

sent to the press. The remaining books are at various stages of preparation.

So far as popular books are concerned, 237 titles have been approved for publication, out of which 49 have already been printed, 7 are in the press and the remaining are under various stages of production.

(b) and (c). The scheme relating to production, publication and translation of standard works of university level is being implemented by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology in collaboration with various universities and other academic bodies. The scheme relating to popular books in collaboration with private publishers is being handled by the Central Hindi Directorate.

The main reasons for the slow progress of the scheme are (i) delays and difficulties experienced in obtaining copy rights from the foreign publishers, (ii) printing delays and (iii) lack of competent translators, original writers and vetters. Every effort is being made to accelerate the pace of work by eliminating administrative bottlenecks and printing delays. To avoid dependence on foreign publishers, greater emphasis is now being laid on preparation of original books and for this purpose an extensive search for talent is being made.

Uniform Education Policy

- *44. **Shri Bishwanath Roy:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri K. Halder:
Shri Y. A. Prasad:
Shri N. K. Sanghi:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the nature of steps being taken for the uniformity in the education system in the country and regarding the duration of different stages of education, namely, School education, Higher Secondary and Degree Course?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): Some of the steps already taken in that direction are:

- (i) Conversion and orientation of elementary schools to the basic pattern;
- (ii) Re-organisation of secondary education on the basis of the recommendations made by the Secondary Education Commission; and
- (iii) Re-organisation of higher education on the basis of the recommendations of the University Education Commission.

Recently, the Education Commission has also made a number of recommendations towards achieving greater uniformity in the duration and pattern of education at different stages. These are under the consideration of the Government.

Official Languages Act

- *45. **Shri Seshivan:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri George Fernandes:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:
Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal:
Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finished the proposals to amend the Official Languages Act for the continued use of English; and

(b) if so, whether the Bill will be introduced in the current Session of Parliament?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charam Shukla): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.