GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2640 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

REGISTERED CASES OF CHILD LABOUR

2640. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a)the number of cases registered in the country concerning child labour during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b)whether there is any data with Government regarding the number of child labourers unlawfully working in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c)whether Government is aware that child labour is a social problem in our country and there is no law which can stop it, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d)whether Government has any policy to stop child labour in the country and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) & (b): As per "Crime in India" a publication of National Crime Records Bureau, 772, 476 and 613 number of cases were registered during calendar years 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 in the country. State-wise details are at Annexure.
- (c) & (d): The Government formulated the National Policy on Child Labour in August, 1987, which lays emphasis on three focus areas of action viz. legislative action plan, convergence of general development programmes 'for benefiting working children and their families' wherever possible with other Ministries/Departments and Project-based plan of action for launching of projects for the welfare of working children in areas of high concentration of child labour.

Further, the Government enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 which was amended in 2016. The amended Act is called the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. The Act provides for complete prohibition of work or employment of children below 14 years in any occupation and process and adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes. The amendment also provides for stricter punishment of employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.

The Ministry of Labour & Employment has also been implementing National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of the rescued child labourers through District Project Societies under the chairmanship of the District Magistrate. Under the NCLP scheme, the children in the age group of 9-14 years are rescued / withdrawn from work and enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres (STCs), where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid-day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. NCLP scheme has now been subsumed under Samagara Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Scheme with effect from 01.04.2021. Henceforth, the rescued child labourers will be mainstreamed into formal education system through STC operational under SSA.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2640 FOR 23.03.2023 BY DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA REGARDING REGISTERED CASES OF CHILD LABOUR

Number of cases registered under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, State / Union Territories -wise:

Sl. No.	State/UT	2019	2020	2021
1	Andhra Pradesh	2	37	12
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	0
3	Assam	68	40	78
4	Bihar	15	3	14
5	Chhattisgarh	2	0	0
6	Gujarat	64	39	40
7	Haryana	11	1	12
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0
9	Jharkhand	18	27	5
10	Karnataka	83	54	58
11	Kerala	2	0	3
12	Madhya Pradesh	4	1	5
13	Maharashtra	53	29	57
14	Meghalaya	2	0	0
15	Odisha	0	0	6
16	Punjab	8	11	8
17	Rajasthan	48	30	19
18	Tamil Nadu	3	2	26
19	Telangana	314	147	224
20	Tripura	0	1	0
21	Uttar Pradesh	9	1	1
22	Uttarakhand	27	41	25
23	West Bengal	7	3	2
24	Chandigarh	0	1	7
25	Daman & Diu	2	0	0
26	Delhi	30	6	11
	TOTAL	772	476	613

Source: Crime in India, National Crime Records Bureau
