

selected localities for raising trial pilot pine plantations to study their growth and performance for undertaking regular pulp wood plantations of pines. If these studies indicate success then only large-scale plantations of pines will be undertaken in future.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government are fully aware that large-scale mono-culture has a possibility of adversely affecting the ecosystem of the region and its bird and wild life.

(d) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had set up an Environmental Impact Study Group which had undertaken indepth study of the possible adverse effects on ecosystem and on bird and wild life if large-scale pine plantations are undertaken in future. The Committee has already submitted its recommendations which are under examination of Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Loss due to Natural Calamity during Last Ten Years.

5046. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) value of crops destroyed by natural calamities and loss to property and human life as a result thereof during last ten years, year-wise and calamity-wise in Gujarat;

(b) how much assistance has been given by the Centre and what was the demand put forth by Gujarat for each of such calamity; and

(c) whether any scheme on permanent basis to prevent such devastations have been planned; if so, the details of flood and drought control schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Construction of Hotels in Iraq by N.B.C.C.

5047. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Building Construction Corporation has secured contracts for construction of two prestigious hotels in Iraq, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The answer is in affirmative.

(b) The National Buildings Construction Corporation has recently been awarded the following two hotel construction works on turn-key basis by the State Organisation for Tourism, Government of Iraq:—

(i) Construction of 220 bedded 4 Star International Hotel at Mosul in Iraq. Estimated cost Rs. 23.60 crores.

(ii) Construction of 100 bedded Tourist Hotel at Dokan in Iraq.

Estimated cost—Rs 7 30 crores.

The period of completion of the projects is 20 months and 18 months respectively including the mobilisation period.

Housing Schemes by HUDCO

5048. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) has sanctioned 92 urban and rural housing schemes recently. and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of these 92 schemes are attached as per statement enclosed.