

Can Any GK-1 Resident Help Develop A Creche in Zumrudpur For The Children Of Our Maids

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A

large number of the maids of G.K-1 residents come from Zumrudpur. These are from families who have migrated from the neighbouring states to sustain themselves. They leave

their villages and joint families unable to tend to their fragmented farms and settle down. However this independence comes with a price, that has to be paid with steep rents at Zumrudpur and neglected children.

These helps often talk about how they have to leave their toddlers and babies, too young to go to school unattended at home, as they supplement their husband's income, a large chunk of their income just goes for rent.

These children watch hours of TV or play while neighbor keeps a watch. I was told at times they are left locked up with enough food till the mother comes aback. This situation puts the little children at a great risk. It doesn't take much to imagine how vulnerable a child is in this scenario. There have been stories of young babies physically abused. Even if we don't take

things to this extreme, an unattended child's life can be at danger. These are years when a child needs a lot of physical and emotional support and is learning very quickly from the surrounding environment.

There is no crèche in Zumrudpur. On talking to an organization that provides mobile crèches, we were told that the required training will be given so that the community can sustain itself with women from their own neighbourhood taking care of the children. Running a crèche requires space, kitchen, two rooms and a bathroom. If there is someone out there or an organization or individual who would like to take up this and help in providing infrastructure in Zumrudpur to start a crèche please let us know.

We live a life of comfort as we are served by these mothers because they have no choice but to leave their precious babies behind, if we can help them lighten their heart and mind assured of their children's safety and I am sure it will not only make them work better but also build a better future for their children who are growing and learning at an enriching place than a lonely and unsafe home.

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