

**The Department of Service Learning of Loyola College organizes
State-Level Consultation on Decent Work, Right to Decent Living Wages
and Social Protection for Domestic Workers**

The World Day for Decent work is commemorated every year on the 7th of October. This year, this particular day has been dedicated to millions of workers seeking wage justice across the globe. The day is observed globally to recognise the contribution of millions of workers, particularly domestic workers, who advocate for decent work conditions. The consultation was conducted on the 7th of October 2022 at Bertram Hall, Loyola College. National Domestic Workers Movement (NDWM) /Tamil Nadu Domestic Workers Welfare Trust, in collaboration with the Department of Service Learning at Loyola College, organised this consultation on decent work, the right to decent living wages, social protection for domestic workers, state legislation for domestic workers and the ratification of C-189 by bringing the officials concerned and other bureaucrats to listen to the domestic workers' pleas, concerns and demands. The NDWM demands decent, secure, and high-quality employment for millions of domestic workers.

Ms. A S Kumari, Chairperson for Tamilnadu State Commission for Women, **Thiru M Shanmugam**, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, **Dr. M H Jawahirullah**, Member of Legislative Assembly, Papanasam, **Mr. A Divyanathan**, Joint Commissioner for Labour, **Mr. R K Ravi Shankar**, Additional Commissioner for Labour, and **Rev. Dr. A. Louis Arockiaraj SJ**, Director for Department of Service Learning, Loyola College inaugurated the consultation program. They addressed the gathering and listened to nearly 600 domestic workers who participated and showed their solidarity for their rights. After much deliberation, the following demands were placed so as to safeguard the interests and welfare of domestic workers:

Demands

- The Indian government and state governments should enact comprehensive laws that protect the rights of domestic workers on a national and state level.
- The Indian Government ratifies ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers.
- The Tamil Nadu government should raise the current minimum wage for domestic workers to Rs 100 per hour.
- Allocate 1% of the property tax to the Domestic Workers Welfare Board. Provide a monthly pension of Rs. 3,000 for domestic workers over 55 years of age.
- Government must take action to safeguard workers from the new labour code, which will affect the entire labour force.
- Government must form an internal complaints committee at the taluk level and include civil society organisations, unions, and women's representatives in order for the committee to function effectively.

Special thanks to the efforts of Loyola College, in particular Rev. Dr. A. Louis Arockiaraj SJ, Director, Department of Service Learning, and other organizations who were part of this deliberation, for being the voice of tens of thousands of voiceless domestic workers.

Photos

