

Central Assistance to Weavers in Karnataka

4109. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have stopped its share of Rs. 291 lakh to Karnataka as Marketing Development Assistance from 1st April, 2000 for giving rebate, infrastructure development and assistance to weavers in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons for stopping the assistance;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that discontinuing this assistance would affect 71,238 weavers in Karnataka; and

(d) whether Government would take steps to reconsider its decision and release its share for 2000-2001 as before ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRA): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to discontinue the Market Development Assistance Scheme after 31-3-2000. However, the Government will consider viable proposals upto the period 31-3-2000 in case they are complete and supported by information required, if any;

(c) No such information has been received from the State Government;

(d) Does not arise.

Promotion and Development of Handicrafts

4110. SHRI ANANTRAYDEVSHAKNER DAVE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of review for promotion and development of handicrafts in the country;

(b) the details of selected areas where review was undertaken; and

(c) the funds allocated during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 for upgradation. State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Periodic reviews are undertaken by the Government of India from time to time to strengthen the existing schemes with a view to promote and develop handicrafts in the country.