

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2315
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021**

DATA OF CHILD LABOURERS

2315. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has data indicating the number of child labourers recorded in West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha over the last five years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; of**
- (c) whether any measures have been put in place by the Government to prevent children from being recruited for child labour; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b): The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 was amended in 2016. The amended Act now called the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, 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. Further, the Act empowers the District Magistrate to implement the provisions of the Act. As such, the data pertaining to Child Labour in the country is not maintained centrally by this Ministry.

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(c) & (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. 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 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.**
