GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 170 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2017

PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN IN ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

170. ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:

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

- (a)whether the Government is considering to stiffen the rules to regulate participation of children in any form of audio or visual entertainment, including advertisement, films, television serials or sports, hitting the burgeoning child entertainment industry in India;
- (b)if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether it would be mandatory for producers to seek written permission to be renewed every six months and if so, the details thereof;
- (d)whether 5 hours in a day has been stipulated as working hours for child artistes and 3 hours working time set for them without any break: and
- (e)if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

 ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (e): The employment or work of children below 14 year has been completely prohibited subsequent to the enactment of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 effective from 1.9.2016. However in exception to the above provision of the Act, artists in an audiovisual entertainment industry, including advertisement, films, television serials or any such other entertainment or sports activities except the circus, has been permitted to work subject to certain conditions and safety measures.

As per the provision of the Act, the Central Government has prescribed these conditions and safety measures in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2017 notified on 2.6.2017. The Rules have been provided to ensure safety and security, education, mental and physical health of the child, safe working conditions for children and protection of child against sexual offences. The Rules includes following provisions:

- (i) No child shall be allowed to work for more than five hours in a day, and for not more than three hours without rest.
- (ii) Any producer of any audio -visual media production or any commercial event involving the participation of a child, shall involve a child in participation only after obtaining the permission from the District Magistrate of the district where the activity is to be performed, with an undertaking indicating the list of child participants, consent of parents/ guardian, name of the individual from the production or event responsible for the safety and security of the child etc. This undertaking would be valid for six months.
- (iii) One responsible person be appointed for maximum of five children for the production or event, so as to ensure the protection, care and best interest of the child;
- (iv) No child shall be made to participate in any audio visual and sports activity including informal entertainment activity against his will and consent.
