

Fully electric fleet for public pransport

670. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is committed to make the country's public transport system fully electric;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is targeting a fully electric fleet for public transport, including buses, taxis and auto rickshaws under the second phase of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME) scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) At present, no proposal to make country's public transport system fully electric is under consideration of the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.

However, to promote manufacturing of hybrid and electric vehicles and to ensure sustainable growth of the same, Department of Heavy Industry formulated a scheme namely FAME India [Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India] in the year 2015. As per the Gazette Notification of FAME India Scheme, the scheme shall be reviewed appropriately based on the outcome and experience gained in the Phase 1 of this scheme, which was originally for a period of 2 years commencing from 1st April 2015. The phase I of the scheme has, however, been extended till 31st March 2018.

Closure of PSUs

671. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning closure of about 20 PSUs profitable as well as loss making for strategic sale;