

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1277
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2019**

REGISTERED/UNREGISTERED WOMEN DOMESTIC WORKERS

1277. DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

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

- (a) the total number of registered/unregistered women domestic workers including minors in the country, State/UT-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware of such workers including minors being exploited and ill-treated in various work places/households in the country;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the preventive steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard and the measures taken to ensure the rights of such domestic workers;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate a national policy on domestic workers; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to regulate placement agencies particularly with regard to domestic workers?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a) & (b): No such data is maintained at the Central level. However, as per the National Sample Survey (NSSO Statistics -2011- 2012, 68th round) an estimated 39 lakhs people are employed as domestic workers by private household, of which 26 lakhs are female domestic workers.

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(c) to (d): The Central Government has not enacted any separate law to protect the interest of domestic workers. However, the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 has been enacted for providing social security to all unorganized workers including domestic workers. The Act provides formulation of social security schemes viz life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits & old age protection. The State Governments are mandated under the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 to formulate suitable welfare schemes for unorganized sector workers including domestic workers relating to provident fund, employment injury benefits housing, education schemes for children, skill up gradation of workers, financial assistance & old age homes. The funds allocated by the State Government for this purpose is not centrally maintained. The Central Government does not allocate funds for any scheme exclusively for domestic workers.

The Ministry of Labour & Employment is considering to formulate a National Policy on Domestic Workers which is in the draft stage. The salient features of the proposed draft National Policy on Domestic Workers are as under:-.

- (i) Inclusion of Domestic Workers in the existing legislations**
- (ii) Domestic workers will have the right to register as unorganized workers. Such registration will facilitate their access to rights & benefits.**
- (iii) Right to form their own associations/unions**
- (iv) Right to minimum wages, access to social security**
- (v) Right to enhance their skills**
- (vi) Protection of Domestic Workers from abuse and exploitation**
- (vii) Domestic Workers to have access to courts, tribunals for grievance redressal**
- (viii) Establishment of a mechanism for regulation of private placement agencies.**
- (ix) Establishment of a grievance redressal system for domestic workers.**

(e): An advisory has been issued to the State Governments requesting them to take necessary steps for making legislations for protection of domestic workers from exploitation by unscrupulous agents/placement agencies, as the said subject comes in the domain of the State Governments.