

A STUDY OF DOMESTIC WORKERS IN INDIA**Dr. Ashok Kumar Katta**

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Abstract:

The domestic Workers, a person who works in common house hold all over India. In India the domestic Workers has increased drastically throughout the years most common workers are female workers. They are vulnerable to abuses like mental and physical, they are even underpaid even if they work more hours. The workers are even subject to violence. The government passed several bills against these kinds of crimes.

Keyword: workers, domestic workers etc..

Introduction:

As urbanization is increasing, the need for the domestic workers is also increasing. "A domestic worker is a person who is employed for remuneration whether in cash or any kind, in any house hold through any agency or directly, either on a temporary or permanent, part time or full time basis to do the house hold work", according to the Taskforce on domestic

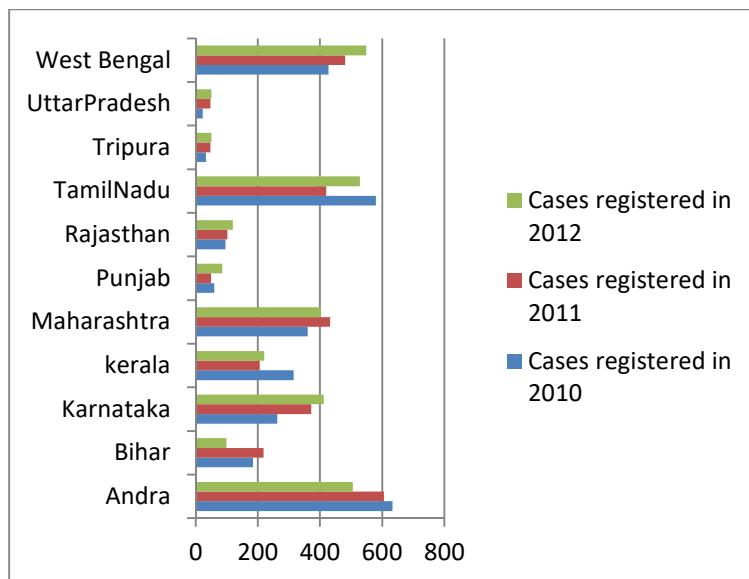
workers. Their work may include cleaning the house, cooking, washing and ironing clothes, taking care of children or elderly or sick, gardening, guarding the house, driving for the family and even taking care of the household pets. Workers range from fulltime or part time, may be residing in the household of the employer (live-in-worker), or may be living in their own residence. The following research paper studies about the condition of domestic workers in India.

Objective:

This paper tends to study about the condition of domestic workers in India.

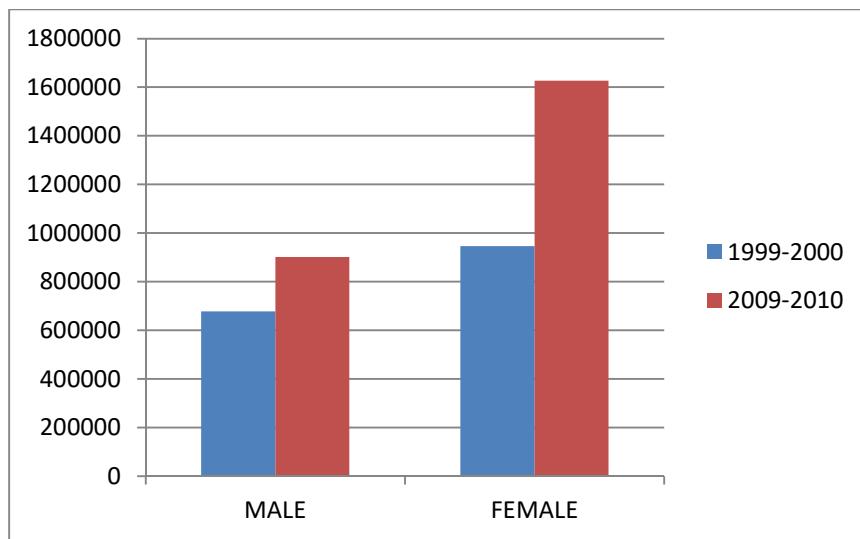
Study on domestic workers:

The domestic workers are large in numbers in urban areas than in rural areas. The need for domestic workers has increased in middle class families or lower middle class families. The domestic workers increased from 7.4 Lakhs in 1991 to 16.2 Lakhs by 2001(MAID IN INDIA) women constitute over two third of the work in workforce in this sector. Mainly due to no work available for them, or they are illiterate, or the mainly due to many financial hardships in their families. Female domestic workers flock from India's least developed areas region's like Jharkhand, west Bengal and Assam. The reason for their journey is they seek work as servants in affluent homes. They are often barely legal of their working age. They are often abused, mental, physical or sexual, of these women is not uncommon. These often lead to violence if they do not obey or misbehave or when they do not do their job properly. Then they are subject to violence. The below chart shows the cases registered, violence against maids in the years 2010, 2011, 2012 in some states of India:



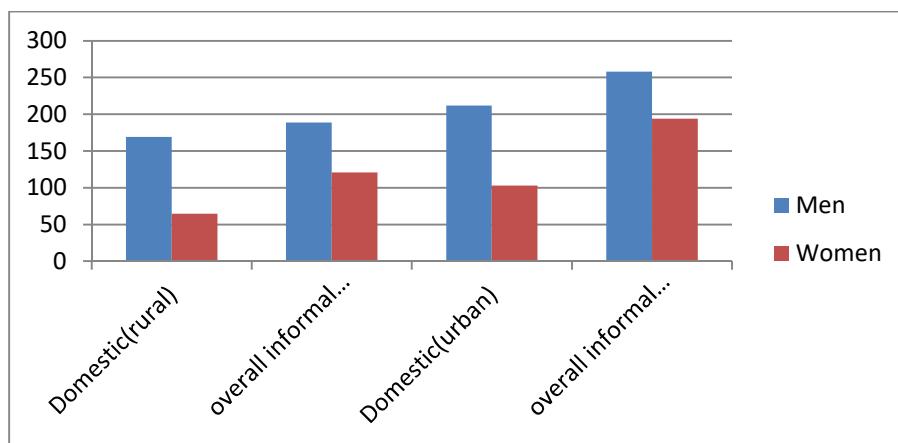
source: Press information bureau government of India. Ministry of women and children development.

The number of domestic workers has increased drastically in recent years, as the rising demand in domestic worker in common house hold. The data analysis of the NSSO reveals an approximate 4.2 million domestic workers in the country in the year 2004-05. Another study shows that only female workers are increasing more than men. Number of female workers aged 15-59 went up 17% between 2001 and 2011. In cities, it went up over 70% from around 14.7 million in 2001 to 25 million in 2011. The trend is driving a demand for help even more in these days. The below chart shows the number of domestic workers in India, differentiating the year 1999-2000, the years 2009-2010 as in male and female workers:



source: Estimated from NSSO report No.537 on employment and unemployment in India, 2009-10 and population figures from Census of India.

This has shown that demand for domestic workers are only increasing as the cities develop even more. The wages for the domestic workers depend upon the factors such as task performed, hours of work, their social status, skills, the need for flexibility and other Labor market conditions. These debates include several tricky issues such as whether ought to be time rated or price rated, in kind, hourly or weekly, part-time or full time; based on the house size or per house hold. The following chart shows the daily wages of informal-sector workers aged 15-59 years(in RS) in rural and urban areas:



State protection for Domestic workers:

These state governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have taken several steps to improve the working conditions of domestic workers and to provide access to social security schemes. Seven states including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Odisha, and Rajasthan have introduced minimum wages for domestic workers. The state governments of Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu have also constituted Welfare Boards for domestic workers who are able to avail of welfare benefits by registering with these Boards. However, despite these efforts, a large majority of domestic workers remain outside the purview of labour laws even today. For example Indian government has passed “Domestic Workers (Registration, Social Security and Welfare) Act, 2008” was introduced to regulate payment and working conditions and check exploitation and trafficking of women and other young household workers.

Conclusion:

From this research paper it says that the demand domestic workers are constantly increasing at the same time the violence, abuse etc. is also increasing at an alarming rate. The government has also implemented acts to stop the violence. The welfare for the domestic workers is also increasing.

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