

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 969  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021**

**WORKING CHILDREN**

**969. SHRI HIBI EDEN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the number of working children in the age group of 5- 14 years in India;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government is taking any measures to eliminate the child labour problem in India; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b): As per Census 2011, there were 43.53 lakh main workers in India in the age group of 5-14 years.**

**(c) & (d): The Government is following a multi-pronged strategy for elimination of child labour comprising of legislative measures, establishing an efficient enforcement mechanism, project based rehabilitation and emphasis on universal elementary education.**

**Government has enforced the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, as amended in the 2016, which inter-alia, stipulates complete prohibition of employment or work of children below 14 years of age in any occupation or process and adolescents (14-18 years of age) in the hazardous occupations or processes. The employment of children or adolescents in contravention of the provisions of the Act has been made a cognizable offence.**

**Contd..2/-**

**The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Rules, 1988 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 and Employment is also implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labourers. Under the NCLP Scheme, the children in the age group of 9-14 years are rescued/ withdrawn from work and enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres to provide bridge education, vocational training, mid-day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. The children in the age group of 5-8 years are directly linked to the formal education system through a close coordination with the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan. An online portal PENCIL (Platform for Effective Enforcement of No Child Labour) has also been developed.**

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