

Child labourers in toxic and hazardous industries

2734. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per 2011 census there are about 12 crore child labourers in the country all aged below 14 years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of them are employed in toxic and hazardous industries; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to rescue and rehabilitate these child labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The number of main workers in the age group of 5-14 years in the country is 43.53 lakh as per 2011 Census which shows a decline from 2001 Census. The sector-wise data of child labour from Census 2011 is not available.

(c) Government is following a multi-pronged strategy for elimination of child labour. It comprises of statutory and legislative measures, rehabilitation and universal elementary education along with convergence with other schemes for socio economic development. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 has been amended to prohibit a employment of children below 14 years of age in all occupations and processes. Further the amendment also prohibits employment of adolescents in hazardous occupations and processes. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour since 1988. The major objective of the Scheme is to withdraw children from work and mainstream them into formal education system. Children rescued/withdrawn from work in the age group of 9-14 years are enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres, where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. Children in the age group of 5-8 years are directly linked to the formal education system through a close coordination with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

Micro, Small and Medium Industries in North Eastern Region

†2735. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the names and details of micro, small and medium industries schemes being operated in North-Eastern Region;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.