

SWATCH BOARD :

“PRESENT USE OF POLYESTER”

S/S 2019

plastic textile fibers are the most common source of plastic pollution found in food, water, and in oceans.

because of its prevalent role in microplastic pollution, fashion is considered the second most environmentally toxic industry, just second to petroleum.

synthetic fibers currently make up around 60% of produced clothes in the worldwide market.

polyester contributes to ocean related plastic pollution in a subtle manner; when washed, the fiber releases microplastics in the water which then has the possibility of transporting into the ocean. these microplastics, although only about 1/5th of a millimeter in size, builds up to the quantity of plastic in the ocean.

polyester is not biodegradable and will take up to 200 years to even show any potential signs of breaking down.

along with this, disperse dyes (dyes that can color polyester) are not water soluble and is made of a complex molecular structure that prevents decomposition.

polyester and its popularity has allowed the exponential growth of fast fashion companies.

these companies create temporary clothes with new designs that come out every week. its fleeting nature costs heavy environmental impacts (overproduction, overfilled landfills, microplastic pollution, not biodegradable).