



International Labor Rights Fund

2001 S Street, NW, Suite 420, Washington, DC 20009

February 11, 2008

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Patrick Cescau
Unilever PLC
Weena 455
Rotterdam, 3013 AL
Netherlands

Dear Mr. Cescau:

I am writing from the International Labor Rights Forum which is an advocacy organization that works to promote the just and humane treatment of workers around the world. As such, we are deeply concerned and troubled by your company's environmental and labor practices in Kodaikanal, India.

It has been seven years since the environmental regulators in India shut down your mercury thermometer factory in Kodaikanal. We were shocked to learn that Unilever was operating a second-hand plant in Kodaikanal imported from the US after it was shut down there for environmental reasons. Even more shocking is the fact that you fooled the regulatory authorities into thinking that this is an eco-friendly facility, and allowed workers to handle mercury freely. Your irresponsible workplace safety record was exposed additionally by the fact that Unilever was caught having dumped tons of toxic mercury waste in sensitive watershed forests and in densely populated working class areas in Kodaikanal.

This is highly irresponsible behavior and belies the messages of corporate social responsibility that your company spends so much money trumpeting about. We were pained to learn that not only have 19 Unilever workers died at young ages, but also that many children born to mercury-exposed workers have died and several others have been born with congenital deformities.

We urge your company to compensate affected workers, arrange for their long-term medical monitoring and rehabilitation, and clean up the contaminated Kodaikanal environment. We stand in solidarity with the ex-workers who have issued a call for a Global Day of Action Against Unilever on March 7, the 7th anniversary of the day when Unilever's wrong doings were exposed by residents of Kodaikanal.

We kindly request a response from you regarding this issue by March 7. For further discussion, you may contact me at (202) 347-4100 ext 103.

Sincerely,

Trina Tocco
Campaigns Coordinator