

Price of Caustic Soda

1206. **Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**
Shri Dhulshwar Meena:
Shri K. Pradhani:
Shri Heerji Bhat:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of Caustic Soda has gone up recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to check the rise in price?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri K. Raghu Ramiah): (a) Yes. The ex-works prices of different varieties of Caustic Soda have gone up by Rs. 64. per tonne with effect from October, 1966.

(b) There is no control on the price of Caustic Soda. The industry has reported that the price increase is due to increase in cost of production

(c) The Tariff Commission has been requested by Government go into the cost structure of Caustic Soda and to recommend fair selling prices. The Report of the Commission is awaited.

Ghata Prabha Project

1207. **Shri M. N. Naghaur:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) when the Ghata Prabha Project in Gokak Taluk, Belgaum District of Mysore was started;

(b) the irrigation potential created and developed so far;

(c) the period of supply of water;

(d) when it is proposed to construct a reservoir and when it is likely to be completed;

(e) the cost of the Project; and

(f) the annual provision for the project during the Fourth Five Year plan period?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) The Ghata Prabha Project was started in 1949.

(b) Irrigation potential created to the end of Third Five Year Plan is 91,600 acres.

(c) Left Bank Canal Stage I at present is only a monsoon canal till the construction of storage reservoir at Hidkal is completed.

(d) The Reservoir envisaged in the Project is under construction and the Project is scheduled to be completed in the Fifth Plan.

(e) The estimated cost of the Project is Rs. 1894 lakhs.

(f) The Government of Mysore provided a sum of Rs. 46 lakhs for this project during 1966-67. The State Government proposed a provision of Rs. 453 lakhs for 1967-68 and Rs. 1806 lakhs for the Fourth Five Year Plan. The outlays for Fourth Plan and for 1967-68 are yet to be finalised.

Petro-Chemical Complex at Barauni

1208. **Shri Kameshwar Singh:**
Shri A. Sreedharan:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made to instal the Petro-Chemical Complex at Barauni; and

(b) when it will be completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Raghu Ramiah): (a) and (b). A feasibility study for the Aromatics Project comprising of extraction of benzene and xylenes at Barauni has been prepared. Even though, this report envisages completion of the first phase of the project by 1971, it is likely that the implementation is