GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 222
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2016

CHILD LABOUR

*222. SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:
      SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL:

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

(a) whether the child labour is still prevalent in the country despite stringent laws and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of child labourers reported in various sectors, sector-wise and State/UT-wise for the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Union Government has urged the State Governments to ensure regular inspections/checks in schools, hotels, establishments and shops etc. and spread awareness to curb the menace of child labour and if so, the details thereof and response of the States/UTs thereto;

(d) whether the Government proposes to revisit the policy to safeguard the children rights and eradicate the child labour problem in the country and if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government has also decided to set up any committee to study the reasons and causes of increasing child labour and for giving suggestions for its eradication and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (e):   A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 222 RAISED BY SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT AND SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL FOR ANSWER ON 14.3.2016 REGARDING CHILD LABOUR.

(a) & (b):   Child Labour is an outcome of various socio-economic problems. The number of main workers in the age group of 5-14 years in the country is 43.53 lakh as per 2011 Census which shows a decline from 2001 Census. The number of main workers in the age group of 5 to 14 years as per 2011 Census, State-wise is given at Annexure. The sector wise data is not available from 2011 Census.

(c) to (e):   Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in certain occupations and processes and regulates the working conditions of children in employment where they are not prohibited. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, Central Government is the appropriate Government for enforcement in respect of Central Government establishments, railways, major ports, mines or oil fields and in all other cases, State Government is the appropriate Government for enforcement of the Act. As per the Act, the appropriate Government may appoint Inspectors for the purpose of securing compliance with the provisions of the Act. Ministry oversees the effective enforcement of the Act through regular monitoring and periodical review of reports sent by State Governments. As per the information received from States/UTs the number of inspections carried out under Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 during the last three years is as under:

Year	No. of inspections
2013	230642
2014	269628
2015	143914

A Bill to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha in 2012. The Government has also decided to move Official Amendments to this Bill. The Amendment Bill along with Official Amendments, inter-alia, proposes complete prohibition on employment of children below 14 years, linking the age of prohibition with the age under Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, making the punishment for employers more stringent and constitution of Rehabilitation Fund for rehabilitation activities.

Government is also implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme under which the children rescued/ withdrawn from work in the age group of 9-14 years are enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres. They are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid day meal, stipend, health care etc. in the Special Training Centres before mainstreaming into formal education system. Children in the age group of 5-8 years are directly linked to the formal education system through a close coordination with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA). The Scheme also envisages awareness generation campaigns against the evils of child labour and enforcement of child labour laws. Further, Government has reviewed the guidelines for the NCLP Scheme to make it more effective towards rehabilitation of child labour. A Central Monitoring Committee with the representatives from State Governments and other concerned Ministries/Departments for overall supervision of the child labour projects, to discuss, analyse, invite suggestions on eradication of child labour is already in place. The last meeting of the Committee was held on 17.2.2016.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.222 RAISED BY SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT AND SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL FOR ANSWER ON 14.3.2016 REGARDING CHILD LABOUR.

State-wise details of main workers in the age group of 5-14 years as per Census 2011:

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of main workers in the age group of 5-14 years
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	999
2.	Andhra Pradesh **	404851
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5766
4.	Assam	99512
5.	Bihar	451590
6.	Chandigarh U.T.	3135
7.	Chhattisgarh	63884
8.	Dadra & Nagar H.	1054
9.	Daman & Diu U.T.	774
10.	Delhi U.T.	26473
11.	Goa	6920
12.	Gujarat	250318
13.	Haryana	53492
14.	Himachal Pradesh	15001
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	25528
16.	Jharkhand	90996
17.	Karnataka	249432
18.	Kerala	21757
19.	Lakshadweep UT	28
20.	Madhya Pradesh	286310
21.	Maharashtra	496916
22.	Manipur	11805
23.	Meghalaya	18839
24.	Mizoram	2793
25.	Nagaland	11062
26.	Odisha	92087
27.	Puducherry U.T.	1421
28.	Punjab	90353
29.	Rajasthan	252338
30.	Sikkim	2704
31.	Tamil Nadu	151437
32.	Tripura	4998
33.	Uttar Pradesh	896301
34.	Uttarakhand	28098
35.	West Bengal	234275
	Total	4353247

** Including Telangana.

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