

(ख) विन्ध्य प्रदेश में कितनी याचिकायें पेश की गई थीं, उनमें से कितने के विषय में निर्णय हो चुका है और कितने के विषय में निर्णय बाकी है ?

The Minister of Law (Shri Biswas):

(a) The number of election petitions which are pending is given state-wise in the table below, the figures being as on the 17th November, 1953:—

Name of State	General Election	Bye-elections	
		Parliamentary	State Legislative
Bihar	1	2	1
Bombay	...	...	...
Madhya Pradesh	...	...	5
Madras	...	1	...
Orissa	...	1	...
Uttar Pradesh	2	8	...
Madhya Bharat...	2	...	2
Mysore	...	1	...
Rajasthan	...	4	...
Saurashtra	...	...	1
Ajmer	...	...	...
Delhi	1	3	...
Himachal Pradesh	...	...	...
Vindhya Pradesh	2	2	...
Total	6	24	2

(b) In Vindhya Pradesh, 25 petitions have been filed up-to-date. 20 have been decided and 5 are pending.

VEHICLE DEPOT AND M. E. S., PANAGAR

113. Shri Ramananda Das: (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a number of civilian workers of Vehicle Depot and M.E.S., Panagar, were assaulted by Military Personnel in September, 1953, on suspicion of some alleged theft and that the case against the workers failed in the court?

(b) Is it a fact that on the complaint of the Union, the Base Com-

mander, Panagar, instituted an enquiry for ascertaining the facts of assault in which some military officers were found guilty?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken against the guilty officers?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Government reports are that no civilian workers of Vehicle Depot and MES Panagar were assaulted by military personnel in September 1953 on suspicion of an alleged theft. The case of theft against the workers failed in the court.

(b) Yes, an inquiry was instituted but the allegation of assault against the military personnel was found to be baseless.

(c) Does not arise.

ABOLITION OF CERTAIN DISTRICTS IN PEPSU

114. Shri Ranjit Singh: Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of saving expected from the abolition of Barnala, Fatehgarh Sahib and Kandaghat districts of PEPSU; and

(b) what steps have been taken to re-employ the staff retrenched on account of the abolition of the above-mentioned districts?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) The districts in question have not been abolished. As a measure of economy, the Barnala district has been placed under the charge of the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur and the districts of Fatehgarh Sahib and Kandaghat under the charge of the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala respectively. As a result of this reorganisation and the abolition of certain Tehsils, a saving of about Rs. 8 lakhs per annum is anticipated.

(b) The entire permanent staff rendered surplus on account of this reorganisation have been absorbed in

other Departments. The Government is also endeavouring to find alternative posts for the temporary personnel who have been retrenched. For this purpose, the State Government

have banned recruitment to all posts in the State Services, excepting those requiring specialised technical training, till the retrenched personnel have been re-employed.
