

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2797

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007

ERADICATION OF CHILD LABOUR

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

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

- (a) whether a large number of child labourers still working in the hazardous industries in country ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has studied the various hazardous industries where child labour is involved;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the remedial measures the Government would take to eradicate the child labour?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) : Census conducted by the Registrar General of India is the only authentic data in respect of number of child labour in the country. As per census 2001, the number of child labourers in the country is 1.26 crore. This includes children working in both hazardous as well as non-hazardous occupations and processes.

(c)&(d) : Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children below the age of 14 years in hazardous occupations and processes is prohibited. At present, 15 occupations and 57 processes are listed as hazardous under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. Government is progressively enlarging the list of these hazardous occupations and processes. These additions to hazardous occupations and processes are being made on the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee headed by Director General, Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR).

(e) : The Government is committed to the goal of complete elimination of child labour, beginning with children working in hazardous occupations and processes and gradually covering children in non-hazardous occupations also. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 250 districts of 20 States in the country for withdrawing and rehabilitating children working in hazardous occupations and processes. Under the NCLP Scheme, children withdrawn from work are put in special schools where they are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and health care so as to prepare them in a maximum of three years time to join the mainstream education system.