

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1479

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012

CHILD LABOUR

Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.;Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any measures to eradicate child labour particularly from hazardous industries like tobacco, drugs, beedi, gutkha and zarda, brick kiln, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of child labourers who died in various hazardous industries along with the number of child labourers rescued and rehabilitated, State-wise during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the number of such hazardous factories owners being prosecuted and the penalties being recovered from them during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the mechanism to implement the various law enacted by the Government to prevent child labour practices particularly in such hazardous industries and also holding the District Administrators more accountable for such practices?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) & (b): The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in 18 Occupations and 65 Processes which include tobacco, drugs, beedi, gutkha and zarda, brick kiln, etc; Any person who employs a child in any occupation or process where employment of children is prohibited under the Child Labour Act, is liable for punishment with imprisonment or with fine. The Government is also implementing the National Child Labour Project Scheme since 1988. The scheme seeks to adopt a sequential approach with focus on the rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations and processes in the first instance. Under the Project, children rescued/withdrawn from work are enrolled in the special schools, where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. At present, the scheme is operational in 266 districts of 20 States in the country. About 9 lakhs children have been mainstreamed since inception of NCLP Scheme. As per information available from States/UTs, no Child Labour reported died in hazardous industries during the last three years. The State-wise details of children rescued, rehabilitated and mainstreamed during the last three years and current year are given at Annexure. Further, the Ministry launches awareness generation campaigns against the evils of child labour and enforcement of child labour laws through electronic and print media at the centre as well as at the district level.

(c): As per the data received from various States, the details of inspections carried out, prosecutions launched, convictions made and fund raised under the Child Labour Act during the last three years and current year are given as under:

Year No. of inspections No. of prosecutions No. of convictions Fund raised (Rs. in lakh)

2009 317083 11418 1312 44.93

2010 239612 8998 1308 40.40

2011 84935 4590 774 83.76

2012 25040 589 167 11.15

The information yet to be received from many States.

(d): The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in 18 Occupations and 65 Processes. Apart from this, children below the age of 14 years are prohibited from work in Mines Act, 1952,

Factories Act, 1948, Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, Beedi and Cigar Workers (Condition of Employment) Act, 1966, Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, Explosive Act, 1984, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Plantations Labour Act, 1951, etc. Central Government is the appropriate authority for enforcement of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act in respect of establishments under the control of central Government or a railway administration or a major port or a mine or oil field and in all other cases, State Government.