

Government have agreed in principle to set up a Central University for Agriculture in the North Eastern Hill Region.

(b) A review of agricultural education and research needs of the region was undertaken. Subsequently a draft project proposal was prepared and sent to the North Eastern Council and to the Governments of the various States/Union Territories of the North Eastern Hill Region requesting them to send their comments/suggestions so that a detailed project proposal could be finalised for further necessary action. The comments are still awaited.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### Living Conditions of Indian Workers in Gulf Countries

113. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian workers having been smuggled out by agents on false promises, are employed on low wages in Syria, Lebanon and various other countries and some of them have also been lodged in jails;

(b) if so, what is the latest Government's assessment about (i) the number of such Indian workers living in pathetic conditions on unusually low wages and (ii) those lodged in jails for illegal entry, in different countries; and

(c) what steps are being taken either to repatriate them or to secure proper working and living conditions for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Drinking Water and Sanitation Facilities in Urban Areas

114. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive programme to provide drinking water to all urban areas and for extension of sewage and sanitation facilities in those areas under the Seventh Five Year Plan has been laid down; and

(b) if so, what are the area-wise and population-wise targets fixed thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As per the targets laid down in the National Master Plan of International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, the Government is committed to achieve the following coverage by the end of the Decade, i.e., by 31st March, 1991:—

Urban Water Supply	: 100% of the population.
Urban Sanitation	: 80% of the population.

However, according to a mid-Decade review of the Decade activities conducted recently, the targets are likely to be scaled down.

(b) The Decade programmes are implemented by the States and provision for urban water supply and sanitation is made in the State sector. According to a mid Decade review conducted recently, the coverage in urban water supply and sanitation (both population-wise and percentage-wise) expected to be achieved by the States during VII Plan is given below:—

	Population expected to be covered	Percentage of total population
Urban Water Supply	169.96 million	86.4
Urban Sanitation	87.91 million	44.7

State-wise targets have not yet been firmed up.