

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3770
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN MINES
Singh Shri Sitaram

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem appearing in the `Hindustan` dated June 20, 2004 under the caption `Rajasthan Ki Khano me Kaam Karne wale bachhon ka shosan`;
- (b) if so, facts of the matter reported there in and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government against the owners and management of the said mines?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): The news item appeared in the `Hindustan` dated 20.6.2004 under the caption `Rajasthan Ki Khano me Kaam Karne Wale Bachhon Ka Shosan` is based on a report entitled `Tales of Woe` published by Health Environment and Development Consortium, Jaipur, which speaks about child labour in the mines of Jodhpur and Makrana area. The period of study conducted by Consortium and details of mines and the children are not specified in the report. Therefore any specific action could not be taken in this regard. However, during inspection of mines in Nagaur and Jodhpur Districts by Directorate General of Mines Safety officers, no incidence of employment of children in the mines was revealed. Enforcement of the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and Mines Act, 1952 is monitored regularly by the Central Government as well as the State Governments.