

Dollar City

Dir: Amudhan R.P.

77 min; Tamil with English subtitles; 2015; Documentary

Produced by Raj Kajendra

Logline:

In the export oriented garment industry of Tirupur, a city in South India, the consensus between workers, trade unions and factory owners to run the industry at any cost, manifests a notorious camaraderie, compromising on workers' rights and environment protection laws.

Synopsis:

Tirupur aka Dollar City, well known for its thousands of export oriented garment hosiery units and millions of migrant workers symbolizes a development model where the state machinery, exporters, small and big entrepreneurs, commission agents, trade unionists and workers converge to prioritize export and to earn dollars by ignoring, marginalizing and eventually breaking the laws that protect environment and workers' rights.

The film provides an inside view of a successful economical system where there is connivance and consensus between the masters, mediators and the workers, where the ambitions and loyalties collapse, where the rights become a privilege, where duty becomes an opportunity and where one's desperation is another's prospect.

The fact that there has not been a workers' strike in Tirupur in the past 20 years as proudly expressed by an exporter in the film can be seen a classical example for Gramscian idea of manufacture of consent.

Camera: Amudhan R.P.

Editing: Amudhan R.P. & Thangaraj

Music: RaGa

Research: Pushpa Achinta

Subtitles: Meghna Sukumar, Mini Hari & Sara Abraham

Free Fall Films

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AV Room 1
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AUG 9 wednesday