

(b) As per the observations made in January, 1994, fall of 2 to 4 meters and more than 4 meters in the level of ground water in relation to similar observations made in January, 1993 was observed in certain parts of the Districts of Fatehgarh, Ferozepur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Ludhian, Ropar and Sangrur.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per the survey and exploration carried out by the Central Ground Water Board, the annual replenishable ground water resources of Punjab have been assessed as 17832.01 million cubic metres.

(e) Based on the results of experimental Artificial Recharge Projects carried out, the Central Ground Water Board, has prepared guidelines for formulation of Artificial Recharge Schemes by State Governments. The draft manual containing guidelines for formulation of Artificial Recharge Schemes has been circulated by the Board to the State Governments.

Misuse of Antibiotics

4208. SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI TARA SINGH:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Concern over misuse of antibiotics" appearing in the *Statesman* dated March 26, 1994,

(b) if so, whether the antibiotics in the country are frequently used and even without the consultation of the physicians;

(c) whether the excessive use of antibiotics are creating side effects to patients: and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Antibiotics are to be sold only against the prescription of a registered medical practitioner. If chemists supply antibiotics without prescription they are liable for action under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act & Rules.

(c) Extensive use of antibiotics can cause side effects.

(d) All medical practitioners are advised to prescribe antibiotics only after clinically diagnosing the diseases and informing the patient about the exact regime to be followed during treatment. Further the Possible side-effects of the drug are to be highlighted in the package for the guidance of the practitioner and the patient. Steps are also taken to educate and update the knowledge of medical practitioners through workshops, seminars etc. in this regard.

Recruitment In Paramilitary Forces

4209. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:

Will the minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :