

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2376
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.07.2019**

NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR PROJECT SCHEME

2376. SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL:

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

- (a) the number of districts and States covered under National Child Labour Project Scheme;**
- (b) the efforts put in to combat the rise in child labour, i.e. 10.1 million according to 2011 census; and**
- (c) the time required to see a 'Child Labour' free India?**

ANSWER

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

(a): The number of districts and states covered under National Child Labour Project Scheme is 104 and 21 respectively.

(b) & (c): The incidence of child labour which was 1.26 crore as per census 2001 has been reduced to 1.01 crore as per census 2011. Child Labour is an outcome of various socio-economic problems such as poverty, economic backwardness and illiteracy. The Central Government has taken cognizance of the practice of child labour still going on in various parts of the country in spite of a ban on it and is committed to eradicate the problem of child labour from all parts of the country.

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For elimination of child labour, the Government has enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which came into force w.e.f. 1.9.2016. The Amendment Act inter alia provides for complete prohibition of work or employment of children below 14 years in any occupation and process and prohibition of adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes. The Amendment Act also provides stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and has made the offence as cognizable.

The Government is also implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour. To ensure effective enforcement of the provisions of the Child Labour Act and smooth implementation of the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme, a separate online portal PENCIL (Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour) has also been launched w.e.f. 26.9.2017.
