GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2054 ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012 CHILD LABOUR IN HAZARDOUS FACTORIES Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Punia Shri P.L. ;Semmalai Shri S. ;Sharma Shri Jagdish;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

(a) the details of the industries where employment of children as per the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 is strictly prohibited;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to abolish child labour in such industries;

(c) the outcome of the efforts in this regard;

(d) whether the existing Child labour laws is in contrast with the Right to Education Act as Children can not be both working and studying simultaneously;

(e) if so, the reactions of the Government thereto;

(f) whether the Government proposes to constitute a regional level committee to monitor the companies employing child labour; and

(g) if so, the details thereof;

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a): The details of the industries where employment of children as per the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 is prohibited is at Annexure-I.

(b)&(c): The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in 18 Occupations and 65 Processes. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 266 districts of 20 States. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from work are enrolled in the Special Schools where they are provided with bridging education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health care facilities etc. before mainstreaming into formal education system. As per the available information 3,76,945 children have been mainstreamed during last three years and current year (upto June, 11) through NCLP Scheme.

(d)&(e): Section 3 of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in 18 Occupations and 65 Processes. The Act regulates the working conditions of children where they are not prohibited from working by Section 3 of the Act. Right to Education Act, 2009 provide free and compulsory education to the children between 6-14 years as fundamental right and there is no provision of banning the children working beyond school hours. Under Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, there is no ban on children working beyond school hours in those occupations and processes where they are not prohibited from working under Section 3 of the Act.

(f)&(g): Any person who employs a child in any occupation or process where employment of children is prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, is liable for punishment with imprisonment for term which shall not be less than 3 months but which may extend to one year or with fine ranging from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.20,000/-. Inspectors, appoint they detect any child labour they rescue them and impose penalty on the offending employers.