

competitive, because many companies in the Toronto area, as well as across Canada, as those of us who read the daily papers know, are moving south.

Why are they doing that? Heaven forbid. It could not be because the government made it possible for them or encouraged that kind of activity by signing some sort of a document that suggests that it is going to be less competitive to be here in a restricted market, in a market that stretches over better than 5,000 kilometres. No, it could not possibly be that. We would engage in sarcasm if we said that. But the fact of the matter is that the cheap labour pool is making it very possible for entrepreneurs to exploit that kind of a market and avoid making the technological changes and innovations that they have to bring forward.

As an example, in Toronto in the last several weeks we saw a situation wherein the government has one policy in isolation of a whole series of others. Those of us who are familiar with the construction boom in Toronto over the course of the last few years will realize that one of the most severe problems in the Toronto market and the greater Toronto-southern Ontario market is the lack of skilled labour. The number of people who have been coming from Saskatchewan with skills in construction, carpentry, plumbing, electricity and bricklaying has not been enough to satisfy the great demands. As a result there have been unscrupulous entrepreneurs and brokers in the greater Toronto area and the southern Ontario area who have gone overseas to look for that kind of help. But now that the market is drying up, *ciao, baby*, we are sending you home. And there are 5,000 of them.

I want to say this in a language that some of those people understand. And maybe, because some of the government members are listening, we will have a copy for them in English as well.

[English]

These 5,000 workers who are being deported are (citizens) individuals whose productive abilities, dynamism and skilled training have proven to be advantageous to this country.

Government Orders

Many of them are victims of unscrupulous exploiters, the majority of them Canadians, with the tacit compliance of our government whose inaction allowed such illegal activity.

These workers came here as the "finished product" with no cost to our educational system, to our training programs or to our industry. Now this government acts with complete insensitivity to their worth, even in the face of recommendations by the Homebuilders Association which consider them an asset to this country.

[English]

Five thousand Portuguese workers have been exploited because they bring some very desperately needed skills to a segment of Ontario and then they are whisked away because they are no longer necessary in the estimation of the department. I do not know whether our minister, our departments, our government, are working in tandem or whether they are playing "I don't know what he's doing, I don't know what she's doing and I don't care".

How can we develop a labour strategy, a labour market for this country to meet the needs of this country outside of the parameters of a general immigration policy, a general industrial policy outside the parameters of a solid, long-term, well-thought-out research and development strategy?

Let me go to that for a second because in terms of research and development we certainly do not, as a country, have much to boast about. In fact, I have commissioned a little bit of research myself. We have taken a look at research and development among several of the nations of greater industrial import throughout the world; Canada, the U.S., the United Kingdom, West Germany, Australia and Japan. Do you know where Canada sits in terms of research and development? Dead last.

In terms of percentage change in government inputs—now this is the government contribution, this is government initiative in research and development into developing not only a labour market but an industrial sector, an economic environment, an entrepreneurial sector that is going to take complete and total advantage not only of the market possibilities but also the global dynamics and the needs for technological innovation—what does our government do by way of showing leadership? I do not know if leadership is a dirty word on the other side of the House. It would certainly would appear