

## Wal-Mart minimum pay in Bangalore criticised

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People working in factories in Bangalore in India who are making clothes for Wal-Mart are not being paid legal minimum wages, according to a petitioning group.

Wake Up Wal-Mart believes that around 125,000 workers are being exploited despite minimum wage increased one year ago, citing a report released by the Worker Rights Consortium which said factories owe workers over one month's back pay and the Bangalore apparel workforce over \$10 million (£6.525 million).

Wal-Mart apparently states that it requires compliance with local laws, such as minimum wage and <u>employee reward</u> guidelines, in its standards for suppliers list as part of its Ethical Standards Program.

The group continued: "As the largest retailer in the world, Wal-Mart has set the moral low ground when it comes to making sure the factory workers who produce the goods sold in their stores are properly paid for their work."

Wal-Mart is headquartered in Arkansas and trades under a variety of names around the globe, including Asda in the UK, Seiyu in Japan and Best Price in India.