

be high. The future prospects of uranium are problematical and investigations are being continued by the Raw Materials Division of the Department of Atomic Energy.

CORRUPTION CASES

***319. Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1176, asked on the 22nd March, 1954 and state:

(a) the final action taken in respect of the 758 cases of corruption detected during the years 1950 to 1953; and

(b) the number of Gazetted Officers against whom such action was taken?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 21]

Shri Dabhi: In the statement details are given of the number of cases of departmental irregularities such as receiving illegal gratification etc. in which disciplinary action was taken. May I know whether Government consider that receiving illegal gratification is merely a departmental irregularity, and why criminal action was not taken?

Shri Karmarkar: A particular act may invite both departmental action as well as criminal prosecution. Whether criminal action is taken or not depends upon the sustainability of the action. Certainly, in some cases criminal action also has been taken. I have not got the figures with me, but it is a fact that action has been taken in criminal courts and some other matters are pending investigation.

Shri Dabhi: Again, in the statement there is another column about the number of cases in which investigations were completed and final blacklisting action was taken. May I know what is meant by 'blacklisting action'?

Shri Karmarkar: 'Blacklisting' is putting in the black list, that is to say, a man is not given any import or export licence etc; it applies to people who seek to obtain licences from us.

Shri Dabhi: May I know the names and/or designation of the 8 Gazetted officers against whom action was taken, and also what action was taken?

Shri Karmarkar: (1) Shri C. R. Mankikar, Asstt. Controller of Imports and Exports—Case pending in court.

(2) Shri B. M. Sapre, Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports—Case pending in court.

(3) Shri J. N. Mukerji, Controller of Imports and Exports—Reverted to Customs Department and discharged.

(4) Shri P. K. Dutta, Examining Officer—Reverted to Customs.

(5) Shri V. D. Jhingen, Assistant Director, Enforcement—Dismissed from service.

(6) Shri M. M. Lal, Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports—Removed from service.

(7) Shri T. R. Verma, Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports—Suspended from service. (A reference to U.P.S.C. has been made for determining the quantum of punishment)

(8) Shri S. A. Venkataraman, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry—Dismissed from service.

Diwan Raghayendra Rao: May I know if Government are contemplating a change in the Public Services Commission Rules giving them more powers to exercise control over the officers with a view to check corruption?

Shri Karmarkar: The question may be addressed to the Home Ministry in due course.