

(b) when such a report is likely to be completed; and

(c) whether a copy of the report will be placed on the Table of the House?

**The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas):** (a) The Election Commission propose to prepare a report on the General Elections, and they have with this object in view asked the Chief Electoral Officers of the various States to collect statistical and other material and furnish reports.

(b) It is difficult to state at this stage when the report will be ready.

(c) This matter will be considered after the Election Commission has submitted the report.

#### WAR COMPENSATION FOR MANIPUR

**\*1394. Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state what is the total amount sanctioned upto date by Government for paying war compensation for Manipur?

(b) How many claims have been paid off in Manipur till now and how many are yet outstanding?

(c) Whether it is a fact that 50 per cent. reduction has been effected in the matter of payment of war compensation claims in Manipur in the case of 2,000 out of fourteen thousand claims and if so, how?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami):** (a) A total sum of Rupees 2,18,44,330 has been paid as war compensation. In addition, in the areas known as Assam Relief Measures Areas (which also include parts of the Naga Hills District) a sum of over Rupees two crores has been paid by way of relief.

(b) No. of claims paid 16,545;

No. of claims outstanding 3,800.

(c) No. The correct position is that in about 2,000 claims which were subjected to preaudit it was found that lesser amounts were due than those originally passed. Each case was considered on its merits.

#### ASSAM RELIEF MEASURE

**\*1395. Shri Rishang Keishing:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state how much money has been distributed to the war-affected people of Manipur hills and other areas familiarly known as "Assam Relief Measure Area"?

(b) Is it the policy of Government to give only relief and no compensation to the people of Assam Relief Measure Area?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami):** (a) About Rs. 2.3 crores have been paid in Assam Relief Measures Area of Manipur and Naga Hills District. Separate figures for the Manipur areas are not available.

(b) The Assam Relief Measures not only amounted to relief but made good damage caused in the area.

#### COAL IN ASSAM

**\*1396. Shri Beli Ram Das:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large quantities of coal of high quality is available in the district of Garo Hills within the State of Assam; and

(b) what steps have so far been taken to mine this coal?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes, Sir. Coal deposits are known to exist in Siju and Darrangiri areas in the Garo Hills.

(b) The State Government report that two mining leases for working coal and other minerals in certain areas of the Garo Hills have been granted to two Indian Companies namely the Associated Cement Companies Ltd. and the Assam Mining Corporation Ltd.

#### OIL IN NAGA HILLS

**\*1397. Shri Beli Ram Das:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil deposits have been found out in the Naga Hills district within the State of Assam;

(b) what steps have been taken to operate these deposits; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there are several oil deposits in several other districts of Assam?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (c). Oil has been found in the tertiary rocks of Assam which occur in the Patkoi and Naga Hills in Upper Assam and Eastern Assam. The occurrence of oil here has been known for the last 70 to 80 years.