

## Theme: POLLUTION CONTROL

### ***Non-achievement of objectives of control of pollution caused by leather tanneries (Paragraph 4.2)***

#### **Audit findings**

National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD) sanctioned interest-free loan of ₹67.72 crore to Government of West Bengal for construction of a Common Effluent Treatment Plant at Bantala, about 20 km south-east of Kolkata. The project was originally targeted for completion by November 1997 but could not be completed as of June 2010. NRCD has sanctioned only four out of seven components under the project as yet. Delay of more than 12 years in completion of the project adversely impacted the objective of ensuring safe disposal of toxic industrial effluents and solid waste from tanneries, causing immense environmental damage and health risks.