Committee of Parliament on Official Language

*479. Shri Keshava: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee of Parliament on official language met for the consideration of the report of the Official Language Commission; and

(b) if so, how many times?

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

Shri Keshava: May we know whether any period of time has been fixed for submission of this report?

Shri Datar: No, Sir, so far as I am aware.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether it is a fact that the deliberations were held in camera?

Shri Datar: That is what they have decided.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know whether the report has been circulated to the State Governments for their opinion?

Shri Datar: That question will be considered in due course.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether there is a proposal to call a conference of all political parties to discuss the language issue and if so, when and where?

Shri Datar: I am not aware of any such conference.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether there is a proposal.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He said that he is not aware.

Shri Dasappa: May I know the procedure adopted by the Parliamentary Committee, whether they choose to call in any witnesses or consult the Governments in view of their reactions to the report of the Official Language Commission?

Shri Datar: The Committee has appointed a Six-member sub-Committee. That committee is dealing with this question. They are making or recommending rules in this respect.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether in future at least, the meetings of this committee will be open to the Press?

Shri Datar: It is for that committee to consider this question.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether the Government have decided upon the procedure to be adopted after the Parliamentary Committee submits its report, whether that would be placed before the committee.

Shri Datar: It is too early at this stage because the matter is now before the committee.

Shri Tangamani: The hon. Minister said that there is no time limit for submission of this report. May I know whether the report will be submitted at least before the end of the next year?

Shri Datar: The report will be submitted as early as possible. In January, this committee is meeting for a number of days and it is expected that they would submit the report at a very early date.

Shri Achar: May I know at least whether Members of Parliament will be allowed to be present as visitors?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri T. K. Chaudhuri.

Some Hon. Members: No answer was given.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No answer was given. We cannot compel him to give an answer.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: On a point of order, Sir, according to the Rules of Procedure, in the Committee of Parliament Members are generally allowed. I cannot quote the rule off-hand. There is a rule which says that various Committees of Parliament are

open for Members to attend. I do not know whether this will affect that Rule of Procedure or not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If there is a rule, that would be followed. There is nothing that is to be asked for. The question was put and the Minister was silent. No answer was given. Therefore, I also thought that no answer was needed and I passed on. Where is the point of order?

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: The point of order, I may be allowed to state. The rules provide for presence of Members of Parliament in Parliamentary Committee. Does that rule apply? In spite of this, will it be in camera?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The application or interpretation of rules is not a subject to be discussed in the Question hour. Therefore, there is no point of order.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: The hon. Minister said just now that what the Government will do after the report of the Committee is submitted has not yet been decided. May I know whether the Government is resiling from the position taken up by the Home Minister here that the House would be given an opportunity to discuss this report, whether there is any resiling from that position?

Shri Datar: What the hon. Home Minister said does remain. That question arises after the submission of the report, not now.

Polytechnic in Hyderabad

*480. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Shri R. C. Majhi:} \\ \text{Shri Subodh Hasda:}\end{array}\right.$

Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the Scheme of establishing a new Polytechnic in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the nature and quality of the assistance that will be given by the Centre for the purpose; and

(c) whether the Institution will be managed by State Government or will be a Private Institution?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) Yes.

(b) The Central Government have agreed to provide 50 per cent. of the estimated expenditure on buildings and equipment and 25 per cent. of the recurring expenditure for the current plan period.

(c) The Polytechnic is a Private Institution, managed by a trust.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know the estimated recurring and non-recurring expenditure and the share of the Central Government?

Shri M. M. Das: The capital expenditure on building and equipment will be Rs. 14.84 lakhs, and the recurring expenditure Rs. 1·6 lakhs. The Central Government's share will be, capital expenditure 50 per cent. of the total expenditure, that is, Rs. 7·42 lakhs; of the recurring expenditure, 25 per cent.; it comes to Rs. 40,000 per year up to the end of the present Plan period.

Shri Subodh Hasda: What is the strength of admission and the number of different departments?

Shri M. M. Das: At present, there are only three departments: the department of civil engineering, mechnical engineering and electrical engineering. The number of admissions in the civil engineering is 60, in the mechanical engineering 30 and electrical engineering 30, total 120 per year.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know the progress so far made in the building of the institution?

Shri M. M. Das: This institution has already been established. Students have been admitted for the current academic year.