

for Indian Airlines' appearing in 'Indian Express' dated 16 June, 1982; if so, full details thereof; and

(b) whether any executive class has been introduced in Indian Airlines flight to foreign countries, if so, full details thereof including facilities to be provided to this executive class and the rate of fare?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA):** (a) Yes, Sir. Pilots in Indian Airlines are paid specific rates of Meal Allowance and Special Travelling Allowance as per the settlement signed with their Association in November 1965. These allowances are reviewed from time to time. Recently, these allowances have been revised upwards marginally. Payment of Entertainment Allowance has also been revised to maintain parity with the pilots of Air-India. The financial implication of the revision of these allowances is estimated to be about Rs. 29.9 lakhs annually.

(b) The Government have approved introduction of first class (known as executive class on domestic sectors) on Airbus aircraft of Indian Airlines and it is scheduled to be operative with effect from 15th July, 1982. First class will be introduced only on Bombay/Karachi route. The executive/first class passengers will have more comfortable seating and will be entitled to 30 kg. of free baggage as against 20 kg. normal free baggage allowance. The fare for first class will be 29 per cent (12½ per cent in the case of executive class) higher than the economy class fare.

#### **Acquisition of French built Exocet missiles by Pakistan**

1465. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports that Pakistan has already acquired or is going to acquire shortly, the ship-to-ship or air-to-ship version of the French built Exocet missiles which can pose a serious threat to the Indian Navy in the Arabian Sea and the Bombay High off-shore installation; and

(b) if so, what are the steps Government have taken or propose to take to pro-

vide adequate protection to the country's Navy and off-shore installations against such threats?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps are being taken to ensure that Naval Forces are able to cope with the emerging situation.

#### **Session of Inter-Government Group on Tea**

1466. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the third session of Inter Government Group on Tea, under the auspices of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development, was held in Geneva in May last; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement between the tea producing and consuming countries?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A meeting of the Tea Exporting and Importing countries under the auspices of the UNCTAD was held in Geneva from 3-5-82 to 14-5-82, where various aspects of an International Tea Agreement were discussed. Draft framework of an Agreement was approved by the Exporting and Importing Countries. The principal exporting countries viz. India, Sri Lanka and Kenya, have not yet been able, however, to reach an understanding regarding the sharing of quotas. On this matter, UNCTAD is still continuing correspondence.

#### **Protection to eastern off-shore island from foreign powers**

1467. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a dispute with a foreign power regarding our possession of the eastern off-shore islands; and

(b) if so, what are the steps Government have taken to protect them from