

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2703
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR
A. VENKATESH NAIK;JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have sent any communique to the Chief Ministers of all the States regarding maintaining regular dialogue for monitoring the progress regarding abolition of child labour;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the State Governments thereon and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure abolition of this social evil;
- (d) whether the Government have received any item bound programme from the State Governments in this regard;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the child labour is likely to be abolished from the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNILALL)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. A communique dated 19.2.2000 has been sent to Chief Ministers of all the States. The communique, inter-alia, requests taking of decisive and convergent action to release children from work and secure their rehabilitation by pooling resources of various developmental programmes; initiating steps for setting up a State Level Authority with representatives from all concerned Departments for coordinated action towards the elimination of child labour and gearing up the enforcement machinery under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, Factories Act, Mines Act, Motor Transport Workers' Act, Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, etc.

(c) to (f) : Government of India has been implementing two schemes for rehabilitation of child labour, namely the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and the scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations. 93 NCLPs are currently under implementation in 11 child labour endemic States for rehabilitation of 1.9 lakh children. Government has approved the continuance of the scheme of NCLP for the duration of the Ninth Five Year Plan and expansion of number of projects upto 100.

Under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid, funds are released to the Voluntary Organisations, on the recommendations of the concerned State Government, for taking up action oriented projects for the benefit of working children. Over 60 projects are currently under implementation under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid.

The above two schemes are continuing in the year 2000-2001 also. Government is committed to the goal of eradication of child labour in all its forms. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem, gradual, sequential approach has been adopted to withdraw and rehabilitate child labour.