

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 257
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024**

**EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF CHILD LABOUR IN THE
COUNTRY**

257. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR JHA:

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

- (a) whether Government relies solely on census data to ascertain the number of child labourers in the country, and if so, the reasons for not conducting independent surveys;**
- (b) whether Government has considered including data of children aged 14-18 years in the next census and the progress made in this regard;**
- (c) whether Government issues directives to States/UTs for regular surveys, enforcement, data collection, and development of State Action Plans; and**
- (d) the steps being taken to improve monitoring, enforcement and elimination of child labour, particularly in urban areas?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 257 FOR 19.12.2024 RAISED BY SHRI MANOJ KUMAR JHA REGARDING EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF CHILD LABOUR IN THE COUNTRY

(a) to (d): Labour is under the concurrent list and States / Union Territories (UTs) are important stakeholders for implementation of the Child and Adolescent labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. Under the Child and Adolescent (Prohibition & Regulation) Act 1986, the powers and duties to carry out the provisions of the Act have been conferred to District Magistrates. The Ministry of Labour and Employment issues direction/ advisories to States/UTs from time to time for strict enforcement of the Act.

The details of steps to improve monitoring, enforcement and elimination of child labour are as under:

- (i) Enactment of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The Act inter-alia covers complete prohibition of work or employment of children below 14 years of age in any occupation or process and prohibition of adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes. It also provides for stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.**
- (ii) Framing of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 1988. The Rules inter -alia, provide for District Nodal Officer(DNO) and Task Force at district level under chairpersonship of District Magistrate to ensure that the provisions of the Act are properly enforced.**
- (iii) Framing of model State Action Plan enumerating action points to be taken by respective State Governments.**
- (iv) Implementation of National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour, which has now been subsumed under Samagara Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Scheme of the Ministry of Education.**

The report of census is published by the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India (RGICCI). The information in census is collected for all persons irrespective of their age, sex, caste, creed, region, origin or religion. During census, the information is collected on type of workers i.e. main workers, marginal workers and non-workers for the entire population, including those below 14 years.