

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:130

ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010

CHILD LABOURERS

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

- (a) the number of child labourers working in the hazardous processes and occupations at present in the country, separately, State-wise;
- (b) whether the incidence of child labour in the country is on the rise despite the implementation of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and other efforts being made by the Government to eliminate child labour in any form;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of the said Act throughout the country;
- (d) the effective steps taken by the Government to completely eradicate the practice of child labour;
- (e) the number of child labourers identified, rescued and rehabilitated during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (f) the number of persons/firms prosecuted and convicted alongwith the action taken against such persons/firms during the said period, State-wise and year-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a): As per the Census, 2001, list of major hazardous occupations and processes employing large number of children in the age group of 5-14 is at Annexure-I. However State-wise data is not available.
- (b) to (e): No, Madam. As per the Census, 2001 the total number of child labour in the country was 1.26 crore. As a result of various welfare measures taken by the Union Government and State Governments coupled with stricter enforcement of the provisions of the Act, the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) has estimated the child labour in the country at 0.89 crore during 2004-05. Government is committed to elimination of child labour in all its forms. However, Child Labour is being a socio-economic problem, which needs sustained efforts over a long period of time. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem, Government is following a sequential approach of first covering the children working in hazardous occupations/processes. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children below the age of 14 years is prohibited in 16 Occupations and 65 Processes. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for the rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from work are enrolled into special schools where they are provided with bridging education, vocational training, stipend, nutrition and health care facilities etc. Number of child labourers identified, rescued and rehabilitated during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise are at Annexure-II.
- (f): State/UT Governments are the appropriate authority for enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 in respect of the areas comes under their jurisdiction, as per the available information, number of prosecutions launched and convictions obtained during 2006-07, 2007-08 & 2008-09 are at Annexure-III.