

(CCS) on 24th August, 2016, an Inter-Governmental Agreement was signed on 23rd September, 2016.

(c) and (d) The Indian Negotiation Team (INT) followed the collegiate process and all views of various members of the INT were recorded and addressed suitably. All the members of the INT had signed the Report.

**Requirement of air force and recommendation note
by senior bureaucrats for Rafale**

780. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Government has made any change or revised any contract on Rafale deal that has been earlier signed with French Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Air Force had made any submission to Defence Ministry of their requirement for the number of Rafale Fighter Jets;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any senior bureaucrat or Air Force officers made any objection or note of apprehension on the procedure or the way Rafale deal has been conducted with France; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (d) No deal for Rafale aircraft was entered into earlier by the Government. Due to the impasse in negotiations the Request for Proposal (RFP) for 126 Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA) was withdrawn in June, 2015. In order to meet the Critical Operational Necessity for fighter aircraft in the Indian Air Force (IAF), 36 Rafale aircraft are being procured through an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) between the Government of India and the Government of French Republic.

The IGA was signed on 23rd September, 2016 between the Government of India and the Government of French Republic for the procurement of 36 Rafale fighter aircraft in fly-away condition, along with an initial consignment of weapons, maintenance support through Performance Based Logistic (PBL), Simulator and associated equipment.

(e) and (f) The Indian Negotiation Team (INT) followed the collegiate process and all views of various members of the INT were recorded and addressed suitably. All the members of the INT had signed the Report.