol we have to phase out the use of these both, instant removers and cleaning agents employed in the textile manufacture."

14th February, 2005

Source: www.fibre2fashion.com