

(a) whether Union Government have appointed an enquiry committee to go into the West German H.D.W. submarine deal; and

(b) if so, the time by which the final report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) The Central Bureau of Investigation have registered a Regular Case in the matter on 5.3.1990 and investigations are in progress.

(b) The time-frame within which these investigations can be completed cannot be predicted at present.

Ninth Antarctica Expedition

1000. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VERMA:
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:
SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur):
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHAHARAJA
WADIYAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether four scientists in the Ninth Antarctica Expedition died on 8th January, 1990;

(b) if so, the facts available with the Government?

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in regard to this tragedy; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DE-

PARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON):

(a) Yes, Sir. Four members of the Ninth Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (three geo-scientists and a technical person from the Indian Navy) died on 7/8th January 1990 in a field camp in Antarctica.

(b) to (d). The circumstances leading to the deaths have been investigated by a Committee. The post-mortem was carried out by the Department of Forensic Medicine, Safdarjung Hospital on 16th February 1990. The immediate cause of death is believed to be poisoning by carbon monoxide produced by a 4.5 KW Honda generator which had apparently been running in the living tent for 4-5 hours before it was switched off when the deceased prepared to go to sleep. The Government of India arranged to bring back the bodies from Antarctica by air and handed them over to the next of kin of the deceased for cremation after the conduct of medico-legal post-mortem.

Acquisition of Missiles by Pakistan

1001. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA:
SHRI YADVENDRA DATT:
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan has started to manufacture deadly missiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has also been importing advanced missiles from other countries; and

(d) if so, to what extent it will affect India?