

Expenditure on Gold Controller's Department

2944. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual expenditure on the Gold Controller's Department;

(b) whether the expenditure is commensurate with the results achieved;

(c) in view of the failure of the Gold Control Act, what utility is being served by continuing it; and

(d) do Government propose to scrap/amend the Act?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The average expenditure on the Gold Control Administration during the last three years was Rs. 35.83 lakhs per annum.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The objectives of the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 broadly are:

(i) curbing the general demand for gold from the public with a view to reduce it progressively;

(ii) to serve as an economic measure to supplement other preventive measures; to make circulation of smuggled gold difficult and its detection easier by extending the control over gold beyond the stage of import.

As the objectives for which the Gold (Control) Act was brought into effect are still relevant, the question of scrapping Gold Control does not arise.

As and when there is a need, amendments of the provisions of the Gold (Control) Act are made.

Working of various Airports

2945. SHRI RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names and number of Members of various Committees, Experts and Commission appointed to go into the expansion and working of various Airports of the country and particularly of Saurashtra, Kutch and Gujarat since 1970;

(b) the details of their reports and recommendations;

(c) how many of them have been accepted by Government;

(d) the steps taken to implement the same;

(e) the expenses incurred on each of the Committees, Experts and Commissions; and

(f) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Four Committees namely:

1. Sahgal Group.

2. Khosla Group.

3. Civil Aviation. Review Committee (Tata Committee).

4. Gidwani Committee on Third Level Air Services

have been appointed after 1970 for the expansion and working of the various airports in the country.

In addition to these four Committees, three Committees namely High Level Committee on facilitation at the level of Ministry, Standing Facilitation Committee at the Director General of Civil Aviation's level and Airport Advisory Committee at the Airport level, have been set up to improve