

technology development. These pertain to various aspects of the leather industry.

At present, a composite (Umbrella) programme proposal for the Leather Industry is in the process of being formulated in consultation with UNDP/UNIDO. The proposal of CLRI would also be considered while finalising this programme proposal.

### **Insurgency in Manipur**

\*108. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a report in the 'Indian Express' dated January 13, 1991 suggesting that certain insurgent outfits like the people's Liberation Army operating in Manipur have established links with Burma and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether these insurgent outfits of Manipur have links with other such groups in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Attention of Government has been drawn to the information contained in the newspaper report. However, it is not in the security interest of the country to give details.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

### **White Paper on Public Sector**

\*109. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the white paper proposed to be issued on the performance of the Public Sector; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

### **Problem of Child Labour**

\*110. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labour has increased in different States in recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether International Labour Organisation in its reports has recently drawn attention to the problem of child labour;

(d) if so, the details of the observations in respect of India; and

(e) the specific steps taken by the Government in this regard to keep the Children away from employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN): (a) to (e). Statements I and II are given below.

### **STATEMENT — I**

According to the Census reports of 1971 and 1981, the number of child workers in the country upto the age of fourteen years was

10.75 million and 13.64 million respectively. State wise figures are given in the Appendix. As per the National Sample Survey Projections (43rd round-July 1987-June 1988), the number of child workers for the whole country is estimated to be about 17 million.

2. The International Labour Organisation in their reports have observed that poverty is the primary cause of child labour and child labour is still wide-spread in third world countries in agriculture, the urban informal sector and domestic service. In the report, the respective roles of Government, media, voluntary groups, employers, trade unions, and involvement of the public have been stressed for combating child labour effectively. The reports also contain new approaches, including the provision of education and training as well as the creation of steady income-earning opportunities for working children. In the report, Governments have been urged to bring the rule of law to bear on the problems of child labour by stricter enforcement of the various laws and also to promote and support community initiatives protecting children at work.

3. The employment of children below the age of fourteen years is banned in factories, mines and in various hazardous occupations. The Child Labour (Prohibition and regulation) Act, 1986 specifies, in the Sched-

ule thereto, occupations and processes in which a child below the age of 14 years cannot be employed or permitted to work.

4. Other steps being undertaken towards keeping children away from employment include:-

- (i) Setting up of National Child Labour Projects in areas of child labour concentration. Under these Projects, special special are run for children and programmes for community awareness and better enforcement of legal provisions relating to child labour are undertaken. Nine such Projects have so far been set up.
- (ii) A scheme for strengthening of enforcement machinery of the State Governments has been introduced on a pilot basis in two States.
- (iii) Financial assistance to voluntary organisations for taking up projects to benefit child workers. These projects are generally in the nature of centres providing non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition, health care, etc.

## STATEMENT - II

*State-wise distribution of child workers (0-14 age group) according to 1971 and 1981 Census*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Workers in the age group 0 — 14	
		1971 Census	1981 Census
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,627,492	1,951,312
2.	Assam	239,349*	

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	1,059,359	1,101,764
4.	Gujarat	518,061	616,913
5.	Haryana	137,826	194,189
6.	Himachal Pradesh	71,384	99,624
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	70,489	258,437
8.	Karnataka	808,719	1,131,530
9.	Kerala	111,801	92,854
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1,112,319	1,698,597
11.	Maharashtra	988,357	1,557,756
12.	Manipur	16,380	20,217
13.	Meghalaya	30,440	44,916
14.	Nagaland	13,726	16,235
15.	Orissa	492,477	702,293
16.	Punjab	232,774	216,939
17.	Rajasthan	587,389	819,605
18.	Sikkim	15,661	8,561
19.	Tamil Nadu	713,305	975,055
20.	Tripura	17,490	24,204
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,326,726	1,434,675
22.	West Bengal	511,443	605,200
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	572	1,309
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	17,925	17,950
25.	Chandigarh	1,086	1,986

1	2	3	4
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3,102	3,615
27.	Delhi	17,120	25,717
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	7,391	9,378
29.	Lakshadweep	97	56
30.	Mizoram	***	6,314
31.	Pondicherry	3,725	3,606
Total		10,753,985	13,640,872

\*Includes figures of Mizo district also which then formed part of Assam.

\*\* 1981 Census could not be conducted in Assam due to disturbed conditions prevailing there then.

\*\*\* Census figures of 1971 in respect of Mizoram included under Assam.

[*Translation*]

**Indian Languages as Medium for Examinations**

\*111. SHRI KAPIL DEV SHASTRI:  
SHRI GULAB CHAND  
KATARIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Since when satyagraha is being staged by the Akhil Bhartiya Bhasha Sangathan outside the UPSC premises demanding that Hindi and other Indian languages may be allowed as medium for the examinations;

(b) whether fast unto death had been broken on an assurance given by the Government; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Govern-

ment to allow Hindi and other Indian languages as medium for the examinations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) A group of persons stated to be belonging to Akhil Bhartiya Bhasha Sanrakshan Sangathan have been sitting on 'dharna' outside the Union Public Service Commission's premises from 16th August, 1988. The dharna was suspended by them from 26.5.89 and the same was restarted from 7.8.90.

(b) The youngmen called off their fast in May, 1989, in response to the appeal made by the former Home Minister and the Minister of State for personnel.

(c) The UPSC set up an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Satish Chandra, ex-Chairman, University Grants Commission inter alia to examine the ques-