

Child labour

†260. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the practice of child labour is still prevalent in the country despite the ban imposed on it by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the fact that the child labourers in large number from Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Assam are enticed away to the capital and other cities of the country and are engaged as labourers;
- (d) the number of child labourers emancipated during the last two years together with the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of existing provisions related to child labours in the country and the efforts being made for stringent punishment in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The total number of working children in the age group of 5-14 years in the country has declined from 1.26 crore as per the Census 2001 to 43.53 lakh as per Census 2011. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in certain occupations and processes.

(c) and (d) As per the Census 2011, the total number of working children in all types of employment in the age group of 5-14 years in Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Assam was 4,51,590, 90,996, 92,087 and 99,512 respectively. Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child rescued/withdrawn from the prohibited occupations and processes. The number of child labourers rescued/ withdrawn from work, rehabilitated and mainstreamed under the Scheme during last two years, State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(e) Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in certain occupations and processes. A Bill to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha, which *inter-alia* provides for making the punishment under the Act more stringent.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

No. of children rescued/withdrawn from work, rehabilitated and mainstreamed under NCLP Scheme during the last two years, State-wise: #

Sl. No.	State	2013-14	2014-15
1.	Andhra Pradesh**	5715	346
2.	Assam	0	60
3.	Bihar	3736	14028
4.	Chhattisgarh	8034	10173
5.	Gujarat	453	892
6.	Haryana	631	2583
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	469	0
8.	Jharkhand	1028	2989
9.	Karnataka	2391	2120
10.	Madhya Pradesh	8323	7879
11.	Maharashtra	5614	2865
12.	Odisha	6114	19415
13.	Punjab	957	290
14.	Rajasthan	3585	3132
15.	Tamil Nadu	3436	3391
16.	Telangana	-	2379
17.	Uttar Pradesh	7310	10627
18.	West Bengal	6254	14228
19.	Uttarakhand	-	0
20.	Nagaland	-	436
TOTAL		64050	97833

As per data received from NCLP District Project Societies in States.

** Including figures of Telangana for the year 2013-14.