

[24 July. 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

VRS package for employees of BGML

*157. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 3533 employees of Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) would be offered a special VRS package;

(b) if so, the details of the package thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has also extended option of shifting of employees to other Departments which are in need of manpower; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) stands closed *w.e.f.* 1.3.2001 under Section 25(O) of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 in terms of permission granted by Ministry of Labour, Government of India *vide* letter dated 29.1.2001. The issue of the closure/winding up of the company is *sub-judice* in High Court of Karnataka because of the litigation initiated by the erstwhile employees of BGML. As such, Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)/Voluntary Separation Schemes (VSS) cannot be introduced in a closed BGML. However, on the request of erstwhile employees of BGML the directions of the High Court of Karnataka and to give a human face, Government decided to grant Special Terminal Package on the lines of VSS prevalent upto February, 2001 subject to the decision of the Court.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Al-Qaiaeda activities in Jammu and Kashmir

*158. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:

SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any report regarding the Al-Qaiaeda activities in Jammu & Kashmir;