

engineering and technology in our economy.

Corruption

2166. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prevention of Corruption Act applies equally to Ministers:

(b) if so, how many prosecutions have been launched against Ministers in the States so far since the inception of the Act;

(c) whether the Central Anti-corruption or Special Establishment machinery undertook any investigation against any Minister so far; and

(d) if so, with what result?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Prosecutions were launched under the Penal Code in 1949-50 against six Ministers of Part B and Part C States. As far as known to the Central Government no Minister has been prosecuted under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

(c) Yes.

(d) As stated in answer to (b) prosecutions were started against six Ministers. One of them was convicted and one was discharged. The cases against the other four were withdrawn with the permission of the courts, after consulting the Attorney General, and on legal advice that prosecution was not justified. One other case under the Penal Code, which was also against a Minister in a Part B State, was investigated in 1949, but no further action was found called for.

Employment for Students

2167. Shri Ram Sewak: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state, when there is an acute unemployment problem in the country, what is the

principle behind the scheme of employment of University students during vacations?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): So far as this Ministry is concerned, a few students of the University of Calcutta were employed by the National Atlas Organisation on the preliminary work in connection with the preparation of the English edition of the National Atlas, to enable the regular staff of the organisation to devote more time for other important work.

Development of Rocket Science

2168. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any steps to develop Rocket Science in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) The Defence Organisation have taken certain preliminary steps in this behalf.

(b) It is not in public interest to disclose any details.

"Pakistani Smugglers"

2169. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether there was exchange of fire for about 30 minutes between Indian border police and Pakistani smugglers near Rajakey, a border village 42 miles away from Amritsar, on the 5th August, 1962?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): There was no such incident on the 5th of August, 1962 but on the night of 2nd August, 1962, there was an exchange of fire for about 10 minutes between three Pakistani smugglers and an ambush party of the Punjab Armed Police Picket, Rajakey along the border resulting in death of one of the smugglers.