



is in fact a clear breach of the respective company codes of conduct, and requesting their employers to support the demands of GATWU and the workers with their suppliers.

Since December 18th, the protesting „contract“ workers have been rejecting the meals during their shifts, holding protest sit-ins in the canteen during their meal times. Their „employer“, the manpower agency Sri Udyog, requested them to stop this kind of protest: Rejecting the meals would harm workers' own wellbeing, and put at risk the safety of all workers in the factory.



Example H&M, Germany: The treatment of H&M store workers has reached a new all-time low across the country. The company is centrally aiming at active works council



members - labour activists who are trying to secure reliable labour relations against intensified company efforts to push for precarisation. H&M is very creative in finding ways to impede their work and get rid of them: activists are called troublemakers while the

company threatens to close stores, blaming the activists for it; the company offers them termination agreements and compensations - and if H&M is lucky, the terminations would even reduce employees in the respective store below the number that legally enforces a store works council; works council members are being psychically pressurised in order to wear them down and make them give up.

New precarisation highlight in 2017: H&M do not feel responsible for their employees anymore: While formerly in the case of store closures workers were transferred to other stores nearby, the new practice is to tell them there is no work for them in the nearby stores - without offering any evidence. Warehouse jobs are being outsourced from Germany to the Netherlands where taxes are low and trade union organisation is weak. The large German distribution centre at Grossostheim will be closed in 2018, while a new one has been built in the Netherlands.

A German H&M works council member who had once felt deep identification with his employer, turns his personal disappointment into a militant call:

*„H&M, it is now clear to us that you're trying to leave us behind! But we will struggle to stay here as long as we can... You can't get rid of us - and if you do, we will take care that the world will get to know what cynical game you played with us... We are on eye level. We deserve respect and a decent treatment!“*

**Happy 2018 !- as a Year of Common Struggle, not of Precarity !**

