GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5182 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.04.2023

CHILD LABOUR IN INDUSTRIES

5182. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:

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

- (a)whether the Government is aware that as per Human Rights Commission, about 14 million children work as slaves in the country, including children under 14, which is a clear violation of Article 24 of the Constitution that prohibits child labour;
- (b)if so, the steps taken by the Government to identify industries and enterprises that employed child labour;
- (c)whether it is true that most cases of child labour have been found to be in brick kilns and the bangle industry, if so, whether any stringent action has been taken against such employers;
- (d)the details of children found to be employed as child labour during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (e)whether the Government proposes to launch a policy to rehabilitate and provide quality education to children employed as child labour?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The 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. The Government has enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 which was amended in 2016. The amended Act is now called the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) [CALPR] Act, 1986. The Act provides for complete prohibition of work or employment of children below 14 years in any occupation and process and adolescents in the age group

of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes. The amendment also provides for stricter punishment of employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.

Further, brick kilns have been included in the Schedule - Part A of the CALPR Act, 1986, wherein adolescents are prohibited to work and children are prohibited to help. The manufacture of glass including bangles have been included in the Schedule - Part B covering a list of occupations and processes where children are prohibited to help in family or family enterprises (in addition to Part A).

- (d): As per "Crime in India" a publication of National Crime Records Bureau, 772, 476 and 613 number of cases were registered during calendar years 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 in the country. State-wise details are at Annexure.
- (e): Ministry of Labour & Employment has been implementing National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labourers through District Project Societies under the chairmanship of the District Magistrate. Under the NCLP scheme, the children in the age group of 9-14 years are rescued / withdrawn from work and enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres (STCs), where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid-day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. NCLP scheme has now been subsumed under Samagara Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Scheme with effect from 01.04.2021. Henceforth, the recused child labourers will be mainstreamed into formal education system through STC operational under SSA.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5182 FOR 03.04.2023 BY SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU REGARDING CHILD LABOUR IN INDUSTRIES

Number of cases registered under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, State / Union Territories -wise:

Sl. No.	State/UT	2019	2020	2021
1	Andhra Pradesh	2	37	12
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	0
3	Assam	68	40	78
4	Bihar	15	3	14
5	Chhattisgarh	2	0	0
6	Gujarat	64	39	40
7	Haryana	11	1	12
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0
9	Jharkhand	18	27	5
10	Karnataka	83	54	58
11	Kerala	2	0	3
12	Madhya Pradesh	4	1	5
13	Maharashtra	53	29	57
14	Meghalaya	2	0	0
15	Odisha	0	0	6
16	Punjab	8	11	8
17	Rajasthan	48	30	19
18	Tamil Nadu	3	2	26
19	Telangana	314	147	224
20	Tripura	0	1	0
21	Uttar Pradesh	9	1	1
22	Uttarakhand	27	41	25
23	West Bengal	7	3	2
24	Chandigarh	0	1	7
25	Daman & Diu	2	0	0
26	Delhi	30	6	11
	TOTAL	772	476	613

Source: Crime in India, National Crime Records Bureau
