

requirements of compulsory licensing under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, Subject to certain locational restrictions;

- (ii) Iron and Steel sector has been included in the list of high priority industries. Such industries have the facility for automatic approval of foreign investment in equity upto 51%.
- (iii) Availability of steel melting scrap and sponge iron, basic raw materials for the secondary sector, has been improved;
- (iv) Control over pricing and distribution of steel has been dispensed with;
- (v) A set of 'Guidelines for Entrepreneurs in Iron and Steel Industry' has been issued to provide entrepreneurs comprehensive information on matters relevant to the establishment of iron and steel industries;
- (vi) The public sector integrated steel plants have taken up modernisation and expansion programmes.

(c) to (e). While Government do not propose to set up any new steel plant in the Public Sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan due to resource constraints, the policy of Government is to create conditions for faster development of the steel industry so that more iron ore is processed in the country. To this end, Government have taken a number of steps, indicated above under part (b), to encourage private sector investment in steel industry with foreign participation/ collaboration, if required

Gift Technique for Childless Couples

*158. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether GIFT technique for childless couples is proving effective;

(b) if so, whether this technique has been made available in Ram Manchar Lohia hospital and Safdarjung hospital of Delhi;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which it would be made available in these hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Gamete Intra Fallopian Transfer is one of the techniques for management of infertility in women. It has been well established abroad and is also currently available in selected clinics in India.

(b) to (e). The technique is not being practised either in the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital or the Safdarjung Hospital at Delhi. Government will consider the introduction of the facility depending upon the availability of resources.

[English]

Allocation to NEC

*159 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the North Eastern Council is not being given adequate funds to implement various development projects in member States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds allocated to the Council during 1992-93; and

(d) the demand made by the Council for 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The plans of the North Eastern Council (NEC) are entirely funded by Central assistance, and loans from the life Insurance Corporation of India. The outlay is decided upon keeping in view the overall resource position of the Central Government.

(c) and (d). The Annual Plan of the NEC for 1992-93 is Rs. 232 crores. The Annual Plan of the NEC for 1993-94 is Rs. 265 crores against its proposal of Rs. 334.54 crores.

Pig Iron

*160. DR. D. VENKATESHWARA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of companies in Public Sector propose to start modernisation, expansion and diversification programmes including joint ventures to increase the production of pig iron;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the likely increase in production as a result thereof

(c) the quantity of pig iron produced during each of the last two years;

(d) whether the production is not in accordance with the demand; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the production target fixed for 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. However, modernisation and technological upgradation in some of the plants of Steel Authority of India Limited envisage higher hot metal productivity, which would inter-alia contribute to higher production of pig iron.

(b) Does not arise

(c) The pig iron production in the country during the last two years was as follows:-

| <i>(In lakh tonnes)</i> | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| 1990-91 | 1991-92 |
| 14.95 | 15.90 |

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As against a demand of 21.00 lakh tonnes in the year 1992-93, the total production is expected to be 17.92 lakh tonnes resulting in a gap of 3.08 lakhs tonnes.

Manufacture of Shampoos

1469. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether shampoos manufactured in the country are not safe for hair and skin due to the presence of chemicals injurious to health;