

“OVS’ Response” 14 March 2022

Due to your report we have verified with the supplier AKR, through our Office Manager in Tirupur.

OVS works with AKR in Tirupur but not with the factories in Karnataka where it had some occasional collaborations that ended in 2019.

However, as we always take reports of this kind to great consideration and have established relationships with AKR albeit in other regions, we have sought clarification and will verify that commitments are being kept.

AKR confirms a delay in payments, attributed in large part to financial difficulties due to the volatility of production volumes over the past two years and to increases in raw material costs over the past year. We are told that from 22 February 2022, a plan has been initiated to pay arrears alongside the monthly salary. According to the timeline shared with the workers, by 15 May half of the arrears due will have been paid in order to conclude the remediation plan by mid-September 2022.

We are committed to keeping in constant contact with the supplier to periodically check that the agreed timeline is being respected.