

**Requests from States to augment
Quota of Controlled Cloth**

3065. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether almost all the States have requested the Central Government to increase the quota of controlled cloth;

(b) whether Central Government are aware that there is a great demand of controlled cloth, particularly from the weaker sections of the society;

(c) whether it is also a fact that weaker sections of the society are not satisfied with the present distribution system of controlled cloth; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard so that the poor people in rural areas are benefited?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). There has been some increased demand from States for controlled cloth due apparently to the fact that the consumer price of this cloth which has remained unchanged since 1974 compares very favourably in the context of increasing prices in non-controlled cloth. Quotas of controlled cloth for the various States/Union Territories have been fixed on the basis of population with reference to production level of 400 million square metres in a year. Allocation to each district/area in each State is done by the State Governments as per its distribution policy. The general policy of the Government is that controlled cloth should be reserved for sale to the weaker sections of the society, most of which live in the rural areas. Of the total 57,140 retail-outlets in operation for distribution of controlled

cloth in the country, 44,777 are in rural areas. In order to make the distribution more effective and purposeful, specific guidelines were issued to the State Governments/Union Territories to regulate the sale of controlled cloth. The distribution of controlled cloth within a State is, however, the responsibility of that particular State Government.

**Potential market for Pellets produced
by Mangalore Plant**

3066. SHRI M. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plant at Mangalore will convert Kudremukh iron ore concentrate into pellets;

(b) whether Government have started exercises to locate potential markets for pellets which the proposed Mangalore plant will produce from 1984; and

(c) if so, with what result?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Proposal for setting up of a pelletisation plant at Mangalore using Kudremukh concentrates is under consideration of Government.

**Allocations made for Development of
Tourism in Orissa during 1979-80 and
1980-81**

3067. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:

SHRI GIRIDHAR
GOMANGO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the allocation made for development of tourism in Orissa in 1979-80 and 1980-81;