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I trust that this study will be thorough and in depth, and will cover all regions of the country.

While we await anxiously the results of this study, I would like to call on the federal government, in conjunction with its provincial counterparts to get to the bottom of the situation.

We must ensure that a gasoline pricing system is in place which is fair to both consumers and retailers, no matter where they are situated in this country. Also, we must ensure that when price wars break out in select areas of the country, other areas such as the national capital region are not charged higher prices to cover the losses incurred by retailers elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. I call on the minister to tell Canadians exactly how long this study will take and when the findings will be made public.

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[Translation]

MATAPÉDIA VALLEY

Mr. Jean-Luc Joncas (Matapédia—Matane): Mr. Speaker, according to a new prophecy by Nostradamus, "Before the turn of the century, there shall be a marvelous occurrence: The site called Matapédiague shall be designated capital of a great land, between two oceans".

On March 11 last the Matapédia valley was nationally acknowledged as "Canada's forestry capital" for the year 1993.

Such designation constitutes signal recognition of the dynamic and hospitable region of Matapédia.

Over the years, Matapédia has become one of Canada's foremost forest regions where people have very close links with forests.

Congratulations to the organizing committee members who, through sheer dynamism, determination and tenacity, were able to convince our fellow Canadians in the other provinces that Matapédia has always been renowned for its forests and home to people prepared to fight and work relentlessly to enhance and preserve our trees.

[English]

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Lyle Dean MacWilliam (Okanagan—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, Canada has the dubious honour of being among a select few nations which is actually decreasing funding for basic scientific research. In Canada research and development has dropped from 1.4 per cent to 1.28 per cent of our GNP; funds for NSERC and the National Research Council have been slashed.

The government has poured billions into offshore oil exploration and a U.S. space station that the Americans are even now questioning, while not recognizing the potential of the TRIUMF KAON project at the University of British Columbia.

The proposed project is a world class initiative which would launch Canada into the frontier of particle physics.

Without sacrificing the need for increased funding for basic scientific research, this government must recognize the need for available funding of special projects like TRIUMF KAON.

It is time to wake up and smell the coffee. If basic research and projects like KAON wither on the vine because of chronic under-funding, so too will our national hopes of becoming a world force in future scientific endeavours.

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TIBET

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Canadian Tibetan community demonstrated in Ottawa to mark the 32nd anniversary of the Tibetan uprising in 1959. That uprising was to protest the Chinese occupation and domination of this small peaceful country, which intensified in that year.

Recently, the UN Security Council used economic sanctions and military action against Iraq for its enforced occupation of Kuwait. This has been described as a new world order for settling disputes and deterring aggression.

Mr. Speaker, my question is this. Will the same new world order be used to get China out of Tibet? Or has the United Nations and the United States a double