

11.08 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Rajendra Agnihotri and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet at 12 o'clock.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Child Labour

\*21. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of child labourers in the country. State-wise.

(b) the number of them working in hazardous industries; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to impose ban on the employment of child labourers, particularly in hazardous industries?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). According to 1981 census, the total number of working children in India was 13.6 million. The state-wise break up of working children is as under :

1. Andhra Pradesh	1,951,312
2. Arunachal Pradesh	17,950
3. Assam	N.A.
4. Bihar	1,101,764
5. Goa	9,378
6. Gujarat	616,913
7. Haryana	194,189
8. Himachal Pradesh	99,624
9. Jammu and Kashmir	258,437
10. Karnataka	1,131,530
11. Kerala	92,854
12. Madhya Pradesh	1,698,597
13. Maharashtra	1,557,756
14. Manipur	20,217
15. Meghalaya	44,916
16. Mizoram	6,314
17. Nagaland	16,235
18. Orissa	702,293
19. Punjab	216,939
20. Rajasthan	819,605
21. Sikkim	8,561

22. Tamil Nadu	975,055
23. Tripura	24,204
24. Uttar Pradesh	1,434,675
25. West Bengal	605,263
26. A and N Islands	1,309
27. Chandigarh	1,986
28. D and N Haveli	3,615
29. Daman and Diu	N.A.
30. Delhi	25,717
31. Lakshadweep	56
32. Pondicherry	3,606

According to the 43rd round of National Sample Survey conducted in 1987-88 the total number of working children was 17.02 million. It is therefore estimated that presently there would be around 20 million working children. The bulk of child labour is engaged in agriculture and allied employments including house hold occupations. Out of the total child labour population, around 2 million children are estimated to be working in hazardous occupations and processes. The data regarding the working children as per 1991 census are yet to be released by the office of Registrar General.

(c) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children is prohibited in seven occupations and eighteen processes contained in part A & B of the Schedule to the Act. Employers employing children in the prohibited occupations and processes are liable to be prosecuted under this Act. The responsibility for the enforcement of the various provisions rests primarily with the State/UT Governments. The Central Government has been impressing upon the State/UT Governments for the rigorous enforcement of the various provisions of the Act. Apart from the provisions under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulations) Act, 1986 there are other protective legal provisions in various other labour laws safeguarding the interest of the working children.

[English]

### Strike by P & T Employees

\*22. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Group C and D employees of P & T went on strike recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether an agreement has been reached between the Government and the employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof;