

MARINE TRANSPORT

The Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL) under the Ministry of Roads and Transport is the major shipping line carrying the bulk of cargo to and from Iran. IRISL also owns 51% of Irano-Hind Shipping Company which is co-owned with the Indian Government, and is the other major shipping company in Iran. The size of the commercial fleet has increased from 42 ships with a total DW capacity of 525,000 tonnes in 1980 to 110 ships with a DW capacity of 2.3 million tonnes in 1991. Of the total imports of 21.5 million tonnes in 1991, 80% came through the ports, with Bandar Imam and Bandar Abbas in the Persian Gulf handling the major part.

Containerized cargo transport and handling facilities are going to be expanded and major ports in both the Persian Gulf and the Caspian Sea are going to be renovated and reequipped. Also during the Five Year Economic Development Plan, the capacity of the commercial fleet is going to be increased by some 7 million tonnes by renting foreign ships. There are several plans for building and developing ports in Jask, East of Hormuz Strait, Shahid Beheshti Port, Hormuz Island and Pasa Bandar in the most southern point of the country. The Korramshahre Port which was almost totally damaged during the war with Iraq is also being rebuilt. Several ports are also planned to be built and developed on the Caspian Sea shores, the most important of which are the expansion of Bandar Anzali and Noushahre ports.

3.83

ISRAEL**AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AND AIRPORT REQUIREMENT**

The Israeli Government plans to issue another international tender for a new airport north of Eilat, Israel's fast growing Red Sea resort city. The proposed facility is to be located 11km north of the town and would be capable of handling all types of aircraft on a single runway. It will replace the existing facility which is on prime property in the center of the town and can only handle small jet aircraft. At present, larger aircraft, operating primarily charter flights from Europe, have to land at an Israeli Air Force base 60km to the north.

Earlier tenders for the airport were cancelled after the government ruled that the bids that were submitted were unsatisfactory.

This is the major opportunity in Israel at the present time for Canadian companies producing air traffic control and airport equipment.

3.84

KUWAIT**AVIONICS, AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT & AIRPORT RECONSTRUCTION**

Kuwait International Airport was seriously damaged during the Gulf war. All of the airport's avionics equipment was destroyed or looted and several major structures will have to be rebuilt from scratch. A Dutch firm, Narco, consulted with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, the Kuwaiti Government agency which manages the airport, to establish a "Master Plan" for the future of the airport.