

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5512

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2015

TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN FOR CHILD LABOUR .

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

- (a) whether the menace of child labour still exists in many parts of the country including hazardous factories inspite of stringent child labour laws;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is considering for the amendments of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulations) Act, 1986 by fixing the accountability of labour officers to ensure that laws relating to child labour are strictly implemented:
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to prevent child trafficking and to allow children below 14 years to work in selected family enterprises;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the other effective steps taken by the Government to strengthen the statute on child labour and to improve enforcement of the said Act in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a): As per 2001 Census, the total number of working children in the age group of 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. However, as per Census 2011, the total number of working children in the age group of 5-14 years was estimated at 43.53 lakh, which shows a declining trend.

(b) & (c): The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2012 has been introduced in the Parliament. The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 already provides that the appropriate Government may appoint Inspectors to secure compliance with the provisions of the Act. Further, the Amendment Bill, 2012 proposes that the appropriate Government may confer such powers and impose such duties on a District Magistrate as may be necessary, to ensure that the provisions of this Act are properly carried out and the District Magistrate may specify the officer, subordinate to him, who shall exercise all or any of the powers, and perform all or any of the duties, so conferred or imposed and the local limits within which such powers or duties shall be carried out by the officer as may be prescribed.

(d) to (f): Government has issued a Protocol on Prevention, Rescue, Repatriation and Rehabilitation of trafficked child labour to State Government which provides guidelines on issues relating to trafficked child labour. Further, with a view to tackle the menace of human trafficking, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India has undertaken a number of measures which inter-alia includes operation of Anti-Trafficking Nodal Cell (ATC), issuing of comprehensive advisories, sanctioning a Comprehensive Scheme "Strengthening law enforcement response in India against Trafficking in Persons through Training and Capacity Building", ratification of the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution.

The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 while prohibiting employment of child in certain occupations and processes, makes an exception to, inter-alia, any workshop wherein any process is carried on by the occupier with the aid of his family.

The Government is implementing National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme under which children withdrawn from prohibited employment are rehabilitated through Special Training Centres.