

[Shri Bapusaheb Parulekar]

Ministers of Karnataka and Maharashtra to settle the dispute, but in the meantime the Government fell.

Five Members of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly belonging to the 'Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti' withdrew their indefinite fast undertaken in Bombay in August last on the assurance of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra that he would meet the Chief Minister of Karnataka and discuss the same. No effective steps have been taken so far.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take expeditious steps to settle the Karnataka-Maharashtra border dispute pending for about 25 years, so that a source of tension between the two States is ended and people from the border areas are encouraged to join the nation's mainstream of political life.

(v) SUPPLY OF DIESEL AND KEROSENE OIL TO FARMERS OF EASTERN UTTAR PRADESH

श्री हरिकेश बहादुर (गोरखपुर) :
पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के गोरखपुर और देवरिया आदि जिलों में रबी की फसल की सिंचाई के लिए कृषि यंत्रों में प्रयोग हेतु डीजल का भीषण अभाव हो गया है। डीजल पम्पों पर किसान कई दिनों तक डीजल के लिए लाइन लगा कर पड़े रहते हैं। डीजल के अतिरिक्त मिट्टी के तेल की भी बहुत कमी हो गई है। ग्रामीण जनता को डीजल और मिट्टी का तेल दोनों ही नहीं मिल पा रहा है जिससे आम जनता और किसान दोनों ही अत्यधिक परेशान हैं। इसलिए सरकार से मैं मांग करता हूँ कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में डीजल और मिट्टी के तेल के अभाव को दूर करने के लिए तत्काल कार्यवाही करें ताकि जनता को उसकी आवश्यकता के अनुसार ये वस्तुएं उपलब्ध हो सकें।

(vi) PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF ELECTRONIC COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IN THE NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Sir, a very dangerous situation is developing in the newspaper industry with the proposed introduction of electronic computer technology. This advanced technological system has been introduced, in varying degrees, in some newspapers and the industry as a whole is going to adopt this technology in a big way very soon.

This new development is bound to lead to unprecedented industrial confrontation between the employees and the management in an industry which is having more or less cordial relations.

The Hindu has already introduced it fully. Some newspapers like the Times of India, Bombay, the Ananda Bazar Patrika and the Amrit Bazar Patrika of Calcutta and the Indian Express of Bombay have introduced the new technology in varying degrees. Attempts are afoot to introduce this new technology in the Statesman and other newspapers also.

Several other newspapers including the Indian Express, Delhi, and the Patriot, Delhi, have served notices to their employees about their intention to introduce the new technology within a few months.

As a result of these developments, there is a direct threat of mass retrenchment and restriction of job potentialities in the industry.

The import of such machinery is at present allowed under the Open General Licence and the newspaper managements are rushing to put in orders for them. Realising the dangerous consequences which would flow from this development in a country where the employment situation is already too bad, the Government should put a blanket ban on the import of such machinery till this matter is thoroughly discussed among