

Regarding welfare of domestic workers

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): According to the National Sample Survey Organisation, India has around 40 lakh domestic workers, and nearly two-third of them are women. The rampant abuse and mistreatment of domestic workers at the hands of employers is raising serious concerns about the violation of basic human rights. The recent spurt in cases of maid abuse in Delhi has brought to the forefront the need to bring a centralized legislation to protect their rights and regulate this largely unregulated industry. The absence of such a law leaves domestic workers vulnerable and exposes them to abuse and exploitation.

There are some steps which the Government need to take for the welfare of domestic workers. One, the placement agencies should be regulated. Two, the Government should link up with social workers for protecting the workers. Three, there is a need for authentic data of domestic workers.

I urge the Government to come up with a separate comprehensive law covering the entire gamut of provisions which must be brought in to protect domestic workers from exploitation. Thank you.