

Routine Proceedings

Mrs. Edna Anderson (Simcoe Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to present this petition on behalf of my constituents who urge the government to recognize that crimes of violence against the person are serious and to amend the Criminal Code of Canada, the Bail Reform Act, 1972 and the Parole Act accordingly.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Ms. Ethel Blondin (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in the House today to present a petition on behalf of First Nations, many of whom have signed this particular petition against the dreaded GST.

It asks that the government be responsible to the citizens of First Nations in Canada by taking immediate steps to rectify the deficiency of the policy guidelines, including changes which will protect the taxation immunity of First Nations both on or off reserve lands and those citizens who do not as yet have recognized reserve lands.

The First Nations of Canada are immune from such taxation by virtue of their aboriginal treaty right and the GST affronts that right.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

Mr. Ray Skelly (North Island—Powell River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition to the House today that deals with the question of the transportation safety system on the coast of British Columbia. It involves the lighthouse system.

The petitioners urge that the government, now that it has cancelled the ill-founded program to destaff lighthouses, begin the process of lighthouse program upgrading.

This petition comes from a large number of people from Port Hardy, British Columbia, and has resulted from meetings in Prince Rupert, Port Hardy, Campbell River and on down the coast of British Columbia.

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker would you be so kind as to call Starred Question No. 223.

I ask that this response be made an order for return and if so, this return would be tabled immediately.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

[Text]

*Question No. 223—**Mr. Flis:**

With respect to Canadian participation in the trade show held in Monterrey, Mexico in January 1992 (a) who were the participants (b) were any of their air tickets paid for by the government, and if so, how many (c) was External Affairs involved in the purchase and distribution of tickets and, if so, for what reasons (d) how much was spent on accommodation, air fare, floor space and signs (e) were profit making companies attending the show subsidised by the government and, if so, for what reasons?

Return tabled.

[English]

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. You will know, sir, as will all colleagues in the House that a question has been standing in my name dating back to last September. The question asks for the expense accounts of deputy ministers.

I would ask my colleague across the way, given his undertaking of some weeks ago now, that the matter would be addressed in the near future, whether or not he will undertake to respond to that question no later than tomorrow?

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has raised this question on a number of occasions as you well know. I have given him an undertaking to check this answer out and to see what I could do to speed it up.

In that vein I had two or three conversations last week asking that the answer be finished and delivered to the hon. member as quickly as possible. I had hoped I would have been able to table the answer today. I am not able to do that obviously, and I cannot commit to tomorrow. I