

four weeks or six weeks until the Government gets its act together? Will he bring those programs in now?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, one way of helping many Canadians would be to pass the Income Tax Act amendments that the Opposition is filibustering. I wish to inform the hon. lady that there are 11.2 million Canadians who have filed for tax returns. The refunds to which they would be entitled would total probably \$6.5 billion. That money would be returned to Canadians in the next few weeks and months, and most of that money would be used for consumption and to help create jobs, and to act as a stimulant to the economy.

So I invite my hon. friends opposite, as a first and immediate step that they could take, which could also speed up the presentation of the budget, to pass the Income Tax Act that has been in the House for weeks and was considered by a parliamentary committee for months. The Conservatives are blocking, filibustering and preventing the House from proceeding with the legislation.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### REQUEST THAT MINISTER TAKE ACTION

**Hon. Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands):** Madam Speaker, what the Minister is saying to the House is that he does not give a damn about the young people who are out there in the country suffering and losing hope in this country, because he and his colleagues will not bring in programs that are designed to help create jobs. Last October he announced the NEED Program, which was to create 60,000 jobs, but to date, five months later, that Program has created only 15,000 jobs. That is the kind of delay that new programs must face.

• (1425)

What I want to know from the Minister is this. If he has programs, will he present them to the House now, or is he in the position of saying to these people, "Carry on in your despair, carry on in your hopelessness, until I get around to introducing the programs at my convenience"?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member's statement is a perfect example of the hypocrisy constantly displayed in this House by the Progressive Conservative Party over the past few days in its filibuster of the Income Tax Act amendments. The passing of this legislation would make it possible for the government to send refunds to some 11 million Canadians and provide them over the next few weeks with \$6.5 billion in returns they could spend. This legislation would have quick and immediate results and would put money in the pockets of Canadian consumers; yet, the Progressive Conservative Party has been fighting tooth and nail for months to prevent its passing.

#### *Oral Questions*

It is clearly that party's responsibility and every Canadian can see how they are preventing Canadian taxpayers from getting their Income Tax refunds which they could spend on consumer goods thereby stimulating the economy. In this instance, the Progressive Conservative Party is definitely the culprit.

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[*English*]

#### NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

##### TESTING OF CRUISE MISSILE—REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT PLACE DECISION BEFORE PARLIAMENT

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. The majority of Canadians have indicated that they are opposed to the testing of the Cruise missile. We in this Party have indicated our clear opposition. The Prime Minister says that the Government has not yet made up its mind, but has signed a framework agreement which will permit the Cabinet, on its own, to make such a decision.

Will the Prime Minister demonstrate a clear commitment to democratic requirements by promising the House that, if the Government decides to go ahead with the testing of the Cruise, it will bring that decision to Parliament, not only for a debate but also for a vote?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the question has been asked before, and I suggested that if Hon. Members of the New Democratic Party thought the subject to be of any importance at all, they might be able to use one of their Opposition days—

**Some Hon. Members:** We did!

**Mr. Trudeau:**—with a vote, and they might see the result of that vote. There would be a debate on the subject, and we would be able to hear views from all sides.

We were happy to have that debate, and we are happy to have it again. I hope that in the course of that debate the Leader of the New Democratic Party will tell us why he is so opposed to the testing of the Cruise. However, we never heard from him when the Soviets were testing—

**Mr. Stevens:** Good point.

**Mr. Trudeau:**—and putting in place the SS-20s, of which 350 are employed in Europe now, each with three nuclear warheads. We never heard the demonstrations. We did not see the NDP leading the masses with signs to protest this. It was a clear escalation of the nuclear arms race.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Broadbent:** Madam Speaker, first of all, I remind the Prime Minister, who does not pay much attention to what