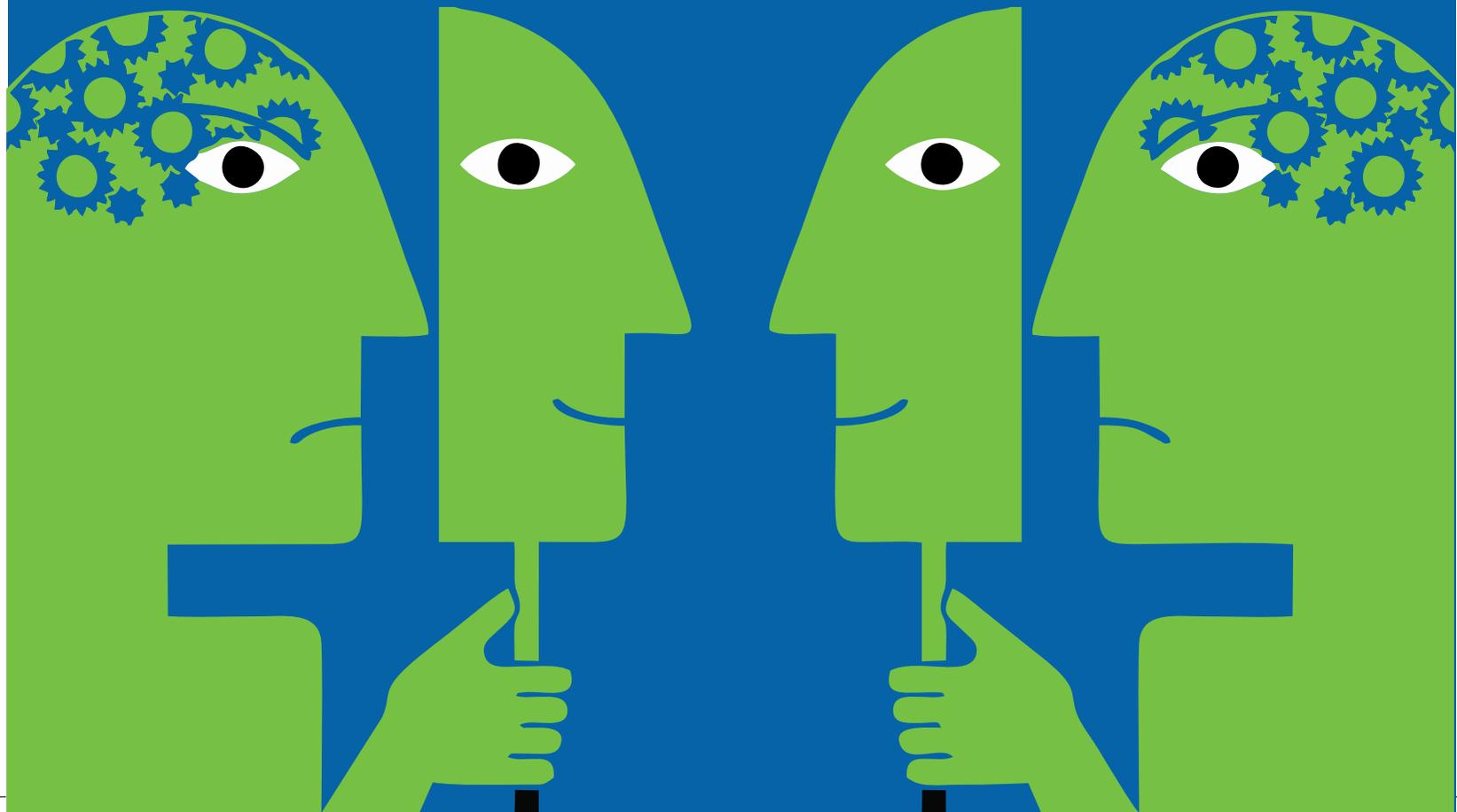


IS STERLITE COPPER REALLY HARMFUL
TO SOCIETY AND ECOLOGY?

**KNOW
THE TRUTH
TRUST FACTS. REJECT RUMOURS.**

Facts that are conveniently
hidden from the public



Our deepest condolences to all victims of fake news spread maliciously through social media.

We feel your pain because we at Sterlite Copper have undergone a similar experience.

Yes, we are talking about the closure of the Sterlite Copper factory in Thoothukudi, triggered by misinformation. Rumours, the menace of our times, has worked against us and we feel victimized. The recent inquiry commission report by Justice Aruna Jagadeeshan clarified that there is no specific evidence which points to the involvement of Sterlite Copper in the tragic incident as claimed by the few activist groups.

(Source: Frontline article)

We will continue our commitment to people and peace of Thoothukudi.

Here are twelve facts that counter the fake news and misinformation spread by mischievous elements that have an intent in pulling down not just industries but also our economy, the very lifeline of our Nation!

RUMOURS

- VERY POOR RAINFALL WHICH LEADS TO DEFECT IN AGRICULTURE
- WASTES FROM THE FACTORY GETS CONTAMINATED WITH WATER
(SCARCITY OF DRINKING WATER)
- 80% OF PEOPLES AROUND THE FACTORY ARE AFFECTED BY CANCER, KIDNEY FAILURE AND ASTHMA
- AND THE BUT NOT LEAST TOXIC GASES IN THE AIR LEAD THE WOMENS TO GET ABORTS AND OTHER BOTH EFFECTS IN CHILDRENS



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கேள்சர் எனக்கா

STERLITE PROTEST STORY

TUTICORIN

Thoothukudi Protest

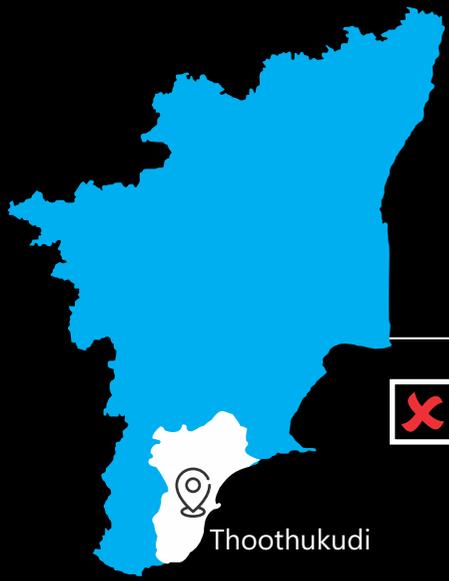
BEFORE STERLITE

Funny Men Part-2

Sterlite - here... The data on how the smelter is likely cause for water pollution

SITUATIONS IN TAMILNADU

emes



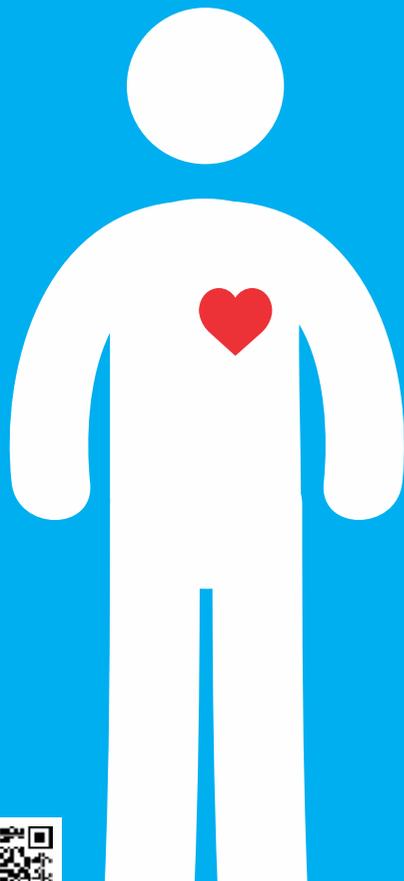
THE MYTH

Thoothukudi ranks first in cancer and Sterlite is the main cause



THE TRUTH

Cancer prevalence in Thoothukudi is among the lowest in Tamil Nadu. Our employees are further living proof that our operations do not cause cancer



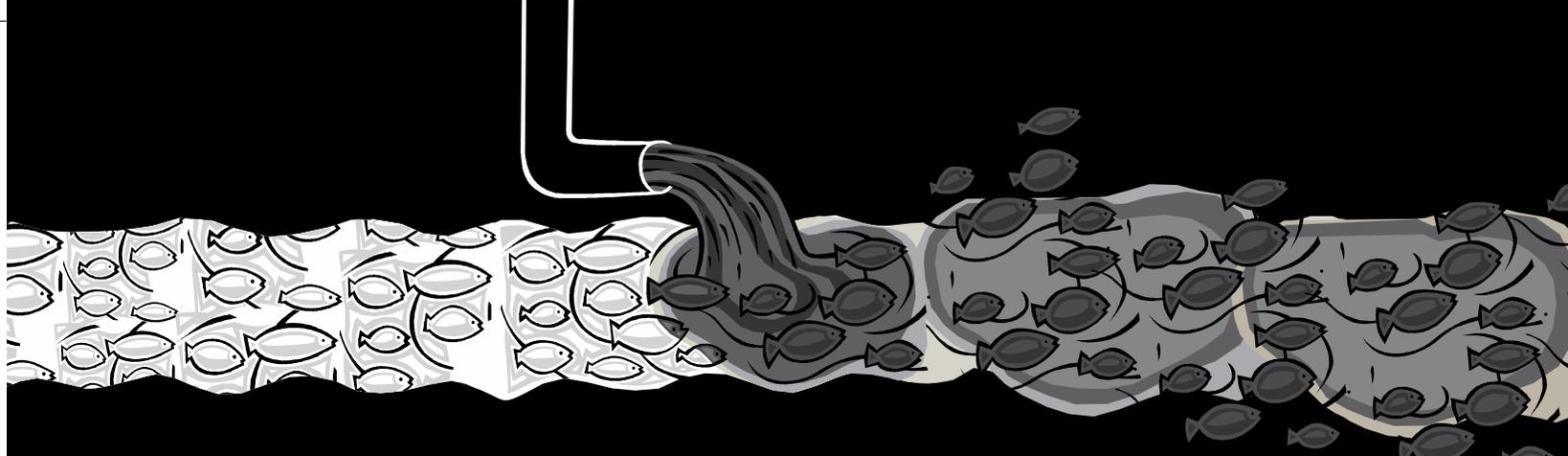
-  Cancer prevalence in Thoothukudi is much below the state average
-  It is baseless and unscientific to link Sterlite's operations with Cancer
-  The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has not classified sulfur dioxide as a human carcinogen
-  The RTI report on cancer prevalence in Thoothukudi clearly states that no cancer cases have been reported due to air pollution in Thoothukudi.

THE FACT

As per the Crude Incidence Rate (CIR) on cancer published by the Cancer Institute (W.I.A) and Department of Medical and Family Welfare, Government of Tamilnadu, Chennai in the year 2017, Thoothukudi ranks 17 among male and ranks 22 among female out of 32 districts in Tamilnadu. Chennai, Kanchipuram, Tiruvallur, Coimbatore, Vellore & Salem are the top six districts predominant with cancer cases.



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

Sterlite lets its effluents enter the ocean which affects the marine life

THE TRUTH

Sterlite Copper has been a Zero Liquid Discharge plant since the inception of the plant in 1995

1

Our operations do not impact marine life

2

All wastewater is treated in Effluent Treatment Plant followed by Reverse Osmosis Plant.

3

The treated water is recycled back into operations, and there is no discharge of any water to the sea; this has been endorsed by competent authorities

THE FACT

The Zero Discharge nature of our operations has been endorsed by the Supreme Court appointed NEERI Committee in 2011. The committee visited the plant to confirm the Zero Liquid Discharge nature of our operations.

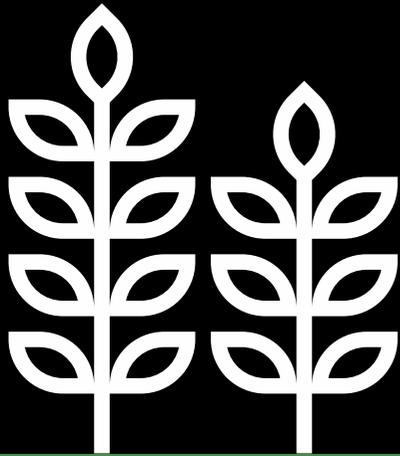
Further, a bio-diversity study conducted in the 10 km radius of Sterlite Copper, Thoothukudi by Forest Research Institute, Dehradun has also confirmed that our operations do not have an impact on the local marine life. We use state of the art technologies from GE, Thermax, AquaTech for Treating waste water.

This allegation has been adequately handled and deliberated in depth by the Honorable Supreme Court, and a clear verdict was pronounced way back in 2013, putting all these allegations to rest.

Evidence: Biodiversity Report Last page
NEERI report page on Zero Discharge



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

Sterlite Copper has not developed sufficient greenbelt as per legal requirement



THE TRUTH

A visit to our facility is enough to convince anyone that this is a false claim

As per the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board consent condition, 2013, Sterlite was supposed to develop 43 Ha of greenbelt in and around the plant.

The operations have developed not just 43 Ha of greenbelt it has planted an additional 13 Ha of greenbelt in our township, which is located in close proximity to the plant.

THE FACT

The presence of sufficient greenbelt at Sterlite Copper has been verified by Supreme Court appointed NEERI Committee and was confirmed through an affidavit by CPCB & TNPCB to the Supreme Court in the year 2012

Evidence: NEERI report page on greenbelt



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

Sterlite Copper has not provided employment for the local community.



THE TRUTH

70% of our employees are from Tamilnadu



For Local Recruitment Drive

To further improve the local employment, Sterlite Copper has conducted a local recruitment drive and has given offers to 100+ local talents in Thoothukudi. They will be given employment upon restart of the plant

3070 of our employees (i.e.70%) are from Tamilnadu of which 2150 are from Thoothukudi.



THE FACT

Sterlite Copper has employed 4000 direct and 20000+ indirect employees.

70% of employees are from Tamilnadu

Many of the Tuticorin-based employees are running smelters across the globe.



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

The groundwater is polluted due to Sterlite Operation.



THE TRUTH

Wastes from effluent treatment plants are disposed in a Secured Land Fill designed as per Central Pollution Control Board guidelines.

High volume low effect wastes categorized as per Hazardous Wastes Rules 2016 are utilized for sustainable applications which include cement, road construction, shot blasting applications etc.

The slag is tested for its non-leachable, non-toxic characteristics from reputed Government institutes of the country and accordingly put to use for sustainable applications such as land filling, road construction, use in the cement industry, and sand-blasting. Byproducts like slag and gypsum are supporting downstream industries.

THE FACT

- Sterlite Copper has been a Zero Liquid Discharge plant since the inception of the plant in 1995.
- The water samples from the piezometric bore-wells / dug wells are collected on monthly basis from the plant premises and nearby villages by Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board since inception of the plant in the year 1995
- The samples collected during the 20 years of operation do not reveal the presence of marker pollutants viz-a-viz copper, zinc and arsenic. It can thus be concluded that Sterlite's operation is not polluting the groundwater.
- This has also been confirmed in NEERI's report, "Inspection of M/s Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd - Assessment of Environmental Pollution Status" in 2011, which was submitted to the Honorable Supreme Court of India.



Evidence: NEERI's report on ground water analysis. | Pollution data base of tamilnadu environment report

For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

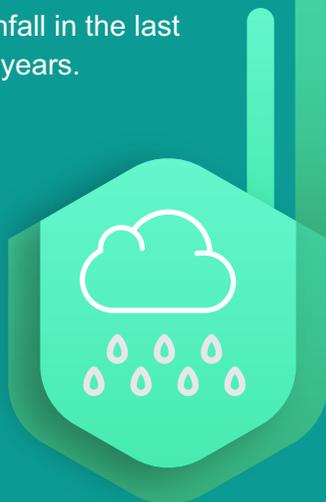
Rainfall is drastically reduced because of Sterlite.



THE TRUTH

Rainfall has actually increased steadily by 32% after the commencement of Sterlite operations.

On 14th March 2018, while the plant was in operation Thoothukudi recorded its highest ever rainfall in the last 63 years.



Annual average rainfall after the commencement of Sterlite operations was 749 mm (1997 to 2015), which shows an increase of 32% rainfall.



Based on the rainfall data received from the National Meteorological Department, Chennai the annual average rainfall before the commencement of Sterlite operations was 569 mm (from 1990 to 1996)



Evidence: Indian Meteorological Dept. Rainfall Data

For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

The Copper Smelter Plant-2 is not located in SIPCOT



THE TRUTH

SIPCOT has allotted 324.5 acres of land to Vedanta Limited

The 324.5 acres of land was allotted by SIPCOT to Vedanta Limited in the SIPCOT phase-II area in Therkkuveerapandiyapuram village in Ottapidaram Taluk, Thoothukudi District.

These lands were notified as industrial land vide GO MS. No.76 (MIG2) dated 14.06.2005 under the Tamilnadu Industrial Land Acquisition Act-1997.

For these lands, the Environmental Clearance has been obtained by Sterlite.



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

Sterlite is the cause of high Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) levels in Thoothukudi.



THE TRUTH

Sterlite Copper's SO₂ emissions are within the prescribed norms, constituting only 1% of the total industry-based emissions in Thoothukudi.

The study report on pollution source identification, apportionment and emission inventory by Anna University has revealed that Particulate Matter is major source of air pollution in Thoothukudi and is being contributed by road dust and vehicular emissions.

Coal-based thermal Power plants are the biggest source of SO₂ emissions in Thoothukudi

The level of SO₂ recorded in Cuddalore District is the highest in the state. There are multiple sources of SO₂ pollution in Thoothukudi.

SO₂ emission levels in Thoothukudi have almost remained the same post Sterlite Copper's plant closure



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

Copper Slag is dumped in the surrounding villages, which is polluting the environment.



THE TRUTH

Copper Slag is non-toxic, non-leachable and 100% of the copper slag is put to use for sustainable applications

THE FACT

During Copper smelting operations, the copper concentrate is smelted at 1200 Deg C, and the iron content in the copper ore is separated out in the form of granulated iron silicate. At this very high temperature, all the organic and inorganic compounds get mineralized and produce a solid mass which is highly stable. The slag is tested for its non-leachable and non-toxic characteristics from reputed Government institutes of the country and accordingly put to use for sustainable applications. It is a BIS approved product for construction. By-products like slag and gypsum are supporting downstream industries.

We also conducted various technical studies through premier research institutions of India such as M/s National Metallurgical Labs (NML), Chennai; M/s Indian Toxicology Research Centre (ITRC), Lucknow; M/s National Council for Cement & Building Materials (NCCBM), Haryana; and M/s Central Road Research Institute (CRR), New Delhi. All the studies have concluded positive results for Ferro Sand, declaring it as a highly stable material, non-toxic in nature, possessing good properties as raw material for cement manufacturing and road construction.

After submission of the technical study reports on copper slag, the Central Pollution Control Board has declared Ferro Sand (or Copper Slag) as non-hazardous. It can be used for cement manufacturing, filling up of low lying area and road construction. MoEF also has declared Ferro Sand as non-hazardous through "Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008, Notification on 24.09.2008" and terms it as "high volume low effect waste."

In consideration to the technical studies, Bureau of Indian Standards approved the use of this copper slag as a replacement to natural fine aggregates up to 50% in cement concrete and upto 5% in cement manufacturing. This is a clear example of sustainable use of industrial waste and protects the environment by avoiding the use of natural mineral such as river sand.

BIS approved product for Construction | Application for Kerala national highway project | Shot blasting | Land filling | River banking | Making paver blocks

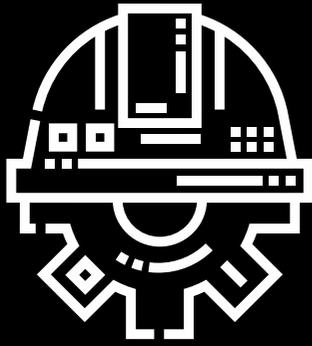
All the copper slag is put to use for sustainable applications such as land filling, road construction, use in the cement industry, and sand-blasting.

Since the beginning we at Sterile copper have nurtured the environment by following the highest standards of sustainable development practices.



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>

Evidence: BIS IS 269 & IS 383



THE MYTH

There are many industrial accidents at Sterlite due to which many are injured.

World class Occupational Health Center conducts regular medical check-up and also does basic treatment.

The LTIFR of Sterlite is 0.12 which is at par with international benchmark.

The company has been accredited with the "British Sword of Honour" in December 2017, which is a highly coveted award in the field of safety and this was awarded after a British team carried out extensive audits across the facility



THE TRUTH

The actual "Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate" (LTIFR) is 0.12

THE FACT

The safety performance of the company has improved over a period of time and has reached a stage where the records and practices are at par with international smelters. The company follows the national standards and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) standards & International Council of Mining & Metals (ICMM) principles. The Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) is the normal index being monitored across global metal and mining companies which is nothing but the number of lost time injuries for every million man-hours worked. The LTIFR of Sterlite is 0.12, which is at par with international benchmark. The company has global experts working on the company safety. All employees and visitors are provided with standard PPEs for personal protection and safety

However, when injuries occur within the plant premises, it causes us to re-examine our systems and take steps to improve on any gaps that may have led to the accidents. To those injured, we provided medical assistance, paid-time-off, and any other support that they may require to fully recover and get back to work.



For more information scan or visit: <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>



THE MYTH

Sterlite Copper draws water directly from Tamirabharani affecting agriculture and domestic consumption.



THE TRUTH

70% of Sterlite Copper's water requirement is met through desalinated sea water



NATIONAL AWARD FOR
EXCELLENCE IN
WATER MANAGEMENT 2017
STERLITE COPPER

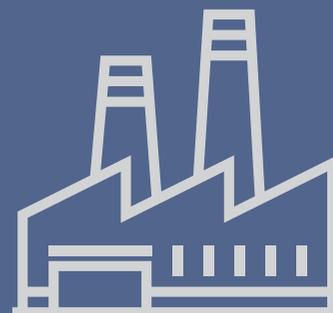


Confederation of Indian Industry

THE FACT

Water supplied for industrial purposes is only drawn from the end point of the river's flow, at a point just before it enters the sea. This ensures that water requirements for agriculture, domestic and drinking is always given first priority. There is zero liquid discharge and 100% water recycling facility to reduce freshwater intake. Water conservation is a key priority of Sterlite Copper. Various initiatives like Rainwater Harvesting and setting up Reverse Osmosis plants have yielded excellent results. For the expansion project, Sterlite Copper will only be using desalinated seawater and water from treated sewage.

- Sterlite Copper consumes only 19% of the water supplied to industries in Thoothukudi.
- 70% of Sterlite Copper's water requirement is met through desalinated sea water.



The following facts highlight the many ways in which Sterlite Copper has boosted the socio-economic development of Thoothukudi, generating employment and contributing to nation-building:

Key facts about Sterlite Copper:

- The world's 7th largest copper producer
- Contributes to 36% of India's refined copper output
- 5th largest company in Tamil Nadu - contributes 1.6% of TN's GDP
- Provides direct employment to 3,500 employees and indirect employment to 20,000 people
- Among the first copper smelters globally to implement Zero Liquid Discharge
- Recipient of British Safety Council's prestigious Safety Award for Best Safety Practices
- A Zero Liquid Discharge smelter since commencing operations, investing approx \$80 million in environmental measures
- Numerous downstream industries thrive on easy access to raw materials supplied by Sterlite Copper; it is the single largest producer of Sulphuric & Phosphoric acid in South India

Sterlite Copper is a key raw material supplier to various industries such as Fertilizer & Chemical Manufacturing Plants in South India

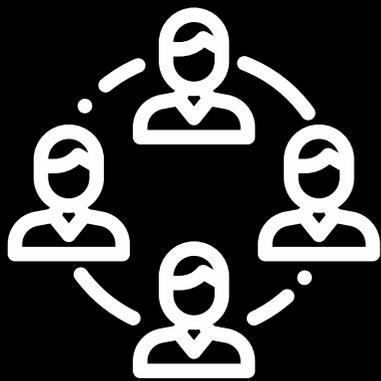
PHOSPHORIC ACID - 230 KTPA

- Only Indian commercial producer of Phosphoric Acid a key raw material for the Indian Fertilizer Industry which helps save valuable foreign exchange to the tune of \$ 120 million per annum

SULPHURIC ACID - 1200 KTPA

- Largest supplier in Southern India
An essential raw material for fertilizer and detergent manufacturers, chemical industries
- **PHOSPO GYPSUM - 1000 KTP**
- Supplies to 30 cement manufacturing units located in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka





Sterlite Copper's Community Outreach Services

has touched and transformed the lives of
2.5 lakh people in Thoothukudi.

HEALTH – 33 locations, 150000 people

Primary and Secondary health care covering 33 villages through mobile health services every month

TAMIRA MUTHUKKAL - 5 Trades, 400 youth

Vocational training for youth in five trades namely Sewing Machine Operation, Data/Tally Operation, Electrician, Welding and Fork-lift Operations.

SAKHI – Thoothukudi, 19000 women

Women empowerment projects – Self Help Group, Creating credit linkages etc.

EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERISM Thoothukudi, 5000 people

Blood donation camps, Infra facilities to Govt. and aided schools etc.

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Sterlite Copper contributed towards building the following projects:

- Development of the Pediatric Block at the Thoothukudi Government Hospital
- Construction of Melur Railway Station which benefits 3.5 lakhs commuters annually
- Development of MGR park in Thoothukudi City
- Constructed around 200 toilets in nearby villages.

OUR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS



11 Child care centers
benefitting 346 children



86 school units
benefitting 8040
girl children



Health care services in
33 villages benefitting
1,50,000 people



Vocational training for
400 youth in
three major vocations



Women empowerment
projects (Self Help Group,
Creating credit linkages)
benefitting 19,000 women

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES - MUTHUCHARAM

- Sterlite Copper partners with all stakeholders who share our vision of an aspirational, empowered society working together for the common good of all. Our keystone development initiative Muthucharam, put together in consultation with community members, is well underway. In the coming years, these projects, including a Smart School and a well-equipped Hospital, will deliver considerable benefit to the people of Thoothukudi. Some of our recent initiatives include:



PASUMAI THOOTHUKUDI

- Aim to plant 1 million trees across Thoothukudi, to make it one of the greenest cities and to bring about a rapid positive environment change. So far 1.25 lakhs trees saplings have been planted.
- A total of 16 villages have been covered in this initiative by providing tree saplings and sapling-shelters to villagers.
- The saplings will be taken care for a period of 2 years until they are sustainable can grow unsupervised on their own.

TAMIRA SURABHI

- Access to clean drinking water is an inalienable right of every human being and under this project clean drinking water is supplied to the people of Thoothukudi.
- A total of more than 2,300 families from 22 villages have benefitted from this project until today.
- 36 liters of clean drinking water is distributed on alternate days to each family residing in the villages.



TAMIRA VIDHYALAYA

- Sterlite Copper has also launched a new scholarship initiative, Sterlite Education Scheme for Students and so far 10,000+ students have benefitted.
- Under this project smart schools were built with the aim to provide quality education for the children in the core villages.
- The students have been given scholarships and are encouraged to pursue their education. A total of 20,000 families will benefit through this initiative.

SAKHI - WOMEN RESOURCE CENTER

- The objective of this initiative is to empower women through entrepreneurship and skill training.
- A total of 5000 women are set to benefit from the initiative through various entrepreneurial development programs like Training sessions on Bag stitching, Mushroom & Bee Cultivation and Sanitary Napkin Production.
- Sanitary Napkin Production Unit Launched with a daily capacity of 3150 napkins.
- After the successful completion of Phase 1 training, a total of 49 women have been engaged in income generation projects.





TAMIRA MUTHUKKAL - YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER

- Conceptualized and instituted to provide assistance to the youth of Thoothukudi.
- The objective is to equip the youth of Thoothukudi with skills that will guarantee employment by providing the right training focusing on the 5 trades namely sewing machine operator, welding, general electricians, logistics and food processing.
- All of the aforementioned trades have been identified as priority areas via the Skill Gap Assessment Report of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- Each course involves 300-400 hours of training, aiming to provide training to 600 youths, which will later be increased to 1500.

TAMIRA HOSPITAL

- Aiming at providing state-of-the-art healthcare facilities to the residents of Thoothukudi.
- Amidst the pandemic, Sterlite Copper extended its support to the people of nearby villages, covering 12,000 families by supplying ration kits, masks, sanitizers, etc.
- Under the healthcare initiative free health consultation and medicines were provided to the residents of 21 core villages.



OXYGEN TO NATION



- Sterlite copper has produced and supplied 2368 MT of liquid oxygen to hospitals across Tamil Nadu.
- The liquid oxygen was supplied to 32 districts in Tamil Nadu. Reactivated 1000 MT liquid oxygen plant on war footing basis in a week time to save the lives.
- Commissioned new oxygen cylinder bottling unit for the supply of gaseous oxygen with a purity of 99%.
- A total of 142 oxygen beds were provided to the Thoothukudi, Kayalpattinam and Thiruchendur Government Hospitals.

Covid-19 Support

As COVID-19 pandemic shook the world making daily life a fight for survival, Sterlite Copper and its employees intensified efforts to support the people of Thoothukudi.



Sterlite Copper donated INR 5 crores to Tamil Nadu's CM's Public Relief Fund.



A total of 400 PPE Kits and Sanitizers were distributed for the frontline workers.



A total of 13,000 soap bars, 1,300 litres liquid handwash and 1,000 bottles of hand-sanitizers were distributed to 5,000 households.



All the essentials like 100 oxygen beds, critical care beds, intensive care equipment and patient monitoring systems were provided to the Government Hospitals.



Empowered women to tide through COVID 19 crisis by providing means of alternative income by making PPE kits and Masks.



Contributed chapatti making machines to Thoothukudi Government Hospital in order to serve maximum patients within a short period of time. Thus, with the help of the machine, 600 chapattis were made within a span of one hour.



Essential supplies were provided to 12,000 families in Thoothukudi. Along with this sanitizers and masks were also distributed across 18 villages in Thoothukudi.



IMPACT OF STERLITE COPPER CLOSURE ON ECONOMY

- More than 400 businesses, many being from first generation entrepreneurs, marching towards shutdown.

- 4000 Direct and 20000+Indirect employees affected all over Tamil Nadu

- Over 2 Lakh CSR beneficiaries affected directly on healthcare, education, drinking water, sanitation, entrepreneurship.

- Sharp increase in Copper and Sulfuric acid prices, triggered price war and increase imports, burden on Forex & Fertilizer industries.

- Loss to the exchequer to the tune of Rs. 2700 Cr.

RECENT PRESS REPORTS POST THE CLOSURE OF STERLITE COPPER PLANT

Technical report clears air on pollution from Sterlite plant

CHENNAI: A recent study conducted by technical experts has cleared the air on pollution from the Sterlite plant in Thoothukudi district, nearly four years after it was shut following the death of 13 protesters in police firing in March 2018.

Since the firing incident, the future of India's biggest copper plant hangs in balance, forcing the country to turn into a net importer from a net exporter of copper.

The copper smelter plant, with a capacity of 400,000 metric tonnes per annum (MTPA), was contributing up to 36 per cent of the country's demand for refined copper and included a refinery and copper rod plant, a sulphuric acid plant of more than 12,00,000 MTPA, a phosphoric acid plant of 220,000 MTPA. It also had a 160 MW coal-based power plant to power the copper smelter.

The company officials have con-

sistently claimed that the state-of-the-art plant was not responsible for the deteriorating air quality, and that "external forces with vested interests" were behind the incident.

The Tamil Nadu government ordered the pollution control board to seal the unit and close the plant permanently under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

However, a recent study of November 2021, titled "Ambient Air Quality Index Trend in Thoothukudi and comparison with Major Cities of India" by three eminent scientists seems to corroborate the views of the company officials.

Their study clearly revealed that Sterlite copper was in no way contributing to the poor air quality of Thoothukudi and hence, could not be blamed for the deteriorating air quality, according to study which was released here today.

Future of India's biggest copper plant hangs in balance, forcing country to turn into a net importer from a net exporter of copper

Oxygen production on at Sterlite Copper

COIMBATORE:

Thoothukudi Sterlite Copper is reportedly planning to start oxygen production at its Sterlite Copper plant in Thoothukudi. The plant is currently shut down after the death of 13 protesters in police firing in March 2018. The plant is currently shut down after the death of 13 protesters in police firing in March 2018.



The plant is currently shut down after the death of 13 protesters in police firing in March 2018. The plant is currently shut down after the death of 13 protesters in police firing in March 2018.

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Pro-Sterlite Protesters Take to Streets Over Crippled Livelihoods

THOOTHUKUDI: Once a leading force to support the closure of the Sterlite copper plant, protesters are now taking to the streets to demand the plant's reopening. The protesters are demanding the plant's reopening and the government to take steps to improve the livelihoods of the people in the area. The protesters are demanding the plant's reopening and the government to take steps to improve the livelihoods of the people in the area.

SEAWATER INTRUSION TURNED GROUNDWATER IN THOOTHUKUDI SALINE, SAY ACADEMICIANS

GODSON WISELY DASS
@Thoothukud

A comprehensive analysis of the groundwater quality of Thoothukudi with reference to various research papers since 1985 emphasises possible intrusion of seawater as far 12 km from the shoreline of the Thoothukudi city. The academicians zeroed in on the fact that seawater intrusion has disrupted the water quality due to the observation of vast hydro-chemical variation in the groundwater.

According to professor Selvam of VOC College, who led the comprehensive study on geochemical studies, the key parameters of groundwater

such as pH value, electrical conductivity (EC), total dissolved salts (TDS), calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium and chloride had found to be steadily increasing towards Pudukkottai from the coastal area over the years, which suggest possible intrusion of seawater underground.

"The research studies back in 1985, found the groundwater was suitable for all utilities except for the one km from the shore, however, the salinity had increased inland in the past 20 to 30 years", Selvam added.

Jesuraj, a research scholar from the geology department of VOC college, said that as per

BIS(2012) standards, the desirable limit of pH value in drinking water is less than 6.5 and is not potable above 8.5. Similarly the desirable and not acceptable limit for TDS is 2000, for calcium is respectively 200, for chloride respectively is 1000, he added.

A research scholar, H Viveka, attached to Kullikulam Agricultural College and Research Institute in Thoothukudi, who assessed over 200 groundwater samples collected from borewells, open wells and tubewells located up to 10 km from coastline, has concluded that the domination of Na+ and Cl- ions in the groundwater samples strongly

indicate intrusion of seawater in Thoothukudi.

Assistant professor G Singaraja of Presidency College, who worked in groundwater research in Thoothukudi, said that the excess withdrawal of groundwater for industrial purpose and salt pan activities has led to the seawater intrusion. It can be prevented only when the excess pumping of groundwater is regulated, he added.

Public say that many fresh waterbodies in and around the Thoothukudi corporation areas such as Kokur, Pullipanchankulam and many small ponds have been converted into residential colonies and housing plots.

(Read full story on www.newindianexpress.com)

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Shut since 2018 violence, TN Sterlite plant's closure cost economy Rs 14,749 cr, says study

Copper plants in Thoothukudi were closed after protests turned violent & police firing left 13 people dead, job losses of major impacts, says study by NGO CIET International.

Published on 28 August 2022 10:54 AM IST

New Delhi: The closure of the Sterlite copper plant in Tamil Nadu's Thoothukudi in May 2018 is likely to have cost the Indian economy over Rs 14,000 crore, according to a study done by a Rajasthan-based NGO, Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) International.

The plant was shut down after protests alleging environmental violations, lasting for 100 days, turned violent and a police firing on 22 May 2018 left 13 people dead and over 100 injured.

FRONTLINE

The Commission has not found any "specific evidence" that points to the involvement of either Sterlite Industries, as claimed by a few activist groups, or any outfit, as alleged by the then government and a few individuals such as actor Rajinikanth, in the violence of May 22, 2018.

Sterlite was not a cancer-spreading unit in Thoothukudi region, says RTI reply

M. ARULUJI I I C
THOOTHUKUDI, July 15

The campaign of activists protesting against the country's biggest copper smelter plant four years ago until it was shut down in April 2018, as a cancer-spreading unit in Thoothukudi, incident has now been proved to be completely baseless.

But information received under the Right to Information Act (RTI) by a lady advocate clearly depicts the complete absence of any cancer-spreading industry.

According to the RTI information, all cases of various types of cancer were reported in Thoothukudi during the five years between 2013 and 2018 averaged 282 cases reported from 2019 to 2021. It has also been reported that there is no increase in the district the health air pollution is not the cause of cancer.

Road dust, vehicular emission pollute Thoothukudi: Study

M. ARULUJI I I C
THOOTHUKUDI, Oct 22

The study report on pollution source identification, conducted by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board in Thoothukudi, has found that the major source of pollution in the city is road dust and vehicular emission, according to a PCB source.

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The time has come to fight rumours and uphold truth



If you need more clarification on any of the myths, please reach out to us at sterlite.communication@vedanta.co.in to know the truth.

To know more information, please scan the QR code or visit <https://www.sterlitecopperfacts.in/>

