

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3479

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2014

CHILDREN AS DOMESTIC HELP

Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Nayak Shri B.V.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted a country-wide drive to identify children below 14 years engaged as domestic help in order to send them to school;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present status of the said drive undertaken;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in consultation with the States in this regard; and
- (e) the other stringent measures taken to eradicate domestic child labour in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL, MINES, LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a) to (e): The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour including domestic help in the areas of high concentration of child labour. Under this Scheme, regular survey is prescribed to be carried out by the District Project Societies to identify child labour employed in hazardous occupations and processes including children working as domestic help. The children rescued/withdrawn in the age group of 9-14 years are enrolled in NCLP Special Training Centres, which have provisions for bridge education, vocational training, mid day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. The Scheme also envisages awareness activities against the evil of child labour and enforcement of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.

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 also regulates the working conditions of children where they are not prohibited from working.

The employment of children as domestic workers or servants has been banned under Section 3 of the existing Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act 1986 by notifying them in Part A of the Schedule of the Act in 2006. 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 enforcement of these prohibitions rests with the State Governments/UTs as under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, they are the appropriate authority to take action.