

*Supply*

We have sitting in the House today the Minister for Science who has worked so very hard in raising scientific excellence in our country. We want to keep on promoting that scientific and technological excellence because that is what it is all about. We must carry on and do that.

The department therefore plays a major role as a leader and I wanted to bring it to the attention of the House today. We carry on in this mandate as a facilitator, co-ordinator, broker and promoter of a wide variety of interests, Canadian industry, small and medium sized businesses and their workers, the aboriginal private sector and the research and development communities represented by the universities and by businesses and government labs. IST looks for a lot of growth opportunities in this mandate, opportunities in some of the strategic technologies, such as biotechnology, information technology and advanced industrial materials.

The department's objective is to work with industry sectors to promote their international competitiveness, as I mentioned earlier. The challenges faced by Canadian industry are many and varied. For instance, Canada's aerospace and defence electronics industry faces very different challenges than does tourism and commercial services. They are complex and they cannot be addressed by single individual programs and initiatives or by just throwing money in, in an effort to buy solutions. That is no way and we cannot keep on doing that sort of thing. That was done by many governments in the past.

Yet certain themes do occur. When we look at the challenges faced by specific industrial sectors in Canada, we can see that the Canadian economy as a whole must readjust in the key areas in order to respond to this global marketplace that we are all involved in.

I would like to take a few minutes today to take the opportunity to highlight some of the programs and initiatives that are ongoing and important that this government continue. The Government of Canada under its economic renewal agenda plays an important role in helping industry respond again to the challenges. Deficit control has been a major element of this government. Government operations now run in the black and I think in the next few years of our mandat we want to carry on with the operations side of this government continuing in the black.

We had to take it as a government from one which was operating billions of dollars in the red to putting it into

billions of dollars in the black. We must carry on with that agenda.

We also have privatized. There are certainly other Crown corporations to privatize. Canadians are very positive and supportive about that. We have a continuing job to do in that regard as we carry on with our mandate.

We have introduced regulatory reform, including major changes to the regulations governing transportation, energy and communication industries. That of course has to carry on and work as we move into this business of an economic renewal environment. Since 1986 the government's regulatory reform strategy has ensured that business is a partner in creating regulations that will affect us. We brought them in and they have been helpful in setting up regulations that are more conducive to business building.

The economic renewal agenda also includes modernizing and streamlining Canada's intellectual property laws. The establishment of Investment Canada which encourages foreign investment has been of net benefit. Certainly in my riding foreign investment is very important with all the major multinationals that operate so successfully there.

Canada's number one trade priority is the successful conclusion of the Uruguay round of the multilateral trade negotiations, the largest and most complex ever taken under the GATT. That of course needs to be completed. Canadians are looking for this government to carry on with its expertise in having those negotiations come to a final conclusion that everyone in the House believes should be done. Certainly the government of the day needs to carry on with its mandate to have that completed.

As we in this House all know, our agenda also included the free trade agreement with the United States. Now that horizon is being expanded into the North American free trade agreement, which again is an important trading bloc that we should form as other blocs have been formed throughout the world which would be important to this market. The combined North American market, just to remind the House, will consist of 360 million people with an economic product of over \$7 trillion. That is bigger than Europe. We think of the Economic Community being so vast. This market is even bigger. It is important that this government carries on with that very important job.