

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1954  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023**

**ENGAGING CHILDREN IN BEEDI ROLLING WORKERS**

**1954. DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has issued any advisory to the State Governments for strict enforcement of the ban on engaging children under 18 yrs. in beedi rolling in private and public dwelling, factories etc, under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation Act 1986 and Juvenile Justice Act);**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government is considering any proposal to declare beedi rolling as a hazardous process;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (e) whether the Government has any new proposal for creating profitable and healthy alternative employment opportunities for the beedi workers and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) whether any proposal has been announced for women beedi workers to protect their health from the tobacco threat and to improve their standard of living in the society with dignity and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

**(a) to (f): The Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 as amended in 2016 *inter-alia* provides for 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 including work in beedi making or**

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**processing of tobacco. Further, the Government also framed 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. The Ministry of Labour & Employment issues directions / advisories from time to time for strict enforcements of the Act. The Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 ensures proper care, protection, development, treatment and social integration of the children in difficult circumstance by adopting a child friendly approach.**

**The Part A of schedule of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 contains the list of hazardous occupations and processes in which adolescents are prohibited to work and children are prohibited to help. The work in beedi making or processing of tobacco has already been included in Part A of schedule. The Ministry of Labour & Employment in collaboration with Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has been providing skill development training to the beedi workers and their dependents to engage them in alternative jobs. The Ministry of Labour & Employment is providing the Health care facility to Beedi workers and their family members with a network of 285 functional Dispensaries and 10 functional hospitals located across the Country and also reimbursement of expenditure for specialized treatment under the Government recognized Hospitals in case of critical diseases i.e. Cancer, Tuberculosis, Heart Diseases, Kidney Transplantation, Hernia, Appendectomy, Ulcer, Gynaecological diseases and Prostate diseases to the beneficiaries.**