

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:19
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
CHILDREN IN MINES AND QUARRIES
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

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

- (a) whether the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has recently observed that there are one million children aged between 5 and 17 presently toiling in mines and quarries all over the world;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has ascertained the exact number of children aged between 5 and 17 toiling in mines and quarries in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the efforts being made to remedy the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): There is no reference to India in the said report. However, mining occupations have already been prohibited as hazardous occupation under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.

(c) & (d): Occupation-wise data of child labour in the country is not maintained.

(e): The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project Scheme for the withdrawal and rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations and processes. The Scheme involves enrolling the working children in special schools and providing them education, vocational training, nutrition, health care, stipend, etc. and finally, mainstreaming them into regular schools.