

(f) what action Government propose to take to eliminate child labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Government have identified 10 States/U.Ts with relatively lesser of child labour for making concerted efforts with a view to eliminate child labour in a span of 3 years. A recent news paper report has extrapolated the time span for total eradication of child labour in the country to be nine hundred years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The details have been furnished in reply to the Rajya Sabha Starred Q. No. 16 dated 26th July, 1993.

National Wage Policy

1823. SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM-
BHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to evolve a National Wage Policy for the benefit of the poor labourers in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any commission has been set up in this regard; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) The issue relating to formulation of a National Wage Policy has been considered by various fora in the past. A Group of State Labour Ministers in September, 1985 decided that it might not be feasible to frame a National Wage Policy at the present stage.

This subject was also considered by the Indian Labour Conference (ILC) held in November 1985. The ILC expressed the view that "till such time a national wage is feasible it would be desirable to have regional minimum wage in regard to which the Central Government may lay down the guidelines. The minimum wages should be revised at regular periodically and should be linked with rise in cost of living". Accordingly, the Government have issued guidelines on Regional Minimum Wages in July, 1987 to all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The State Governments/U.T. Administrations were also requested to provide for variable Dearness Allowance linked to consumer price index, as a part of minimum wages, to be revised every 6 months.

Child Labour in Orissa

1824. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employment of children as labourers in the agrarian sector, in beedi making, brick kilns and other operations continues under inhuman conditions in Orissa;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these children are not paid according to the quantum and quality of services rendered by them and have no fixed working hours; and

(c) if so, what are the details of steps Government propose to take to put an end to this gross violation of human rights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Child Labour Welfare Projects

1825. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of child labour projects in existence for the welfare of the child labour; and

(b) the target fixed to rehabilitate child labour every year during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) There are nine National Child Labour Projects. Seven Projects under the grant-in-aid scheme and thirty-nine Projects under the International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour currently in operation for the welfare and rehabilitation of child labour in the country.

(b) No quantitative targets were fixed for the rehabilitation of child labour during the last three years.

Steps to Stop Use of Child Labour

1826. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI TRILOKI NATH
CHATURDEVI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of efforts made by Government to stop the use of child labour in certain sectors in Uttar Pradesh and elsewhere in the country; and

(b) what arrangements are being made for the rehabilitation of child labour rendered unemployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Details of efforts being made by Govt. have been furnished in the Reply to the Starred Question 16 in Rajya Sabha on 26th July, 1993.

(b) For rehabilitation of children withdrawn from employment, nine projects are running in the country under the National Child Labour Policy. Of these, four are located in U.P. at

Mirzapur-Bhadohi	(Carpet weaving)
Aligarh	(Lock making)
Moradabad	(Brassware)
Ferozabad	(Glassware)

Govt. of U.P. has stepped up enforcement of child labour laws. A total of 17157 inspections were made in U.P. dur-

ing 1993 leading to 3670 prosecutions for violations of provisions relating to Child Labour. The State Govt. of U.P. has stipulated minimum wages of children at 95% of adult wages in order to discourage employers from employing Child Labour.

Supreme Court Judgement of PF Defaulters

1827. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent judgement of the Supreme Court regarding the Provident Fund defaulters, where the responsibility has been cast on the directors being in charge of the affairs of the companies;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon;

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to implement the judgement of the Supreme Court in regard to such companies for not depositing the Provident Fund amount as per the relevant provisions of Employees Provident Fund Act; and

(d) what is the number of directors of such companies who have been apprehended so far by the Government for the default and the total amount involved in each case alongwith the names of the defaulters during the past 2 years and prosecutions launched against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

Study on Bonded Labour in the Country

1828. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH
LATHER:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALA-
VIYA:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by Government to know the strength of