

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

sudden seizure by that foreign power and whether Government regard them as adequate?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO):** (a) and (b). The question New Moore Island has been under discussion between India and Bangladesh. During Secretary-level talks in January 1982 in New Delhi, the two sides had exchanged additional information for indepth examination on the basis of all relevant facts and principles and agreed to discuss this matter again at an early date.

India continues to exercise effective sovereignty over the Island and we have every reason to be confident that Bangladesh would not seek to alter the existing status by force. The Government, naturally, continue to ensure that India's territorial integrity is not violated.

**News item captioned 'forged black bonds flood market'**

1468. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) has the attention of Government been drawn to the article entitled "forged black bonds flood market" published in the national weekly 'Current' dated May 15, 1982;

(b) if so, what are the steps Government have taken to investigate the matter; and

(c) the results of the investigations?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):** (a) Government are aware of the article in question published in the issue of 'Current' dated 15th May, 1982.

(b) and (c). The matter has not been investigated so far, but Government, is looking into the matter.

**Income tax Arrears**

1469. **SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the outstanding amount of income tax arrears as on 31st May, 1982;

(b) the steps taken to intensify collection of arrears;

(c) whether as a result of these steps there has been any improvement in collection of arrears compared to previous years; and

(d) if so, the details of the improvement made?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA):** (a) The detailed figures of income-tax arrears are compiled at the end of each quarter. The latest figures of 'tax-in-arrears' are available as on 30-9-81. The requisite information in respect of 'tax-in-arrears' and 'demand created but not fallen due' on that date is as under:—

(in crores of rupees)

Tax-in-arrears	761.31	} Provisional
Demand created but not fallen due	428.19	

(b) to (d). The Income-tax Act, 1961 provides for several steps for enforcing collection and recovery of 'tax-in-arrears' such as levy of penalty, attachment of monies due to the defaulters, distraint and sale of movable property, attachment and sale of immovable property, committing the defaulter to civil imprisonment etc. Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, suitable steps are taken from time to time by the Income tax authorities concerned for recovery of tax arrears. Several administrative steps have been taken to accelerate the pace of recovery. For the current year a very high priority has been given to the collection and recovery of tax arrears. Targets have been laid down in the Annual Action Plan of the Department for the year 1982-83 and communicated to the Commissioners of Income-tax. The Board, too is keeping a close watch on the reduction of arrears through reports received from Commissioners of Income-tax every month.

The amounts of cash collection/reduction out of arrear demand during the financial