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Title: Need to take steps for release of Indian labour from Angola, Africa.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to raise a very emotive issue. My concern is for only one semi-skilled labourer from Odisha. It concerns an Indian. The issue is, there are placement agencies which are operating in our country. They recruit semi-skilled labourers or skilled labourers to go abroad and work outside. They give allurements; they give inducement. That is how, the unskilled or semi-skilled people travel abroad. But the moment they arrive at those places, their passports are impounded and they are put to a lot of difficulties.

An old lady of my constituency, before I came last week, approached me with two photographs. Those two photographs demonstrate the pitiable condition in which her son is now languishing in Angola, Africa. One photograph shows that he is hand-cuffed. I would like to draw the attention of this House and also of the Government to the plight of a poor labourer and a semi-skilled worker Shri Ramachandra Rana of Village Gopinathpur, Post Office Singhanath Pitha of Badamba in the district of Cuttack. He is now detained in Angola. He was taken to Africa by one Binod Roy Himatlal Kapacy, a man from Gujarat having his business company based in Luanda, Angola. He was recruited by Mahavir Placement Services, Padmavati Complex, Ghee Kanta, Old N. Cinema, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

I heard the other day our esteemed colleague Shri Harin Pathak was also raising that issue. But here, I am giving the details. The placement agency is from Ahmedabad, Gujarat. They are recruiting semi-skilled and unskilled people to go abroad. Here the company which has taken this man is from Gujarat. He is doing some construction activity in Angola. The pitiable condition is that he has sent a photograph of Shri Ramachandra Rana, who is hand-cuffed, to the old woman. She was asking about her son as he is unable to send any money to her. That is the pitiable condition. This person who is stationed in Ahmedabad has sent a hand-cuffed photograph. Here, I would request the Government one thing. The company had assured him a salary of only Rs.15,000 per month.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please tell us to what you want.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Today, Shri Ramachandra Rana is being held in captivity in Angola. The family members are being threatened by Mahavir Placement Services when they are approached. The State Government has also written to the Government of Gujarat. I would like to request that the Central Government also has to intervene and the Embassy stationed in Angola also should be intimated about the pitiable condition. My request would be to hear the anguish of the old mother so that Shri Ramachandra Rana comes back to his mother at home alive. This is my request.