

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2073
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
BONDED CHILD LABOUR
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) the number of bonded child labour in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) the number of bonded child labour rescued during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the number of cases of bonded child labour reported during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to punish guilty persons?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is annexed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2073 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.8.2007

The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 does not make any distinction between child bondage and adult bondage. A total of 2,66,877 bonded labourers, including child-bonded labour have been rehabilitated under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of Bonded Labour up till 31.3.2007. The number of bonded labourers, including child bonded labourers, identified, and freed/released during the last three years and thereafter, State - wise are as under:

Name of the States	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-
Bihar	281	141	-
Haryana	-	31	-
Karnataka	64	-	-
Madhya Pradesh		265	38 -
Maharashtra		-	6 -
Orissa	19	-	-
Punjab	-	-	-
Rajasthan-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh		41	149 104
Chhattis Garh		-	- -
Jharkhand-	196	-	-
Uttaranchal	-	-	-
West Bengal	-	32	93

As per the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, Vigilance Committees at District and Sub Divisional level under the Chairmanship of District Magistrates/ Sub-divisional Magistrates respectively have been constituted to identify the incidence of bonded labour. The Act contains provisions for punishment for violation of the Act according to which whoever, after the commencement of the Act, compels any persons to render any bonded labour shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and also with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees. The State Governments are advised from time to time to strictly implement various provisions of the Act.