

which any person permanently residing or intending to do so in the Union Territory of Delhi and desiring to have a household food card is required to apply in the prescribed form to the Circle Office in which he resides or intends to reside and the food card is issued after making necessary verification. Further, a homeless person who has no fixed or identifiable place of dwelling is also issued a temporary household food card (Homeless). Such food cards are valid for a period of not exceeding three months at a time and can be revalidated for three months at a time or for lesser period as may be appropriate.

(b) and (c). A statement is annexed.

(d) and (e). No such complaint has come to the notice of the Government in the recent past. Instructions have already been issued by the Delhi Administration for issue of Food Cards to applicants without delay.

Statement

Month	Number of applications for fresh ration cards received by the Zonal Office of Food and Civil Department, Delhi Administration, Curzon Road, New Delhi in 1980	Number of applicants given ration cards
January, 1980	502	502
February, 1980	446	413
March, 1980	604	571
April, 1980	510	493
May, 1980	593	580
June, 1980	489	466
Total	3144	3025

Production of Crude Mica

6429. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of crude mica (other than scrap or waste) dwindled to negligible level since canalisation of processed mica in 1971;

(b) whether mica mining and processing was employing half-a million workers and home splitters in 1971 and the industry now employs only a few thousand workers;

(c) whether inappropriate policies adopted by Government including disproportionate increases of 300 per cent in floor prices prevailing before canalisation and introduction of 40:60 formula are responsible for this debacle; and

(d) whether Government propose to decanalise export of processed mica and save it from ruination; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The reported production of mica has been declining since 1970, i.e. before canalisation.

(b) No, Sir. According to the Indian Labour Statistics, the total number of workers engaged in mica industry during 1971 was 29,000. The level of employment has not declined since.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Mica exports have shown a gradual increase over the last three years.

Service Charges for Import Canalisation of Foreign Flag and Indian Flag Vessels

6430. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pricing Committee has approved the service at 4 per cent for import canalisation of foreign-flag and Indian-flag vessels after proper