

Effect of Rupee Devaluation

446 SHRI BHAGEY GOBAR-DHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) how the devaluation of rupee will help in restructuring country's fiscal and economic activities,

(b) whether it will increase the current year's import bill substantially, and

(c) if so, the estimated additional liability on that account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMLASHWAR THAKUR)

(a) Recent adjustments in exchange rate of the rupee are expected to stabilise the balance of payments situation in the short-term and improve the balance of trade in the medium-term. A realistic exchange rate is a necessary factor for restructuring of the economy and not a sufficient condition.

(b) and (c) The change in the import bill during the current year will depend on the changes in unit value and volume of imports during the year. It is too early to make an estimate at this stage.

Battery Buses in Delhi

447 DR C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government propose to add 100 new battery buses to its existing fleet of battery buses in Delhi during the current year

(b) whether the Government have called for performance report of these buses,

(c) if so, the progress of such report,

(d) whether any tentative new routes have been decided to ply new battery buses,

(e) if so, the details thereof,

(f) if not, the time by which these routes are likely to be identified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH GYLFER) (a) The Delhi Energy Development Agency (DEDA) proposes to add 25 more buses during the current year.

(b) and (c) DEDA have sponsored National Productivity Council for techno-economic evaluation of battery buses. National Productivity Council have submitted their report.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of answer to (d) above.

(f) The routes will be decided at the time the buses become ready for taking delivery by Delhi Energy Development Agency.

Selling of Surplus Land by Sick Mills in Bombay

448 SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the MINISTER OF TEXTILES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals for selling the surplus land of the closed textile mills in Greater Bombay,

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of such textile mills, land available and proposed for selling,