

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2264

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013

PLACEMENT AGENCIES .

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Patel Shri Bal Kumar;Singh Shri Ratan;Sinh Dr. Sanjay;Tagore Shri Manicka

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

(a)whether the Government is considering the regulation of domestic workers under the minimum wages act;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c)whether the Government is aware of large number of placement agencies in various parts of the country including the metropolitan cities which engage in fraudulent practices, mobilise large number of vulnerable people including the tribal people for work;

(d)if so, whether the Government regulates these agencies under Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1953 or had issued any guidelines in respect of the functioning of such private placement agencies in the country; and

(e)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix, review and revise the minimum wages for different categories of workers employed in the scheduled employment under their respective jurisdictions. 'Domestic Workers' fall under the purview of state sphere, wherein, the State Governments are the "Appropriate Governments" to fix, review, revise and enforce the minimum rates of wages for domestic workers under the Act.

The Central Government has advised the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to take necessary steps for inclusion of domestic work as employment in the schedule and for fixing minimum rates of wages for domestic workers.

(c) to (e): It is the responsibility of the State Governments to take action for protecting people including domestic workers from exploitation and to look into the complaint against placement agencies and take action against such agencies for violation of laws. The Central Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008 for social security of unorganised workers which include domestic worker. The Central Government has also asked the State Governments to take necessary steps for registration of placement agencies providing domestic workers.