

to Miocene. The Barail and Tippam rocks, which are the main oil bearing rocks in Assam, are found exposed in this area.

Short Supply of Wagons on Rupsa-Bangriposi Section.

*677. SHRI J. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that narrow gauge wagons available on Rupsa-Bangriposi section of Kharagpur Division on the South Eastern Railway are inadequate to meet the traffic demand;

(b) whether it is a fact that Headquarters Office of South Eastern Railway issued orders to augment the wagon stock by transferring narrow gauge wagons from Nagpur Division;

(c) whether it is also a fact that owing to limited wagon stock, the South Eastern Railway administration is paying huge compensation claims on account of damage to goods in transit;

(d) if so, the details of compensation claims paid during the period January, 1972 to March, 1973: and

(e) what steps are proposed to be taken to augment wagon supply and to avoid compensation claims?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) Wagon supply on the section is fairly satisfactory. However, to improve the position further, it has been decided to transfer some wagons from Nagpur Division.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) Five more bogie open wagons are being added to this section to bring about a further improvement in the wagon supply position.

Engine drivers on Indian Railways

*678. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Steam Engine Drivers classwise and the Diesel Engine Drivers and Assistants as on 31st March, 1973 on the Indian Railways;

(b) how many of them are persons from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) what is the percentage of reservation made for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for these Posts?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) (a) and (b) Information relating to Railways other than Eastern, North Eastern and South Eastern Railways is given in a statement laid on the Table of the Sabha. Information about these three Railways is being collected. [See Appendix LXXXV Annexure No. 731

(c) A reservation quota of 15% and 7% for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively is admissible on the vacancies occurring in a year.

Abolition of Original Side of the High Courts

*679. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand by the lawyers in Bombay and Calcutta that the Original Side of the High Courts should be abolished; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) and (b) In 1968 there was a demand from the Bar Association of the Calcutta High Court for the abolition of the Original Side of that High Court. As the matter concerned the State Government, the recommendation was passed on to the Govt. of West Bengal for consideration in consultation with the High Court.