

report on certain grievances relating to labour in defence installations; and

(b) if so, has any report been received from this committee?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes.

(b) No, Sir, not yet.

Shri Hukam Singh: Have any of those grievances that the labour had been removed subsequently?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question is in relation to the Committee that has been appointed. The grievances must be innumerable and as we are not dealing with any specific set of grievances I am unable to answer the question. But the question really relates to the Committee that has been appointed to "investigate and report on certain grievances"—that is the wording of the question of the Member.

Shri Hukam Singh: What was the labour situation in these Defence installations during 1951-52?

Mr. Speaker: It is too vague a question to be put. I do not propose to allow it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Government call for an interim report?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It raises a very wide question. Unfortunately, this Committee has had certain setbacks. The Committee was appointed with a Chairman and two other members. The Chairman died and the question of how the Committee should proceed with its work is one that was debated upon: whether they should reconstitute the Committee or appoint a Chairman or ask the existing members to carry on. All these details had to be settled and they were settled in consultation with the unions concerned. At the moment the unions have agreed and the Government have decided that the two members should carry on with the work of the Committee. There is no question of an interim report—we expect the report to be available before the end of the year.

ELECTION PETITIONS

*161. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the number of election petitions received by the Central Election Commission in respect of (i) Parliamentary elections, (ii) elections to State Assemblies; and

(b) the number of Tribunals appointed so far?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) A statement showing the number of election petitions received upto the 20th May, 1952 in respect of Parliamentary elections and Elections to the State Legislative Assemblies distributed Statewise is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 42].

(b) So far seven Tribunals have been set up by the Election Commission and twenty-three election petitions (five in respect of Parliamentary Elections and 18 in respect of Assembly Elections) have been allotted to them for trial.

Shri Hukam Singh: May I know whether the Government propose prescribing any time-limit for the election tribunals to finish their work?

Shri Satish Chandra: That is a matter within the jurisdiction of the Election Commission.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the tribunals which have been formed are intended to serve any particular State or they are formed on the basis of petitions?

Shri Satish Chandra: In fact, there is a separate tribunal for each petition, though in some cases the members of the tribunals may be the same for different petitions. According to the Act one tribunal is appointed for each petition.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether any petition has been filed with the Election Commission with reference to Articles 102 and 103?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise out of this?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Regarding qualification.

Mr. Speaker: But the hon. Member is referring only to disqualification.

Shri Jangde: What are the States where these tribunals have been appointed?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS

*162. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recognised Engineering and Technical Institutions in