

Salt pan workers begin campaign

- Special Correspondent



Salt pan workers forming a human chain in Thoothukudi on Sunday.— Photo: N. Rajesh

To protest against bonded labour system

Thoothukudi-to-Chennai awareness campaign against bonded labour system and to highlight demands of salt pan workers began here on Sunday.

On behalf of the Federation of Unorganised Sector Labourers' Associations, its district coordinator M. Krishnamoorthy flagged off the campaign near Kamaraj College in the presence of office-bearers of unorganised sector labourers' associations.

The workers formed a human chain along the Tiruchendur Road.

After visiting the gypsies living near the new bus-stand, the campaigners visited the coastal hamlet of Keezha Vaippaar. The campaign will conclude in Chennai on March 1.

The campaigners said the State and the Central governments should give their lands near coastal areas to salt pan workers on lease so as to enable them to form their own salt manufacturing units. Salt pan workers should be given free house sites, relief during monsoon and form a separate welfare board to take care of them.

The rescued bonded labourers should be given 2 acres to carryout farming operations, the campaigners said.

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