

MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Only one hydro-electric project is pending for environmental clearance with the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The proposal is under consideration and a decision will be taken shortly.

Crossing of Indian Border by Pakistani Forces

1055. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the Pakistani armed forces and Air Force planes crossed Indian border in Punjab and Kashmir recently; and

(b) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) There has been no such recent incident.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Strengthening of Indian Army

1056. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the increasing tension on the borders of the country, it is proposed to strengthen the armed forces; and

(b) if so, the steps contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b). A close watch is kept on all developments which have a

bearing on our national security and appropriate measures are taken from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness.

[*English*]

Creation of Employment Generation Funds

1057. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested for creation of employment generation funds to finance jobs for all, under the right to work programme; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has also suggested that capital intensive projects which have no immediate relevance should be given up;

(c) if so, whether the Planning Commission has also suggested that money so released should be diverted towards the proposed funds; and

(d) if so, the details therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (d). The Planning Commission has set employment generation as a major objective in its approach to Eighth Five Year Plan. Eighth Five-Year Plan is, presently at the stage of formulation. Mobilisation of adequate funds at different levels to finance job creation programmes constitutes an important element of the evolving strategy. Reordering investment priorities from capital-intensive to labour-intensive projects is also relevant