

**December 28, 2016**

***Parliamentary Questions by Members Van Laar (Labour Party), Voordewind (ChristianUnion) and Dijkgraaf (Reformed Political Party) to the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Co-operation on (child) slavery in South Indian spinning mills producing yarn for Western clothing brands [no. 2016Z25003]***

**Question 1**

Are you familiar with the report *Fabric of Slavery: Large-scale forced (child) labour in India's spinning mills*<sup>(1)</sup> by the India Committee of the Netherlands?

**Question 2**

Do you share the conclusion of the report that more than 90% of the spinning mills producing yarns for including Western clothing, make use of modern forms of slavery, including child slavery?

**Question 3**

Do you support the recommendations made in the report, including the recommendations to the governments of importing countries?

**Question 4**

Are you planning to work together with Dutch companies, or companies active in the Netherlands, that buy clothing and textiles in South India, to tackle the problem highlighted in this report? What role(s) you see in particular for parties in the Textile Covenant?

**Question 5**

Are you going to raise this issue in your contacts with the Indian government? Will you try to agree on a joint solution, involving also the garment companies, local trade unions and civil society organizations?

**Question 6**

What opportunities do you see for international organizations like the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to contribute to joint solutions?

(1) <http://www.indianet.nl/pb161221e.html>