



All India Survey on Domestic Workers

Why in News

Recently, the Union Minister for Labour and Employment flagged off the **first ever All India Survey on Domestic Workers (DW)**.

- This was a **first-ever such survey** in independent India and will be completed in a year.

Key Points

▪ About:

- The **main objectives of the survey are:**
 - Estimate the number/proportion of DWs at National and State level.
 - Household Estimates of Live-in/Live-out DWs.
 - Average number of DWs engaged by different types of households.
- Parameters the survey aims to capture the number and proportion of household workers by major states, with separate rural and urban break-ups, their percentage distribution, households that employ them and socio-demographic characteristics.
- The survey **would cover 37 States and Union Territories**, covering 1.5 lakh households in 742 districts.
- The survey for domestic workers is **among five national jobs surveys** that will be conducted periodically and provide crucial data for an upcoming national employment policy.
 - The other four surveys are the All-India Survey of Migrant Workers, All-India Survey of Employment Generated by Professionals and All-India Survey of Employment Generated in the Transport Sector, [All-India Quarterly Establishment-based Employment Survey \(AQEES\)](#).

▪ Need of the Survey:

- **Domestic workers (DWs) constitute a significant portion** of total employment in the informal sector. However, there is a **dearth of data on the magnitude** and prevailing employment conditions of DW.
- The Survey is **intended to have time series data** on domestic workers.
- The survey will help the government understand significant issues on certain special and vulnerable segments of labour and **will guide effective policymaking**.

▪ Domestic Worker:

◦ About:

- Any person engaged by a household shall be classified as a domestic worker **if the frequency of visits by the worker to the household is at least four days during the last 30 days** and the goods and/or services produced by the worker are consumed by the members of the household against payment either through cash or kind.

◦ **Status of Domestic Workers:**

- According to the latest data on the [e-Shram portal](#), around **8.8% of the registered 8.56 crore informal sector workers** fall in the category of domestic workers.
 - India has around **38 crore workers in the informal sector.**
- At the current rate of registration in the e-shram portal, there would be **3-3.5 crore domestic workers in the country.**
- Domestic workers are the **third-largest category of workers** after agriculture and construction.
- India is a signatory of the [International Labour Organisation](#) Convention C-189 (Domestic Workers Convention, 2011).

[Source: TH](#)

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