

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 124
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021**

OFFICIAL ESTIMATES OF CHILD LABOUR

124. SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS:

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

- (a) whether the Government has ratified the convention 131 of the International Labour Organization; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) the latest official estimates of child labour in India, State-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has established a national database of child labour, especially given the economic distress post covid-19 pandemic; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to ensure zero child labour as required by the Child Labour Amendment (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 2016?**

ANSWER

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

(a): The Government has not ratified Convention No.131 International Labour Organization (ILO). An ILO Convention is ratified by India only when the Government of India is satisfied that the national laws and legislations are in full conformity with the provisions of the ILO Convention. Ratification of an ILO Convention is a voluntary process.

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(b) to (d): The Government is pursuing multipronged strategy to eliminate child labour and has taken comprehensive measures which include legislative measures, rehabilitation strategy, providing right of free education and general socio-economic development so as to eliminate the incidence of the child labour. As and when incidence of child labour is reported / observed, immediate measures are taken to rehabilitate and mainstream the child into the education system. The details of statutory and legislative measures, rehabilitation strategy and education are as under:

- (i) Government has enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which came into force w.e.f. 1.9.2016. The Amendment 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 stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.**
- (ii) Framing of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Central Rules**
- (iii) Framing of model State Action Plan enumerating action points to be taken by respective State Governments and circulation of the same to all Chief Secretaries.**
- (iv) The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour.**
- (v) Ratification of International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions 138 and 182 in 2017.**
