

(b) The University did not favour the extension of Correspondence Courses to the Indian emigrants.

Students for Vocational Courses

*514. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 50 on the 14th August, 1963 and state the progress so far made by the Committee appointed to examine the role of education in relation to employment opportunities?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): The first meeting of the Committee on Education in relation to Employment Opportunities was held on 11th October, 1963, at which the procedure of work to be adopted by the Committee was broadly discussed.

I.A.S. Officers

*515. { **Shri P. Kunhan:**
Shri Sudhansu Das:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. N. Kureel:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of I.A.S. Officers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hajarnavis):

(a) Yes. At present there is a gap of 296 officers in a total cadre strength of 2,278.

(b) The rate of recruitment from the annual competitive examinations has been stepped up.

Pakistanis in Assam

*516. { **Shri Swell:**
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shrimati Shashank Manjari:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Pakistani nationals in Assam who formerly admitted themselves to be of Pakistan nationality have now retracted their former statements; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hajarnavis):

(a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

New Drug for Blood Pressure

*517. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigations for the assessment of the therapeutic value of the new drug for blood pressure discovered at the Indian Institute for Bio-chemistry and Experimental Medicine in Calcutta have been completed;

(b) if not, the time to be taken to complete the same; and

(c) the steps taken for its early release for sale?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Laboratory assessment of therapeutic value of the drug on animals is nearing completion but clinical trials have yet to be conducted.

(b) It is difficult to envisage the time that will be taken.

(c) Steps can be taken only after successful completion of clinical trials.

National Research Development Corporation of India

*518. { **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**
Shri D. N. Tiwary:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Research Development Corporation of India