

Subject: Recommendation to expand hazardous occupations under the Child Labour (Protection and Regulation) Act, 1986 for TAC

Dear Secretary,

You would be aware of the letter from the Ministry of Labour, Government of India seeking suggestions to include occupations as hazardous under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 (Vide D.O.No. A.42025/2/2004-CL – 7/12/07), along with the list that has been forwarded with recommendation to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

In view of the above, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) directs you to inform on the action taken to respond to the said letter, and specifically the following, within seven days from receipt of this letter:

1. During meetings with the NCPCR Chairperson/Member/Representatives had with commissioners of labour in Gujarat, A.P. and Rajasthan, they had strongly recommended, the need to include agriculture and occupations connected thereto under Part B of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, if they were to take action under the Act, for engaging children in agriculture activities; which the studies have shown, as being hazardous to children. Specifically state what is your position and recommendation on inclusion of this occupation?
2. If agriculture is not being suggested as one of the occupations, you are directed to recommend the same to the ministry in the best interest of the children.
3. What other occupations, besides agriculture has your office recommended?

The NCPCR has already sent its strong recommendations to the Ministry of Labour - TAC, for inclusion of certain occupations and processes connected with certain occupations under the Act.

Based on your recommendations to the ministry the NCPCR will send again a communication to expand the list, after due examination of your suggestions.

The NCPCR has a clear position on the issue of child labor, ***which is to abolish child labour absolutely in all its forms and realize universalisation of elementary education.*** However, each opportunity that we find should not be missed; we must make our contribution at the call of each of the opportunity to make rights of the children a reality.

Please treat this very urgent. With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Shantha Sinha)

The Principal Secretary/Secretary(Labour)
of all States/UTs
(except Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan).

Encl:

Letter to the Ministry of Labour
Letter from the Ministry of Labour dt.07/12/2007

C.C.

The Commissioner of Labour
Office of the Commissioner of Labour,
of all States/UTs
(except Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan).