CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

TABLING OF REPORTS

Mr. Murray Cardiff (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 32(2), on behalf of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, I have the honour to table, in both official languages, copies of a report entitled Report to Parliamentary Committee on the Exclusions to the Workplace Hazardous Materials and a report entitled Report of the Senior Advisory Committee.

PETITIONS

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Mr. John Manley (Ottawa South): Mr. Speaker, I have three petitions I would like to table today.

The first petition is from a large number of my constituents and calls on the government to further strengthen, rather than continue to cut, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, noting that the CBC provides a very important service to unity in Canada.

RAIN FORESTS

Mr. John Manley (Ottawa South): Second, while I am on my feet, I would like to present a petition in which the signatories, again from Ottawa South, call upon the Government of Canada to develop policies which would ensure that Canadian funds not flow into the destruction of rain forests in Brazil and other countries which have tropical rain forests.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Mr. John Manley (Ottawa South): Mr. Speaker, my final petition is signed by a number of my constituents and calls on the House of Commons to express its lack of confidence in the government; a sentiment which I share wholeheartedly.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches — Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by several hundred of my constituents who claim that the government has cut CBC funding by \$140 million over the next four years, resulting in 1,200 job losses and the closing of 10 regional stations.

Routine Proceedings

My constituents urge the government to restore proper funding to the CBC so it can fulfil its mandate and role as the heartbeat of Canada.

CANADA POST

Mr. Ian Waddell (Port Moody—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to present a petition calling upon the Parliament of Canada to review the downsizing of Ridgeway post office in Coquitlam, British Columbia.

It is truly extraordinary. There are 1,800 or so signatures on this petition. It was gathered by Eileen Cassidy, who put a great deal of work into getting this petition.

The petition outlines the decline in service because of privatization and so on. I just want to read one clause, then I will finish with this. "Whereas having the postal service as a department of the federal government provides a link between the various areas of Canada and a needed boost to Canadian unity".

That is only one small post office, but a symbol of what this government is doing to Canadian unity and to services in Canada.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. Jim Karpoff (Surrey North): Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege to present two petitions signed by hundreds of people from my riding and adjacent ridings, protesting the discriminatory practices of Immigration as it pertains to people coming from India, particularly from the Punjab.

• (1510)

This petition points out that 85 per cent of the people seeking service in New Delhi are from the Punjab. It is difficult to travel from the Punjab to New Delhi and in some cases, it is dangerous.

The petitioners are requesting that the Canadian government establish a new Canadian consulate and immigration office in the Punjab to provide service.

The second petition points out that it now takes three to six years for a person from the Punjab to bring his or her spouse to Canada. The petitioners are calling on the government to establish a system where in a bona fide marriage a person may bring his or her spouse immediately, pending the processing of landed immigration applications.