

Total employment in India's organised manufacturing sector has increased by 78% to 13.7 million in 15 years to 2015-16, but the share of contract workers has increased from 15.5% to 27.9% while that of directly hired, permanent workers has fallen 10.8 percentage points to 50.4%. This increased contractualisation has led to stagnant wages, job insecurity and poor working conditions. IndiaSpend travelled to the industrial belt of Neemrana in Rajasthan to understand the issues facing contract workers at air-conditioner manufacturer Daikin India, where clashes over unionisation in January 2019 have left more than 850 workers without a job.