

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Promotion of Village and Small Industries is generally treated as synonymous with rural industrialisation. While the primary responsibility for their promotion rests with the State Governments,

the Centre also plays an important supplemental role, including assistance for provision of infrastructural facilities, technical guidance and financial assistance. The total outlays provided for the Village and Small Industries sector both by the Centre and States over the successive Plans are given below :

| Plan period | | Rs./crores |
|------------------------|-----|------------|
| First Plan (1951/56) | ... | 31.20 |
| Second Plan (1956/61) | ... | 200.00 |
| Third Plan (1961/66) | ... | 264.00 |
| Annual Plans (1966/69) | ... | 132.55 |
| Fourth Plan (1969/74) | ... | 293.13 |
| Fifth Plan (1974/79) | ... | 535.03 |
| Annual Plan (1979/80) | ... | 239.48 |
| Sixth Plan (1980/85) | ... | 1780.45 |

The progress made by this sector is already contained in the Sixth Plan Document.

(c) and (d). The Approach document for the 7th Plan (1985/90) has indicated that there would be adequate emphasis on promotion of rural industrialisation.

Fixation of External Value of Rupee

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of India's foreign exchange reserves;

(b) whether the rapid decline of the Pound Sterling in relation to the U.S. Dollar has serious implications for India and could lead to a revision of the basis on which the external value of the rupee is worked out ;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government have taken in this regard; and

(d) if no action has taken so far, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) India's Foreign Exchange Reserves as on 28th December, 1984 stood at Rs. 6385.60 Crores.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Coal Supply to West Bengal

8. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the existing coal supply to West Bengal to meet the demand for power plants and tea gardens in North Bengal;

(b) whether this coal supply does not meet the demand of North Bengal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and