

(c) The Government has recently approved the setting up of the feeder service to link inaccessible areas in the North East region.

(d) It is likely to come into operation as soon as the preparation work on setting up the organisation, acquisition of aircraft and personnel and provision of requisite facilities is completed.

Gold and Tungsten Found in Almora, U.P.

7308. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold and tungsten have been found in the Almora District of U.P., and

(b) what is the progress of the survey and what are the estimated reserves?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Alluvial Gold was earlier reported from the sands of rivers like Alkanda, Ganga, Gomati and Pinder in the vicinity of Almora. Indications of Schillite, a mineral of tungsten, have been noted by the State Directorate of Geology and Mining during field investigation. Analysis of samples is being done and further survey is in progress to find out possibilities for its industrial use. Both Geological Survey of India and Directorate of Geology and Mining, U.P. are carrying out prospecting work on regional basis in different localities of the area. Work being done by Geological Survey of India is in a preliminary stage and is proposed to be continued in 1980-81 Field Season Programme.

Representation from Cement Industry for Exemption from Customs Duty

7309. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been represented to him by the Cement Industry

which is the worst hit by the recent power crisis that those Cement Factories which have applied for have been granted import licences for the import of diesel generating sets for captive use and for which they have obtained clearance from the State Electricity Board may be exempted from the payment of the Customs and Countervailing duty at the rate of 51 per cent being levied as at present:

(b) whether this heavy impost which works out to more than 50—60 lakhs is likely to shoot up the overall production cost of cement which is already very scarce; and

(c) if so, the steps which Government propose to take to afford this much-needed relief to this industry so that production of cement is raised and the public demand met?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No, Sir. However, a representation addressed to Minister of Energy and Irrigation was referred to the Ministry of Finance for comments. The matter was examined but it was not found possible to accede to the request for exemption from customs duty on diesel generating sets.

(b) Although the cost of the imported diesel generating sets may increase the production cost of cement, the f.o.r. price of cement is not affected as it is statutorily controlled.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Programme of Activities of IAAI

7310. SHRI D. S. A. SIVA PRAKASAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: *

(a) whether the International Airport Authority has submitted the statement of Programme of the Acti-

vities for the financial year 1980-81 to the Government as per Section 21 of International Air Port Authority Act, 1971;

(b) if so, what are the details of the programme; and

(c) what are the items accepted and not accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement of the major items of expenditure proposed by IAAI and the outlay accepted by the Government is enclosed.

Statement

International Airport Authority of India—Annual Plan 1980-81

(Rs. in crores)

Name of work	1980-81 outlay	
	Proposed by IAAI	Plan outlay approved by Government
1	2	3
I. PROJECTS		
(i) Bombay Terminal Complex Phase-I	2.77	2.77
(ii) Bombay Terminal Complex Phase-II	2.60	1.00
(iii) Delhi Terminal Complex Phase-I	4.80	4.80
(iv) Madras Domestic Terminal Complex	1.75	0.75
II. OTHER WORKS		
(a) Interim modifications	3.68	2.50
(b) Gargo expansion and warehouse facilities	0.97	0.88
(c) Runways	0.76	0.45
(d) Taxiways and aprons	1.53	1.53
(e) Roads and external services including bulk services.	1.02	1.02
(f) Land acquisition	2.50	1.10
(g) Residential buildings	2.01	2.00
(h) Other operational works including security walls.	0.54	0.37
(i) Ancillary buildings	0.61	0.61
Total	25.54	19.78

1	2	3
III. EQUIPMENT		
(a) Cat-II lighting	0.99	0.99
(b) Cat-I lighting	0.09	0.09,
(c) VASI	0.09	0.09.
(d) Replacement of edge lamps	0.14	0.14.
(e) Apron lighting	0.11	0.11
(f) Conveyors and escalators	0.13	0.08
(g) Facilitation equipment	0.53	0.40
(h) Other operational equipment	1.84	0.32
Total	3.93	2.22
Grand Total	29.47	22.00

Income-Tax Arrears

7311. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the gross arrears of income tax and corporation tax as on March 31, 1979 stood at over Rs. 910 crores;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for such large arrears; and

(c) what steps are contemplated to recover these arrears?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The arrears of income-tax and Corporation tax outstanding as on 31.3.1978 and 31.3.1979 were as under:—

(In Crores of Rupees)

	As on 31-3-78	As on 31-3-79
Tax-in-arrears	633.53	554.90
Demands created but not fallen due for collection	356.34	355.74
Total outstanding demands	989.87	910.64

The phenomenon of tax arrears is a continuing one. Even though the tax outstanding at the beginning of the financial year is collected/reduced to a sizeable extent by the year end, arrears again go up mainly because a part of the fresh tax demand raised

during the course of the year (on completion of regular assessment, etc.) is not fully collected by the year end and, therefore, becomes fresh arrears of tax at the end of the year. At any point of time some tax demand will always remain in arrears.