

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5090
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010
WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CIRCUS
Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the poor children and women working in Indian circus companies are exploited in various parts of the country.
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey with the help of the State Governments in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the number of children and women working in Indian circus companies, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) to (d) : The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has received one report from Akola, Maharashtra regarding the exploitation of poor women and children in a circus company. According to the District Administration they have taken initiatives for rescue, repatriation and rehabilitation of children engaged in the circus.

No Survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard. However, working of children below the age of 14 years in a circus is prohibited under Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.