

Weekly Highlights

16 June 2020



Coronavirus Update in India

CONFIRMED CASES	343,900
ACTIVE CASES	153,613
CURED	180,326
DEATHS	9,918

Data as of 16 June, 12 pm IST

The number of positive cases jumped by nearly 80,000 cases from 9 June to 16 June, while the number of deaths has increased by more than 2,000 over the same period.

India is witnessing a spike in the number of coronavirus cases, as of 9 June, there have been six consecutive days when the COVID-19 count has risen by 9,000 cases. [Link](#).

State of Karnataka withdraws notification on increased working hours

The State government has withdrawn a controversial notification that extended the maximum working hours, from eight to ten per day and from 48 to 60 per week, for all factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948. The government in the notification, issued on 22 May, had extended the working hours for three months. [Link](#)

Labour Shortages in India Obstructs Reopening of Domestic and Export Apparel Manufacturers

Apparel exporters and garment manufacturers are struggling to resume operations due to shortage of labour. New orders have started coming in after around three months of lockdown in India, however the massive exodus of workers from cities to their hometowns has left industries reeling. [Indian Express: Labour crunch puts Gurgaon industries in a tight spot](#)
[Just Style: India apparel exporters face worker shortages as orders resume](#)

AEPC Urged the Government to Lift Restrictions on the Export of PPE

[The Apparel Export Promotion Council \(AEPC\) has urged the government to remove the existing export of PPE.](#) There is a large demand for PPE in the international market and the Indian garment and apparel manufacturers have surplus capacities that can meet that demand.

FIEO Urges India's Commerce and Industry Minister to Expedite Trade Agreement with EU

[Federation of Indian Export Organisations \(FIEO\) has urged Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry Minister to increase its engagement with the European Union](#) to seal the long-pending free-trade agreement (FTA) with India. The FTA, officially named as the Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA), has been delayed since 2013 due to differences.

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Google Partners with WWF for on Platform for Sustainable Product Sourcing

[Google partners with the World Wide Fund for Nature \(WWF\)](#) to help with sustainable product sourcing using cloud technology. The platform gathers data to help designers make responsible buying decisions on raw materials for the manufacturing of garments.

SRI LANKA COVID-19 LATEST UPDATES

CONFIRMED CASES	1,905
CURED	1,342
DEATHS	11

Data as of 16 June, 12 pm IST

Sri Lanka Progresses its Easing of Curfew

The country has seen a decreasing number of coronavirus cases. Sri Lanka has so far recorded 1,880 coronavirus cases, 11 deaths due to the disease and 1,196 recoveries. As such the government has decided to relax the curfew to four hours (from midnight to 4 am), President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's office said.

JAAF Urges Move Towards E-Commerce

In the absence of physical stores due to the lockdown, the apparel industry has had to endure a very difficult time. To help protect one of Sri Lanka's core industries [the president of the Joint Apparel Association Forum \(JAAF\) has urged the industry to step up its engagement with e-commerce platforms.](#)