

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2137
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013
DOMESTIC WORKERS
Dhurve Jyoti

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring in any legislation for social security of domestic workers engaged in the country;
- (b) whether the domestic workers have to suffer due to various kinds of harassment meted out to them and that such domestic workers do not get any relief due to absence of legal provision;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the total number of domestic workers in the country particularly in the National Capital Delhi;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any action-plan for sending them back to their homes; and
- (f) if so, the complete details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) to (c): The Domestic work falls under the purview of State Sphere. The State Governments are empowered to enact legislation for Domestic Workers. The Central Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008 for the social security of unorganised workers which include domestic workers. Various labour laws, like the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Employee Compensation Act, 1923, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 and Inter-State Migrant Workmen (RECS) Act, 1979 are directly or indirectly applicable to these workers. The Central Government is also contemplating to formulate a National Policy for Domestic Workers.

(d): The detail of number of domestic workers employed in the country is not maintained at central level. However, as per National Sample Survey (NSS) 2004-05, there are about 47.50 lac domestic workers in the country.

(e): Workers including domestic workers have a right to seek employment in any part of the country.

(f): Does not arise.