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Title: Regarding the plight of the Indian workers in Angola.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (VIZIANAGARAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to raise a very important matter of public importance regarding the plight of the Indian workers in Angola.

Sir, as reported in the print and electronic media, near about 1200 Indian workers are facing a problem in Angola. A sizeable number of workers are from my Lok Sabha constituency, that is, from Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts of the North coastal Andhra Pradesh. The employers have taken away their passports and treating them inhumanly. Their families are agitating at the Srikakulam district Collectorate leading to tension and police intervention. We need to understand the agony of the family members.

Similar incidents of ill-treatment of the Indian workers are being reported regularly. All these people are going to earn some extra income to improve the financial condition of their family but they are facing life threatening problems.

I, on behalf of the affected family members, would request the Government through you, Sir, to take immediate steps to bring back all the Indian workers from Angola, who wants to return to India. I would urge the Government through you, Sir, to come up with a long-term policy so that no Indian worker is affected in any part of the world. It is high time that the Government should take measures to sensitize the Indian workers, who are going abroad for employment so that these Angola types of incidents would not be repeated in any part of the world.