

## **ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF INDIA**

(Formerly ELCINA ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF INDIA)

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### **Press Release**

#### **ELCINA Condemns Violence and Labour Unrest in Wistron Factory, Narasapura near Bangalore**

The recent unsavory and shocking events at the Wistron mobile phone manufacturing plant are extremely disturbing and disheartening. As per news in the media and industry sources, the incidents of 12<sup>th</sup> December involved hundreds of workers of the factory possibly instigated and led by anti-social elements. They caused considerable damage to the manufacturing facilities of the newly set up factory, damaged vehicles and machinery and reportedly also looted valuable equipment including mobiles, laptops etc. Videos also show the hooligans willfully damaging and even burning vehicles parked in the premises.

This is a matter of grave concern for all of us who are working for the progress of the ESDM industry as well as our economy. While the industry and all of us who are bonafide stakeholders support labour rights and compliance to industrial laws, such destructive acts and damage to property is nothing short of criminal activity which needs to be put down with an iron hand as per law and the perpetrators brought to book. There are lawful and peaceful means by which employees can seek redressal of any issues they may have and in our democratic and civilized society they have access to the empowered authorities and courts to resolve their issues. As stated in media reports, if those who are responsible have not adhered to the labour laws and cheated the workers of their legitimate dues, they must be penalized and made to make good this loss.

ELCINA is aware that Wistron is a reputed Electronics Manufacturer with commitment to its people and we urge the State and Central government agencies charged with maintaining law and order and industrial peace to identify the cause of this unfortunate incident. Such incidents put national interest and progress of our industry at peril. We have set an ambitious target of a Trillion Dollar digital economy, US\$ 400 Bn electronics manufacturing including US\$190 Bn worth of mobile phones alone. The government has committed huge support to investors. Due to the negative publicity our plans could hit a roadblock with such an incident and the doubts it creates among the overseas investors about India being a safe destination. This incident is not in any way representative of India, being a peace-loving nation, which believes in co-existence, and respect for all countries and societies.

On behalf of ELCINA, we strongly condemn this attack on Wistron's facility and express our full support to the Wistron management and workers to overcome this setback. We seek punishment for those who have perpetrated this violence and urge the government to take strict action against the anti-social elements enabling Wistron to recover quickly from this setback and remove any doubts about India being a preferred destination for ESDM sector.



Rajoo Goel  
Secretary General

16<sup>th</sup> December 2020