

**Increase in Number of Buses on Routes having Heavy Traffic Potential**

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

(a) the criteria laid down by the Delhi Transport Corporation to increase the number of buses on a particular route where there is a heavy traffic potential; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the routes where such increase has been made during 1990 and 1991 till June?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Periodic surveys are carried out by the DTC on routes having excessive passenger loads and also to ascertain the viability of the route if increased number of buses are provided. Additional buses have been provided on Route Nos. 509, 1, 143, 934, 735, 958, 66 and 984 during 1990 and till June, 1991.

**Performance of Public Sector Banks**

771. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of foreign banks in India and the deposit growth rates in these banks is more impressive as compared to public sector banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to improve the performance of the public sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Performance of foreign banks in India in terms of profitability and deposit growth rate is more impressive as compared to that of public sector banks.

(b) The better performance of foreign banks may be attributed among other things, to their concentration in metropolitan and port towns, their overseas network enabling them to attract more NRI deposits, mechanisation and computerisation of operations, lower priority sector lendings and high level of non-fund business.

(c) Government and Reserve Bank of India have already taken a number of steps to ensure the viability and improve the performance of public sector banks. The measures taken include strengthening of the capital base, rationalisation of service charges and interest rates structure and containment of staff growth. The banks have also been advised to ensure better credit management, raise productivity and effect economy wherever possible. To provide the competitive edge to banks, new money market instruments like certificates of deposits and commercial papers have been introduced and rates of interest on term deposits have been enhanced. Banks have also been permitted to diversify their activities.

[*Translation*]

**Proposal to include Jodhpur Bye-pass in Strategic Road Programme**

772. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jodhpur bye-pass between Nasirabad to Pokhran in Rajasthan is of strategic importance;

(b) whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for inclusion of the above bye-pass in the strategic road programme; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH