

1974-75, the Government has imposed a cut of 40 per cent. of the quota of newspaper which is 10 per cent more than the cut for the last year. However, daily newspapers can, on application, obtain 7 per cent of the entitlement in white printing paper, thus reducing the overall cut to 33 per cent.

(c) Further cut was inescapable in view of the reduced availability of newsprint.

Applications from Kerala for licences

477. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of licence applications recommended by Kerala Government are pending with Government of India as on the 31st May, 1974;

(b) whether some of them were recommended during the year 1970;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) the reasons for delay in granting licence or rejecting the licences?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) As on 30th June, 1974 43 IL applications relating to Kerala were pending, of which one relates to 1972 and 3 to 1973 and the remaining to 1974

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Retrenchment of Census Employees

478. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to entrust any new schemes to the

Census Department to avoid the retrenchment;

(b) if so, when the decision is likely to be taken; and

(c) if retrenchment is unavoidable, whether the Census staff who have put in nearly four years continuous service would be absorbed in other Central Government departments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government is trying its best to help the retrenched census employees in securing employment in central government departments, State Governments and in public sector projects.

Maharashtra-Karnataka Boundary dispute

479. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government to settle the border dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka,

(b) whether any talks were held between the two States recently, and

(c) if so, the facts and results thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) to (c). With a view to arrive at an equitable solution which would command maximum acceptability all efforts including informal discussions with the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka and other leaders are in progress. Government are not, however, aware of any recent talks as such between Maharashtra and Karnataka.