GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3745 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018

CHILD DOMESTIC WORKERS

3745. SHRI GODSE HEMANT TUKARAM:

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

- (a)whether the Government has conducted/proposes to conduct a countrywide drive to identify children below 14 years engaged as domestic helps in order to send them to school;
- (b)if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c)the steps taken/being taken by the Government in consultation with the States in this regard; and
- (d)the other stringent measures taken by the Government to eradicate domestic child labour in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (d): Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour including domestic helps. Under this Scheme, survey is conducted on regular basis by the District Project Societies headed by District Magistrate/Collector to identify child labour including children working as domestic helps. Children in the age group of 9-14 years, rescued/withdrawn from work are enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres, where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. Children in the age group of 5-8 years are directly linked to the formal education system through a close coordination with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The Scheme also envisages awareness activities against the evil of child labour and enforcement of Child & Adolescent Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.

Consequent upon strengthening the legislative framework for complete prohibition of employment of children below 14 years through amendment in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, Government has provided robust enforcement mechanism in the form of an online portal PENCIL (Platform for Effective Enforcement of No Child Labour). At the State Government level the monitoring is to be done by State Resource Centre established at State Labour Department. At district level District Nodal Officers (DNOs) are nominated to take action on the complaints of their respective districts. Ministry has also framed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) as a ready recknor for enforcing agencies and other stakeholders.
