GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2184 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2021

SCHEMES TO RESCUE CHILD LABOURERS

2184. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a)whether Government is aware of the increasing number of child labourers during Covid pandemic in the country, especially in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b)if so, the number of child labour reported in the country during the last two years, State- wise;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to address this issue;
- (d)whether there are any schemes to rehabilitate the rescued children, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) & (b): COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all section of the society including children. As per "Crime in India, 2020" a publication of National Crime Records Bureau, 770 and 476 number of cases were registered during calendar year 2019 and 2020 respectively under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, in the country. State -wise details are Annexed.

(c) to (e): The Government is pursuing multipronged strategy to eliminate child labour and has taken comprehensive measures which include legislative measures, rehabilitation strategy, providing right of free education and general socio-economic development so as to eliminate the incidence of the child labour. The details of statutory and legislative measures, rehabilitation strategy and education are as under:

- (i) Government has enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which came into force w.e.f. 1.9.2016. The amendment also provides stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.
- (ii) Framing of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Central Rules
- (iii) Framing of model State Action Plan enumerating action points to be taken by respective State Governments and circulation of the same to all Chief Secretaries.
- (iv) The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour.

Under this Scheme, those children identified in the age group 5-8 years are mainstreamed directly to formal educational system through the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) of the Ministry of Education. Working children in the age group of 9-14 years are to be rehabilitated through NCLP Special Training Centres (STCs) established by the Project Society, wherever STCs under SSA Scheme are not functioning. The STCs under the scheme provide: Nonformal/bridge education, Vocational training, Mid-Day Meal, stipend @ Rs.400/- per child per month, and health care facilities through School Health Programme of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2184 FOR 16.12.2021 BY SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY REGARDING SCHEMES TO RESCUE CHILD LABOURERS.

Number of cases registered under Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, State / Union Territories -wise

SL	State/UT	2019	2020
1	Andhra Pradesh	2	37
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1
3	Assam	68	40
4	Bihar	15	3
5	Chhattisgarh	2	0
6	Goa	0	0
7	Gujarat	64	39
8	Haryana	11	1
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	1
10	Jharkhand	18	27
11	Karnataka	83	54
12	Kerala	2	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	4	1
14	Maharashtra	53	29
15	Manipur	0	0
16	Meghalaya	2	0
17	Mizoram	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0
19	Odisha	0	0
20	Punjab	8	11
21	Rajasthan	48	30
22	Sikkim	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	3	2
24	Telangana	314	147
25	Tripura	0	1
26	Uttar Pradesh	9	1
27	Uttarakhand	27	41
28	West Bengal	5	3
29	A&N Islands	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	1
31	D&N Haveli	0	0
32	Daman & Diu	2	
33	Delhi	30	6
34	Jammu & Kashmir		0
35	Ladakh	0	0
36	Lakshadweep	0	0
37	Puducherry	0	0
	TOTAL	770	476

Source: National Crime Records Bureau Crime in India