Tabling of Documents

[English]

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I will take notice of the question and report it to the Minister.

INSURANCE COMPANIES' PROFITS

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard—Anjou): Mr. Speaker, then I direct my supplementary question to the Deputy Prime Minister. Does the Deputy Prime Minister agree that last fall's liability insurance crisis was little more than a \$1-billion sham generating windfall profits and that it was therefore a conspiracy?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, of course I do not agree with the premise of the Hon. Member's question. However, I will take both questions as a representation and will have the Minister report back to the Hon. Member.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO NINTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

Mr. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 67(2), I have the honour to present, in both official languages, copies of the Government response to the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Labour, Emloyment and Immigration on family reunification.

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[English]

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 67(2), I wish to table in both official languages the annual report of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

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INCOME TAX ACT

TABLING OF TECHNICAL NOTES

Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 67(2), I have the honour to lay upon the Table in both official languages the technical notes pertaining to Bill C-11, an Act to amend the Income Tax

Act which initiates pre-payment of the child tax credit. These notes are intended to assist Members of Parliament, taxpayers and their professional advisers.

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LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

NINTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE—FAMILY REUNIFICATION

Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)): Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to present to the House and to the Canadian public the Government's response to the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration on family reunification.

At the suggestion of the Government, the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration examined ways to speed up processing of family class applications. I would like to commend the excellent work done by the committee and particularly the collective effort that has been shown by Members of Parliament from all three Parties under the distinguished leadership of the Hon. Member for Calgary West (Mr. Hawkes). The members participated in well over 100 committee meetings. Three full weeks were taken up in visiting immigration centres in Canada and posts abroad, as well as holding meetings with both immigration officers and potential and recent immigrants. The members received a clear feeling and understanding of those areas where the quality of service had not been acceptable.

I would like to reflect particularly on the quality of the report. The committee has provided me with a series of recommendations on how to provide service that is quicker, more courteous, fairer and, especially, more humane. I believe that a new era has begun for sponsors and for their relatives. Emphasis has been placed on improved training for immigration officers and an attempt is being made to provide services in the language of a client's choice. The Government understands the frustrations that have been felt by those who have participated in our immigration process. With our response, we are prepared to do something about those frustrations. Recommendations 5 to 10, which involve the creation of new categories of assisted family members, are perhaps the most exciting and far-reaching recommendations.

• (1510)

Unfortunately, because the House of Commons rules require a response within 120 days, there has not been sufficient time to consult with the provinces and the private sector organizations, which is necessary before developing the details of a major change of this kind. Those discussions have begun, and hopefully they can be brought to a successful conclusion. Most of the other recommendations have either been previously implemented, or are in the process of being implemented.