

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:191  
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013  
CHILD LABOUR  
Sule Supriya ;Tanwar Shri Ashok

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

- (a) the number of child labourers in the country at present, State/UT-wise, including Haryana;
- (b) the approximate number of children working in hazardous occupations or processes, out of the above children, including Haryana;
- (c) the details of the States covered under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP);
- (d) the number of children who have been mainstreamed from NCLP schools to formal education system in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise, including Haryana; and
- (e) the other steps being taken by the Government to completely abolish child labour from the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.191 FOR ANSWER ON 11.03.2013 REGARDING CHILD LABOUR BY SHRI ASHOK TANWAR AND SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE.

(a) & (b): As per 2001 census, the total number of working children between the age group 5-14 years in the country was 1.26 crore out of which there were approximately 12 lakh children found working in the hazardous occupations/processes which are covered under Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. However, in the Survey conducted by NSSO, in 2004-05 the numbers of working children were estimated at 90.75 lakh. As per NSSO survey 2009-10, the working children are estimated at 49.84 lakh. The state-wise details of working children (including the State of Haryana) as per NSSO Survey 2009-10 are given at Annexure-I.

(c): The State-wise details of the NCLP districts (including Haryana) are at Annexure-II.

(d): No. of child labourers rescued, rehabilitated and mainstreamed through National Child Labour Project scheme during the last three years and current year, State-wise (including the State of Haryana) are given at Annexure-III.

(e): The Government is following a multi-pronged strategy to tackle the problem of child labour. It comprises of statutory and legislative measures, rescue and rehabilitation, universal primary education alongwith social protection, poverty alleviation and employment generation. 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 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. 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 has also proposed certain amendment in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 to make it more effective. The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2012 has been placed in the Parliament and is under examination with Standing Committee. The Amendment Bill inter-alia covers.

(i) complete prohibition on employment of children below 14 years and linking the age of the prohibition with the age under Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act,

(ii) prohibition of working of Adolescent (14 to 18 years) in Mines, Explosives and hazardous occupations set forth in the Factories Act, 1948,

(iii) more strict punishment to the offenders and making the offences under the Act cognizable. For rehabilitation of child labour the Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project Scheme since 1988. The scheme seeks educational rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations and processes. 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. The Ministry is also running the awareness generation programme against the evil of child labour.