

octroi duty without production of octroi receipt from Imphal Town Fund Office even though the goods are meant for areas outside the Imphal Town Fund Area; and

(b) if so, the action taken for removal of this difficulty?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Books for Neo-Literates

*598. { **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:**
Shri Radha Raman:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing;

(a) the number of books for Neo-literates which have been submitted to the Secretary, Folk Literature Committee in connection with the prize competition this year;

(b) the names of the regional languages in which the books have been submitted; and

(c) the number of prizes awarded in each language with the names of successful competitors?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) to (c). Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 22].

Scheduled Tribes

*599. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts of money allotted by the Government of India during 1955-56 for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes of Manipur;

(b) the amounts expended and lapsed out of the Central grants sanctioned for this purpose during 1953-54 and 1954-55;

(c) the reasons which have caused the lapse of the money; and

(d) the measures adopted by Government to prevent recurrence of it in future?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) A tentative ceiling of Rs. 14.50 lakhs has been fixed during 1955-56 for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes of Manipur. Final allotment will be made after the schemes prepared by the State Government have been scrutinised and approved.

(b) to (d). A statement, containing the information, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 23].

Petroleum in West Bengal

258. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether it is a fact that existence of a good quality of petrol has been indicated in the course of a preliminary survey conducted by the Stanvac Project at Ramnagar within P. S. Khanakul in the District of Hooghly, West Bengal?

The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya): No, Sir. Messrs Standard Vacuum Oil Company are carrying out experimental shootings for reflection survey in selected areas in West Bengal. It is too early to say anything about existence of a good quality petrol in West Bengal.

New Branches of Banks

259. **Shri Anirudha Sinha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the Reserve Bank of India from Scheduled Banks for opening their branches abroad during the year 1954-55 and the number out of them accepted; and

(b) the number of applications received during the same period from foreign banks for opening their branches in this country and the number out of them accepted?

The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) During the period the 1st April, 1954, to the 31st March, 1955, five applications were received from four scheduled banks for opening branches outside India, out of which two were granted, one was rejected and the other two are under consideration.

(b) During the period, two applications were received from one foreign bank. Both of them were initially rejected. One of them was, however, subsequently re-considered and the necessary licence was granted on the 5th July, 1955.

Smuggling

260. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any cases of smuggling on the borders of East and West Punjab during 1955 so far;

(b) if so, the number of smugglers detected and convicted;