

Shortage of Pig Iron

535. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether about six hundred foundry and engineering factories of Batala in Punjab employing over 40,000 workers face total closure due to non-availability of pig iron for the last few months;

(b) whether any representation had been received from various associations of industrialists in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken for regular supply of pig iron to these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No specific information is available about the total closure of foundry and engineering units in Batala due to non-availability of pig iron for the last few months.

(b) Yes, Sir. A few representations have been received regarding inadequate supply of pig iron.

(c) SAIL has been asked to take necessary action. SAIL is planning to despatch additional quantities of pig iron to Punjab for distribution to small scale units in the State during February — March, 1988.

Persons Benefitted by Eye Eonation

[*Trnaslation*]

536. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether for the last many years the tendency of donating eyes has increased;

(b) if so, the number of eye donors during the last three years;

(c) whether the above number is adequate, if not, whether Government propose to take any measures to promote the tendency of eye donation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of persons benefited by eyes so donated during the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of eye donors reported to have pledged for eye donation after death during 1984 to 1986 by Times Eye Research Foundation & Dr. R.P. Centre is as under:-

1.	1984	-	6881
2.	1985	-	21053
3.	1986	-	42850

(c) The number is not considered adequate. To promote eye donation Government has taken up a programme using mass media resources to motivate the people.

(d) A fortnight on Prevention of Corneal Blindness and eye donation was observed in August, 1987 throughout the country. Printed material, Radio & T.V. spots have been prepared and distributed to the States for wide publicity. 1247 persons are reported to have been benefited by corneal grafting during the last three years.

[*English*]

Renovation of Lord Jagannath Temple

537. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: