

- But we have to be careful in the management of the budget because there are five times as many demands on the Treasury as there is money available.
- This is affecting the operations of all Government departments including DFAIT: there is no way that all memoranda to Cabinet in the pipeline can receive full funding.
- As far as the framework for Government Policy is concerned, I would make the following points:
 - The first mandate of the Liberal Government was under the sign of the "Jobs and Growth Strategy" and the elimination of the fiscal deficit.
 - The second mandate achieved that objective and this allowed the Government in turn to start making investments in the key sectors I mentioned.
 - The third mandate wants to build on that, consolidating our surplus situation and maintaining an equilibrium between the stimulation of economic growth and the satisfaction of socio-economic aspirations.