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St. No. Name and designation of the Officer Training Course 10 Shri H. S. Anand, DEE Induction Course for IRSEE Probationers Shri G. Sampath, Principal, STS Advanced Work Study Course for Senior Scale Officers. 12 Shri R. N. Lall, DEE 13 Shri G. S. Garg, SSTE Seminar on Contracts and Arbitations. 14 Shri K. K. Soni, SEN 15 Shri Sushil Kumar, SSTE Special Course on Training for Trainers. 16 Shri R. A. Khandey, DEN Short Course on Eviction from Railway Premises. Shri S. K. Srivastava, SEN 17 18 Shri S. Malhotra, DME Induction Course for IRSME Poba-Shri G. N. Asthana, PE tioners. ĮΩ 20 Shri Y. N. Dhawan, PE

Independent body for objective assessment and evaluation country's malaris control efforts

KRUPASINDHU 5402. Dr. BHOI: Will the Minister of HEAL-TH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an Expert Group on Malaria, constituted by the Indian Council of Medical Research, has recommended the setting up of an independent body for objective assessment and evaluation of the country's malaria control efforts;
- (b) if so, the recommendations of the gouup and the reaction of Government thereto; and
 - (c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEA-LTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LAS-KAR): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Sethusamudram canal project in Tamil Nadu

5403. SHRI B. K. NAIR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Sethusamudram Canal Project in Tamil Nadu:
 - (b) the progress made so far; and
- (c) if not, when it is likely to be taken up for execution?

THE MINISTER OF SHIP-PING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PATIL): (a) A VEERENDRA Committee to go into the question of economic viability of Sethusamdram Project has been consituted. Their Report is awaited.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

National Maritime Board Agreement Vis-a vis article of agreement of the Indian Seamen

5404. SHRI M. M. LAWRE-NCE: Will the Minister of SHIPP-ING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Maritime Board's Agreement is a bi-partite agreement and having no statutory obligation on the seamen who or whose representative is not party to the agreement; and

(b) if so, how the Government have incorporated the different clauses of that agreement in the article of agreement of the Indian Seamen before employing on Board the vessel?

THE MINISTER OF SHIP-PING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). The wage terms and service conditions of all Indian foreigngoing ratings (Seamen), whether serving on Indian flag vessels or foreign flag vessels, are decided by the National Maritime Board which is a bi-partite machinery comprising of representatives of Indian seamen through their recognised unions and the shipowners. The Articles Agrreement between the Master and a seamen are prescribed under the provisions of Marchant Shipping Shipping Act, 1958, as such, the Agreement is statutory. As per the provisions of Merchant Shipping Act, the articles of Agreement are to contain, inter alia, the amount of wages payable to each seamen. The National Maritime Board decisions form part of the Articles of Agreement provided they do not conflict with any law or provision of Merchant Shipping Act.

Railways Institute at Samastipur

5405. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is only one Railway Community Institute at Samastipur for thousands of Railway Employees for their multilateral cultural, recreational and other activities;
- (b) whether that nstitute is proposed to be leased out to some individual cinema house owner;

(c) whether railway employees of Samastipur have demonstrated against the said lease; and

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(d) whether it is proposed to cancel the lease?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAIL-WAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There are two Railway Institutes at Samastipur.

- (b) Yes. There is a proposal to license (and not lease) he old Institute building to an outsider for exhibiting films.
- (c) Yes, a representation submitted by the Railway employees against the proposal to license institute building to an outsider was been received by the Railway.
- (d) The license agreement has not yet been finalised with the party-

Filling up of 10 high-ranking posts

5406. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that at least 10 high-ranking posts in the Railway including those of General Managers of four of nine Zones, have been lying vacant;
 - (b) if so, since when;
- (c) what are the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what steps are being taken to fill the same?