

**Child Labour**

7493. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of child labourers in the country is comparatively higher than that of other developing countries of the world;

(b) if so, the place of India in the world in respect of the number of child labourers; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) 'Yes' Sir.

(b) As reported by the World Labour Report 1992, published by ILO India has probably the largest number of working children. However, in India, the percentage of children to the total labour force was 5.03 as per 1981 census, whereas the ILO Report mentions that several Asian & African countries have child workers accounting for upto 17% of their labour force.

(c) Legislative, enforcement and rehabilitation measures as envisaged in the National Policy on Child Labour, 1987 are being taken to address the problem. Specific steps taken are indicated in Chapter 9, (paras 9.3 to 9.15) of the Annual Report 1993-94 of Ministry of Labour.

[English]

**Textile Markets to U.S.**

7494. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States had demanded India to open her textile markets to U.S. businesses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a threat has been held of using Super 301 provisions against India to compel India to buy American textiles; and

(d) if so, the manners in which the Government propose to deal with the American demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d) In the market access negotiations of the Uruguay Round, the U.S.A. had been requesting India to provide access to its textiles and clothing products in the Indian market. India and the U.S.A. had negotiations on this subject during March 94, at Geneva taking into account the desire of both the countries for increased market access. However, no agreement was reached during these negotiations. The negotiations in this regard are expected to be resumed shortly at the official level with a view to explore the possibility of finding a mutually acceptable arrangement.

**Profit/Loss of Public Sector Banks**

[Translation]

7495. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI :  
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN  
PRABHU ZANTYE :  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :