GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2395 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2017

BAN ON ALL FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR

2395. SHRI K.R.P. PRABAKARAN:

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

- (a)whether the Government is aware that compulsory primary education is the policy instrument by which the Government can effectively remove children from the work force and if so, the details thereof;
- (b)whether the current legislation in the country does not ban all forms of child labour and the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, is concerned only with "the engagement of children in certain employment"; and

(c)if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Government is following a multi-pronged strategy for elimination of child labour comprising of statutory and legislative measures, rehabilitation and universal elementary education along with convergence with other schemes for socio economic development.

Government has amended the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which inter-alia provides for complete prohibition on employment or work of children below 14 years of age in any occupation or process and prohibition of employment or work of adolescents (14-18 years) in the hazardous occupations and processes. In order to ensure compulsory education of children as per Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the age of child in the Child & Adolescent Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 has been linked with the age of child in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.