GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 100 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023

IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS OF DOMESTIC WORKERS

100. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are 4.75 million domestic workers out of which 3 million are women;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that migrant domestic workers, especially women are under financial pressure and often fall victim to unfair clauses in 'employment' and sexual harassment;
- (c)whether Government is taking steps to improve their living conditions to ensure them regular wages;
- (d)total number of welfare boards set up under the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008, State/UT-wise; and
- (e)whether Government plans to introduce legislation other than the Draft Policy on Domestic Workers awaiting approval since 2017?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched eSHRAM portal, a National Database of the Unorganised Workers. It has been made available to the States/UTs for registration of unorganised workers including domestic & household workers. As on 30th January, 2023, 2.79 crore domestic & household workers have registered on e-SHRAM portal out of which 2.67 crore are women.

Contd..2/-

Further, the Government has launched Schemes like Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Beema Yojana (PMSBY) for life and disability cover respectively and Pradhan Mantri Shram Yoqi Man Dhan Pension Yojana (PM-SYM) for pension to the unorganised workers including domestic workers. Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council (DWSSC) under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is imparting various skill development training programmes to domestic workers. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PM-JAY) provides health cover of Rs.5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to vulnerable families. These families include unorganized workers including domestic workers as per the defined eligibility. The 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 wages, occupational Safety, grievances mechanism and social security benefits to all categories of workers including domestic workers.

The Unorganised Workers Social Security Act of 2008 provides for establishing of Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers in each State. The term of the State Social Security Board is three years. Under the Code on Social Security, 2020 States have been mandated to constitute State Unorganised Workers Board to, interalia, recommend to the State Government on framing suitable schemes for different sections of the unorganised sector workers including domestic workers and monitor such social welfare schemes for unorganized workers as administered by the State Government.
