

(a) whether there is at present shortage of wagons for movement of coal to the coal-linked consumers in West Bengal with the result that due to erratic supply, the workers are facing retrenchment ;

(b) whether Railways are taking any action to press more wagons for lifting the coal from the pitheads in West Bengal coal-fields ; if so, the details thereof ?

(c) whether the Railways have decided to adopt bottom discharge wagons to meet the coal transportation problems of the consumers ; and

(d) if so, when the production of this new type of wagon will commence and whether it will be in some of the existing units in Calcutta or elsewhere.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Wagons presently available are adequate.

(c) and (d). A detailed project report for the design of an optimum self discharge hopper wagon including bottom discharge design for the Indian Railways is under preparation by the Research, Design and Standards Organisation, Lucknow and a final decision will be taken on receipt of the report.

#### Adoption of Indian Children by Foreigners and ill treatment to the Children

5010. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Children are being adopted by foreign foster parents living-abroad ;

(b) if so, the number of children adopted during the year 1980, 1981 and 1982 by foreign foster parents and the names of Indian or foreign agency working in this field through whom the children were selected or transported out of India for adoption ;

(c) the names of the countries which are

adopting such children ; and

(d) whether Government have received any complaints that foreign parents in some cases, misused and ill-treated the adopted children and if so, the details thereof and the policy of the Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information received from some high courts/district courts, 305 children were given as 'Wards' to foreigners in 1980, 554 in 1981 and 1736 in 1982. The proceedings under the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 are between private parties. Government does not, therefore, have a complete list of organisations working in this field.

(c) Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Holland, Iran, Italy, Netherland, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, U.A.E., U.K., U.S.A. and West Germany.

(d) It is reported that in one case some girls were molested and the foreign parent has been convicted and jailed for abuse of his adopted daughter. The Government is reviewing the matter of inter-country adoption.

‘श्रेणी’ ‘ग’ से ‘ख’ और ‘ख’ से ‘क’ में पदोन्नत किए गए यादों में अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के गाँव

5011. श्री वयाराम शाक्य : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) डिवीजनल रेलवे मैनेजर, उत्तर रेलवे, इलाहाबाद के 16 जुलाई, 1983 के पत्र संख्या 941/ई.टी.०-3/गाँव-ए/पी० टी० के आधार पर कितने गाँवों को श्रेणी ‘ग’ से श्रेणी ‘ख’ में, ‘ख’ से ‘क’ में और ‘क’ से ‘क’ स्पेशल श्रेणी में पदोन्नत किया गया ;

(ख) इनमें से अनुसूचित जातियों और अनु-