

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 22nd March, 2007

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, before we proceed to the Motion, Mr. Boit wants to seek a Ministerial Statement.

POINT OF ORDER

INCREASE IN DEATHS ON KENYAN ROADS

Mr. Boit: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First, I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise on a point of order to request a Ministerial Statement from the Minister for Transport. Of late, we have had innocent *wananchi* losing their lives on our roads, but we have not heard any Cabinet Minister apologise for those deaths. Could we be told why deaths have increased on our roads? Is it because of unroadworthy vehicles or bad roads? Is it because of reckless driving? I would like to know what the Minister has to say about this development. Of late, even *matatus* are being controlled by a gang called "*Mungiki*". What is the Government doing about this issue? Where is the Minister concerned? Is he sleeping? Thank you, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Is the Minister for Transport here? Is Mr. Mwakwere not here?

An hon. Member: Absent!

Mr. Speaker: Any other Minister who is ready to respond?

The Minister for Water and Irrigation (Mr. Katuku): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will get in touch with Mr. Mwakwere. The Ministerial Statement sought will be forthcoming, but I would like to assure the hon. Member that the Government is not asleep.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Next Order!

MOTION

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

THAT, the thanks of this House be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address from the Chair on Tuesday, 20th March, 2007.

*(The Vice-President and Minister
for Home Affairs on 21.3.2007)*

*(Resumption of Debate
interrupted on 21.3.2007)*

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Muriungi was on the Floor. He had five minutes left. Is he here?

*(Capt. Nakitare stood
up in his place)*

Mr. Speaker: Order! Capt. Nakitare, you cannot be a substitute for Mr. Muriungi! If Mr. Muriungi is not here, by the rules of the House, he is deemed to have forfeited his chance. So, the Floor is now open for any other contributor.

Mr. Mwiraria!

Mr. Mwiraria: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Motion and thank His Excellency the President for the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address to this House last Tuesday.

Let me start by saying that the President's Address was brief and to the point. The President gave the Government policies and pointed out his Government's achievements during the last four years. I really want to commend him for that excellent exposition. But let me add that the Government, which has done well in the area of economic development, should press on in order to achieve even greater development.

This country will never be fully independent unless we achieve economic independence. Today, we still depend, for about 4 per cent of our Recurrent Budget, on funds from people whom we call "donors". If you look at what is happening, you will realise that Kenya donates more to the economies of the countries of the so-called "donors" than we get from them.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government should pay greater attention to making sure that---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Yesterday, I did ask you, hon. Members, that when you debate here, we should listen to one another, so that when you get a chance to speak you will recall what the previous speaker had said and, therefore, you will need not repeat it, and also so that you can reply to the argument of the previous speaker. So, I will not encourage discussions or conversations in the Chamber. It is just right that we listen, and that we become a House of debaters or of elders who listen to each other and talk to one another.

Proceed, Mr. Mwiraria!

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the steps that the Government needs to take to attain economic independence is to be able to finance its Budget fully. With only 4 per cent to go, the Government is not very far. We need to urge the Government to collect more taxes. In fact, we do not need to have tax increases, but to collect taxes fully in order to attain that position. Once we attain that position, we should also strive to get Kenya given a credit rating by an accepted credit rating organisation like the Standards and Polls which has already given the country a B-Plus. Once we attain that position, the country then should be free to borrow for its development projects from outside. Many of the essential projects such as roads and power stations should be able to pay back the borrowed funds.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has already got the 2030 Industrialisation Programme, but we need to be a little bit more specific. We need to ask ourselves how we can make this country self-sufficient in food and speed up industrialisation. We need to pay attention to

agriculture and look at the crops that we use for staple food. We should also develop grains that can grow in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) and more importantly, establish farming regimes which help farmers to prepare the land and plant early, so that they can catch every bit of rainfall.

In the field of industrialisation, we need to copy what other countries such as Japan, China and India have done. They have started off with factories that make tools and have established science parts. We should also look critically at the infrastructure in Kenya by, for example, establishing a free port in Mombasa. We also need to improve our links with the neighbouring countries, especially Somalia, Ethiopia, Southern Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the area of education, although we rightly rolled out the free primary education, we need to pay more attention to secondary education. I support those who have requested that the Government makes adequate teachers available in all our schools. At the moment, some schools are operating without the staff strength.

Regarding education, there is one area which I believe needs special attention. This is the area of special education; education for those who are disabled in one form or another. These are the blind, the deaf and the mentally handicapped. We do not appear to be paying adequate attention to the disabled children, who are very many around the country. I urge that we pay more attention to special education. We should increase the budget for special education and ensure that the disabled are properly taken care of.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also believe that we need to look critically at university education. The last few years have been associated with what I may call a Harambee university, which started off with 14 students about ten years ago, and which today has 2,600 students. Today, that university is self-financing. We need to urge our Government to consider financing only two aspects of the public universities that we have. First, it should make sure that all deserving students get adequate financing, so that they can go through university without hassles. This means that the Government needs to set aside adequate money for loans and bursaries to all the students.

The second area, and I think this is important, is providing money for research. Thereafter, the universities should finance themselves from what they get from fees and other ways which they have already devised.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me quickly refer to the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. This is an excellent idea, but it will take time for the youth to be able to utilise those funds. I believe that one thing that is critically missing is the need to train young people because it is one thing saying, "here is money" and another thing for them to know how to spend the money. So, my humble suggestion is that the Ministry should put in place a training programme, which exposes youths in different parts of this country to what is available for them to do in their areas. They need to know what projects they can start. If it is an agricultural area, maybe they can extract juices from fruits and learn how to make items like potato chips and crisps, so that they can then start projects which are bankable.

I welcome the idea of the Women Enterprise Development Fund. I am sure women will not have difficulties in using their money because many of them are already doing businesses. Let me finally say that this country needs additional constituencies and I urge the Government to implement this as soon as possible.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Leshore): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. From the outset, I would like to thank His Excellency the President for giving us a very wonderful Speech and you too for giving us a wonderful short Speech.

Before I comment on the President's Speech, I would like to agree with what you said, that the hon. Members of this House are over-worked. Sometimes, I do not even have time to go and see my children who are in boarding schools because of the constituency work, the Ministry's work

and the work in this House. That is very true.

His Excellency spoke a lot about what he has done for this country. Those who have eyes and ears know for themselves. For those who do not want to hear and see, please open up your ears and eyes. I would like to thank the Minister for Water and Irrigation because he has provided water in the ASAL areas. At least in almost every location, there is a dam or a borehole. I wish to thank hon. Katuku and ask him to keep it up. Kenyans need water.

I do not need to say much about the Ministry of Education, because a lot has been done in this area. What we only need is quality education. We need excellence. It is true that there is a shortage of teachers. The Minister for Education should employ more teachers because more pupils have been enrolled in primary schools. We also need to strengthen adult education, which is very important, because we are now urging our youths and women to start micro-finance institutions and they need to be educated and trained. The Ministry, which is concerned with adult education, should revive this department.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to commend the Commissioner of Police because security has greatly improved. In my area we used to have ten or 20 cattle raids every day. These days, apart from last year when we had a problem with the Pokot, security has greatly improved in our area even in Nairobi. We must commend the police and give them the right equipment and training so that they can pursue the few bad Kenyans who are indulging in criminal activities.

On the issue of roads and electricity, we can see a lot of improvement on our roads, although I do not have a single tarmacked road in my constituency. I hope we will get one soon between Isiolo, Samburu and Marsabit. I would like to thank the Minister and ask him to increase the funds that are channelled through the Road Maintenance Levy Fund to every constituency. We need a lot of funds for that sector.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on electricity, although my constituency does not have a single electricity project, I hope it will be included in the 100 or so projects which will be completed towards the end of the year. Mr. Kiunjuri promised me two years ago that he would supply my constituency with electricity. I hope he will do that this year before the elections.

A lot has been said about Kenyans being very corrupt. Those of us who were in the last Government, in departments which were said to be the most corrupt, can testify that corruption has gone down. We must educate our children in school and tell them that corruption is evil. We must eradicate corruption from that level up to ours. Let us not just blame the Government saying that it is corrupt. Let us all get involved in eradicating corruption. Whenever you see a case of corruption, please report it to the Press. I would like to thank the Fourth Estate because they are doing a very commendable job of fighting corruption. They always report cases of corruption and inform the public. Some of us do not know much about what goes on in those high offices. I commend the Fourth Estate for that good job.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the establishment of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund and the Women Enterprise Development Fund was a wonderful idea. We need to train the youth and establish committees which are not only composed of youth, but also church leaders and other leaders for those funds to be controlled and supervised properly. We need a lot of training here. I hope the Minister for Youth Affairs and the one who will be in charge of Women Enterprise Development Fund will create structures to oversee that those funds are properly utilised.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to remind the Minister concerned that the disabled people in Kenya are many. They are numbering between 2 million to 4 million. A fund should also be created for them to enable them to work and fend for themselves. Those are needy Kenyans and I hope that President Kibaki, whom I know will be re-elected next year, will come up with such a fund. I know my colleagues on the other side of the House are laughing, but I assure you that even the Laibons have said he will come back.

Mr. Speaker: Will you keep superstition out of the debate!

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Leshore): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me that advice.

The President spoke about Political Parties Bill. I hope that when it comes before the House it will not be used to tame the so-called "rightists" or "leftists". I do not want to call them rebels. I think when it comes we should have a clause which says that any hon. Member can contest as an independent candidate--- In this country, political parties are not aligned on ideologies; it is tribal democracy. If you look at various party structures, you will note that most of these parties that we have today are tribal. That is what we are referring to as tribal democracies. We should discuss that Bill and create a clause which states that if any one of us wants to contest as an independent candidate, one should not be denied that chance.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the President also talked about creation of more constituencies. Some of us have never enjoyed additional constituencies since Independence. We still have the same constituencies. In other areas in Kenya, some locations have now become districts. I appeal to my colleagues to see that when such discussions are held, we should at least create one or two constituencies in Samburu or Mkogodo. We require representation here from Samburu and Mkogodo where the Speaker comes from.

Before I conclude, you will find that Ministers have been awarded the title of Elder of the Burning Spear (EBS), but the Assistant Ministers have got no other titles other than that of being MPs. You will also find that a Permanent Secretary has the title of EBS. Why can this Government not recognise its Assistant Ministers? We need that recognition. Those who are responsible should pass that word to the relevant authority. We need recognition. Mrs. Mugo has been doing a wonderful job and as such we need her to be honoured. Even Leshore should be honoured.

On the issue of firearms, we should amend the relevant Act so that those found in possession of illegal firearms should face capital punishment. I think we do not have enough jails to put into prison all the Turkanas, Pokots and Boranas. We must have a clause to say that those who return firearms voluntarily will be forgiven. They should not be taken to jail to face capital punishment. We should look into that legislation afresh.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me that golden opportunity.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. I think I am very short of a lady.

Mrs. Mwendwa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir---

An hon. Member: We have lost our chance!

Mr. Speaker: No, you cannot lose. Nobody is going to lose. In fact, calling one lady should be an encouragement to call more ladies. Let us not lose heart.

Mrs. Mwendwa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the President's Speech.

I was very encouraged to hear that the Government is considering the issue of secondary education. I would recommend that there be a provision in the Budget for the Government to provide free secondary education. If the Government cannot afford to pay fees for Form One to Form Four students, it could pay fees for Form One and Form Two and then the others can be given bursaries. This will be very helpful because secondary education is proving to be very expensive, especially to the poor people. It would be very encouraging if we could have secondary school fees waived. This big burden would be reduced from the shoulders of poor parents. Most of these children are bright, but their parents cannot afford school fees.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to remind the Ministry of Education that there are thousands of certificates being withheld in schools because the students had not cleared their balances. It would be a very good gesture if the Government would clear the outstanding balances so that these students would be given their certificates. The fact that one has left his certificate in school because

of being unable to clear outstanding balances shows that the student comes from a poor family. Indeed, they cannot be engaged in any employment without those certificates. When they go looking for jobs they are told to produce their certificates. Therefore, they remain unemployed. This is grossly unfair to these children because they did not apply to be born in less fortunate families.

When we are talking about secondary education, the first thing that should be considered is the possibility of waiving the outstanding balances. These children should be given their certificates before we can even start to discuss the issue of providing free secondary education.

Another problem is the distances between schools. It would be very helpful if we had many day secondary schools. You will find that the distance from one school to another is very big in the arid and semi-arid areas. I would recommend that the Ministry helps to build day secondary schools. We are doing the same with the CDF funds. Boarding schools are expensive and they are located very far apart, especially in arid and semi-arid areas where poverty is prevalent. I would recommend that we join hands with the Ministry to have more day secondary schools. If I build one secondary school with the CDF funds, I think the Ministry should also put up another one. If we have free secondary school education, but the schools are not there, this will not help especially in the arid and semi-arid areas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his Speech the President said that the economy has improved by 6 per cent. When we talk to our people in the countryside regarding our economy, they think we are talking about heaven because poverty has increased. Some of these people cannot afford second-hand clothes. The issue of *mitumba* used to be a joke, but today they cannot afford these *mitumba* in areas where the poverty index is very high.

Let us, therefore, have economic growth coming from the bottom and not from upwards. It is people in urban areas that feel the economic growth and not those at the bottom.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to agriculture, we do not have a national food policy. I am saying that because whenever we have plenty of rains, we have adequate food reserves. But when the rains fail, we have no food! A nation which cannot feed itself is not worth its name. We must formulate a national food policy. The Ministry of Agriculture, the Office of the President and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation should be given sufficient funds to undertake irrigation and provide security. Without irrigation, we will always talk about food shortage, famine and relief food "until cows come home"! If it was possible, I would recommend that our army be used to construct dams and set up huge irrigation schemes. Every now and then, we spend a lot of money buying relief food to distribute to drought-stricken people. Why do we not use that money to set up irrigation schemes that can feed our people?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to talk about the Women Enterprise Development Fund. We are very happy and we support that Fund, together with the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. But we have had similar funds for women and youths before. Unless those people are properly trained, they may not utilise those funds. Some of that money should be used to train women on how to handle their businesses. If that money is given to women and they do not know how to conduct business, they will never repay that money. Since that money will be in form of loans, I am sure it will be repaid by hon. Members of Parliament, because those people are our constituents. Therefore, I advocate that, before those funds are disbursed, the beneficiaries should be educated on how to handle small-scale businesses. They should know that, that money is not actually theirs. It will only be theirs if they repay their loans. Therefore, that issue should be taken very seriously, so that people can benefit from those funds. That is one way of alleviating poverty in this country. But it will leave no mark, whatsoever, if the disbursement of those funds is not done properly.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Education (Mrs. Mugo): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for being gender sensitive. I am happy to contribute to this Motion. I wish to start by commending His Excellency the President for giving this House the direction it should take in order to move this country forward. His Excellency the President demonstrated maturity and statesmanship in his Speech. He showed that he is not swayed one way or the other by criticisms which, sometimes, are not meant for growth, but to put the people off the track.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me also thank His Excellency the President for telling this House that the Government is not against reforms, especially constitutional reforms. Indeed, the Government has been at the fore-front in trying to give this country a new Constitution. But road blocks were placed on the way of the same policies by the same people who are now advocating for them to be passed. It is good because they have seen the sense of those constitutional reforms. But people should not be misled that there are certain people who do not want constitutional reforms. We advocated for comprehensive reforms. That is what Kenyans wanted. But because the political class wasted so much time arguing with each other, the time for comprehensive reforms ran out. Therefore, as we enter into dialogue, it is my believe that we should focus on the very necessary reforms, and not the fundamental reforms which, in my mind, are not minimum. Reforms such as demanding a 50 per cent plus one vote and a run off by presidential aspirants are in no way minimum! That is very fundamental. That is why I call upon this House to be mature. We should focus on what is good for Kenyans. We should chart the way forward and decide what we can do and what we cannot do. Any fundamental change must be reserved for Kenyans to decide. Kenyans have the authority to make such changes. Ours should be more or less administrative.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, still on the constitutional review process, let me remind this House that affirmative action was unanimously passed by the 8th Parliament. We agreed on 30 per cent women representation. That was then forwarded to the Bomas Conference. At Bomas, again, it was also agreed upon . It will be very wrong for this House to review that percentage, as we have heard from minimum reformers, to 24 per cent. The 24 per cent is neither an international norm--- We have signed the international statutes that specifically state 30 per cent. Kenya is a signatory to that statute.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the President has also shown the way and said that 30 per cent of public appointments should be reserved for women. It will be a shame for this House to drag us back to 24 per cent. We will resist that very strongly. Let me also, on behalf of Kenyan women - because I have talked to several of them and others have called me - thank His Excellency the President for the Fund that his Government has set up for women. We were surprised to hear some people argue that it was an election gimmick. Why was it not done four years ago?. This Government had to prioritise. We know that free primary education has taken a lot of money. There are also the bursaries and Constituencies Development Fund (CDF). You cannot do everything at once. Only those who do not have an analytical mind can plunge the country into darkness and horror by trying to do everything yesterday, and fail to sustain it. We thank His Excellency the President for that Fund. That is timely and we look forward to it. Women are very excited about that Fund. That is one way of reducing poverty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, free primary education was another way of reducing poverty. We are surprised sometimes when we hear that people who were paying for primary education had no roads to pass through to the markets and lacked many other amenities meant to reduce poverty. Claiming that people are poorer now than they were then is not honest.

On the issue of education, our Ministry is geared towards sustaining the free primary education. We are negotiating with the Minister for Finance to employ another 40,000 teachers in the near future if they can be accommodated in the Budget. We want to make sure that for free primary education, there are classes and the ratio is proper. However, let me assure you that even

the last examination has shown that the quality is not lower. Indeed, it has gone up. The children performed well!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on special education, my Ministry gives double the amount of capitation for children with disabilities compared to those who have no disabilities. So, we are paying a lot of attention to those needs. Indeed, we had the policy of integration; of bringing the children with disabilities who can be integrated into ordinary schools so that they may, from a very early stage, learn to live normally with their peers during school and when they become of working age. Indeed, we need improvement. There is always room for improvement all the time. However, we are addressing it and more money will be allocated to that sector.

On secondary education, my Ministry is very serious on making sure that education in secondary schools is affordable. That is why we give guidelines on controlled fees. Unfortunately, there are some who still disregard that but parents can resist.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in areas where there is drought and where we know there have been successive tragedies, for instance, the outbreak of the Rift Valley Fever (RVF) and drought, we have requested that the children are not sent out of classrooms for lack of fees. That is a guideline from the Ministry. If any children are being sent away, attention should be drawn to us so that we can intervene. We are very sensitive on that issue.

We are also in the process of joining early childhood education to free primary education so that children can have two years of free pre-primary education. So, we have many plans of improving education in this country and I urge this House to give us maximum support.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have the African Development Bank (ADB) which has promised to support construction of more secondary schools, besides OPEC. So, we are heeding your calls. However, it also still lies with the parents and the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) to do more in the construction of secondary schools.

Let me, before my time is over, congratulate the Minister for Water and Irrigation because he is doing a very good job. He is sinking boreholes and constructing dams all over. However, I think he has forgotten Nairobi a little bit. In Nairobi, we are in dire need of water. My constituency, Dagoretti, in Ngando, Riruta and Kawangware areas, we go for weeks and even months before we get a drop of water even during the two days that we are supposed to have it. So, I hope the Minister for Water and Irrigation, as he does what he is doing in the countryside, will remember that we do not have any rivers in Nairobi. We only have Nairobi River and we cannot get clean water from it. We are in dire need of support.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to commend the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs and the Minister in charge of Youth Affairs for the Youth Enterprise Development Fund.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Information and Communications (Mr. Wamwere): Asante sana, Bw. Spika, kwa kunipa nafasi hii na mimi nichangie Hotuba ya Rais.

Ningetaka kuisifu Serikali sana kwa kazi nzuri ambayo imefanya. Lakini pia, ni vizuri kukumbuka kwamba mgema ukimsifu, ni rahisi sana kuitia tembo maji. Kwa hivyo, ningetaka kusema machache kuhusu yale ambayo kama tutayafanya, yataweza kutusaidia zaidi.

Bw. Spika, furaha kubwa ya Serikali inaonekana ni kwamba uchumi umefufuka na unaendelea kukua kwa asilimia 6 kwa mwaka. Ningetaka tu kuikumbusha Serikali ya kwamba kuvua numbi si kazi; kazi ni magawiyoni! Ni lazima kilichokuwa kikuliwe na wote. Ningetaka kuongeza ya kwamba uchumi ambao utamsaidia mtu mmoja kuchuma Kshs2 billioni kwa mwaka wakati wengine hawapati mkate wao wa kila siku, kidogo uchumi huo umepotoka na ni lazima uwekwe laini.

Katika kipindi kinachobaki cha Bunge, ni matumaini yangu ya kwamba Serikali

itakumbuka kutekeleza Hoja zote zile ambazo zimepitishwa na Bunge hili lakini hazijatekelezwa. Nakumbuka ya kwamba kuna Hoja moja nilioleta hapa Bungeni kuhusu kurudishiwa mashamba wale ambao walinyang'anywa mashamba yao wakati wa vita vya kikabila. Mpaka sasa watu hao hawajarudishiwa mashamba yao. Nadhani ni hila mbaya kwa upande wa Serikali kutaka kungojea mpaka kipindi chake kiishe kabla ya kutimiza ahadi hii iliyomo katika Hoja.

Bw. Spika, pia nakumbuka kuna Hoja ingine iliyopita katika Bunge hili kuhusu kulipwa kwa fidia wale watu ambao waliteswa na kufungwa bure na Serikali ya KANU katika miaka ya 1980s na 1990s tangu Uhuru. Matumaini yangu yalikuwa ya kwamba Hoja hiyo ingetekelezwa mara moja lakini imelaliwa. Sijui imelaliwa kwa sababu Serikali imegairi, au imelaliwa kwa sababu Serikali inafikiria ya kwamba hakuna watu walioteswa. Sijui!

Lingine ningetaka kutaja ni kwamba ugamvi wa rasilimali wa kikabila umeadhiri sana wilaya zingine kama vile Wilaya ya Nakuru. Nafikiria hili linatokea kwa sababu maeneo yasiyo makazi ya kijadi yamekuwa yakibaguliwa. Labda Wabunge wengi hawajui ya kwamba katika Wilaya ya Nakuru, hatupewi Waziri. Hatujapewa Waziri tangu mwaka wa 1966. Sijui ni kwa nini kwa sababu kuna wanasiasa shupavu, tunapiga kura kama sehemu zingine za nchi lakini hatupewi Waziri.

Mr. Sambu: Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Spika. Je, ni haki kwa mhe. Wamwere kusema kwamba hawajapewa Waziri? Ni sera ipi ya Serikali hii ama iliopita inayoonyesha kwamba Mawaziri wanapeanwa kulingana na wilaya ama mikoa?

Mr. Speaker: I think that was an unnecessary interruption! That is his view. He is entitled to his opinion!

Proceed, Mr. wamwere!

The Assitant Minister for Information and Communications (Mr. Wamwere): Bw. Spika, lingine ambalo labda mheshimiwa hana habari nalo, wilaya kama ya Nakuru haipewi nyadhifa kama zile za District Commissioner (DC), Provincial Commissioner (PC), Permanent Secretary (PS), balozi na hata wakurugenzi wa makampuni makubwa. Mpaka wa leo, sijaelewa ni kwa nini jambo hili halifanyiki. Nimelifanyia utafiti; najua ninachoongea na ninajua ya kwamba ninasema ukweli mtupu. Tunataka jambo hili lirekebishwe. Wengine watasema ya kwamba tunanyimwa kwa sababu kura zetu zinasemekana ziko mifukoni na kwa hivyo hakuna haja ya kubembelezwa. Lakini sioni kwa nini kama kura zetu ziko mifukoni mwao, wasitushukuru kwa kutupa kazi zile ambazo wanapea wale ambao wanataka kuwashawishi wawape kura?

Bw. Spika, majuzi tumeambiwa kwamba idadi ya watu maskini humu nchini imefika 27 milioni. Mimi nilidhania kwamba Rais Kibaki angetangaza jana kwamba umaskini ni baa la taifa lakini hakufanya hivyo. Isitoshe, umaskini huu umewafanya watu 27 milioni wasiwe na uhakika wa kupata chakula chao cha siku. Hii ni kuonyesha kwamba labda umaskini sasa umekuwa tatizo kubwa nchini na lazima utafutiwe suluhisho na uwekewe mikakati inayofaa. Kwa sasa, naona ni kama Serikali inafikiria kwamba umaskini ni jambo ambalo linaweza kutatuliwa kupitia fadhila za matajiri. Hilo katu haliwezekani na halijawezekana. Sharti Serikali iweke mikakati kamili ya kumaliza umaskini ikiwemo mipango ya kuongeza Hazina ya Maendeleo ya Uwakilishi Bungeni (CDF) pamoja na hazina ya LATF. Aidha ni muhimu maskwota wapatiwe mashamba kwa sababu watu wengi wanamiliki mashamba mengi ambayo hawayatumii. Wengine wana ekari 400,000 ya mashamba na sijui wanataka kuyafanyia nini. Hata swara wamepeva ekari nane kule Laikipia wakati ambapo watu wetu wanakufa kwa kusongamana katika miji ya mabanda kama vile Mathare na Kibera.

Bw. Spika, umaskini unaweza kupigwa vita pia kwa kuwasaidia watoto maskini kupata elimu, nafasi za kazi zitafutwe kwa kila namna, bei za bidhaa lazima zisimamiwe na mshahara wa chini lazima uinuliwe. Hatua kama hizi zitasaidia sana.

Jambo jingine ambalo ningependa kugusia ni kuhusu ufisadi. Ufisadi hauwezi kuisha bila

kupigwa vita. Kwa maoni yangu, inaonekana kama kwamba ufisadi umesamehewa bila ya kusema. Hii ni kwa sababu hatuoni wafisadi wakifungwa. Hatukuambiwa hatima ya kashfa za Goldenberg na Anglo Leasing. Hatukuambiwa! Ningetaka kumsikia Rais akisema kwamba mwaka huu tutapata ufumbuzi kuhusu kashfa hizi mbili. Kutoka upande wa Serikali, kile tunachopata ni kimya tu. Ufisadi kule mashinani haushughulikiwi vilivyo. Ningependa kuona ufisadi ukishughulikiwa kule Subukia lakini bado haijawa hivyo. Kuna machifu niliomba wafukuzwe kazi kwa sababu ni wafisadi lakini nikapuuzwa.

Bw. Spika, tunaona nchi za kigeni zikiwakataza wafisadi kusafiri kwa nchi zao, lakini hapa kwetu wafisadi wanatafuta kuwa Rais na Wabunge. Nashindwa kuelewa ni kwa nini nchi za kigeni zifikirie juu ya ufisadi kuliko sisi wenyewe?

Wapiga firimbi katika nchi hii bado hawalindwi wala hatujapitisha sheria za kuwalinda. Najua kuna wafanya kazi 11 wa hoteli ya Grand Regency ambao walifutwa kazi miaka mitatu iliyopita na hadi leo hawajaruhusiwa kurudi kazini kwa sababu polisi mmoja huwapa ulinzi ilhali mwingine hutoa amri ya kupinga hilo. Ikiwa tunasema kwamba tunapiga vita ufisadi, wale wanaosaidia Serikali kupiga ufisadi vita, lazima wasiadhibiwe kwa kufutwa kazi.

Bw. Spika, uliongea juu ya ukabila katika hotuba yako. Ninakubaliana nawe kwamba ukabila ni tatizo kubwa na ndilo litakuja kuumbua taifa hili. Hata hivyo, ninataka kukusahihisha kidogo. Ulisema kwamba kuna "demokrasia ya kikabila", lakini mimi ningependa kuongeza kwa kusema kwamba tuna "udikteta wa kikabila".

(Applause)

Udikteta huu unapuliziwa hewa na vyama vya kikabila. Hata sisi ambao tunapinga ukabila tunaitwa wasaliti na watu wanakuja kutuchomea kwetu. Mhe. Mbunge mzima aliongoza jeshi la kuja kutuchoma eti kwa sababu tumejiunga na chama kingine. Watu ambao wanaamini kwamba wataelekeza nchi hii kwingineko tofauti na kule tulikoelekezwa na KANU - naongea kuhusu wafuasi wa chama cha NARC(K) - lazima wakifanye kile kilichofanywa na Serikali ya KANU wakati wa enzi ya giza.

Ni jambo la kushangaza kwamba kila siku tunashinda tukihubiri kuhusu majimbo. Majimbo hayo ndiyo yatamaliza nchi hii na lazima ieleweke hivyo.

(Applause)

Hata kuna wagombea viti vya Bunge ambao wanakataza watu kuingia katika maeneo yao ya uwakilishi Bungeni---

The Assistant Minister for Wildlife and Tourism (Mr. Ndile): Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Spika. Umemsikia Waziri Msaidizi wa Habari na Mawasiliano akisema kwamba wafuasi wa chama cha NARC(K) walijaribu kumchoma na hali tunaolewa kwamba ni mpinzani wake, Bw. Ngunjiri, ndiye alitenda jambo hilo. Je, ni haki kwake kusema hivyo?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ndile! May I first say the following: Hon. Members, addressed as hon. Members, must behave honourably.

(Applause)

I thought that, once upon a time, hon. Members had respect for one another. Now that is becoming history. I hope we do not see again, as a congregation of the Kenyan leadership, the kind of things that we saw in respect of hon. Wamwere being conducted by his colleagues. If that can happen, then what is the use of being colleagues? Please, be respectful to one another wherever you are.

(Applause)

Proceed, Mr. Wamwere!

The Assistant Minister for Information and Communications (Mr. Wamwere): Bw. Spika, ningependa kusema kuwa ni bahati kubwa kwamba ninaongea leo hii hapa Bungeni. Hii ni kwa sababu waliokuja kuchoma sanamu yangu wangepata nafasi wangenichoma miye. Mara nyingi mimi husema bahati yangu ni kwamba nilifufuliwa na Yesu alipokuwa akifufuka.

(Laughter)

Bw. Spika, jambo jingine linalonishangaza ni kwamba wale wanaogombea Urais, badala ya kutafutia nchi hii Rais Mkenya, wanazunguka nchi hii wakisema eti wanataka nchi hii iwe na Rais Mkikuyu, Mjalu, Mkamba, Mnandi, na kadhalika. Ikiwa nchi hii itakuwa na---

(Applause)

Bw. Spika, kwa hayo machache, naomba kuunga mkono.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. The Leader of the Official Opposition is not ready. Mr. M.Y. Haji has been consistent. I will come to the back row next time.

Proceed, Mr. M.Y. Haji!

Mr. M.Y. Haji: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank you for having realised, as our leader, that Members of Parliament are really hardworking people. As you rightly said, Members of Parliament are pall bearers during funerals and they are expected to help their constituents to pay school fees and so forth.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, secondly, we do not merely stand here to criticise the Government. It is unfortunate that the Government only sees one side of the hand and not the other. Therefore, we have a responsibility, as Members of Parliament, to say what we expect the Government to do and what it has not done.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not enough to say that the economy of this country has grown by 6 per cent while people in North Eastern Province and places like Samburu, Turkana and Pokot do not realise any benefit from this growth that the Government is talking about.

We know that without communication, there is no country which can claim to have progress. During the rainy season last year, all the roads in North Eastern Province were rendered impassable for more than three months. We know that there are no telephone communications and electricity in that area. The people there are very unfortunate because the same Government which claims that we are progressing had to air-drop food. This was because even the airstrips were not accessible. In my own case, I could not access Ijara by road for three months neither could I access it by using an aeroplane.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one is forced to hire a helicopter which costs over Kshs800,000 and you can only stay in the area for two or three hours. That is not serving the people the it is expected.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, people in the North Eastern Province are poorer now than ever before. This is a fact! The Government cannot deny it. This is because last year the people of North Eastern Province lost 70 per cent of their livestock. This year alone, we lost 113 people and many of our livestock to Rift Valley Fever (RVF). We have every right to say that the Government is sleeping. Way back in September, 2005, our Government was warned by the American Government of the outbreak of the RVF in Kenya. In Ijara Constituency, for example, blood

samples were taken from 138 people before the outbreak of the RVF. Out of this, ten per cent were positive for RVF. Similarly, blood samples of over 1,000 head of cattle and goats were taken. The result showed that they had symptoms of the RVF. Why did the Government not inoculate the animals before they died and we lost 138 people?

An hon. Member: The Government was a sleep!

Mr. M.Y. Haji: Mr. Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the President may have very good intentions. However, I am sad to say that the Ministers of this Government are not for the good of the people of Kenya. This is not a Government for the people, of the people and by the people. It is a Government of meetings and seminars. I will prove this.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chair encourages us, as hon. Members of Parliament, to stop raising Questions, but take issues with Ministers. When job vacancies in the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs were advertised, people of North Eastern Province did not apply because the roads in that region were impassable. As a result, our people did not read the newspapers nor received the Government circular on those job opportunities. The District Officer confirmed that I wrote to the Minister for Immigration about this issue. Out of 15 people employed as clerks for registration and issuance of identity cards, 13 came from outside Ijara Constituency. I wrote a letter on 30th, November, 2006, to the Minister. This was after I visited his office three times and I could not find him. However, up to date, I have not received an answer from him. Can we say that this is a Government for the people, of the people and by the people?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to commend Minister Akaranga. I wrote to him and he invited me to his office. I told him the problem we have. However, up to now, it has not been solved. This is a copy of the letter I wrote to him.

(Mr. M.Y. Haji laid the document on the Table)

I would, however, like to commend him for dealing with me at the time I went to his office.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wrote to the Minister for Energy, Mr. Murungi, on 30th November, 2006, about electricity in Ijara Constituency, but it is a pity that up to today, I have not heard from him. I have visited his office twice, but could not find him. Is this not a sleeping Government? What is the use of us being hon. Members of Parliament, if we cannot access Government offices? How can ordinary people in the streets access them?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 3rd, January, 2007, Ethiopian forces invaded Somalia and killed a lady in Ijara Constituency and wounded another person. I wrote a letter to the Office of the President and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I even took up the matter with His Excellency the President. He directed officers to do something about the issue but up to today, nothing has been done.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a man by the name Mohammed Doble who was working for United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Kismayu, Somalia. Simply because he was sitting in an office with a computer and had a satellite telephone, he was picked by the Ethiopian forces. Up to today, we do not know where he is. I took up the matter with the foreign office and His Excellency the President. From January to date, we do not know the fate of this gentleman. Is this really the Government that we elected to lead us? His Excellency the President may have good intentions, but I am sorry to say he neither has Ministers nor Permanent Secretaries with good intentions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to commend the Minister for Education for the good work he is doing in the North Eastern Province. We have been assisted in very many ways. However, I want to pick up a bone with the Assistant Minister who said that because of drought and RVF, children should not be chased from schools. Head teachers will chase them from schools because what will

they eat without paying school fees? If school fees are waived, the Ministry should provide funds to these schools. This would enable teachers to teach and the students to be fed. There is no way students can learn without an up keep.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the Youth Enterprise Development Fund, I am sorry to say that in spite of the fact that the Government has set aside a lot of money for this project, 80 per cent of the money is being deposited in bank accounts to earn profits. Only 20 per cent is given to every constituency. This is an equivalent of about Kshs1 million. How many people will benefit from this money? We are told that the minimum amount one can apply for is Kshs10,000. What is Kshs10,000 today? You cannot even buy a pair of good shoes in Nairobi with that amount of money. To compound the issue, in North Eastern Province, we do not have banks! We only have banks in Garissa and Mandera. How would our children access this fund?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are District Trade Boards (DTBs) in all districts. Why can this money not be channelled through the DTB, so that children can access it easily?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on identity cards---

Mr. Speaker: Mr. M.Y. Haji, your time is up!

Mr. Kenneth, please, proceed!

(Mr. Musila stood up in his place)

Sorry, I did not see that my deputy was interested because I have a selfish interest in his speaking!

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Kenneth): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Perhaps, you will see him next time round---

(Mr. Akaranga stood up in his place)

Mr. Speaker: Order! What is it, Mr. Minister?

The Minister of State for Public Service (Mr. Akaranga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think it would be right if I comment on this letter tabled by Mr. M.Y. Haji.

Indeed, Mr. M.Y. Haji, visited my office. We discussed with him the problems with employment in Ijara Constituency. He talked to the officers concerned and they agreed to act. He left my office a happy man. However, I do not live in Ijara Constituency. I would have expected Mr. M.Y. Haji to come back to me and tell me that nothing had been effected.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I think what Mr. M.Y. Haji is bringing to the fore is the dying culture of responding to correspondences. I think it is not unique to your Ministry. We encourage those in authority to respond to correspondence, particularly if they come from citizens and your own colleagues. It is very good to keep records! Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Kenneth, please, proceed!

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Kenneth): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to make a few comments on the Presidential Speech. The most important thing is to digest what has been good in the last four years and what probably fell short of expectations. I appreciate the comments made by Mr. M.Y. Haji with regard to Ministries that he has visited. But with regard to the Treasury, Mr. M.Y. Haji came at 11.00 a.m and found that he was being waited for. I think the ball is in his court for us to proceed and assist him. Therefore, for us to be of service to him, he also needs to fulfil certain things, so that we can help

the people of Ijara. We are still willing to help him.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about the issue of minimum reforms. This is an issue that we sometimes tend to run away from and yet, it is an issue that we must always discuss when it is necessary. In fact, it is a pity that the issue of minimum reforms has been stigmatised to appear as if it is an issue for elections, and yet, it should be an issue for our daily appearances in this House. We must be able to amend laws that are good for the welfare of Kenyans.

Certain items that have been put in the packages by different groups for minimum reforms, are items that should have been discussed by the Ninth Parliament and implemented by now. We should not only talk about dual citizenship for Kenyans when it is an election year, so that we can make it an election issue. That aspect of the law should have been amended and passed by this House because the majority of hon. Members support it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are other issues in the Constitution that need to be looked into, for example, the hop-noping of hon. Members from one side of the House to the other. That is an issue which should be sorted out so that we can all stand true to our constituents who elected us on certain parties at election time. It is upon this House to show and lead the way on the issue of the Constitution Review. We have left this to outsiders who have formed various Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) whereas, we should have taken the initiative to be on the fore-front. We are the law-makers who make laws. We should, therefore, look at the Constitution and see how best we can amend it, to our best knowledge and for the welfare of Kenyans.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been told that we shall have a Bill on the direct election of council chairmen and city mayors. But we must harmonise the roles played by the Town Clerks who are the chief executive officers (CEOs) and those who we would like to be elected directly to be the mayors or the council chairmen, bearing in mind that a lot of our councillors are really suffering at the grassroots level in terms of what they are able to take home by way of allowances. It is high time we had minimum standards for municipal councils and county councils, so that when we elect direct mayors and chairmen, they have specific standards to achieve as the CEOs of those respective municipal councils and county councils.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the increase of judges because we have seen how people suffer even on matters which concern this House. For example, some election petitions have not yet began and others are being determined on a day like this when we barely have seven months to end the Session. I want to say something about judges. We have hundreds and hundreds of magistrates who are suffering in the out-stations and it would be a good idea, as a way of incentive, to appoint new judges from the magistrates who are in the out-stations, who have prevailed under very difficult conditions and whose salary differences between them and the judges are far and wide. I want to appeal that when appointing new judges, we should take cognition of the magistrates who are working out there as a way of giving them incentives. We should consider state counsels and magistrates, so as to encourage them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are talking about free secondary education. Most of the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) money has been concentrated on the real construction of secondary schools. I know that this House is pressing for the CDF to be increased to 5 per cent. I would appeal that if it is increased to 5 per cent, each constituency should forego Kshs10 million or Kshs15 million, including the bursary money, and avail free secondary education. That will mean that the influx of the students from the free primary education could be fully catered for in another four years before the first intake will go through.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have always spoken about insecurity and we will continue to talk about it. It continues to be a concern in this country and it will continue to be a concern until such a time that it is eradicated. However, it is what is created by insecurity that denies Kenyans what they should really be enjoying. If you look at Industrial Area today, for example, it opens at 8.00 a.m.

and closes at 5.00 p.m., and creates up to 500,000 jobs. If the Industrial Area was secure, it would easily do a night shift and employ another 500,000 people. That would be a big boost to this economy in terms of employment and taxation. The money that would be generated from taxation would be sufficient to cover for security in this country. Therefore, as leaders in this House, we must come together and condemn any act of insecurity and ensure that not only do we encourage our security forces for the little they have done, but also ensure that they have enough equipment so that every Kenyan is secure.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we were told, and we want to applaud the fact that there would be an increase in the number of constituencies. That must be given priority. It is within the Section 42 of the Constitution, that all constituency boundaries must be reviewed every ten years. I do not know whether it will be a legal problem if we hold elections without reviewing boundaries. Somebody might go to court and say: "The elections were held in contravention of section 42." In this era of CDF, it is important that all the constituencies have the same statistics in terms of population or geographical area. When I talk like that, I do it as somebody who represents two constituencies because the current Gatanga Constituency is a combination of the former Gatanga and former Makuyu Constituency. When you look at the CDF amount that certain constituencies get, whereas I get one allocation, my constituency is equivalent to two neighbouring constituencies that get two CDF allocations. So, I get very hard-pressed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to appeal to the Ministry of Health, that there are many families suffering out there. They are suffering because they have lost their loved ones and the bodies are detained in Government hospitals. It would be very important that we do not prolong the pain that those families are suffering. I think it would be a good Government policy that any body that is detained in a Government hospital for lack of funds be released forthwith so that we do not prolong the pain of those who took care of those people.

Finally, I want to speak about our own unity. We can hold the general election anytime and we will hold elections after every five years, but we must also be proud of the little that we have achieved and say thanks to the good Almighty Lord for it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will be hosting a very unique championship on Saturday. We have not seen, either from this House or from anywhere else, unity and patriotism going towards Mombasa. It is an event that does not take place all the time. I think it is in such times that we must appear to be glued together as a nation, so as to enjoy and celebrate that one given opportunity that has come our way. I think in all times, when we have done well, we have not come together as a nation. When we have had disasters, like the bombing that took place at the former US Embassy, the country came together. We must be able to come together also in good times.

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: I just want to inform the hon. Assistant Minister and the House that, indeed, this House will be effectively represented in the cross-country event and your Chair will also be there, as a Kenyan, to give the Kenyan team the desired morale. You are all invited to join me.

Mr. Ojode: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I wanted to remind you that the Chair promised, next time round, to recognise the Back-benchers on this side of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Of course, the time has not arrived yet!

Mr. Ojode: Next time! Next time---

(Laughter)

Mr. Musila: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand to support this Motion. I wish to congratulate the President for his Speech. But before I comment on His Excellency the President's Speech, let me thank you and join my colleagues in thanking you for coming to the defence of hon.

Members and elaborating the role that we play. Last night, Messrs. Angwenyi, Muturi and I spent the best part of the evening on Nation Television (NTV) trying to convince the Kenyan public that Members of Parliament actually work. However, I regret the perception out there is still that hon. Members do not work and that there is a lot of work to be done.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a few days ago, I watched in complete disbelief as one Rev. Githii of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA) Church castigated hon. Members of this House and made very serious allegations regarding them. I want to say that I have a lot of respect for religious people. But what I heard Rev. Githii say about this House, that 70 per cent of hon. Members practise witchcraft; and that Members of this House worship the devil because of the frog and serpent statues that are around, I would like to say this: Rev. Githii should be told that the Kenya National Assembly is not part of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa.

(Applause)

He should concentrate on fighting devil worship in the PCEA Church and leave us alone. That is all I would like to say because it is such kind of people who have continued to damage the reputation of hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me also thank you for appointing me to a sub-committee to review the Standing Orders, as you mentioned. I want to assure hon. Members of Parliament that we are doing everything possible to ensure that we consult as widely as possible in the task you have given us. I want to urge hon. Members of Parliament to be patient because after the sub-committee completes its work, we will hand over the work to the Speaker's Committee. Mr. Speaker, you have assured me that you will provide an opportunity for hon. Members to go through the document in an informal manner, in a *Kamukunji*, and provide suggestions that will eventually formulate the final document to be brought to this House. I am saying this so that hon. Members will not be apprehensive, as is already the case, since some are already debating on the raw document that we are working on.

Having said that, let me make a few comments on the President's Speech. The President elaborated on education. I want to say that, yes, the Government has made a lot of progress in providing free primary education and to a certain extent, free secondary education. I want to join my colleagues in saying that, yes, the Free Primary Education Programme (FPE) is there - I am very sorry that the Minister has left - However, the quality of education leaves much to be desired. There are 100 kids in a classroom being taught by one teacher. Imagine a situation where a school with eight classes has five teachers. We know that the situation is not the same in all areas of the country. There are some areas, which for some reason, continue to suffer shortage of teachers, and yet the Government is doing nothing about it. I know of one such secondary school.

The President was right in saying that we should encourage day secondary schools. I have already done exactly what he wants. I have day secondary schools that I have started with only one teacher from the Teachers Service Commission (TSC). The rest are employed by poor parents. I would like to ask the President to go further and ensure that there is equity in the distribution of teachers in this country.

The hon. Dr. Kilemi Mwiria yesterday came up with a grand idea. I wish he was the Minister for Education. He said that instead of a few schools taking many children to universities and leaving many schools not sending even one student to the universities, why not practise an affirmative action and ensure that the best student from every school joins university? That way, we would ensure that, at least, every corner of the country has students who will join the universities. There are schools which have been in existence for over 20 years, yet they have not had a single student joining the university. I think we need to give some thought to that issue.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, whenever I have stood here to talk about education, I have spoken about withheld Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) certificates. Today, hon. Nyiva Mwendwa added to that. I want to urge hon. Members to join me in ensuring that this matter is resolved once and for all. I am saying that because last year, I conducted a census in my constituency. In my constituency, last year, without counting those who graduated last year, 740 children had no certificates. Their certificates are being held in schools. Is that not the case in Mosop, Sabatia and everywhere else? Why do you, hon. Members, let this matter go on as if it is my own? Why can you not come out because it is a serious case? Over one million children in this country have finished school and have no certificates. Therefore, they cannot access employment. I urge the Government, before talking about free secondary education, to clear that matter. We are not being genuine by being told about free secondary education when we have students who have been out there for 15 to 20 years without certificates.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of appointing new judges is a grand idea. However, I want to agree with hon. Wetangula, that the solution to the poor delivery of justice in this country will not be to increase the number of judges to 200. I believe that we must address the issue of the capacity of the investigating authorities; those who investigate crime because I think the capacity is lacking. Our police and the prosecutors are not capable. How many very serious cases have gone to court only to end up with suspects being acquitted for lack of evidence? That is because we lack the capacity. I will support a slight increase in the number of judges but emphasise more on improving the capacity of investigators and prosecutors.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about the Youth Enterprise Fund (YEF). This is a grand idea. However, there is already a problem in the management of that Fund. We were told that a sum of Kshs210 million will go to the constituencies. Already, we have seen cheques being handed over to some constituencies; I suppose politically-correct constituencies. The Minister and his colleagues were handing over cheques from that Fund to certain groups and yet we know that, in our constituencies, the money has never reached there. Why is that happening?

There is also the issue of the Kshs790 million, which is supposed to be distributed nationally. That is where the problem is. We want the Kshs790 million to be distributed through districts, so that we know that there is equitable distribution. If we do not do that, some regions will take the whole Kshs790 million and others will remain only with the Kshs210 million that has been given to the constituencies.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I applaud the creation of additional districts. But the manner in which that exercise was conducted leaves a lot to be desired. One would have expected a commission to be appointed to investigate, inquire, study and determine which areas require new districts, and where the boundaries will be. The problem we have right now is that new districts have been created for those who do not need them. Those who need new districts have been denied the chance to have them. That is not fair. A more civilised way would have been followed in creating additional districts. It is not too late to do that because we have squabbles in constituencies where boundaries are being created in a manner that the population does not want. We can still have that corrected by appointing a commission.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally, I want to applaud the Kenya Anti-Corruption Commission (KACC) for investigating the activities at the Pensions Department. We passed a law regarding the Pensions Department and it is not being followed. I hope that they will ensure that pensioners are paid their pension on time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I beg to support.

*(Several hon. Members stood
up in their places)*

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, I am sorry but when the Leader of the Official Opposition stands up, everybody else is short-circuited.

Proceed, Mr. Kenyatta!

Mr. Kenyatta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make my comments on the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency the President's Speech. The Speech by His Excellency the President dwelt mainly on the achievements of his Government over the past four years. Those achievements are in terms of the Free Primary Education Programme (FPEP), increased economic growth, amongst other things.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the real question is this: Whereas Kenyans are, indeed, happy with the FPEP, has that been matched by an increase in the quality of education in our primary institutions? Has there been an increase in the number of teachers to assist the already over-burdened teachers?

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is common knowledge that today, private academies are, in terms of examination results, beating public institutions. That is a situation that has not been seen in a long time. Therefore, as much as we appreciate the FPEP, it shows that there is a problem that remains to be resolved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what about the burden of parents who are happy with the FPEP? Today, those parents have less disposable income than they had four years ago as a result of increased prices in basic commodities such as *unga*, sugar, paraffin and the increase in the cost of transportation as a result of an increase in the price of fuel.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, more Kenyans live below the poverty line than they did in the year 2002. Is that economic growth real? Has that growth changed the life of an average Kenyan for the better? In reality, is the average Kenyan today not worse off than he was four years ago?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the President referred to an increase in growth in the communication and tourism sectors. Has that resulted in an increase in employment opportunities? Has it resulted in an increase in the bottom line profitability of companies? We have over 2 million unemployed youths. Even at current growth rates, by the year 2013, there will be over 5 million unemployed young men and women. Is that not the cause of the increase in crime? Had there been gainful employment for those young men and women, crime would be on the decrease and not on the increase as is the case now. Therefore, are we going to get an answer by this House passing Bills or the Government issuing "shoot to kill" orders or by being focused on how to create gainful employment opportunities for our young men and women?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we talk about growth, and I refer to His Excellency the President's Speech when he referred to regional differences in natural endowment. That is a wrong kind of thinking. This country is adopting a mentality that regional inequalities are caused by differences in natural endowments. That kind of mentality says that areas like North Eastern Province are basic wastelands fit only for aid and, by extension, the people living in those areas are considered to be useless! The right kind of thinking is the one that sees different regions in our country as regions of different potentiality. Gatundu Constituency, for example, is a high-potential area for the production of tea and coffee. Mr. Billow's constituency is a high-potential area for livestock rearing. What are we doing to invest in that high-potentiality?

This country has over ten million head of cattle. Botswana has only two million head of

cattle. From the two million head of cattle, Botswana earns as much in terms of foreign exchange as we do from our export of coffee. That means that we have not prioritised our programmes correctly. It is that lack of prioritisation that results in increased unemployment and crime in our country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President went on to refer to a number of Bills that he would like this House to pass. There are Bills aimed at stemming corruption. One such Bill is the Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Bill. There is also a Bill that seeks to make public the wealth declaration forms of public officers. All those Bills are good. But the question we ask is: What has the Government done with the Bills that we have already passed? What has the Government done with those Bills that were brought by this Government aimed at curbing corruption? Corruption still thrives in this country. Are we just passing Bills for the sake of doing so or for pleasing the donor community? Are we passing Bills because we are genuinely interested in fighting the scourge of corruption in this country?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President spoke of increasing the number of judges to 200. That is good. We need more judges. Many cases remain pending in our High Court and Court of Appeal. We, as a political party, have cases that have been pending for the last two years; constitutional matters in connection with the ownership of the Kenyatta International Conference Centre and the illegal Government of National Unity that today governs this country illegally and unconstitutionally. When those cases are brought forward, they are passed for reference and passed over and over. But when it comes to cases that involve interfering with the activities of political parties, like the cases that have been brought by some non-entities in KANU and in FORD(K), they are fast-tracked and brought forward. So, the question is, is it that we need more judges or is that we need a more transparent manner in which we appoint those judges to ensure their independence and that of the Judiciary as a whole? Is that the law that the President seeks to bring? If that is the law that the President seeks to bring before this House, then we can be sure that we would be better armed to fight corruption and to ensure the many pending cases are dealt with expeditiously and in accordance with the rule of law and not in accordance with executive orders or direction.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is important to say that it is that lack of transparency in the appointment of judges that has resulted also in increased ethnic tensions in this country. It is sad to say that recently, the Government appointed a new Governor of the Central Bank. But because that Governor is a Kikuyu and was appointed in a non-transparent manner, it has resulted in other Kenyans feeling that, that appointment has been done as a result of ethnic basis. Why could we not have appointed the Governor through a transparent manner that would have probably resulted in the same man being appointed, but all Kenyans accepting that he was the best man for the job? When we do things behind closed doors, it results in negative impressions. So, today, a possible potentially good Governor is carrying baggage purely because of his ethnicity. Had we done that appointment in a transparent manner, he would enjoy the support of the entire House and all the 30 million Kenyans.

This issue of transparency must be addressed by this country so that we begin to move away from the attitude that my community can only benefit when a person from my community is in Government. We want the best Kenyans for the job, and that can only happen in a transparent, open and accountable manner. We can no longer have leaders going out to say that we want this Government out because it is a Kikuyu or Kalenjin Government, and we want the next Government to come in because there will be a Kamba or a Kisii President. When will the 42 ethnic communities all have a chance of ruling this country? It must be that governance will be based on issues not ethnicity, and those issues can only be dealt with if Kenyans as a whole feel that the business of Government will be conducted in an open, transparent manner that takes into account the diversity of our nation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of minimum reforms, I am happy to hear that the President has directed that this issue be brought to the fore. We have always wanted and encouraged dialogue. It is unfortunate that it is those Members in Government charged with the responsibility that have been against dialogue. It is our hope that the dialogue that the President has asked for will be honest. Given the fact that he has realised that Kenyans are desirous of those minimum reforms, may be as a sign of good will, he should begin by sending all those electoral commissioners who were appointed illegally and wrongfully, against the code of IPPG, back home and saying; "ladies and gentlemen, let us now do it in an open, transparent and accountable manner, so that everyone feels they are involved and have participated in the decisions". That way, we can ensure that we have a free and fair election.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want new constituencies. But the fear of Members and Kenyans is; how will those constituencies and boundaries be drawn up through the minimum reforms? Let us do that also in an open and transparent manner so that it has the acceptance of all Kenyans, and so that Kenyans can say, that which has been done is the right thing, and it has been done fairly and justly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to talk about the Political Parties Bill. We are happy to hear that the Political Parties Bill is being brought before this House. But even today, within our existing laws, there are issues. Towards this end, I challenge you also, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. A while ago, you mentioned that this Government has encouraged an open multi-party democracy. Yet, today, as I sat here, I was looking at Hon. Serut, the Member for Mt. Elgon, elected on a KANU ticket, answering questions on behalf of the NARC Government. Is that encouraging a multi-party democracy in our society or destroying it? These are issues that Kenyans must begin to address in an honest, open manner in order for us to get lasting solutions to the problems that bedevil our society.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the challenge of this Government is, first, to bring in constitutional reforms within the shortest possible time. These minimum changes are fundamental towards encouraging dialogue and bringing Kenyans together. We want legislation brought before this House that will ensure that the 200 judges who are going to be appointed, if we pass that law, will be appointed in an open, transparent and accountable manner. Let us have the Political Parties Bill brought in and please, let us begin to see an end to interference in the affairs of political parties in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President said we need genuine dialogue. I encourage that dialogue. But let it be dialogue that does not seek to hide the symptoms, but that actually wants to get to the root cause of the problems that bedevil our society.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, most importantly, what keeps this country together and what is great about this country is its ethnic diversity. However, over the years this ethnic diversity has consistently been used to tear Kenyans apart. Let us use an opportunity to dialogue and begin to mend some of those bridges. Let us accept that the politics of inclusivity today overrule the politics of exclusivity. A Government may have power, but consultations never hurt. Dialogue never killed. Kenyans have a right to be included and consulted equally. I appeal to my fellow politicians to begin to bring an end to the use of negative politics of ethnicity to tear our people apart.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in conclusion, as my time seemingly is running out, I would like to take this opportunity to repeat to the President what he himself said in his Speech. His advice to us that if he himself also followed would ensure a united, harmonious, prosperous and democratic country. He says:- "The common interests of the people of Kenya override any other individual or functional agenda". We no longer want to hear about NARC(K), NARC and DP. If it is NARC that was elected, it is NARC that should stand until the end. If it is KANU in the Opposition, let us stand in the Opposition until the end. If we wish to discuss, let us deliberate in a proper

consultative manner. That is what Kenyans expect from this leadership.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President went on to say: "This is possible when leaders set aside personal interests and dedicate themselves to pursue what is best for the people of Kenya". This Government needs to ask itself: "Is what we are doing in the best interests of the people of this country or is it purely an attempt at self-preservation of a new clique to hang to power at the expense of others?"

This country has great potential and it can reach to much greater heights. What this country desires most is a policy or programme of inclusivity in the agenda of this nation. For us to realise that, no single community or individual bears the answer to the myriad of problems that we face.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for having recognised me. I would also want to join my colleagues on this very important Motion on the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is true that we are repeating ourselves. We remember that last year's Presidential Speech was the same as this one. There is totally nothing new in this Speech. The previous Speech dwelt on economic reforms and so many other things which are included in this particular Speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as my colleagues said, this economic improvement does not trickle down to the ordinary *wananchi* at the grassroots level. The Deputy Chair has just spoken and it is true that we passed a Motion here which compelled the headmasters to release Kenya Certificate of Secondary Examinations to graduates who have been unable to raise school fees. However, that practice is still going on since the head teachers have not implemented our directive to date. We have a Government which boasts that they are ruling whether we like it or not, but they do not implement anything that is passed in this House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, economic hardships have forced majority of Kenyans to walk from their houses to their workplaces, and that can be evidenced in the morning when you drive along Thika Road or Langata to Nairobi City. That shows that this economic improvement which is being talked about every now and again, does not exist. The prices of commodities like sugar, flour and bread have gone up. That does not augur very well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking about secondary schools expansion. Indeed, it is true that we are lacking secondary schools to accommodate those who are coming from primary schools. It is a pity as some of my colleagues said, within certain primary schools like a case of one of my primary schools, the teacher-student ratio is four teachers to 670 pupils. Sooner or later, I will introduce a Private Member's Motion here to compel the Government to increase the number of teachers to the tune of 52,000 which we are lacking as I speak. I hope that the Government side will see sense that it is prudent for us to employ more teachers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on graft, the President spoke about perception. I totally disagree with the word "perception". It is in this House where my very good friends who were Ministers were sacked as a result of corruption and they are known. It is also in this House where we had a PAC Report implicating some of the Ministers, including the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs. Now, the President is talking about "perception." I think it is better for us to do something about the Anti-Corruption Bill. It is important for us to bring an amendment to delete certain sections in order to include the Director of Criminal Investigations Department (CID) to investigate and take these people to court. This is because as long as hon. Amos Wako is the Attorney-General of this country, we do not expect anybody from the Government side, including the Chief Whip, to be taken to court. It will not be possible.

(Laughter)

Mr. N. Nyagah: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Did you hear what the hon. Member said about me being taken to court by the Attorney-General and which he will not do? Is he aware that the Government Chief Whip is free from corruption ever since he was born?

An hon. Member: That is not a point of order!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I did not talk about him since even on our side we have a Chief Whip. I am sorry since he was thinking that he is the only Chief Whip within the House.

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would want to commend Nairobi City Council Clerk, Mr. John Gakuo for having done a wonderful job. If I had powers, I would have promoted him to be the Permanent Secretary for Local Government for the good work he has done.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have heard people talking about the issue of judges here and they have a phobia since they are panicking. The truth of the matter is that we fear that if we allow the Government side to increase the judges to 200 or whatever number, all those judges will come from one particular region. That is the fear of my colleagues and hon. N. Nyagah knows it. I will give one example. We all know where the Minister for Finance and the Assistant Minister for Finance come from. If I were to read out the names of those people who hold big positions within the financial sector alone, you will be shocked. Apart from the Assistant Minister for Finance, we have the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Joseph Kinyua, Economic Secretary, Mr. Kamau Thuge, Pensions Director, Mrs. Anne Mugo, Budgetary Director, D.P. Ngugi, External Resources Director, Mr. Kenneth Mwangi, Deputy Finance Secretary, Mwirichia. We also have the Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK)--- That guy is so clean. He is a very brilliant fellow, but the way he was appointed raises doubt. He was appointed from a club where they met with the Minister for Finance who endorsed him as the Governor of the CBK. He is Prof. Ndung'u. We were together. We also have the Deputy Governor, Mr. John Gikonyo, the Consolidated Bank of Kenya Chairman, Mr. Philip Njuki, Chief Executive Officer, Mr. David Wachira, Commissioner-General of the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), Mr. Michael Waweru---

The Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Tuju): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member, who is rather excited that he cannot even see who is speaking here, to impute that the Governor of the CBK was appointed from a club? Could he, please, favour us with a substantiation?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Earlier on and even yesterday, the Chair ruled that an hon. Member may say something which one may not agree with, but that does not necessarily mean that he is out of order. I would like us to have a free debate, so long as we stick to the rules of the House. I will be giving those people who think otherwise an opportunity to say what they want to.

Could you continue, Mr. Ojode?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will pardon him because he is also new in this House.

(Mr. Tuju stood up in his place)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Minister!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we were being challenged to show whether the Government is practising tribalism or not. The Commissioner-General---

The Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Tuju): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to be allowed to ridicule this side of the House? He has just

ridiculed hon. Kimunya as having made an appointment from a club. Now, he continues to say some unkind words about me.

If the idea is to ridicule this side of the House and you preside over that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is that in order?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Ojode, did you attack the person of Mr. Tuju? My understanding was that he was alleging that there was tribalism in appointments.

Did you make reference to Mr. Tuju?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not! I would like to say that he is being haunted by the "ghosts" of Raila.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Ojode! We must be serious in this House! I think you are now going overboard. You have talked about ghosts, yet, when I was contributing I defended this House against allegations of ghosts and devil worship.

Could you withdraw that remark?

Mr. Ojode: I withdraw, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The KRA is where tribalism is being practised in the highest order. The Commissioner-General is Mr. Michael Waweru; Board Secretary, Mrs. Ng'ang'a, Senior Deputy Commissioner, Investigation and Enforcement, Mr. Joseph Nduati; Deputy Commissioner, Investigation and Enforcement, Mr. Mburu, Deputy Commissioner, Administration, Mr. Karimi, Deputy Commissioner, Procurement, Mr. Muritu, Commissioner, Customs,---

The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Mwenje): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for Mr. Ojode to continue behaving the way he is doing; bringing tribal issues in this House, when all these people are Kenyans? He has even belittled Mr. Tuju by looking at him and saying: "I dismiss---" The HANSARD will bear me witness.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Mwenje! I have already ruled on that! The hon. Member has withdrawn that remark. But as regards the issue of what he is saying, there is nothing wrong with that.

The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Mwenje): Could he apologise? He did not do so!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! The Standing Orders say that after withdrawal, the Chair may require that the hon. Member withdraws. They do not say that a Member may require an apology. The Chair did not require that. Therefore, the issue of an apology does not arise. The Chair was satisfied with the withdrawal by the hon. Member. What he said may be true or not true. But that is his opinion. When you get an opportunity, challenge it!

Mr. Ojode, I will give you two minutes to conclude your contribution!

Mr. Ojode: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Let me continue with the list to show that those on the Government side are tribalists.

Kenya is comprised of 42 tribes. Why should we have just one tribe working within the financial sector? I have over 20 pages to prove this. Ninety per cent of the District Commissioners (DCs) are from one tribe. The same applies to the Officers Commanding Police Divisions (OCPDs) and the Officers Commanding Stations (OCSs).

The Commissioner, Customs, is Mrs. Wambui; Senior Deputy Commissioner, Customs, Mr. Githinji; Deputy Commissioner, Enforcement, Customs, Mr. Maina; Deputy Commissioner, Finance, Mr. Wachira; Commissioner, Domestic Taxes, LPO, Mr. Njiraini; Deputy Commissioner, Mrs. Mwangi, Senior Deputy Commissioner, Finance, Mrs. King'ori; Senior Assistant Commissioner, Security, Maj. Kariuki. It is shameful!

Let me continue. The Senior Deputy Commissioner, Southern Region, is Wangathira. The Chairman of the Board of the Capital Markets Authority is Mr. Chege Waruinge. The Chief

Executive is Mr. Edward Ntalami. Twenty-three out of 36 first-appointee procurement officers are all from one region.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Ojode, your time is up!

Mr. Ojode: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to enlighten Kenyans.

The Minister of State for Public Service (Mr. Akaranga): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the President's Speech.

Before I do so, I would request that Mr. Ojode tables the list of those names which he has, so that, as the Minister of State for Public Service, perhaps I could scrutinise it carefully.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Ojode, I think that is a fair request from the Minister of State for Public Service. He has requested that you table the list, so that he can scrutinise it.

Mr. Ojode: I will do so, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Please, continue, Mr. Minister!

The Minister of State for Public Service (Mr. Akaranga): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will start with what is happening with the Public Service. There are quite a number of reforms that are taking place. Last year, we introduced the performance contracts for all our officers. That means that this Government is prepared to give Kenyans quality services. Indeed, I have to take this opportunity to apologise to hon. M.Y. Haji who is disappointed because his letters were not responded to. In accordance with service charters which we have released to all Ministries, letters are supposed to be responded to within seven days. Since he tabled those letters, I will investigate further to check which Permanent Secretary did not respond to them.

(Mr. Ojode withdrew from the Chamber)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of performance contracts---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Where is Mr. Ojode? Could someone get him to bring the document?

Continue, Mr. Minister!

The Minister of State for Public Service (Mr. Akaranga): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of performance contracting, I am pleased to inform this House that Kenya has been nominated and shortlisted for an award by the United Nations; the Public Service Award. We will be receiving that award in June, 2007. On the same issue of the public service, we have also placed the process of application for all public service jobs online. People can just apply for the jobs online, and they do not need to walk to the Public Service Commission Headquarters to pick the application forms and complete them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government has given out funds to various constituencies through the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF). This year, the CDF will be given Kshs10 billion. When we criticize that the Government is not giving funds to Kenyans, we as hon. Members must ask ourselves one question: What are we doing with the CDF? Even if the funds are little, we need to show Kenyans who voted for us, that we, as hon. Members, can utilize the funds effectively. I am sorry to say that if you go around this country, *wananchi* are complaining about the distribution of CDF within the constituencies.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me talk about the cleanliness of our cities, especially a city like Nairobi. Today, we have street lights and our streets are all safe. We used to walk in darkness at night but today, when you walk in the streets of Nairobi, you will be a happy person because there are lights all over the town. Look at our roads, especially in some of our constituencies, where we have used the Roads Development Fund to repair our roads. If you walk along our streets, you will be a happy person to see that trees have been planted all over, and this town is soon going to become the "Green City in the Sun" the way it used to be many years ago.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, look at the landscaping in this town. When I talk about Nairobi, I also include Mombasa, the City of Kisumu and Eldoret. There are good things taking place there. Recently, I toured some of the public toilets in this city. You cannot believe that they are the same toilets which you could not even move near before. They are quite clean! As the Minister in charge of Public Service, when I see that, I become a happy person because Kenyans require quality services.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me look at the telecommunications industry. If you go through the streets, you will find that today, we have more than six million Kenyans who own cellphones. You will agree with me that just six years ago, any Kenyan holding a cellphone was like he was holding gold. But today, the way we communicate to one another is so easy. We have around 260,000 Kenyans with fixed telephone lines. Today, Telkom (K) Ltd has come up with wireless lines which look like mobile phones, but they are wireless telephone lines. Perhaps, you are not aware that there is the fibre-optic network and infrastructure which is being laid throughout the entire country, and that is going to cost us more than Kshs4 billion. That means that in a few months, all Ministries are going to be interlinked, thus making service delivery easier to Kenyans.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is also media freedom in this country. We have FM radio stations which now talk openly. They come out and criticize anybody, and the Kibaki Government does not go out there to order for the arrest of those people who are criticizing the Government. Today, we have 16 television stations, 30 FM radio stations and 50 regional FM radio stations which have since been licensed. Now, all Kenyans enjoy human rights without fear, and that, to me, is important. Fear is in the Bible, as you are aware. The Bible says clearly that fear is sin and, therefore, since Kenyans do not have fear, they are excused from that sinful act. Today, I am proud to say that we do not have any political prisoners. We do not have any! Even the torture chambers in Nyayo House were closed down and there is that freedom of speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I may look at women, they have been empowered. On the Women's Enterprise Development Fund, which is going to be established very soon, I want to urge the Ministry concerned to work on this issue very fast. It should not take long like the Youth Enterprise Development Fund so that women can be given funds and start small-scale businesses outside there. Apart from that, women are guaranteed at least one-third of all public employment opportunities. Where that does not happen, then we should be asked to say why it is not there. Recently, the Gender Commission was created and it is there. The women of this country are respected, and they are the majority. When we go outside there to look for votes, women and the youth are the majority and, of course---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Your time is up, Mr. Akaranga!

The Minister of State for Public Service (Mr. Akaranga): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

Mr. G.G. Kariuki: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Ojode made an allegation here and we requested him to lay the document on the Table, but he quietly disappeared from the House.

(Mr. Ojode walked back into the Chamber)

An hon. Member: There he comes!

Mr. G.G. Kariuki: I hope he has the document.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. G.G. Kariuki, I appreciate what you are saying, but you should know that when the hon. Member was contributing, he was not challenged to lay the document on the Table. But the Minister did ask; so I asked him to lay the document on the Table.

Mr. Ojode, do you have the document? Can you lay it on the Table now?

(Mr. Ojode laid the document on the Table)

The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Mwenje): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have been in this House for long. I know that when an allegation is made from the Floor of this House, either the Chair or an individual hon. Member asks for substantiation from the hon. Member who has made the allegation. One is not allowed to leave the Chamber or even go to the pigeon-hole to collect any paper. This is a serious anomaly which cannot be allowed to happen. We cannot allow, and it can never happen, that this document be admitted in this House after the claimant left this House. We do not know what he went to prepare out there. So, if we strictly follow our rules, that document cannot be admitted in this House, because he was supposed to have tabled it immediately he mentioned it.

Mr. Ojode: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! The matter is directed to the Chair. So, Mr. Ojode, you have no business responding to matters that have been directed to the Chair.

Mr. Mwenje, I appreciate what you said but the matter is different in this case. The hon. Member was not challenged to produce the document when he was on the Floor. It was only after the Minister was given an opportunity to contribute to the debate before the House that, as an after-thought, he said: "I would be interested to see that document, so that I can investigate it". I have not even looked at the document to ascertain its authenticity. I think it is fair that this document was not demanded of Mr. Ojode when he was on the Floor.

The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Mwenje): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Mwenje! So, I directed that the document be brought to the Minister at his request. The document is now here. The Minister will look at it. If he thinks that it does not agree with what the hon. Member was saying, he can raise the matter with the Chair.

The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Mwenje): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. This document will be published by the Press unless you order that it should not be published until we are able to prove the allegation or otherwise. The purpose of Mr. Ojode going out with it was to give copies of the same to the Press. **Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Order! You are making this House a two-Member affair! Listen, Mr. Mwenje; the document was requested by the Minister, and it is going to be given to the Minister because he asked for it. You did not ask for substantiation; he asked for the document. The Chair is within its rights to provide the document to the Minister. As a matter of fact, the Chair could as well have ignored the Minister's request, because he did not demand substantiation when the hon. Member was on the Floor. He said: "As the Minister responsible for public service, I would like to have a look at that list, so that I may investigate it". Then I said: "It is a fair request. Could we have the list?"

So, there is a difference between asking for substantiation when an hon. Member is on the Floor and requesting to see a document, as the Minister did. By the way, the Minister has not objected to being given the document, which he requested. So, let us be fair. The hon. Member was not challenged to produce the document when he was on the Floor. If, indeed, he was challenged, I would not have allowed him to go out. You saw that when he attempted to go out, the Chair sent the Serjeant-At-Arms to follow him and retrieve the document from him. Indeed, he has been made to come here and bring the document. So, I do not see the issue.

May I ask the Clerk-at-the-Table to pass on the document to the Minister to look at? It is not for publication. It is for the Minister to look at and investigate, as he requested.

Mr. Ojode: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! No more debate on this matter. The matter is closed!
Mr. Khamasi!

Mr. Khamasi: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to also contribute to the debate on the Presidential Address. I did not have the opportunity of being here on Tuesday, when the Address was being delivered by the President but, apparently, my constituents, who heard what the Speaker and the President said on that day, were very impressed. Indeed, I have read the Address. I feel it contains a lot of what is good for Kenyans.

I just need to comment on a few issues contained in the Presidential Address, particularly with regard to education. I believe that during the last Session, the issue of deficiency of teachers in primary schools particularly was discussed at length. Very many Questions were put to the Ministry of Education, when my friend, Dr. Wekesa, was the Acting Minister. At one stage, he agreed that in the event that a teacher dies at any one given time, the Ministry will not wait, but will proceed and replace that teacher. That was just talk. It is not happening. Now, primary schools are badly under-staffed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is high time that when an undertaking is made to this House, the Government followed it up and made sure that it implements it. What Dr. Wekesa promised this House was just a public relations exercise. It is not happening. The few teachers whom the Ministry employs do not fill the gaps left by those who have died. So, effectively, the teacher-pupil ratio deteriorates every year. If we are, indeed, committed to providing quality education to our children, as we have said here time and again, we must improve the levels of teachers in our schools. I believe that the Government will not take its sweet time to recruit the teachers it announced it would employ. I hope that the Government will go ahead and employ the teachers to fill the gaps that have been left by teachers who have died.

On secondary school education, I am very happy about what is contained in the President's Address. Secondary school education is becoming out of reach for very many children from poor families. It is high time we started thinking about how we can support poor parents to educate their children up to the secondary school level. The Government has been challenged by the Opposition. The Opposition have already told the public that if they take over the Government, they will offer free secondary education. The Government needs to borrow a leaf from that statement and come up with a strategy on how to deal with the matter.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the idea of increasing the number of day secondary schools, because they are affordable. So, the Government must come forward and assist in making sure that we build schools, provide them with teachers and make secondary education free. In this regard, we shall not have a problem with the Government, unlike in the case where we passed your Motion concerning release of secondary school education certificates to their owners, but it was not implemented. We still have very many secondary school leavers who cannot access their certificates. These are very bright young men who cannot be engaged in any activities because they cannot access their certificates due to their inability to clear their fees arrears.

His Excellency the President talked about affirmative action. Implementation of the affirmative action policy is what every Kenyan is looking forward to. Our women are keen to see the implementation of this policy. It is, however, ironical that one can talk about applying affirmative action in employment in the public sector and then, at the same time, remove a woman from a prominent position at the Central Bank of Kenya, and put a man in her place for no apparent reason. No one in the Government has explained to the public why that happened. The public has not been told whether that woman was ineffective or incompetent. The Government just went ahead and replaced her with a man, yet it is talking about affirmative action. It is preaching water and drinking wine!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that the management of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) money is slowly drifting towards becoming a preserve of civil servants, and that is very unfortunate. This has happened in Kakamega District, where the District Development Officer (DDO) now seems to be in full control. She wants to dictate how every penny will be spent and she has disregarded all the Constituency Development Committee's (CDC's) instructions. This is becoming intolerable. I have just talked to the Chief Executive and I have told him that, that should not happen.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we are going to get the Constituencies Development Fund into the hands of civil servants, we will be in trouble. They will misappropriate the funds as they have done in the past. That is why we are crying for the CDF funds. These funds will not go to every part of this country. If we leave the funds to civil servants, we will not be doing the right thing. I am wondering whether this is just a barrier, so that they will have access to the funds when the House is dissolved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are interested in making sure that the percentage is increased. I do not know why the Front Bench, particularly, the Ministry of Finance, is trying to block this, yet these funds are going directly to the citizens of this country. I have never understood why the Treasury is opposed to the idea of increasing the CDF. We need to increase the funds, so that the money that we get can be applied properly for the benefit and the development of our country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to commend the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation. They have done a splendid job. At least in areas where it is possible to extend electricity, something is happening. There is equity in that particular Ministry and it needs to be commended. I wish all the other Ministries could borrow a leaf from the Ministry of Energy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Minister for Energy, I wish you listened to the compliments being showered on you by hon. Khamasi!

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is the mistake they always make. They come here, they do not listen to what we say and then they go away. Whether you make a complaint or you give a compliment, they never listen. This is a good Minister--

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Murungi): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to say that Ministers do not listen, when my colleague, hon. Tuju, was here listening?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Indeed, I am sorry. I just wanted you to hear the very good words that Mr. Khamasi was saying about you. He was saying how fair you are in the distribution of power.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very unfortunate that the Minister stands up to say that somebody else is listening for him when he is sitting here. He should be listening for himself and not somebody else doing it for him. In any case, hon. Tuju has got his own part, which he has come here to listen to.

Anyway, I was saying that hon. Murungi is a good Minister, he has done a good job and every other Minister needs to borrow a leaf from him. That is all I was saying. I did not intend to wake him up to defend himself.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me talk about District Roads Committees (DRCs) in the communication sector. Again, this is an area where we need to do something substantial. The District Road Engineers have taken over the management of funds in this sector. What they do with that money is anybody's guess.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have already given two chances to hon. Members from the Government side. I only have one person on the Opposition side. So, I will dispose of the Opposition side, so that after hon. Ochilo-Ayacko, it will be the Government's side throughout.

I am sorry, I can see a lady hon. Member on the Opposition side. The population on the Government's side is more than that on the Opposition side. So, I will have to call upon three Members from the Government side and then one from the Opposition side, after Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for according me this opportunity to add my voice to the ongoing debate.

I want to agree with my immediate predecessor in congratulating the Minister for Energy for the manner in which he is discharging his obligation. I can see there is an increase in connectivity. I am happy that he is effectively executing the programme that I left when I was the Minister for Energy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the bit of that programme that the Minister for Energy needs to pay attention to, and if he would be kind enough to listen to what I am saying, is the cost of electricity in this country. In 2003, we promised Kenyans that electricity would become affordable and industrialisation would depend on the affordability of electricity in this country. That is a challenge that the Minister for Energy should take into consideration.

Just before the Minister for Energy resumed office after a little absence - I am told it was a sabbatical leave - there was hue and cry regarding the prices of petroleum products. That challenge is still fresh in the minds of Kenyans. If the Minister can proceed with diligence, we will enable him, through legislation, to deal with the sky-high prices of petroleum products. The Minister said that he intends to work, and he has started working very well. If he can attend to those two areas, namely, the cost of electricity and also the high cost of petroleum products, some day he may want to run for high office and he can bank on us if he is able to discharge that little obligation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President made a Speech that has received positive support from diverse corners of this country. However, the President has been making good Speeches every year. I hope this time round he is serious. He made a wonderful Speech when he was inaugurated to office in 2003. He made wonderful Speeches in 2004 and 2005. He has now made an even better Speech in 2007. These Speeches count for nothing if they are not matched with action.

The President came to my constituency in the presence of many Ministers, including myself and pledged to those humble Kenyans that he would expand the crushing capacity of Sony Sugar Company. As we speak, nothing of that kind has taken place and Kenyans from that side of the world are wondering whether Presidents just make speeches and fail to implement them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is sad that at this hour of our development, we are still haggling on when to import sugar in this country. You find the Minister for Finance fixing a date and the Minister for Agriculture talking of another date. Kenyans, by their very behaviour, have confirmed that they are ready to purchase sugar milled in this country. They have even confirmed that they can purchase it at any price. In other words, there is a market that is ready and available to use that product.

The Government is doing absolutely nothing about most of the public sugar factories, for example, Nzoia, Chemelil, Muhoroni and Sony Sugar Factory. In fact, when you hear Ministers fighting over who should import sugar and when it should be imported, that is a shame. It is so shameful that nothing is being done about it. All these beautiful Speeches that have been made by His Excellency the President, have not in any way, helped sugar-cane farmers in this country. Sugar-cane growing and milling can employ so many people in this country. Right now, it is estimated that about 6 million Kenyans are dependent upon this agricultural and industrial exercise. If the Government is serious about creation of employment and wealth, the only reasonable thing to do is to invest capital in State-owned sugar companies and mill enough sugar so that we do not import sugar from any other place. We have proved that the market is available for it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President also talked about the Youth Enterprise Fund and his

desire to create a Women Enterprise Fund. I had the fortune, or misfortune, of being the Minister for youth and women activities. At that particular time, and up to last year, the budget that was set aside for youth activities was just Kshs12 million. The budget that was set aside for women activities was also Kshs12 million. It casts a lot of doubts and suspicion when, towards an election, you hear all of a sudden that money is raining from everywhere for women and young people in this country.

A sum of Kshs1 billion set aside for youth activities is not enough. It is very little and cannot reflect the pledges that the President and the Government made to the youth of this country - to create 500,000 jobs every year. The pledge that there will be some funding for women in the coming Budget is not enough to liberate the women of this country from poverty. If you look at the face of poverty in this country, you will see that it is either feminine or youthful. It requires nothing short of a marshal plan. In fact, the President, during the national days, talks about giving 30 per cent of the Public Service jobs to women. But when you audit that and look at what is actually happening, you will see that there is a great contrast. We know that the President, under the Constitution--- Every Kenyan in Public Service, save for jobs that are under-pinned by the Constitution, holds office at the pleasure of the President. If you look at the gazette notices that are issued by the Office of the President regarding appointments of boards of directors and chairmen of State corporations, you will see that no ladies are appointed to chair anything! So, I wonder whether the President is serious whenever he says that there is an intention to apportion 30 per cent of available public offices to women. The opportunity is there. If you go to any State corporation, take, for example, the Kenya Revenue Authority, which is a major blue chip parastatal in this country! count the number of women there. Even if you do not talk about tribal issues that are very true and were talked about by hon. Members of this House, you will see how women have been treated in this country. Now, to come up towards the sunset and promise women employment is to belittle the minds and ability of women to assess how this country has treated them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a promise that dialogue will take root regarding constitutional reforms. But I am a bit suspicious about the dialogue that is talked about in terms of speech. One of the areas where there has always been plea for dialogue is the appointments of the commissioners of the Electoral Commission of Kenya. There is no indication, whatsoever, that there is willingness on the part of the President and the Government to discuss how the elections at the end of this year will be free and fair. So, it appears that the call for dialogue might have been a gimmick. You may do gimmicks with your country and people, but I doubt whether you will be able to do gimmicks with God. That is because as you promise human beings certain things; as you make commitments to human beings who were created in the image and likeness of God, you are, by extension, making commitments to God. You may take it lightly and say: "So what? What will these human beings do to me?" I think it is important to honour those promises. It is equally important to honour the promises that we make. We have been promised dialogue in this last leg and important Session of this House. We want to see that dialogue. We did not see it yesterday. We have not seen it today. We did not even see it when the House Business Committee was being constituted. We will unlikely see it when other committees will be constituted in this House. Where is this item called dialogue? If there is no dialogue, I believe that what we are talking about here becomes unilateral and difficult.

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

*(Several hon. Members stood
up in their places)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Dr. Wekesa has been very consistent and, therefore, I will

give him the Floor. Thereafter, Dr. Murungaru will speak.

The Minister for Science and Technology (Dr. Wekesa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to also shower praises upon His Excellency the President for his exposition of public policy contained in his Speech that he made in this House two days ago.

For the record, I also want to inform my colleague, the Minister for Energy that I was also listening when the hon. Member of Parliament and our Temporary Deputy Speaker was showering praise on him. So, it was not only *mheshimiwa* Tuju who was listening. I was very carefully listening to those beautiful comments.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to speak about the achievements of this Government. This Government has done well so far. In four years, we have done well. In four years, we have introduced free primary education. We are also seeing the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) doing wonders. There is also the Bursary Fund that goes to the poor students in our communities. There is also the Youth Enterprise Fund that was introduced close to a year ago. Now, we have the Women Enterprise Fund. All those funds are going to address very important sections of our community. The women and youth of this country are important. They are very important when it comes to elections. They turn out to vote. They turn out to campaign for us. That is one way we can eradicate poverty. The number of women who try to earn a living by selling vegetables and fruits is, by any standards, very high. Therefore, His Excellency the President has seen it fit to really address problems facing our youth and women.

At the same time, we also realise that in public appointments, we have to make sure that, at least, 30 per cent are women. We have seen growth in the agricultural sector. The dairy farmer, the maize farmer, the sugar-cane farmer, the tea farmer and the coffee farmer is now paid. That is something that we have not seen before. What I am saying is that given four years that the NARC Government has been running this country, I think we need to build on these developments.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) has been used very heavily in my constituency. The infrastructure in education has benefited a lot from the CDF. I just want to draw the attention of my colleagues that we have a law governing the usage of CDF. However, we do not have the same when it comes to the Local Authorities Transfer Fund (LATF) and I have always wondered why. I think the LATF can complement very appropriately, the CDF. So, why do we not, through this House, ensure that the LATF has the same regulations governing its use. I have seen in my own constituency that committees are not in place to ensure that LATF is used properly. I am, therefore, urging and I will be speaking to the Minister for Local Government to ensure that we have proper regulations governing this Fund.

On the issue of accountability and transparency, we need to do more. If, indeed, we have done so much in this respect, we also realise that there are areas where we should, in the next five years if we are elected, ensure that more emphasis is placed on accountability and transparency. Issues of nepotism must come to a stop because of our 42 tribes; I have always said that our diversity is our strength. You are aware that this country has had peace all over this period that we have been Independent. If we compare ourselves to the surrounding countries, we see that in Kenya, we have had peace. I think this has come about because of our diversity; our 42 tribes. It is a balancing act and we should not be ashamed to talk of our tribes. However, we should be ashamed when we feel that those in power are perpetuating nepotism and tribalism.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also have a problem with corruption. I think we should have gone a step further in addressing the issue of corruption. I know perception is a word that we have used in this House many times. To remove perception that somebody is corrupt, the best thing to do is to take these people to court and let them be cleared by the courts. This has been done in a few cases. I would have been happy to see where there is perception of corruption, the issue has been settled in court. If we do not do that, then we leave doubt as to whether the person perceived

to be corrupt is corrupt or not. So, I think, we, as a Government, should be able to put our effort in this sector.

Insecurity is also a worrying issue. However, at the same time, the Minister in charge of Internal Security, Mr. Michuki, has done a good job. In my own constituency, I can see peace prevailing. We have our young people from the Kenya Army doing development at the border and have created peace in the area. I would like to request that these young people who are at the border doing a good job constructing roads and sinking boreholes remain so that we, particularly people in Kwanza, can enjoy the peace and security that we have had for the last few months.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, listening to my colleagues on the other side, I would have expected them to praise the Government in some areas where we have done well. However, there is this culture of painting the Government as a bad animal. I think we should move away from that. We are building this country together; the Opposition and ourselves. I think we are responsible enough to recognise where good has been done and call a spade a spade. I have been in the Cabinet for two years; it will be two years in November, 2007. The last speaker, who is a good friend of mine, Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko, was in the Government for three years. We have developed this country together. There is no time when the Opposition, which includes many people who were in the Government, will flay this Government for not having done well. How do you apportion the inefficiency of the Government when you look at the Opposition and ourselves? I think we should recognise that we are all building this country.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair had ruled that this side will have three chances. Therefore, I will give the chance to Dr. Murungaru and another hon. Member before I come to the other side of the House!

Dr. Murungaru: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this important debate. I would like to enjoin myself to those who have congratulated His Excellency the President, for expounding on Government policy and, indeed, making what can only be described as a statesman's address to this august House.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Khamasi) took the Chair]*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like, particularly, to recognise the major milestones that the Speech by the President illuminated, regarding economic recovery. Where I come from in my own constituency, I can speak with authority and say that we have, indeed, been beneficiaries of the economic recovery achievements in this country, and, more so, in the dairy sector. The dairy sector is the most important sector in my constituency. We have, indeed, benefitted from the recovery of that sector. I was very pleased to hear His Excellency the President mention that there is going to be a strategic reserve of dairy products which will be intended to strengthen and stabilise the dairy sector. The figure, if I am not wrong, which was mentioned, was Kshs600 million. However, I would like to urge the Government, through the Ministries concerned, to increase this reserve, at least to Kshs1 billion. That, I think, has been the assessed level of reserves that would truly result in sufficient support to the dairy sector. The dairy sector is important: It employs more than 3 million individuals in this country directly and perhaps, as many as 7 million indirectly. So, I would like the Government to address that particular sector in such a manner.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has gone ahead to formulate the

Vision 2030, which is intended to make this country an industrialised country by the year 2030. In order to achieve this, and I am happy that the Minister for Science and Technology is in the House, there is no doubt that the Government must invest seriously in technical training and education. You cannot industrialise if you do not have artisans and technically- trained personnel with the necessary skills. I urge the Government, through the Ministry of Science and Technology, to give impetus to science and technology training. We can do so by, first of all, reviving the moribund institutes of technology, village polytechnics and, indeed, even revisit the curriculum that is taught in these institutions, and particularly village polytechnics.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to take the opportunity, now that I am on the Floor of this House, to urge Kenyans everywhere to support the Government's initiative in reviving technical education. Technical schools, particularly village polytechnics in the past, have been treated by most parents and pupils, indeed, as institutions of last resort. If a child does not make it to secondary school, or a recognised intermediate institution of learning or a tertiary institution of learning, they have been relegated to village polytechnics. I would like to urge parents and pupils to see this as one of the surest ways to an assured job. I have no doubt that the Government is determined to actualise Vision 2030. That being the case, technical training will be the surest way to a job in the future.

Let me also congratulate the Government on the establishment of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund and more recently, the Women Enterprise Development Fund. I have no doubt that both those funds will make a fundamental difference to the unemployment in this country and more so the Women Enterprise Development Fund. "*Mama mboga*" and "*Mama makaa*", that is how they are referred to in the countryside and estates, are the majority of the workers in this country. I think that this Fund will have a tremendous positive impact on the economy of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, allow me to talk very quickly about roads. I have no doubt that many hon. Members will agree with me that when you compare the output of the levy that is channelled through the District Roads Committees (DRCs) in terms of work done, that is, what is done by the DRC funds and what is done by the CDF, the difference is like day and night. There is a problem of implementation of road projects using those funds channelled through the DRCs. I urge the House to amend the rules so that roads funds are administered in the same fashion as the CDF money. We will see more kilometres repaired and rehabilitated than what we are seeing at the moment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, turning to the Ministry of Local Government, I would like to join those who have said that the Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF) should be subjected to the same rules and regulations as CDF. I think, at the moment, most hon. Members will agree with me that of all devolved funds, LATF is the most misused. I have tried to discern this in my own constituency and district projects and programmes that you can be able to identify with the LATF money. In spite of the total sum being more than what is allocated to the CDF by the Treasury, there is almost nothing to be seen of the LATF money. I would like to urge the Government, through the Minister for Local Government to look urgently into this issue with a view to making Kenyans get a fair return on what they invest in the LATF money.

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think that the Minister for Local Government has also noticed that we have a problem in the countryside. The President mentioned in his Speech that the Government has undertaken a programme of modernising market centres and, indeed, that has started. However, if you travelled around our countryside, especially the part of the country where I

come from, along the main roads, every other kilometre, there is a small shop and a butchery and a tea kiosk that is coming up. This is happening in the rural areas along all the major roads. This is a major cause of accidents along our highways. You will realise that structures are coming up that appear like townships. They are not, in the actual sense, townships. They are not planned and neither are they provided for. I would like to urge the Minister for Local Government, under whom those county and urban councils fall, to look into this question of planning market centres and urban centres. Let him give guidelines as to how these can be developed and how they can come up.

New districts have been created by the President and we are grateful that these structures have been created to bring administration closer to the people. Indeed, in Nyeri, we have received an additional district. We appreciate and are happy for that. However, I hope that this time round, the Government is not going to burden *wananchi* with the development of the physical infrastructure to accommodate the new district administration. I would like to urge the Government to come up with a comprehensive plan of building or developing the infrastructure to provide administration facilities for the new districts. In this regard, I would like to suggest to the Government that the time for public-private partnerships is now. This is a very good opportunity to test that concept. I urge the Government to go into the market and, indeed, help our building developers to grow by giving them the contracts to develop the new district headquarters and pay for these developments over a period of time. That way, our District Commissioners (DCs) and other departmental heads will have the facilities from which to serve people and the Government will not be burdened by budgetary constraints.

Finally, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have talked about the Constitution. I want to urge both sides of the House that we drop our grandstanding. Let us dialogue and talk about the Constitution because it is ours and the country is ours too. Whether it is minimum or maximum reforms, they are all ours. We need to approach the matter as such.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Tuju): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for granting me the opportunity to contribute to this debate. I would have wished to make my contribution when the Leader of the Official Opposition is here, but since he is not here, I trust that the Opposition Chief Whip hon. Muturi, who is here, will convey this message to him.

I listened very carefully when hon. Uhuru lamented about multiparty democracy in this country. He exercised his freedom and licence to criticise President Kibaki for the concept of the Government of National Unity (GNU). It is his right to make that criticism. However, I wanted to have this message conveyed to the Leader of the Official Opposition; that he needs to buy new glasses next time he is going to buy a shirt. He could be using a very harsh detergent because his red shirt is now looking orange. Before he makes that statement, I would suggest that he buys new glasses when he goes to buy a new shirt so that he can, at least, buy a red shirt. This is because the shirts I have seen him wear of late are very orange and not red. In case he does not buy new glasses, I would like to ask hon. Muturi to accompany him so that he can show him what a red shirt looks like.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I take this opportunity to congratulate this Government and the President. I also want to applaud the President's commitment that, from now on, we must focus on secondary education. Indeed, our children leaving primary schools at the ages of 13 and 14 years are at such a tender age that we should not be releasing them to join the ranks of millions who are unemployed and hanging all over the country.

The education sector is very important. If anything, education makes a difference in the lives of young people. There are examples all over the world. There is no precedence in the history of civilisation of mankind where it has been possible without education; whether we are talking

about the Roman Empire, the British Empire or the Chinese Civilisation. There is no precedence, before a critical mass of the population are literate. That is why the policy of extending education to our young people is essential. It is important and should be compulsory for all school-going aged children.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one may take the example of South Korea. Today, it is the 11th most industrialised country in the whole world. About 40 years ago, South Korea had the same Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as Kenya and Ghana. However, there was something else which South Korea had which Kenya did not. That was human capital in terms of an educated population. Today, 70 per cent of Koreans go through university education. Compare that with Kenya where the percentage is much less. Definitely, it is less than ten per cent.

The transition from primary to secondary school in Kenya is 60 per cent. In South Korea, it is way over 95 per cent. So we should not expect that we will get into that fast track of development before we have a critical mass of this country being literate.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, indeed, as we grapple with problems of negative ethnicity or tribalism, we will not be able to put an appreciable dent on that problem before we have a critical mass of this country being well educated.

Let me go to the issue of the Youth Development Fund. So many of us have expressed our opinions on this. Therefore, I would not want to dwell on it for a long time. There is no country which can hope to develop and make a difference unless it has a vision for that significant part of its population which is its youth. We have a lot to applaud this Government for; one of them, is the Youth Development Fund. The Women Development Fund is a welcome addition to this. I can say that the Youth Development Fund is not enough. We must work towards increasing its amount.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a lot to celebrate which the President pointed out. I do not want to dwell on the issue. However, it is significant for us to note, for example, the Kshs7 billion, that has been appropriated for Rural Electrification Programme (REP) in the last four years, is more than what was appropriated for the same, between 1963 and 2002.

In tourism, we jumped from 200,000 tourists in 2002 to 1.8 million last year. That is three times the number in just a period of four years. The income from tourism rose from Kshs23 billion to Kshs56 billion. One can go on and on.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me confirm, and I can say this without any risk of contradiction, that all this is not possible unless we have peace prevailing in this country. It is not only peace to prevail in this country, but there must be a perception out there, even in the international community, for us to attract direct foreign investment. We are not going to have that perception and sending the right message if everyday, we are demonstrating, quarrelling and abusing each other.

In conclusion, let me go back to where I started. I said that I would have wished to see the Leader of Official Opposition wearing his red T-shirt rather than a yellow one, if he is talking about building multiparty democracy and integrity of opposition politics in this country. We can embrace a vision of a kinder, fairer and more prosperous country if we avoid negative passion along ethnic lines. I can say that a red T-shirt is not too far from a red rose. All of us can work across the political divide for a kinder, fairer and more prosperous country.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Prof. Mango: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Speech. I thank the President for the Speech. However, at the same time, I would like to point out that in this country, corruption, bad governance and all the ills in this society, including ethnicity, need to be fought by all of us as Kenyans. One way we can fight these ills is through civic education. Ordinary Kenyans do not know what constitutes good governance. They need to be educated about corruption. He will then

know that when a chief asks to be given a chicken, that is corruption.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans need to be educated on the role of the hon. Member of Parliament. The other day I was watching television and every one was saying that hon. Members of Parliament are corrupt, lazy, have too much money to spend and too much to eat. This was a response to what Mr. Speaker said about the duties of hon. Members of Parliament. Members of the public need to be educated on the roles of the Government and hon. Members of Parliament. They can then understand who should do what and what should be done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President talked about education. I take this opportunity to thank him for the free primary education programme. However, this programme needs to have infrastructure if it is to be effective and produce results for our vision for 2030. To have effective vision for 2030, we need to start from nursery schools to primary schools to secondary schools and universities. We should put in place the right structures. With the right equipment, well-trained teachers and facilities, we can achieve our vision. I would like to echo what a colleague said about South Korea. If we want to industrialise, we must plan to have very many engineers. China has industrialised because of the numbers of engineers it has trained. You cannot manufacture a car without a person who knows the engineering mechanism of a car. The Minister for Planning and National Development needs to project what kind of manpower we need to be able to industrialise. If we just continue haphazardly, there is no way we are going to industrialise. As we talk about our vision, we need to start planning right now, so that in 2030 we will have the right manpower to take us where we want to go.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the moment, our university admission has remained around the magical 10,000 students. I do not know what is magic about 10,000 students being admitted into our public universities. We need to expand university capacity so that we can admit more students. Any student with a mean grade C+ is a university material. We are wasting a lot of human resource by leaving those youths on the streets without building their capacity. Therefore, we need to strengthen the polytechnics, institutes of technology and all tertiary colleges, in addition to the universities, in order to create the human resource that will propel us into 2030.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to comment on the envisaged Women Enterprise Fund, as well as the status of women in this country. Women in this country must be respected and given a chance. What usually happens is that, when a woman is relieved from her job she is usually replaced by a man, as it happened in the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK). I am sure there are many Kenyan women who are qualified and who could have taken up that job. We need to engender our institutions and look at women as part of this nation and not as creatures from the outer space who do not have a place.

I would like to congratulate the President for the proposed Women Enterprise Fund and the existing Youth Enterprise Fund. But those Funds must have structures to run them properly. Otherwise, the youth think that they will get the money and share it out and that is the end of the story. It needs to be sustained so that it can create the desired effect. We have different regions in this country with different strengths. Therefore, the Government should look at every region and enhance whatever crop that is grown there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to refer to the cane growers in western Kenya. Those people have been left in abject poverty because their land is tied up under cane from which they do not get much benefit. Therefore, they have food insecurity and they do not have money. Therefore, in that region, poverty is as high as 70 per cent. Unless the Government comes in to properly address that crop, which is a food as well as a cash crop, that region will continue languishing in poverty. That same region has the highest rate of HIV/AIDS infections. That leaves the area with many orphans. Those are our children. The Government must come up with a definite policy to take care of those orphans in terms of their education, food, clothing and so on, so that

they can also feel like Kenyan children and not like abandoned children who will become street children and pose problems in the future. Their future must be planned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to comment on rural electrification. Rural electrification has been rather regional in some areas. But I would like to congratulate the current Minister for attempting to spread it out. Without electricity, schools cannot perform well because the students are limited to the time they can study. They can only study at day time and not at night. They therefore, cannot perform well. The *Jua Kali* sector will also not progress. In such areas, poverty remains high. Therefore, rural electrification must be enhanced in all corners of this Republic to enable Kenyans to move on. There has been talk of 6 per cent growth rate. While that is okay, it is not reflected on the ground in some areas. It is like taking five millionaires and you divide their income to one million poor Kenyans. Those figures look good, but in reality, there are still people in Kenya, and in particular in my constituency, who cannot afford a decent meal in a day. To those people, the 6 per cent growth rate does not mean anything. Therefore, as we talk about the growth rate, let us get the off-shoots of growth rates spread out to the whole country. Let us have equity in socio-economic development, so that all Kenyans can benefit from the increased economic development of this country. They should not feel marginalised.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problem of infrastructure is a major one in this country. If you travel from Nairobi to Kisumu by road, you will find that by the time you get to your destination, your vehicle is worn out and your back and neck are also aching. I would urge the Government to address the issue of roads in this country. That is the main highway from the Busia border and it should be addressed. With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Dr. Shaban: Asante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia fursa hii ili nitoe maoni yangu kuhusu Hotuba ya mhe. Rais ambayo alitoa wakati wa Ufunguzi wa Bunge hili juzi.

Nina furaha kwa sababu wakati huu akina mama pia wamekumbukwa. Ninatumaini ya kwamba hela hizi ambazo zitatengwa kuwasaidia akina mama kufanya biashara ndogo ndogo hazitawekewa vikwazo vingi kama vile pesa za vijana zilivyowekewa. Mara kwa mara, wakati vijana wetu ama kina mama wanapoenda kuchukua mikopo kutoka kwa benki za humu nchini, hawapati hela zo zote za kuwasaidia kufanya biashara ndogo ndogo. Vile vile, nimeona kuwa ikiwa kitengo hiki cha akina mama kitakuwa kama kile cha vijana, kitaleta balaa. Nusu ya pesa hizi zimepatiwa benki zile zile ambazo zinatoa mikopo na riba ya juu. Kitengo kikubwa cha pesa hizi kimekwenda kwa Kenya Women Finance Trust (KWFT) na benki ya K-Rep. Mashiriki haya yote yanafanya kazi kufuatia sheria za benki na sio rahisi kwa vijana kupata pesa hizo ambazo ziko katika benki hizo. Lakini ningependa kumshukuru mhe. Rais kwa kuwakumbuka akina mama. Ikiwezekana, sheria za kuwasaidia kina mama, zinafaa kufanywa nyepesi ili akina mama wengi ambao wamekuwa wakifanya kazi kwenye vikundi waweze kupata pesa kwa njia rahisi ijapokuwa riba iko juu sana.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ijapokuwa mhe. Rais amezungumza juu ya asilimia 30 ya akina mama kupata kazi nchini, ukisoma magazeti, haswa gazeti la Serikali, utaona kwamba akina mama wanaachwa nje na hawahesabiki. Kazi zile nyingi hutolewa na Mawaziri ambao wamechaguliwa na mhe. Rais. Ninashangaa kwamba mkono wa kulia na wa kushoto haizungumzi lugha moja. Mhe. Rais anasema kuwa akina mama ni lazima wapate asilimia 30 ya kazi nchini, lakini Waziri katika Serikali yake hatimizi jambo hili.

Ningependa kukumbuka kisa cha hivi juzi ambapo tuliona mama aliyekuwa Kaimu Gavana wa Benki Kuu ya Kenya akitengwa kwa misingi ya kikabila. Kabla ya hivyo, Waziri wa Fedha alikuwa anataka tubadilishe sheria ili wapate kuwa na mwenyekiti mkuu wa Benki Kuu ya Kenya, lakini tuliikataa sisi. Baada ya kuikataa sheria hiyo, kwa maana alikuwa ameitenga kazi hiyo kwa rafiki yake ambaye amempatia wadhifa wa Gavana wa Benki Kuu ya Kenya, sasa hivi tunaambiwa kwamba mama huyu hafai kuwa Gavana wa Benki Kuu ya Kenya kwa sababu hana kisomo kama

kile cha wale wengine. Ikiwa alikuwa Naibu wa Gavana, inawezekanaje kuwa hafai kuwa Gavana? Kwa hivyo, akina mama wana masikitiko makubwa sana kwa hatua hiyo. Ijapokuwa mhe. Rais amejaribu kufanya kazi yake, maswala kama hayo yanamharibia sifa kwa akina mama.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kuzungumza kuhusu janga la Ukimwi. Mhe. Rais alitaja kwamba pesa nyingi zimetengwa ili zivasaidie walio mashinani kupambana na makali ya janga hilo. Ukweli ni kwamba mhe. Rais hajaelezewa ukweli wa mambo! Kwa muda wa zaidi ya miaka miwili, hakuna pesa ambazo zimetoka katika National AIDS Control Council (NACC) kwenda mashinani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kuzungumza juu ya maswala ya maendeleo ya Mkoa wa Pwani. Mhe. Rais alisema kuwa Mkoa wa Pwani ni moja ya maeneo ambayo yamewekwa katika mradi wa kushugulikia sehemu kame za nchi hii. Mhe. Rais alisema kwamba kuna Kshs8 bilioni ambazo zimetengwa na, kwa wakati huu, zinasaidia katika miradi mbali mbali. Kusema ukweli, Kshs8 bilioni ni pesa nyingi sana. Ikiwa zinatumika kufanya miradi katika mkoa huo, tungekuwa tukiona kazi hiyo. Sijui ikiwa mhe. Rais anaelezewa ukweli wa mambo. Lakini muda unavyozidi kwenda, labda atajua ukweli wa mambo kwa sababu hatujaziona hizo Kshs8 bilioni.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kuikumbusha Serikali hii kwamba Mkoa wa Pwani unachangia kitengo kikubwa sana katika uchumi wa nchi hii. Bw. Tuju amezungumzia kuhusu swala la utalii. Biashara nyingi za utalii ziko Mkoa wa Pwani. Mbuga za wanyama pia zinachangia pakubwa katika uchumi wetu. Madini ambayo yako pwani na bandari ya Mombasa inachangia kitengo kikubwa sana cha uchumi wetu. Je, watu wa pwani wanapata ama hawapati haki yao? Ukweli ni kwamba watu wa pwani hawana raha na hawapati haki yao. Labda mhe. Rais hana habari hiyo. Lakini mwaka huu ni wa siasa na hivi karibuni, tutajua ukweli wa mbivu na mbichi kwa sababu wananchi wa Mkoa wa Pwani wamezoea kutumiwa kama muhuri. Tumechoka kutumiwa kama muhuri! Tumepewa ahadi ya kwamba maskwota watatengewa maeneo yao. Tunangoja tuone ikiwa ahadi hiyo itatimizwa.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kabla sijamaliza - namwona Bw. Tuju ameondoka, ningependa kumkumbusha kwamba huwezi ukafanani shati na ua ambalo ukilichuma mchana, huwa limenyauka jioni. Serikali ya NARC, kupitia kwa Rais Kibaki, wamejaribu kulitia matundu shati hilo na kulibandika viraka. Hatujafurahia kitendo hicho. Kwa wakati huu, si ajabu kwamba shati hilo linafanana na rangi ya machungwa kwa sababu wamelitia mashimo. Si ajabu kuwa kwa sababu shati hilo limegeuzwa rangi likawa la rangi ya machungwa, litawaonyesha mlango mwaka huu.

Ahsante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Mr. Muriithi, you can make your contribution. After that, I will allow Capt. Nakitare.

Mr. Muriithi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the President's Speech. Looking at the performance of this Government, it has done extremely well. In fact, it is a landmark. We have never seen any other Government which is action-oriented. I take this opportunity to congratulate the entire Cabinet led by His Excellency the President.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are three areas where we require improvement. His Excellency the President talked about the establishment of a Women Enterprise Fund (WEF). That Fund will go a long way in assisting all the womenfolk. Most of those women are in the informal sector doing business in Gikomba and other areas. That Fund will enable them to set up their own enterprises and get more income. That will go a long way in reducing poverty levels in this country. The President said that Kshs210 million has already been sent to the constituencies. I am afraid that I do not think those funds have reached the ground. What scares me is that we are

now in March, and in a week's time, we shall be in April and soon, the Budget shall be read. Shall we have received the balance of these funds? I read the other day that the Minister had said that there are no deadlines. Surely, we work on a timetable; even this House has a timetable. How can he work without a timetable? It means that we shall continue applying for funds endlessly. I am afraid, eventually, this will be suicidal to this Government. The funds must be issued as quickly as possible for the purposes of which it was set aside by our good Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we still have quite a number of landless people. I know it is not possible to settle every landless Kenyan. But, at least, the Government did set aside Kshs400 million to attempt to settle a few people. We have not seen any action taken so far. We read in newspapers that Kshs160 million was used to purchase land somewhere in Molo. We have not been told how many people benefitted from that particular purchase. That obviously leaves a balance of Kshs240 million. When is this money going to be spend? Who is going to be settled? We want to see action, because our Government is action-oriented. We want to see the Ministry wake up and work. In my own constituency, Nyeri Town, we have people who live in Kiawara, Itemere and Majengo. Most of these people, especially the ones in Majengo, have been on what we call "temporary licence of occupation (TLO)" since 1900. I have never seen such a "permanent temporary occupation" in my life. They should be issued with title deeds, because the Government is willing to assist so that they can improve their living standards by constructing permanent houses.

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasai): Order! At that corner, if you want to consult, do it very quietly.

Proceed.

Mr. Muriithi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want to see Kenyans in Nyeri improve their living standards. You will be surprised that the Provincial Lands Board has so many cases pending, resulting in people killing others and fights within families, because of unresolved disputes. There is need for tribunals to be set up and start working to avoid bloodshed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on roads, the Ministry is doing extremely well, but its efforts still leave a lot to be desired. Last year, I requested that the Government works closely with the Kenya Army and the National Youth Service. It has been done before and it can be done now. Why not deploy the army and the National Youth Service to supplement the efforts of the Government in construction of good roads?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on health, there is a big improvement on the availability of drugs. But the structures are still the same. In Nyeri Provincial General Hospital, we do not have X-ray services. I have been singing and singing about it, and the Permanent Secretary has been telling me that the service is coming soon. Now it has become a song; every day I wake up and sing: "It is coming:. It is very expensive. My constituents come to my house with small sheets of paper indicating that the needed X-ray costs more than Kshs6,000. If you get ten of those chits everyday and you multiply them by 30 days, does that not take away the salary I get?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other day, we watched television and saw the Minister for Health saying she has never known that there are Kenyans suffering from jiggers. Surely, she has totally failed because it is her responsibility to ensure that Kenyans are not infected by jiggers apart from Mr. Kamangu. Anybody else should not be having jiggers. She should not blame the whole Government because she is also part of the Government! I am in this Government, but I am not a Minister. So, why should she say the Government has failed?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on security----

(Loud consultations)

An hon. Member: What is the hon. Member saying?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Since most of you are consulting loudly, you could not follow that interesting story. So, that is the price you pay.

(Laughter)

Continue, Mr. Muriithi!

Mr. Muriithi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am scared that we established police posts which will end up being hideouts for hard core criminals because of lack of personnel to man them. There is no point of spending Kshs1 million as Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) money to build police posts if the Government cannot post personnel to man them. In cases where there are personnel, there are only one or two policemen. I know for sure that one policeman cannot walk alone; they must be two policemen in each post. This is because they cannot leave a police post unmanned to answer a distress call. We want more policemen to be deployed. I know our Government is capable of doing that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on education, because of the good governance which is conducive, our children are doing extremely well because they are not stressed that tomorrow the President will issue a roadside declaration to end their education. So, they concentrate on their education. Five years ago, a student who attained C+ grade was admitted to the university. Today, a student who attains a C+ grade will probably end up pursuing courses in mechanics. I, therefore, request the Ministry to license as many private universities as possible in order to offer good and affordable education. I also urge the Government to revive all youth polytechnics so that our children can study and obtain diplomas in various fields.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the motor industry, if you move around the town, you would think you are in Dubai. Why do Kenyans go to Dubai and Turkey to buy vehicles? We can make Mombasa a free port. There are so many vehicles in Mombasa. We have become a parking lot. Why do we not facilitate ours to be a free port? By so doing, we shall double tourism earnings which currently stand at Kshs56 billion. Surely, we can double this figure because instead of the rest of Africa going to Dubai, they will come to Mombasa.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I am very happy for the Government for erecting the Kshs4 million Kimathi Statue. However, there are many other freedom fighters who need to be honoured across the country like in Maasailand and Luoland. We all fought for freedom of this country. We all had a common enemy and we fought the *Mzungu* together. Those people should be honoured. Last year, the Government provided Kshs10 million to establish the Freedom Corner, but nothing has been done to date. We want to see many statues of the freedom fighters who liberated this country from the colonial yoke.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to contribute. I beg to support.

Capt. Nakitare: Asante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipa nafasi hii kuchangia Hoja hii inayohusu Hotuba ya Rais.

Hotuba yake ilikuwa kama fumbo kwa wale walio hai. Naishukuru Serikali hii kwa sababu, kwa miaka minne iliyopita, watu wameona matunda ambayo yalikuwa hayaonekani wakati wa utawala uliopita. Nashangaa kuwasikia baadhi ya Wabunge wakiikashifu Serikali hii, wakisema kwamba haijafanya chochote. Wengi wao walikuwa katika Serikali iliyotangulia. Kwa nini hawakuikosoa Serikali hiyo?

Ningependa kugusia mambo ya usalama nchini. Namshukuru Rais kwa kufanya jitihada za kuleta amani kupitia mazungumzo. Yeye ni mtu mtulivu ambaye anasikiliza. Ningemuomba asisitize mambo haya katika ofisi yake. Tunafaa kuwakumbuka wale waliopigania Uhuru ingawa hawakutajwa katika Hotuba ya Rais. Nilikutana na Mzee Gitu Kahengeri ambaye alikuja kushuhudia kufunguliwa kwa Kikao hiki cha Bunge, ingawa hakuvingia humu ndani. Alikuwa kama mpiganiaji wa Uhuru wa Kenya.

Kuna watu wengine pia ambao walipigania Uhuru wa Kenya. Kwa mfano, watu wa Dini ya Msambwa walipigana na wabeberu. Wengi wao waliuawa kule Malakisi. Ningeomba Serikali hii iwakumbuke hao watu. Dini hiyo haikuwa kama lile kundi haramu la Mungiki. Wafuasi wake hawakuwa wakiwapiga watu. Naomba dini hiyo ifufuliwe. Dini hiyo ilisaidia katika kuyaunganisha makabila mbali mbali. Hawakuwa wakipigana kama baadhi ya jamii wanavyofanya sasa. Dini hii ilikuwa pia kule Mt. Elgon. Chief Tendet alikuwa akiwafundisha watu wake jinsi ya kukaa na wenzao kwa amani.

Inasikitisha kwamba mambo yanayoendelea kule Mt. Elgon hayakugusiwa katika Hotuba ya Rais. Nawaomba, Bw. Magut, Bw. Wilberforce Kisiero na Bw. Kimkung washirikiane pamoja na Bw. Serut ili wakomeshe mauaji yanayotendeka kule Mt. Elgon. Kwa nini hawa watu wanatengana? Serikali imewapeleka askari katika sehemu hiyo. Je, askari hao watasaidia vipi kutatua mzozo katika sehemu hiyo? Watu wanaozozana wanafaa kukaa pamoja ili waafikiane. Wanaoumia ni watoto na akina mama. Ni ajabu kuona kwamba watu kutoka nchi jirani wanaingia humu nchini na kuchoma mimea, nyumba na kuwaua watu.

The Assistant Minister for Water and Irrigation (Mr. Wanjala): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not want to interrupt Capt. Nakitare while making his contribution, but you heard him mention the names of some people from Mt. Elgon. What is happening in Mt. Elgon is a matter of national concern. Many people have lost their lives and they will continue doing so. Could the hon. Member table the evidence against the three people that he has mentioned, that he feels are the ones inciting the residents of the area?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Wanjala! I do not think you are being fair to Capt. Nakitare. He has not said anything that is adverse against anybody. So, there is no need for you to demand any substantiation from him.

Proceed, Capt. Nakitare!

Capt. Nakitare: Asante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Hawa ndio *elders* wa hiyo kabila; hawa ndio wasimamizi wa hiyo *mbari*. Mimi najua *mbari* hiyo na Bw. Wanjala haijui, bali analala!

(Laughter)

Mambo haya ni mambo ya taifa. Wewe uko hapa na ni Waziri mdogo, je, ni nani ambaye yuko Chebyuk? Ni nani ambaye yuko Kapsokwony? Je, wewe umeenda huko? Hao watu wanalala wapi? Usijaribu kuingilia mambo ambayo husemi. Mimi sikusema kuwa hawa watu---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Capt. Nakitare! Order! *Polepole, polepole!* Relax and debate!

Capt. Nakitare: Asante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Ni uchungu ambao unanifanya nizungumze hivyo kwa sababu watu wanakufa, hali watu wa Nairobi wanafanya mchezo, kama uliokuwako wakati wa vita vya kikabila. Hivi sivyo vita vya kikabila. Mimi naleta mambo haya ili ieleweke kwamba Serikali ina jukumu la kupatanisha watu. Hawa wazee niliowataja ni wazee wa mikoa; ni wazee wa ukoo wanaoweza kupatanisha watu. Sikusema kuwa ni wazee wanaopiganisha watu! Haya ndiyo mambo ambayo watu huyachukulia kwa wepesi bila kuelewa.

Katika Hotuba yake, mhe. Rais aliweza kuleta mwanda kwa akina mama. Sisi

tulisomeshwa na akina mama ambao hawakwenda shule. Akina mama waliotuzaa walitusomesha kwa kuuza mboga, matunda na maziwa na hawakujua hesabu. Leo hii, ikiwa huu mradi wa akina mama utanzishwa, je, hawa akina mama walioko sokoni wana elimu ya kutunza hizo pesa? Kwa hivyo, tunaihimiza Wizara ya Elimu iwaelimishe hawa akina mama kwa elimu ya ngumbaru ili waweze kupata njia ya kuweza kujimudu kwa kutumia hizo pesa.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo linalonifurahishwa haswa ni lile la wawekezaji wa raslimali yao hapa Kenya. Nafurahi huona kuwa Virgin Atlantic Airlines, ambayo ni kampuni ya ndege, imekubali kuwaleta watalii nchini moja kwa moja kutoka America mpaka Nairobi. Pia, tungependa tupate ndege ya kwenda moja kwa moja kutoka Uhispania kuja mpaka Nairobi ili ibebe mboga zetu waende kuwauzia wale watu. Haya ndiyo matunda ambayo Serikali ya Kenya imepata chini ya Rais huyu mpole ambaye hasemi. Sisi tunamwekea maneno mdomoni ili tumlazimishe aseme, na yeye mwenyewe yuko na ujasiri. Yeye ni tausi. Akipanua maua yake, kila mtu anajua. Na nitamwambia Mbunge mwenzangu kwamba tunda linatoka kwa maua. Maua ndio huja kwanza na yakikomaa, ndio tunda linatoka. Hiyo ndio jawabu ya mifumo ya hivi vyama vyenu. Tunda haliji kabla ya maua, bali maua huja kabla ya tunda. Kwa hivyo sasa, ule msemu unaosema kuwa maua hubadilika katika rangi ya---

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Hoja ya nidhamu, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Yafaa Capt. Nakitare atueleze ni maua gani anayozungumzia na ni akina nani wanaweka maneno katika mdomo wa mhe. Rais.

Capt. Nakitare: Mhe. Shaban alisema kwamba *orange* ni matunda yanayobadilika, yaani alikuwa akibainisha kati ya rangi ya machungwa na shati, vile mhe. Tuju alikuwa akisema shati na rangi ya maua. Huo ndio ufafanuzi ambao mimi nasema. Sitaki kuingia katika siasa ya vyama hapa, bali nataka kuleta mwanga kuhusu kazi Serikali imefanya. Kwa hivyo, lile ninalosema ni kwamba, yule mtu ambaye hana macho na hawezi kukubali kwamba Serikali hii imefanya kazi nzuri, basi ajiulize mwenyewe ameifanyia nini Kenya? Au anangojea kuuliza Kenya imemfanyia kitu gani. Mdomo mtupu haufai!

Ni hayo tu, Bw. Naibu Spika wa muda. Asante sana kwa kunipa fursa hii. Naunga mkono.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Wanjala!

Hon. Members, we have come to the end of our Business today and the House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 27th March, 2007, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.