# **SAVE**

# Tiruppur Updates



September 2018

# Special points of interest:

- **►** Garments
- Spinning Mill
- ➤ <u>Wage</u>

Negotiation -

NTC Spinning

Mili

- Dyeing
- > Trade Union
- Power Table

# **Social Awareness and Voluntary Education (SAVE)**

SAVE (Social Awareness and Voluntary Education) is a registered Indian Non-Governmental Organization, promoted in the year 1993, as a growing response to the challenge of preventing the child labor practices. Internalizing the fact that the issue of child labor needs to be addressed in a multipronged strategy SAVE expanded its intervention among women and textile and garment industry workers focusing promotion of the comprehensive rights of the garment and textile industry workers and empowerment of women. Currently SAVE reaches out to children, young women, women, textile and garment workers including the migrant workers.

Since 1995, SAVE has been carrying out programs among children in distress primarily among the children working in textile and hazardous industries with specific emphasis on promotion of health and educational rights through special schooling for the drop out children and child laborers and through vocational training support. Community sensitization is one of the main activities towards prevention of child labor. SAVE initiated campaigns and advocacy strategies could mainstream the issues of child labor and the plight of young girls in the garment and textile industry. SAVE has the unique credibility of being the champion organization in exposing the child labor issues in Tirupur.

# TIRUPUR UPDATE: A NEWSLETTER OF SAVE IS PUBLISHED BY

SOCIAL AWARENESS AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION (SAVE)

No. 5, Iswarya Nagar, Dharapuram Road, K.N.P Colony, Tirupur-641 608, Tamilnadu, India Ph. 0421-2428100, Fax: 0421-2428200

E-mail: <a href="mailto:savetirupur@gmail.com">save-ngo@eth.net</a> / <a href="mailto:savetirupur@gmail.com">savetirupur@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:savetirupur">savetirupur</a> <a href

Website : www.savengo.org

Chief Editor : A.Aloysius Executive Editor : A.Viyakulamary



# 'TEAMA' raises the demand regarding the GST

### Theekadhir September 2, 2018

Tiruppur: 'TEAMA' the Tiruppur Exporters and Manufactures Association has raised a demand that the internal tax being paid by the members of TEAMA must be refunded just as the method in the Coimbatore district.

At the present, the internal tax being paid by the exporters is refunded through the state tax office and the District Treasury as in practice. Even then the refunded money is not accounted in the accounts of the exporters within the prescribed date. More than 30 days are required to get back the paid money.

At the same time, the refund of the tax is made by co-ordination in the tax office as well as treasury in Coimbatore district. Thus, they avoid the delay in making the refund. So, the similar methods must be adopted in the case of TEAMA in Tiruppur. This is the content of the letter written to the District Collector by Muthurathinam, the president of TEAMA.

## Whole salary must be paid demand raised by labourers

# Daily Thanthi September 26, 2018

Tiruppur: More than 8 lakhs of workers are employed in the garment companies in Tiruppur. On behalf of the companies, the food, residence and vehicle are provided to them. The workers residing in the companies render their service. Further, there are workers residing in the rented houses and attend their works. Since, the employment opportunities are in abundance. Many workers are coming to Tiruppur every day. They are given employment immediately since shortage of employee. The wages for the garment workers are being paid at the week end. Notably on Saturday, Sunday will be the holiday. So, in accordance with the demands of workers, the wages must be paid fully without holding partially.

Regarding this, the labourers said

The wages are paid to the workers on Saturday at the week end in the garment companies in Tiruppur. Since the Sunday is a holiday, the workers belonging to the neighbouring districts of Tiruppur are going back to their native places as usual. Because of the degenerating of the garments business day by day the garment manufacturers are facing too many critical conditions to overcome. At the present, it affects the workers in a large measure.

A certain companies including the job work companies to pay the wages to the workers. Some of them pay only 75 percent of wages and keep the balance with them. So, we feel regret due to this practice. Hence, we demand our wages must be paid fully without holding.

Thus, they have said.



# Constant problem of workers shortage in textile industry

### Will the modern technology offer permanent solution?

#### R. Krishnakumar

# Hindu Tamil September, 13, 2018

Coimbatore: The textile industry next to the agriculture provides basic needs to crores of families in Ahamadhabad, Mumbai and Coimbatore the major centers. The infrastructure for the textile industry is a garment in Coimbatore and so it is regulated as 'South India Manchester'

The first phase in the textile industry is focused on the production of yarns from the cotton for which a good number of textile mills are in existence. Out of the spindles produced nearly 5 crores, in India more than 35 percent are manufactured in Tamil Nadu. Notably, in the spindles produced are valuable for Rs. 40 thousand crore in 1200 textile mills in Tamil Nadu. They are sent not only to Tamil Nadu but also to the northern states. In spite of it, the shortage of workers is a regular issue in the textile industry.

Regarding Tamil Nadu, the textile and its associated industries provide employment opportunities to the millions of workers. A large number of textile mills are seen the districts such as Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Erode, Dindigul, Namakkal, Salem, Virudhunagar and Theni.

For the past 2 or 3 years the shortage of workers in the textile associated industries including the textile mills the shortage of workers from the northern states are working in Coimbatore and Tiruppur. Even then there is prevailing condition of works shortage.

To find a solution for this issue, the employment opportunity camps are being conducted in many places are being the textile mills for the purpose of selecting the workers.

Today, it is important to make that about 30 percent of workers are nearly selected and train them.

By making use of highly modernized machineries, there is a chance to find a solution for the issue. The work can be simplified and the shortage of workers is also solved. To avoid the shortage of workers, the auto machine can be combined with the spinning machine. Thus the shortage of workers can be solved. Now a days, the auto or mobile auto toffees are introduced and fixed with the spinning machine.

Similarly, by making use of spindle monitoring system in mills wherever 25000 spindle yarns are seen. By means of which each thread can separately monitored. By means of this, it is possible to find out the machine spindle in the machine. As a result of it, the production can be increased and the waste is decreased. About 10 lakhs of spindles are fixed on behalf of the Indian Textile Industry entrepreneur committee.

Thus Prabu Damodharan said.

# SME mills curtail production

#### The Hindu September 15, 2018

https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/sme-mills-curtail-production/article24951496.ece

Coimbatore: With cotton prices shooting up, small and medium-scale textile mills in the region have curtailed production. Many units have reduced production during night shifts and weekends.

"This is because of the abnormal increase of cotton price," said S.K. Rangarajan, president of the South India Spinners' Association. When the prices spiral up during the end of cotton season - in the months of August or September - neither the farmers nor the textile mills benefit as the cotton is mostly with the traders. Further, the SME mills do not have the financial capacity to procure cotton in bulk and store for their next season.

In April, the cotton prices were Rs. 38,000 a candy. In June, the prices had shot up by Rs. 10,000 a candy, he said.

The SME spinning sector buys cotton for its monthly requirements and when the cotton prices shoot up, the mills do not get a higher price for yarn.

"The SME sector is unable to repay bank loans resulting in NPAs. "In spite of repeated representation, the Government is not curtailing the artificial inflation," he said.

The association appealed to the Government to permit calibrated export of cotton and ensuring adequate buffer stock of cotton for the domestic industry.

It should come out with a policy to safeguard the MSME textile sector ensuring a price mechanism so that these mills get cotton at affordable prices.

# Wage Negotiation - NTC Spinning Mill

# National Textile Corporation laborers agitated in front of the collectorate.

# Hindu Tamil Thisai September 4, 2018

Coimbatore: The laborers of the National Textile Corporation has besieged the Coimbatore collectorate yesterday and launched an agitation by insisting to implement the demand of salary increment.

The textile executive members T.S. Rajamani (HMS) the former MLA Arumugam (AITUC), Thiagarajan (MLF) Vijayakumar (Ambethkar National Textile Union) and Murugesan (BMS) besieged the Coimbatore collectorate. Also, they submitted a petition before the collector.

#### Accordingly to their version

About 7 textile mills are being operated under the control of the National Textile Corporation where in more than three thousand workers are employed. The salary agreement period came to an end on May 31st.

As in practice, the wage agreement among there is made once in five years for the past fifty years. The demands rushed on such a ground were not accepted.

An amount of Rs. 1000 must be included in the basic salary of regularized worker. Also, an amount of 10 percent must be increased in the new basic salary as yearly increment. An amount of Rs. 600 must be paid to a daily wages as the minimum wages. All the workers who have completed their service for 480 days must be regularized. All these demands must be accepted on the eve of new wage agreement must be accepted. By insisting the above mentioned demands we have been entered into an agitation. As a result of this agitation an amount of Rs. 1 crore per day is lost with the loss of Rs. 15 lakhs salary by the workers.

Related to this issue, we began negotiation talks with the administration in the presence of the commissioner. But, they did not accept our demands. So, the TamilNadu State Government must directly involved in the matter and final solutions, told by trade unions

# Approval made on the eve of negotiation talks on the salary of NTC mills workers - Return to the works

## Dinakaran September 8, 2018

Coimbatore: The three party negotiations talks concerned with increment of the NTC mills worker's salary, especially in Tamil Nadu came to an end with an agreement. So, the strike conducted for the past 20 days was withdrawn.

About 7 mills are being operated under the National Textile Corporation in Tamil Nadu. The five mills known as Cambodia mills, C.S&W mills, Murugan mills and Rangavilas Mills and Kaliyappa mills in Kalaiyar kovil in Sivakangai District and the Pioneer mills in Paramakudi in Ramanathapuram District are under control of NTC.

About one thousand workers are employed in these mills as daily wages along with the 3 thousand regularized workers. The wage agreement for these mills workers are usually made once in five years. Accordingly the previous wage agreement expired in the month of May. The trade unions of LPF, INTUC, CITU and ATP insisted the authorities to hold talks on the new wage agreement by declaration of the strike from 20<sup>th</sup> of the last month. The strike was continued for the past 19 days.

At this juncture, the three party negotiation talks were held in Chennai in the presence of Annadurai, the central labour welfare commissioner. It was participated by the executives of NTC known as Pankaj agarwal, Sukumar (Delhi), Venkatesan and Rajendra kumar (Kovai) and the executives of trade unions. The negotiation talks came to an end with an agreement. So, the strike was withdrawn from 9<sup>th</sup> of this month.

Regarding this, the executive members known as Parthasarathy, Seenivasan (INTUC), Padmanaban (CITU) and Danagopal (ATP) said.

"An agreement was made between the executives of NTC and trade unions in the negotiations talks held there on. On the eve of the meet the following decisions were charted out. Accordingly, the talks

would be initiated on the grounds of increasing the basic salary as Rs. 1,150 and Rs. 1,650. In accordance with the negotiation talks would be held at 11 O'clock in the forenoon in the office of NTC south zonal office. The salary increment would be implemented within a period of one month. The decision on the increment made in the meet would be initiated from the month of June. Also, the daily wages of Rs.340 being period to daily wage worker must be paid as Rs. 421. And it must be paid with balance from the date of government order issued. On account of the strike, by the workers, the salary deducted for 8 days must be paid, NTC administration had assured no actions would be taken against the workers in regard of the strike conducted.

So, the strike was withdrawn from  $9^{th}$  onwards. The workers would return to their works from the next day of 7 AM.

Thus, they have said.



## Floating of the deceased fishes in the lakes due to the mixture of effluents

## Theekathir September 2, 2018

Tiruppur: On account of the mixture of effluents from the dyeing factories, the deceased fishes are commonly seen in the lake of 'Moolikulam' in the roadside of Uthukuli in Tiruppur.

The heavy flood in the Noyyal River in Tiruppur was resulted during the rain fall of the south west monsoon in the westghat hills. By making use of this opportunity, the properties of the dyeing factories have arranged to discharge the chemical effluents into the Noyyal River. As a result of it, the river water with foams was seen in the areas of Nataraj Theatre and Kasipalayam on the way of Noyyal River. But, the pollution control officials did not take care of this water pollution. Amidst this event, the pollution control board has introduced the scene conditions to be followed by the factories.

At this juncture, the chemical effluents are mixed in the water of "Moolikulam' lake in the Uthukuli in Tiruppur. Further, the polluted water of this lake cannot be use for the drinking purpose, including the irrigation in the agricultural fields. At this juncture the general public witnessed the deceased fishes floating in the water of the lake. As per the opinion of the general public that this is due to the mixing of chemical effluents with the river water.

So, the drinking water for the cattles are polluted. Hence, the pollution control board officials must come forward to investigate and inspect the companies and take action against those companies which pollute the water.

#### Effluent water discharged into the drainage in the daylight in Tiruppur

#### Theekkadhir September 24, 2018

Tiruppur: The people living in the central part of Tiruppur Corporation are in a state of distress due to the discharge of effluent water discharged into the drainage.

A major canal is flowing down in front of the Om sakthi Temple in the Bridge way colony in Tiruppur.

This channel is a centre for all the other small drainages of various parts of Tiruppur. Notably on Sunday, the effluent water in blue black colour was flowing down in this canal which made the people regretful.

Already, as per the complaint, the corporation management did not arrange to keep the area clean. So, the drainage water mixed with the wastes and dirty materials blocked the flow of drainage water here and there. As a result of it, the area was seen without sanitation and appeared with the mosquitoes and insects endangering the health of people.

Moreover, the irresponsible manufacturers discharge the effluent water in the day light and make the condition too worst. So, the pollution control board inspect the area and take necessary action against there who commit such abuses.

Thus, the people in the area insisted the respective officials.



In the garment companies – the labour laws must be fully implemented – all the banian trade unionists submitted a petition before the District Collector

# Daily Thanthi September 12, 2018

Tiruppur: The join committee of all the banian trade unionists altogether submitted a petition before the District Collector of Tiruppur demanding to implement the law effectively.

According to the petitions the following particulars are furnished.

Many lakhs of labourers are working in the garment companies in and around in Tiruppur. Probably, most of the garment companies are not at all implementing the labour welfare and factory laws with a few exceptions. So, the labour laws must be fully implemented. An assurance of 8 hours of work per day must be made in the nearest future. An amount of Rs. 18 thousand must be paid to a labour working for 8 hours per day throughout the month.

So, an amount of Rs. 692 must be paid for one shift of work. Again, the double wage must be paid to a worker for the overtime work as a salary. The contract labour system in practice must be completely abolished. The rights to a worker in accordance with the labour laws must be provided to the contract labourers also. Again, the provision of leave for the national festival days and weekly holidays must be assured.

The details of the migrant workers have to be collected while issuing the appointment Also, the garment company must provide the facilities such as labour residence, medical facility and the complaint box to post the sexual violence.

# Increment of salary must be given to the workers - demand raised by the trade unionists

#### Daily Thanthi September 12, 2018

Tiruppur: More than 8 lakhs of labourers are working in the industrial city of Tiruppur. The food, residence and vehicles are provided to the workers on behalf of the garment companies. So, the workers are attending their duties by residing therein. Also, there are workers doing their works by residing in the rented houses. The garments workers entertain the weekly holidays with the received

weekly payment of salary. Sunday is said to be the weekly holiday for them. Under these circumstances the wage being provided to they are not sufficient. So, the trade unionists make a demand to provide to the workers with the increased wages.

Regarding this, the trade unionists said

A large number of workers belonging to the other district as well as other states are employed in Tiruppur. An amount of Rs. 250 to Rs. 350 per day is paid as a salary being given to each worker is insufficient. As a result of it, many numbers of workers are unable to bring their family to live altogether. Again, the workers with their family are unable to meet out the expenditures towards the basic requirements such as the essential materials and the rent which are highly increased. So, the workers are subjected to face a lot of problems. Hence, the increment of the salary must be made in such a way to live with the enthusiasm and without depression.

Thus, they have said.



#### Increment of charges by seven percent expectation of power table industrialists

#### Dinamalar September 21, 2018

Tiruppur: The power table industrialists have been a decision in accordance with the increment of charges by seven percent will be increased as per the agreement to be signed after the Deepavali.

A large number of garments are being manufactured to meet out the requirements of internal markets orders for the garments are received from the states of far and wide in India. The garments companies which receive orders are depending on the job work companies especially the power table companies. Around Tiruppur, there are about 2000 number of power table companies are being operated.

The power table companies manufacture and deliver them in accordance with the placed orders of garment companies.

The 'SHIMA' Association and the power table proprietors association conduct the negotiation talks now and then and fix the changes.

On June 20 in the year of 2016, an agreement was signed for the increment of charges by 37 percent between both the sides.

Also, they agreed to pay 7 percent of increment every year until 2019 with 16 percent of the same year.

As per the agreement an amount of 7 percent increment of changes was paid to the power table companies in the month of November in 2017. The period of increment will come to an end on  $31^{st}$  October.

Accordingly to the version of the proprietors of power table companies that the increment of changes by 7 percent will be given to them from November to 31st October in 2019. The increment of charges will be insisted after the Deepavali Festival for which we have decided.

The power table industry is facing the problems such as the shortage of workers and the cost of production.

So, just as the last year, the increment of charges must be paid in time. Thus, they have said.