

showed a decline of 2.4% over two months as in January, 1991.

(b) to (d). Imported edible oil is already being distributed through Public Distribution System (PDS). The Government have advised States and U.Ts. to consider distributing of more items of mass consumption, including pulses. The Central Government, however, has no proposal to itself provide pulses for distribution through PDS.

Control of Birth Rate

708. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present birth rate and population growth rate during 1989, 1990 and 1991;

(b) whether the desired reduction in growth rate of population has been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action plan initiated to reduce the birth rate in our country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY): (a) and (b). As per the latest available estimates from Sample Registration System of the Registrar General, India the Provisional Birth Rate for the year 1989 is 30.5 (per thousand population). The Natural Growth Rate of population is obtained as difference between birth and death rates as available from sample Registration System of Registrar General, India. Against the targeted growth rate of 1.87% by the end of Seventh Plan i.e. year 1990, the latest provisional available estimate of Natural Growth Rate for 1989 is 2.03%.

(c) The Growth Rate remains slightly

high, because of relatively steeper decline in Death Rate as compared to Birth Rate due to improvement in Public Health measures and medical care since independence.

(d) To keep the population growth in the country within the manageable limits, a well defined strategy has been evolved which lays emphasis on improving quality of health services, strengthening health infrastructure, enhancing child survival rates through Universal Immunisation Programme, intensifying population education, enhancing community participation, adopting improved communication approaches and involving voluntary organisations. Besides, schemes of reinforcement of training and retraining of personnel at the grass-root level, establishing and strengthening linkages with related development programmes like female literacy and improvement of women's status and adoption of area intensive approach are being implemented and will be further strengthened. In order to cater to the special requirements, a number of area projects for augmenting the infrastructure for health and family welfare service delivery system and the training of medical and para-medical staff have been taken up in selected States.

[*Translation*]

Universities having Educational Calender Prescribed by UGC

709. SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the universities in the country which have implemented the educational calender prescribed by the University Grants Commission;

(b) the names of the Universities in Bihar which have fully or partially implemented it; and