

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:23

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006

CHILD LABOUR

Manvendra Singh Shri ;Masood Shri Rasheed

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

- (a) the number of child labour in the country as per the latest census, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to furnish details of the works undertaken under the Child Labour Welfare Projects;
- (c) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto;
- (d) whether the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 has succeeded in eliminating child labour from the country;
- (e) if so, the extent thereof;
- (f) if not, the factors attributed thereto;
- (g) the details of employers, convicted or punished otherwise, for violating the above Act during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (h) the time by which a complete ban on child labour is likely to be accomplished?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

(a) to (h): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 23 FOR ANSWER ON 20.02.06 REGARDING CHILD LABOUR BY SHRI KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH AND SHRI RASHEED MASOOD

(a): As per the Census 2001, the number of working children in the country is 1.26 crore. The State-wise data of number of children is given in Annexure – I.

(b)&(c): Government of India is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 250 endemic districts spread over 22 States of the country for the elimination of the child labour. Government is regularly obtaining reports from the State Governments as well as the identified districts on the progress of the implementation of the Scheme and providing necessary guidelines to these districts for the effective implementation.

(d) to (f): As child labour is a socio economic problem, which is a result of poverty and illiteracy, a multi-pronged approach is required to tackle this problem. Therefore, in addition to enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, the Government is taking various pro-active measures in convergence with other social schemes, like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and various poverty alleviation programmes to make a dent in its root cause. In this direction, Government is implementing the NCLP Scheme in child labour endemic districts under which the working children are withdrawn from work and are put into Special Schools to be finally mainstreamed into regular education system. Government's efforts in this direction, have made a positive impact as evident from reduction in the magnitude of child labour in the States having a substantial coverage under NCLP Scheme. The coverage under the Scheme has been substantially enlarged from 100 districts during the 9th Plan to 250 districts during the 10th Plan.

(g): The details of prosecutions and convictions based on the reports received from the State Governments are given in Annexure – II & III

(h): Government is committed to the elimination of all forms of child labour. It is, however, following a gradual and sequential approach beginning with those engaged in most hazardous occupations and processes first.

ANNEXURE- I

State-wise Distribution of Working Children according to 2001 Census in the age group 5-14 years.

Sl. No Name of State/UT 2001

1. Andhra Pradesh 1363339

2. Assam 351416

3. Bihar 1117500

4. Gujarat 485530

5. Haryana 253491

6. Himachal Pradesh 107774

7 Jammu & Kashmir 175630

8. Karnataka 822615

9. Kerala 26156

10. Madhya Pradesh 1065259

11. Maharashtra 764075

12. Chhattisgarh 364572

13. Manipur 28836

14. Meghalaya 53940

15. Jharkhand 407200

16. Uttaranchal 70183

17. Nagaland 45874

18. Orissa 377594

19. Punjab 177268

20. Rajasthan 1262570

21. Sikkim 16457

22. Tamil Nadu 418801

23. Tripura 21756

24. Uttar Pradesh 1927997

25. West Bengal 857087

26. A & Nicobar Island 1960

27. Arunachal Pradesh 18482

28. Chandigarh 3779

29. Dadra & Nagar Haveli 4274

30. Delhi 41899

31. Daman and Diu 729

32. Goa 4138

33. Lakshadweep 27

34. Mizoram 26265

35. Pondicherry 1904

Total 12666377

= includes marginal workers also.

ANNEXURE - II

PROSECUTIONS DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

Sl.No. Name of State / UT 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05

1 Andmn & Nico I. U.T. 0 0 0

2 Andhra Pradesh 563 4870 1212

3 Arunachal Pradesh 0 24 #

4	Assam	0	12	0	
5	Bihar	354	385	259	
6	Chandigarh	U.T.	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	104	1	#	
8	Dadra & Nagar H.	U.T.	0	0	0
9	Daman & Diu	U.T.	0	0	0
10	Delhi	U.T.	36	66	#
11	Goa	0	0	0	
12	Gujarat	7	29	106	
13	Haryana	11	38	13	
14	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	#	
15	Jammu & Kashmir	-	17	#	
16	Jharkhand	42	76	#	
17	Karnataka	300	0	#	
18	Kerala	1	0	#	
19	Lakshadweep	U.T.	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	35	28	54	
21	Maharashtra	0	17	32	
22	Manipur	0	0	0	
23	Meghalaya	0	0	#	
24	Mizoram	0	0	0	
25	Nagaland	0	0	0	
26	Orissa	1	3	#	
27	Pondicherry	U.T.	0	0	0
28	Punjab	0	35	2	
29	Rajasthan	55	0	7	
30	Sikkim	0	0	#	
31	Tamil Nadu	808	385	#	
32	Tripura	0	0	#	
33	Uttar Pradesh	321	399	31	
34	Uttaranchal	3	0	0	
35	West Bengal	6	0	0	

Total 2650 6386 1716

= Information is awaited from the State Governments.

ANNEXURE - III

CONVICTIONS DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

Sl.No. Name of State/UT 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05

1	Andmn & Nico I.	U.T.	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	2158	1109	
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	#	
4	Assam	0	0	#	
5	Bihar	0	0	0	
6	Chandigarh	U.T.	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	0	0	#	
8	Dadra & Nagar H.	U.T.	0	0	0
9	Daman & Diu	U.T.	0	0	0
10	Delhi	U.T.	0	0	0
11	Goa	4	0	0	
12	Gujarat	3	0	0	
13	Haryana	23	18	3	
14	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	#	
15	Jammu & Kashmir	0	1	#	
16	Jharkhand	7	1	#	
17	Karnataka	56	0	#	
18	Kerala	1	0	#	
19	Lakshadweep	U.T.	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	17	66	16	
21	Maharashtra	0	8	4	
22	Manipur	0	0	0	
23	Meghalaya	0	0	#	
24	Mizoram	0	0	0	
25	Nagaland	0	0	0	
26	Orissa	0	0	0	

27	Pondicherry	U.T.	0	1	0
28	Punjab		0	23	5
29	Rajasthan		57	1501	15
30	Sikkim		0	0	0
31	Tamil Nadu		127	132	#
32	Tripura		0	0	#
33	Uttar Pradesh		23	0	10
34	Uttaranchal		4	0	0
35	West Bengal		0	0	0

Total 325 3910 1162

= Information is awaited from the State Governments.

FACT SHEET IN RESPECT OF FLOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 23 FOR ANSWER ON 20.02.06 REGARDING CHILD LABOUR BY SHRI KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH AND SHRI RASHEED MASOOD.

- Census conducted by the Registrar General of India on decadal basis, is the only authentic data in respect of population of child labour in the country. As per the Census of 2001, the total number of working children in the age group of 5-14 year is 1.26 crore.
- Government of India is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 250 endemic districts spread over 22 States of the country for the elimination of the child labour.
- Government is regularly obtaining reports from the State Governments as well as the identified districts on the progress of the implementation of the Scheme and providing necessary guidelines to these districts for the effective implementation.
- Child Labour is a socio economic problem, which is a result of poverty and illiteracy, a multi-pronged approach is required to tackle this problem.
- Therefore, in addition to enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, the Government is taking various pro-active measures in convergence with other social schemes, like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and various poverty alleviation programmes to make a dent in its root cause.
- Government is implementing the NCLP Scheme in child labour endemic districts under which the working children are withdrawn from work and are put into Special Schools to be finally mainstreamed into regular education system.
- Government's efforts have made a positive impact as evident from reduction in the magnitude of child labour in the States having a substantial coverage under NCLP Scheme. The coverage under the Scheme has been substantially enlarged from 100 districts during the 9th Plan to 250 districts during the 10th Plan.
- Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, sufficient legal provisions available prohibiting employment of children in hazardous occupations and processes. Adequate quantum of punishment in terms of fine and imprisonment to the offending employers already exists under the Act.
- Government is committed to the goal of elimination of child labour in all its forms. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem, a gradual and sequential approach has been adopted to withdraw and rehabilitate child labour beginning with the children working in the hazardous occupations & processes.