

staff of the Circles in Southern India. It is, however, proposed to open a residential Training Centre at Trivandrum for certain cadres.

(c) As soon as the necessary alterations in the buildings have been completed and the required equipment obtained and installed.

(d) The Training Centre at Trivandrum will impart training to candidates recruited for appointment in the higher non-gazetted technical cadres and also to certain operative cadres.

#### **Taxes on Motor Vehicles in India**

\*292. **Shri P. G. Deb:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken about the consolidation of taxes on motor vehicles in India; and

(b) if so, the details of the same?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** The question of consolidation of the various levies on motor vehicles and their collection through a single agency has been under consideration for some time.

2. The matter was discussed at meetings of the Road and Inland Water Transport Advisory Committee and the Transport Development Council. It was generally felt that the taxes on goods and passengers were not strictly taxes on vehicles and, therefore, their consolidation with the motor vehicles tax was not necessary. It was, however, agreed that there should be a single agency for collection of motor vehicle tax and the taxes on goods and passengers.

3. As for the octroi duties, it was agreed that it was necessary to abolish them in the interests of the development of road transport. As a first step in the implementation of this recommendation, the State Governments concerned have been requested to examine the manner in which local

bodies can be compensated for the consequent loss of revenue and the legislative measures required for this purpose, in consultation with those interested in the problem of local finances.

#### **Allocation for Railway Lines**

\*293. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from Southern States for more allocation for new Railway lines and doubling;

(b) if so, the allocation finally made; and

(c) what are the different lines whose construction will be taken up during 1961-62 and 1962-63?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Hassan-Mangalore, Salem-Bangalore and Manamadurai-Virudhunagar railway lines are included in the physical programme of the Railways in the Third Five Year Plan. The construction of the Hassan-Mangalore line will be phased taking into account when the Mangalore Port is likely to be brought into use. The construction of the other two will be taken up after the necessary surveys have been conducted.

#### **Indian Merchant Navy**

\*294. **Dr. Samantsinh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Seamen's Union of India have requested the Government for manning India's Merchant Navy with the Indian crew;

(b) the total number of crew in the Indian Merchant Navy and the number of our nationals therein; and

(c) by what time the crew of the Indian Merchant Navy would be fully Indianised?