GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2339 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

INCREASE OF CHILD LABOUR

†2339. SHRI TIRATH SINGH RAWAT:

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

- (a)whether the Government have statistical data of child labour and if so, the details thereof;
- (b)whether the Government has taken any effective steps to prevent child labour and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c)whether child labour has increased in the country after Covid-19 pandemic and if so, the steps being taken by the Government to improve their condition?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (c): The Government has taken various measures and have made efforts to prevent child labour which include legislative measures, rehabilitation strategy, providing right to free education and general socio-economic development. The details of statutory and legislative measures, rehabilitation strategy and education are as under:
 - (i) Enactment of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The Act inter-alia covers 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. It also provides for stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.
 - (ii) Framing of 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.

(iii) Ministry of Labour & Employment has framed model State Action Plan enumerating action points to be taken by respective State Governments for eradication of child labour.

As per "Crime in India" a publication of National Crime Records Bureau, there were 476, 613 and 751 number of cases during calendar year 2020, 2021 and 2022 respectively under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 in the country.
