

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 7th August, 2002

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

The following Papers were laid on the Table:-

Report of the Committee on Powers and Privileges of Parliament

(By Mr. Kihoro, on behalf of the Chairman)

Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations on its visit to Russia.

(By the Chairman (Mr. Musila))

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF POWERS AND PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Kihoro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Chairman of the Powers and Privileges Committee, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Committee on the Powers and Privileges of Parliament, laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, 7th August, 2002.

ADOPTION OF DEFENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Musila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations on its visit to Russia, laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, August 7th, 2002.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mwangi Kiunjuri's Question!

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I ask this very sensitive Question, I would like to notify you that I have not received the written reply to it.

Mr. Speaker: Order! There is nothing like "sensitive Questions". All Questions before the House carry the same weight.

Question No.444

LIST OF DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Kiunjuri asked the Minister of State, Office of the President, whether he could table the names of all District Commissioners (DCs), giving details of their work stations as well as their districts of origin.

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

I will table a list of the names of all DCs, containing details of their work stations as well as their districts of origin.

(Mr. Kochalle laid the list on the Table)

An hon. Member: He should have read out their details first!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! The Assistant Minister has been asked to lay on the Table the names of the DCs and their details. That is what he has done.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very much disadvantaged. I do not have a copy of the list the Assistant Minister has tabled. Since the DCs are not more than 50, could he read out their names and other details, so that we can formulate our supplementary questions? Nobody knows what that list contains. So, with your indulgence, could he read out the names on the list?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! First of all, Mr. Kiunjuri, that is not the Question you have put to the Assistant Minister. The Question before the House reads as follows: "Could the Minister table the names of all District Commissioners (DCs), giving details of their work stations as well as their districts of origin?" The Assistant Minister has done exactly that. The only thing I would like to know from the Assistant Minister is why he did not provide hon. Members with copies of the written reply.

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you realise, I came a little bit late because I was waiting for this reply at my office. So, I urge hon. Member to go through the list I have just tabled.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kiunjuri, can I defer the Question to tomorrow?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that will be very okay.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Between now and tomorrow, you and other hon. Members interested in the Question can study the list that has been tabled. Please, Mr. Assistant Minister, in future, ensure that hon. Members have copies of the written replies to Questions in advance, so that they are not disadvantaged.

(Question deferred)

Let us now proceed to Mr. Sifuna's Question.

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I ask the Question, I would like to correct the name appearing on the second line of part (a). The correct name is "Michael Auma" and not "Michael Aumo".

Question No.423

RESULTS OF TRADE DISPUTE

Mr. Sifuna asked the Minister for Labour:-

(a) whether he is aware that Messrs. Christopher Mulongo, Daniel Torori and Michael Auma worked for M/s United International Investigation Services Limited of P.O. Box 34270, Telephone No.242320, Nairobi, for 22 years, 10 years and 6 years respectively;

(b) whether he is further aware that their services were terminated without payment of terminal benefits; and,

(c) what the findings of their trade dispute, Ref.ML/IR/2/104/2001, were.

Mr. Speaker: Where is the Minister for Labour?

An hon. Member: He is in hiding!

Mr. Speaker: We will come back to the Question.

Let us proceed to the next Question.

Question No.445

COMPENSATION FOR CHILD'S DEATH

Eng. Toro asked the Minister for Water Development:-

(a) whether he is aware that two-and-half-year old Waithera Rachael fell into an uncovered water tank belonging to Kandara Water Scheme on 30th May, 2002, as a result of which she died;

(b) whether he is aware that the Kandara Water Scheme Manager has refused to cover the said water tank, thus exposing other children to the same fate; and,

(c) since the death of the child was due to the negligence of the manager, whether he could

compensate the parents for the loss of the child.

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

(a) I am aware that two-and-half-year old Waithera Rachael fell into an uncovered valve chamber of two metres in length, and not into a water tank, belonging to Kandara Water Scheme on 30th May, 2002, and died as a result of drowning.

(b) I am not aware that the Kandara Water Scheme Manager has refused to cover the said valve chamber. I am, indeed, aware that the scheme manager has already placed a cover on the valve chamber. The said valve chamber, therefore, no longer poses any danger to other children.

(c) The death was not caused by the negligence of the officer, but rather by the rampant vandalism of the valve chamber covers by the residents of the area, who remove or steal the valve cover chambers from time to time, even after they are replaced by the scheme manager. The residents have stolen the covers of manholes in most the break-pressure tanks and valve chambers, numbering about 350. Even when these covers are replaced, the stealing is repeated. On several occasions, the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation, which is the water undertaker, has been cautioning local residents on the dangers of drawing water directly from break-pressure tanks and valve chambers, but the residents continue to do the same. In a situation where the water supply facilities have been vandalised, the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation cannot be blamed for the death of the child due to negligence. Therefore, the issue of compensation does not arise.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has attempted to answer the Question. The emphasis he has put on the difference between valve chamber and water tanks is not necessary because both of them are water containers. The Assistant Minister has misled the House by saying that the valve chamber covers have been stolen by the area residents.

Mr. Speaker: Eng. Toro, it is Question Time!

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me ask my question now. The valve covers are made of concrete and the area residents cannot steal concrete covers. So, I do not know why the Assistant Minister has said that the valve covers were stolen. The issue is that the water tanks were left uncovered. So, could the Assistant Minister tell the House why these water tanks were left uncovered and why the family of the late Waithera cannot be compensated?

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not talk about chambers having been stolen, but the valves. Secondly, the issue of compensation does not arise because the parents of the late Waithera were illegal users of the facility and, therefore, were also involved in the vandalism. Therefore, the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation cannot compensate them.

Mr. Kihoro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation is the ultimate owner of the Kandara Water Scheme. Indeed, what is happening, not only in Kandara Constituency but across the country, is that the Corporation is unable to provide water to the people because of its failure to repair pipes, chambers and other infrastructure. Could the Assistant Minister consider handing over this project to the people of Kandara Constituency, who will take of it and ensure that no other children will drop into the chambers?

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether the hon. Member is declaring the Corporation unfit to provide water services because of this incident. We shall consider handing over the scheme to the people of Kandara constituency on application.

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know this water tank; I have been there and I even attended the funeral of this child because her parent's home is near my home. So, I know the whole story. Kandara Water Scheme prevented the owner of the land from covering the tank. It said that it would cover the water tank, which it never did. The family of the late Waithera is entitled to compensation. The Assistant Minister should not dilly-dally. He should tell us how the Ministry will compensate the family of the child who died after falling into the open water tank.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if a person dies after falling into a hole which was dug by a company such as the Kenya Power and Lighting Company, his family is compensated. Why is it that Kandara Water Scheme cannot compensate the family of the late child? Kandara Water scheme should hand over the project to the area residents because it has been unable to run it. The area residents are not getting water now.

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Mwenje has raised quite a number of points. As I stated earlier, there is illegal use of the facility.

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order! You will sit down and listen!

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the parents of the late child have not been exonerated from illegal breaking of the pipes and stealing of water chambers. As I said, it is not right to blame the Corporation. The Corporation will not, therefore, be held responsible for the death of the child. We are sad about it, but the Corporation did not contribute to the death of the child.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very sad that the Assistant Minister has avoided the issue of compensation. I visited this area together with hon. Mwenje, and the fact of the matter is that we are the people who gave some money

to the concerned family to make a concrete slab to cover the open hole. This hole was very dangerous. It is not true that 350 covers were stolen as alleged by the Assistant Minister.

I would like the Assistant Minister to tell the House what the area residents would do with concrete slabs if they stole them. They are not steel covers, but concrete slabs. So, if they stole them, what would the area resident do with them?

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will repeat that the area residents did not steal the slabs.

Mr. Speaker: By the way, we do not use the word "steal" here because none of you can prove that something was stolen. This is unparliamentary language. So, could you use a more appropriate term?

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for the caution. The area residents did not remove the slabs, but the valves. Therefore, as I have earlier put it, if the area residents apply---

Mr. Kihoro: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has not described what happened. You outlawed the use of the word "steal", and he does not have any other word to use for it.

Mr. Speaker: Maybe, nothing happened!

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, something happened. I substituted the word "steal" with the word "remove". I think that is a better word. If the area residents applied to be caretakers of the water scheme, the Ministry will accept their offer.

Question No.108

MEASURES TO RESOLVE TEA CRISIS IN GUSII

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Anyona not here? We will come back to this question later.

Question No.412

DELAY IN AWARD OF ROAD TENDER

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

(a) whether he is aware that the tender for construction of Road C19, Homa Bay-Kendu Bay, which was advertised two years ago, has not been awarded to any contractor; and,

(b) what has caused the delay in the award of the tender.

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

(a) I am aware that the Ministry advertised a notice for prequalification of contractors for the improvement of Kendu Bay-Homa Bay Road, Road C19, about two years ago.

(b) The delay in the award of the tender was caused by change in procurement procedures. Therefore, the time taken has been much longer than anticipated.

Mr. Otula: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have heard the Assistant Minister confirming that the tender was awarded two years ago. Could he tell this House when the contract will commence and how much money has been earmarked for it?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tender has not been awarded. The Ministry advertised a tender notice and the sequence of events is that the prequalification submissions were received at about noon on 16th January, 2001. The exercise of valuation is complete. We hope that by the end of this calendar year, the contractor will be on the site. But we have not awarded a tender for this road.

Mr. Sifuna: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You have heard the Assistant Minister telling this House that it has taken the Ministry two years to award a contract. Could he tell this House what the technicalities are that have taken two years to be resolved? It does not even take two years to mark an examination. Could he tell us what these technicalities are? Has he now resolved the technicalities, if there were any?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has changed the procedure for awarding tenders, but they have been resolved and we hope that the tenders will be returned to us and opened around the end of September, 2002.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is avoiding to answer the supplementary question which was asked by hon. Otula about the amount of money earmarked for this particular road. He is talking about awarding of tenders. We are not asking him whether the tender has been awarded or not; we are asking him to tell us how much money has been earmarked for this particular project.

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not safe to disclose that because if you state the engineers' estimates in a tender, it is not very safe.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Muihia!

Question No.335

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE
ON FOREIGN LAWYERS

Mr. Muchiri, on behalf of **Mr. Muihia**, asked the Attorney-General:-

- (a) why the Government has hired foreign lawyers to act on its behalf in the case filed against it by World Duty Free Company Limited, now pending for hearing at the Hague;
- (b) how much money has been paid to date as legal fees as well as travel and accommodation expenses for persons who have undertaken work in connection with the case; and,
- (c) what actions he has taken to have costs and damages arising out of the case settled.

The Attorney-General (Mr. Wako): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) This is an international commercial arbitration which was registered and is being conducted under the auspices of the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes. It raises complex issues of law and fact, and seeking compensation in the region of US\$500 million, which works out to about Kshs40 billion. It is in the interest of the Republic that persons with the requisite experience in such international arbitrations be appointed to act on behalf of the Republic of Kenya under the guidance, of course, of the Attorney-General of the Republic of Kenya.

(b) To date, a sum of Kshs61,281,606 has been paid as legal fees as well as travel and accommodation expenses to advocates acting for the Republic of Kenya.

(c) The case has yet to be heard and determined and, therefore, the question of paying costs and damages does not arise.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is more than 40 years since the Kenya School of Law was established. Is the hon. Attorney-General telling the whole nation that this country has never produced lawyers who can go and defend this case internationally?

Mr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, unfortunately, as far as international commercial arbitrations are concerned, in the entire Africa, south of Sahara, there are very few advocates or lawyers who have handled such complex international commercial arbitrations except one of them I am glad to say, is the Attorney-General of the Republic of Kenya when he was serving in the private sector.

(Laughter)

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important case and it speaks volumes about our governance. Is it only the Government which is being sued or there are private citizens or Government officers who have been enjoined in this suit? Secondly, who is paying for their representation?

Mr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is only the Republic of Kenya which is being sued.

Mr. Kihoro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I also inform the hon. Attorney-General that I am a qualified arbitrator from London. I know you have got a lot of contempt for---

Mr. Speaker: Can you fill that gap?

Mr. Kihoro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I can be given instructions by the hon. Attorney-General, I can represent my country with a lot of loyalty. I am not going to be a mercenary like those who have been paid Kshs61 million just to represent negotiations, compounding claims and making sure that they go their way. Could the hon. Attorney-General inform this House what are the names of the foreign lawyers who are involved because there is a possibility that the claim could well be settled with the amount which is being claimed?

Mr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, let me say here and now that this case is being strenuously defended, and that the issue of a possibility of the amount being paid out of that arbitration process does not arise. Secondly, if any amount will be paid, then it will be if they succeed. However, as I told you, the Republic is being properly defended by competent lawyers, under the guidance of the Attorney-General of the Republic.

I am glad hon. Kihoro is an arbitrator and I did not know that because there are very few such fellows. Are you a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London?

Mr. Speaker: The two of you will not engage in personal talk. You can do that in your offices, but not here.

Mr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, but I would say that if he is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London then let him see me and I will deal with him in my capacity as the Vice-President of the London Court of Arbitration.

Mr. Speaker: Last question, Mr. Muchiri!

Hon. Members: Mr. Muihia has come.

Mr. Speaker: Sorry, he gave away the Question unless he stands there and says he did not!

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Attorney-General inform the nation how the case arose and what are the facts in the issue?

Mr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very reluctant to discuss details of this case outside the forum of the International Panel of Arbitrators who have been appointed to hear this case.

Mr. Speaker: I think very wisely. Next Question, Mr. Kimeto!

Question No.403

DETERMINATION OF KERICHO LAND CASE

Mr. Kimeto asked the Attorney-General:-

(a) why the Court Case, Kericho HCC No.13 of 1996, between Koiyet Co-operative Society and Kiprotich Arap Kigen has taken long to be heard and determined;

(b) how many land cases of the same nature are pending for more than ten years without judgment in Kericho, Buret and Bomet districts' courts; and,

(c) if he could employ enough judges to deal with land cases for every district in the country.

The Attorney-General (Mr. Wako): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Parties to the Court Case, Kericho HCC No.13 of 1996, in which the Government is not involved have contributed to the delay in determining the case. They have kept recording consents to this effect.

(b) The following land cases of the same nature have been pending more than ten years without judgement: Kericho - HCC No.19 of 1992; Buret - none and Bomet none.

(c) Delays in determining land cases have been caused partly by parties to the cases. It is not currently possible to have a judge for every district in Kenya. However the established posts at the magistrates level were recently increased by over 80 and, hopefully, this will assist in expeditious disposal of the cases.

Mr. Kimeto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this case No.13 of 1996 was referred to the High Court of Kenya in 1996, and Mr. Kiprotich arap Kigen and Koiyet Co-operative Society have been very anxious to know when it will be determined. The Attorney-General has not indicated the time frame within which this case will be heard and determined. Will it continue this way as long as these people exist, or there will be a time frame within which this case will be heard and determined? Why has this case taken so long to be determined; from 1963 to date? Is this Government working?

Mr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am afraid to say that, that will continue to be the case until the advocates themselves take steps to diligently prosecute this case. The case was last mentioned or came to court for hearing on 25th October, 2000, and advocates of both parties stood over it, generally.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I think either yesterday or the previous day, I gave guidance on this matter. I will not accept this kind of thing before the House any more. Deal with the advocates directly. We will not have advocates sitting there not doing their job and you want to make the House the arbiter, or the Attorney-General the advocate of individual citizens. That is the end of that Question.

Next Question, Mr. Sifuna!

Question No.423

RESULTS OF TRADE DISPUTE

Mr. Sifuna asked the Minister for Labour:-

(a) whether he is aware that Messrs. Christopher Mulongo, Daniel Torori and Michael Auma worked for M/S United International Investigation Services Limited of P.O. Box 34270, Telephone No.242320 Nairobi, for 22 years, 10 years and 6 years respectively;

(b) whether he is further aware that their services were terminated without payment of terminal benefits; and,

(c) what the findings of their trade dispute, Ref.ML/IR/2/104/2001 were.

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Chanzu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for coming late to answer this Question. However, I would like to request that it be deferred until tomorrow when we will have got a satisfactory answer.

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no objection as long as he gives a satisfactory answer.

Mr. Speaker: The Question has been deferred to tomorrow afternoon.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Anyona's Question for the second time!

Question No.108

MEASURES TO RESOLVE TEA CRISIS IN GUSII

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Anyona still not here?

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I believe Mr. Anyona is indisposed. I think he has gone to see his doctor and maybe that is why he is not here. We know that Mr. Anyona is a stickler to the rules of this House. I would request you to defer his Question.

Mr. Speaker: The Question is deferred

(Question deferred)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

DESTRUCTION OF MANGA ESCARPMENT FOREST

(Mr. Anyona) to ask the Minister for Environment:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that the Clerk of Nyamira County Council has cut down trees and destroyed Manga Escarpment Forest in Kitutu Masaba?

(b) Who authorised the Clerk to destroy the forest and for what purpose?

(c) What legal measures will the Minister take against the Clerk and all those involved in the destruction of the forest?

Mr. Speaker: This Question is also deferred.

(Question deferred)

Next Question, Mr. M.A. Galgalo!

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION
IN NANIGHI LOCATION

Mr. M.A. Galgalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Environment the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that gypsum mining companies are causing enormous environmental degradation in Nanighi Location of Tana River District, and leaving uncovered pits that have killed several animals?

(b) Has the Minister ever received environmental damage impact assessment report on this particular gypsum mining by Athi Stores?

(c) What benefits have been derived from the project compared to the environmental damage caused so far?

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resource (Mr. Kimkung): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that enormous environmental degradation has been caused by gypsum mining in Nanighi Location of Tana River District, nor that animals have been killed by pits left uncovered by the mining.

However, I am aware that companies licensed to operate in the area have made pits which remain uncovered until the operations in the particular site are over. In accordance with the conditions of their licences, these will be rehabilitated after the exploration and all mining operations have been completed. Compliance with this requirement will be monitored strictly under the Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act by my Ministry and NEMA. The licensees have placed a bond with the Government for that purpose. If any animals are killed as a result of these pits, the owners are entitled to compensation by the licensee in accordance with Section 26 of the Mining Act, Cap.306 of the Laws of Kenya. If such licensees fail to pay on demand, the owners may refer the matter to me, and if it cannot be sorted out amicably, it may be referred to a court of law. As explained earlier, no party has reported such incidents to me. The Tana River District Environmental Committee will visit the area to verify the situation and advise accordingly.

(b) According to Subsection 58(1) of the Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act, environmental impact assessment study is only undertaken with respect to a mining operation, and not with respect to prospecting or exploration activities. Messrs. Athi Stores Limited have only an exploration licence which was issued on 29th May, 2002. However, I am aware that Messrs. Athi Stores Limited, before they were granted their licence, had been working in an area belonging to another licensee by the name Thomas Nzioki Nzuma. During that time, the requirement that an environmental impact assessment study be conducted before mining operations can commence was

not in force. The company is no longer working in that licensee's area due to misunderstanding which has ended up in a court of law.

I do not expect to receive, therefore, an environmental impact assessment report from the company until they reach the mining stage of their operations.

(c) When Messrs. Athi Stores Limited were working in Nzuma's area, they employed local people, built schools, dispensaries and paid to the Tana River County Council a total of approximately Kshs4.5 million as gypsum cess. No amount of compensation or benefits can replace the need to conserve and protect the environment. All mining proposals require environmental impact assessment study, and a feasibility study of the subsequent mining project need to be undertaken in advance of the mining operations.

Mining would not be allowed unless the studies indicate that the negative impact of the proposed project will be mitigated and the project could have benefits to the community, the country as a whole and the investor. In this regard, an environmental audit will be undertaken after the field inspection report by the Tana River Environmental Management Committee.

Mr. M.A. Galgalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant has given a very lengthy statement which contains nothing. Under the Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act, no mining shall ever take place anywhere until the environmental impact assessment report has been received. Gypsum mining is just like any other mining. Why would the Assistant Minister not undertake to stop this mining operation until that report is produced for the good of this country?

Mr. Kimkung: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier, the mining took place before the Act was in place.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the Assistant Minister is completely misleading this House. The fact of the matter is that the environmental impact assessment study has not been carried out. If this company is still mining, which is against the Act, what is he doing to make sure that this stops?

Mr. Kimkung: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, the pits that exist and remain uncovered in Nanighi Location must be the ones that were dug in the location of Thomas Nzioki Nzuma, apparently by Messrs. Athi Stores Limited and other operators. Subject to the court case filed by Thomas Nzioki Nzuma against Messrs. Athi Stores Limited, the parties will be instructed to rehabilitate the affected areas.

Mr. M.A. Galgalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not sure whether the Assistant Minister understands what he is saying because the mining is taking place in the same location and the pits are left uncovered. He is not enforcing the Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act. Could he order that company to stop mining tomorrow to allow for adequate investigations?

Mr. Kimkung: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, no environmental damage impact assessment study is required of M/S Athi Stores because their current licence, No.207, granted with effect from 1st June, 2002, is for prospecting and exploration purposes only. If indeed the mining is taking place, we have instructed the District Environmental Committee to go to the site and give us a report and action will be taken accordingly.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question!

ALLOCATION OF LAND TO SQUATTERS

(Eng. Muriuki) to ask the Minister for Lands and Settlement:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that there are plans to divide and share out land L.R. 11322, which is Government land, in Gathanje Location of Nyandarua District, among some individuals and leave out hundreds of landless squatters who are former workers of the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya?

(b) In view of the sensitivity and shortage of land in Nyandarua District, what urgent action is he taking to ensure that some of the land is reserved for allocation to the desperate squatters on the land?

Mr. Speaker: Is Eng. Muriuki not here? The Question is dropped.
Next Order!

(Question dropped)

POINTS OF ORDER

NON-ISSUANCE OF MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Mr. Karume: Mr. Speaker, Sir, about two weeks ago I asked for a Ministerial Statement from the Office of the President and the Assistant Minister promised to give a statement by Tuesday, last week. Up to now, we have not heard anything about it.

Mr. Speaker: Is there anybody from the Office of the President?

(Mr. Raila was applauded as he entered the Chamber)

Order! What is it?

An hon. Member: The "president" has come!

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry, Mr. Karume, there is nobody from the Office of the President. Mr. Mugeke!

RE-SETTLEMENT OF MUKURU SLUM DWELLERS

Mr. Mugeke: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to seek a Ministerial Statement from the Minister of State in the Office of the President. In April, slum dwellers in Mukuru went to the Provincial Commissioner's office to seek alternative settlement for the slum dwellers living near the river bank. The PC indicated that he would look into the matter. A week later, the PC said that he had identified a plot near Balozzi Estate and said that those slum dwellers living near the river bank would be settled there. He indicated that priority would be given to the old women and men who had been living in that area.

When the settlement exercise started, only about 45 elderly people were settled there. The plot that was identified is about 47 acres. The Provincial Commissioner's office set aside about 15 acres for the administration. The whole piece of land was surveyed and the plots numbered 647 in total. The farmers and the slum dwellers who had been promised plots have not yet been settled. The PC set aside 150 plots, and some of them are now being sold. I would like the Minister in the Office of the President to clarify the matter because it is wrong for the PC to use the farmers and slum dwellers to grab a plot of 47 acres. The plots are now being sold at a cost of between Kshs100,000 and 200,000. The PC has about three agents who collect about Kshs500,000 every day. He is doing this instead of settling the slum dwellers. I would like the Minister to clarify the matter.

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 46 - Ministry of Tourism and Information

(The Minister for Information and Tourism on 6.8.2002)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 6.8.2002)

Mr. Speaker: Eng. Toro, I think you were on the Floor. You have five minutes.

Eng. Toro: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. As I was saying yesterday, the issue of the KBC has left a lot to be desired in this country. You are aware that the Ministry of Tourism and Information has more or less totally refused to liberate the airwaves. In fact, those applicants who want to broadcast nationally have been restricted to a very small area. The KBC operates and is funded by taxpayers. The taxpayer is entitled to the benefit of a variety of choice. We have never heard the Minister for Finance say in his Budget Speech that those areas that are discriminated upon by KBC in terms of coverage, especially Opposition areas, should stop paying taxes. Opposition zones have taxpayers. Any department of the Government that is funded by the taxpayer should not be discriminatory. The Minister should tell Kenyans what he will do about the KBC. Every time Opposition Members of Parliament hold public rallies, you will never see any KBC reporter there. Why is the KBC discriminatory in offering its services?

As an hon. Member said yesterday, the only time that the KBC is not biased is when it is reporting parliamentary proceedings. At other times they are completely biased. Any Member of the Opposition who calls the

KBC to come and cover any function is usually disappointed. Why is it that the KTN and the Nation TV and radio are ready to cover the rallies and functions of Opposition Members of Parliament and yet KBC is not ready to do so, yet the KBC is funded by the same people who are denied services?

The Minister for Tourism and Information should be very categorical in implementing the IPPG reforms of 1997, which assured Kenyans that there would be no discrimination when the KBC is covering Members of Parliament and other political parties. This agreement should be enforced. We are nearing election time, where we will have many presidential candidates. It will not be a surprise that the only presidential candidate that will be covered in his campaign trail will be the KANU presidential candidate. I would like the Minister to assure this House that equal coverage will be given to all presidential candidates in the forthcoming general elections.

The issue that is of concern is the revival of the tourism industry. The tourism industry is one sector that should be given due attention by the Minister for Tourism and Information. As I pointed out yesterday, this country needs to earn foreign exchange. Quite a big amount of foreign exchange is required so that it can be channelled into various economic sectors for the revival of our economy. This cannot be done, especially now that our foreign partners have withheld their aid. Over the years we should have been able as a Government to rely on domestic borrowing and identify other ways of earning foreign exchange to fund our capital projects, in the absence of aid from foreign donors. The Minister needs to look into the possibility of the revival of the tourism industry in the whole of Coast Province.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

Mr. Kihoro: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand to support the Vote for the Ministry. I must say that this is one of those Ministries which have been going down and down. At one point in our country's economic history, tourism was the second highest foreign exchange earner. I understand that it has now gone down to number three after horticulture. The amount of Kshs750 million allocated to this Vote is not much. I know hon. Members have compared the amount of money that is going to this very important Ministry that is in charge of ensuring that we have enough tourists in this country, to other Ministries. It is very little money compared to what is being given to other non-productive departments like the National Security Intelligence Service.

More money should have been given to this Ministry. I know they have handled more money previously. I know that in 1998, the Kenya Tourist Board (KTB), just one of the arms of this Ministry, received Kshs900 million from the STABEX funds. There was a proposal that was accepted - forwarded by the Government - and it gave the KTB, then under the chairmanship of Muigai Kenyatta, that money. I know that there is very little to show about what was done with that money. But it is important for the KTB to do more work in terms of promoting the tourist trade in this country and also ensure that there are local investments by our own people in ownership of hotels and tours that the tourists engage in. That is a very important area because my fear is that despite the fact that there is a lot of money in the tourist trade, you might find very little ends up in this country. We know what happens most of the times.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, tourist hotel chains operate in this country - the Hotel Intercontinental, Hilton and many others - and it is possible, indeed, to have money paid outside of this country, and we end up just providing our service here, where tourists' only come with pocket money. We would want to see tourists money being paid here and packaged tours being managed from here. That is the only way we can ensure that we do not only end up providing a service when the money is being paid elsewhere. That is very important because there is no way we can just allow tourists and tourists as acceptable form of tourism in this country, where tourists only come and enjoy service and disappear without paying money to our local hotels. They also employ our own labour and use our own vehicles. That is very important. That is when we would bring tourism again to what it was previously.

The domestic tourism is also a very important area, and it should be encouraged by this Ministry. Indeed, I know that some coffee farmers - more than 150 coffee farmers from Nyeri - have already travelled by air and they have stayed in tourist class hotels at the Coast, and I know how much they are appreciated by the hotel managers and hotel staff at the Coast. My people from Nyeri end up meeting people they have not met in their lives; some of them are 70 years old. Also, people at the Coast are very welcoming, and they should have that opportunity of interacting more with people from upcountry.

In terms of domestic tourism, Kenyans should be allowed to travel as much as possible, and concessionary rates should be made available. Some sugar-cane farmers have travelled with me from Western Kenya to the Coast - from Nzoia and Muhoroni - and I know how much people do appreciate when they end up in the Coast. They would say: "For the length of my life, I have never been here, and this hon. Member has given me an opportunity."

I am talking about the need to encourage domestic tourism in this country, and have rates that enable our people to stay in the first-class hotels at the Coast. This, especially, can be done because tourism is a seasonal trade, and there are very many times when you find that tourists from Europe and America, or Japan -indeed, if there are any - do not come to this country. So, you end up having people being laid off at the Coast, services being terminated and hotel rooms being locked for months without people using them, such that even when tourists come later on, you will find that it is difficult even for the rooms to be occupied by them. If only we did connect foreign tourism with local tourism and have them operating in a complementary way, at least, it would be very beneficial.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we can also export "utalii education." I know that, previously, Utalii College has been

receiving and educating students from the neighbouring countries. Indeed, tourism is one of those areas where we can expand Utalii College and, indeed, make not only the college self-sufficient, but also another earner, and a reputable college where students would come from across the world and learn about our tourism trade.

The national physical infrastructure leaves a lot to be desired in terms of the development of our tourist trade. We know the state of our roads; how they have been over the years. I know that hon. Members have been demanding that we turn the Mombasa-Kisumu Road into a dual carriageway. That will be a very big improvement, but I know that is like day-dreaming in a world where we have a Government that does not care. The A109 Road that was left by the colonialist undeveloped over one century ago, we still remain "beating the old path." It would be very important if we can seriously think about how investments can be put in form of making the Mombasa-Kisumu highway a dual carriageway.

If you have travelled to other countries, you would know what I am talking about. You will find that you do not have to go to Europe to find the benefits of dual carriageways. You will find today that many countries, in terms of safety and durability of roads, are accepting that having a dual carriageway and also removing some of the heavy trucks that are 40 tonnes on the roads, and putting them on a highway where they will be traversing areas which are not densely populated, might be a way of preserving the roads that we have. But dual carriageway investment is going to ensure that the road that we have, to and from Mombasa, is going to last longer. I know parts of it have been constructed very recently by one Chinese company. It is a fantastic piece of road. I know that it has got a guarantee of nearly 40 years, but making the road dual carriageway would be very important.

Also, the question of a local air travel is very important in terms of promoting our own tourist trade. I know that there are flights like British Airways which have been running on a franchise flight from Nairobi to Mombasa. But, indeed, whatever arrangements that could have been done with Air Kenya or any other franchise holder in Kenya, I think there should be a prohibition on allowing a foreign company like the British Airways to come and ferry tourists and Kenyans from Nairobi to Mombasa. There is no way you will be allowed to do that in Britain; from London to Manchester, or London to Edinburgh. Indeed, because I know that some people find it very difficult to go through this Government--- I find it almost impenetrable. But some people have found it very easy to operate. That is why they are able to get a licence and, indeed, feed it in, sell it to foreigners and they make money out of that. There should be a prohibition on flights by British Airways when they fly between Nairobi and Mombasa. I believe they could be flying very soon to Kisumu.

The question of security for tourists is also very important. We know that a number of tourists have been killed in this country from the time of Julie Ward to the most recent case in the Aberdares, and also other more recent cases. Security for tourists and Kenyans is also very important. Indeed, when Kenyans are insecure, it has a spillover effect; tourists also end up being insecure. Let us have mutual security for all. There is no way we are going to have security for tourists only; let us have this concept of mutual security for all. That is the only sustainable concept. There is no way you can have security for one segment of the population, or one segment of foreigners travelling in this country, and not have it for local people. That is what this Government should be emphasizing. Let no other tourist be killed in this country. That is the only sure way of advertising our country.

I beg to support the Vote.

Mr. Badawy: Asante sana, Bw. Spika, kwa kunipa nafasi hii. Ni vigumu sana kujua mwelekeo wa Kenya Tourist Board katika juhudi za kukuza hii sekta ya utalii. Hilo ni jambo muhimu sana, kwa sababu, mpaka sasa---

(Loud consultations)

Bw. Spika, nafikiri ungekomesha kelele ambazo ziko hapa nyuma, tafadhali!

Ni muhimu sana tuwe na imani katika umuhimu wa Kenya Tourist Board. Imani hii inafaa ionyeshwe kwa vitendo, baada ya miaka mitatu ama minne tangu KTB iwekwe katika sekta hii ya utalii. Sioni kama lilikuwa jambo la busara kutii ile amri ya wafadhili waliotoa pesa chache, kwamba zirudi kwao kwa kuweka consultants wa kufanya zile kazi ambazo zingeweza kufanywa vizuri sana na watu ambao wanajua hali ya utalii hapa nchini kuliko wageni, ambao wanajaribu kukuza utalii wetu kule London, New York na kwingineko. Hayo ni baadhi ya mambo ambayo yanatushangaza ilhali pesa zinaendelea kutumiwa kugharamia nauli ya kushughulikia hayo mambo. Hatujapata fikra mpya juu ya utalii dhidi ya yale mashindano tunayokumbana nayo katika sehemu mpya za utalii ambazo ziko ulimwenguni. Kama nilivyotangulia kusema, fikra zetu zimefunikwa na clashes. Mpaka leo tunazingatia clashes kama sababu ya pekee ambayo imedimiza utalii hapa kwetu.

Bw. Spika, infrastructure, kama ilivyoelezwa na wenzangu wengine, ni jambo muhimu sana wakati huu ambao tunatarajia utalii utafanikiwa. Pahali kama Malindi, Kenya Power and Lighting Company imeanza mtindo wa kukata stima kila usiku na mchana kule Malindi. Hawakufanya marekebisho wakati tulipokuwa na watalii wachache, ndiposa kuanzia mwezi wa Julai hadi sasa, karibu kila siku Mji wa Malindi unakosa stima. Sijui jambo kama hilo litaendeleza utalii namna gani.

Barabara ya Malindi hadi Mombasa ni mbovu wakati ambapo tunasema bado tuna hamu Malindi iwe na

uwanja wa ndege wa kimataifa. Hilo ni jambo ambalo hakika, linafaa lijadiliwe, kwa sababu, labda tungejiuliza kama ni nafuu wafanyabiashara watumie magari yao kwenda kuleta watalii Mombasa au tuwe na uwanja wa ndege Malindi. Hilo ni jambo ambalo inafaa tuangalie kwa makini sasa wakati ambapo mapato haswa kwa wananchi yanaendelea kupungua.

Bw. Spika jambo lingine la kukuza utalii na kuwapa motisha wale ambao wanafanya biashara katika sekta ya utalii ni juu ya STABEX funds. Utalii pia ni biashara ambayo inaleta foreign exchange hapa nchini. Kwa hivyo, inafaa Wizara ya Utalii na Habari na idara zinazohusika na utalii ziingalie ni vipi tunaweza kunufaika na STABEX funds.

Ninasikitika sana kwamba mpaka sasa, tunaendelea kudharau ushirikishi na ushirikiano wa wenyeji katika sekta ya utalii. Kule Pwani inaonekana kwamba biashara ya utalii ni ya wageni. Kutoka hoteli kubwa, usafiri, mambo ya baharini na hata biashara nyingine ndogo ndogo zinafanywa na wageni. Tumepiga kelele kila siku, lakini hakuna mabadiliko mpaka sasa.

Sababu nyingine ambayo imewekwa kama kisingizio cha kudidimiza utalii ni beach boys. Kule Malindi, tumeshirikiana na Wizara ya Utalii, na Wizara ya Utawala na Serikali kwa jumla, kuona kwamba tumekuwa na control ya beach boys, kiasi cha kwamba, ndio mji wa kwanza katika Mkoa wa Pwani ambao umekubaliana na mwongozo uliowekwa na Wizara ya Utalii, tukishirikiana pamoja. Lakini, je, tumeunga mkono juhudi hiyo kiasi gani? Watu maskini ambao wanatarajiwa kutafuta riziki wamepatiwa uwanja baharini na kuambiwa wajenge soko wenyewe. Hawa maskini hawana pesa za kutosha, ndio sababu soko lile halijaweza kuanza, na halitaanza kwa muda ambapo Serikali haitaona haja ya kuwasaidia wale watu ambao wameonyesha moyo wa kuelewa na kukubaliana na yale ambayo yanafikiriwa kwamba ni sababu ya kuzorotesha utalii. Wamekubali kuchukua viwanja, lakini hakuna usaidizi wanaopewa. Sikitiko kubwa ni kwamba hata upangaji wa lile soko umefanywa kiholela, kiasi cha kwamba, ile mandhari ya ufuo wa Malindi imeharibika kabisa. Unaweza kufikiri kwamba ni jela, gereza au mtaa mwingine wa mabanda, kwa sababu kumejengwa kiholela kwa namna ambayo ile sura nzuri ya ufuo wa bahari wa Malindi imeharibika kabisa. Hali hii inaweza kurekebishwa ikiwa tutazingatia kwamba, kwanza hiyo ni huduma moja nzuri kwa wananchi, na pili kwamba, hata sura nzuri ya ufuo na mji ni kivutio katika utalii.

Bw. Spika, jambo lingine ambalo limeangusha wafanyabiashara na beach operators ni kwamba, waliahidiwa kwamba muda tu watakapohama ufuoni na kuwa tayari kuja katika soko ili kufanya biashara - na kama nilivyosema, wameonyesha moyo kwamba wako tayari - wale wafanyabiashara wageni wa biashara ndogo ndogo hawatapatiwa leseni tena. Sikitiko ni kwamba, mpaka sasa, jambo hilo halijatekelezwa. Kwa hivyo, tunatarajia jambo gani zaidi ya wale watu kurudi kule ufuoni? Inafaa tujifundishe somo ya kwamba, kuwakamata wananchi kila siku na kuwapeleka kortini siyo suluhisho la matatizo. Ikiwa tunasema kwamba utalii una manufaa kwa nchi, inafaa tuyaone manufaa yale yakirudi kwa wananchi wenyewe. Ikiwa manufaa kwa Wizara ya Utalii na idara za Serikali kwa jumla ni kuwakamata wananchi kila siku na kufukuzwa na askari, tunaweka fikra mbaya juu ya utalii. Tumejazwa na fikra mbaya kwa wananchi kwa sababu tunaona ya kwamba biashara ya utalii ni biashara ya wageni na wala siyo ya wananchi. Kazi ya wananchi ni kufanya kazi kama Waiters katika hoteli. Na hata zile kazi ambazo watu wetu wanafundishwa katika Chuo cha Utalii kama vile animation, front office management na kadhalika, ni sikitiko kubwa kwamba zinafanya na wageni mpaka leo. Hata tunajiuliza maana ya Chuo cha Utalii.

Ni kweli tunafurahia kwamba vijana wetu ambao wamehitimu katika Chuo cha Utalii wanapata kazi katika nchi nyingine. Hii ni furaha kubwa sana. Aliyewapatia watoto wetu kazi katika nchi nyingine amefanya jambo la maana sana kuwaokoa watoto wetu wasikae bila kazi. Baada ya Serikali hii kugharamia masomo yao, huku wamenyimwa kazi; zinafanywa na wageni.

Bw. Spika, tumefahamishwa kwamba, kuna Local Agenda 21 ya UNEP, na nafikiri Serikali yetu na sisi wenyewe tunawajibika zaidi kuangalia ni mambo gani yatasaidia watu wetu, badala ya kuachia UNEP peke yake. Ikiwa Local Agenda 21, kama ilivyoielezwa na UNEP, itatekelezwa na kufuatwa kwa maslahi ya wananchi kupitia local authorities, tutafanikiwa. Lakini, je, tuna ujasiri na moyo na nia ya kuweza kuitekeleza hiyo agenda? Kwa jumla, ni lazima Wizara ya Utalii na Habari ielewe kama tunavyokariri mara kwa mara ya kwamba, roho nzuri na kuelewa kwa wananchi juu ya umuhimu wa utalii itapatikana siyo kwa kuhubiri makanisani, misikitini, redioni, majukwaani ya siasa na mikutano ya wakuu wa Serikali; itaeleweka zaidi ikiwa wananchi wataona manufaa wanayoyapata. Ni aibu kwamba, leo, miaka 34 baada ya Uhuru, zile kazi za utalii ambazo zilikuwa zinafanywa na wananchi haswa kawa upande wa usafiri; kuwapeleka watalii katika national parks na marine parks, zinafanywa na wageni. Kule Malindi, hakuna mwananchi hata mmoja ambaye anafanya kazi ya usafiri ama kazi yoyote ambayo imefungamana na utalii. Huu siyo kwa sababu ya kwamba watu hawataki kazi hizi, ama hawaelewi, lakini ni kwa sababu ya ule uhusiano ulioko baina ya wale wanaoleta wageni kutoka nje hadi humu nchini. Kuna uelewano kwamba kazi zile zote zifanywe na wale wenye mahoteli. Wenye mahoteli wanasafirisha wageni kwenye chartered planes, wanauza vitanda na chakula, na kupeana huduma zote za hoteli. Yule mwenye hoteli huwasafirisha watalii kutoka airport hadi hoteli na pahali popote wanakotaka kwenda. Hata local tours zinafanywa na magari ya ile hoteli, ilhali wananchi hawana kazi ya kufanya. Boats za marine parks nyingi ni za wageni zote, ukodishaji wa baiskeli unafanywa na wageni, na butcheries zinaendelezwa na wenye hoteli. Watu wengine ambao walikuja hapa nchini kama watalii leo wanafanya kazi humu nchini. Hatujui wana leseni na permits za aina gani za Idara ya Uhamiaji. Kama mambo haya hayawezi kurekebishwa,

kutakuwa na kazi ngumu kuwafahamisha wananchi faida za utalii. Ikiwa mwananchi hataelewa faida ya utalii, hatakuwa tayari kusaidia sekta ya utalii. Na ikiwa mwananchi hayuko tayari kusaidia sekta ya utalii, wataanzisha clashes, kuwaibia watalii na kuwafanyia fujo, na kutoshirikiana na Serikali kwa jambo lolote ambalo linahusiana na utalii. Wananchi watakuwa na negative attitude kwa jumla, na hawataona haja ya kuunga mkono utalii.

Kwa hayo, ninaunga mkono.

Mr. Michuki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion. Tourism used to be a very fascinating industry. It used to be one of the valued services that this country used to provide to visitors. But when you look at the Estimates of this Republic of Kenya, the amount of money given to the Ministry of Tourism and Information is just a proportion of what is being set aside in many countries to promote tourism purely on one item, and that is marketing. Therefore, I am saying that the provision is peanuts in terms of the task ahead of this Ministry. That is one point that I wanted to make.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, to add to that, those who read the *The Economist Magazine* would see that even Mr. Tony Blair himself has now stopped over-travelling in order to concentrate on the promotion of tourism in Britain.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the major problems in tourism is lack of understanding on the part of the Government, as to who is playing which role in tourism! You have the investor with his brick and mortar. You have the tour operator who requires a room of ten feet by ten, a fax and, maybe, a secretary. You have other people who have invested in vehicles and tents and so forth. Yet, the controller of tourism in Kenya; the person the Government feels it needs to consult, is the person with a ten by ten feet room and a telephone. His investment is almost nil, and yet he is the one who is holding the owners of bricks and mortar at ransom; paying them what is due to them, many months after the money is due, when he, himself, had been paid six months before the visitor came to Kenya. That is the problem that the Government must rectify. Unless that problem is rectified, the industry will continue to disappoint, falter and go down. That is the other point that I wanted to make.

The third point that I would like to make is that, it is almost six or seven years that the industry has faced a lot of problems. The properties that were built many years back require renovation now and yet, the owners of those institutions do not have money because there has been no business for the last six or seven years. At the same time, the actual credit rating of Kenya is so low that really, you cannot get any meaningful money, either overseas or locally, to amortise over a period of, say, five or six years. Therefore, the Government must now come up, like in many other sectors - because all the sectors of the economy of Kenya are in shambles - and assist the tourism industry. I would suggest that, instead of using other criteria, it is time that the Government went head on and got money from STABEX, in order to distribute to those hoteliers who want to renovate their hotels in preparation for the necessary de-classification. That is because you cannot classify the hotels now because they are in terrible condition and need to be renovated before they can be classified, so that, as a Ministry and country, you can say that hotels from this class to this class will not charge less than so much money per night, like they are doing in Mauritius and other places, to ensure that the exploitation that we have had by tour operators and people like that do not continue any more. Therefore, we need funding very urgently.

There is money out there within the European Community. I do not know why there is reluctance on the part of the Government to go out there, get that money and get the industry going. That is the other point that I wanted to make.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also wanted to mention that taxation is going to kill the industry, and it is another problem. If you look at the rate per room and apply the taxes that are there, you will see that about 22 per cent of what you charge for the room goes into taxes. Food and other services are taxed. It is time that the industry was assisted. It is time that the industry was given tax respites if it has to be revived. There is no other way the industry will be revived, unless and until it has been assisted by the Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is also the problem of flights from many countries. If I may declare my interest, I am in that business. As you know, I own Windsor Golf and Country Club, which is a 130-room hotel. Because of the game of golf, I have been approached by many owners of charter flights; that if they can be allowed to land here in Nairobi, they will be bringing me 300 persons per week! That is because they cannot land in Mombasa and take trains which are dilapidated and carelessly guided to Nairobi! They do not want to take that risk. Again, they do not want to fly from Mombasa to Nairobi when they could have landed here in Nairobi. I tried to get the Minister for Transport and Communications until I gave up!

Finally, I want to stress the importance of security in tourism. Nobody is going to pay his money from the United States of America (USA), Japan or China, to come here and get clobbered by the police, who pretend to be

vagabonds at night! Therefore, they will go elsewhere. So, security is very important if you want to promote tourism, even if not for all Kenyans. If you want to promote tourism, then make sure that you give security to tourists, even if you have no time for your own people!

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Angwenyi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to this very important sector of our economy.

Kenya's economy is in shambles. Our economy is in shambles because the backbone of our economy, which is agriculture, has declined. The only way we can turn round our economy is by investing and promoting service industries. The most important service industry in this country, which can turn round our economy, is tourism.

Recently, I had a chance to travel to the far East. We travelled to China, where more than 28 million people go overseas as tourists a year. We also travelled to Korea, where more than six million people travel overseas as tourists. We went to Japan, where more than 13 million people travel overseas as tourists. We discovered that in those three countries they have no protocol with Kenya for their tourists to come to this country. They told us clearly that they have a protocol, or have signed an agreement with Egypt and South Africa. One of these countries has signed an agreement with Senegal.

In China, they estimated that if we had a protocol with them and organised our airlines, we would have, at least, one million tourists in this country from there per year. Egypt makes US\$5.5 billion a year from the tourism industry, while South Africa earns US\$4.3 billion a year from this industry. I have discovered that Senegal earns US\$1.5 billion a year from the tourism industry. In fact, in Senegal, tourism is the kingpin of their economy. So, why can Kenya not invest and promote itself to, at least, the level of Senegal? This is a country which has no other resource. Why can we not do this? In order for this economy to turn round, we should invest substantially in tourism. Our Budget should allocate, maybe, Kshs3 billion, Kshs4 billion or Kshs5 billion a year to the tourism industry. If we did that, I can guarantee that we would earn ten times that money in one year. The Chair can imagine this country getting one million tourists from China, 200,000 tourists from Japan, and another 200,000 tourists from Korea. This means that we would get about 1.5 million tourists. If each and every tourist spent US\$1,000 in Kenya, you can imagine how much money we would get from them.

I am saying that we should invest in tourism and promote activities which can generate income to this country, so that we can create employment and market for our products. How do we invest and promote tourism? We need to promote our hotels and restaurants; we need to maintain our road network to tourist attraction sites, we need to develop and improve our existing tourist attraction sites, and we need to open up new attraction sites.

The Chair will recall that when we went to China, we spent quite a lot of money visiting the "square", the Forbidden City. How much money is generated by people visiting the Mausoleum of our late President? We do not generate any money from there. In fact, we spend money to guard it from even local tourists. So, I am saying that we should invest in this industry and promote it. We should have tourist officers and marketers in those countries. That is the much I would like to speak on tourism.

Before I leave that item, there is the Catering Levy Trustee (CLT), which the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has been trying to take over for the last three years, as if it is not doing a good job. That body is doing a very good job. At least, the CLT maintains the Kenya Utalii College, which does a very good job. I wish this college could be expanded and the admissions done in a transparent manner. That institution is doing a very good job and we should invest in it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will now turn to the Department of Information. That Department has been abused beyond limit. That department has the Kenya News Agency officers all over the country. This department has also got District Information Officers all over the country, but they do not perform a simple thing for this country. Their reporting is biased. They are actually a political outfit of some favoured people in the governing party, KANU. These officers can report on a small-time activist, who is, in fact, a con man instead of reporting on somebody who is a representative of the people. They listen more to the DCs, DOs, chiefs and assistant chiefs than they listen to the people's representatives.

We have the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC), which will always cover our Head of State. On Saturday, they covered the President of the Republic of Kenya for 20 minutes, when the other news items took about three minutes. That is the type of outfit we have got out there.

The KBC has never covered the only declared presidential candidate in this country, Mr. Nyachae, since he was nominated by his party in December, last year. This is the case, and yet he is a citizen of this country, a taxpayer and running for the highest office in this country. Not a single function conducted by Mr. Nyachae has been covered by the KBC. The KBC hardly covers the Leader of the Official Opposition, who garnered 1.9 million votes in the last general election. This is the case, and yet the KBC covers activists or con men in Kisii, such as the Nyamweyas and the Asanyos. These are thieves!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Angwenyi!

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying people who take other people's things.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! You know it is against the Standing Orders---

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw that remark and apologise.

I am saying those people who take other people's things from the Nairobi City Council and other places. These people are covered by the KBC, which does not cover the Leader of the Official Opposition. They started giving coverage to Mr. Raila recently, and I think they will stop. That is a person who commands a lot of support in this country. You could see what he did over the weekend. There were many people who met him in Kitale and Eldoret, and the KBC can still not cover him. That is the kind of attitude we have got in this country. In fact, we should abolish it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the Presidential Press Service, we have got Mr. Lee Njiru who behaves like a Prime Minister!

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Poghiso): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not think the hon. Member is in order to discuss the character of a public servant who cannot defend himself in this House. Is he really in order? If he wants to discuss the character of Mr. Lee Njiru, he should bring a substantive Motion here!

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that person earns what I pay and what other people pay as taxes. I must discuss what he does for this country! What does he do for this country, except to write negative reports against other people in this country? Why has the Ministry not licensed the Nation Media Group, the Kenya Television Network (KTN) or any other media group to broadcast television and radio programmes throughout country? Why do we give Nairobi a lot of advantages such as telephones and broadcasting stations and not other parts of the country? If the KBC continues that way, we should abolish it.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Katuku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to adopt the last part of the contribution, by Mr. Angwenyi, on KBC. The time which the KBC spends talking about certain individuals going to church and other places is enormous. They should spend that time promoting the activities of the Ministry of Tourism and Information. If they could spend ten minutes talking about the Ministry of Tourism and Information, then we could have positive progress in the performance of this Ministry. This is a very important Ministry but it has not been given the necessary support by the media houses. If we gave this Ministry the necessary publicity--- I wish the Ministry could spend more money on publicity so that other countries can know much about tourism in our country. That will help to promote local tourism. I do not know whether the Ministry has made deliberate efforts to promote local tourism. If you ask Kenyans about what happens in this country, they cannot tell you. We have been told of individuals who spend billions of shillings to travel to Kenya. If you dared to check the number of Kenyans who spend money to visit our parks, you will find that it is a very small fraction. It is high time the Ministry took deliberate efforts to promote tourism not only to *Wazungu* out there, but also to Africans. I do not know whether the Chair has ever spent money to travel to our game parks and visit big hotels in this country. The hotels are just meant for *Wazungu*. We need to promote local tourism. We could earn a lot of money from our local people. We must promote all tourism-related activities. My constituency is the heart of curio business in this country. That is where the wood carvings you see everywhere, in European countries and major hotels, originate from. It all began in Wamunyu Market. I have never seen tourists visiting Wamunyu Market, which is only 100 kilometres from here, to see those wood carvings.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the curio business, which was stationed in the City Centre, is no longer there. That business has been relocated to somewhere behind the Central Police Station. Which tourist will go there? What is the Minister doing about that? Tourists would like to buy those wood carvings but they cannot do it in that place! Recently, in Mombasa, I talked to most of the curio business people at the Akamba Handcraft Centre in Changamwe. Tourists do not go there because there is no information about that centre! Why is the Ministry not promoting that centre? The major hotels in Mombasa are the ones stocking such wood carvings! Those hotels should not be allowed to deal in such small business! Those who are interested in those carvings should be allowed to go to the place where they are produced, for instance the centre at Changamwe. We should promote those people. Those who used to sell their curios in the beaches have been pushed out. Why can the Government not allocate a place for them? Most of the time, they are harassed and arrested. They should be stationed somewhere so that, when tourists come around, they can go to a central place where there is security and buy whatever they want. That business has now been controlled by a few people who buy those curios from the common *mwananchi* and stock them in a big hotel. At the end of the day, they will sell an item, which they bought at Kshs100, at US\$10. That is exploitation of our people! We must promote the local people who are doing that business.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, even though we are talking about security for tourists, you cannot guarantee security even for yourself. Security in this country has been compromised! The other day, we had policemen who are supposed to provide security for Kenyans, hijacking vehicles in this City. We have said that before but Ministers come to this House and defend them. The other day, they were arrested in Industrial Area when they hijacked a truck and took it to Zimmerman. Security in this country is non-existent because the Government is not

sensitive to the plight of civil servants. What do you expect from a police officer who is paid Kshs4,000 and is given an AK47 rifle to guard properties worth millions of shillings? I do not know how much the Chair is paid, but I would like to imagine that the Chair is well-paid. I am not talking about the occupant of that Chair at this particular moment---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Katuku! Just stick to the debate and leave the Chair alone!

Mr. Katuku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can leave the Chair alone. But I am talking about the individual who is well paid but allows a police officer, who is armed with an AK47 rifle, to go and provide security to certain persons and properties, while he has left his child in the house who has been sent home because of lack of school fees, which amounts to Kshs30,000. How do you expect that officer to raise that money? He will use the same AK47 rifle to get money! If we want security to improve in this country, we must consider what we are paying our security personnel. If we want corruption to end in this country, we must consider what we are paying other civil servants.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Catering Levy Trustee and the Kenya Revenue Authority collect a lot of revenue for this country. Those people who collect revenue in the Kenya Levy Trustee are paid peanuts! Those people collect millions of shillings from hotels and yet they are paid Kshs5,000 per month. What will prevent such persons from being compromised by those hotels? We must be serious if we want to improve security in this country and by extension, be able to guarantee the security of our people and tourists if we want the economy to improve.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, next year, the National Alliance for Change (NAC) government will be the one moving the Vote of this Ministry and I will be in that government. The NAC will be in power and you will see a lot of changes in this country. You will see the amount of money which we will allocate to this Ministry. Look at what has been allocated--- When the NAC government comes into power and I hope the Chair will be there because there will be a lot of difference---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Katuku, leave the Chair alone!

Mr. Katuku: But, I am only wishing you well! I hope you will be in the Chair to see the allocation which we will give this Ministry, so that it can provide what is required. Go to the parks and see what is happening!

The other day I was at Amboseli National Park; the roads there are just like the roads in your constituency. Sorry, like the roads in my constituency.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, Mr. Katuku!

Mr. Katuku: The roads in Amboseli National Park are like those in my constituency, and that is what I am saying. They are worse than any other roads you can imagine, and we expect tourists to go to those national parks. We must allocate more money to this Ministry so that it can improve roads in national parks and make them passable, and guarantee security there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is interesting when you look at the way we promote our tourist activities out there. For example, the other day, I went to one of the Western countries. When you go to the embassy and you want to know what is being done about our tourism industry, nobody is bothered! The officers who are serving our Ministries out there; among other duties they are performing, they must have deliberate ways of selling our tourism industry out there, and that way we can get more tourists coming into this country. I want to say that, any officer who goes out there to serve in our embassies, he should have some training to know what attractions are in Kenya, and what we can sell to them. Some of the officers do not know even what we have here in Kenya and where it is found; where we can encourage tourists to come and see attractions. We need to have these people trained so that they can promote our tourism industry out there.

Thank you. I hope you will be in that Chair during the next government.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Motion on this Vote.

If you go to the streets and ask any ordinary Kenyan, be it a man or a lady, what kind of change he or she wants to take place in this country; the answer that you are likely to get is the reduction of poverty. Poverty is so rampant in Kenya that it is the talk on everybody's lips. Before, people used to talk about the weather, but now the talk is about poverty. Poverty has pushed most Kenyans to a point where they can barely breath. To make it worse, it is increasing in spite of the Government's declaration to fight and reduce it.

Poverty is directly linked to the performance of the economy. The weaker the economy, the high the poverty levels. We must, therefore, strive to manage our economy better, if we are to achieve the Government's stated objective of reducing poverty.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are a lot of similarities between managing a successful commercial enterprise and managing the country's economy. In the business world, they talk about key result areas. The key result areas are the 10 per cent of the operations of a company that are responsible for the company's 90 per cent turnover; the 10 per cent that is responsible for its performance. The remaining 90 per cent are attended to, but the allocation of resources is proportional to the returns. We have to borrow a leaf from commercial companies so that we can put our

resources where they are likely to be most productive.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this country, tourism qualifies to be a key result area. I am saying so because it is the second largest foreign exchange earner after the agricultural industry. Last year, tourism earned this country Kshs24.2 billion from 994,000 tourist arrivals only. Supposing we were, indeed, to invest, as we should, in this key sector - I support Mr. Michuki on this point - and we got five million tourists, we would get, at least, Kshs120 billion to Kshs130 billion a year. If we worked even harder and got, say, ten million tourists, we would be talking about getting more than Kshs250 billion, which is more than the revenue this country collects per year. It is obvious, therefore, that we have to go out of our way to develop this particular industry. It is not difficult to get the number of tourists increasing---

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, countries like Spain get more than ten million tourists a year.

An hon. Member: But they are advanced and have got a comparative advantage over our country!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Yes, you can say that they have got comparative advantage over Kenya because they are in Europe and, therefore, they are near rich European countries. But if we worked harder and did our homework properly, we would compete and even beat them. For example, we have a lot of advantages over them; we have game parks with very many different animals. We have beautiful sceneries in the Rift Valley and mountains all over the place. We have people of different cultures that are nearer nature, which a lot of people from developed countries would like to come and see. We have several lakes, some of which have a lot of birds; like lakes Nakuru and Baringo, which these tourists can come to see.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have got hot springs which are not used! In Europe, people travel long distances to go and immerse themselves in hot water from springs that are underground. Here in our country, hot springs at Olkaria and Hell's Gate are just wasted because nobody goes there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we share, with Uganda and Tanzania, the second largest fresh water lake, namely, Lake Victoria, which is the source of River Nile, but we are doing nothing with it. If we developed tourism there, people would visit it and even try to fish the Nile Perch. In Mount Elgon, there are caves. We are told that during the night, elephants go to those caves and dance. Really, anybody would want to see elephants dance.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Lake Turkana, we have the cradle of mankind. People would want to know where man came from. We have all these tourist attractions plus many more others. We actually have sufficient tourist attractions if we could develop them. We are not developing these attractions. That is why we have a problem. Therefore, we must have a plan of developing tourism as the leading service industry in this country.

In order for us to achieve this, we must improve our infrastructure, so that tourists can travel by road to see our sceneries. As they travel by road, they spend on food, thereby leaving money behind. So, that way, more of tourists' money will remain in the country. I am happy about the newly founded Kenya Tourism Trust Fund, which I understand will be used to promote the construction and expansion of small hotels. This Fund should be given an extra amount of money. The Kshs156 million that has been allocated for development of tourism is not enough.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, somebody has talked about Kenya Utalii College. If you visit countries within the Eastern and Central African region, you will realise that most of the hotel managers in those countries are graduates of Kenya Utalii College. We should, therefore, promote the College to a fully-fledged university to cater for the tourism industry. If we develop our tourism sector, we will not have to beg the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for money all the time. We can actually have the Kenya we want.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Maitha: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Motion on the Vote of the Ministry of Tourism and Information.

I realise that this Ministry has not provided funding for any projects this financial year. The Ministry of Tourism and Information, for instance, ought to conduct some research and establish its needs with a view to improving its service delivery to the public. The Ministry should be well equipped in order to effectively inform Kenyans. The Ministry has a transmission station at Bombolulu, which is in my constituency. I have been informing the Ministry about the dangers that transmission station poses to the people in that area. Environment specialists have criticised the location of that station within the residential area of Nyali. Normally, radiation is not good for the environment. The transmission station at Bombolulu has created a lot of problems to my constituents. Especially, the males within that area have been adversely affected by the radiation being emitted by the equipment at that station.

Hon. Member: Could you elaborate?

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the point I am trying to make is that any transmission station emits radiation which affects the male reproductive system. It is likely that victims of such emissions cannot even get children. Time and again, the location of the radio transmission station within Bombolulu residential area has been condemned, but the Minister has not made any effort to have it relocated; he has not provided any funding for that exercise in this year's Budget.

Mr. Parpai: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You must have heard Mr. Maitha say that the reproductive systems of his male constituents have been affected. Could he substantiate this allegation? As a

man, I am beginning to fear visiting his constituency.

(Laughter)

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a research has been conducted on the radio transmission station at Bombolulu. The radiation covers a radius of about one kilometre. People living within that radius---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! Mr. Maitha, was the research you are talking about conducted on the radio transmission station or on the men living around that area?

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the research was conducted on the radiation the station emits into the environment. It is the radiation emitted by the station which affects the male reproductive system. The Ministry has been alerted many times on the dangers these emissions pose to residents living within a radius of one kilometre. The station, which is within a residential area, should be relocated to a place far away from Nyali area, so that my constituents are no longer exposed to the harmful radiation it emits.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, every Ministry must conduct research with a view to developing new projects to meet its needs. Looking at its budget, the Ministry does not indicate that it intends to improve---

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would not want to interrupt my friend, Mr. Maitha, but would I be in order to ask whether his use of the word "male" in this context includes female also?

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I have said is based on a report by environmentalists, which dwelt on the effects of the radiation being emitted by the radio transmission station on the male reproductive system. I would not want to go into the details of that report. However, in a nutshell, the report explains how testosterone in the male reproductive system can be affected by radiation. So, in their report, the environmentalists recommended the relocation of that radio transmission station to a non-residential area. Therefore, I urge the Ministry to take note of this recommendation and remove the radio transmission station from Bombolulu, which is now a residential area. In fact, the Ministry of Lands and Settlement has issued title deeds to residents of Bombolulu and Nyali areas of Kisauni.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I come from an area with a lot of tourist attractions. However, there is need to consolidate the laws governing the operations of the Ministry of Tourism and Information. As it is now, some of its functions have been taken over by other departments, leaving it with very few functions. Recently, the Ministry formed a security unit known as "Tourist Police Unit", which is not provided for in law. The Act governing the operations of this Ministry does not provide for the creation of a police unit. Actually, this unit should be put under the relevant Ministry. You will find that the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), which has the mandate to take care of national conservation areas, is under the Office of the President. A KWS ranger will arrest a fisherman along the beach, who has been licensed by the Fisheries Department. The Fisheries Department was established under a law passed by Parliament. When the fisherman is taken to court, his lawyer and the lawyer representing the KWS will be in conflict because the law allows the department to license people to fish along the beach, yet the KWS prohibits it. You will find that there is a lot of confusion in the Ministry of Tourism and Information because it has not been given the mandate to take care of national parks. You will find the Office of the President has assumed most of the responsibilities in the management of game reserves and fisheries, which are supposed to be combined in the tourism sector. The Ministry has only been mandated to market our tourism potential, but has not been mandated to deal with other areas which are looked after by the Office of the President.

The Minister for Tourism and Information is a lawyer and will agree with me that most of the Acts that govern operations in his Ministry are being interfered with by other departments. In fact, some of these departments should be under the Ministry of Tourism and Information. You will find that money is given to the Kenya Tourist Board to market tourism, but its Act does not make it strong enough to market tourism properly. Recently, I was in Israel and Egypt and I found that the Minister in charge of tourism is in charge of all tourism activities. There is an Act of Parliament which gives the Minister power to deal with all tourism activities. In fact, he is the only person who deals with tourism issues in Parliament. He is the spokesman of the Government on tourism issues. In Kenya, you will find that a lot of departments are involved in tourism activities, for example, the KTB, KWS and the Office of the President.

The World Tourism Organisation and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) agreed that tourist destination countries should work on destination management and organisation. Kenya cannot manage its tourism sector properly because of the duplication of responsibilities, which makes it very difficult for the Ministry to operate; there is a lot of interference from other Government departments. It is my sincere hope that tourism will be properly marketed in Kenya. We should also ensure that our local people get a share of the money which is collected from tourism.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute

to the debate on this Motion.

The primary problem that we have in this country is insufficient revenue. Year in, year out, the Minister for Finance stands before this House and informs the country that we are unable to collect sufficient revenue to offer the services that we promise our constituents we would offer. The resources that this country is endowed with are well known. The human resource is healthy and well-trained. We know that this country does not have minerals. We do not have enough minerals to rely on to improve our revenue collection. But one thing that we know is that this country is endowed with fast resources, such as wildlife and tracts of land that the wildlife inhabit. We are also endowed with natural resources, for instance, Lake Victoria. In our geography books, both nationally and internationally, Lake Victoria is said to be the second largest fresh water lake in the world. We are also endowed with a lot of other resources. If we improved them, we would attract tourists from both Africa and other continents. This would greatly improve our revenue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at what has been provided in the Estimates, you will find that it is paltry. The kind of money that is required to improve infrastructure to a level that would make the Western Tourist Circuit viable is more than the Kshs401 million that we are being asked to approve. What we are doing today appears to be ritualistic. We are just giving the patient, the tourist sub-sector, an underdose. With this kind of underdose, we do not expect any improvement in our revenue. When we focus into the future, we are likely to get caught up in the problem of insufficient revenue. I do not know what the Government, and more so this very able Minister, will do to ascertain that sufficient money is allocated to the tourism sub-sector.

All of us are aware that the Western Tourist Circuit was forgotten by the first Government of this Republic. It forgot that even in the tourism sub-sector, revenue could be raised. This is the time to correct such wrongs and the only way of correcting them is to invest heavily in that area. When we make such paltry provisions, for example, Kshs400 million, we do not expect the sector to sprout like the proverbial mustard seed. Money does not behave like seed. You must invest enough money in order to earn enough money. What we have invested in this sub-sector today is unlikely to generate anything sufficient to change the lives of Kenyans. Kenyans who are hungry and poor will continue to be restless and problems of insecurity, tribalism and others that generally affect those who are deprived will be common. Those of us who think that they have something in their homes will remain insecure as long as the general populace is poor.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in previous Finance Bills, for example, the Finance Bill, 2000 and the Finance Bill, 2001, this House had occasion to block the attempt at taking over the revenue collection of the Catering Levy Trustees by the Kenya Revenue Authority. That attempt was stopped because of very valid reasons. Those reasons have not changed, but the Minister and his officers are still trying to play that card. I do not know the reasons - although the Minister will have occasion to give them; he intends to advance this time. But if better reasons have not emerged, the result will be as it has always been in the past.

I want to talk about information dissemination. If you look at the American Constitution, you will find that it provides that there should be freedom of the Press. That freedom has been construed to mean that a government cannot abuse it by using propaganda against its citizens.

In fact, it is a fact that the Voice of America (VOA) is not permitted to broadcast inside America. The propaganda that is used by the VOA is intended to buttress or anchor America against the international community, yet here at home the Government is taking public money and giving it to a public body called the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) and then use the propaganda against its own citizens. Now, that may help the Government in a temporary sense. However, all of us are parents here except for those who may not be married or who may have become parents out of wedlock but the worst thing you can do to your child is to tell him or her a lie. Why is the Government lying to Kenyans through the KBC? Why is the Government misinforming Kenyans? It is a terrible thing and some of these sins are the sins that this country will expiate for one day. You know expiation is the payment. It is a very painful thing. You have to pay for the sins you commit in this country and this Government will one day pay for the sins of a misinformed public.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, some of the misinformation was the basis of tribal clashes and those who died did not die in vain. Their blood will haunt those who killed them and we do not want a situation, as responsible people, where we have a broadcasting corporation that is working against the general public. What this country needs and why I had cited the American Constitution, is because when the federalists were writing the federal papers, they said that they will protect the American Government against fiery orators, demagogues and hooligans and how they proposed to protect Americans against such people, was to educate society so that when you go for elections you choose wisely. You choose people who are able to unite the country; people who are able to stand firm and people who are visionary. However, when you have a public corporation that you are paying for and whose work is to mislead the public, you are doing injustice to this country. If we do not pay for that kind of injustice in our generation, some other generation will pay for it. However, remember that, even if it is your grandchild who will suffer for it, it will still be a Kenyan. So, the time has come for the KBC to rise above that kind of behaviour. If the KBC airs the activities of one politician they are under obligation to air the activities of another politician who is opposed to the behaviour of that

politician. That is when the public can be objective. An objective public is an asset to the country; it is not a liability.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you heard hon. Angwenyi talk about the Presidential Press Service (PPS). The PPS may be serving the current President, but I believe the Office of the President should unite all Kenyans and mobilise them to fight against what afflicts them. That is what the PPS should be doing and not waging a propaganda war against competent and able Kenyans including the Minister who is also a candidate in some race that is going on.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this has to be taken seriously and with those few remarks, I hope this situation will be corrected.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the granting of any money to the Ministry of Tourism and Information for very good reasons. I do not see the need for the existence of this Ministry. I think this Ministry should have been put together with the Ministry of Trade and Industry for the purpose of rationalising the Government. It makes much more sense to have the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry as one Ministry because this country cannot afford so many Ministries. Secondly, tourism is better run by a tourist board which can be a department in the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Regional Co-operation. The Ministry of Information should also not exist as a separate Ministry. Instead we should have the Ministry of Internal Security, Information and Broadcasting because as you see in practice in this country, ever since Independence, information has always been part of internal security whether we like it or not. That is one of the reasons why the PPS is the biggest part of the Ministry of Information and Tourism. All the information we get in KBC is almost from the PPS. So, why are we pretending that we have an independent Ministry of Information and Tourism? What is it doing? All that happens in that Ministry relates to the PPS. So, we should be realistic enough to put this Ministry together under a Ministry of Internal Security, Information and Broadcasting so that we rationalise the Government, we save money and we stop pretending.

I really do think that this is a very serious matter and last time, when we had a Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Regional Co-operation, I thought it was going to stay at that and we had a very competent Minister there, hon. Biwott, running that Ministry. Why he allowed some portfolios to run away from him again to yet another Ministry called Tourism and Information, I do not understand. So, I would try to propose to the Government that, next time they should bring a budget to this Parliament, they bring a budget that says: "We want to vote money for the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Regional Co-operation and another Vote for the Ministry of Internal Security, Information and Broadcasting", and stop this idea of having too many Ministers and Ministries which this country cannot afford.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, having said that, I would like the Department of Information and Broadcasting, and not the Ministry since I have already abolished it in my speech, to educate Kenyans properly. One of the things that they should educate Kenyans about revolves around the economic problems facing this nation. We have spent a lot of money on the National Aids Control Committee (NACC) and yet we have a Ministry that should have a section dealing with this problem and informing Kenyans to that effect. Last week, when I spoke in this House, I talked about the Schools Broadcasting Service which was very good in the 1960s and 1970s. It did not cost this Government a lot of money, but it had dedicated people, well-trained and well-focused. It did a lot of service to the Ministry of Education. In like manner, if the Department of Information and Broadcasting could employ competent people and focus on certain things in informing this nation about economic problems and development, it would do a much better job than spending too much time following one person, dancing across the nation, issuing all kinds of funny edicts and wasting this country's plenty of time and money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not mean that the President should not be reported, but the Ministry should have good enough expertise to see that not all that is reported is useful to Kenyans. I do not want to sit in an evening for 15 minutes seeing the President haranguing Kenyans in a dance that is being held for him somewhere in Maralal. It does not add one iota to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of this nation. If the Ministry could spend its time talking about economic development, then what hon. Muchilwa said would be taken seriously. This country has a GDP of Kshs700 billion and a debt of Kshs600 billion. In other words, this country is almost insolvent as an enterprise. It, therefore, must be the responsibility of every Government Ministry to ensure that this country is taken away from insolvency. It is a serious matter. If the World Bank and IMF people were serious, they would come here and declare this country bankrupt and sell us to Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa or to other countries which are much more serious in running their economies than the kind of cartoons we have around here.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Muchilwa told us just how much we could earn from tourism if we were serious. Supposing we could earn the Kshs200 billion that hon. Muchilwa was talking about, we would pay back our debts in three years and then we would be solvent. However, we have been having a Ministry called the Ministry of Tourism, Broadcasting and Information, I do not know what for donkey years! If you ask them how much they are adding to the GDP of this country every year, they will be hard put to tell us what they are adding.

Mr. Parpai: Negative!

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Negative! So, I think we should take our job very seriously.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, hon. Katuku did mention something that I would like to emphasise and that is on the issue of external broadcasting. This country is a key nation in this region. The President

of the Republic of Kenya is currently the Chairperson of Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and, last month, we concluded a very important agreement in Machakos aiming at settling the conflict in Sudan. This is something that the KBC should educate people in this region about. What is it that is so important in the Machakos Agreement? The Machakos Agreement is important in the fact that it says that the people of southern Sudan will be given a chance, in six years' time through a referendum, to vote whether they want self-determination, including secession or they want to belong to the Government of Sudan as a Republic. I know for certain that the people of southern Sudan in six years' time will choose self-determination. What does this mean? Why are the Egyptians opposing self-determination in southern Sudan? Why is the American Government playing *Kwasa kwasa* with the idea of self-determination in southern Sudan? As the Chairman of IGAD, it is the responsibility of our external broadcasting system to educate the people of Africa and particularly Kenyans, about this matter, because I take Sudan to be extremely important to Kenya.

Not only is Sudan geographically, historically and culturally part and parcel of Kenya, but it will be an important component of the East African Community once it becomes independent. It is in our economic interest, if we want to fight poverty and raise our GDP per capita to several trillion shillings in so many years' time, to take the Sudan issue seriously. There is no Government department more important to this effect than the Department of Information and Broadcasting. I have been listening to the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) over the last two or three weeks, and the amount of time they devote to the Sudan issue is minimal. The other day, we went to southern Sudan with my three colleagues; Mr. Kihoro, Mr. Muite and Mr. Imanyara. When we came back, we did do a documentary on the plight of the southern Sudanese. We have been praying to these people to show this documentary on the KBC and the KTN, but everybody is dragging his feet. They do not want to face the truth of what is happening to our people in southern Sudan and yet they say they are committed to free information, free broadcasting, human rights and so on; the superlatives that are these days churned out from Government departments when they do not mean a thing about them! The people of Kenya are crying for justice through information. They pay taxes to maintain these departments in the Government and those taxes must be respected by the services that Government departments give to our country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as Mr. Katuku said so emphatically today, tourism will not improve in this country until security and infrastructure are improved. This is why to have a Ministry of Tourism by itself does not make sense. It must be coupled with trade. It is only when it is coupled with trade and regional co-operation that, that Ministry will take infrastructure and security seriously. The Minister for Trade and Industry will know that there is no trade going on without proper infrastructure and security. I was just being told today about one of my relatives who was attacked and robbed by a gang of seven wielding individuals the previous night in Lavington. When they went to report the incident to the police station, they recognised two of those people as policemen. This is a shame in this nation. The Government knows for certain that people in the police force are being hired to perform thuggery and robbery on Kenyans and foreigners on our soil. It does not matter how many times Members of Parliament and *wananchi* cry about it. We are beginning to suspect that even in the higher echelons of Government, there is a conspiracy to use the police force to rob and harass Kenyans. They cannot come to this Parliament asking for money for the Ministry of Tourism and Information if they are doing nothing about security.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, until and unless the road from Mombasa to Busia is made safe for transportation, very few tourists will come to this country. When tourists come here, get out of the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) and take a Combi to Mombasa; they go on that road once. They will go back to Austria, Belgium or France and discourage their people from coming here because that road is dangerous. This road needs to be a dual carriageway; from Mombasa to Busia. If the Government focuses on that kind of development project for five years, it would employ many Kenyans, including engineers. It would boost the GDP per capita of this country in one year by, at least, 20 per cent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I ask this Government to come back to this Parliament with much more serious programmes before we support the Budget.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): I have only five minutes before I call upon the Minister to reply. I will give them to Eng. Manga.

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Eng. Manga): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to also contribute to this very important Motion. I agree with Mr. Michuki that the Kshs715 million allocated for this Ministry is not adequate. Many people have said that this Ministry is doing nothing, but I disagree with them. First of all, this Ministry is the "Public Relations Officer" for this nation. For it to do a very reasonable job, it has to have money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking about security for tourists. In order for us to do that, the Ministry should be empowered. We have parastatals like the Kenya Tourist Development Corporation (KTDC) and the Kenya Tourist Board (KTB). These organisations are not functioning very well because of limited funds. These are the arms of tourism in this country. They should be given money to perform their duties. The Ministry of Tourism and Information has two major departments; Tourism and Information. When we come to information, the Kenya

News Agency (KNA) is poorly equipped. You cannot even get a camera. They have no offices in the countryside and yet these are the people who are expected to collect very vital information about activities that are taking place out there for the nation, or even for the other people outside. It is important that this Ministry is given adequate resources.

There are organisations which are very closely associated with tourism like the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and, therefore, they should be under this Ministry. This issue should be looked at very seriously because it is very important that the KWS is brought under the Ministry of Tourism and Information.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the security that we are talking about is being handled by the Office of the President and the KWS. This is quite irrelevant. The docket of security should fall under the Ministry of Tourism and Information.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): May I now call upon the Minister to reply.

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir--

QUORUM

Mr. Parpai: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. After the Minister's reply we shall go to the Committee Stage. It looks like there are only five hon. Members in the House. How will we proceed? I am requesting that we get the necessary quorum.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): You are drawing the attention of the Chair to the fact that there is no quorum, which is true. Therefore, I order that the Division Bell be rang.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Hon. Members, we now have a Quorum. Proceed, Mr. Musyoka!

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. May I, with the indulgence of the Chair, recognise the presence - I should have done this yesterday - of the officials of my Ministry who have been here since yesterday. They are led by the Deputy Secretary, Mr. Mwendu. They have been listening along with me. I also recognise the able presence of my colleagues in the Ministry, Assistant Ministers Mr. Shadrack Manga and Dr. Wamukoya who have also been taking notes. Let me also take this opportunity to thank the hon. Members for the various contributions they have made to this Ministry's Vote. We are truly grateful. The Ministry takes very seriously every sentiment that has been expressed. I know that given the opportunity, the others would have made wonderful contributions. There were issues that were raised yesterday---

(Loud consultations)

I would again ask the Chair to please request hon. Members to consult quietly so that I may be able to reply to their contributions.

The Ministry holds the view that the tourism sector is able, within a reasonably short period of time, to turn around this economy and make a major contribution to generation of wealth. What the majority of Kenyans out there, who looking for employment and going about their normal chores, expect of us is to give them the environment to realise their dreams and eke out a living. We are of the view that this Ministry can generate thousands of jobs for the majority of our graduates from our public institutions and universities who are unemployed. As I said yesterday, when I was moving my Ministry's Vote, we are dealing with a very sensitive sector. This is why I cannot help but remind my colleagues that in an election year such as this, I would like to ask that we conduct ourselves in a manner that does not send the wrong signals outside this country. It is possible that, with one scaring pronouncement by an hon. Member of Parliament, we might end up with 100 cancellations by a tour operator. Therefore, it is very important that if we want to be true to the feelings of our people and the pain they are going through as a result of unemployment, we give them the necessary environment. Therefore, I think it is important that we move into the election period cautiously, aware that our own actions, and perhaps even omissions, can bring harm to this very important sector. I talked about diversification and hon. Members also contributed to this subject. In this coming week, beginning Monday, I will launch the North Rift Tourism Circuit. I would like to take this opportunity to invite hon. Members from the Rift Valley Province and particularly from the Northern Rift to join us, as we sample some of the beautiful things we have to offer as a country. The hot springs out of Lake Bogoria and the wonderful caves out there in Mt. Elgon, just to mention but a few, are some of the attractions that we have to offer. I have written personal letters inviting hon. Members to join us, as we go out to open and launch this Circuit. When we launched the Western circuit, a lot of Kenyans were sensitised at the local level where the rubber - so to speak - meets the road. We were able to sensitise the

ordinary Kenyan to the fact that tourism is important and can make a difference in their lives. I do not want to belabour that point. As we launch this circuit we intend to remind Kenyans that all of us are major stakeholders.

We talked about cultural and eco-tourism. The other day I went to Quebec to attend the World Summit on Eco-Tourism. Although a precise definition of eco-tourism could not be arrived at, I think the world is generally aware that eco-tourism is the in thing as we move into the new millennium.

I think this country is home to a wonderful scenery. The other day, through the invitation of the Speaker himself, I was able to visit Engwesi in the Dol Dol area and what we saw there is fascinating. Our wish is that others could emulate the example of the Maasai community who have distinguished themselves as number one conservationists in our country. I was able to sleep in a room that did not have any window, there was a door of some kind, but the feeling of security was abundant. I think hon. Members have addressed themselves to this very important question of security. How I wish that we will move in that direction faster, as soon as we can. I keep on saying that the day I will walk along Mama Ngina Street, Kaunda Street and Wabera Street, because the Member for Sotik challenged this Minister to try and walk in the City Centre at night, would be great day.

I took that challenge seriously. All it means is that if we get visitors who stay in hotel rooms and not being given some kind of advice on their desks or beds - that it is dangerous to visit Nairobi at night - we will have made progress. I have a feeling that the night that we will have cultural festivals and performances by Bomas of Kenya for the benefit of our visitors, Nairobi, the Green City in the Sun, will have reclaimed its glory.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue about garbage collection was raised and, I think it was you who said that we have this reputation - and I would not want to repeat - of being the dirtiest city in the world. I think that is one reputation we can do without. I think our City fathers will be listening to the voices from the Floor of this House.

We can talk about a lot of diversification; cruise tourism. Again, some hon. members, including you, pointed out this very important aspect of tourism. I think it can pick up very quickly. But before it does so, the Port of Mombasa will have to provide the necessary berth dedicated for cruise shipping. We were able to take this up with them, and we continue to do so.

The question of air fares is also an important one. We accept that Africa is an expensive destination, mainly from Europe, as compared to the Trans-Atlantic traffic from Europe to America. This situation has been aggravated by lack of adequate seats on the flights to Kenya. The other day, I met a visitor who told me: "Kenya Airways flight from London to Nairobi was packed." I could only smile because that, indeed, is true. But you still end up with empty beds in the Coast because although these flights are packed, they are not able to carry enough passengers to fill the beds. We are talking about 30,000 bed capacity in Mombasa alone.

The following is being undertaken. We are encouraging charters that offer much lower rates to fly directly to the Coast. We have also deliberately encouraged - and I think the Kenya Airports Authority is dealing with this matter - direct flights from Europe to Nairobi with a possibility of continuing to Mombasa and to the Indian Ocean islands. I, personally, was able to take up the matter with the Chairman of Virgin Atlantic, Sir Richard Branson, and I am happy to say that they are seriously considering introducing Virgin Atlantic flights into Nairobi and Mombasa. We hope this will bring in the much needed occupancy of the beds in Mombasa and elsewhere.

The problem of infrastructure has been clearly elaborated by hon. Members, and we take it seriously. The condition of principal roads used extensively by tourists, particularly between Mombasa and Mtito Andei, has improved. I was on it only this last Sunday and Monday, but the road between Mtito Andei and Nairobi leaves a lot to be desired. One can only hope that because funding has been secured - I am informed from the European Union - work will be undertaken expeditiously in order to avoid accidents, some of which result in the deaths not just of Kenyans, but tourists as well.

Regular maintenance of roads is important. One thing that I was able to observe between Mtito Andei and Voi is that the quality of our tyres apparently leaves also a lot to be desired because you will see many retread tyres hardly a kilometre from the first that you see, between Mtito Andei and Voi. It is also important that the quality of manufactured tyres should also be seen to be improving.

On health, we, as a Ministry, do appreciate the swift response by health authorities whenever there is an outbreak. The Government is also encouraging and promoting preventive measures. We are obviously discouraging the whole question of dumping and we would like, as the Government said, to look at this afresh.

Efforts by the Nairobi Central Business District should be commended. Mr. Philip Kisia and his team have been doing a tremendous service to the city residents. I challenge them to move beyond Standard Street and encompass the entire of the Nairobi Central District.

I want to appreciate the kind comments by hon. Members with regard to Kenya Utalii College; that, their intake is normally well handled. I do not want to add anything beyond that. The only thing about the campus at the Coast, which hon. Members did also point out to, is the fact that funding is not immediately available and initial negotiations for joint venture with the private sector is also now undergoing.

On the crucial question of security, I think one can only sit and take notes. In addition, my colleague, Mr.

Sunkuli - I think I saw him walking into the Chamber - is working along with us to ensure that there is security, not just for our visitors but for our own people. He should have been here to hear the challenge from the Member for Sotik.

Hon. Members, one thing that perhaps escaped your attention is that the Ministry has succeeded, within last year, to successfully handle the problem of the beach operators. Some people call them "beach boys." I think we want to be decent with our own people. For example, they have been successfully relocated in Malindi and Kwale, and work is also ongoing with regard to the Southern Coast.

Hon. Members expressed concern - and I remember particularly it was Eng. Toro - over the closure of hotels. I think the correct position is as follows. Currently, 11 hotels remain closed in Malindi, Kilifi and Tana River districts. This compares well with the figure of 25 last year. You can see that the high season has been catching up and a number of hotels have been able to negotiate successfully with their creditors. I think we should also encourage creditors not to be very difficult at this particularly difficult time when it is not just the hotel operators who are finding it difficult to make their ends meet, but every Kenyan because of the current economic crunch. We would like to encourage open consultations so that we do not have unwarranted receiverships. Of course, whenever that happens, the next thing is loss of job opportunities for our people. An aggregate of 12 hotels remained closed in Mombasa, Kwale and Taita Taveta compared to 24 last year. You can see that there is growth in this area. As we envisaged great arrivals this year, I did give the figure of about Kshs1.6 million which is what is our projected figure. Of course, we are careful about committing ourselves to what might amount to mass tourism. I think a lot of these hotels will be re-opened.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to private homes in Malindi, the Ministry will try to stop foreigners hosting people in their homes. It is important and logical that the visitors who come do come and stay in a transparent manner and in accordance with the regulations.

With regard to the Malindi Airport and South Coast bypass, Mr. Keah was very eloquent on this matter. I do agree with him that we should be able to build, operate and transfer the services, and move this project forward. I know that Mr. Sunkuli, again, is working on the Malindi Airport in particular. I wish him good speed in this particular matter, because the day we will be able to fly tourists directly to Malindi, with full custom attention, I think we will be making some very good progress, and we will most likely see full recovery, and beyond, of the tourism facilities in Malindi.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we continue to encourage domestic tourism. We think that tourism is a business of every Kenyan, and every Kenyan is, indeed, a stakeholder. Those Kenyans who are able to go out to Dagoretti Corner every Friday - members day - and roast meat, can also afford to tour their country and see for themselves the wonderful gift that God has given to us as Kenyans.

The CLT problem is still with us. I highlighted it yesterday and it is a matter that we will remain seized with, as a Ministry and the Treasury, so that we do not continue to experience low worker morale in this very important establishment within our Ministry.

One cannot argue against the need to conserve our resources. The Maasai Mara, in terms of UNESCO listing, is one of the world heritage sites just like Arabuko Sokoke Forest in Malindi area. So, we as a Ministry do have an interest in what happens in Maasai Mara, and I think that is all I can say.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the very important area of information, a lot has been said here by hon. Members. I remember Mr. Munyao saying that he was going to move a Motion for a reduction of the Ministry's Vote by £1. I am so happy that Mr. Munyao is missing from this sitting this afternoon. But I quite frankly want to say that the Ministry has taken some very serious note of the concerns by hon. Members. When this Parliament unanimously passed a Motion saying that debates in this House should be covered live, we as a Ministry agreed. We, however, need about Kshs120 million in order to realise this project. How I wish that, that money could be availed soonest, because you would not have a problem of quorum as we have had this afternoon. Because, obviously, constituents would be out there watching whether their hon. Members are listening or they are active in the House. I think this will also enhance quality of debate in this august Assembly.

Therefore, with regard to the question of coverage, the information I have from KBC is that they had a Board meeting yesterday, to try and deliberate on the concerns by the hon. Members, and I think the message was taken. However, it is important for hon. Members to realise that the Presidential Press Service has a very useful department within the KBC. Normally the PPS operates independently in gathering news by its own resource allocation. That must be under the Office of the President. As I said, we shall look forward to giving this country what it quite obviously needs, and that is live coverage, as soon as we are empowered to do so.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Tourist Board is doing a commendable job. I do not know whether hon. Members would have noticed that on CCN, for instance, the gate to our National Assembly occasionally gets reflected on CNN. The sad story is that nobody cares to tell the world that this is a magnificent Parliament gate in the Republic of Kenya, because it is a wonderful architectural thing. Therefore, the need to empower KTB in order to be able to tell the beautiful Kenyan story cannot be gainsaid. However, they are trying the best they can, and as you heard me mention, they have identified the Market Development Representative, and I know you were able to differ with this position, but the truth of the matter is that the European Union gave grants - and I want to thank them - to KTB and specifically gave us a condition that the funds be utilised for marketing purposes. Our argument is that, these

Market Development Representatives (MDR) know the local landscape, where the tour operators are, for example, the European segment; the UK and Germany segments as well as Canada and America.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, even without MDRs, we are also moving in the direction of China. I would like to thank Mr. M.A. Galgalo, because he came out strongly on the need for us to approach the People's Republic of China. I would like to say that it is our hope that soon we will be able to sign a memorandum of understanding with the People's Republic of China just as they have done with the Arab Republic of Egypt and South Africa. The Chinese are very careful people and 60 million of them have passports. Now that is a very interesting statistic compared to the 30 million Kenyans. It is like all of us having passports. By the year 2020, it is estimated that China will be the world's biggest generator of tourism. When Mr. Obwocha talked about Kshs28 million allocated under Account No. 05100175, this is to be used for the Kenya Tourism Week which is scheduled for early next year. I think it is important for Mr. Obwocha to know this, though I know he can raise those matters when the House goes into Committee.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I, without repeating myself, once again thank hon. Members for their wonderful contribution. It is obvious they have information, and I think Mr. Khamasi may not have noticed the fact that I have twice appeared before the relevant Departmental Committee and briefed them on the need for the Committee to work together with the Ministry in the promotion of tourism.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I would also like to say that we will continue to work very closely with every Kenyan because, as I said, every Kenyan is a stakeholder in ensuring that tourism plays the role that is expected of it in terms of quick generation of wealth as well as employment opportunities.

I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

[The Temporary Deputy Chairman

(Mr. Muturi) took the Chair]

Vote 46 - Ministry of Tourism and Information

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Muturi): Hon. Members, we are now in the Committee of Supply and I call upon the Minister for Tourism and Information to move the Vote.

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

THAT, a sum not exceeding Kshs401,240,720 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2003 in respect of:-

Vote 46 - Ministry of Tourism and Information

(Question proposed)

VOTE R46 - RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 460 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 715 and 798 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 460 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 461 - TOURISM SERVICES

(Heads 535, 538, 540 and 541 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 461 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 462 - INFORMATION AND NEWS SERVICES

*(Heads 653, 654, 655, 656,
658 and 659 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 462 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 463 - TRAINING

(Head 665 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 463 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 465 - FILM PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

(Heads 723 and 724 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 465 agreed to)

(Vote R46 agreed to)

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Muturi): Hon. Members, with are through with the Recurrent Expenditure. We now move to Development Expenditure.

VOTE D46 - DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 460 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Head 715 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 460 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 461 - TOURISM SERVICES

(Heads 535 and 540 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 461 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 462 - INFORMATION AND NEWS SERVICES

(Heads 653 and 656 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 462 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 463 - TRAINING

(Head 665 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 463 agreed to)

(Vote D46 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 46 - Ministry of Tourism and Information

Mr. Parpai: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am directed to report that the Committee of Supply has considered Vote 46 - Ministry of Tourism and Information, and approved the same without amendment.

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution.

The Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Mudavadi) seconded.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Parpai: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. While we have approved the Estimates for the Ministry of Tourism and Information today, I take exception to the Minister's response because many hon. Members of Parliament have aired their views with regard to incentives being ploughed back to those areas where wildlife has been preserved for the benefit of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have said that, and I expected the Minister to tell us something about it. We have laboured on that issue a lot. We have said what wildlife has done to our environment, people, animals and *shambas*. Indeed, the Minister must try to look for ways and means of assisting Kenyans.

Another point that the Minister forgot to respond to was the issue of the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) in relation to debts. I said here that these things have been documented in the PIC Reports. I expected the Minister to tell us the steps the Ministry has taken to recover money from these debtors who have brought down that Corporation. The Minister should go back to his office and look for ways and means of redeeming this parastatal.

I also heard many hon. Members talk about freeing of airwaves. I expected the Minister to clear the air. We want that to be done. Everybody is talking about it day in, day out. Even during Question Time, we raise Questions about freeing the airwaves. We passed a Bill here, and it is an Act of Parliament, and we were told that there were some regulations which would favour KBC for five years. Five years are over. As the Shadow Minister for Tourism and Information, I expected to hear what the substantive Minister is doing about this.

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

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Hon. Members, that concludes the business on the Order Paper. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 8th August, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 5.45 p.m.