

TAMIL NADU

Family seeks to be rescued from bondage

STAFF REPORTER

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Working in a brick kiln for 20 years

A family has appealed to district officials to rescue them from bonded labour during a public grievance redressal meeting on Monday.

According to Shanthi (50), a resident of Erathangal near Gudiyatham, she with her husband Radhakrishnan (68) and elder son were engaged as bonded labourers at a brick kiln in the village. The younger son was studying in class 9.

“We have been working at the brick kiln for nearly 20 years. We borrowed Rs. 20,000 from the owner, and he has been deducting interest from our wages.

Unreasonable demand

“But he has been increasing the amount and is telling us that we need to repay Rs. 3 lakh. He pays us Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 every month,” she said.

The family had submitted the petition to revenue officials last Thursday.

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