

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. In order to address the growing aspirations of the ex-servicemen community and to redress their grievances with a greater element of objectivity a proposal has been initiated in the Ministry of Defence for constitution of National Ex-Servicemen Commission. Welfare and rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen is a continuous process and the Government endeavours to explore every possible avenue for increasing employment opportunities for the Ex-Servicemen through various initiatives including pre and post retirement trainings and awareness programmes.

#### **Investigations into Submarines' Accidents**

†211. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there occurred a number of mysterious accidents involving submarines in Indian Navy since July 2013 to March, 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the investigation reports related to the accidents have been submitted to the Naval Headquarters;

(d) if so, the action taken so far on the basis of those reports; and

(e) if not, by when the investigation reports are likely to be submitted to the Naval Headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) Two accidents occurred onboard Indian Navy Submarines during July 2013 to March, 2014. On 14.8.2013 an explosion occurred onboard INS Sindhurakshak resulting in her submergence and loss of life of 18 service personnel. On 26.2.2014 there was fire onboard INS Sindhuratna resulting in loss of life of 02 officers.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Board of Inquiry (BoI) report on both incidents have been submitted to the Naval Headquarters. The BoI report in case of INS Sindhuratna has found seven officers culpable of various acts of omissions and commissions. Disciplinary action against these officers has been initiated at the Western Naval Command Headquarters. Examination of BoI report in case of INS Sindhurakshak has not been completed.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.