

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3715
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
CHILDREN ENGAGED IN SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES
Bose Shri Subrata

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

- (a) the number of child labour engaged in Small Scale Industries (SSIs) on a date, State-wise;
- (b) the number of child labour rescued during each of the last three years from SSIs;
- (c) whether any legal action has been taken against the guilty in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for rehabilitation and subsistence of child labour after their disengagement from occupations?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): As per the Census 2001, the number of working children in the country is 1.26 crore. Specific data on children engaged or rescued from Small Scale Industries is not maintained by the Government. As per Section 14 of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, any person who employs a child in any occupation or process where employment of children is banned under the Act, is liable for punishment with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than 3 months but which may extend to one year or with fine ranging from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 20,000/-. Under the Act, during the period 1997-98 to 2005-06, 3877383 inspections were carried out resulting in 87360 Prosecutions.

(e): Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for the rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work. These children are put into special schools being run under the scheme, where they are provided with accelerated bridging education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health care facilities etc.