



GOVERNMENT

Department of Labour, Sri Lanka
pledges to

**Amend Hazardous Occupations Regulations
applicable to young persons and raise
awareness on laws related to child labour**

Amend Hazardous Occupations Regulations applicable to young persons and raise awareness on laws related to child labour

Name:

Amend Hazardous Occupations Regulations applicable to young persons under the Employment of Women Young Persons and Children Act of Number 47 of 1956.

Description:

Strengthening the legal framework is one way of eliminating child labour. The prevalence of child labour in Sri Lanka is very low compared to other countries in the region. Therefore, more attention needs to be given to the employment of young children in hazardous occupations. The age of children in labour law has been raised to 16 years with effect from 18.01.2021, and the list of hazardous occupations will also be expanded. The officers and the general public need to be educated on these to prevent child labour.

Implementation plan:

We will implement this Action Pledge by gazetting the new regulations.

School children, parents, and the general public are made knowledgeable on the laws related to child labour and child rights through:

- (i) A signed MoU with Girl Guides association
- (ii) District Secretaries and Divisional Secretaries.
- (iii) National Steering Committee members

Impact:

By making the working conditions for persons between 16 and 18 years safer and limiting the opportunities for engaging in hazardous child labour.

Making everyone in the society aware of the child rights and law related to child labour will prevent child labour instances even in the informal sector.