



## The Southern India Mills' Association

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### NEWS CLIPPINGS –08-05-2018

#### Supreme Court declines to stay Delhi HC order against Monsanto Technology

#### Business Standard

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/supreme-court-declines-to-stay-delhi-hc-order-against-monsanto-technology-118050701073\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/supreme-court-declines-to-stay-delhi-hc-order-against-monsanto-technology-118050701073_1.html)

The Supreme Court on Monday declined to stay the Delhi high court order against Monsanto Technology in its patent dispute with Nuziveedu Seeds.

The Bench presided over by Justice R F Nariman issued notice to all parties and posted the hearing for July 18. Till then, the high court order will stay without any modification.

In its order earlier this month, the high court had ruled that Indian patent law did not allow Monsanto, the world's largest seed firm, any patent cover for its genetically modified cotton seeds with Bollard I and Bollard II technologies. The court had also allowed Monsanto to approach the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority under the agriculture Ministry for registering the variety within three months. The court further directed Monsanto to continue with its obligations under the sub-licence agreements between the two seed firms. The high court order was passed in the long-pending dispute between the two companies. The point of discord is the interpretation of Section 3(j) of the Patent Act.

It prohibits the grant of patents for plants, plant varieties or seeds.

Monsanto Co said on Monday Chief Executive Officer Hugh Grant will step down after the seeds firm completes a deal to be acquired by Bayer AG, according to Reuters.

German conglomerate Bayer is preparing to close its \$62.5 billion takeover of Monsanto this quarter in a deal that will give it control of more than 25 percent of the world's seed and pesticides market.

A decision by the apex court will have deep impact on various aspects of agriculture, pharmaceuticals and intellectual property rights.

Monsanto counsel argued the company had invented a method by which the seed is injected with fluid protecting it from pests and diseases. The US-based biotech giant claimed that its invention is registered in 25 countries. The Bench told the counsel that the high court had observed that India was different from other countries.

The judges initially wanted evidence be decided by competent authorities, but later decided to hear the case after the summer vacation.

<b>Textile park site inspected</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Hindu</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/textile-park-si-te-inspected/article23807814.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/textile-park-si-te-inspected/article23807814.ece</a></p>
<p>Director of Handlooms and Textiles C. Munianathan on Monday inspected the site for the proposed textile park at Padalur in Perambalur district on Monday.</p> <p>The district administration has already handed over the site, measuring about 100 acres in Padalur and Irur villages in Alathur taluk, to SIPCOT.</p> <p>Former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa had announced in a conference of District Collectors in 2012 that a textile park would be established in Perambalur district off Chennai-Tiruchi National Highway.</p> <p>Accompanied by district officials, Mr. Munianathan inspected the site and reviewed the facilities. He also inspected the common facility centre and a private manufacturing unit. He also interacted with a few entrepreneurs. He later held discussions on works related to the edpark with Collector V. Santha and other officials.</p>	

<b>Farmers demand action against textile bleaching units</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Times of India</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/farmers-demand-action-against-textile-bleaching-units/articleshow/64070776.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/farmers-demand-action-against-textile-bleaching-units/articleshow/64070776.cms</a></p>
<p>Tirupur: A group of farmers from Anaipalayam have petitioned the district administration against four textile bleaching units situated on the banks of Noyyal river that allegedly release industrial effluents into the river and its canals. They requested authorities to take action against the units, which allegedly violate zero liquid discharge (ZLD) norms, to save the river and also the Anaipalayam irrigation tank. Agriculture on 600 acres depends on the water from the tank, the farmers said.</p> <p>“We have seen four bleaching units releasing untreated industrial effluents into the open land, which then flow into the river and also to the main canal of Anaipalayam tank. The most recent instance was on last Friday, when one of the units involved in the violation during night time. When we questioned, the unit owners threatened us,” D Karuppasamy, a farmer, said. “Only recently, the farmers have collectively taken steps to desilt the tank and its canals as well as strengthening its bunds, on supervision of the public works department. But, those bleaching units continue to violate the environmental norms in the region,” he added.</p>	

<b>Sewing machines distributed to Adi Dravidar women</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Hindu</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/sewing-machines-distributed-to-adi-dravidar-women/article23808606.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/sewing-machines-distributed-to-adi-dravidar-women/article23808606.ece</a></p>
<p>46 beneficiaries received free training</p> <p>Minister for Social Welfare M. Kandasamy on Monday distributed free sewing machines and certificates to 46 women from the Adi Dravidar community.</p> <p>The Adi Dravidar Welfare Department had conducted free tailoring classes for women.</p>	

The beneficiaries who had received training were given all the materials required for sewing and Rs. 1,500 as stipend for a period of 12 months.

Mr. Kandasamy said that free training and sewing machines were given to 31 women from Ariyankuppam training centre and 15 from Kalitheerthaa training centre.

He stressed the need for more skill development training for women.

The Minister underlined that only skill development will help women to become economically independent. "Every woman has to be empowered, which will give them courage to face challenges," he said.

**Farmers demand action against textile bleaching units**

**Times of India**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/farmers-demand-action-against-textile-bleaching-units/articleshow/64070776.cms>

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**Designer studio in NIFT-TEA awaits final approval**

**Times of India**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/designer-studio-in-nift-tea-awaits-final-approval/articleshow/64070881.cms>

Tirupur: The technical committee of Union ministry of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) has approved to set up a designer studio at NIFT-TEA college of knitwear fashion in Tirupur to provide opportunities for MSMEs to develop designs at low cost. The Rs 15-crore facility awaits the final approval of the steering committee.

Earlier as a part of the cluster development programme, industrialists sought the Centre to provide assistance to set up the designer studio. "After the approval, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) would grant up to 80% of the cost, as sought," said T R Vijayakumar, general secretary of Tirupur exporters' association.

"The studio will have state-of-art facilities in design development, from communications to information. Display of latest products in fibre, yarns and fabric, and its allied technologies will also be part of the studio. In case of sampling

development, there will be facilities like virtual prototype samples or e-samples,” said CB Senthil Kumar, technical coordinator. “Many industrialists said buyers wished to have such designer studio here, so that the designs can be developed where the goods are manufactured,” Senthil added.

“In foreign countries, the apparel companies would invest heavily on the design development, which can be done cheaply in the planned studio. It will help to take the industry to new heights,” Vijayakumar said. The apparel companies in the dollar city would not generally work either on design development or research and development but depend on buyers for the same. However, industries based only on manufacturing would not make them competitive.

**ICE cotton falls on profit-taking after prices hit 4-year highs**

**Investing.Com**

<https://in.investing.com/news/commodities-news/ice-cotton-falls-on-profit-taking-after-prices-hit-4year-highs-1150358>

ICE cotton futures fell nearly 1 percent as traders locked in profits after prices hit four year highs on fears of unavailability of quality U.S. cotton for delivery.

\* The most active ICE cotton contract for July expiry CTC2 CTN8 settled down 0.91 cent, or 1.05 percent, at 85.99 cents per lb.

\* The contract traded within a range of 85.91 and 88.08 cents a lb, its highest since May 2014. \* "It was just a small correction after the sharp rise ... The most recent news are still bullish," said Gabriel Crivorot, an analyst at Societe Generale (PA:SOGN) in New York.

\* Analysts and traders said there was a shortage of high quality cotton amid high demand. \* "There are ideas that the U.S. is now running short of high quality cotton to deliver to the exchange and to overseas buyers," said Jack Scoville, vice president with Price Futures Group in Chicago in a note.

\* "Demand remains strong in export markets as the weekly export sales report showed moderate to strong volumes last week." \* The weekly export sales report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the week ending April 26, showed exports of 432,600 running bales, up 3 percent from the previous week. As per USDA's classing report for the week-ending May 3, of the nearly 37,000 running bales classed, only 35 percent were deliverable against ICE contracts. \* Market participants are keeping a close watch on rain in Texas, the major cotton growing region in the United States. \* ICE cotton contract for December expiry CTZ8 fell 0.3 percent to 80.33 cents. \* "The government forecast is for the drought conditions to persist over the next month, that does not mean there will not be enough rain to alleviate circumstances, but the outlook is not good for farmers in the region," Crivorot said. \* Total futures market volume rose by 5,055 to 38,417 lots. Data showed total open interest gained 5,773 to 281,665 contracts in the previous session. \* Certificated cotton stocks CERT-COT-STX deliverable as of May 4 totaled 73,202 480-lb bales, down from 75,638 in the previous session.

<b>GM cotton patents: SC refuses to stay order against Monsanto</b>	<b>Business Line</b> <a href="https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/gm-cotton-patents-sc-refuses-to-stay-order-against-monsanto/article23805250.ece">https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/gm-cotton-patents-sc-refuses-to-stay-order-against-monsanto/article23805250.ece</a>
<p>The Supreme Court on Monday refused to grant a stay on a Delhi High Court ruling that the US company Monsanto cannot claim patents on its GM cottonseeds, but the world’s largest seed maker said it is “confident on the merits” of its case. The Delhi High Court last month concurred with Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd, which argued that India’s Patent Act does not allow Monsanto patent cover for its genetically modified (GM) cotton seeds.</p> <p>The case is being submitted for an expedited preliminary hearing on July 18, said a Monsanto India spokesman. “We remain confident on the merits of the case. India has been issuing patents on man-made biotech products for more than 15 years, as is done widely across the globe,” the Monsanto India spokesman said. The Centre approved Monsanto’s GM cottonseed trait, the only lab-altered crop allowed in India, in 2003 and an upgraded variety in 2006.</p> <p>The approvals helped turn the country into the world’s top producer and second-largest exporter of the fibre.</p> <p>Monsanto’s GM cotton seed technology now dominates 90 per cent of the country’s cotton acreage. “The Delhi High Court’s decision in April would provide relief to farmers by reducing royalties and seed prices,” said Kalyan Goswami, Director-General of the National Seed Association of India. Details of the Supreme Court’s refusal to grant a stay on the ruling against Monsanto were not immediately available.</p>	

<b>Chhattisgarh to roll out e-way bill on June 1 for intrastate movement</b>	<b>Business Standard</b> <a href="http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/chhattisgarh-to-roll-out-e-way-bill-on-june-1-for-intrastate-movement-118050700856_1.html">http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/chhattisgarh-to-roll-out-e-way-bill-on-june-1-for-intrastate-movement-118050700856_1.html</a>
<p>The Chhattisgarh government has decided to implement generation of e-way bill for intrastate movement of goods from June 1.</p> <p>The Union government had made it compulsory to generate an e-way bill for interstate movement of goods from April 1. Karnataka state was the first to make the system operational.</p> <p>“The Chhattisgarh government will be holding a series of workshops for traders and transporters to make them aware about the new system,” the state’s commercial tax department officials said. Besides divisional headquarters, workshops will also be held at the block level, they added.</p> <p>The e-way bill system would involve carrying electronic waybills by transporters while moving goods exceeding Rs 50,000 in value and ensure seamless movement of goods across state borders. The system under the goods and services tax (GST) promises faster movement of goods through a seamless portal-driven payment system without transport carriers having to wait at state borders.</p> <p>Officials said the implementation of the new system was crucial as the government believed it to be a key measure to plug revenue leaks. It is expected that trade and industry will be further facilitated insofar as the transport of goods is concerned, thereby eventually paving the way for a nationwide single e-way bill system, officials added.</p>	

They added that prior to the introduction of the e-way bill, India's logistics costs were far higher than those in key economies, cutting the competitiveness of Indian goods and adding to costs for the consumer. The new system promises to contribute significantly towards adding to the productivity and efficiencies in the economy.

**Economic Times**

**Apparel package led to additional investments, job creation: Survey**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/cons-products/garments/-textiles/apparel-package-led-to-additional-investments-job-creation-survey/articleshow/64069098.cms>

The Rs 6,000-crore special package announced in 2016 for the textiles and apparel sector generated extra investment of around Rs 2,500 crore and additional employment of around 1 lakh in the first twelve months of its rollout, a report said today.

The findings of the survey conducted by the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) also suggested that Remission of State Levies (RoSL) had a positive impact on the garment industry. After the implementation of the RoSL in September, 2016, India's readymade garment (RMG) exports increased by 2.7 per cent in value terms and grown by 6.4 per cent in volume terms,"AEPC said.

"The Special Package for textiles has not only boosted exports but has also helped in increasing the investments," it added. "RoSL has been a well thought out scheme, which had a positive impact on the garment industry. There is direct correlation between release of RoSL to exporters vis-a-vis increase of India's RMG exports. Though demonetisation and Goods and Services Tax (GST) roll out has temporarily slowed down the industry, the positive impact of RoSL is expected to bring results in 2018-19, as the industry settles down, post GST roll out," HKL Magu, Chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) said.

**DNA India**

**Rupee sinks below 67/\$, may dive to 70 this year**

<http://www.dnaindia.com/business/report-rupee-sinks-below-67-may-dive-to-70-this-year-2612623>

The rupee sank below 67-mark against the US dollar on Monday, prompting economists to forecast its fall to 70 within this calendar year.

They are expecting the rupee to tumble to the 70 level if crude prices continued to climb up and India's trade balance with the US deteriorated further.

D K Srivastava, chief policy advisor, EY India told DNA Money that he sees rupee stabilising at 70 in a quarter or so, with US pressure on India's trade and crude likely to soar more.

"I would presume it (rupee) would stabilise around 70 (against the US dollar). It would take a little while for it to reach that mark – at least a quarter or so. This would be due to US pressure on both India and China. China is facing a trade deficit in this quarter with US while India's trade balance with US is also deteriorating," he said.

Richa Gupta, senior director and senior economist, Deloitte India, did not expect the rupee to hover around 70-mark for long.

According to her, the Indian currency is likely to be in the range of 65-68 in the current year.

"We don't expect it to stay at 70, even if it goes there. There will be a correction, and then it (rupee) will come down again. It will probably remain in the range of 65-68. It may go down to 70 because the crude is rising and the dollar is strengthening. It may go down to 70 but that rate will hurt imports and therefore there might be a correction. This is our expectation," she said.

The rupee plunged to a 15-month low on Monday at 67.14 against the US dollar, down over 27 paise from its previous close of 66.87 per US dollar. It slipped to that level on rising global crude oil prices and a stronger dollar.

Several polls on the trend of Indian rupee have revealed that it is likely to breach the 70-mark this year. Deutsche Bank, DBS Bank, Bank of America, Yes Bank, IFA Global and Edelweiss Financial Services reportedly predicted the local currency to hit the 70-mark or fall beyond it.

EY's Srivastava said India's relatively low inflation, in general, had till now kept rupee from falling more sharply than it did.

He also believes that if India's growth further picked up and investment increased then the rupee could appreciate on its own. Srivastava said there were already signs of a robust growth visible in the service sector.

"If India's growth picks up and investment flows improve, rupee could rise on its own otherwise it would require (central bank) intervention. Growth is robust. Services sector is picking up. There are clear signs through PMI. One has to see whether this can be sustained," he said.

He also said that improving private investment, not external but internal, could check the fall in rupee to 70 and below.

Deloitte's Gupta sees a weaker rupee putting a stress on the fiscal deficit target for the current fiscal but she said it would depend on the revenue collection.

According to her, more than fiscal deficit, it would be the current account deficit (CAD) that would be strained due to a depreciated rupee.

She too felt that revival in economic growth would stop the free fall of rupee to some extent.

Gupta said any call by the RBI to intervene would be taken only after studying its impact on the bond market, yields and inflation.

Srivastava was of the view that rupee could be allowed depreciate to more extend; "Right now, the rupee was appreciating out of turn. So, I don't see the need for invention for some more time. To some more extend, the rupee can be allowed to depreciate".

Illegal variety of seeds pose threat to crop biodiversity and is also a health hazard

The Field Inspection and Scientific Evaluation Committee (FISEC) constituted by the Department of Biotechnology to investigate the cultivation of unapproved hybrid cotton variety with herbicide-tolerant trait has decided to recommend its eradication, considering its adverse impact on crop biodiversity in the long run.

After collecting samples of the illegal variety of cotton seed, the committee has concluded that it is prevalent in all cotton-growing States in the country and the only viable solution is identifying and destroying the seed at producer, processor, seller and cultivator level, where it is found through field inspection. The high-level meeting was held at New Delhi on Thursday.

The high-level committee is headed by K. Veluthambi and comprises about a dozen officials from Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Telangana State Seed and Organic Certification Authority (TSSOCA).

Official sources stated that directions are expected to be issued to States over the next few days. The committee was understood to have expressed its serious concern not only over the threat to biodiversity of cotton and other crops due to proliferation of the herbicide-tolerant gene due to pollination, but also over the emergence of super weeds with excessive use of glyphosate.

Along with raids on seed producers, dealers and retailers to find the illegal cotton seed, Telangana Government has already issued guidelines against the use of glyphosate, a systemic herbicide and crop desiccant – a hygroscopic substance used as a drying agent used to kill weeds, especially annual broad-leaf weeds and grasses that compete with crops.

Asked about the likely impact of HT cotton on biodiversity in the country, Director of TSSOCA K. Keshavulu explained that “herbicide-resistant gene could spread through pollen into the biodiversity system, leading to transformation of weeds into super weeds on a large-scale”. It would not only threaten the growth and yields of all crops in future but would also increase cultivation costs besides causing health hazards to human being and animals.

Officials of the Agriculture Department stated that the task force teams comprising police and agriculture officers had so far seized over 10 tonnes of spurious cotton seed that also includes HT cotton seed during the raids on seed dealers.

Srinagar: At 17, when Imtiyaz Ahmad dropped out of school to learn the skill of weaving Pashmina from his father he was told that weaving earns more money than other jobs.

Now 33, Imtiyaz has been facing a constant struggle in running his household.

“My father had always referred to the times of 1980’s when the pay for making one shawl was rupees 1200. He also said that those in service of government did not earn as much as a weaver did. It is a beautiful skill and I never expected its loss of worth,” he said, reminiscing the olden days.

Craftsmanship in the valley is a blend of historical skill set making every handmade piece unique and famous all over the globe. Hand-woven Pashmina shawl is one such creation. However, in the recent years, the handloom sector has seen a drastic decline in the market affecting the weavers in all ways possible.

The invention of power loom has wiped out most of the handloom’s existence in Jammu and Kashmir, and may soon eradicate it. In a distressing tone, Imtiyaz mentioned the impact of machines on the labourers’ daily life. “Dealers and manufacturers now prefer machines over humans mainly for their profit. A labourer at the power loom sector receives about rupees 50 for every shawl, while the dealer sells it for the price of a hand-woven pashmina shawl. They do not prefer us solely because of the wage they’d have to pay us as quantity matters more to them than quality. It takes three days to complete one shawl, and the wage we receive is rupees 600 with no increase what-so-ever. Also, whenever I ask for an increase in wage they either say they haven’t sold the shawls yet, or blame it on GST or speak of moving to machines.”

His brother, Khurshid Ahmad, who is also into the same stream, lamented on the implementation of GST in the valley. “After GST came into force here, life has become more difficult. GST hasn’t changed for the manufacturers, dealers, and wholesalers though since they apply GST and get the money while selling them but they tell us that GST has been applied and cannot increase our wage,” Khurshid said.

Nevertheless, the production of power loomed pashminas lack the richness and purity. The public is lured into buying it for its cheaper price, and shine. He believes that the handloom sector will cease to exist in a few years. The livelihoods of these labourers face constant challenges.

“I’ve tried applying for jobs numerous times, and I’m are still trying. Any job like a delivery boy’s job too would do. I’m skilled in weaving and I don’t have much knowledge in any other field. My brother and I don’t want to pursue weaving anymore. I have two kids and I need to be able to finance their studies. Most of the weavers of pashmina I’ve known left this occupation and joined other jobs to get paid more than before. Some get paid the same amount but they at least don’t have to put so much effort to earn the same. They also get 3-4 days off monthly but for us; we have no holiday at all. Even if we fall sick we have no other choice but to work or we wouldn’t earn the little we do. We are fed up of this work now; any other job seems to be better for us to feed our family,” said Imtiyaz. The wage is not paid on time. In the case of Imtiyaz, he hasn’t received his wages for five months now.

Work is not the only issue a weaver battles at present; the personal lives of the young and unmarried handloom labourers are predominantly affected. Imtiyaz and Khurshid disclosed the struggles they faced to find a partner. “No man was willing to give his daughter’s hand in marriage because they feel we don’t earn enough to support the family,” Imtiyaz stated.

<b>Odisha Skill Conclave highlights critical role of skill development in growth of the State</b>	<b>Odishha dairy</b> <a href="https://orissadiary.com/odisha-skill-conclave-highlights-critical-role-skill-development-growth-state/">https://orissadiary.com/odisha-skill-conclave-highlights-critical-role-skill-development-growth-state/</a>
<p>New Delhi: All traditional skills need to be formally recognized under Skill Development and proper training needs to be imparted in these work-of-art translating into the further economic growth of the State and its people said Skill Development &amp; Entrepreneurship and Petroleum &amp; Natural Gas Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. Addressing the inaugural session, of the ‘Odisha Skill Conclave’ Shri Pradhan expressed, “Odisha has abundant natural resources and a large coastline. The state has emerged as the most preferred destination for overseas investors, owing to its natural wealth which includes production of one fifth of India’s coal, a quarter of its iron ore, a third of its bauxite reserves and most of the chromite. It has a rich heritage and culture, and is known for its handicraft, handloom and temples. “Skill development is a national dialogue and there have been isolated efforts to promote skill development in the State thus far; but it is our endeavour now to join the dots and have a concrete, comprehensive and collective effort with respect to skill development,” he further added.</p> <p>In line with the Prime Minister’s vision of “SabkaSaathSabkaVikas”, the Ministry of Skill Development &amp; Entrepreneurship organized Odisha Skill Conclave at Jatni near Bhubaneswar to define a roadmap to develop Odisha as a skill development &amp; entrepreneurship hub of India. The two-day event has gathered more than 100 experts, industry veterans, academicians and professionals from skill ecosystem to deliberate on challenges and opportunities for skill development in the state.</p> <p>The galaxy of experts from national/international organizations like NALCO, Indian Oil, Reliance, ACC, Aditya Birla, International Labor Organization among others assembled at the Conclave to discuss the local complexities of the State, weaving the discussion and integrating them into the national skill ecosystem. The sessions on day one, highlighted the key challenges and opportunities that exist in the State, identification of cluster/areas with high demand for skills based on investments, credit off-take and mapping geographical areas of economic activities.</p> <p>The event gave all participating dignitaries a comprehensive picture of the socio-economic background of the State with respect to its population demographics, proportion of youth, education averages, labour force participation and labour mobility. There are 631 ITIs today in Odisha with a seating capacity of 1, 67,753 and utilization of 54.96%. Approx. 80,000 have been trained under MSDE’s flagship program Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 2016-20, which has translated into placement for nearly 50% candidates. Over 1 million people from Odisha have migrated to other parts of the country in search of jobs. Nearly, half of Odisha’s population, is in age groups below 25 years. Only 6% labour force has diplomas, certificates or a graduate-and-above degrees. Odisha’s incremental skill gap for 2011-2026 is expected to be around 4 million. Odisha’s estimated labour demand for 2018-19 is highest in sectors like chemicals, transport, logistics, retail trading, power and healthcare.</p> <p>The discussions also established that the social aspect should be accounted for while planning skill development</p>	

programs. The tribal community accounts for nearly 30% of Odisha's population, the women population and their participation in economic growth, and traditional skill sets in the State all need to be considered for preparing the action plan for Odisha. It was also discussed that there is a need for synergy between those who regulate the laws on specific skills and those who train so that there is a concrete outcome to all training endeavours. Job roles for driver training and tourism guides can secure license from the government.

"India's private sector has become extremely exploitative, they need to come out of this mind-set which has linkage to the depressed wage across industries and our focus should be on increasing employability and thus reward them appropriately for their contribution. We also need sensitive good quality counselling for the youth and their parents." said Shri Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority, one of the experts at the conclave.

On this occasion, Shri Pradhan also released a study report on Skill Development & Employability on tribal in Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. The study has been conducted by Functional Vocational Training and Research Society (FVTRS) Bangalore in association with Centre for Youth Skill Development (CYSD), Bhubaneswar.

<b>Anti-outsourcing brand tags Bangladesh T-shirts as 'made in NZ'</b>	<b>Dhaka Tribune</b> <a href="https://www.dhakatribune.com/feature/lifestyle/2018/05/07/anti-outsourcing-brand-tags-bangladesh-t-shirts-made-nz/">https://www.dhakatribune.com/feature/lifestyle/2018/05/07/anti-outsourcing-brand-tags-bangladesh-t-shirts-made-nz/</a>
<p>'The day any of these brands decides to manufacture in Sri Lanka or Bangladesh is the day they sign their own death warrants'</p> <p>An iconic international clothing brand whose co-founder has been a staunch critic of so-called manufacturing "sweatshops" has been sourcing T-shirts from Bangladesh despite advertising that the garments were made in New Zealand.</p> <p>An investigation by The Spinoff website found that the labels used on WORLD clothing were misleading, and that a second label attached to the inside seam of their t-shirts read, "Made in Bangladesh". This is despite the co-founder of the proudly New Zealand brand, the designer Dame Denise L'Estrange-Corbet, being a vocal critic of fashion houses who manufacture their products in less developed countries.</p> <p>The Spinoff reported on Monday that WORLD's stores in Auckland were stocked with their latest collection, including t-shirts adorned with sequins, and sweatshirts and sweatpants selling for NZ \$199 (Tk20,000). The WORLD tag attached to every item read "fabrique en nouvelle-zelande" (Made in New Zealand), but the care instruction labels on the inside of the garments told a different story.</p> <p>They said the T-shirts are sourced from AS Colour and made in Bangladesh, while the sweatshirts and sweatpants are also purchased from AS Colour but were made in China.</p> <p>When The Spinoff visited a WORLD they found a sample T-shirt that did have the "Made in Bangladesh" tag on the collar which was identical to AS Colour tags, right down to the reference number which, when put into the US government's Federal Trade Commission database for textile and clothing manufacturers and importers, linked directly to AS Colour. A spokesperson for AS Colour confirmed WORLD buys clothing wholesale through its online store. "I don't think it really matters where a blank garment comes from," the AS Colour spokesperson said. "You get</p>	

them from manufacturers all around the world. It's no different from any other surf brand or skate brand."

The Spinoff reports that WORLD is not just "any other surf brand", however. In 2015, it became the first fashion label to be endorsed by the United Nations, after developing a logo for the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. The logo has since been printed and sold on AS Colour t-shirts in WORLD stores, online, and in the gift shop at UN headquarters.

When approached by The Spinoff, L'Estrange-Corbet confirmed WORLD has been selling AS Colour t-shirts made in Bangladesh for "approximately seven years", adding that the t-shirts "represent 1% of our annual garment production".

The Spinoff found that at least 12 of the 133 garments being sold via the WORLD website, including the four UN logo t-shirts, were manufactured overseas.

L'Estrange-Corbet said WORLD once made their t-shirts in New Zealand but the factories they used had closed down. "We were unable to manufacture the garments here as there are specialist machinery required," she wrote. "It was not a decision we took lightly."

She pointed to AS Colour's ethical credentials. "Child Labour Free (CLF) strongly supports and endorses AS Colour who are diligently working towards ethical sustainability in the area of supply chain transparency, ethical sourcing/supply and of course, the child labour free certification process."

L'Estrange-Corbet's supposed commitment to ethical commerce led her to recently criticize retail behemoths Zara and H&M. She said: "(They) all share the same manufacturing bases, Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Cambodia, and whilst some of the factories may pay above their countries [sic] legal minimum wage, anyone with a single brain cell can work out, that this is slave labour".

In an editorial L'Estrange-Corbet wrote for Apparel magazine last year on manufacturing, meanwhile, she talked about how global fast fashion giants had hollowed out artisanal manufacturing worldwide. She lamented what had happened to production in New Zealand, and about the way global luxury brands retained their value by dictating where their products are made. "The day any of these brands decides to manufacture in Sri Lanka or Bangladesh is the day they sign their own death warrants," she wrote, "and are no longer considered luxury or even desirable."

<b>Textile supplier's shutdown a symptom of fashion industry's struggles</b>	<b>Radionz</b> <a href="https://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetoon/audio/2018643763/textile-supplier-s-shutdown-a-symptom-of-fashion-industry-s-struggles">https://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetoon/audio/2018643763/textile-supplier-s-shutdown-a-symptom-of-fashion-industry-s-struggles</a>
<p>New Zealand's largest textiles supplier is shutting its fashion division - which some local designers say will leave a huge hole in the industry.</p> <p>The news follows the announcement earlier this year that another company, Cooper Watkinson Textiles, was quitting the industry.</p> <p>Paul Blomfield, an advocate for the NZ fashion industry, said the loss of textile factories across New Zealand would</p>	

degrade the variety and choice for local designers' final products.

"[Local textile suppliers] were great at sourcing small volumes of interesting prints and that would give New Zealand makers the opportunity to make something a bit more exciting," Mr Blomfield said.

However, the shutdown of local suppliers appears to be another symptom, rather than the cause, of the pressures on the fashion industry, former Pumpkin Patch designer Carly Tolley said.

"I think it's bigger than New Zealand because Charles Parsons has closed in Australia, their fashion division, so what I think has happened is that New Zealand was just a flow-on from Australia," Ms Tolley said. "Australia was struggling and we are feeling those effects - the Australian market is probably suffering more than us."

Local designers relied heavily on the New Zealand-made angle to sell their products as it gave them their own signature, Ms Tolley said.

Several high-profile local fashion labels have closed down recently - women's label Andrea Moore, menswear brand Meccano and shoe store Minnie Cooper. New Zealand label Maaike's designer Abby van Shreven spoke to Nine to Noon about the struggles designers faced as they were confronted with a shrinking supply of unique textiles that were locally sourced. "Everyone is trying to be different and when you take away the biggest fabric supplier, does it all start to look the same even more so?" she said.

Ms van Shreven said buying fabric from Charles Parsons was the perfect fit for their needs, in terms of fabric and budget, but now they were having to rethink how to process their textiles.

"For us, we already do our own custom fabrics and we get that printed in China because we can't find anyone to do it here in New Zealand that can digitally print, and there's been a few other designers that we've shared that contact with," she said. Mr Blomfield encouraged New Zealanders to buy more locally-produced fashion items instead of switching to online products or buying from mainstream Australian-owned brands to aid the survival of the industry.