edible oils demanded by Government of Guiarat from the Central Pool and alloca-

tichs made during Jamuary to July, 1990 are given below:—

(in lakh tons)

	Demand	Allocation
1	2	3
Wheat	6.30	4.20
Rice	2.80	1.96
Imported edible Oils	2.30 (for the oil-year 1989-96	0.34 0 November to October

The Central Government does not make allocations of pulses or other cereals.

(c) The allocations of wheat, rice and imported edible oils from the Central Pool to States/U.Ts. for PDS are made on a month to month basis taking into account the stock position in the Central Pool, inter-se requirements of various States, market availability, past off take etc. The allocations of these items are supplemental in nature and not intended to meet the entire demand of any State or U.T.

[English]

Deficiency of Vitamin 'A' and Iron

279. SHRIP. NARSA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the Population is suffering from deficiency of Vitamin 'A' and iron:
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps for fortification of selected food items with Vitamin 'A' and iron; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Surveys carried out by National Nutritional Monitoring Bureau under National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad in 10 States indicated that 5-7% Pre-school children suffer from eye signs of Vitamin 'A' deficiency. Surveys of National Institute of Nutrition Hyderabad have also indicated that 70-80% pregnant women and 50-60% of Pre-school children have low haemoglobin levels indicative of anaemia due to deficiency of iron.

(b) and (c). Department of Food, Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies are already fortifying milk with Vitamin 'A' through Cooperative dairies in 18 States and Union Territories.

Technology for fortification of salt with iron has already been developed, Two plants one each in Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu are being set up by the Department of Food.

Further during the current year Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will be supplying iron and folic acid tablets to 20 million pregnant and lactating mothers and 35 million children (1-5 years) and Vitamin 'A' to 30 million children (1-5 years) under the scheme

of Prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and against blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency.

Coverage of Time Rated Employees under ESI Act

280. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that as a result of introduction of new formula by the Calcutta Regional Office of the ESI Corporation for the coverage of time rated amployees under ESI Act, about 2 lakh jute mill workers will be deprived of ESI benefits; and
- (b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to safeguard the interests of the large number of time-rated jute mill workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There was some misunderstanding regarding the method of calculation of monthly wages. The matter has been examined by the Headquarters Office of the ESI Corporation and suitable clarification has been given to Regional Director. As a result, there has been no decoverage of time-rated employees of the jute mills.

[Translation]

Young Women Health Development Programme

- 281. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had introduced programme entitled 'Young Women Health Development Programme:

- (b) if so, the names of places where it was introduced and the duration thereof; and
- (c) the latest position with regard to this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (c). The Indian Council of Medical Research have launched a research project entitled 'Young Women's Health and Develcoment Programme' in July, 1988. The Project is currently on-going in the States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Harvana, The main objective of the project is to improve the status of rural women through improvement in health and family life education, nonformal education, imparting vocational skills and improvement in self esteem of the girls by making them self confident and self reliant. The baseline survey in the project is over. The intervention which consists of training curriculum towards achieving the above objectives is being administered to the girls in Yuvati Kendras established in selected villages. The intersectoral linkages between Department of Health, Education, adult education and skill building etc. is also being established at the district as well as in block level.

Improvement in NTC Mills

282. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by Government for the improvement of textiles mills in eastern Uttar Pradesh under National Textiles Corporation;
- (b) the names of mills closed due to strike and lockout during the last one year with reasons therefor; and