

(d) the steps proposed to be taken against persons responsible for violation of labour laws and save children from harassment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Child Labour is a socioeconomic problem in the country. The Government is committed to eliminate all forms of Child Labour through intervention under the NCLP scheme. Action is taken under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act wherever such cases are seen to occur.

(c) I.L.O. is working in coordination with Government of India in its endeavour to eliminate all forms of child labour.

(d) The Government is vigilant on the issue of the exploitation of child labour in the country and all out efforts are being made to withdraw such children from work for their rehabilitation and to prosecute the erring employers. The State Governments are the appropriate Government for the implementation of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. Sufficient deterrent provisions have already been made in the said Act for persons violating the provisions of the Act. The Act provides that any person who employs any child in contravention of the provisions of the Act, is liable for punishment with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months but which may extend to one year or with fine which shall not be less than Rs. 10,000 but which may extend to Rs. 20,000 or both. In order to eliminate child labour in all forms, Government has formulated a National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme. Under the Scheme, the working children are withdrawn from work and put into special schools with the objective to mainstream them into formal system of education. The Scheme, which was initially started in 1988 with 12 districts in the country, has been expanded to cover 250 districts across 21 States during the Tenth Plan.

Employment opportunities through ILO

4555 SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

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

[5 May, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has undertaken any project for creating more employment opportunities in the developing countries including India;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) A number of ILO programmes in India attempt to contribute towards creating an environment for more and better opportunities for improved living and working conditions, specially for those in the informal economy and vulnerable groups particularly women. Some of the important programmes are given in the Statement (See below). Most of these programmes are undertaken in collaboration with Government in selected areas.

Statement

Some of the important ILO programmes being Implemented in India

S.No.	Programme Title
1.	GOI/ILO INDUS Child Labour Programme
2.	Decent Employment for Women in India
3.	Promoting Decent Work and Sustainable Livelihoods for women workers in the Informal Economy in India-Design Phase.
4.	Socio-Economic Empowerment of Tribal People through the Cluster Level Approach in Orissa
5.	Programme for Entrepreneurship Development and Productivity Improvement
6.	ILO/MoLE Collaboration on Needs Assessment of the National Employment Service
7.	Workers' Education for Integrating Women members in Rural Workers' Organisation-Phase II
8.	ILO's Response-Tsunami Reconstruction and Rehabilitation
9.	Strengthening Labour Market Analysis, job Counselling and Matching Job Seekers with Opportunities through Job Centres.
10.	Working with workers' organizations for improved working and living conditions and increased voice and representation through expansion of employment and income generation activities for vulnerable groups in the Tsunami affected areas of Southern India.
11.	Working through Employers' Organization and their Members to Support Recovery and Rehabilitation of Persons in Tsunami-affected.