

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1742

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006

BAN ON CHILD LABOUR

Chaure Shri Babu Hari;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Gawali Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

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

- (a) whether the Government had imposed a ban on child labour working in factories and hotels earlier;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any decline was noticed in the child labour at that time; and
- (d) if so, the percentage of decline in the child labour noticed at that time recorded after imposing ban on child labour?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Government had already prohibited employment of children under the Factories Act, 1948. Recently, Government has issued a Notification prohibiting employment of children in hotels also with effect from 10.10.2006.

(c) & (d): Census conducted by the Registrar General of India is the only authentic data in respect of population of child labour in the country. Occupation wise data on working children is not maintained prior to 2001 census. The number of working children recorded during 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001 are 1.07, 1.36, 1.12 and 1.26 crore respectively. However, the percentage of working children in the age group of 5-14 years to that of child population in the corresponding age group has come down between 1991 and 2001. Since the present notification has been issued in October, 2006 only, it is too early to assess the impact of it at this stage.