

support it has had for the National Research Council and also for research in general in Canada.

I was interested in listening to the comments of the parliamentary Secretary. The government always argues the deficit by saying that if it was not for a \$30 billion deficit we would be doing so much more government research. I suspect that the deficit is simply an excuse to cover the government's ideological direction that it prefer that research be done in the private sector and that the government do no research at all. That is a completely ridiculous point.

It is interesting that the parliamentary secretary always justifies funding cuts as a method of increasing efficiency. When you cut funding to research or the National Research Council, you do not increase efficiency, you inhibit the council to do what it was set out to do in the first place and that is to conduct pure research that may not be a part of the system of priorities of the private sector in the country.

We have all read the statistics that indicate that Canada has one of the poorest records of the industrialized countries in terms of its support for research and development. A recent issue of *Science Statistics* that points out that the federal government's contribution to research and development in the country continues to decline, both as a performer, 17 per cent of total research and development, and as a funder, 31 per cent.

Even when the government was still talking about nuclear submarines and not deficits, it was still in the process of cutting support to research and development, both in terms of the amount of research it did and in terms of the amount of money they made available to it. So Canada has a poor record since 1984 with respect to its contribution to research and development in spite of the promises made over the years both by the Prime Minister and by other ministers in the cabinet.

We spend 1.23 per cent of our gross national product on research and development. That is half of what Japan spends and half of what countries like Sweden spend. I think it is reflected in the way our industry and economy are organized in this country.

Government Orders

In terms of employment in research and development we rank eleventh among the industrialized countries, that is in terms of employment in universities as well.

University research is an important part of the research and development capability of this country, part of it in connection with the National Research Council and part in connection with private industry through discovery parks, centres of excellence and all those things that have been set up. Centres of excellence have been set up over recent years by Conservative governments.

Yet the same government that talks about its priorities with respect to research and what it would do if it could only cut the deficit has, over the years, cut EPF funding to the provinces which in part goes to funding university research.

David Suzuki made an interesting statement a few years ago about how the employment of scientists is allocated in Canada. He pointed out that 99 per cent of the scientists who are working in Canada are working in undemocratic institutions. They are working either for the military or for corporations where decisions are made on the basis of one dollar, one vote.

That was an interesting comment because when that happens it means that the research is not directed by the needs of the people of this country but by the needs and priorities of undemocratic institutions. We are trying to improve and maintain the funding of the National Research Council which represents the resource priorities of the people of Canada and, therefore, we consider this an extremely important organization.

The National Research Council has some important facilities, some of them based here in Ottawa. It has wind tunnels that are used by private and public organizations around the country. For example, Toronto City Hall was designed with the assistance of the wind tunnel here owned by the National Research Council.

The wave pool facilities that are located here in Ottawa are used to develop ports on every coast of Canada. In fact, they were used as part of the investigation to determine what happened to the *Ocean Ranger* when that oil drilling rig capsized off the east coast of Canada. It was National Research Council facilities that were used to find out why that happened and in fact it