

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:63
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
BAN ON EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;McLeod Smt. Ingrid

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

- (a) whether an order banning child labour has been recently notified by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments and sought support from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in enforcing the ban on employment of children as domestic servants and as labourers in eateries;
- (d) if so, the response of the State Governments and the NGOs thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for rehabilitation of such children so withdrawn from work due to the ban on child labour;
- (a) if so, the details thereof alongwith the modus operandi to be followed and the funds allocated therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has appointed any monitoring committee to look into the implementation of abolition of child labour; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) to (h): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 63 FOR ANSWER ON 27.11.06 REGARDING 'BAN ON EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN' BY SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL AND MS. INGRID MCLEOD.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, Government has recently issued a Notification prohibiting employment of children in the following two Occupations with effect from 10.10.06

i) Employment of children as domestic workers/servants

ii) Employment of children in dhabas (roadside eateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea-shops, spas and other recreational centers etc.

(c) & (d): As the State Governments are the appropriate government for implementation of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 in their respective areas, the State Governments have been advised to take all appropriate measures for the effective implementation of this notification. In this connection, the then Union Labour Minister had written to all the Chief Ministers and the Union Labour Secretary had also taken it up with the Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/UTs. Government of India has also held consultations with the State Governments, NGOs, and other stake holders at Zonal level all over the country during the months of September and October 2006 before the ban became effective. During these Zonal Conferences held at Bangalore (Southern Zone), Guwahati (North Eastern Zone), Ranchi (Eastern Zone), Amritsar (Northern Zone) and Goa (Western Zone), the State Governments discussed their action plans for affecting the ban and for the rehabilitation of these children. All the State Governments have assured that the notification will be duly implemented alongwith rehabilitation of the affected children, wherever required. NGOs and other members of the civil society were also requested during the consultations for their suggestions as also to supplement the efforts of the government in creating awareness generation, and providing rehabilitation in terms of food, clothing and shelter. The NGOs have assured support wherever necessary.

(e) & (f) Government is implementing the National Child Labour Scheme in 250 districts of 20 states in the country. Another, 21 districts have been taken up under the INDUS project, an Indo-US Child Labour Project. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from work are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and health care etc. In addition, to take care of the special needs of the children who would be withdrawn from work from these two occupations, the shelter homes and Child Line, an emergency toll free helpline under the Ministry of Women and Child Development would be used to provide immediate help to these children in terms of

food, clothing and shelter. This is being provided from the existing budgetary provisions.

(g) & (h): A Central Monitoring Committee headed by Union Secretary (L&E) monitors the implementation of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 as well as the National Child Labour Project Scheme in the country. Its members include representatives from other Central Governments viz. M/o. Human Resource Development, (Dept. of School Education), M/o. Women and Child Development, M/o. Rural Development, M/o. Social Justice and Labour Secretaries of all concerned States. In addition Ministry of Labour and Employment has also recently held meetings with representatives of other Ministries like Ministry of Women and Child Development, M/o. Human Resource Development, M/o. Rural Development, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and M/o. Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation to ensure coordination and convergence among these Ministries in the rehabilitation measures and to address other issues related to the implementation of the recent Notification dated 1 0th October 2006.