

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:958
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015
CHILD LABOUR
Bhamre Dr. Subhash Ramrao

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 factories of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in spite of stringent child labour laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to amend the child labour laws by fixing the accountability of labour officers to ensure that every child goes to school and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government for complete eradication of the menace of child labour in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per Census 2011, the number of working children is estimated at 43.53 lakh which shows a declining trend vis-à-vis figure of 1.26 crore as per Census 2001. Child Labour is an outcome of different socio-economic issues.

(c): The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2012 introduced in Rajya Sabha empowers the appropriate Government to 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.

(d): The Government has taken multi-pronged action to eradicate child labour in the country. Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in certain occupations and processes. Government is also implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme since 1988 by which children withdrawn from prohibited employment are rehabilitated through Special Training Centres.

The Government is also creating awareness against the evil of child labour.