

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI MATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The Government has initiated a study to explore the applicability of Vedic mathematics in computers.

(b) to (d) According to the information available, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has planned to include relevant literature of Vedic Mathematics as an enrichment material in their teachers manual of high schools and Higher Secondary Schools which are being developed in the NCERT.

[English]

#### Child Labour

145. SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make some provisions for ensuring economic compensation to the family of the child labour family;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits and regulates employment of children in certain occupations and processes included in the Schedules to the Act. There are other labour laws like the Factories Act, 1948, the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, etc., which either

prohibit or regulate employment of child labour. However since the problems of child labour are mainly due to socio-economic compulsions, the National Child Labour Policy was announced in 1987 for stricter enforcement of various labour laws related to child labour and for focussing of general development programmes for benefitting child labour wherever possible which includes income-generating programmes for the families of child labour the anti-poverty schemes of the Government. It also envisages starting of special projects for suitably rehabilitating children withdrawn from employment in areas of high concentration of child labour by way of setting up of special schools for child workers where an integrated package of inputs comprising education, health, nutrition, vocational training and stipend to the children taken out from the prohibited employments are provided.

#### Issue of Ration Cards in Trans - Yamuna Areas

146. SHRI GOVIND CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

a) whether applications for issue of ration cards in the trans-Yamuna area of Delhi remain pending for months for its enquiry and even after enquiry these are not issued in time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to expedite in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) 365 applications are pending for issue of food cards as per details given below: