

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2699
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006
EXPLOITATION OF CHILD LABOUR
Athawale Shri Ramdas

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

- (a) whether child labour are being exploited on a large scale in the country by violating labour laws;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether International Labour Organisation has also drawn the attention of the Union Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the number of complaints received regarding the exploitation of child labour and violation of labour laws during the last three years alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (f) the stringent action proposed to be taken by the Government to save the child labourers from exploitation and against the persons violation the labour laws?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Government is vigilant on the issue of the exploitation of child labour in the country and all out efforts are being made to withdraw such children from work for their rehabilitation and to prosecute the erring employers.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): Complaints for employing children in hazardous occupations/processes can be filed under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The State Government are the appropriate Government for the implementation of the Act. The figures relating to prosecution of employers for violation of labour laws in respect of child labour during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are as under:

Year No. of Prosecution
launched

2002-03	8390
2003-04	2650
2004-05	8246#

#provisional.

(f): Sufficient deterrent provisions have already been made in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 for persons violating the provisions of the Act. The Act provides that any persons who employs any child in contravention of the provisions of the Act, is liable for punishment with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months but which may extend to one year or with fine which shall not be less than Rs. 10,000 but which may extend to Rs. 20,000 or both. Instructions are issued, from time to time, to the State Governments for the strict enforcement of the same.