

sideration of the record of such officers, the Board is of the opinion that he should be given opportunity to hold Section charge, the Board may arrange for his being given officiating appointment in Grade III as and when a vacancy arises."

The case of officers covered by clause (ii) are being referred to the Central Secretariat Service Selection Board shortly.

#### AWARD OF RED BLANKETS

**712. Shri Rishang Keishang:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the British policy of awarding red blankets to the Tribal Chiefs of Manipur, after every three years, is being continued by the Government of India?

(b) If so, what is the total number of red blankets last awarded and the total increased number of the same after the achievement of Independence of the country?

(c) What are the rules regulating the awards of red blankets?

(d) What is the amount spent for it and how is the expense met?

(e) Did the Prime Minister award red blankets to the Tribal Chiefs during his visit to Manipur; and if so, how many?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) The pre-Independence policy of awarding red cloths to the tribal chiefs and khulapkas of Manipur after every three years is being continued.

(b) The information is being collected from the Chief Commissioner, Manipur and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

(c) A copy of the rules is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 42.]

(d) A sum of Rs. 971/13/- has been spent on the purchase of red blankets. The expenditure is met from Government revenues and is included in the Deputy Commissioner's Budget.

(e) The Prime Minister presented 11 red blankets measuring 3 yards each to some tribal people during his recent visit to Manipur.

#### RECOGNISED TRIBES OF MANIPUR

**713. Shri Rishang Keishang:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recognised tribes of Manipur by the Constitution of India;

(b) whether Government are aware that the nomination paper of Shri Thangkhai, who was reported to have belonged to the tribe of PAITE was rejected by the Chief Electoral Officer of Manipur on the ground that his tribe was not recognised by the Constitution of India;

(c) whether Government are aware that there are some such tribes in Manipur which do not belong to any recognised tribe by the Constitution; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) According to the Indian Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Part C States) Order, 1951, the number of recognised tribes in Manipur is three viz. (1) Kukis (2) Lushais and (3) Nagas.

(b) The nomination paper of Shri Thangkhai was rejected by the Returning Officer as on the candidate's own declaration he did not belong to any of these three tribes.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

#### ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE REGULATIONS

**714. Shri Telkikar:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing Army, Navy and Air Force Regulations, having become out of date partly by influx of time and partly due to Constitutional changes, are being revised; and

(b) if so, how far the work is completed?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seventeen are under revision at present. Substantial progress has been made in the case of majority of these books. One book has been practically completed and some others may also be completed by the middle of next year.

#### SULPHUR

**715. Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether any deposits of Sulphur have been discovered during the last one or two years in India;

(b) whether researches have been made to substitute Iron Pyrites in the place of Sulphur, especially in the manufacture of Sulphuric Acid; and