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Headline: Backlash Over Labour Reforms Tests India's Manufacturing Ambitions

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Summary: Two of India's most business-friendly southern states, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, recently amended laws to allow an increase the length of working shifts from eight to 12 hours in a reform urged by investors, including Apple and its contract manufacturer Foxconn. No sooner than India appears to be heading down the same path of more business-friendly working hours, a backlash is forming. After an outcry from trade unions and opposition parties, Tamil Nadu's chief minister MK Stalin announced on the May 1 Labour day public holiday in India that he was putting the state's legislation on hold. In Karnataka, the opposition Indian National Congress last month trounced Modi's Bharatiya Janata party in a state election. In its manifesto it said it would repeal the factories law amendment there too. Related: Apple India iPhone Output Soars to \$7 Billion in China Shift and China Finally Has a Rival as the World's Factory Floor

Primary Topic: Trade (not deficits)

Topics: GDP, News article, Trade (not deficits)

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