

Response from Omnivore

25 October 2020

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Omnivore to respond to allegations of complicity with human rights violations in its investments in the agricultural sector in Latin America.

- [“Los señores de lo oscuro asaltan el granero: El capital privado hinca el diente en la agricultura”](#), 1st October 2020, Biodiversidad LA

Omnivore sent the following statement:

Thank you for your email. At the outset, I would like to clarify that Doodhwala has absolutely no link with Latin America whatsoever. The company operated exclusively in India.

With regards to the claims made in the report by GRAIN, they are not accurate, and neither Omnivore nor Doodhwala was approached to ascertain these claims prior to them being published.

Nevertheless, let me address some of these claims here. Omnivore is an impact investor that backs early stage startups working with food and agriculture in India. We were a minority investor in Doodhwala. The startup unfortunately went bankrupt due to its inability to compete with larger corporate players in the market. Doodhwala is in the process of formally filing for bankruptcy, but this has been delayed due to closure of the National Company Law Tribunal (India's bankruptcy court) as a result of the COVID pandemic.

As per our understanding, every single blue collar employee at Doodhwala was paid their dues. Further, it is our understanding that the only employees with dues outstanding are senior management and the leadership team. Finally, please note that Doodhwala helped to ensure that almost all of their blue collar employees found employment with other grocery delivery companies.

Please let me know if this needs further clarification,

Sincerely,

Reihem

Reihem Roy

Partner

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