

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:268

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010

CHILD LABOUR

Pakkirappa Shri S.;Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai

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

- (a) whether despite the complete ban imposed on child labour three years ago, more than one crore children are still reported to be employed/working in various sectors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year, State-wise and sector-wise;
- (c) whether a number of persons have been reported to engage child labour and violated the relevant laws;
- (d) if so, the details thereof for the above period, State-wise; and
- (e) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to eradicate child labour system completely from the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 268 FOR ANSWER ON 29.11.2010 REGARDING CHILD LABOUR BY SH. S.PAKKIRAPPA AND DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI

(a) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children in 18 occupations and 65 Processes and regulates the working conditions of the children in employment where they are not prohibited from working. According to the Census 2001 figures there were 1.26 crores working children in the age group of 5-14 out of which approximately 12 Lakhs children were working in Hazardous Occupations and Processes. However, as per survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 2004-05, the number of working children was estimated 90.75 lakh.

(b) The State-wise data on working children in the age group of 5-14 years as per the Census of 2001, is at Annexure I. However, sector wise data is not available.

(c) & (d) As per the information available the state wise data on prosecutions launched during 2007-08 to 2009-10 is at Annexure II

(e) The Government is following a robust multi-pronged strategy to tackle the problem of child labour. It comprises of statutory and legislative measures, rescue and rehabilitation, universal primary education, poverty alleviation and employment generation scheme. The objective is to create an environment where families are not compelled to send their children to work. The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in 18 occupations and 65 processes. For the rehabilitation of Child Labour, Government is implementing National Child Labour Project (NCLP) scheme in 266 districts in 20 states with the coverage of 8710 schools. Under the NCLP scheme children withdrawn from work are admitted into the special schools where they are provided with bridging education, vocational training, stipend, health care and mainstreamed to the regular education system.