

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 1st August, 2001

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

The following Papers were laid on the Table:-

- (i) The Aid Monetary Policy Statement
- (ii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coast Development Authority (CDA) for the year ended 30th June, 1999, and the certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

*(By the Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning
(Mr. Marrirmoi) on behalf of the Minister for Finance)*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.434

GOLDEN HANDSHAKE FOR REGISTRATION
BUREAU RETRENCHÉES

Mr. Murungi asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

- (a) whether he is aware that all retrenchees who were working for the National Registration Bureau in Meru Central District have not been paid the balance of the Golden Handshake of Kshs200,000 each;
- (b) whether he is also aware that the said Bureau deducted NSSF dues from the said retrenchees from 1996 to 2000 but did not remit the same to NSSF; and,
- (c) what urgent steps he is taking to ensure that the balance of the Golden Handshake is paid to the said retrenchees forthwith and that the Bureau remits the dues to NSSF to facilitate payment of the dues.

Mr. Speaker: There is no Minister from the Office of the President. We will leave this Question until the end. Let us move onto the next Question by Mr. Sifuna!

Question No.558

RELEASE OF MR. OGOLA'S PENSION

Mr. Sifuna asked the Minister for Finance:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Mr. Christopher Makokha Murai Ogola, No.APN/PC.103832, has not received his pension of Kshs3,378.20 from November, 2000 to date; and,
- (b) when the Government will release the said pension.

The Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning (Mr. Marrirmoi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) No, I am not aware that Mr. Christopher Makokha Murai Ogola, Pension File No.APN/PC.103832, has not been receiving his monthly pension from November 2000 to date.

(b) Mr. Makokha's pension for the months of November and December 2000 and that of January and February 2001, was paid together with the March 2001 pension. A total amount of Kshs16,891 was, therefore, sent to his bank account No.0120104146600 at National Bank of Kenya, Bungoma Branch. The payment of his monthly pension of Kshs3,378.20, since March 2001 to date, continues to be remitted to the bank account according to his instructions.

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the Assistant Minister's reply, it is not true that Mr. Makokha was

paid his pension as from November 2000 to date at all. What he was paid was the total amount but he has never been paid or received his monthly pension at all. Could the Assistant Minister tell us whether these cheques that have been paid to him have been honoured or not?

Mr. Marrirmoi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government cheques are always honoured!

(Applause)

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the facts are at variance. The Assistant Minister says that he has paid the monthly gratuity dues while hon. Sifuna says that it is the total amount of pension that was paid at the beginning, before he received his monthly payments. Which is which? In any case, could the Assistant Minister explain why there was a delay for whatever payment he made?

Mr. Marrirmoi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of the delay. However, I am aware that the pensioner has been paid and the hon. Member can go and check if the account number is correct. If it is correct, then I am sure the money is there.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Question talks about November 2000 and the Assistant Minister talks about November and December 2000 and then January to March. That is a delay obviously if these are monthly payments. What is he talking about?

Mr. Marrirmoi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if there was any delay, the fact remains that he has been paid!

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the truth of the matter is that this gentleman has never been paid his monthly pension. The amount of money that he was paid was only the first commuted payment. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House the cheque numbers that he has been paying the National Bank of Kenya to this gentleman?

Mr. Speaker: As we build this mundane thing as a House, it seems we do not trust each other.

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying so because the Assistant Minister says that they have paid Mr. Makokha his pension dues but according to him, he has not received this money.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, has Mr. Makokha received his monthly payment or not?

Mr. Marrirmoi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as I am concerned, this money has been paid unless otherwise. If the account number is wrong, then has to go and check with the Pensions Department.

Question No.504

OPENING OF KAPLONG SCHOOL DINING HALL

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, Mr. Kimeto's Question will be deferred to next week.

(Question deferred)

Question No.495

WATER SHORTAGE IN MACHAKOS TOWN

Mr. Kikuyu asked the Minister for Water Development:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Machakos Town is experiencing an acute water shortage; and,
- (b) what the Ministry is doing to avert this continuous shortage.

Mr. Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources? We will leave the Question until the end.

Question No.238

PRIVATISATION OF KENYA RAILWAYS

Mr. Gatabaki asked the Minister for Transport and Communications why the Kenya Railways has not been privatised considering that the Government had promised to privatise it by December, 1999.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Sang): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

The Government policy to privatise the KRC is still on course. The process of privatisation through concessioning is a lengthy one and will require the necessary legislation to set up various institutions to take up some of the current assets and liabilities of the KRC, their valuation and the setting up of a competitive bidding process. This

process cannot be hurried so as to ensure the right value is achieved through concessioning. The following steps have been taken towards privatisation at the right value:-

1. There have been major steps taken in improvement of the Corporation, which has led to turn-round of traffic from 1.6 million tonnes in 1994 to 2.4 million in the year 2000.
2. A Board of Directors was appointed with the mandate to prepare KRC for privatisation. The composition of the Board was deliberate to bring in experts from the public and private sector.
3. Transaction advisory services were advertised on 10th July, 2000, to get expertise to support the process.
4. In August, 2000, six firms were shortlisted for the transaction advisory services. Evaluation was further undertaken and the number of firms reduced to three in December.
5. The final evaluation is almost complete and progression will depend on availability of funds to finance the transaction advisory services.

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the story of the KRC is well known by every Kenyan from the days of the defunct East African Railways and Harbours Corporation to the pathetic state in which it is. Allow me to quote one minute of the Institute of Economic Affairs. It reads as follows:-

"The Kenya Railways Corporation (KRC) is bankrupt and could even cease operation before long. The Government has lost credibility with the funding agencies, having reneged on a number of policy reforms it had not taken into effect. Under the present circumstances, no donor will assist unless radical action is taken".

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Gatabaki! This is Question Time and not a time to read speeches. Ask your question!

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to bring up a brief background.

Mr. Speaker: Order hon. Members! We will transact our business in accordance with the rules of the House. So, it is Question Time. If you want to debate, bring a Motion about the KRC and then you will have the opportunity to bring all that information. For the time being, it is Question Time. Even if it was during debate, you would not be allowed to read out a statement. You would be expected to debate off the cuff.

Proceed!

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when it comes to my asking Questions, I meet a lot of objections from the Chair. I do not know for what reason. However, I will go ahead and ask the question.

Is the Assistant Minister aware that numerous *ad hoc* decisions by the Government, including the single sourcing of M/s General Electric for the maintenance of 35 locomotives have created disorder? This has also made donors to withhold financial support, which has put KRC in a state of disrepair and made it economically unmanageable.

Mr. Sang: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the past we have shown to this House the extent to which this Government has been pilfering the KRC property. A case in point was where the Minister in charge of the railways was selling the stock of the Corporation to a company owned by his wife, which deals in scrap metal, and then that company was selling back to the KRC the same stock as steel.

This Government tricked the donors that it would privatise the KRC by December, 1999. What is it that the Government has discovered that has complicated the equation so much that it is now extending the privatisation process period? Is the Government still pilfering the KRC's land?

Mr. Sang: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier on, we are in the process of establishing a transaction advisory service body which will assist the KRC in the privatisation process. At the moment, we do not have enough funds for this particular process. With regard to the issue raised by Dr. Kituyi, unless evidence is provided, I have nothing to say about it.

Mr. Kibicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the privatisation process ever succeeds, does the Government intend to retain some shares? Will all the shares be floated to Kenyans, or will some of them be sold to foreigners?

Mr. Sang: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer is obvious. The Government will retain some shares.

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the purpose of bringing this Question to the House is to bring to the attention of the Assistant Minister the fact that the KRC cannot be privatised in its current state. Assets have been eroded and there is no management. The KRC is in a terrible state of operation. Could the Assistant Minister assure the House that the Corporation, which in 1981 carried 4,000 tonnes of goods and today is carrying 1,000 tonnes of goods, can be privatised? Could he tell us who can be a strategic partner in an organisation that is so awfully mismanaged?

Mr. Sang: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the assurance is there. We will have a very efficient Corporation.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS FROM TANZANIA

Mr. Speaker: Order, Members! I will do something I have not done before. I wish to take this opportunity to

introduce a delegation from the Tanzanian Parliament, whose Members are seated at the Speaker's Row. They are:-

The hon. Juma Chomaidin Abukwet, MP, Deputy Speaker and the Leader of the delegation

Dr. Hon. William Chija, MP

Dr. Hon. Aman Walit Kaboou, MP

Hon. Sabastian Lukiza Kinyondo, MP

Hon. Rhoda Kahatano, MP

Mr. Japhet Sakasii, Secretary to the Delegation.

The delegation is attending a meeting of Inter-Parliamentary Committee on the East African Community, which will be held at the Safari Park Hotel, between 2nd and 3rd August, 2001. On behalf of the Kenyan Parliament, and on my own behalf, I warmly welcome them to Nairobi. Thank you.

Question No.423

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN VOI

Mr. Mwakiringo asked the Minister for Energy:-

(a) when electricity will be supplied to Konyeni, Ghazi, Tausa and Wongonyi in Tausa Division of Voi Constituency, as per the District Development Committee recommendation of 1998,

(b) what is causing the delay in implementing the project; and,

(c) what action the Minister is taking to ensure that the project is undertaken.

Mr. Speaker: Is anybody here from the Ministry of Energy? Let us move on to the next Question by Mr. Wambua!

Question No.536

COMPLETION OF IANGUNI BRIDGE

Mr. Wambua asked the Minister for Roads and Public Works:-

(a) whether he is aware that Ianguni Bridge on Ndalani-Mutwambo Road was abandoned by the contractor four years ago, rendering the road impassable; and,

(b) what immediate steps he is taking to complete the remaining part so that the road can be passable.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Eng. Rotich): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that Languni Drift in Ndalani Location was abandoned by a contractor four years ago.

(b) This particular drift is located on an unclassified road which does not fall under the Ministry. Therefore, I expect the local DDC to prioritise and finance it.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to correct the answer the Assistant Minister has read in the House. The correct word is "Ianguni" and not "Languni". But I am surprised to hear that he is not aware that Ianguni Drift was abandoned by a contractor four years ago. I would like to say that there are some materials and even spare parts of tractors which were left on the site. So, who left those materials on the site, if the Assistant Minister is not aware that the drift has been abandoned? How did these materials reach the drift? I would like to inform this House that there were some contractors who were supposed to repair the bridge, but they left the materials there and went away. The other issue---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wambua! Let him respond!

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for misspelling the name. When we received the Question, the name was spelt as "Languni" and not "Ianguni". However, I am sorry about that mistake. This particular drift is on an unclassified road. I understand that it was done and supervised by the DO for that particular area. It was being undertaken by the Ministry of Lands and Settlement and not our Ministry. So, the co-ordination was done by the DO, Yatta. This drift is not on a classified road and we did not do it. It is true that the materials are on site; I have seen them, but they are not ours.

Mr. Keriri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister, while answering the Question, said that construction of this bridge should be financed by the DDC. To the best of my knowledge, DDCs do not have independent sources of money. Where does the Assistant Minister expect this particular DDC to get the money from, if the Ministry is not prepared to allocated it some?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this year, we expect to disburse constituency funds amounting to, at least, Kshs5 million. Maybe, some of this money will be used to repair the bridge.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that the Assistant Minister is aware that some materials have been abandoned on site--- We are not aware that there are some roads which are being repaired by the Ministry of Lands and

Settlement.

I thought that all the roads are repaired by the Ministry of Roads and Public Works. The Assistant Minister, of course, is aware that this drift is impassable. What steps will he take to ensure that this drift is repaired and the materials are used by the right people?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are willing to assist the residents of that area in supervising this project. Maybe, some of the Kshs5 million, which I mentioned earlier on, can be used to repair the drift and we shall supervise it. This drift is not in our classified road network.

Question No.209

REGISTRATION OF MATATU
OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Ochuodho not here? Mr. Murungi's Question for the second time!

Question No.434

GOLDEN HANDSHAKE FOR
REGISTRATION BUREAU RETRENCHÉES

Mr. Murungi asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

- (a) whether he is aware that all the retrenchees who were working for the National Registration Bureau in Meru Central District have not been paid the balance of the Golden Handshake of Kshs200,000 each,
- (b) whether he is further aware that the said Bureau deducted NSSF dues from the said retrenchees from 1996 to 2000 but did not remit the same to the NSSF; and,
- (c) what urgent steps he is taking to ensure that the balance of the Golden Handshake is paid to the said retrenchees forthwith and that the Bureau remits the dues to NSSF to facilitate payment of the dues.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to apologise to this House that Mr. ole Ntimama was supposed to answer this Question. But I do undertake that it will be answered tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: Is that okay with you, Mr. Murungi?

Mr. Murungi: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: That is alright. The Question is deferred!

(Question deferred)

Mr. Kikuyu's Question for the second time!

Question No.495

WATER SHORTAGE IN MACHAKOS TOWN

Mr. Kikuyu asked the Minister for Water Development:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Machakos Town is experiencing an acute water shortage; and,
- (b) what the Ministry is doing to avert this continuous shortage.

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Mr. Kofa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to apologise for coming late. I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Machakos Town experiences water shortage from time to time. This is as a result of shutdowns for repairs of the Nol Turesh Pipeline which serves Machakos Town, Sultan Hamud, Kajjado, Emali, Simba and Mashuru areas. The repairs are mainly necessitated by vandalism along the pipeline.

(b) My Ministry has taken the following measures to minimise the water shortage in Machakos Town. First, the Ministry has provided water points to serve more people along the pipeline in order to scale down vandalism on the pipeline. Second, it is closely working with the Provincial Administration to address the problem of vandalism on the pipeline and third, it has embarked on community education through barazas to create awareness on the importance of caring and preserving the pipeline facility.

Finally, with regard to Maruba Dam, which is another source augmenting water supply to Machakos Town, my Ministry has ordered for a new pump at a cost of Kshs138,060. The pump is expected to be on site before 6th August, 2001. After installation, the pump will pump water from Maruba Dam to the tanks located on Iveti Hills. The water will then flow by gravity to Machakos Town and the surrounding areas thereby easing the current water shortage.

Thank you.

Mr. Kikuyu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before Machakos Water Supply was taken over by the National Water and Conservation Pipeline Corporation (NWPC) we had enough water in the town.

Considering that fact, could the Ministry consider reverting the water supply of Machakos Town from the NWPC to the Municipal Council of Machakos so that it can be answerable to the people for lack of water? This should be done instead of having the NWPC here in Nairobi, which is not answerable to the people in Machakos Town.

Mr. Kofa: We shall put that into consideration.

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this Question came up sometime last year, it was referred to our Committee. For that reason, the Committee on Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources together with the Minister, went to Nol Turesh where this water comes from.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has said that, because of the patches *en route*, the Ministry is undertaking the repairs. I was there a week ago and nothing has been done although we had agreed that the work would start in three months time. What is the Ministry doing to correct the impression they have given this House that water will be provided to Machakos?

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, there is a lot of vandalism along the way. Patches are made for livestock to get water from the pipes. We shall look into that problem again.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mwakiringo's Question for the second time!

Question No.423

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN VOI

Mr. Mwakiringo asked the Minister for Energy:-

- (a) when electricity will be supplied to Koenyi, Ghazi, Tausa and Wongonyi in Tausa Division of Voi Constituency, as per the District Development Committee recommendation of 1998;
- (b) what is causing the delay in implementing the project; and,
- (c) what action the Ministry is taking to ensure that the project is undertaken.

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for having been late when the Question was asked.

However, I beg to reply.

(a) The Government is looking for funds to supply electricity to Koenyi, Ghazi, Tausa and Wongonyi centres at a total cost of Kshs52.7 million as follows:-

| <u>Project</u> | <u>Cost (Kshs)</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Koenyi Trading Centre | 2.7 million |
| Ghazi Market | 23 million |
| Ghazi Market-Tausa Market | 8.5 million |
| Wongonyi Market | <u>18.5 million</u> |
| Total | <u>52.7 million</u> |

When sufficient funds are secured, this project shall be implemented in accordance with Taita-Taveta DDC priority ranking.

(b) The delay in implementing the project has been caused by lack of adequate funds.

(c) To ensure that sufficient funds to implement Rural Electrification Programme are secured, the Government is doing the following:-

(i) Restructuring Rural Electrification Fund by revising the 1973 Agreement between the Kenya Power and Lighting Company and the Government with the aim of ensuring that more funds from the Rural Electrification Levy go towards project implementation instead of operation and maintenance as it is now.

(ii) Sourcing external funds to implement rural electrification programmes as per Rural Electrification Master Plan and District Development Committees recommendations on priority basis.

Mr. Mwakiringo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer is well prepared but we were assured that during the prioritization process in the DDC meeting in 1998, funds had already been received from one of the countries in the European Union. We were asked to urgently prioritise the rural electrification projects in the district. It is over three

years now and we want to be assured. At what stage will this project get funds? We know that there is a problem, as I said, but when is it projected to be funded?

Mr. Raila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that a promise was made. But it is also true that some projects have been implemented with the European Union funds, for example, Weruga Coffee Factory and environs in Wundanyi, at a cost of Kshs2.5 million, Mwashele and Mwakitau Girls schools in Mwatate and Wasinyi Market in Wundanyi. But having said that, I have answered about three Questions on this issue of the Rural Electrification Fund. I have said in the past that there is a problem with this Fund. One, because the 5 per cent levy is not sufficient to cover the cost of construction of new projects. The cost of operating and maintaining already existing systems runs at Kshs115 million per month compared to a revenue of only Kshs63 million coming from the systems. So, we are experiencing a deficit on a monthly basis. That is why we are trying to reorganise this Fund. I know that it is very important; not only to hon. Members but also to our people who live in rural areas. I want to plead with the House to give us time to reorganise it, so that when I come back to the House, I get the support of the House and we can get funds to do it.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Very well! Next Question, Dr. Ochuodho!

Question No.209

REGISTRATION OF MATATU OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Ochuodho is still not in. The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

SHOOTING OF OUMA O'DIE

(Mr. Ngure) to ask the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that on 10th February, 2001, at 8.30 p.m. along Desai Road, Parklands, Mr. Wycliffe Ouma O'die was shot and injured by plainclothes policemen?

(b) Who informed the regular police officers who visited Mr. Ouma's residence and later Guru Nanak Hospital of the shooting incident?

(c) What is the conclusion of the police investigation into this shooting incident?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ngure is not in. The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

(Dr. Ochuodho entered the Chamber)

Next Question, Mr. Kiunjuri!

Dr. Ochuodho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You called my Question when I was just at the door. I beg you---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! First of all, you are totally out of order to bring to my attention your own disorder. Where were you?

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Sit down!

Next Question, Mr. Kiunjuri!

Dr. Ochuodho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I just want to explain.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! You have absolutely no explanation whatsoever not to come at 2.30 p.m. If you do, you are already late. So, the Question is dropped.

Proceed, Mr. Kiunjuri!

KILLING OF COUNCILLOR MUNIU

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister of State, Office of the President the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that Councillor Paul Muniu of Sirima Ngobit Location, Lamuria Division was killed by gangsters on 30th June, 2001?

(b) Is he further aware that over 15 people have so far been killed in Laikipia District in the last three months and that the same gangsters are operating in Nyeri, Ndaragwa and Laikipia districts?

(c) Could the Minister consider recruiting homeguards in all the affected areas of the district?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Councillor Paul Muniu of Sirima Ngobit Location was killed by gangsters on 30th June this year.

(b) Available records indicate that six people and not 15 have been killed in Laikipia District by criminals in the last three months. It has not been ascertained whether all the murders were committed by the same gang or whether the same gang operates in Nyeri and Ndaragwa. However, investigations are in progress with a view to apprehending the criminals.

(c) Instead of recruiting homeguards, we are shortly going to implement community policing and introduce it in the affected areas so that the local population and the police can work closely to curb incidents of insecurity.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this kind of answer is an abuse to the people of Laikipia because we live there and we know how many people have been killed. The Assistant Minister, through the Government, is promoting acts of lawlessness in Laikipia. We are not in a position to take this kind of an answer. Let the Government allow us to protect ourselves. In any case, guns are very cheap these days in this country and we can afford to buy them and defend ourselves. Over 56 people have been killed in the last one year. This year alone, from January to July, over 60 people have been killed in Laikipia. There are over 10 people admitted to Mathari Hospital with gunshot wounds. The Assistant Minister is telling us of community policing while we know very well that for every 1,000 Kenyans---

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kiunjuri, this is Question Time!

Mr. Kiunjuri: Now that we know that for every 1,000 Kenyans we have only one police officer, how would he convince us that community policing will be effective in Laikipia? Why is he reluctant to recruit homeguards?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not completely rule out the possibility of giving arms to homeguards. We have tried this elsewhere and it has not worked very well. We are thinking differently. As I said, we will shortly try to introduce the idea of the community policing that area, not specifically in Laikipia District, but also in other parts of the country as well. Unfortunately, we have had incidences of crimes, including murder of Kenyan citizens perpetrated by criminals because of the availability of guns easily. The Government is considering such issues, alongside other national issues. A step that the President took the other day to close our Kenya/Somali border was a step forward because we are looking at that issue as a national issue.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very worrying situation. People in Laikipia are very scared. Is the Assistant Minister aware of the existence of one tall gentleman, maybe from Turkana community, who is the leader of the gang? People know him! Why do you not let our people acquire weapons to protect themselves? Why is it that it is mostly people from Kikuyu community who have died in these episodes?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if these criminals are known by the people of Laikipia District, it is incumbent upon them to report these criminals to the police and we will take swift action. I do not think any specific community has been targeted by criminals. We are not also saying that any specific community engages itself in criminal activities more than the others.

Mr. Mbitiru: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the security issue in Laikipia District is very central to communities living there. Since 1997 we have had insecurity continuously to a point whereby the President himself has had to intervene for more than four times. When the Assistant Minister stands up here and says the security situation is not as bad as hon. Members from Laikipia District have said, it is an abuse to our people. Is he telling this House that nothing will be done unless they recruit more security personnel? Is he saying that the people of Laikipia District will continue to suffer while they think of other methods of protecting our people?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think at any one time in my reply to this Question, I said there is no insecurity in Laikipia District. What I disputed was the number of persons alleged to have been killed in the last three months. That was the only issue that I raised which was in dispute. Incidences of insecurity in Laikipia District are well documented. They are on record. Indeed, the hon. Member has said, and rightly so, that His Excellency the President, indeed, intervened on various occasions. We are aware of that problem and, as a result, this year only we have posted additional security personnel to that area. I hope by the end of this year, we will have enough security personnel in that region to be able to deal with this problem.

Mr. Thirikwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1997, the same Assistant Minister who is answering this Question came with a comprehensive statement here on the same issue. Since 1997, a gang of between six and nine people has been terrorising people in three districts of Laikipia, Nyandarua and Nyeri. What kind of Government is this if it cannot really arrest six or nine criminals? Mr. Wamae has said that the fellow who leads this gang is well known. He is a tall man. He has been identified in every other occasion when this gang has attacked our people. Why is the Government not able to arrest members of this gang who have continuously terrorised our people for the last three years?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, by that time, the people of Eldoret North Constituency had not elected me as their hon. Member. Therefore, there is no way I would have issued a Statement here then. However, I issued a Statement sometime last year on this matter. Indeed, the hon. Member will agree with me that when I issued that Statement, the level of insecurity was higher than it is now. We have managed to reduce the gang from what it was then. Indeed, this shows that the days of these criminals are numbered.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is painful to note that our women have been raped, men killed and their genitals removed to show how ruthless and merciless these people are. Therefore, it is a pity that the Assistant Minister continues to give irrelevant answers to this Question. Could he be very categorical and tell us whether he will recruit homeguards or not? When homeguards were recruited in Mukogodo Division the level of insecurity came down. We are very sure that, if we recruit homeguards, this problem will be solved. Could he now be very categorical and tell us whether he will recruit homeguards or he will leave the people of Laikipia to defend themselves?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think it is correct for the hon. Member to say that it is only by recruiting homeguards that we can solve this problem. However, I am willing to consider recruiting them alongside other strategies which our security personnel plan to undertake in that region.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Next Question!

WITHHOLDING OF KCSE RESULTS

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I ask my Question, I would like to make some correction on part "a". The school is St. Patrice, Nyantaro Secondary School. These are not two schools. There should have been a comma between "St. Patrice" and "Nyantaro". However, I beg to ask the Minister for Education the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Why the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education results for St. Patrice, Nyantaro Secondary School for the year 2000 were withheld and yet there was no examination cheating?

(b) Is the Minister aware that this has caused untold suffering to the students and their parents?

(c) When is he releasing these results?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, does that correction affect your answer?

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Karauri): No, Mr. Speaker. That is the Question we had. I do not know why the Order Paper has a different Question. However, I beg to reply.

(a) The year 2000 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education results for St. Patrice, Nyantaro Secondary School were released with others, but later, the school authorities surrendered the results for correction of the school's name.

(b) I am aware that this had raised anxiety among the students and their parents. I hereby [**The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology**] apologise for such inconveniences caused to them.

(c) The results were released immediately the school name was corrected and are now with the school and copies have been sent to the District Education Officer, Nyamira District.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this anomaly shows the quality of staff employed by the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) in their computer department. The problem with these results is that the KNEC printed "St. Patric" instead of "St. Patrice". They are not careful at all. This has caused anxiety amongst parents and students. Since this Ministry has a habit of saying that they have sent these results to the school, could the Assistant Minister tell this House exactly when they sent the results because I have a letter here from the school dated 16th June, 2001 asking me to raise this Question? When did the Ministry send these results? We want to know the exact date when this was done.

Mr. Karauri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the possibility of printing the school's name as "St. Patrick" instead of "St. Partrice" is feasible. I have apologised for that. The results were sent to the school by a runner from the Ministry on 12th July, 2001.

Mr. Speaker: Could you ask the last question, Mr. Munyasia?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examination results

for the year 2000 were released in early March. Why did the Ministry take about three months to correct the name? What else was it doing? Was it also correcting the results?

Mr. Karauri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the letter from the school's Headmaster was posted to us after he had received the results. That may have caused that delay. If he had brought the letter directly to the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC), the matter would have been sorted out faster.

Mr. Speaker: Could you ask the last question, Mr. Obwocha?

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these days, KCSE result printouts are very faint. Could the Assistant Minister promise or confirm to this House that he is going to request the KNEC to use a computer that can process clear result printouts, so that the results can be legible? You cannot read some of the results on the printouts these days. I do not know what kind of computer the KNEC is using.

Mr. Karauri: I will do that, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

SALE OF GILGIL COUNCIL HOUSES

Mr. Kihara: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Local Government the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that the County Council of Nakuru has sold Gilgil council houses to the councillors at the expense of the tenants?

(b) Is he further aware that the councillors are in the process of selling the houses to third parties?

(c) What action will the Minister take to ensure that the houses are sold to the tenants living in them as per the Ministry's directive and the Council's own minutes?

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware.

(b) I am not aware.

(c) In view of the above, the issue of taking any action does not arise.

Mr. Kihara: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that is a ridiculous and very arrogant answer. With your permission, I would like to explain to the Assistant Minister what happened regarding this issue.

The Ministry authorised the County Council of Nakuru to sell its houses in Gilgil Town. Following that authority, the County Council valued each block at Kshs37,000 and allocated each block to two councillors. They then decided to sell the same to the tenants at Kshs Kshs60,000 each.

An hon. Member: Shame!

Mr. Kihara: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have brought this issue to the Ministry's attention. So, could the Assistant Minister give an undertaking to this House that the houses will be sold to the tenants living in them, as per the Council's own minutes at their valuation price of Kshs37,000 per unit, and ensure that they are given a reasonable time within which to raise the money? Ninety days is the normal required period to pay such amounts. Could the Assistant Minister give the House that assurance?

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry approved the sale of the Council's houses in Gilgil. The Council deliberated on the issue and decided to sell the houses to the tenants living in the houses at Kshs37,000; that position is confirmed in the Minutes of the Council's meeting, which was also attended by the area councillor. So, no councillor is reselling the houses. The houses are being sold to the tenants directly.

Mr. Speaker: Let us have Mr. Muihia. Ooh! I am sorry; I mean Mr. Mwenje.

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hope that I do not look like Mr. Muihia.

Mr. Speaker: Is there anything wrong in you looking like Mr. Muihia?

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is everything wrong in me looking like Mr. Muihia.

Mr. Speaker: Both of you are short!

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Embakasi and Gatundu South Constituencies have no resemblance.

Mr. Speaker: Order! At least, you have one similarity: Both of you are short!

An hon. Member: Also, both have "airports"!

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Proceed!

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an incident similar to that raised by Mr. Kihara happened in Umoja Estate, where councillors at the Nairobi City Council (NCC) sold houses to themselves. The by-laws of local authorities require that houses that are due for sale should be advertised, so that every interested resident of a given local authority

area can forward his bid. Could the Ministry issue a circular to the effect that any local authority houses that are due for sale should be advertised so that everybody in a given local authority area can have an opportunity to buy one house? Otherwise, the habit of councillors selling council houses to themselves will continue.

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we undertake to inform tenants living in council houses that they have the first priority to buy such houses. We shall then proceed to the next stage if the houses are not sold.

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister's answers to parts (a) and (b) of the Question were that he was not aware. But subsequently, he said that he is aware of the existence of the Council's resolutions regarding the sale of the houses; he agreed with the hon. Questioner that the sale of the houses is, indeed, minuted by the Council. In the light of this admission, could the Assistant Minister answer part (c) of the Question?

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish the hon. Member could read part (a) of the Question well; it seeks to know whether the Minister is aware that the Council houses have been sold to the councillors, of which I am not. The Ministry will continue to assist the tenants. In fact, regarding the Gilgil case, nine tenants have so far paid Kshs37,000 for the houses and taken possession of them.

Mr. Wamae: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to say that the houses have been sold to the tenants, at Kshs37,000, when we have a letter of allotment which shows that the Council sold those houses at Kshs60,000?

Mr. Speaker: That was a supplementary question; it is not a point of order!

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Assistant Minister has always been complaining about Democratic Party of Kenya (DP) or Opposition councillors being corrupt. Could he confirm that this matter, which was handled by his KANU councillors is corruption? Could he tell us what action he is going to take against the councillors of his own party, who have done this?

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sale price of the houses is minuted. Any price above the minuted one is illegal.

Mr. Speaker: The last question, Mr. Kihara!

Mr. Kihara: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has misled this House. I have a letter of allotment here issued to one of the tenants quoting the price of the house he lives in at Kshs60,000. Those who have paid are being receipted at Kshs37,000; the councillors are pocketing the difference. This notice expires tomorrow, 2nd August, 2001. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that the tenants will be given time to raise the money and that the houses will be sold at Kshs37,000 as per the Council's valuation, and not at Kshs60,000, as stipulated on this piece of paper issued to the tenants?

(Mr. Kihara laid the letter on the Table)

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are all aware that papers to that effect can be printed. Secondly, the time given to tenants to raise the money was 60 days, from 15th June, 2001 to 15th August, 2001, and not 2nd August, 2001.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, maybe you could benefit from this document.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Now that the Assistant Minister has had a chance to look at that document, will I be in order to ask him to tell the House whether it is just one of the papers that have been printed by someone else or it is a document properly laid on the Table and it is authentic?

Mr. Speaker: What is your reaction, Mr. Assistant Minister, with regard to the document?

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member could just look at this document, it signed and the signature is appended down there. The ink used in the signature is not the same as the one which changed the number of the house. There are two different signatures on this paper and, therefore, I do not think it is authentic.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

*(Order for Committee read
being Tenth Allotted Day)*

MOTION

THAT MR SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR
Vote 13 - Ministry of Roads and Public Works

*(The Minister for Roads and
Public Works on 31.7.2001)*

*(Resumption of Debate
interrupted on 31.7.2001)*

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Githiomi, you were on the Floor and you have five minutes to go.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was interrupted when I was talking about the state of roads in Nyandarua District. I think it is time the Ministry considered making equitable distribution of funds for the road network in Nyandarua District because there are some districts which have not been receiving adequate funds, and particularly Nyandarua District. We have had very bad roads for a very long time. I think, this time round, the Ministry should avoid giving us a raw deal with regard to funds meant to construct our roads.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I talked about a few roads in Kipipiri Constituency and also in Ol Kalou. For example, Ol Kalou-Tumaini Road is really in a very poor condition and it is deplorable. We passed through that road the other day and one would not like to experience once again what we underwent. I think Nyandarua District should be considered for a little more funds than other districts because it is a settlement area and it is a new district. So, when the Ministry of Roads and Public Works was constructing roads in other districts, it forgot that there was a district called Nyandarua and that is why we should get a little more funds.

With regard to the classification of roads, I think there should be a renewed effort by the Ministry to re-classify the roads because there are roads which have not been classified in Nyandarua District and they appear as highways today. The Ministry should think of re-classifying them so that they are given more funds. I think the problem has also been in the classification of the roads because some of them are not even known and, therefore, the Ministry does not give them funds because they are not known. If these roads were classified then we could, perhaps, be considered for more funds for road construction and the roads would look like any other roads in other districts.

As I had said before, Nyandarua District is very rich in agricultural produce. It is only the roads people need so that they can put more effort than they are doing today. It is appalling that our electorate have to pour milk on the ground because they have no roads in some areas to make them access the market for their milk. Their foodstuffs have to rot in the farms because they have no roads to enable them take them to the market areas. It is important that the Ministry considers those areas for road development. I believe that, it is not money that lacks in the Ministry. If that is the case, then the Ministry should be given more funds to be able to provide services to the people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been having a lot of corrupt practices relating to roads in Kenya. I recall one road called Ngema Road that was constructed by the Kenya Pipeline Corporation and which cost the Government Kshs510 million to construct only nine kilometres of a road. It is unbelievable that one kilometre could cost the Government Kshs51 million! When we are told that the Ministry does not have adequate funds to construct our roads and yet we see money being misused and embezzled by a few individuals, we feel very much hurt. Some contractors should be blacklisted! A company like Ruaha Contractors which did the Ngema Road, is not even qualified to be called a road contractor. Also Benja Contractors were given a contract, but after doing nine kilometres, they took away Kshs510 million. That is unbelievable! Some of these people should be taken to court and they should not be set free because they are common criminals. If somebody can construct a road at Kshs51 million per kilometre, while the construction of Mombasa Road cannot even cost Kshs20 million, and nothing is done to him. There must be something wrong in this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a road like Kaptoet-Sondu cost the Government between Kshs12 million and Kshs13 million. When you compare it with another small road that is being built for Kshs51 million per kilometre---

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Mbela: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Vote. I stand to support the Motion on the Vote.

I want to congratulate the Minister for a very brilliant exposition of policy on various aspects of his Ministry, except one. I was surprised that when it came to Road Maintenance Levy Fund, which accounts for nearly 50 per cent of the entire expenditure in the Ministry, only three very small paragraphs were included and they said almost nothing. I am a little concerned that more than Kshs8 billion is projected to be spent out of the Vote this year, but not too much is being said. When we recently presented a Report from the Departmental Committee on Energy Communications and Public Works---

The Report showed our dissatisfaction because the law is not being followed and instead money was being disbursed to destinations which had not been specifically mentioned in the law. In fact, what struck us was the reluctance of that Ministry to ensure that the law was followed. In this particular presentation, I would have thought that

the Minister would have been very categorical about the use of Kshs8 billion, which is a lot of money which is supposed to be supervised by the Kenya Roads Board; to ensure that it is disbursed in the manner specifically stated in various sections of the law, including 24 per cent being shared equitably among the districts and 16 per cent being shared equally among the constituencies.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was hoping that, having been requested by the hon. Members in this House, the Minister would have confirmed that he has already issued out a circular to the districts, clearing any doubts regarding whether hon. Members would sit in the District Roads Committees or not. I know that there was confusion raised by the court. The court specifically mentioned Section 17 of the Kenya Roads Board Act, 1999. I have gone through the entire Section 17 to see where hon. Members could have been exercising executive powers and found nothing. Section 17(i) is merely just stating that there will be roads committees in every district; Section 17(ii) explains who will be members and Section 17(iii) talks about how the Chairman will be elected and so on. There is nowhere in Section 17 where the powers of hon. Members or rather their role in that Committee is discussed. I am saying that the matter is confusing. Bearing in mind that a lot of money has been voted, the Minister should have clarified it.

At present, money is being spent without anybody having either to guide or even check it. There was a time when most of the money on roads was being spent on prominent petrol stations where after the AIE is issued, bills are received from the petrol stations. Then, payments are made for fuel not received. There were also occasions when reports were submitted to the Ministry; that, certain roads had either been repaired or built and nothing like that was done. The presence of Members of Parliament and other elected officials in that Committee would assist in making sure that if the work is not done, then, they are in a position to raise those issues.

Apart from that confusion raised by the courts, which I understand has been appealed upon again, it is still not clear why the Ministry still refuses to appoint a Chief Executive to run the Kenya Roads Board. If we bear in mind that most of the Ministries in the Government spend less than Kshs1 billion, and we are talking about Kshs8 billion, and you are refusing to appoint a Chief Executive to supervise how that money will be spent, one begins to wonder what transparency we are talking about. I cannot understand that reluctance.

Having said that much about the Fuel Maintenance Fund and the Kenya Roads Board, I want to congratulate the Minister, for having taken action to murrum Taveta Road, after nearly 30 years during which nothing was done. A tender or a contract has been signed with the China Road and Bridge Corporation which has set up a camp in Mwakitau. I hope that they will be allowed to continue and finish the road. But in any case, having spent Kshs6 million in 1972 when the project first came up, one wonders why it was never tarmacked. You will have noticed that immediately after the contract was signed, the Kenya Ports Authority has attracted additional business from northern Tanzania. Obviously, when the Kenya Ports Authority gets additional business, it is the Kenyans who are getting employment and we must be in a possession to encourage that. Besides that, when you do not repair Taveta Road, you are keeping aside a very important sub-district called Taveta out of reach of the main Taita-Taveta District. In fact, the easiest way of getting there, if you are travelling from Nairobi, is to go through Namanga, Arusha, Moshi, and then Taveta, instead of going through Loitokitok or through the main District from Voi to Mwatate, on to Taveta. I congratulate the Minister at long last, and I hope that very soon, they will be in a position to tarmack the road.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, roads are very important. To me, communications or roads are human rights which you cannot deny certain sections of the community. I did an exercise two years ago and I have said it in this House, and I found out that in the last 15 years, 85 per cent of the money was spent west of Nairobi. This means that the areas to the east of Nairobi had a raw deal. The farmers could not get their produce to the market and the poor people continued to be a lot poorer than they were before. I am hoping that, as we continue to discuss the policy on poverty alleviation, we will spend time and give attention to the areas that have hitherto been neglected.

I would also like to say that the same Ministry which we had projected--- The money under the Road Maintenance Fuel Fund would have reached Kshs9,350,000,000 by this year. I cannot understand why their estimates are reduced by as much as Kshs1.3 billion. But whatever it is, I am hoping that they will be able to assist---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. **[Mr. Munyasia]**
Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could you save Mr. Mbela from hon. Members on the Front Bench from the Akamba

community, who are consulting so loudly that we cannot hear?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Order!

Mr. Mbela: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for that protection. I am appealing to the Minister to also attend to the roads in Taita-Taveta District which have been washed into the Indian Ocean, right from the *El Nino* rains, particularly Road D538 which is not what it is used to be until after the *El Nino* rains.

I beg to support.

Mr. Khamasi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to this very important Vote. The Ministers sitting here will realise that the level of contribution to this particular Ministry has been very high. The attendance in the House has been very high, to demonstrate how important this Ministry is to each one of the hon. Members of this House. This Ministry holds the key to development in this country. We pray that, at least, the Minister will rise to the occasion to make sure that, at least, roads in this country are improved. Once upon a time, this Ministry was rated the most corrupt Ministry of all. I think now there is another Ministry which has taken over. At least, for a change, the Minister and his officers in this Ministry are trying to make a difference and we want to encourage them, so that they can make sure that a situation where contractors had a field day in stealing money and where officers will get away with any offence, is no longer there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the importance of this Ministry can be demonstrated in my constituency. Once upon a time, during the infamous defections of 1994, my predecessor defected and none other than His Excellency the President came to my constituency and told the people of Shinyalu: "If you bring this man to KANU, I am going to have the road from Khayega to Kipsonoi tarmacked." Indeed, because of that single sentence, they voted that man back on a KANU ticket. Many years went by and nothing happened. As I speak now, nothing has happened. I want to kindly tell the Minister: "Please do not fail your President! Do something for him!" He promised the people of Shinyalu that, that road would be tarmacked. Why are you failing your President? You had better do something about that!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the next point that I would like to raise is on the timing of the release of money from the Ministry to the districts. More often than not, it is wrong. There is nothing that can happen in some districts in this country when it is raining. As we speak now, if any money is released to Kakamega, nothing can be done in Shinyalu. You cannot send a grader there. When the money is released almost at the end of the financial year, it is a waste of time. What happens is that if there are any Authority to Incur Expenditures (AIEs) released, the money comes back to the Treasury, if at all it ever comes! More often, what happens is that the money is committed in materials, fuel, ballast and cement. At the end of the day, all those materials vanish without trace! In a place like Kakamega where there is the highest rainfall in the country, the money that was released recently, if it is tied to materials, you better check how it is being used. What happens is that a roads engineer will move a grader to some place, move for half a kilometre, get stuck and cannot do anything. But, by the end of the day, he will say: "I went on that road and did about ten kilometres with so much money!" That is one way of losing our money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Minister to stick to the plans and allocations approved by Parliament. That is a very important point. Time and again, we get pronouncements on the roadsides and barazas that such-and-such a road is going to be tarmacked with immediate effect. That is done without due regard to the allocations in the books and plans within the Ministry. At least, for a change, let us stick to our plans. Let us not get this idea of the Executive issuing directives on roadsides and in barazas that such-and-such a road is going to be tarmacked with immediate effect, when, in actual fact, there is no allocation put aside for such a road. That makes the civil servants to deviate from the plan. The poor officers in the Ministry must look for votes or projects to snatch some money from, to appease the Executive. That must stop!

Little has been said about housing, because roads are much more important in the Ministry than housing. The Government's policy to discontinue leasing houses for civil servants and paying them house allowance instead, is very unpopular among some categories of employees. We have got very many categories of employees who are now being paid house allowances instead of leased houses. The house allowances that they are given are not enough to pay for a decent accommodation. That does not give encouragement or motivation to the employees to work well. It is high time the Ministry went to the market and found out exactly what it is like, so that employees are given equitable house allowances to make them live decently. We want to know how the Government is going to dispose of its houses when the time comes. We do not want another situation where a list of who is who in this country [**Mr. Khamasi**] will come here, having been allocated a house for a song! We want, if possible, the houses to be advertised and bought by people who would pay market rates for them. There is no point in giving those houses away for a song. We want to see transparency in the whole process.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the Minister will be replying, I would like him to state what the Government is doing about the implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, please save me from the Front Bench!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Order, hon. Members!

Mr. Maitha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Kamba Members of Parliament to celebrate, saying that the Merus have been denied selling miraa to the Somalis? That is why they are celebrating there! Is it in order?

Mr. Katuku: On a point of order---

Mr. Khamasi: You are wasting my time Bwana!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that when the Minister stands up to reply, I would like him to state the Government's position with regard to implementing the Habitat Agenda. That is a very important issue and we are a signatory to that convention and nowhere, during the policy statement by the Minister, did he ever mention anything to do with the implementation of the Habitat Agenda. We have got many squatters in this country. The way they are treated is completely contrary to the spirit of the Habitat Agenda. When the Minister stands up to reply, it is high time he tells us exactly what the Government has in store, or what the Government has spared in terms of allocation, so that the Minister could move ahead and implement the Habitat Agenda. It is important because once we are a signatory to a convention like that--- In any case, about two months ago, we were represented in the most important conference in Istanbul, by none other than the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs. The Minister knows exactly what the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs told the world in that particular conference. We want it reflected in his policy statement and in the books of accounts in that particular Ministry.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Ojode): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Hon. Members: Serikali!

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleagues are very much enthusiastic because we were together!

(Laughter)

I rise to support this very important Vote of the Ministry. I would like to start with the maintenance of our roads. There is no way we will ever have roads, if our existing roads are not maintained. It is not possible! For example, take the road from Katito to Homa Bay. It is a nightmare! There is no road there! This is the third year and there is no road completely! I used to have a road from Rodi-Kopany to Karungu; of 55 kilometres only! That road cost the Kenya Government Kshs1 billion and it is no more! That is why I am saying that it is better for us, now that there is some improvement in the Ministry--- Since the new Minister and PS came in, I believe even my colleagues are happy that they are getting something done in their constituencies. It is true, of course, that they are happy that something is happening within their constituencies. Let me say this: All good things come at once. Let us support this team together with the Minister in order for our constituencies to get more funding. There has been a problem caused by engineers who are colluding with the contractors. We want to give the Minister full responsibility to charge those who are colluding in order to steal Government money. The Minister must do something about this problem.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is this question of African contractors. I do not know why we are so much optimistic about awarding contracts to foreigners. You will find that companies from China and elsewhere were contracted to murram roads. What will these African contractors do? It is better for us to give the contractual jobs within the constituency to African contractors other than bringing foreigners to do them. As a matter of fact, sometimes back, there was this 10 per cent bias whereby, if an African contractor bids higher than his foreign counterpart by 10 per cent, he would get the tender. What is happening today? That Act is still there.

It is important for our African contractors to be given some encouragement. The Minister says that sometimes they do not have machinery. How do you expect African contractors to get machinery and you do not want to give them jobs? It is important for African contractors to be encouraged to do jobs. I am saying that African contractors must be given jobs! As the Chairman of Homa Bay DRC, I would [**The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology**]

like to say that we have not been getting the money which we were supposed to get. We used to get Kshs1 million or Kshs1.5 million. But Kshs1 million cannot do a road. It cannot even do a terrain, leave alone a box culvert. Let us get this money regularly in order for us to do the roads. I am very particular about the agricultural areas. Let us get enough money to do our roads to ferry the agricultural goods. As a matter of fact, it is not possible for us to transport the agricultural produce if we do not have the roads. I would request the Minister to speed up the issuance of cheques and

the disbursement of this money in order for us to do these roads immediately before the long rains.

There is also the issue of new procedures on procurement. I have been saying that there is no way we should always be dictated by the World Bank and the IMF to do what they want. If they come up with proposals which we, as Kenyans, cannot agree to, we had better say "No, we are not accepting that". I say this because all these problems Kenyans are experiencing are as a result of the IMF and the World Bank.

Hon. Members: No! No!

The Assistant Minister for Education Science and Technology (Mr. Ojode): The conditionalities we are having now are as a result of the IMF and the World Bank. The Engineering Department within the Ministry should sit down with the Nairobi City Engineers in order to expand Nairobi roads. Let them create designs to include even flyovers. There is no single flyover at all in Nairobi Province and you cannot move out of town within six hours. It is not possible. There is need for both engineers to sit down and agree on what to do for Nairobi in order for us to have the flyovers.

Another main road from Nakuru to---

Mr. Maitha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to mislead this House that Nairobi has no flyovers when he knows very well that there are about four to five flyovers in this city?

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know he comes from Mombasa and he is just wasting my time!

Mr. Obwocha can bear me witness that there is no road at all from Mombasa to Nakuru. We used to travel to Nairobi with Mr. Obwocha.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to ask me to bear false witness? There is a road between here and Nakuru, but it is impassable!

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying that the road from Naivasha to Nakuru is completely impassable. These are some of the major roads we are talking about. I would request the Minister do something about these main roads so that we can have easy transportation of our goods.

The Minister should also consider the fact that there is a big war between his own staff, that is District Works Officers (DWOs) who are responsible for the maintenance of district roads and the District Roads Engineers (DREs). There is a problem there as to who is the accounting officer and whose word should be taken for the work to continue. The DWO is the AIE holder of the district and the boss to the DRE. So, he has to dictate to the DRE which roads he would wish to be done and yet he does not know anything about roads. Some of them are not literally engineers. They are just quantity surveyors. If it is something which is supposed to be done by the DRE, let the DWO be left out of this particular case.

I would request the Minister to ensure that AIEs which are brought within the district to be utilised and agreed upon by the secretariat; in this case, the secretary is the DRE. When you are within Ndhiwa, there is the Omboo Road which runs up to Kabwoch which is impassable.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Katuku: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion on the Vote of the Ministry of Roads and Public Works.

I would like to start my contribution by, first, thanking the Ministry for giving people in Ukambani the first tarmac road since Independence. This is the Katumani-Wote-Makindu Road which is still under construction. That road will open that area but I would want to appeal to the Ministry to consider and talk to those who are funding the project to see how they can further open up that region from Wote towards the interior of Ukambani region through Kalawa Road to Wamunyu. That road needs to be extended so that it can join the tarmac road going to Kitui. That would enable goods from Mombasa to pass through Makindu, Wote and then join Machakos District through my constituency, Mwala. That is a very important road and there is a bridge which we were talking about here yesterday and which was raised by hon. Kalulu. It is that bridge between Wote and Kalawa. It is a very important bridge and it links my constituency and Wote and it is a shorter route to Mombasa. If that bridge can be linked, and that road tarmacked up to Wamunyu from Wote, it will open and make that area accessible from all corners of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have said, in my constituency, there is no tarmac road apart from that one from Nairobi to Kitui. If this Minister can consider just tarmacking that small strip, from Wote to Wamunyu, we will be very grateful for once to this Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a big problem in Eastern Province, and you will bear me witness since you come from there, with Bridge Unit Departments. There is a terrible mess in that department. I do not know why the Minister has taken too long to discover the problem. I have raised this issue with the Minister himself and his officials. That department needs to be looked at. Bridges or drifts which are under construction take years to be

completed. Money allocated to this Bridge Unit Department in Eastern Province does not go to the right purpose. I have in mind two bridges or drifts in my area which have been under construction for so many years. Money is allocated and when you go to the ground, you do not see any work being done. Cement and materials meant to go to that area are sold and we have reported this theft. This is Wetanga Drift. I brought here a Question the other day. The drift has been under construction for about three years. Every year, money is allocated and when you go to the ground, there is no work being done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if it is not possible in other provinces but possible in Eastern Province to decentralise that unit and to have a department in Machakos, we can be able to monitor the movement of goods from Eastern Province. Once materials leave Eastern Province in Embu which is the headquarters, they disappear somewhere here in Thika. I do not know where they disappear. They do not even get near Machakos. We would appeal to this Minister to consider establishing a unit in Machakos to serve Machakos, Kitui, Mwingi and maybe Makueni because we have so many drifts which were washed away during the *El Nino* rains and they have never been repaired. When you go to the books of appropriations, you find that they have been allocated money but nothing has been done. I want to also appeal to the Minister to reshuffle those fellows in that Eastern Province Bridge Unit Department. We feel there is something going wrong. I am not the only person saying this. You ask anybody from that region and he will tell you that he is not satisfied with the service given by that department.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming to the District Roads Committees (DRCs) money, you have heard Members say that the Ministry is performing and we are seeing some improvement. This is because of that money. At least, in every constituency, there is some work being done. There are some graders moving around even if they are not doing a good job. The taxpayers are seeing something being done. We would want the Minister to move with the speed required to make this quite operational. Give the DRCs the money and you will not hear most of these complaints that you hear here now and then: "Why has my road not been done?" Let this money be given out. Where is it? My constituency has only been given Kshs1 million. Why can you not give us the rest? Why can you not appoint a chief executive to run this Board? We would want the money allocated to these DRCs given out. We want to sit in these DRCs and see them function so that we can supervise the roads in our areas.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the money we have voted here previously, we have been told maybe in your district you have been given Kshs6 million, but you we never see anything being done. You hear money has gone for repair of graders and for fuel and yet you will never see any grader coming to your constituency. If it comes, it breaks down. We have terrible problems with the repair of these graders and I would call upon the Minister to see how he can go around to get better graders for our areas.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for example, in Machakos District, we have got two graders for that Ministry which never function. Once a grader goes to a place it takes two years. I remember last time, it was in Masinga and it has taken years to move from there to come and repair roads in my constituency. In fact, two years or so! Why can the Ministry not provide new graders to district headquarters so that maintenance of roads can be made possible through the use of the manpower we have there? We have engineers and the workforce there which are not utilised because there is no machinery. Let the Minister look for money and give tools to the men on the ground to do their work. Engineers are there and they have nothing to supervise and do. They just go to the offices, then paid at the end of the month and no work is done. We would want to see our roads being maintained because it is these roads that we will use to improve the economy of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with no infrastructure, you will agree with me, there will be no development in terms of economic growth, farmers will not be able to move their crops from point "a" to "b". Transport charges have soared and if you want to move from point "a" to point "b", you have to pay dearly in terms of fare. If you are constructing or doing any business, repairs of vehicles and spare parts have rocketed. We must be out to repair our roads.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we must be serious with people or contractors who are doing shoddy jobs. We must be serious in ensuring that. For example, I have a road in my constituency which was murramed the other day. This is the Kithimani-Makutano Road. That road was murramed using taxpayers' money but when you go there, it is now being wasted because we have lorries passing through ferrying sand and they are not worthy using that road and yet we have engineers on the ground. What are they doing to advise on this? We have lorries of higher tonnage passing on that road. We must have a system to safeguard wastage of resources. Why do you have to put money somewhere and then you do not regulate what kind of vehicles to pass on that road? That is very terrible in my area. That road is being wasted and money has been invested there and there is no control. I am asking the Minister to put in place machinery to ensure that those people who are harvesting sand in my area, which I am against because it not friendly to our roads--- He should have officers going round to ensure that the lorries passing on those roads, especially in Mbiuni area are banned. We have been calling for the ban of that sand harvesting, even though some people who are in this Government are involved in it. I can see one of the Ministers who are involved in sand

harvesting looking at me so badly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this sand harvesting vis-a-vis our roads, especially small ones, is wasting our roads. I am calling upon the Minister to put machinery in my area to ensure that roads are not wasted.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also want to touch on the issue of corruption whereby we give contracts to corrupt engineers. I have in mind a road in this country where a nine-kilometre road cost Kshs540 million and it was certified by engineers in this country. We are being let down and this is, of course, the Ngema Access Road.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Badawy: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, sina budi kuunga mkono Hoja hii, ijapokuwa ninasitasita. Kwa sababu ya kazi nzuri kiasi fulani ambayo inafanywa sasa tangu Wizara hii iwe na mabadiliko katika kiwango cha juu. Waswahili walisema: heri nusu ya shari kama shari kamili. Ni matarajio yetu kwamba kutakuwa na marekebisho kwenye Wilaya kwa upande wa usimamizi, uaminifu, uwajibikaji na uwazi. Karibu kila mzungumzaji hapa amezungumza kuhusu hali mbaya ya barabara. Hali hii imesababishwa na usimamizi mbaya wala si ukosefu wa pesa. Bila shaka, haijaleweka kwamba Wizara hii hi muhimu kuliko Wizara nyingine zote. Hii ni kwa sababu hakuwezi kuwa na elimu, ukulima, afya au utalii bila ya barabara nzuri.

Kwa upande wa utalii, watalii wamekimbia Pwani Kaskazini kwa sababu ya hali mbaya ya barabara inayotoka Kilifi mpaka Mtwapa. Waziri wa Barabara na Ujenzi ameiona hii barabara. Pia, aliyekuwa Waziri wa Biashara, Utalii na Viwanda, Bw. Biwott, aliiona. Hali hiyo imebaki hivyo mpaka sasa na Kenya Tourist Board na Wizara ya Utalii na Habari zinaimba wimbo kwamba utalii Pwani umezorota kwa sababu ya vita vya kikabila vilivyokuwa Likoni. Hawasemi kwamba utalii umezorota kwa sababu ya barabara mbaya, lakini ukweli ni kuwa utalii umezorota kwa sababu ya barabara mbaya. Watalii sasa wameamua hawatakuja Malindi kwa sababu ya barabara mbaya.

Sisi watu wa Malindi tumeanza kushuku kwamba labda kuna njama baina ya watu fulani wenye mahoteli Kaskazini na Kusini Pwani ya kuu utalii Malindi. Katika miaka ya 1970 na mwanzo wa 1980, wafanyakazi wa Serikali wenye vyeo vikubwa ambao walikuwa na mapendeleo kwa mahotelim katika Pwani Kusini na Kaskazini, walitunyima maji katika Malindi kwa muda mrefu katika hali ya kueneza mahoteli huko. Kama si nia ya Wizara ya Barabara na Ujenzi kutuangusha kiutalii, ni vizuri ichunguze ikiwa kuna njama ya watu fulani ambao hawangependa kuona Malindi ikikua kiutalii kwa sababu wana maslahi yao huko Pwani ya Kusini.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni kitu cha kusikitisha, kama walivyoeleza wazungumzaji waliotangulia, kwamba nia njema walionayo Wabunge inayowafanya kuzingatia hali ya barabara katika taifa hili, iliyowafanya kupitisha sheria kuhusu barabara, inayowafanya kushughulika katika Wilaya na mawakilisho, na pia inayowafanya kushiriki katika zile Kamati ambazo zinasimamia barabara chini ya mradi wa Roads 2000 na District Roads Committees, inashukiwa na watu fulani. Watumishi wa umma katika Wilaya kama vile wafanyakazi wa Serikali na wahandisi wa barabara katika Wilaya wanashuku nia zetu njema za kutaka kusaidiana na wao katika utumiaji wa pesa vizuri. Zile pesa haba ambazo zinapatikana kutokana na ushuru wa Serikali, tutazipitisha hapa. Tuna nia na shabaha njema lakini watumishi wa umma wanatushuku na hawana imani nasi. Hii ndio sababu hata mbali na kazi nzuri ambayo inafanywa na District Roads Board, ambazo ziko chini ya mpango wa Roads 2000, kuna nia ya kuziangusha kamati hizo. Kama kamati hazitwi kukutana na zikipitisha mambo hayatekelezwi, basi hazina faida.

Ningependa kumwambia Waziri kwamba bila ya maofisa wake katika wilaya na tarafa kuelewana vizuri na Wabunge, hatukakuwa na maendeleo. Ningependa kumpa Waziri mfano mmoja. Wakati pesa zinatolewa za kugharamia miradi ya kufyeka misitu, wahandisi wanazipora pesa ambazo zimetengewa ujenzi wa barabara. Kwa mfano, kuna kijiji kinachoitwa Ganda, ambacho kiko kilomita sita kutoka Malindi mjini. Barabara ya kuingia katika kijiji hicho, baada ya mvua kubwa ya *El Nino*, iliowhwa na maji. Karibu sehemu ya kilomita nne ya barabara hiyo ilikuwa ni maji matupu na hii iliyalizimisha magari kupitia katika mashamba ya watu. Mhandisi aliona ni jambo la busara kufyeka vichaka na nyasi kando kando ya barabara hiyo ambayo haitumiki kwa sababu imejaa maji, badala ya kutoa mashine ili iondoe yale maji ili watu waitumie barabara hiyo. Kama huu si uporaji, ni kitu gani? Huu ni uhandisi kweli? Wakati mvua inapoanza katika mwisho wa mwezi wa Aprili au mwanzo wa Mei ndipo vibarua wanaletwa kuanza kukata nyasi. Huu ni uhandisi au ni uporaji? Huu ni werevu au upumbavu? Ningeomba Waziri atilie mkazo kushirikishwa kwa viongozi waliochaguliwa katika Kamati tofauti tofauti. Wenzangu ambao wametangulia kuongea wamezungumza kuhusu ukarabati, hali duni ya kazi za makandarasi na jinsi wanavyoharibu pesa za umma. Leo barabara ya Malindi mpaka Garsen, ambayo imetengenezwa kwa gharama kubwa sana, imepasuka. Ukitoka Gongoni mpaka Garsen, utaona vile barabara imepasuka. Hili ni kosa la nani? Ni kosa la mhandisi aliyeajiriwa na Serikali ili awe jicho la Serikali na la taifa hili au la yule aliypewa kandarasi? Inafaa ahakikishe mambo yanatendeka vizuri. Ikiwa kosa limetokea kwa yeyote katika hawa wawili, iwe ni kandarasi au ni mhandisi, ni adhabu gani inatolewa kwa watu kama hawa ili mambo haya ambayo yanazungumziwa yasiendelee kuzungumziwa kila siku na huku pesa za taifa hili, ambazo hutengewa barabara za Pwani, zinaharibiwa. Kuoshwa kwa barabara na maji ni sawa na kuchukua pesa na kuzitupa baharini. Kwa hivyo, ni vizuri mambo haya yaangaliwe kwa makini na kuwe na uwazi wa mambo zaidi.

Itakuwa ni kosa na unyonge ikiwa Waziri na maofisa wake hawatatujulisha sisi Wabunge na viongozi wengine ambao wamechaguliwa katika Wilaya kiasi gani cha pesa kimepatikana na ni kiasi gani ambacho kimetumika kuondoa vichaka na kutengeneza barabara. Hizi ni baadhi ya taarifa ambazo sisi hatupati.

Waziri amefanya vizuri kutuondolea mhandisi ambaye amekuwa Malindi kwa miaka mingi. Ukiangalia, utaona kwamba huyo mhandisi hakuna kazi aliyofanya Malindi. Mimi na mwenzangu Mbunge wa Magarini tuliposema kwamba Mhandisi huyo hakutufaa, alisema kwamba tulikuwa tukimwingilia kisiasa. Huyo ofisa alikata shauri kufyeka barabara ya inayoenda Ganda, ambayo haipitiki, na akatumia pesa nyingi sana na hali barabara hiyo imejaa maji. Aliona ni uhandisi mwema kuondoa vichaka na nyasi kando kando ya barabara hiyo. Hii ndiyo sababu tulikosana na yeye. Pesa za ushuru wa barabara za kipindi kilizopita zilitumika kulipa madeni badala ya kufanya ukarabati wa barabara. Hii ilidhihirisha ukosefu wa usimamizi mwema. Ninamuomba Waziri atilie mkazo lengo la kutengeneza barabara ya kiutalii inayotoka Watamu mpaka Malindi mjini. Inafaa matayarisho na mipango ifanywe tunapongojea pesa zipatikane kwa njia yote ile. Wafadhili wako tayari hasa kusaidia mbinu ye yote na utaratibu wote wote ambao utasaidia kukuza utalii. Iwapo barabara hiyo ya Watamu/Malindi, ambayo imezungumziwa kwa muda mrefu sana, itatengenezwa, basi italeti manufaa makubwa sana katika ukuzaji utalii. Wizara ya Utalii na Habari na Shirika la Utalii la Kenya zinaendelea kushikilia kisingizio kwamba ukosefu wa usalama na mambo mengine ambayo si ya kweli, ndiyo yanazorotisha utalii katika Pwani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni furaha sana kusikia kwamba pesa nyingi sana zimetengwa kwa Wilaya ya Lamu kukarabati barabara ya kutoka Garsen mpaka Mokowe. Hilo ni jambo la maana sana kwa sababu wakaazi wa Malindi wanaitumia barabara hiyo sana kwa utalii, biashara na kilimo. Tulikuwa tunajuliza: Hiyo barabara ni moja katika ile miradi sugu ambayo sisi Wabunge wa Pwani tunateta juu yake, hasa sisi Back-Benchers? Tulikuwa tunajuliza kama sisi watu wa Mkoa wa Pwani kweli tuko katika Serikali hii au taifa hili.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo machache, ningependa kuunga mkono.

Eng. Muriuki: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to this very important Motion. This country is, at the moment, pre-occupied with poverty eradication, but it is shameful to see that the per capita income in Kenya is US\$300 the same way it was in 1970, which is over 30 years ago. I would like to point out that countries which were together with us like Thailand in South East Asia and so on, are now hovering between US\$3,000 to US\$4,000. Recently, the Government was pre-occupied with collecting views from wananchi; spending hundreds or millions of shillings pretending that it was collecting views on how to fight poverty.

I would like to tell everyone that there is nothing new that those committees were told that was not said by leaders in this House before. The only new thing was that the Government discovered, for the first time, that three-quarters of the people live in the rural areas and are engaged in agriculture. We require infrastructure in this country. I would like to point out that roads are more important than anything else. If you go and collect views from dairy farmers, they will tell you that they want good roads; if you go and ask horticultural farmers what they want, they will tell you that they want good roads; if you go and talk to tea farmers, they will tell you that they want good roads. The same applies to fishermen who, at the moment, are unable to transport their fish from the landing beaches to the main roads. All these people want good roads.

Of late, it has become fashionable in this country that every problem we have we say that donors will help us. There is no donor who will tell Kenyans to queue and give them US\$1,000 each so that we are not poor. At the end of the day, we are the ones who will work hard and get ourselves out of poverty. Parliament came up with a small formula called the "Kenya Roads Board" to try and sort out the problems so that we can help the people to help themselves. Within the Kenya Roads Board, Parliament created District Roads Committees. But somebody has been trying his level best to try and fight the Kenya Roads Board so that it is not operational. At the beginning we were told that the Kenya Roads Board could not operate because the Kenya Fuel Levy Act was in conflict, and we changed it in the Finance Act last year. Later on, we were told that they do not have a bank account and that is why money cannot be deposited there and they opened a bank account.

Somebody even went to court and said that the whole Board was illegal. If anything, I think it was a blessing in disguise because the Board they took to court saying that separation of powers was being infringed, we have now had a chance to read through the Constitution and we are very clear in our minds that there is no separation of powers in this country. In fact, our Constitution requires that there is no separation of powers. The Constitution states that the Executive should be headed by somebody who is called the "President", who, first of all, must be an elected Member of Parliament. The Constitution stipulates that Ministers must first be elected as Members of Parliament. So, when one says that hon. Members of Parliament are illegally participating in the DRC, he does not know what he is saying. If we want to create a provision for separation of powers, there is a chance to do it through the Constitutional Review Commission.

When all that could not be done, we were told that the Kenya Roads Board could not operate because it had no Chief Executive. The qualifications which Parliament has set for the Chief Executive for the Kenya Roads Board

are very simple and many Kenyans have got them. For one year and over to say that they cannot get a Chief Executive, they are not serious. We want the DRC funds now, and if the Government cannot identify a chief executive, they can second one from anywhere. As a matter of fact, even this House has a few engineers who are duly qualified to be chief executives. We will go on leave, and we can second one there for two months to give us money for the DRC and then they can go back to sleep if they so wish.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, those of us who come from agricultural potential areas like Ol Kalou Constituency, which I represent in Parliament, it is now very wet. I would like to point out that no produce can come out of that area. Recently, an hon. Member of Parliament inquired from me how much a sack of potatoes costs in Ol Kalou Constituency. If you wish to know the cost, a sack of potatoes in most areas of Ol Kalou Constituency costs nothing. If he can manage to get there, the farmers will give you potatoes for free. They do not know what to do with their produce. All the roads are impassable. Even the main roads like the one from Ol Joro Orok to Dundori and Ol Kalou to Tumaini, you cannot get in and come out. It is time that the Ministry of Roads and Public Works did something about some of these very important roads.

In the last financial year, the money which was allocated to each of the DRCs was only Kshs1.5 million. The only road which is now passable in Ol Kalou Constituency is about 10 kilometres, and it connects a place called Mawingo" This road was repaired using the Kshs1.5 million. We require the other Kshs3.5 million which is remaining.

I would like to compliment the Minister for Finance because, for once, he has now put the Fuel Levy Fund under one Item - the Kenya Roads Board. But Item 288 shows that the money the Kenya Roads Board has been allocated under Head 384 is Kshs7.8 billion. The money which is being collected this year is not Kshs7.8 billion, but Kshs9.5 billion. I would like to challenge the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Roads and Public Works to discount that. That amount is Kshs9.5 billion, and hon. Members of Parliament would like to know where the balance will go to.

If you look at the Printed Estimates, Item 655 under Head 375 - I do not know which Ministry that is, but I think it is the one for Mr. Kamotho - you will find that Kshs1.64 billion has been allocated. That Item does not belong to the Kenya Roads Board or the Ministry of Roads and Public Works. I would like the Minister for Roads and Public Works, when he will respond, to address that aspect.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the money from the Fuel Levy is Kshs9.5 billion and not Kshs 7.8 billion. Therefore, if you look at the Kenya Roads Board Act, you will discover that the money which was supposed to be allocated to the constituencies, - we keep referring to Kshs5 million, is not this figure. The Act says that 16 per cent of the Fund. Now, the Fund is Kshs9.5 billion. So, if you get 16 per cent and divide it with 210 constituencies, you will get Kshs7.2 million. Therefore, hon. Members should not ask for Kshs5 million, but for Kshs7.2 million. I would like to say that, in the last financial year, we did not get Kshs3.5 million going to the districts. Last year, a lot of money was mis-spent on on-going contracts. We have no quarrel with that because there may have been works which were contracted a long time ago and they were being completed in the last financial year. But because there are no on-going contracts now, there should be no excuse. The Kshs9.5 billion should be shared among the constituencies, and each should get Kshs7.2 million, plus the Kshs3.5 million which we did not receive last year. Therefore, a total of Kshs10.7 million should be allocated to every constituency. I would like the Minister for Roads and Public Works to address that particular aspect when he will rise to respond.

Last but not least, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are funds which are being channelled through the Office of the President which are meant for roads. They may be called *El Nino* funds or whichever other name. We even have got a programme through the Ministry of Roads and Public Works called Roads 2000 which we are all looking forward to. I think it has started operating in some parts of the country. But according to the Kenya Roads Board Act, these funds should now be channelled to the Kenya Roads Board.

Finally, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Report of the Energy, Communications and Public Works Committee was tabled in this House and was duly passed. One of the issues which the House endorsed was that the Chief Executive of the Kenya Roads Board should be appointed without further delay. There are many engineers with the qualifications we are talking about of 15 years experience in road construction and civil engineering. We should have no further excuses. I hope the Minister for Roads and Public Works will attend to my comments.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Heritage and Sports (Mr. Nyenze): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to this very important Vote of the Ministry of Roads and Public Works. From the outset, I would want to remind Members that the Ministry of Roads and Public Works is operating on a very tight budget. We may be expecting so much work to be done when in essence there are very few resources to satisfy our demands. Also, I would like to commend the Minister and the staff of the Ministry for doing a good job

under the circumstances. In the next Budget, Members should support a bigger budgetary allocation to this Ministry because we do realise how important roads and communication network are. Everybody is complaining about a certain road in their area which is not done. It cannot be done unless there is money. It is only fair that, whenever the Ministry asks for more money, we vote for that so that we will be satisfied at the end of the day.

Let us not compare Kenya with the Eastern Tigers like Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and so forth, because those are in Asia. If you compare Kenya with other African states, Kenya has a very extensive road network compared to Tanzania and even West African countries. With this kind of money that this Parliament allocates to the Ministry, it is difficult to service that road network. That shows that the Ministry is doing a commendable job. The Minister, the Permanent Secretary and his team are doing a good job. Let us not only always criticise them.

Let me talk a bit about my constituency of Kitui West and Kitui District as a whole. For some strange reasons that the people of Kitui do not understand, Kitui was not listed for the Roads 2000 and *El Nino* funds. They never got any consideration on that. Because we never benefitted from those funds, I would urge that whatever money the Ministry gets in terms of budgetary allocation, let them consider this very important road that has been talked about year in, year out; Kangonde-Kitui Road. It is only 46 kilometres. That is the song in Kitui. We do not want any other money for anything else, but to do that road. All the infrastructure is in place, like the bridges. All structures that are needed for the tarmacking to take place are there. I am informed that something is being done but I hope it is being done soon and not later. We have been given several promises and we do not want it to keep on recurring. There are some two bridges that were half-way done. One is called Mwita Syano on Mwita Syano River in my constituency and the other one is called Tiva. The Tiva Bridge is near completion awaiting the final slab to be put. Otherwise all the infrastructure is in place. The one on Mwita Syano was done but no slab was put. That has also been hanging for a long time. I hope by now they have been done because we have been trying to press for that. I urge the Minister to consider that.

When we talk about Kibwezi-Kitui-Kangonde Road; to ease congestion on Mombasa Road which is hilly, that is the road to consider because it is not hilly. Apart from the Athi and Tiva Bridges which I understand are being addressed, the other bridges are in place. If it can be done, even trade between Kenya and Ethiopia, Mombasa and parts of Eastern, Central and North Eastern Provinces can be enhanced. The people from North Eastern would take their cows to Mombasa very easily. People from some parts of Central and Eastern Provinces would benefit. This road is so important and it should be done as soon as is practically possible.

I would also suggest that each district gets a grader if we have to improve our roads, especially the rural access roads. You will find that there are some districts that have two graders while others have only one. Still, there are districts which have no grader and whenever they get some allocation, they have to borrow a grader which is busy elsewhere. I hope that those districts that are far apart and are very far from the Ministry headquarters are considered for a grader each so that they can use them to make these access roads.

My colleague said that there was a Minister who was looking at him because he had been harvesting sand in his place. Sand from that area is not very good for construction. We were carrying it sometime ago with lorries but found that it was not good for construction. It was business as usual and nobody should complain. If they chase away investors, that is bad enough. There is no law which was broken. This is clean business of selling sand on agreement to create wealth for the local people.

I have been to many African countries. I went to one country in West Africa, which I will not name, but its capital city is Ouagadougou where all their streets are murrained. I wondered why our people keep on complaining about the poor state of our roads. We can travel from here to Uganda, Namanga, Mombasa and Garissa very comfortably because all our roads are smooth. Everywhere there is a tarmac road. Surely, we should consider ourselves lucky because we have good roads. There may be potholes here and there, but that cannot make us lament that we have bad roads.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would urge the Minister to take stern action against some contractors who do a shoddy job on our roads. However, there is one contractor who should be commended for his wonderful job on Mombasa Road. The section that was done by M/s China Bridges and Roads Construction is wonderful. Everybody driving on that road, even hon. Members of the Opposition who keep on complaining of poor state of our roads, are satisfied. One can drive at a speed of 120 kilometres per hour and still feel comfortable because the road is properly done. If a contractor does a good job, then he should be awarded more contracts. But if he does a road and it peels off, he should be blacklisted, so that he does not keep on guzzling taxpayers' money, and yet he is doing a bad job. I am sure some of those construction companies which do a shoddy job are owned by some of the Opposition tycoons. There is no problem about that, but I would ask them---

Mr. Maore: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You may have noticed the Minister has finished all his points and that is why he is bordering on irrelevancies. Could he name those Opposition tycoons who are behind these construction companies that he is talking about?

The Minister for Heritage and Sports (Mr. Nyenze): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said "it could be". This does not mean that particular person owns that company. The hon. Member wanted to challenge me and waste my time.

However, this Ministry has done a tremendous job under tight financial conditions. I would want to say that the agricultural sector which is the backbone of this economy has been so much politicised.

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

Mr. Thirikwa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know really whether to support this Motion or not. However, I know roads are such important tools in development.

In my view what the Ministry is asking for is not even enough. This House is being asked to apportion a certain amount of money from the Consolidated Fund to this Ministry. This means that we will apportion this money from the taxpayers' money. The people of Nyandarua District have been paying taxes to this Government for the last 38 years. However, we have always been treated as a third-rate district. Why do I say this? If there are worse roads in this country, Nyandarua is one district with the worst roads in this country, despite the fact that we feed Nairobi, Mombasa, Murang'a, Nyeri and parts of Kiambu District. We have been continuously treated with some kind of contempt by this Government. For that matter, we are now demanding that this Government takes Nyandarua District seriously and allocates it enough money for the construction of roads. In 1960s and 1970s, if you would have climbed the Abedares and looked down at Nyandarua; Ndaragwa in particular; you would have confused Ndaragwa with the Canadian valleys where wheat and tea is grown. Today, my people are very poor. Why? Despite the fact that we have a good agricultural land, we have no single tarmacked road. I would challenge the Minister and the Permanent Secretary to make sure that, at least, they tarmac a road in Ndaragwa Constituency.

It is sad that people in Ndaragwa have been paying taxes to this Government for the last 38 years and yet, they do not get any service. It is high time we saw a return on our investments. We cannot continue investing in a company without any return. We are tired. Since we have no way of refusing to pay taxes to this Government, and if this trend persists, possibly, one day, we will decide to keep one cow and cultivate some little food for our consumption. This is because we continue producing, and yet we cannot get any service from this Government. Not only the Ministry of Roads and Public Works, but every Ministry treats Nyandarua with a lot of contempt. I am not really saying that all the money that we pay as taxes must go back to that district. No! We know that the Government has its own priorities.

The main issue here is that for the last 38 years, the Government has never considered any priority in Nyandarua. I think it is high time that Nyandarua District got an identity. We cannot **[Mr. Thirikwa]** continue being treated like Kirinyaga, Nyeri, Murang'a and Kiambu districts. Nyandarua was an area for settlers. There were no tarmac roads. Therefore, I feel the people of Nyandarua have a right to ask this Government to treat Nyandarua as a special case because we produce and pay enough taxes to this Government. We really cannot continue begging all the time as if we are not part of this country. We are part of this Government. We are not part of Uganda or Sudan. We should be treated equally with other parts of the country because we pay taxes. It is only in Nyandarua District where people use tractors as matatus. It is only in that district where people trek for 30 or 40 kilometres to get Government services. Since the Minister and the Permanent Secretary are here, let Nyandarua be considered as a special case; not because it is special in any way, but because its problems are peculiar. Therefore, I ask this Government to treat Nyandarua more seriously.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Nyandarua, there is one bulldozer that broke down four years ago. It is a pity that the only money required to repair it is Kshs2 million. Is it that the Government cannot get only Kshs2 million to repair a bulldozer, so that we would be able to get murrum for our roads? I urge this Government to allocate some money so that we can repair that bulldozer. I hope the Minister has taken note of this and, possibly, something will be done about it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding classification of roads, Nyandarua District has a big problem in the sense that 99 per cent of the roads in that district are unclassified. That is why the district is never allocated funds for roads rehabilitation. We have only one Class "C" road, namely, Road C69, and a few class "D" roads; the rest are unclassified roads. When the Government considers the roads to be allocated funds, Nyandarua District does not benefit because of this anomaly in roads classification. So, the Ministry should move in and classify the roads in Nyandarua District so that, like Kiambu, Murang'a and Kirinyaga Districts, we can also receive funds for roads rehabilitation. My constituency has only one class "D" road. The money we are being allocated through the District Roads Committee (DRC) cannot be enough. We cannot benefit from the 60 per cent---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Mr. Thirikwa, it is now time for the Minister to respond.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to give five minutes of my time to Mr. Ekirapa before I reply.

The Assistant Minister for Trade and Industry (Mr. Ekirapa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, first,

let me congratulate Mr. Morogo for the good job he has done in this Ministry since his appointment. I would also like to congratulate some of his officers who have upheld professionalism, and ask him to deal with those officers who still handle what is known as "flying vouchers", which are used to make payments for fictitious jobs that do not exist on the ground.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the budget that given to this Ministry is totally inadequate. Considering what every hon. Member has said about roads in his or her constituency, this Ministry needs a lot of money in order to deal with the situation. Unfortunately, it is unlikely that, that kind of money is going to be available soon. I would, therefore, like to recommend to the Minister to consider the introduction of private management of roads and buildings, so that individuals can handle road construction and maintenance as well as housing and office blocks for public service.

Considering the amount of money allocated to the Ministry, we can blame it for the next 10 years, but it will not cope with this country's needs. Therefore, this proposal should be taken very seriously. We should privatise all the major roads and leave only the small and feeder roads under the management of the Ministry and DRCs. The issue of mismanagement of available funds is still rampant in certain areas. I have already mentioned those areas where some officers of the Ministry do spend money without actually providing any services on the ground.

The predecessor to this Minister laid on the Table of this House a long list detailing the amounts of monies spent by the Ministry from the Road Levy Fund (RLF) in the various constituencies. Kshs22 million was said to have been used to rehabilitate roads in my constituency. I spent a lot of time trying to find out how that money had been spent. I found that the work that was alleged to have been done using that money was all fictitious. It is officers responsible for such malpractice that I would like the Minister to get rid of, so that the efforts he is putting into his Ministry can actually bear fruits.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must say that I am extremely depressed to see that no money at all has been allocated to my district. That raises questions about the manner in which funds are being allocated. I would like to recommend that a new system of allocating funds be adopted, so that every district or constituency can have a right to get a certain amount of money, however little it may be.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, obviously, the present system of allocating funds indicates that there is some kind of favouritism, or an attempt to ignore certain areas of this country. My district has only 8 kilometres of tarmac roads. So, I appeal to the Ministry to, at least, tarmac the Busia-Malaba-Malakisi Road, there being not a single tarmac road in my district.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I realise that there is a high demand for roads in constituencies. I will, therefore, donate two more minutes to Mr. Noor and another two minutes to Mr. Too.

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Mr. Noor): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, mine will be very brief. As has been said, the roads issue is very critical. We are talking about poverty reduction. Poverty reduction begins from roads. If we talk of this country's northern regions, the beginning of poverty in those regions is poor roads. Commodities bought in Nairobi for Kshs100 are sold at Kshs300 in those areas, and that has reduced the people's purchasing power very much.

The issue of roads classification has been mentioned. My district has an area of 26,000 square kilometres, but less than 25 kilometres of roads are classified. Not having a single kilometre of tarmac road since Independence is being very unfair to districts in the northern region.

The other issue I would like to raise concerns the distribution of the little available resources. Out of the Kshs17.8 billion allocated to this Ministry, Mandera District gets less than Kshs2 million. What percentage of this amount is that? Why not give us Kshs8 million?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what classes of roads are supposed to be tarmacked in this country today? The northern region has only one class "B" Road, namely, the Mandera-Wajir-Isiolo-Mandera-Wajir-Garissa Road. It is an international road which links Kenya to Ethiopia and Somalia, but it is still a class "B" Road. class "B" roads have not been given priority in tarmacking. Instead, the Ministry tarmacs class "D" and "E" roads in Central Province, but people there still cry for tea and coffee roads. We are also going to request the Minister to give us roads for camels, cows and goats.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, another problem that we have in that region is lack of machinery.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): The two minutes you have been given are over. Please, sit down.

Mr. Too: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would, first of all, like to commend the Ministry for the good work it has done over the last one year.

My appeal to the Minister is for him to ensure that contractors who are notorious for doing shoddy jobs are

blacklisted. In the past, those contractors received money but failed to do a good job on the ground. So, in future, payments of money to contractors should be spread over the contract period; if they are paid all the money in lump sum, they will not complete the job on the ground. Therefore, payment of contract sums should be staggered and contractors should invoice the Ministry on a monthly basis for the amount of work they will have done over that period of time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I would now like to call upon the Minister to ensure that the Kipsika-Kaptumo-Serem Road is allocated some money this year, because it is in a deplorable state. The road has been supporting our tea farmers; they are now crying a lot. That road serves a very productive area, which gets conventional rain from the lake.

The other issue is the *El Nino* Emergency Fund. The Ministry of Roads and Public Works should actually co-ordinate with the Office of the President so that it is not blamed at the end of the day for not doing enough. So, if there was a way of the two Ministries pulling together and co-ordinating the *El Nino* Emergency Funds, they could be able to prioritize some of the road works. This is because even in other areas where the *El Nino* funds are to be used, nothing has been done. But somebody somewhere manoeuvres things and then you find a big sign post indicating that the road was funded by *El Nino* funds while there is no economic activity taking place in the area, and even vehicles hardly use it, while other areas which have economic activities and plenty of rainfall were not allocated funds.

The other one is the Ngechek-Ndubeneti and Moi University Roads. These roads have been--

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker. Sir, first, I would like to thank all the hon. Members for their various contributions towards the Vote of our Ministry.

I wish to assure hon. Members that we have been keenly listening and taking note of various concerns expressed in their various interventions. I do concur with most of the observations made by hon. Members. We have tried to address some of these concerns. Of course, some are new ideas. I am glad to have listened to them and we will be taking them into account so that we can improve the services we offer to the public.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me start by responding to the issue of Kenya Roads Board because that has been an issue of very great concern to hon. Members, because they want to see more money voted to the Fuel Levy Fund, to reach the districts and constituencies so that those roads can be done to the hon. Members' satisfaction.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I intend to give a Ministerial statement on the KRB as requested by Mr. Murungi, tomorrow afternoon, and I will address the issue. But let me just say briefly that, the Kenya Roads Board, as the hon. Members may have noted, has now received the allocations from the Fuel Levy Fund and the money will be managed by them entirely. It is my Ministry's intention to see that the KRB Act is observed to the letter. I know that in the past, the Act has not been implemented properly, but I think every time, there has been that problem we have been briefing the House about it through the Committee. I am glad to report to the House that as we informed the relevant Committee from 1st July, 2001, the Kenya Roads Board will be managing these funds. I can assure hon. Members that it will be the case.

With regard to the question of the Chief Executive, as I have said, we have already identified one and he should be in place at any moment now. It is only a question of KRB itself finishing on the terms and conditions of such officials and the Chief Executive will be in the office. So, I wish to allay the fears of the hon. Members that the KRB may not be functional. I would also like to assure them that it is going to be very much functional.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there were several issues raised by the hon. Members, one of which was the average cost of tarmacking our roads. While we would like to give standards in terms of how much it costs to construct a kilometre of a road, it is not possible because tarmacking of a road depends on various conditions, such as the type of soil and very various other factors. It is not possible to say that the cost of constructing Kenyan roads could be compared with those in Tanzania, Uganda or elsewhere. But the Ministry is, from time to time, doing research and we are trying to see that we bring down the cost of paving our roads as much as possible. As said earlier, we welcome ideas; where hon. Members feel that there is a way out in handling this aspect, we are more than willing to listen and adopt whatever can assist this country use less money on paving our roads.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was the question of the types of road pavements. It is true, there are various types of paving roads, some of which are very expensive and we cannot, for the time being, manage them. As I said, we are carrying out research on different road-making materials and we are trying to develop the technical specifications based on local conditions, so that we come out with internationally accepted practices on road paving. So, we will adopt whatever we feel is best on certain conditions or for certain roads. I must hasten to say that these will not be possible for all roads.

Hon. Members did express a genuine concern or feeling that the Ministry is not receiving enough funding to finance all the road networks and, of course, to implement the projects that the Ministry undertakes, or to meet its

objectives. I concur with these feelings, but given the conditions of our economy at the moment, and given the conditions we have entered into between us and our development partners, we have no choice but to do with the little we get. I hope hon. Members will vote more funds for this Ministry as and when the economy can so support it.

The hon. Members also did express the need to renew equipment and to dispose of uneconomical ones. As and when the need arises, we do repair equipment which we feel can be repaired economically, and that which we cannot be economically repaired, we do dispose of it and buy new equipment. I must say that, given the current constraints, we cannot buy equipment as much as we would have wanted. It is our desire to provide each district with, at least, one grader, one tipper, and also one earth-breaker so that roads can be maintained from within. As I said, we have difficulties in raising funds because they are not sufficient, but we will work towards achieving this. We hope to look for development partners who will be willing to assist us to purchase some of this equipment, so that we can provide them at the district level.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to the provision of pedestrian and cyclist facilities, this has now been adopted by my Ministry. If hon. Members look around, they will agree with me that along Langata Road, we have now provided facilities for pedestrian and cyclists. We have put some also on Haile Selassie Avenue. This will be observed in the roads that we will be constructing in future. It is a genuine observation and we are addressing it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding the issue of local contractors, that is our desire too. It is true that we need to promote our local contractors, so that they can also come up and enjoy some of the contracts that the Government is giving from time to time. My only appeal to hon. Members is that while we promote these local contractors, they should also understand one thing. This is because in some cases, we have given work to them but we have had hon. Members coming back to us, complaining that we should have given the contract to others. Let us be genuine about this concern and we will be more than willing to support our local contractors. After all, we know that they will support our economy, being people who are mindful of the development of our country.

On the question of privatising our roads, we are looking into this issue and, currently, the Ministry is undertaking a study that is envisaged to assess the viability of roads concessioning in Kenya and also formulate the necessary legal and administrative mechanisms to manage such concessions. Once that is finalised, the necessary Bills will be brought to Parliament for consideration by hon. Members. It is also true that this can only apply for the moment, on the major highways in the country and, maybe, not on the smaller roads. A genuine observation was also advanced on the question of drainage facilities. At the moment, when contracts are given, the element of drainage is enhanced in the contract. One of the things that we do look at, and address very seriously, as we tour some of the roads on inspection, is the question of drainage. I hope that as we continue to address the issue, we shall be able to completely shield that problem, so that our roads are well drained and we do not have the problem of rain washing away our roads.

There were certain roads that hon. Members raised, one being the Mwatate-Taveta Road. We have addressed the issue under the Fuel Levy Fund Budget which hon. Members may be able to see as soon as it has been approved by the Kenya Roads Board. The Ministry will also pursue contractors working on the Kawiru-Lare-Mutuati Road, to ensure that they do a quality job. As I said, we are not confined to seeing good quality jobs on those roads only, but we want to see quality jobs throughout the country. I must admit that whereas we are keen to eradicate the question of poor quality jobs being done on our roads, it is also appreciated that old habits can never be changed in a day. But I will assure this House that we are determined to bring that one to an end, and I am hopeful that before too long, we can give a very positive report on that aspect to this House.

On roads in Nyandarua District, and I see Mr. Githiomi keenly looking at me and listening, the AFB of France has agreed to support road improvement and maintenance in Nyandarua District under Roads 2000 Programme. The procurement of consultancy services is on-going and funds were made available in the course of last financial year for spot improvement and repair of our bridges. I know that hon. Members from that side know that some of these works are on-going, and some bridges have been completed.

On the issue of constituency funds, I think I need not dwell on that much, but just to say, as I have said earlier on, that the KRB will be very much alive. The 16 per cent of the monies collected by the Treasury will be allocated and disbursed to various constituencies. The question of delay and the rest will simply depend on how soon or late we get that money from the Treasury, but I can assure this House that as soon as we receive it, the KRB will immediately dispatch those amounts to the various constituencies.

I have talked generally on equipment; that, because of the limited resources we have, we have not been able to acquire it but we are doing something about it and we are addressing it. On housing, there were issues raised by Mr. Mudavadi and we all know, of course, that currently, the Government houses about 42,000 civil servants in Government houses against a total of 200,000 civil servants. This represents approximately 20 per cent housed, leaving about 80 per cent of the civil servants unhoused. The market rates were arrived at by the Chief Government Valuer who did put into consideration the usual factors of the state of the economy, disrepair of Government houses and so on.

It is also true that the lowest market rent for a Government house in Nairobi is Kshs700 per month, compared to the lowest house allowance that we give to civil servants of Kshs3,000. The highest one, of course, being Kshs32,000; that is for the highest Government rented house and the highest house allowance, as you all know, has now been revised to Kshs100,000. So, we feel that the rents on Government houses are not too much for the civil servants.

In short, let me say that we will very keenly observe the observations by hon. Members. We will implement them and we will try as much as possible, and everything within our powers, to provide good service and broad network in the country, given the resources which will be made available to us. I wish to tell hon. Members that they are free to criticise us for as long as it is on constructive basis and for the better, and we will listen and we will implement whatever we can.

On that note, I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Muturi) left the Chair]*

IN THE COMMITTEE

*[The Temporary Deputy Chairman
(Mr. Musila) took the Chair]*

Vote 13 - The Ministry of Roads and Public Works

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Before you start, our Standing Orders, indeed, say that when we have come to the Committee Stage, we should examine the Vote, item by item, Head by Head, and there has been a tendency of reading out too many Heads together and not giving us an opportunity to scrutinise these Estimates. I hope we will stick to our Standing Orders.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): We will stick to the Standing Orders. There has never been any intention to divert from the Standing Orders. I will read the Sub-Vote and the Heads. I will ensure that I will read every Head. There is no provision that you must read one Head and then wait for another Head. I will, for the convenience of the House, read the Heads conveniently, but I will ensure that I will read them one by one.

Could you move the Vote, Mr. Minister?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

THAT, a sum not exceeding Kshs2,827,240,700 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2002, in respect of:-

Vote 13 - Ministry of Roads and Public Works

(Question proposed)

VOTE R13 - RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, we will start with the Recurrent Expenditure on page 572.

SUB-VOTE 130 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

Head 380 - Headquarters Administration Services

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 572, Sub-Vote 130, Head 380, Item 000 - Personal Emoluments, the Minister has requested for Kshs32 million, while the previous year, he had requested for Kshs31 million. If you look at the establishment for Head 380 on page 591, the staff for the previous year were 666, and those in position now are 336. How does he explain that discrepancy, where the number is 666, and yet the emolument is almost the same.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir,

that is the normal rise in staff emoluments. We know that the staff salaries were revised and certain cadres of members of staff, particularly the professionals in the Ministry, got a pay rise.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The Minister has not answered my question! When you budget, you budget for the positions. The positions are 666 and that is what you budgeted for last year. The figure for last year was Kshs31 million. This year, you have reduced your staff to 336. So, you would expect the Kshs31 million to be reduced. But you have asked for Kshs32 million. That is the question that I am asking. Why is it that the figure is going up instead of coming down, because you have reduced your staff?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I would ask the Minister to consult if he wishes---

Mr. Obwocha: Let him consult if that is the best way!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Obwocha!

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, actually, last year, it was 336. If you look at the column, it is written 336. But this year, it is 345. So, it is just a question of a small range.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like the Minister to clarify on Head 380, Item 132 - Expenses on Presidential Visits - on page 572. It is shown that in the last financial year, it was Kshs8.9 million, and this financial year, it is expected to be Kshs9 million. I would like the Minister to explain exactly how the money is spent on Presidential Visits. What exactly is it that the Ministry of Roads and Public Works has to do with Presidential Visits?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, my Ministry is charged with preparing the grounds for Presidential Visits. So, we have many things to do with that money, including transportation of the stands and allowances for the staff involved.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are concerned about wastage and under Head 380, Item 121, you can see telephone expenses are rising by close to Kshs7 million. Could the Minister explain to us why he wants that increase when, in actual fact, the Minister for Finance has been telling us that he is working on a formula to cut down telephone costs in the Ministries?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Indeed, that looks like a drastic change, but what happened was that, last year, the Treasury settled all the pending bills. So, this year, we are giving the level of our consumption, and that is the actual amount that we will use.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like the Minister to comment on the issue of personal emoluments under Head 380 on page 590, where he has provided for the Secretary to the Kenya Roads Board (KRB). I would like him to explain, because I thought the KRB will have its own employees. Who is that Secretary who is being budgeted for the KRB?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Secretary to the KRB was on secondment. He is one of the officers in the Ministry. That is why we budgeted for him. The Chief Executive will be under the terms of the KRB itself.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not satisfied with that answer. Could he explain the role of the Secretary to the KRB? We have a Chief Executive who will be employed by the Board. Why do we need to second anybody from the Ministry to the KRB? Why can the KRB not employ its own personnel? If there was any secondment, it ends because the KRB, as the Minister said, is going to be in place. It will have its Chief Executive in the next two days. So, we do not need to second anybody!

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this was necessary because, as you know, the Kenya Roads Board was in its beginning stages. This will be revised as soon as the Chief Executive is in place and that Item will be removed.

Mr. Obwocha: On Head 600, Item 134, the expenses for the HIV Control Activities is under the Office of the President. I noticed here that he has Kshs1 million under this Item, and last year there was no allocation. What is this Item under the Ministry because all the HIV/AIDS money is under the Office of the President?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Government did agree that this scourge should be fought from every angle. Every Ministry was charged with the responsibility of sensitising its members of staff. This budget is meant to look after that issue.

Ms. Karua: I heard what the Minister said in response to a question on page 573, Head 381, Item 121, which was on the opposite page. I noticed that the telephone expenses are quite high under Head 121, and on the next page, under Heads 382 and 419, we still have large allocations under Item 121. This all relates to headquarter expenses. Cumulatively, it is a lot of money being utilised on telephone expenses. Could the Minister tell us whether these are genuine bills in the first place, and what he intends to do to bring down telephone expenses? We are aware that some Ministries have been paying private bills. I do not know whether this is happening at the Ministry of Public Works.

Could the Minister clarify this?

The Minister for Public Works and Housing (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, first of all, I wish to assure the hon. Member that we do not pay for private telephone consumptions. This is purely for the official ones. Head 381 relates to the Provincial Administration and Head 382 relates to district administration. This is to bring the level of consumption to reality. In the past, it was paid by the Treasury to clear their bills.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 572, Head 380, Items 220 and 250, I can see the amount allocated for the purchase and maintenance of plant and equipment is so little. Our grader in Kisii has been down for almost a year because it cannot be maintained. There is no adequate allocation for this. How will the Ministry repair and maintain these vehicles so that they can serve the people?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, if I had more money, I would really wish to increase the allocation on these particular items, but I am trying to make do with whatever I can get.

(Heads 380, 381, 382, 419 and 600 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 130 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 132 - BUILDINGS AND WORKS

Head 409 - Government Buildings

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 578, Head 409, Item 254, Major Maintenance Works, has been allocated Kshs46 million from Kshs11 million. That is a difference of about Kshs35 million. Also, on Item 253, Minor Maintenance Works, there is an addition of about Kshs21 million.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like the Minister to explain to us that, indeed, he does require that money. He should also tell us what maintenance works these are so that we may know before we can vote for this.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Government houses in the past have not really received the necessary attention that they require. In line with the on going policy changes in housing, we have to bring back the houses to acceptable levels so that the civil servants can pay the required rents. This is why there is this great rise in expenditure.

Mr. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on pages 579 and 580, Item 399---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! We are not there yet. Hold your horses.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not think that is satisfactory. On page 578 Head 409, Government Buildings, Items 253 and 254, with a total of Kshs67 million, have risen to 124 million. The Minister has not explained satisfactorily why he requires this money because most of the Government houses have either been given to individuals or disposed of. Why is this expenditure rising to more than double the amount? Where are these houses? The Government policy is changing slowly and civil servants are required to move out of Government houses. Why is this amount more than double?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister consider transferring this amount from maintenance of houses, via Parliament, to maintenance of plants and equipment? We need more equipment on the roads than the buildings.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I cannot do that because the question of housing of civil servants is equally urgent. We cannot expect the Government officials to be very productive if we do not house them properly, especially at a time when we are re-organising the issue of housing.

On the issue raised by Mr. Obwocha, we still have 45,000 Government-owned houses throughout the country, and one can imagine their current state of affairs. It is only reasonable that we request for these funds to improve their conditions.

(Heads 400, 401, 402, 409 and 413 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 132 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 133 - OTHER SERVICES

Head 399 - Kenya Building Research Centre

Mr. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain what useful purpose this centre is serving this nation? Secondly, could he demonstrate and tell us what exactly has been contributed by this centre, and why it should not be done away with?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Government is constantly being urged to look into ways of getting inexpensive housing, and this centre is very central to that because it is doing research on what kind of materials can be used by our people so that they can get housing at a cheaper rate. So, it is very necessary.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister tell us one such useful research this Kenya Building Research Centre has come up with to justify its existence? Secondly, what type of cheap materials have they recommended and why they have not recommended anything to alleviate the housing problem for civil servants and also the Government? I am also taking issue with all the items under Head 399.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this centre has been assisting the Mathare 4A, for instance, to come up with cheaper housing to improve on that slum upgrading. So, there are various on-going research activities and I am sure this centre will be very useful, and in future will help us come up with low-cost housing.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think the Minister has not given a satisfactory answer to the existence of Kenya Building Research Centre. If you look at all those Items, for a research, we need to see the biggest portion of the money going to the research activity. If you look at Item 150: "Purchase of Supplies for Production", the money allocated for this purpose is peanuts. What sort of research are you doing, and yet you are not allocating money to buy materials for research? You find there is a big establishment and all the money is going to personal emoluments and medical expenses, *et cetera*, whereas the actual research is not getting enough money.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the problem again is funding. We are only working on the limited resources we have. This centre, of course, would be funded more effectively if we had more money and we hope, in future, when the funds are available, the centre will get more funding to carry out more research.

Mr. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, why would this centre not be taken to the University of Nairobi or any other university, where it is more relevant than having a research within a Government Ministry which is inadequate? Secondly, are these not wasted resources because, as the Minister has said, the Nairobi City Council has its own Department of HDP which deals with the type of prototype housing that the Nairobi City Council, Mathare Area in particular or Kibera, is dealing with? Therefore, there is duplication of efforts and I think Nairobi would be the worst area for the Minister to talk about, whereas in the rural areas, where people are living in grass-thatched houses, the Ministry should have by now devised a simple way of housing Kenyans. However, I am sure this centre has no useful purpose whatsoever, and it [Mr. Kariuki] should be done away with. There is no point in the Ministry dealing with an area where we have inadequate resources and it is not competent to deal with.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is in the Recurrent Estimates. This centre continues to advise on building materials and by-laws, as I have said. But the other research activities will be found under the development activities.

Head 418 - Government Housing Section

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 581, Head 418, Item 255 talks about internal repairs and redecorations of voids. As we know, Government houses have never been redecorated. The Minister has asked for Kshs1 billion for redecoration. What is he decorating? We need a proper explanation here. As we know, for the last five or ten years, these houses have never been decorated and this figure is just too much. There is something unsaid under the Internal Repairs and Redecoration of Voids Item - Kshs1 billion. We would like to have an explanation from the Minister.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, hon. Members are aware that we are in the process of handing over lease houses to their owners. The contract is such that as soon as we vacate any lease house, we should bring it back to acceptable standards. This amount of money is intended to put back these houses into their original state as we return them to the owners.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Head 418 on page 581, Item 261 talks about security of rented Government of Kenya houses. The Minister has asked for Kshs180 million from a mere Kshs200,000. The

policy of this Government is not to rent any more houses. What is all this money for?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, secondly, Head 505, Items 200, 220 and 221 show that the Ministry is buying new vehicles and purchasing plant and equipment, yet we are purchasing spare parts for over Kshs44 million. Surely, we need a proper explanation from the Minister before we can vote for this amount of money.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, before the Minister answers on Head 418, Item 261, which is on security of rented Government of Kenya houses, it is common knowledge that the Government of Kenya houses are actually guarded by the administration policemen (APs). How can the Minister justify Kshs180 million for the security of those houses, when another Government Department is providing security and not private security firms?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is not misleading because it states: Security of rented Government of Kenya houses. These are houses which we have leased from private owners. These are the houses which we will soon be surrendering back to them. It will be some time before we give them back to the owners. So, we have to get people to take care of them until such time when we will hand them over to the owners.

Ms. Karua: What about the Administration Police?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we do not have enough Administration Policemen.

Head 505 - Mechanical and Transport Department

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on the same Item, we do have many APs who actually harass citizens of this country throughout the country. We have got APs in every location in the country. Could they not withdraw those APs from the locations so that they can save the Kshs180 million and buy equipment for our roads? Could we do that? I do not think that this House will do justice to this country if it approves this amount of money to pay some external people to guard these premises.

While on the same page, Head 505, Item 100 - Transport Operating Expenses, has been increased from Kshs6 million to Kshs20 million. Is this Ministry in the business of travelling or maintaining roads?

Mr. Mboko: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister tell us the number of houses that will require to be guarded, and for how many months will he require them to be guarded?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as I said before, we may not get enough APs to guard these houses and hence the need for a private security firm being contracted for this purpose. There are 330 such houses.

On Item 100 - Transport Operating Expenses, this is a very expensive Item because, for the time being, we do not have enough machines and we have to hire some transport to carry them to destinations where we want to repair some roads.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. He has not answered the question he was asked.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Could you now proceed and ask the question?

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on the same page, the Minister was asked a question on replacement of new vehicles. You had requested to be given Kshs10 million to purchase new vehicles, and yet you are requesting for Kshs44 million for spares. How does he reconcile the two? He is requesting to be given money to buy new vehicles, and yet he is asking for money to buy spares parts?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is true that I overlooked the question. But we are buying vehicles for districts and the spares are meant for plant.

Ms. Karua: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The Minister has told us that there are---

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I said there are 330 houses but I was wrong. The houses are 3,036.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, still it would mean that each house would require more than Kshs0.5 million in terms of security. Is that amount of money reasonable, and is it not misleading to claim that all this money is meant for security?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, let me ask him a question so that he can answer both of them. Since we are giving the Minister the Kshs1 billion to redecorate the houses, he has been asked the period of time he will take--- Usually, the practice is that when you engage the contractor to go on site, to decorate and paint the

houses, the contractor is responsible for the security of the premises. Why do we need to engage the services of a security firm to guard the premises? Why does the Minister say that he will take three months to complete the exercise? We will give him the money to engage the contractors, who will be responsible for the security of the houses. The contractor will hand over the houses after finishing the work, and there will be no need to engage the services of a security company.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Minister, I think you can see the concern of Members on that area. Could you address it, please?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, to repair 3,036 houses is not going to be easy. We will take one to three months to repair them. This is why we are requesting for these funds.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, he has not answered my observation. It is normal practice that when you engage a contractor, you do not give him security for the work he is doing. Why does the Minister not consider, when awarding the contract, to have a requirement that the contractor is in charge of the security of that particular work?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I said that after the houses have been rehabilitated, before he hands them over, we need the security.

Mr. Mboko: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, each unit will cost about Kshs450,000 to decorate or paint. Is it fair for this country to spend Kshs450,000 on painting a single unit?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): First of all, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not think the hon. Member has done his arithmetic right. This exercise entails quite a bit of work because we are repairing broken windows, panes and painting the house itself.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are trying to assist the Minister. He is one of the few non-corrupt Ministers in this Government and he has got very good officers. They have reduced the cost of building roads by a big margin. We are trying to tell him how he can save more money and provide roads. Could he consider removing this amount on security; maybe by two-thirds or three-quarters, and put it where his Ministry is charged to do the roads?

Under Item 250, Maintenance of Plant, Machinery and Equipment, could the Minister consider giving equitably this amount to all districts in the country; maybe, about Kshs1 million each, so that we have graders working?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): You have made those suggestions to the Minister, because we cannot remove the money now here. Mr. Minister, could you respond to that suggestion?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, if we have to contract the works, obviously, the contract figure for those who will be working on them will still go up. We will end up paying the same amount of money and it takes time. We thought it was prudent to approach it like that. Of course, a lot of these houses have been run down, so we cannot do that.

On the question of distributing money equitably, we cannot do that because in some of the districts, the equipment is okay, and in some, it is bad. So, we cannot distribute money equitably.

(Heads 399, 418, 505, 506 and 507 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 133 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 134 - HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Head 411 - Housing Department

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we know the benefits which the Kenya Government gets from the UN Habitat and Human Settlement. Could the Minister tell us the benefits we get from this contribution to Shelter Afrique of Kshs30 million?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are signatories to Shelter Afrique as a company. Recently, this company paid dividends. The Kenya Government got some dividends which we paid back to offset our contribution. In the future, we hope that this company will assist us. Shelter Afrique is also financing housing development companies in Kenya, which include HFCK, where the Government has some shares.

Head 416 - Provincial Housing Services

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister tell us what the officers working in the Department of Provincial Housing Services do, because we do not see these services at the district level? We should scrap this category of officers. I can quote two or three rent tribunals. Do we need the service of tribunals any more, now that we are liberalised and we have courts that can handle some of these matters?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Provincial Housing Services do the same services at the provincial level; that is advise on housing issues in various provinces. That is why we have these services in our provinces. On the rent restriction, these services are still necessary because these officers listen to cases and arbitrate the disputes.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on Head 416, Item 182, could the Minister tell us what rents and rates are these that are being paid? I thought we pay lease to the Government. Is the Government paying itself rents and rates?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this amount is for the clearance of arrears and to provide for this year's budget. So, the amount does not go to rates only.

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I can see provision for grants to the Kenya Roads Board (KRB) in the tune of Kshs7 billion.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Mwenje, what Head are you referring to?

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am referring to Head 384, Item 288.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! We are not there yet.

(Heads 411, 416 and 423 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 134 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 136 - ROADS

Head 384 - Major Roads

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I can see that the KRB has been allocated a grant of Kshs7.8 billion. Recently, the KRB said that the rehabilitation of Outer Ring Road will start very soon. Has the amount for the construction of Outer Ring Road been included in this figure? If it has not, under which Item has that road been provided for and how much is the provision?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think it would be fair for the hon. Member to ask that question during Question Time. Really, this is the total amount that has been allocated to the KRB. The KRB will disburse this money according to the work plans for the various roads that have been proposed by the various DRCs.

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. If this money is for the KRB, he should certainly know what the KRB plans to do with Kshs7.8 billion. So, he should tell us the amount allocated for the rehabilitation of Outer Ring Road. Otherwise, he should tell us for what the KRB has been allocated this amount.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Minister, specifically, Mr. Mwenje would like to know whether funds for the rehabilitation of Outer Ring Road are part of the Kshs7.8 billion.

Eng. Toro: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Let me raise a small matter on the same issue, so that the Minister can answer both Mr. Mwenje's question and mine.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Yes, Eng. Toro.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thought that the KRB should receive money direct from the Fuel Levy Fund (FLF) and not through the Ministry. Why is the FLF money going to the Ministry first, and then to the KRB?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, actually, the KRB should operate like a parastatal under the Ministry of Roads and Public [The Minister for Roads and Public Works]

Works. That is why it has its own budget line. I simply said that all the FLF money will be channelled to the KRB, which will then disburse it according to the work plans of the various DRCs. The Outer Ring Road will benefit through its routine maintenance and expansion programme. It will be a development issue.

Head 391 - Grants to Municipalities

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Head 391 is provision of grants to municipalities. Has the Ministry stopped giving grants to municipalities? What is the Government's policy now? I can see that the grants given to municipalities are so little. What is happening here, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, basically, that was last year. I am even quoting this year and there is just nothing given to municipalities.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, indeed, there is nothing this year being given to municipalities. What is happening is that all these activities will be run through the Kenya Roads Board. So, the Fuel Levy Fund which was looking after this aspect is now being channelled to the KRB, which will, in turn, give the allocation to the Ministry of Local Government, which will in turn look at that.

Head 393 - Road Works Inspectorate

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 393, on page 588, Items 100 and 110, the Road Works Inspectorate, I have seen that there is transport operating expenses and travelling and accommodation expenses. Could the Minister confirm that the Road Works Inspectorate Department does inspect the works that are going on in the districts? If so, why are we still having shoddy works being done in some parts of the country? I have had occasion to complain about standards of road works in my constituency. What is this department doing?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is a very desirable ingredient to the Roads Department. Inspectorate is very necessary and we are activating this particular department because we want to see all the roads done strictly to the standards. As I said earlier, these practices have been going up haphazardly, but we are trying to bring them under control.

Head 482 - Provincial/District Administration and Technical Services

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you can see that shoddy works are being done, and yet we have got an Inspectorate Department. Could the Minister tell this House whether there are any punitive measures taken against this department for shoddy work done? For example, the Maai Mahiu-Narok Road was constructed recently and it has peeled off now.

Secondly, if you look at Item 110, under that Head, the Minister is saying that we are reviving this department, while it looks like he is reducing the expenditure on the department. So, is he really reviving it by reducing expenditure on it?

Finally, if you look at Head 482, Item 000, Personal Emoluments, there is a very slight increment over last year's allocation. I would have thought that this Ministry would allocate more funds for this Item so that it gets better work done and reduce---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Sorry to interrupt you, Mr. Angwenyi. You are really contributing when you had the opportunity to contribute before the House went into Committee. Ask your question!

Mr. Angwenyi: Could the Minister consider allocating more funds to those two departments and make sure that they do their work?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on personal emoluments, I would like the Minister to tell us what he intends to do on this Item. If you look at page 594, there are posts of District Works Officers. There are over 60 districts, and yet here, they are only providing allocation for 39 District Works Officers. Since we know almost all the districts have District Works Officers, does it mean that the others are not included in this budget?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, there have been too many questions; I do not know whether I will remember all of them.

Mr. Angwenyi was asking about personal emoluments. If I had funds, I would really like to raise the emoluments of the staff because that would improve their morale. But they are also understanding, because of the financial constraints we are facing and so we may not be able to raise their emoluments as much as we would have liked to do.

Regarding the question on District Works Officers, you will find that they are in all districts. There are 39 established posts, while others are on development.

(Heads 384, 386, 387, 391, 392,

393, 482 and 483 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 136 agreed to)

(Vote R13 agreed to)

VOTE D13 - DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 132 - BUILDINGS AND WORKS

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, if you look at Head 404, Planning and Research---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): We are not there yet!

Head 413 - Electrical Department

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are on Head 413 - Electrical Department, Item 298. The Minister is asking us to give him money for "PABX's for other Government Buildings." It has now risen from Kshs24 million to Kshs215 million. Could he explain this rise from Kshs24 million to Kshs215 million?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we got the grant from the Belgian Government, who are assisting us with Kshs200 million, and the Government's contribution was Kshs15 million. This is in order to provide this facility to Government offices.

(Heads 400, 402 and 413 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 132 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 133 - OTHER SERVICES

Head 404 - Planning and Research

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain about Head 404 - Planning and Research, Item 305? What is this "Slum Rehabilitation?"

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is an on-going project at Mathare 4A Slum Upgrading.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I will now put the Question.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you are moving too fast. Regarding the Kenya Building Research Centre, there is an item on Study of Building Materials and Production Processes, which is the bulk of the research. You will find that last year, they had a provision of Kshs1.5 million. This year, they are having only Kshs200,000. This was the issue that we were raising. How do you justify the existence of this research centre when you are not even providing the money to enable them carry out research? Kshs200,000 is peanuts!

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is because the centre had done most of the research and it was at completion stage, and they are now at the implementation stage.

(Heads 399, 404, 505 and 507 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 133 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 136 - ROADS

Head 385 - Other Roads

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that is where Members of Parliament are interested in. That concerns roads. If I could refer the Minister to Head 385 - Other Roads--- If you look at those roads and the Appropriations-in-Aid (AIA), many of them are donor-funded. You can even see the Athi River-Ikutha Road is being

funded by Japan at Kshs120 million. But I would like to specifically ask about the famous Kisii-Chemosit Road, C21, Item 451. This Government has been taking the people of Kisii for a ride. In 1992, when there was imminent general elections coming, they came up with tractors and equipment and pitched a camp at Ikonge.

After the general elections, they moved those things and went away. Come 1997, they camped at Kimera and gave a company called HZ Construction Company the work. But after the general elections, they went away. Now, when there is an imminent general election coming next year, they are saying that the Kisii-Chemosit Road will get Kshs200 million. When I look at the AIA, it is not donor-funded. That money is from the Kenya Government. Where will the Kenya Government get the Kshs200 million from? That is the same game that they have been playing on us! We are not going to take this matter lightly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, let the Minister explain where the Kshs200 million will come from, if he wants us to take the Government seriously?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not know about the elections. But I know that as the Minister, I have a commitment on that road. That is why we have allocated Kshs200 million and we will start working on the road this financial year.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Chairman, Sir. I asked him where the money will come from! Is it from the Roads Maintenance Levy or from the budgetary allocations?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, obviously, where we have nothing from the donors, the Government will provide the funds!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I think the Minister has allocated the money. How would you expect him to know whether it is--- I think he has given you an assurance that the road will start this financial year!

Ms. Karua, proceed to ask your question!

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on the same issue on Head 385, Items 431, 440, 441, 442 and 452, on page 455, all those roads, there is feasibility study, design and consultancy. That appears in every Budget, although not in respect of the same roads. Could the Minister tell us that, that money will not go to waste and that after the study and design, he will provide monies in the next Budget for the works to be carried out on those roads? Otherwise, we will have wasted our money on the study and design, like they did on the Rukenya-Kimunya Road in Gichugu, whose study and design were done in 1993, and it has never really been tarmacked.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as I said, we are very committed and serious on those roads. As soon as the studies and designs are ready, we will proceed to construct them.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, just one more other thing about the Kisii-Chemosit Road. I can see that there was an amount of Kshs60 million used in the past year, but I travelled on that road and did not see anything being done! Where was the money spent? The Kshs200 million will not be enough. I know the amount will be passed by the Government. Could the Minister confirm here that as we pass this Vote, the tractors and the people will move to the road and start doing the work?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have already answered that question. The Kshs60 million is meant to settle pending bills and do the tender documents for that road.

Mr. Ndwiga: On the same Head 385, Item 452, Emali-Oloitokitok Consultancy, could the Minister consider extending this study to Taveta so that we can open up the border town?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Taveta Road has already been allocated funds.

Hon. Member: Where?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): I will tell you in a minute.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, last year, the Dundori-Ol Kalou-Njabini Road had been allocated Kshs15 million for feasibility studies. I can see that this year, they have allocated Kshs12 million. Could we know from the Minister why he is allocating Kshs12 million more, and were the feasibility studies done last year?

(Mr. Too stood up in his place)

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Just hold on, Mr. Too. Let us get the Minister to respond. There are two pending questions. Mr. Githiomi, could you repeat your question?

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am asking a question on Head 385, Item 431 on the Dundori-Ol Kalou-Njabini Road. Last year, the road was allocated Kshs15 million for feasibility studies. I can see now

that it has been allocated Kshs12 million. Could the Minister---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): But, Mr. Githiomi, where are you reading Kshs15 million?

Mr. Githiomi: I am saying that last year it had been allocated Kshs15 million, and now---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): But last year, under that Item, it is "nil", and you are saying it was Kshs15 million. Am I not reading well? Where are you getting the Kshs15 million?

Mr. Githiomi: I am saying that because we passed Kshs15 million in the Estimates. I remember, because the road is in my area.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Let us go by what is on record.

Mr. Githiomi: Could we know from the Minister whether the feasibility studies have been done and whether the Kshs12 million is meant to start the feasibility studies now?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W. C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as the figure suggests, the feasibility study on the Dundori-Ol Kalou-Njabini Road has commenced.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Yes, I think so.

Mr. Too: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, on the same Sub-Vote 136, Head 385, Item 505, Kipsigak-Serem-Shamakhoko Road, and Item 521, Gambogi-Serem-Jeprok, could the Minister consider removing Item 521 and allocate the money to Kipsigak-Serem-Shamakhoko Road because they have already done Gambogi-Serem-Jeprok Road on which they are allocating some money and our people are really suffering due to the bad state of Kipsigak-Serem-Shamakhoko Road?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we intend to carry on with Kipsigak-Serem-Shamakhoko Road. That amount of money allocated for the Gambogi-Serem-Jeprok Road was to settle a pending bill for last year. Otherwise, we [**The Minister for Roads and Public Works**] intend to do this Kipsigak-Serem-Shamakhoko Road.

Head 489 - Miscellaneous (RARP and GBC)

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, last year, we were told this Roads 2000 Programme which is contained in Items 448, 453 and 455 would have started on 1st July, 2000, but to date, we have not seen it and it was covering my area. Do we have it or not?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Roads 2000 Programme went on in some areas and in others it did not go ahead. However, this depended on the receipt of the funding from the donors.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, do we expect it this year and if so, when is it going to start?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we will start as soon as we receive the money as shown in the Printed Estimates.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, there is also a fundamental question which had been raised, and the Minister refused to answer it when he was replying. What is the standard cost of tarmacking one kilometre of road in Kenya, so that I know, if this Kshs400 million is given, it caters for how many kilometres of Kisii-Chemosit Road? At least, yes, you said it depends on the type of soil and so on, but there should be some average. How much does it cost to tarmac one kilometre of road in Kenya?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think I would rather handle that during Question Time because the question of cost per kilometre was a general one and I gave the reasons on why we could not standardise on it.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I think that is a fair answer.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you heard me commend this Ministry. They have really done a good job. These days they are paying very little and that is why Asians are moving away from construction work. Could you say that, maybe, you could do 25 to 30 kilometres approximately?

(Laughter)

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I still stand by my earlier reply that I answer that question during Question Time.

(Heads 384, 385, 488 and 489 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 136 agreed to)

(Vote D13 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without amendment)

(The House resumed)

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Muturi) in the Chair]*

REPORT

VOTE 13 - MINISTRY OF ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Musila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am directed to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding Kshs2,827,240,700 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2002, in respect of Vote 13 - Ministry of Roads and Public Works, and has approved the same without amendment.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. W.C. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Eng. Rotich) seconded.

(Question proposed)

Eng. Toro: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am sure the Ministry officials who are here today - the Ministry is very well represented - have noted the problems that hon. Members of Parliament are going through, because of poor infrastructure. We are going to give the Minister money to use to improve infrastructure. We are not going to give him the money to misappropriate. You cannot point out what the Ministry has been doing over the years. As Mr. Angwenyi has said, Indians are now pulling out of roads construction contracts because there is less money in it. That is a fact.

We would appeal to the Minister and his Permanent Secretary, who is here, to make sure that during this financial year, they do not disappoint Kenyans. It is our sincere hope that the team that is in the Ministry, and which is led by the Minister - we know the Minister is a straightforward person, unless he changes this year - will make sure that we have efficient management of the resources that are going to be given to the Ministry. We would like them to look into the possibility of increasing the Vote during the next financial year. The amount of money that is going to be passed today is not enough.

I hope the Minister will do his best so that the queries that are brought to this House concerning his Ministry are minimised.

Mr. Mkalla: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, whereas we are going to approve the budget for the Ministry of Roads and Public Works, and we also have a lot of confidence in the management team at the Ministry's headquarters, the Ministry should look at its officers at the grassroots level. The officers at the grassroots do not apply themselves properly to their job. The workmanship at the grassroots level is very poor. You will find that road engineers at the district level do not even supervise the jobs which are done there. There are some bridges built by donors, which are now covered by logs and water does not flow through. Nobody has noticed this for two years, yet the grassroots officers are on the ground. I would request the Minister to make sure that he supervises his subordinate staff so that we do not continuously get poor workmanship.

Those who are given contracts should also make sure they construct drainage systems along the roads. A lot of roads do not seem to have good drainage systems. **Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is not debating time, but I would like to point out a few issues which we observed at the Committee Stage. First, Kenya is ranked among the top corrupt countries in the world, especially when it comes to road construction. The Minister, who has been commended as being one of the few Ministers who are not corrupt, does not even tell us how much it costs to tarmac one kilometre of road. I am sure that if the construction cost comes down, even private investors will come into the country. I would like to ask him to check on this issue.

Secondly, on the Kisii-Chemosit road, which has not been completed to date, I expected the Minister to tell us that they have found a donor. This is because from time immemorial, the road has been built using Government funds.

Many times, after the road has been done half-way, they say that the Government does not have money; the country is experiencing famine and *El Nino* rains, and construction of the road does not even start. We have allocated Kshs7.8 billion to the Kenya Roads Board. I expect the Minister to get some of this money to start building this road. The Minister has allocated Kshs200 million towards the construction of the road, and the people of Gusii expect him to start constructing it.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Ms. Karua: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have one point I would like to make. While I am ready to support this Vote, I would like to ask the Minister to watch out so that the DCs do not "swallow" the money we have voted today. In particular, he should ensure that the tenders for the roads are transferred from the District Tender Boards to the District Roads Committees, where hon. Members of Parliament can act as watchdogs. Otherwise, we will suffer again, a spell of bad infrastructure.

I would also like to appreciate the improved infrastructure the people of Gichugu are enjoying.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 2nd August, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.55 p.m.