

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1661
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
I.L.O.
INDRAJIT GUPTA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has criticised India for trying to hide the truth about the country's child labourers mostly engaged in hazardous occupation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) & (b) : The Committee on Application of Standards of the International Labour Conference in June, 2000 noted Government of India's commitment to elimination of child labour and in particular, forced child labour. It urged the Government to step up its activities. It called upon the Government to provide legal protection, in particular to children working in the unorganised sectors, i.e., in small scale units not covered by the Factories Act, 1948. Child Labour is a major social and economic problem in India and the Government is taking a number of measures to withdraw the children from the place of work and to rehabilitate them. The progress in this direction is continuously reported to the ILO.