

and provincial governments to establish a program to encourage our citizens to buy products domestically.

I am glad to say that the federal government has responded to this resolution and has listened to similar suggestions made during the Community Talks meetings across the country.

Last month the government launched the "Canada—Buy Into It" program. It is a campaign designed to ask Canadians to take a fresh look at the quality and range of products we produce in Canada.

This is an important initiative. Our manufacturers are responding to competitive pressures to improve the quality of their products, and this program highlights that fact.

I am confident that this initiative will be very helpful in promoting the idea of supporting wherever possible the businesses of neighbours and friends.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

Mrs. Beryl Gaffney (Nepean): Mr. Speaker, on April 3 a prominent human rights activist, Ajit Singh Bains, was arrested in India.

This retired judge and current chairperson of the Punjab Human Rights Organization has been thrown in prison and denied the right to a full and legitimate trial under the rule of law.

Further, the police confiscated valuable documents relating to his human rights work.

This incident has summoned condemnation from the international community. Prior to his arrest three Canadian members of Parliament from all three parties met with Mr. Bains in January in India. It is an insult to this Canadian Parliament that this man was then arrested.

The World Sikh Organization's genuine concern for the human rights of all peoples cannot be ignored. The carnage continues in the Punjab, in China and in many other areas of the world.

I urge the Secretary of State for External Affairs to voice Canada's disapproval in the strongest possible terms to the Indian government about the continuing

violations of human rights and to call for the immediate release—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member for Don Valley East.

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FEDERAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK

Hon. Alan Redway (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, most jobs are created by small business but most small businesses cannot get bank loans.

If we really want the banks, the trust companies or the life insurance companies for that matter, to provide small businesses with lines of credit and loans for inventory rather than just fully secured asset loans then the government must be prepared to lead by example.

Unfortunately the lending policies of the Federal Business Development Bank are exactly the same as those presently employed by the chartered banks.

We cannot expect the banks, the trust companies or the life insurance companies to lend to small business if the government's own lender of last resort, the Federal Business Development Bank, will not.

At present the FBDB's aid to small business seems to be based on the theory that if we hold their head under water long enough they will develop better lung control.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the Dieppe raid on August 19, 1942. In April I was honoured to be among those who visited the Canadian cemetery at Dieppe while in France for the 75th anniversary of Vimy Ridge.

Today I would encourage the government to consider the following request made by the Dieppe veterans.

First, the commemorative stamp for the 50th anniversary should be issued prior to August 19 rather than in November as now planned.

Second, POW veterans from Dieppe should be made eligible for the veterans independence program.

Third, post-traumatic stress disorder should be recognized as a pensionable disability.