GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 503 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

DOMESTIC WORKERS

†503. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE: SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a)whether to formulate policies to protect the interests of domestic workers, the Government has started a survey of domestic workers in which the data of 5.5 lakh families across the country will be included;
- (b)if so, the details thereof with reference to Maharashtra, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c)whether the Government is aware of the rising number of complaints regarding the exploitation of domestic workers, brought illegally from Northeast to metropolitan cities and towns, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to tackle the issue;
- (d)whether the Government has formulated any act/provision to mitigate the irregularities in wages and exploitation faced by Domestic Workers, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e)whether the Government is planning to regulate Private Placement Agencies for providing socioeconomic securities to Domestic Workers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor? ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) & (b): Labour Bureau, an attached office of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, has undertaken an All-India Survey on Domestic Workers by collecting information from the selected household across States and UTs including Maharashtra, based on multi stage sampling design.

The draft report of the All India Survey on Domestic workers is being finalized.

- (c) & (d): The newly enacted Labour Codes, viz Code on Wages, 2019, Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions, 2020 and Social Security Code, 2020 provide for, inter-alia, decent working conditions, wages, occupational Safety, grievances redressal mechanism and social security benefits to all categories of workers including domestic workers. To check exploitation of domestic workers and regulate the wages, there are various laws like the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition And Redressal) Act, 2013, the Prevention of Atrocities (Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes) Act, 1989 and the Indian Penal Code, 1860, in force.
- (e): The State/UT Governments have been advised to regulate the functioning including registration of private placement agencies. Complaints relating to such agencies are dealt by respective State Governments/UT Administration under the provisions of IPC or other prevailing Acts under which such establishments are registered. Committees had been constituted from time to time on the issues pertaining to private placement agencies and the Ministry has issued advisories to State / UT Governments to take all necessary steps to protect the interest of workers by regulating the conduct of private placement agencies.
