

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2642  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023**

**SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR CHILD LABOURERS**

**2642. MS. DOLA SEN:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the increased number of child labourers in the country, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic;**
- (b) whether any action is being taken by Government to stop child labour in the country;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) whether any action is being taken by Government to bring such children back to mainstream school;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government is planning to start special schools for such children; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a): 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.**

**(b) & (c): The Government has 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.**

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**(d) to (f): Ministry of Labour & Employment has been implementing National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of 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 Under the NCLP scheme, the children in the age group of 9-14 years are rescued / withdrawn from work and enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres (STCs), where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid-day meal, stipend,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 Samagra 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.**

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