

aforementioned System is 79,559. This does not include 24,682 employees of the Education Department of the MCD, which is not covered under the System.

(d) and (e) The gap between the information furnished by the Drawing and Disbursing Officers and Heads of Departments and the number of employees enrolled under the Biometric attendance system is 22,853. However, the actual number of non-existent employees, if any, and action in this regard against the delinquent officials depends upon the outcome of the detailed enquiry, initiated by the MCD in the matter.

Child labour in bidi industry

† *383. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the childhood of millions of children engaged in bidi industry in the country is in danger;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far by Government to protect the children engaged in the bidi industry of the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) As per the Census 2001, the number of children working in Pan, bidi and cigarettes industry was 2,52,574 in the country.

(c) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in bidi making and Tobacco processes. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Scheme for the rehabilitated children withdrawn from work where they are provided with bridging education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health care facilities etc.

Assent to Anti-Goonda Bill, 2009

*384. SHRI P. KANNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received the Anti-Goonda Bill, 2009 from a State for further necessary action by the Government of India;

(b) if yes, the date of receipt of the Bill and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the present status of the Bill and by when the assent of the President is likely to be obtained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka have forwarded the Karnataka Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Drug-Offenders, Gamblers, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders and Slum-Grabbers (Amendment) Bill, 2009, which was received on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.