## Routine Proceedings

departments and bodies within the provincial entities do not pay the GST.

Point-of-sale exemption for provincial entities is provided through certificates attesting to the use of and payment for the supply by the province. Purchases must also be billed to the provincial body. In no case will Revenue Canada allow an exemption for cash purchases or purchases made by third parties on behalf of a province.

## Question No. 183-Mr. Harvey:

With respect to the United Nations Human Rights Committee views concerning Communicaton Number 167/1984 Bernard Ominayak, Chief of the Lubicon Lake Band v. Canada, has the government received since October 1, 1990 any request or requests for further information from the Special Rapporteur for Follow-up on Views of the Human Rights Committee, and, if so, (a) when did the government receive such request(s), (b) has the government responded to such request(s), and, if so (i) when did the government reply (ii) what did the government reply?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The UN Human Rights Centre, as part of its routine procedure, has requested further information from the Government of Canada with respect to Chief Ominayak's communication following the release of the Human Rights Committee, while finding that an obligation exists to the Lubicon which must be settled, found the Canadian government's offer to be an appropriate remedy. While we have responded to the committee's request for further information, we emphasize that the committee, as a matter of practice, considers the response confidential at this stage and that Canada respects this rule. We cannot, therefore, comment on the content of our response. With regard to more recent developments, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development took the initiative and met with Chief Ominayak on November 1, 1991. That meeting proved productive and a further meeting is planned involving the minister, the Alberta minister responsible for native affairs and Chief Ominayak in February.

## Question No. 185-Ms. Callbeck:

With respect to the reported \$5865 in paid expenses claimed by National Transportation Agency Chair, Erik Nielsen during his summer trip to the Yukon (a) what is the breakdown of each item claimed as an expense (b) what was the purpose of Mr. Nielsen's trip (c) what was his daily schedule during that time?

Hon. Jean Corbeil (Minister of Transport): The National Transportation Agency advises as follows:

(a) The cost of travel by the chairman to the Ontario regional office at Thunder Bay, and to the western regional office at Saskatoon and to the northern regional office at Whitehorse was \$5,865.28, including mileage allowance and other travel related expenses at rates and amounts established by the Treasury Board.

Ottawa to Thunder Bay to Saskatoon to Whitehorse to Saskatoon to Ottawa	\$ 2.722.83
Car rental	334.91
Accommodation	632.32
Meals	1,713.94
Other expenses (incidentals etc.)	461.28
Total claim	\$ 5,865.28

- (b) The purpose of the trip was to visit regional offices of the National Transportation Agency; to inspect various transportation facilities and services in western and northern Canada and to consult with individuals, public and private sector organizations and officials concerned with the transportation industry.
- (c) During this period the chairman discharged his normal responsibilities as chairman of the agency through headquarters offices in Ottawa and through the agency's regional offices in Thunder Bay, Saskatoon and Whitehorse. He also participated in the inspection of transportation facilities and in organized meetings with shippers, carriers, industry and government official and others concerned with transportation matters.

## Question No. 189-Mr. Assad:

With respect to the agriculture infrastructure in the prairie provinces (a) what are the total revenues of the government received under that infrastructure (b) does the government have any intention of calling into question that infrastructure as we know it today?

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Agriculture): (a) Our data sources do not permit a breakdown of government revenues from agriculture seperately from industries such as mining, tourism and so on. Agriculture accounted directly for 5.3 per cent of the prairie gross domestic product (GDP) in 1986 and much more than that when one considers transportation, storage, process-