

[English]

Child Labour

81. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level meeting of the States concerned has been convened to evolve the modalities for elimination of child labour and to provide them with a better quality of life as directed by the Supreme Court on May 2, 1997;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the follow up steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in their judgement dated 21st February, 1997 in Writ Petition Civil No. 12125/84 and 11643/85—Bandhua Mukti Morcha etc. (Petitioner) Vs. UOI & Ors (Respondents) had directed Government to convene a meeting of the concerned Ministers of the respective State Governments and their Principal Secretaries holding concerned Departments to evolve a principle of policy for progressive elimination of employment of children below the age of 14 years in all the employments governed by the respective enactments mentioned in M.C. Mehta's case and to evolve such steps consistent with the scheme laid down in M.C. Mehta's case. The directions of the Supreme Court was considered in the State Labour Ministers Conference convened on 7-8th July, 1997. In the Conference, the progress in the implementation of the directions given by the Supreme Court in the M.C. Mehta's case was reviewed. First phase of the survey has been conducted by the most of the State. The State Governments also reaffirmed their commitment for expeditious implementation of the directions in light of the latest judgement in the Bandhua Mukti Morcha case.

The Writ Petition No. 12125/84—Bandhua Mukti Morcha V/s UOI—was again listed for hearing on 2nd May, 1997. However, it was not taken up by the Court as the case was deleted from the list by the Registry.

[Translation]

Visit by Foreign Ambassadors to Kashmir

82. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BENDA CHAUDHARY

SHRI PARSARAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government accords permission to all foreign ambassadors to visit Kashmir each year;

(b) if so, whether UNO or any other agency has advised Government to allow all foreign ambassadors to go to Kashmir, and

(c) if so, the details of the policy being followed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) to (c) Government place no restriction on the travel of diplomats including Heads of Missions to any part of India including Jammu & Kashmir.

Labour Potential

83. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated total labour potential available in the country before formulating Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the total number thereof in organised as well as in unorganised sectors, separately;

(c) whether most of the labourers in unorganised sector are engaged in agriculture sector;

(d) if so, the details of other major sectors where unorganised labourers are engaged and the estimated number thereof; and

(e) the details of average daily wages of labourers in each sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Labour force projections are available for economy as a whole Labour force, at the beginning of the Ninth Five Year Plan was estimated to be 354 million

(c) and (d) As per the 50th Round of National Sample Survey conducted during 1993-94, the estimates of the industrial distribution of total employment was as given in Statement-I attached.

(e) Average daily wage rates (absolute) by industry and stratum during the year 1992 are given in the Statement-II attached.

Statement-I**Estimated Industrial Sector-wise Employment (UPS) 1993-94**

Industry	Employment (Million)
1	2
1. Agriculture and Allied	207.83
2. Mining & Quarrying	2.69
3. Manufacturing	35.62