

Institute of Medical Sciences has recruited professional donors who turn up every third day to sell blood; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remedy this unethical practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Retrenchment of Gangmen

3758. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of gangmen have been retrenched in the Asansol Division after the Congress Ministry has come to power;

(b) if so, number of such retrenched gangmen, date of retrenchment with their average period of service; and

(c) reasons for such large scale retrenchment in this period of severe employment crisis in towns and drought in the villages?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). About 300 casual Gangmen were engaged in the Engineering Department from 26-3-80 at different places on Asansol Division. On expiry of the sanction and completion of the work for which it was sanctioned, all these Gangmen were discharged on 15-5-1980. These gangmen have been re-engaged with effect from 16-6-1980 for newly sanctioned works.

#### Decline in volume of cargo handled by Coastal Shipping

3759. SHRI B. K. NAIR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the volume of Cargo including

Coal handled by Coastal Shipping during current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the same; and

(c) the measures taken or contemplated to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### Manufacture of ships at cheaper cost

3760. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to manufacture ships at cheaper cost in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to rationalising and standardising their designs to reduce the cost of construction, Government had already directed the four major public sector shipyards to specialise in building particular type of vessels so that they can optimally use the resources available to them. The shipyards have already done considerable amount of work on this basis. All efforts for reducing the cost of construction such as improved methods of construction, advanced outfitting and standardisation of components, quicker turn-round and improvement in productivity resulting in lesser man-hour utilisation and lower over-heads, etc. are being attempted.