

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1145
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021**

CURBING THE CHILD LABOUR

1145. SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

SHRI RAVI KISHAN:

SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has observed Labour Day recently and if so, the initiatives undertaken by the Government to make the event successful;**
- (b) the details of the schemes implemented for labourers in the country along with the achievements thereto;**
- (c) whether the New initiatives undertaken by the Government for curbing the Child labour in the country; if so, the details of the comparative data during each of the last three years and the current year;**
- (d) the time by which child labour is likely to be eliminated completely; and**
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent discrimination against the women labour in the country?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, observation of Labour Day could not be organized in the Ministry of Labour & Employment this year.

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(b): The Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing the Employees Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 and the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, the Employees Deposit Link Insurance Scheme, 1976 and Employees State Insurance Scheme for social security of the employees of organized sector.

Besides, the Government is also implementing several schemes for the welfare of the workers of unorganized sector. Some of the major schemes are: Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan – Dhan Yojana, implemented by Ministry of Labour and Employment, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, implemented by Ministry of Finance, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Deen Dayal Upadhyay – Gramin Kaushalya Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojan – Gramin and National Social Assistance Programme, implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, implemented by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Urban Livelihoods Mission, implemented by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

(c) & (d): As per 2011 Census, the number of main workers in the age group of 5-14 years in the country is 43.53 lakh which shows a decline from 57.79 lakh as per 2001 Census.

The Government has amended the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 in 2016. This amended Act is now called the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. The Amended Act, inter-alia, provides for complete prohibition of work or employment of children below 14 years of age in any occupation and processes and prohibition of adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment is also implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme with the objective of rehabilitation of child labourers. The number of children rescued/withdrawn from work, rehabilitated and mainstreamed under NCLP Scheme during 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 is 50284, 54894 and 58289 respectively. During the current year 2021-22 (up to 30.06.2021), 12889 children have been mainstreamed under NCLP Scheme.

(e): The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers for same work or work of similar nature without any discrimination and also prevent discrimination against women while making recruitment for the same work or work of similar nature, or in any condition of service subsequent to recruitment such as promotions, training or transfer.

The Government has also taken several initiatives to provide congenial environment to women at work place. These include:

- i) Enhancement of paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks**
- ii) Provision for mandatory crèche facility in the establishment having 50 or more employees**
- iii) Permitting women worker in the night shifts with adequate safety measurers**
- iv) Allowed women worker in the aboveground mines including opencast workings between 7 pm and 6 am and in the belowground working between 6 am and 7 pm in technical, supervisory and managerial work where continuous presence may not be required.**