

its growing analytical competence, and the impartiality that comes from not having any operating programs of its own. In particular, it will assist a "lead" department or take the initiative itself where no "lead" department exists, in seeking solutions to problems of science policy or programs, including the coordination of the programs where more than one department is involved.

25. In accordance with the philosophy expressed in the third arm of the new science policy - Science in Public Policy - the Ministry will be particularly concerned with providing a science input to long-term national strategy, and within this context, note is taken of certain recommendations made by the Senate Committee regarding the overall national expenditure on R&D and the priorities that the Senators felt should be given to certain fields of science.

26. The Senate Committee placed strong emphasis on the need for long-term planning and the establishment of national R&D priorities. MOSST has fully supported the idea of forward planning, but has reservations regarding the Committee's proposal that national expenditures on R&D should reach 2.5% of the GNP by 1980 and that approximately 10% of this effort should be devoted to basic research. National problems and priorities change over the years, and so must the judgements made by Government about the balance of resource inputs to the programs for dealing with them. A fixed GNP-related target for the input represented by science is not therefore meaningful over the long haul. MOSST takes the view that the amount of curiosity oriented basic research performed should probably reflect the wealth of a country in so far as it is directed at a search for new knowledge, while reflecting national needs in so far as it is directed at the training of skilled personnel. The amount of applied research and development effort should be related directly to the solution of national