

SPECIAL TRIBUNALS

*171. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special Tribunals set up and working at present under the Displaced Persons (Debt Adjustment) Act, 1951;

(b) the number of applications received by these tribunals from December, 1951 to 31st December, 1952; and

(c) the number, if any, disposed of so far?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 334 civil courts in various States have been appointed Tribunals for purposes of the Act.

(b) 11,138.

(c) 889.

The figures given in answers (a), (b) and (c) do not include figures for Assam, Bhopal, Himachal Pradesh and Tripura. Information from the Governments of these States is awaited.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any cases and, if so, how many where non-displaced creditors have made use of these tribunals for their claims against displaced debtors?

Shri A. P. Jain: I cannot give the separate figures.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the secured creditors in India have made applications against displaced debtors?

Shri A. P. Jain: Under the provisions of the law, they could and they must have made.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Have any representations been received that the time allowed under the Act is too short and that some extension might be given by way of amendment of the Act or something like that?

Shri A. P. Jain: One, of course, was received from a certain unknown person and there were one or two comments in newspapers. Beyond that no representation was received.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were any representations made that persons who were living in India but had their business in Pakistan could not get the advantage of this Bill and that this might be extended to cover those cases as well?

Shri A. P. Jain: The provisions of the Bill are there and I would refer

the hon. Member to those provisions. The matter which was not represented was not the extension of the provisions of the Bill but extension of the period of the Bill during which applications could be made.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Do the Government propose to amend the Bill to cover other cases of persons who really have suffered on account of the partition, but have not been covered in the definition of 'displaced persons' as at the actual time of partition they were in India?

Shri A. P. Jain: There is no such intention.

POLITICAL PARTIES FOR ELECTIONS

*174. **Shri Punnoose:** (a) Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state whether the Election Commission have decided which of the political parties that contested the last General Elections as national parties are to continue as such for the purpose of future elections?

(b) If so, which are the parties?

(c) What is the basis of the decision?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) Yes.

(b) The parties are—

(i) The Indian National Congress.

(ii) The Praja-Socialist Party.

(iii) The Communist Party of India.

(iv) The All-India Bhartiya Jan Sangh.

(c) The basis of the decision is fully explained by the Election Commission in its circular letters of 6th February, 1953 and 16th February, 1953, copies of which are laid on the Table of the House. Copies of the statutory notifications referred to in those letters are also laid. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 1.]

Shri Punnoose: Have Government received any representations from any political party or parties to the effect that this percentage of 3 is unduly high?

Shri Biswas: I am not aware of any such representations having been received. They might have been. The Election Commission has not informed me about it.