

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1168
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2022**

CHILD LABOUR/WORKERS

1168. SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:

SHRI B.B.PATIL:

SHRI RAMESH CHAND BIND:

SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:

SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

SHRI ADALA PRABHAKARA REDDY:

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR:

PROF. RITA BAHUGUNA JOSHI:

DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:

SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:

DR. HEENA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total reported incidents of child labour across the country and number of child labour rescued over the last five years;**
- (b) the number of incidents of child labour increased due to the pandemic and its associated financial difficulties and whether there is any plan to form a separate Committee to understand the impact on children's welfare;**
- (c) whether the Government maintains data of the number of children over 14 years and below 18 years employed in various fields including types of jobs identified and if so, the details thereof along with their average earning, State-wise;**
- (d) whether the children in aforementioned occupations are forced to work out of compulsion or socio-economic need or voluntarily work in those occupations, if so, the the steps taken to reduce or deter employment of children over 14 years but below 18 years;**

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- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to rehabilitate children who have been forced to take up jobs due to their family's financial instability, if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether National Child Labour Project (NCLP) is active in 15 districts and if so, the steps taken to open new special centres in other districts including Grants in-Aid Scheme for Voluntary Organisations and progress made by the Government to merge NCLP with Samagra Shiksha Scheme; and
- (g) whether the State Governments have raised the demand for making changes in Child Labour Law and if so, the details and response of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a) & (b): As per "Crime in India, 2020" a publication of National Crime Records Bureau, 204, 462, 464, 772 and 476 number of cases were registered during calendar years 2016 to 2020 respectively under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 in the country. The number of children rescued/withdrawn from work, rehabilitated and mainstreamed under National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme during last five financial years i.e. from 2017-18 to 2021 - 22 were 47635, 50284, 54894, 58289 and 13271 (provisional) respectively.

(c): As per Census 2011, the occupation wise details of main workers in the age group of 14 to 18 years is as below:

Cultivators	29,86,152
Agricultural Labourers	51,12,374
House Hold Industry Workers	6,45,672
Other Workers	54,32,990
Total Workers	1,41,77,188

(d) & (e): The Government has taken a number of steps to prevent the children being employed as child labourers, and these include:-

(i) Enactment of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016. The amended Act inter-alia provides for complete prohibition of work or employment of children below 14 years of age in any occupation and processes and prohibition of adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes. It also provides for stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.

(ii) Framing of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Central Rules

(iii) Framing of model State Action Plan enumerating action points to be taken by respective State Governments.

(iv) Identification and notification of the Occupations/ Processes where children below the age of fourteen cannot help; and also those Occupation/ Processes where Adolescents cannot work.

(f): NCLP scheme was approved for continuation up to 31.03.2021 and since then has been subsumed / merged with Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Scheme. As on 20.07.2022, Special Training Centre (STC) which were approved by the Ministry of Labour & Employment prior to 31.03.2021 and which have not yet completed two years as per NCLP Scheme guidelines, are operational in 8 districts in the States of Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and West Bengal.

(g): The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 was amended in 2016 and the amended Act is now called Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. No such proposal from the State Government seeking amendment to Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 is pending in the Ministry of Labour & Employment.
