

cent of these people are back on the labour market within six months. What matters is how we are going to help people get back on the labour market. We on this side of the House say that the key is training. That is why we have increased our resources for training the unemployed and other Canadians to a total of \$3.8 billion this year, something unprecedented in Canada's history.

[English]

Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for Youth.

When the minister took over the youth portfolio in April 1991, 390,000 young people were out of work. Nineteen months later that figure has increased to an incredible 438,000 people. Over 40,000 more young people have joined the ranks of the unemployed since this minister took office.

Specifically, what is the minister going to do to get these young people back to work?

Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) and Minister of State (Youth) and Deputy Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member and everybody in this House knows, we have been living through a recession. Unfortunately young people have suffered from the effects of the recession like the older people, that is people beyond 24 years of age.

The hon. member should recognize that the economic statement of last week is the instrument to permit everybody, including youth, to get back to work and to benefit from the situation that is going to prevail in 1993, including the creation of 300,000 new jobs.

Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk): Mr. Speaker, when the minister was talking on Friday about creating jobs, he gave no specific details on job creation for Canada's 438,000 young people out of work. In fact, the economic statement of the Minister of Finance makes no mention of any job creation program directed at youth.

Why is there no specific job creation program to get our young people back to work today?

Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) and Minister of State (Youth) and Deputy Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I would recommend that the

hon. member reread the economic statement, which I am sure he has not done yet. The statement clearly identifies the initiatives with respect to partnerships and to small business, which creates 80 per cent of the jobs in this country.

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[Translation]

SOMALIA

Hon. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

We are all deeply affected by the tragedy in Somalia. I think Canada's participation in UN activities in this country is appropriate in that we are using Canadian troops for humanitarian purposes.

However, a decision to send troops into a war zone is a major one that should be debated by Parliament before the fact. This decision was made without consulting Parliament, without debate.

I would like to put the following question to the minister: Why was this intervention not debated in the House?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, it is the government's responsibility to formulate and make decisions on major issues, such as the situation in Somalia. However, we have offered, first of all, an opportunity for discussion or debate in the House and that opportunity will be given this evening. We also offered to brief members of the Liberal Party and the New Democratic Party on the details this afternoon, before the debate.

[English]

Hon. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. My first question asked why, on such an important matter as sending troops—not that I have an objection to that—was there not a debate in the House of Commons before the decision was taken, with all of the reasons presented to the Canadian public so that we can have a real debate. It is an abrogation of the democratic process for the government to say: after we have taken the decision, we will have a debate on it.