

TEACHING OF HINDI IN MADRAS SCHOOLS

*62. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of teaching Hindi in Schools in Madras was brought up at any time in the Southern Zonal Committee meeting or at the meetings of the National Integration Conference; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Madras Government has ordered that there shall be no minimum pass marks for Hindi?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARAGATHAM CHANDRA-SEKHAR): (a) The question of teaching Hindi and other languages in schools in the Southern Zone was considered generally at a meeting of the Zonal Council held on December 30, 1962.

(b) Until recently, examinations were held in Part II Language Paper which provides for the teaching of Hindi or any other Indian language not being the regional language or the mother-tongue, but no minimum pass marks were prescribed. The State Government have now decided that no public examination should be held in this paper on the ground that as these marks are not counted in the examination results, it is wasteful to conduct the examination.

SHRI A. D. MANI: With reference to the answer given to part (b) am I right in inferring that virtually, as far as the Madras Government is concerned, Hindi is a sort of an optional paper where a blank paper can be given in the examinations and the candidate's chance of success in the examination would not be affected on that account?

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: There will be no paper at all.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It has been an optional paper so far. So, nothing new has taken place.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Is it in conformity with the decision regarding the three-language formula taken by the National Integration Conference?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Sir, I must admit that it is not in conformity with the three-language formula.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: Hindi being the national language may I know whether different States can have different rules with regard to the teaching of that language in their schools? The rules must be the same at least as far as the Southern States are concerned.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: The three-language formula was accepted by the Chief Ministers' Conference and it was accepted unanimously. So, every State has to implement that formula and the Southern States—of course, this is a recent development in Madras Government—are implementing that formula. I do not know what the special reasons were for the Madras Government to take this step. As far as I am aware, the students did not take seriously to this subject; I mean the students did not study it properly. Some of them did not even answer the examination papers. So, the Madras Government did not like that that spirit should be there and they took this step. This is what I think; I am sorry this is not the official information. However, I might inform the House that a Committee has been appointed under the Chairmanship of the Central Minister of Education with the State Education Minister to see how this formula is being implemented and I think we should leave it to that Committee to deal with this matter.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: May I know whether the "Ladiv Member" assumption is justified that Hindi is the national language? All that the Constitution says is that Hindi shall be the official language after 1965. Nowhere is it said that Hindi shall be the national language of India.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Sir, Hindi is also one of the national languages as Tamil is also one of the national languages.

SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: May I know whether it was the Madras Government or the Madras University which waived this minimum pass marks for Hindi?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: First it was done by the Madras University. Now this step which has been taken has been taken by the State Government.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, the Home Minister said just now that the decision of the Madras Government is contrary to the decision of the National Integration Conference. He also said that at the Chief Ministers' Conference the three-language formula was approved. I should like to ask him whether he has written to the Chief Minister of Madras asking why he has gone contrary to the decision that he himself had accepted at the National Integration Conference. If he has not written to him so far, may I know why he has not written so far?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: The Committee is there and then besides that we will be discussing it in the Southern Zonal Council Meeting. It would be better to discuss it when all the Chief Ministers of the Southern States are present.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mine is a very simple and minor question, May I know, Sir, whether the co-operation, in this matter, of our friends of the Socialist Party has been sought in order to divert their energies about Hindi into some constructive channels by employing them as voluntary teachers in the South?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It seems that Mr. Bhupesh Gupta has adequate free time at his disposal. So, I would request him to take the matter up with the leaders of the Socialist Party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Going too far.. Next question.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COMMITTEE

*63. SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings held by the Children's Literature Committee so far during the year 1962-63;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted any report; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI-MATI SOUNDARAM RAMACHANDRAN): (a) One.

(b) and (c) The Committee is not required to submit any report.

شروی اے۔ ایم۔ طارق: کیا میں
وزیر تعلیم صاحب سے یہ جان سکتا
ہوں کہ جب کمیٹی کا یہ مقصد نہیں
ہے کہ کوئی رپورٹ پیش کی جائے تو پھر
کمیٹی بنانے کا مطلب کیا ہے؟

†[श्री ए० एम० तारिक: क्या मैं बजारे
ताजीम साहब से यह जान सकता हूँ कि जब
कमेटी का यह मकसद नहीं है कि कोई रिपोर्ट
पेश की जाय तो फिर कमेटी बनाने का मत-
लब क्या है?]

My question is when there is no necessity for the Committee to submit its-report, what is the need for such a Committee?

SHRIMATI SOUNDARAM RAMACHANDRAN: The Committee has been formed to take decisions and implement the same and then they would inform us what they have done. In this respect the main functions of the Committee as defined are: —

tl J Hindi transliteration.