

I want to assure the hon. member that the government will review the report and will report back to the House of Commons as a result of it being tabled in the House.

• (1450)

**Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Minister of Justice who refused to answer a question the other day about a letter written by officials in his department threatening or warding off the B.C. Utilities Commission inquiry into this particular project in British Columbia.

Will the Minister of Justice remove this threatened gag order and finally release all the information on the project, join with the B.C. government, and conduct a full and proper review into the project?

**Hon. Pauline Browes (Minister of State (Employment and Immigration)):** Madam Speaker, the Kemano project has been under review within the court system for a number of years. The Federal Court of Appeal has made a decision on it. No other higher court has agreed to take this particular case.

We now have before the Parliament of Canada the report of the joint committee. The government will review that report and report back to the House.

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[Translation]

#### LANGUAGE MINORITIES

**Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister and concerns the funding, development and promotion of arts and culture for minority francophone communities.

We learned today that they receive only 50 cents from the federal government for arts and culture for every dollar other Canadian citizens receive on average. This is my question: What will he do to correct this serious injustice to French speaking Canadians living outside Quebec?

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship):** I thank the hon. member for her question. The minister is unfortunately away today on government business. I know that she is a defender of the rights of official language minorities throughout the country and I am sure that she will answer the questions when she returns to the House.

#### Oral Questions

**Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal):** Madam Speaker, the Prime Minister is supposed to protect minority languages and language rights throughout Canada. In this regard, I ask the Prime Minister this: When will he or his Minister of Communications recognize that there are francophone communities outside Quebec? When will he apply the spirit of the Official Languages Act which was passed in 1988? Does he personally promise to urge the Minister of Communications to meet the French Canadian Cultural Federation in the next seven days? They have been waiting for two years for a meeting with this Minister of Communications.

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship):** As I said, I will raise the question with the Minister of Communications later today, and I am sure that he will answer the hon. member shortly.

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[English]

#### EMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk):** Madam Speaker, in the absence of any minister responsible for employment my question is for the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister must be aware that Canada's youth are having an extremely hard time finding first-time jobs. In fact the number of young people who have never held a first-time job has gone up 53 per cent since 1989.

Why does the Minister of State for Youth not have in his department a specific program or a strategy to put these young people back to work?

**Hon. Pauline Browes (Minister of State (Employment and Immigration)):** Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to have an opportunity to respond to the question on behalf of the Minister of State for Youth and as the Minister of State for Employment and Immigration.

I think the hon. member has missed a lot in the last few years. We have put in place a stay-in-school project for young people to get information on getting skills and training. We have also put in place literacy programs, the sectoral councils and the apprenticeship programs working with the provinces. With the youth employment that has been put in place in terms of 179,000 jobs last year under the Challenge '92 program and the increase of \$5 million for 1993 for youth employment, I think the record shows that we have done a great deal in terms of assistance for youth.