

(c) whether Government are contemplating to set-up a sulphuric acid plant and an integrated fertiliser plant in the Amjhore area to utilize deposits of pyrites there, and to make-up for the shortage of fertilisers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. However, due to peculiar mining conditions and irregular and low thickness of seam, consistent production of 40 per cent 'S' grade pyrites has posed technical problems for economic mining.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) From December, 1982, the Sindri Fertilizer Plant has stopped taking pyrites from Amjhore mine. This has resulted in considerable under-working of the mines and consequent idle manpower at Amjhore. Only a small quantity of pyrites is being mined for production of Agricultural Grade Pyrites.

(e) The question of setting up a sulphuric acid-cum-phosphatic fertilizer plant based on Amjhore Pyrites would depend essentially on the techno-economic feasibility of the scheme. This question and allied issues are being examined by experts and the Ministry expects to review the position shortly.

### Strikes and Lockouts in Gujarat and Maharashtra

449. SHRI CHIMANLAL AMICHANDBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were strikes and lockouts during the period from 1st February, 1982 to 31st March, 1984 in Gujarat and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof with reasons therefor;

(c) how the disputes have been settled; and

(d) the total loss to labourers, Government and industries in each strike and lockout and what concrete steps are being taken to stop such strikes and lockouts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARAMAVIR): (a) to (d) Information regarding strikes and lockouts is maintained only for calendar years. A Statement on number of strikes/lockouts, mandays lost, value of wages lost and production lost during the years 1982-83 for Gujarat and Maharashtra is attached. Strikes and lockouts have generally been over demands relating to wages and allowances, personnel and retrenchment bonus etc. According to information received from the State Governments, disputes have generally been settled through conciliation, adjudication and arbitration.

Statement

State	Strikes	Lockouts	No. of Mandays lost (in lakhs)	Wages lost (in crores)	Production lost (in crores)
Gujarat	197	23	8.3	1.9	24.1
*Maharashtra	200	28	38.7	6.9	119.8
<b>1983</b>					
Gujarat	125	9	5.3	1.9	12.9
*Maharashtra	104	16	22.2	2.9	40.8

\*Excluding loss due to Bombay Textile strike.