

[14 July, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI SHIBU SOREN):

(a) and (b) There is no proposal to revive Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) at Kolar Gold Fields, Karnataka which has been declared closed under Section 25(O) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 with effect from 1st March, 2001

(c) A total number of 5,485 employees have been separated under Voluntary Retirement Scheme/Voluntary Separation Scheme/Special Terminal Benefit Package, which were opened from time to time in BGML.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Barbed wire fencing along Indo-Bangladesh border in Tripura

***126. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how far the erection of barbed wire fencing along Indo-Bangla border in Tripura has been completed;

(b) the number of dwelling houses on the other side of the fence belonging to residents of the State of Tripura;

(c) appropriate steps being taken to provide alternative houses to the affected families; and

(d) by when the work of fencing is likely to be over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGHUPATHY): (a) So far 141.30 kms of fencing has been completed in Tripura out of 736 kms sanctioned in 2000.

(b) and (c) Approximately 16,749 houses from 160 villages fall within 150 Yards from the International Border. Gates have been provided at suitable locations along the border fencing for facilitating easy movement of these villagers without any hindrance. However, wherever private lands are acquired for erecting border fencing, suitable compensation is paid to the affected families.

(d) The fencing work in Tripura is scheduled to be completed by 2006.

Plight of villagers in drought affected districts of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

***127. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:** Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news