LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2269 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2023

CHILD LABOUR IN SUPPLY CHAIN

2269. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the pandemic has affected the livelihood of many families especially amongst, vulnerable communities during this period and thereafter, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the children in Textile and Ready made Garments sectors are working at homes to cater to rising demand in Ready made Garments sector in Delhi and NCR, Tiruppur and other Textile hubs in India, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to eradicate child labour in supply chain beyond Tier 3 and Tier 4, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government is making Guidelines on the Responsible Business conduct specific to the Garments or Textile industry, if so, the time by which it is likely to be released in the public domain?

उत्तर ANSWER वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश) THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a): The global pandemic of Covid-19 affected various industrial sectors in the country including the textile sector. As the textile sector is primarily unorganized and traditional in nature, the data pertaining to this sector is dispersed and largely unavailable for quantification. However, specific instances of loss of livelihood of textiles workers have not been reported.

(b) & (c): Government is following a holistic and multipronged strategy for elimination of child labour. Awareness campaigns carried out through industry bodies and Export Promotion Councils emphasize adherence to laws and regulations, including spreading awareness against employment of child labour in textile sector.

(d): The National Guidelines for Responsible Business Conduct (NGRBC) brought out by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs in 2018 have been designed with an objective to provide guidance to businesses on what constitutes responsible business conduct. Under the NGRBC, an Advisory Committee has been constituted for wider consultation with stakeholders concerned in adapting these guidelines for Ready-Made Garment (RMG) Sector industries.
