News disseminated by Press Information Bureau on NCLP/Child Labour

1. 07/04/2003: - The Minimum Wage Act, 1948 provides fixation of different rate of minimum wage for adults, adolescents, children and apprentices. Since, this tends to encourage child labour; the government has been exploring deletion of the relevant section of the act.

2. 22/04/2003: - Dr. Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, said that investment in child is in fact investment for future of India. She said that she has also taken up the issue of child labour in the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) of which she is President and she lunched “Say Yes to Children” campaign. She also extended all sorts of support for making the elimination of child labour a success in National Conference of Elimination of Child Labour.

3. 16/08/2004: - Rs.193.71 crore was provided as central financial assistance to various states under grant-in-aids scheme to NGOs in 2004-2005. It is 61.85, 65.10 and 66.76 crores in the year 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 respectively.

4. 08/12/2004: - During last five years, 13, 32,607 inspections were conducted and 21,246 violations were identified. Prosecutions were launched in 12,348 cases resulting in 6,305 convictions. The budgetary allocations for the 9th five year plan were Rs.2, 496 million. It has been substantially stepped up during 10th plan to Rs.6675 million.

5. 10/03/2005: -Since 1997-1998, till 2002-2003, under Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, 17.41 lakh inspections were carried out and 93,493 violations were detected resulting in 33,000 prosecutions and 14,564 convictions. Since 1997-1998 till 2002-2003, an amount of Rs.1.32 crores has been recovered as compensation from the offending employers and Rs.3.42 crores as the contributions from the state governments in the child labour rehabilitation cum welfare fund and the total corpus of fund is Rs.7.34 crores.

6. 17/04/2006: - Out lay in the 10th plan for the elimination of child labour is Rs.602 crore as compared to Rs.250 crore during the 9th plan. 75% of the project costs are provided to NGOS under grant in aids scheme for running of the special schools for child labours in the districts where NCLP and INDUS are not in operation.

7. 08/11/2006: - Number of working children has increased from 1.13 crore in 1991 to 1.26 crore in 2001. It is declined in the states like Andhra Pradesh from 16.6 lakh (1991) to 13.6 lakh (2001), Maharashtra from 10.6 lakh (1991) to 7.6 lakh (2001). However, it is increased in the states like U.P. from 14.1 lakh (1991) to 19.2 lakh (2001) including Uttaranchal, Rajasthan from 7.7 lakh (1991) to 12.62 lakh (2001) and West Bengal from 7.11 lakh (1991) to 8.5 lakh (2001). 23 lakh inspections were conducted during the last 8 years, 1.23 lakh
violations were detected and 23,000 persons were convicted, mostly with fine. It is informed by Sri. Oscar Fernandes, Labour Minister in the Parliamentary Consultative Committee meeting held on 08/11/2006. Sri. Chittabrata Majumdar, Sri. Balihari, Sri. Narayan Singh Kesari, Labour Secretary Sri. K.M. Sahani and other senior officers of the Labour Ministry are also present in this meeting.

8. 14/03/2007: - In 2006-2007, 27,235 children mainstreamed, out of which, 13,479 children of 5-8 years in government schools and 13,756 children of 09-13 years in transitional education centers (TECs). So far 42,888 children in transitional education centers and 11,909 adolescents have been enrolled in vocational training programme.

9. 19/03/2007: - As per the 1991 census, total number of working children in India is 1,26,66,377; out of which 3,77,594 are from Odisha. During the 10th plan total number of special schools was 7328 in 250 NCLP districts, with a capacity of 3, 69,100 students. There are 1651 (highest number of schools in India) in 18 districts of Odisha with a strength of 82,550 students, followed 1347 schools in by U.P. and 1126 schools in A.P. Since, 1988, 7324 special schools are opened under NCLP. An amount of Rs.602 crore was allotted under NCLP during 10th plan period.

10. 09/05/2007: - As informed by the state governments 2229 violations after the ban on employment of children as domestic workers and in hospitality sector were detected. 38818 inspections were carried out and 211 prosecutions have been filed. Government of India has also consulted with state governments, NGOs and other stakeholders in the Zonal Conferences held at Bangalore (Southern Zone), Guwahati (North East Zone), Ranchi (Eastern Zone), Amritsar (Northern Zone) and Goa (Western Zone). During these conferences, the action plans of the state governments were discussed.

11. 20/08/2007: - Employment of children in agriculture and farming sector has not been prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, except in the processes where tractors, threshing and harvesting machines, handling of insecticides and pesticides are used.

12. 10/03/2007: - Government is not proposing to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 to prohibit all forms of child labours.

13. 15/12/2009: - Consultative committee meeting of the Labour Ministry is held under the Chairmanship of Sri. Mallikarjun Kharge. Sri. Harish Rawat, Minister of State for Labour, along with members of Parliament Sri. Gurudas Dasgupta, Sri. Anandrao V. Adsul, Sri. R.K. Singh Patel, Sri. N. Peethambara Kurup, Sri. Narayan Singh Kesari and Sri. Prabhat C. Chaturvedi, Secretary (Labour) participated in the meeting. Mr. Kharge informed that, Ministry of Labour will approach the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission to enhance the annual allocations for NCLPs, which is presently Rs.100 crore for the year 2009-
2010. Previously it was 160 crores. Meeting also suggested that stipend amount of Rs.100/- and nutritional food of Rs.5/- per child to be enhanced.

14. 04/02/2010: - India is committed to eliminate child labour, said Sri. Mallikarjun Kharge, Minister of Labour and Employment in the 90th anniversary of International Labour Organization (ILO). Allocation during 10th plan for the child labour division of the Ministry of Labour is 602 crore for NCLP, 65 crore matching grant for INDUS and 0.50 crore for strengthening of child labour cell. Total 667.50 crore. Plan wise allocation under NCLP is 15, 249.6 and 602 crore in the 8th, 9th and 10th plan period.

15. 09/08/2010:- Government has constituted a core committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Labour and Employment) with members from different central ministries with the objective to converge various welfare schemes like, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY), Swarn Jayanti Grameen Rojgar Yojana (SJGRY), etc of the Government, so as to empower the parents of the child labour and their economic upliftment.

16. 08/12/2010:- Section 14 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in 18 Occupations and 65 Processes. In all the other areas of work where children are permitted to work, the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 regulates their conditions of work. Further, Right to Education Act, 2009 do not ban children working beyond school hours. So, no contradiction exists in these two Acts. Hence, Government does not have any proposal to amend Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act.

17. 23/02/2011:- Total 24 districts of Odisha, namely Angul, Bargarh, Balasore, Balangir, Cuttack, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nuapada, Nabarangpur, Nayagarh, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Sundargarh of Odisha as on 23/02/2011 are covered under NCLP. Rest Bhadrak, Boudh, Jagatsinghpur, Kandhamal, Kendra Para, Puri are not covered under this scheme.

19. 07/03/2011:- Number of child labour in India is declining. As per Census, 2001 it was 1.26 crore, where as NSSO-2004-2005, estimated it as 90.75 lakhs, which shows a declining trends.

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