

NCLP in Odisha

347. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has conceptualized and launched National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for liberation of child labour employed in hazardous works and for their physical, economic and emotional rehabilitation through a composite package;

(b) whether it is a fact that this scheme has been implemented in certain districts of Odisha; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) to (c) Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme since 1988 in the areas of high concentration of the child labour. Under this scheme, all children in the age group of 9-14 years are rescued/withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes and enrolled in NCLP Special Training centres, which has provisions for bridge education, vocational training, mid day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. At present, the Scheme is approved for 24 districts in Odisha *i.e.* Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Cuttack, Deogarh, Gajapati (Udayagiri), Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nabarangpur, Nuapada, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Jajpur, Xonjhar, Dhenkanal, Khurda, Nayagarh and Sundergarh.

Contract workers

348. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring contract workers in the country at par with regular employees;

(b) whether it is proposed to make it mandatory for all the employers to treat all contract labour at par with regular employees on all fronts except security of tenure;

(c) whether it is proposed to regularize all the contract labour in different sectors to bring them within the above ambit of security; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However to safeguard the interests of the contract workers further in term of wages and social security, a proposal

to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) There is no provision for regularization of the contract labour under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) act, 1970. Hence no such proposal is under consideration.

Elimination of Child Labour

†349. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is committed to eliminate child labour;
- (b) whether Government proposes to launch any drive against Child labour in the wake of rapidly increasing child labourers in the country;
- (c) whether the child labourers are mostly working in small scale and domestic industries in the country;
- (d) whether the existing child labour laws are repeatedly being violated; and
- (e) if so, whether Government proposes to frame stringent laws against child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of working children in the country has declined from 1.26 crore as per the Census 2001 to 43.53 lakh as per Census 2011 which shows 65% reduction. However, efforts to eliminate child labour especially in hazardous occupations and processes continues to be a priority of the Government.

(c) As per 2001 Census, the child labourers were mostly working in Pan, Bidi, construction, domestic work, spinning and weaving etc. Sectoral dis-aggregated data on child labour from 2011 Census is not available.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Discrimination in payment of wages by private steel companies in Chhattisgarh

†350. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the proportion of the number of workers belonging to Chhattisgarh, working in the private steel factories situated in Birgaon town of district Raipur in Chhattisgarh;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.