

The result? Almost 90 per cent of those being injured represent the so-called risk group (decreased ability to work, poor adaptation) and people with obvious health disorders. Our scientists haven't worked out a system of selection. There have long been discussions about the necessity of setting up specialised medical centres which would take on the serious study of the functioning of the human body under conditions of rotation schedules in the Arctic, and develop the necessary recommendations. Unfortunately, things have not gone beyond the discussion stage.

It seems that the following suggestion deserves attention: train remote-camp shift workers in special technical schools from childhood according to the appropriate methods; develop the body's capabilities of adapting.

As we can see, there are lots of ideas around. Of course, it will take efforts and resources to bring them about, but we are talking about something very important here: people's health. We mustn't "cut corners" in things like this, or put off a solution to the problem "until later". The losses may be irreplaceable. It was no accident that the plenary session of the Provincial Council of Trade Unions, where these matters were all discussed in detail, demanded that the management and trade union leaders improve the work in a fundamental way in order to preserve the health of people coping with the Arctic.

It is easy to demand. But what next? So far, the positive changes in Yamburg are taking a