

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 6th April, 2000

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

POINT OF ORDER

MISLEADING REPORT BY THE STANDARD

Mr. Raila: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I lay my Paper on the Table, I would like to formally complain about a report appearing in today's *East African Standard*, purporting to give authentic information about the Report of our Select Committee. I take great exception to the report because it has nothing to do with the Report that I am just about to lay on the Table. Be that as it may, I would like, to lay the Report on the Table.

PAPER LAID

The following Report was laid on the Table.

The Report of the Select Committee Reviewing the Constitution of Kenya Review Act of 1997

(By Mr. Raila)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE REVIEWING THE CONSTITUTION OF KENYA REVIEW ACT

Mr. Raila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-
THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Select Committee Reviewing the Constitution of Kenya Review Act, 1997, that was laid on the Table on Thursday, 6th of April, 2000.

LEAVE TO INTRODUCE A BILL TO AMEND CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA ACT

Mr. Donda: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-
THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill for an Act of Parliament, to amend the Central Bank of Kenya Act Cap 491 of the Laws of Kenya, in order to:-
(i) Harmonise the rate of interest that commercial banks and financial institutions charge on loans.
(ii) To limit the amount of Treasury Bills that can be sold per week.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF KIBOS-CHIGA- RABUOR ROAD PROJECT

(Mr. Sungu) to ask the Minister of State, Office of the President:-
(a) Is the Minister aware that, the contractor for the Kibos-Chiga-Rabuor Road (D290) under the *El Nino* Emergency Programme Contract No. ENEP/RRB/PRO3, is about to hand over the project when it is incomplete?
(b) What was the contract price for this project, how much money has been certified to date and

what was the total number of kilometres supposed to be covered under the contract?

(c) Is the Minister satisfied that the funds allocated to the project had been properly utilised?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is Mr. Sungu not here?

(Question dropped)

PARTICIPATION OF KENYAN STREET
CHILDREN IN DRC CIVIL WAR

(Mrs. Mugo) to ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation:-

(a) Could the Minister issue a statement on the status of the street children who are alleged to have been taken to fight in the Democratic Republic of Congo, as confirmed by the Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda?

(b) Who issued travel documents to those children?

(c) What is the Government doing to ensure that, those children are repatriated back to Kenya?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is Mrs. Mugo not here?

(Question dropped)

APPOINTMENT OF MR. MICHAEL MILLS TO
EXTRA-ORDINARY INSPECTION COMMITTEE

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

(a) Could the Minister explain the circumstances surrounding the appointment of an Extra-Ordinary Inspection Committee vide Kenya Gazette Notice No.C11-No.11, dated 25th February, 2000?

(b) Why did the Minister find it prudent to appoint Mr. Michael Mills, while he chairs the Karen-Langata Association which has taken the Nairobi City Council to court, over collection of rates?

The Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply. I apologise for not being able to answer this Question yesterday.

The subject matter which hon. Nyagah has asked, about the Extra-ordinary Inspection Committee, vide Kenya Gazette Notice No.C11-No.11 dated 25th February, 2000, has a real contradiction. The Kenya Gazette Notice referred to was appointing an Over-sight Board of the City Council. I appointed the Extra-Ordinary Inspection Committee led by Mr. Mbogua sometimes last year, which was to unearth the ills and the problems of the City Council of Nairobi. In the same Report, there was a recommendation that the Government should appoint an Oversight Board to try and oversee the operations of the City Council of Nairobi, including the financial management and right systems. This is because the Extra-Ordinary Inspection Committee's interim Report did come out with revelations of massive mismanagement and corruption in the City Council of Nairobi.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, part (b) of the Question is asking why I found it prudent to appoint Mr. Michael Mills, while he chairs the Karen-Langata Association, which has taken the Nairobi City Council to court over collection of rates. When I was doing the appointment, I was not in the picture. However, now that these things have come out, we expect Mr. Michael Mills to declare his interest. If possible, he should withdraw the case against the City Council of Nairobi. This way, we will not look abusive to the rules of natural justice. That is all I can say at this stage, because this matter is in court.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I concur with the Minister that other than the wording, the right reference made on the Kenya Gazette is the same one he has answered to. But while on that, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the various teams working in the City Council. There is the Criminal Investigations Department (CID), the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority (KACA), the Mbogua Team and now the Mbaru Team! There is great confusion at the Council. The affairs of the Council are getting paralysed!

Does the Minister, in his own opinion, because he has given another Legal Notice No.33/2000, giving sweeping powers to the new team that has come in, feel that the two gentlemen in question; that is Mr. Mbaru, who is associated with the running down of Jimba Credit and Union Bank, and Mr. Michael Mills, who has taken Nairobi City Council to court over rates, and a former salesman with Marshalls, are capable to efficiently look after the affairs of the Nairobi City Council? Are we not seeing another way of a commission being brought in, which will not effectively run the affairs of the Nairobi City Council?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure the hon. Member that I have not surrendered my statutory powers as stipulated under the Local Government Act, Cap 265. Therefore, I am not going to be pushed by anybody to the wall to dissolve the City Council of Nairobi. I am ready to manage the political affairs of City Hall because that is why I am here. The Inspection Team of Mbogua has already completed its work. I have 1,300 pages of

proposals, recommendations and all the ills that are "eating" the City of Nairobi. So, that Inspection Team is already out. Let us address ourselves to the concept rather than to the personalities because we can always deal with the personalities all the time. However, the concept of trying to put the systems of revenue collection, control of expenditure and delivery of services to the people of Nairobi, is an important function which all of us as a House and Government have to get a way of ensuring that these things are normalised. As to the integrity of the personalities and so forth, I beg to differ at this stage.

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Oversight Board which has been put there is expected to make policies which will be implemented for the good performance of this Council. The councillors, who are also there are also policy-makers in the same Council. So, what that means is that we now have two policy makers. The councillors have already said that they will not let the Board work and we would want to see this Board succeed in making things work properly. What does the Minister intend to do to make sure that the two policy-makers are either able to work together or one of them is kept away to let the other work so that at least the Nairobi City Council can perform properly as Nairobi residents would want?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Oversight Board is not charged with the responsibility of making policies of the City Council. The work of making policies is a responsibility of the Council and Government through the Ministry of Local Government. The Oversight Board is supposed to implement the recommendations of the Extra-ordinary Inspection Committee which has pointed out specific areas of concern. For example, the budgeting of the City and of all the local authorities, they do their own budgetary estimates and so forth and then they forward their budgetary proposals to the finance officers of the Ministry of Local Government before forwarding them to the Minister for approval to make it a budget. Now, what we want is to have other financial experts and the rest, to scrutinise this budget from the Council and if there are any proposals or rejections, let them rationalise them before they come to the Minister for approval. So, as far as I am concerned, we are still on the driving wheel.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Minister, your Ministry sacked the former Town Clerk, Mrs. Wandera, on the recommendation of the Mbogua Report. Mrs. Wandera has insisted that you were forced out of office. Can you tell this House the reasons as to why you sacked Mrs. Wandera and the majority of the Kenyans are of the view that Mrs. Wandera was acting on instructions either from your Ministry or from State House?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we do not rely on hearsay, rumours and unnecessary talks. In the first place, I was very kind to Mrs. Wandera because she was retiring just a day before I issued that statement. I was kind enough to say: "She has given enough long service to the City Council and for goodness sake, can she just retire". So, let us not debate about that issue. Let the rest be followed in the normal machinery.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in view of the fact that there appears to be some confusion with respect to the status of the supervision committee; the confusion arising out of who that particular organ should be accountable to; that should be accountable to the Minister, the Office of the President, who you should be accountable to; can the Minister explain the procedure under which it was appointed, under what provision of the Local Government Act and tell us who that organ is accountable to because I understand that is the controversy?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think we have more or less sorted out that problem because as I said earlier on, the statutory and the legal responsibility of the City of Nairobi is the Minister for Local Government. So, I still retain the statutory responsibility. They are accountable to me, otherwise, I do not know where they would take whatever proposals or recommendations they make. What we have done is that we have agreed to set up a technical Inter-Ministerial Committee composed of the Office of the President, the Local Government, the Ministry of Finance and the Attorney-General. That Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee will be on a day-to-day basis liaising with that Oversight Board. I have given it autonomy and let them operate in accordance with the law. However, as far as we are concerned - and I am going to table the Legal Notice which spells out clearly under what section of the Local Government Act - I did appoint this Oversight Board and specified its functions.

(Mr. Kamotho laid the document on the Table)

Mr. N. Nyagah: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to give the view that this Oversight Board should deal with an Inter-Ministerial Committee which contravenes the Local Government Act, Cap 265? I would like to quote the relevant section.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! That is not a point of order. If you want to ask a question, simply do so.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am asking whether he is in order to basically inform the House that the Oversight Board has the legal basis to report to an Inter-Ministerial Committee yet the Local Government Act says the following:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. N. Nyagah! You have already asked the question which is: "Is the

Minister in order?"

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to request now---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Then you have not raised that in your point of order. You have asked the Minister whether he is in order to say one thing while the law states another. So, let us hear the Minister.

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Local Government Act, Cap.265, empowers the Minister for Local Government to delegate certain powers and responsibilities, but to retain the statutory responsibilities. In other words, I can withdraw those powers which I have delegated tomorrow or even the very next day. But as I said, I have acted completely in compliance with the local Government Act, Cap.265.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, let us hear what you have to say about the Act!

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while wanting to know the particular section of the Local Government Act, Cap.265 that empowers the Minister to so do, the contentious Clause is 231, Sub-section 3, which states:

"At the conclusion of an Extra-ordinary Inspection Team, the inspector shall prepare a final report of his findings and furnish one copy to the Controller and Auditor-General and one copy to the Minister, who shall report to the local authority on the matter which in his opinion should be drawn to their attention to enable them to comply with any law or lawful instruction or to enable the administration of the local authority to be carried out in a secure and efficient manner."

In this case, it looks as if the Minister for Local Government has been pushed into a corner by the Office of the President to surrender his powers to other people so that they can run his Ministry which he is capable of running.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister is actually admitting in the House that there is something which is seriously wrong with the Local Government Act. This is because he is talking about powers that he is wielding and which he can delegate, yet these are supposed to be local authorities. What is local about them if they are being controlled by the Central Government? Now, the problem here seems to be the three-tier system of governance in the City Council of Nairobi; the Provincial Administration, the elected leadership and the executive officers, who are appointed by the Central Government. Why can the Minister not take the bull by the horns and say that, the Government is going to remove external interference from the management of all the local authorities, so that if they fail, they can be blamed for what they have done and if they succeed, they can be praised for having succeeded?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the issues hon. Raila is raising are issues which we are currently addressing ourselves to through the Local Government Reform Programme, which is at a very advanced stage, and which involves the review of the Local Government Act, Cap.265, so that these apparent conflicts which sometimes come about because of the law can be singled out and be streamlined. Therefore, this is a problem which will soon be overcome; as soon as we are able to introduce the amendments to the Act in this House.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would beg to disagree with my Whip on this Question and congratulate the Minister for appointing this Oversight Team to help us sort out problems at City Hall. The fact that Jimna Mbaru and Michael Mills are there, and Mr. Mbaru is said to have run down a bank, I do not think these are enough reasons to disqualify these two people because Mr. Mbaru is known to be one of the best entrepreneurs in this country and he had done a great job managing the Nairobi Stock Exchange. Mr. Michael Mills is doing a big job in the Karen-Langata Association.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Ask your question!

Mr. Murungi: So, the question I would like to ask the Minister is: When will this team start its work because it has been thrown around for a long time? Could the Minister tell the House when the team will be in place at City Hall?

Mr. Kamatho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I appointed the team to start operating from 6th March, 2000. So, I am sure and I hope from that time, they have been putting their notes together. There is nothing to prevent them from starting work and identifying other Kenyans of repute in various fields; in the legal profession and in---

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to say that there is nothing to prevent them starting from their work when he has not yet tabled the report they are supposed to operate on in carrying out the extra-ordinary investigation?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, to agree with what hon. Norman Nyagah said earlier---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Just answer the question, forget about that!

Mr. Kamatho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will give that Report to the City Council of Nairobi, not anybody else. As I was saying, the Oversight Board is supposed to sit down and identify other Kenyans who are experts in every aspect of the operation; the finances, legal matters, city planning and all kinds of things to start working. So, they can start working at any time. As regards the people the hon. Member was talking about--- For example, as regards Mr. Michael Mills; people say that he has wide knowledge and experience of the City and he is non-partisan;

he does not belong to KANU, DP,

SDP, PICK or any other party because he represent the civil societies of Nairobi City. So, I hope that they will come out with a programme which is going to assist us a lot in City Hall.

Dr. Ochuodho: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to imply that the Government cannot appoint somebody on the basis of political affiliation, while we know that, Dr. Leakey is a SAFINA man and Mr. Michael Mills is an SDP man?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has just said that he delegated powers to this body. Could he confirm to this House that he is not going to remove those powers the next day or tomorrow like he said? Could he confirm that he will give them a free way to do their work until they are satisfied that Nairobi City has been clean of the filth which was put by the long "dis-serving" Town Clerk, Zipporah Wandera?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, I have delegated powers and they have enough autonomy to do their work for the next six months. Then, within that period, I will have brought amendments to the Local Government Act in this House to empower the Central Government to be able to appoint a Financial Management Control Board of the local authorities, so that, if a local authority is collapsing, they can just act in accordance with the law. So, initially, the Oversight Board had been given six months to try and establish systems at the City Hall.

That is all.

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, of course, it appears like there is a conflict here. The Minister knows too well that the reason why councillors cannot enforce the implementation of programmes and proposals in the City Council is because those powers were taken over by chief officers who were appointed by the Government. That is why he is now bringing in an Oversight Board to oversee them. It is the officers who are going to be monitored by this Board and I am quite in agreement that this Board may be necessary where we have cases of financial mismanagement. However, how much are we going to pay these people? What will be the cost to the City Council for the six months during which period they will be there?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unlike the Extra-Ordinary Inspection Committee, this Board is not going to be paid by the City Council of Nairobi. The Central Government will bear the responsibility of paying this team and, as soon as the payments are agreed upon between the Treasury, the Ministry of Local Government and the Office of the President, I will be able to table what this Oversight Board is going to be paid.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the residents of Nairobi have suffered for many years. Will the Minister give assurance to this House that the Oversight Board is going to be allowed to perform its duties and that if it does not perform it is going to be replaced by people who can perform?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can assure this country and this House that we will ensure that we give enough support and autonomy to the Board for it to perform. If it fails to perform, this country is not short of manpower!

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first, I would like to say that it is hard not to admire hon. Kamotho, although we may disagree with him. Why can hon. Kamotho not be honest and tell us that he has dissolved the Nairobi City Council? Why should he do it through the back-door. If the council is supposed to make executive decisions to run the City, how can you bring somebody else to come and run it? Why do you not tell the councillors to go home and bring a *Mzungu* to run it like the one running the Civil Service?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have no intentions of going to that extreme. As I have said, we are democratic in this country and we do not want to continue using high-handedness in managing public affairs even in local authorities. So, the Oversight Board is there just like a consultant to guide the councillors and officers of the Council on how to get good results through good management. Otherwise, we cannot use short-cuts to deal with some of these problems which are afflicting our local authorities.

Mr. Keriri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has made commendable effort in trying to explain what this Oversight Board will do. But in doing so, he has given us the impression that this Board is going to have a major job of drawing systems so that the City Council can work. There is some confusion which is apparent here. In the *Kenya Gazette* Notice, the Minister has given this Board sweeping powers which they will use to control the Council and ensure that everything takes place. The Minister, in his Ministry, has got finance officers who report to him about local authorities. But this Board is going to control the affairs of the City Council and report to an Inter-Ministerial Committee, where his Ministry is represented. Is the Minister sure that he is not, in fact, causing more crisis and confusion in the Council and that his powers are going to be watered down to the extent that he may not be able to control the City Council any more because it will be controlled by Mr. Mbaru and Mr. Mills through an Inter-Ministerial Committee in the Office of the President?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think I tried to explain earlier on that the Inter-Ministerial Committee will report to me. So, the City Council of Nairobi is not being controlled from outside. Secondly, let us

remember that out of all the problems that are facing local authorities in this country, more than half of those problems are in the City of Nairobi; and that Nairobi City Council constitutes 47 per cent of our Gross National Product(GNP). So, it is important that we focus ourselves to the City of Nairobi to ensure that things run in accordance with the expectations of the Kenyan people. If we do not do so, the economy of this country is going to stagnate. Therefore, I do not mind sharing responsibilities with any other Kenyan to ensure that we achieve our national objective.

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Minister to mislead this House that the Nairobi City Council constitutes 47 per cent of our GNP while it has got only eight Members of Parliament?

Mr. N.M. Nyagah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what the Minister has said is right and I would like to correct the impression that has been created by hon. Murungi that I am against the Oversight Board. In fact, I am for the Oversight Board, but I wanted to know their functions and roles because I do feel that the Minister's powers have been wiped out. Can the Minister, since he is satisfied with the three people who have been brought to the Board as the Oversight Team, tell this country the professional qualifications of these three people so that we can know whether they are credible? We know that one of them, right now is working in Uganda. What are their qualifications? Are they financial analysts or what?

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thought I had said earlier on that I did not want to enter into the personalities of these people because somebody like Mr. Mills---

Mr. Parpai: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to tell the House that he is not prepared to tell us the qualifications of this Oversight Team and yet he has brought them into City Hall in order to bring efficiency?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Parpai! Do not stand up and ask the Minister a question before he even finishes answering the earlier question! The Minister has not said that he does not want to give this House the qualifications of these people; he merely said he wanted us to deal with the concept first. The question of qualifications will come later. Proceed, Mr. Kamotho.

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, I do not want to enter into a debate about the personalities. We can deal with that later on. Let us agree it is important that, we develop this idea and make sure that the Team works. If the personalities cannot do it, we are not short of manpower; other Kenyans are there. When I asked some of them, they told me they have no curriculum vitae. So, what do I say? Let us just accept that. They represent interests.

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Kathangu!

TRANSPORT LICENSING BOARD
REQUIREMENTS ON SPEED

(Mr. Kathangu) to ask the Minister for Information, Transport and Communications:-
Following the worst accident witnessed in Kenya's history along Nakuru-Kericho Road on 30th March, 2000:-

- (a) Could the Minister update the House on the TLB requirements on speed?
- (b) Could the Minister give the time schedule of the two buses involved in the accident from their start to their intended destinations?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! The Question by hon. Kathangu has been deferred in agreement with the Minister, because there was something missing in the answer which was given to Mr. Kathangu. Is that correct?

Mr. Kathangu: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Next Question, Mr. Anyona.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker: We are on the next Question.

Mr. Murathe: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. My question was not answered.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Next Question.

CANCELLATION OF TENDER BY
GTZ PROCUREMENT UNIT

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know it is an early day, but the rules do not go to sleep. The rules require that Ministers provide written answers. I have no written answer to my Question.

Nevertheless, I beg to ask the Minister for Medical Services the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is he aware that Tender No.IFB 2686/98-99 ICB-008 was cancelled and has been re-advertised as Tender No.IFB 2686/89-99 ICB-014 by GTZ Procurement Unit on behalf of the Ministry of Health?

(b) Is he further aware that the cancellation and re-advertisement of the tender is in breach of the World Bank Procurement Guidelines 2.56 and 2.61?

(c) Since these arbitrary cancellations and re-advertisement of tenders create unnecessary delays and artificial shortages in the procurement of drugs and medical supplies, could he examine and review the procurement guidelines and procedures of GTZ and MOH and rectify the tendering system in the health sector?

The Minister for Medical Services (Dr. Anangwe): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that Tender No.IFB 2686/98-99 ICB-008 has been cancelled. However, I am aware that there was lack of response for bids on some of the items in the said tender. These items and others have now been included in a new Tender No.IFB 2686/98-99 ICB-014, that has now been advertised by the GTZ Procurement Unit on behalf of the Government.

(b) I am not aware that there has been a breach of the World Bank Procurement Guidelines 2.56 and 2.61 as Tender No.IFB 2686/98-99 ICB-008 was not cancelled as alleged. Indeed, the relevant guideline is contained in paragraph 2.59 which allows the Government the right to reject bids.

(c) Given the answers to parts "a" and "b", part "c" does not arise.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as you would see from the wording of this Question, the Question has been in abeyance for almost a year. That is why the wording is the way it is. It has just been renewed. Unfortunately, I just came and found it on the Order Paper. I had no prior knowledge; otherwise, I would have brought the papers here to disapprove what the Minister is saying. Nevertheless---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Then, I will defer that Question to Tuesday next week.

Mr. Anyona: I would be much obliged, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Order!

MOTION

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

THAT, the thanks of this House be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address from the Chair on March, 2000.

(The Vice-President (Prof. Saitoti) on 29.3.2000)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 5.4.2000)

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute on the Motion on the Presidential Address. I would like to join all Members who have spoken before me and particularly, to join you in your very moving debate yesterday.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Address during the State Opening of Parliament is a constitutional issue. It is so clearly stated in Section 58(1) of the Constitution, that the State Opening of Parliament, first, sets the agenda for Parliament. Parliament cannot transact business without that particular official function. Secondly, the Presidential Address constitutes what is in other jurisdictions' called the State of the Union. This is the occasion when the President, as the Head of State, as opposed to the Head of Government, spells out public policy that the Government and Parliament would be pursuing in the forthcoming Session. That is why, therefore, that the procedure used is one of decorum and integrity.

When the whole paraphernalia of the Judges of the High Court and religious leaders precede the entry of the

President, that is intended to display the integrity that goes on with that process. Therefore, in the substance of the Presidential Address must be reflected the national issues facing the country. It is not a place for partisanship or brinkmanship. For many years, that has been the practice in this country; that, civil servants and other people who are involved in preparing Presidential speeches use the occasion of the opening of Parliament to respond to the criticisms raised by Members of Parliament. I remember, there was one particular occasion when there was serious controversy here, as to whether it was right in the Presidential Address, to include a language that was considered unparliamentary. If you take together the Address of the President, the Address from the Chair by the Speaker; and even more importantly, the prayers and petitions of the religious leaders; and if you put together the messages that were echoed in those speeches, that truly constitutes a State of the Union for this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like, therefore, to say that as opposed to past years; this year during the State Opening of Parliament, this Parliament, the President, the Government, the Press and everybody, qualified with flying colours. At no time, did we act short of the requirement of our rules. I know and I am saddened a little by the fact that once or twice, there has been rhetoric that is derogatory and unparliamentary. If I were to repeat some of those remarks, I would myself be contributing to the breach of the rules of the House. But when an expression such as "political menopause" is used in Parliament; we had children in the galleries; in describing the Presidential Address which takes us seven days to debate, as such, I think that is a great abuse of Parliament. I do not even know how that kind of language was allowed to creep into the debate on this Speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me go on from there and say that, the public policy issues raised in the Presidential Address were mainly to do with economic development. What is economic development? We have used these words for 37 years and yet, we do not seem to understand what we are talking about. I think, time has come when we must measure our economic development in terms of the passage of time. At Independence, the agenda of this nation, apart from freedom, was the war against poverty, disease and ignorance. That was the great vision of this nation. There has never been any other vision. So, when today, we talk about economic development and eradication of poverty, what are we talking about? What happened to that war? Did we lose it? Did we win it? If we lost, why did we lose it? Therefore, I do not think that it is possible to talk about economic development in agriculture, if the problems we have in the coffee, tea, rice and sugar sectors and in all the others are not addressed. I do not have to enumerate them here, or the infrastructure that goes with it; then, we are not talking about any development in agriculture.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, of course, great progress has been made in the education sector. However, there are very basic bottle necks. I will, later on, ask the Minister for Education to explain why his Ministry's guidelines on the fees to be charged by secondary schools have not been adhered to. I have cases where students have been sent away from school, because those schools are charging more fees than what was approved by the Ministry. If our children, who complete primary education, cannot get places in secondary places, and those who have completed secondary education cannot get places in university or other training institutions, then what development are we talking about?

I know that there are many problems in the health sector, which are not of our own making. However, there are certain basic things regarding the running of hospitals, health centres and dispensaries. Those who are responsible for the running of those institutions are not doing their best. If you visit a dispensary or a health centre on a Saturday afternoon, or Sunday afternoon, you will find that they are closed. Also, you will not find doctors at hospitals. So, what are we talking about? I know that the two Ministers in the Ministry of Health are doing a great deal of work; that is why there is no outcry about malaria outbreak this year. The Ministry started preventive measures much earlier, and that is what we expected them to do.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what excuse do we have for the lack of employment that has affected our children? We are talking about development. Let me leave that aside and move to the question of poverty eradication. I have listened to people speak in this House many times about this subject. Some of those who have talked about the poverty that has afflicted Kenyans have no reason to talk about that problem, because they do not understand what poverty is. What business does a hon. Member of this House, or a Minister, who has many thousands tracts of land which are lying idle, have in telling us what poverty eradication is all about when the majority of Kenyans have no land? What is happening in Zimbabwe could very easily have happened here, and can very easily happen in this country. Until we address the question of land tenure, to ensure that there is fair distribution and usage of land in this country, we cannot talk about poverty eradication. I would like to challenge some of the loudest speakers in this House, who own large tracts of land, to give away some of that land to the poor, so that we can believe that they are serious about poverty eradication.

We cannot eradicate poverty if income is not distributed fairly among Kenyans. Only a few people own the wealth of this nation, and yet we talk of per capita income. What is the per capita income when some Kenyans do not have a single cent in their pockets throughout the year? I would not like to only talk about this Parliament, or Government. Unless the whole country and its entire leadership addresses the question of income distribution, we will

never solve the problem of poverty. Therefore, poverty eradication is not putting food in peoples' tammies; it is giving their children education, providing them with health services, and creating employment for them. Talking about getting a few cents from donors and supplying some areas with relief food, and claiming to be fighting poverty is dreaming.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would now like to, briefly, talk about democracy in this country. There has been talk about democracy and governance. Some of the oppressors of yesterday have, today, become the liberators; positions have changed. I have listened to people talk about bad governance. Bad governance in this country is a result of the emasculation of Parliament and politics, and that is what we fought for. When a country is controlled, as we are seeing, by donors, how can we talk about bad governance?

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

Mr. Kimeto: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion.

We have been talking about what we call "poverty eradication" in this country. We should not be talking about poverty eradication without improving agricultural production. Poverty cannot be eradicated, if farmers are not being looked after. As you know, Kenya is an agricultural country. If the costs being incurred by farmers cannot be subsidised, it will be very difficult for this country to eradicate poverty. Most of the proceeds of this country come from farmers. The maize seeds being used by farmers are not of high quality. Currently, farmers are not being supplied with the right type of maize seeds. Consequently, maize yields have gone down.

If we cannot have maize seeds which have been developed in the specific areas where the crop is grown, maize yields in this country will continue dwindling. Kitale is the only area that produces plenty of maize in this country. Why do we not also establish experimental farms in other areas where maize is grown in this country? Why do we not have agricultural experimental farms in Kericho, Bomet, Narok, and other places, where we can produce maize seeds for those areas? The only cash crops that are being cultivated in this country are tea, coffee and sugar-cane. However, these sub-sectors are not being well-looked after. For example, the Coffee Board of Kenya (CBK) has an experimental farm in Ruiru only in the entire country. Why does the CBK not have similar experimental farms in Narok, Kericho, Bomet, and elsewhere, where coffee is grown? Why do we not set aside some money for such farms to be put in all the areas where coffee is grown, so as to enable farmers to grow the cash crop?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country has experienced a severe drought in the past few months. Water was flowing in rivers such as Rivers Kipsonoi and Amalo. Why do we not erect barriers across those rivers, so as to enable farmers irrigate their farms. When shall we come up with a realistic strategy to stop the waters of those rivers from flowing into Lake Victoria to be used in Egypt and, instead, have it used in this country? Lake Victoria has plenty of water. Why do we not exploit that water for irrigation purposes in the upper lands? Which Government are we waiting for to come and do these things for us? Why is that water is not being exploited in Kenya?

As we all know, water is life. In 1978, the Government declared that, by the Year 2000, every household in this country would have piped water. When this projection was made, it was thought that, that goal would be realised. We are now in the Year 2000, but there are no water taps in our villages. We are still living without water. What shall we do about this problem? Chepalungu Water Project has been overlooked. The water pipes of that project, which start in Bomet and run all the way to Chepalungu, are still in the ground. The project started in 1969 but, up to-date, there is no water, and yet the water pipes are still in the ground. Why has the Government not completed that project to enable the communities in that area to have water?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will find that because of poverty many children drop out of primary schools, and this increases the illiteracy level in Kenya. Soon or later, you will find that many Kenyans are illiterate just because they were unable to pay school fees. There is the bursary fund which every district receives from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, but we do not know how it is disbursed. You will find that in other districts, the bursary funds go directly to the DO, who cannot inform the hon. Members who can distribute this money to the communities they represent. The Government should give every district an equal amount of money.

If you look at our roads, you will find that most of them are in a pathetic state although they are means of development. For example, I would like to say that although a tender was awarded to a contractor to repair the road from Sotik to Ndanai, which is in my constituency, up to now it is impassable because the Government has not paid him. We would like to have an implementation committee in this House. This is because if we do not have one, we shall talk here and we will not get anywhere. Soon, we will be in the year 2002 and all what we have proposed here will not have been implemented, if there will be no implementation committee. What will we tell our voters if we cannot do something now which will assist them?

If you look at our hospitals, you will find that they are in a sorry state. Drugs are sent to Government hospitals, where they are misused while others disappear. This is because there is no accountability. It is surprising that no Government hospital or dispensary can state the amount of money it has collected from the patients and the amount of money it has used. Most hospitals use this money without informing the communities surrounding them the amount

of money they have received. Where are we heading to? What are we doing?

I would also like to touch on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. The IMF and the World Bank people have given us conditions which we should meet before they resume aid to Kenya. Why do the people in the Government not do exactly what these people want so that we can get the money for development in this country? We should do exactly what these people have told us so that they can give us aid to enable us move forward.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our economy has been liberalised to make our country a supermarket for other countries' goods. This is because we do not subsidise farmers and industrialists in our country. I would like to say that South Africa has found Kenya to be a supermarket for its produce because it subsidises its maize and wheat farmers. If we do not subsidise our farmers, why do we not bar products from other countries? If we fail to do this, we shall be a supermarket for products from other countries and in that way a lot of money from our country will go to other countries and we shall remain poor. Why do we want to be poor while we can see the cause of poverty in our country? Why do we not spend so much money on our farmers, so that in the future these people will not bring their produce to this country, or if they will, they will find stiff competition?

I would like to say something about our banks. The banks in Kenya are not in a position to assist Kenyans. If we, who are in Parliament cannot do anything about the compounding interest rates, you will find that everybody here will be tied down by loans. It will not be hon. Kimeto alone, because everybody will have a problem here. If banks will not reduce their compound interest rates, our country will be very poor. Those people who want money to start development projects will soon or later face the same problem.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much. I would also like to start my contribution by paying tribute to a great son of Kenya, whom we lost, the late hon. George Kaptain. Having said that, I would like to make a few comments on issues raised on the Presidential Speech during the State Opening of Parliament.

First, I would like to say that when we talk about poverty, we should realise that poverty cannot be eradicated in this country by borrowing money from the IMF or the World Bank. Poverty can only be eradicated in this country if we address the problems bedeviling agriculture and infrastructural facilities. In agriculture, we need to give the farmer his prices and the input to make him work. Right now, why do we allow the import of commodities that this country can produce? Why do we allow the importation of wheat, rice and sugar? We have killed all those industries! This is the greatest problem in our country. If we facilitate and make the farmer get the money, give him good roads to transport his produce on and make him not pay so much money in his health facility, then we will improve the living standards of our people and through that way, we will address the problem of poverty.

We need not over-emphasise the fact that distribution of income in Kenya is terrible. The gap between the rich and the poor is too big. The rich are getting richer, while the poor are getting poorer. We need to address that issue urgently.

In the agricultural sector, for example, when it comes to the tea industry, which most of the people in Nyamira depend on, tea overstays in tea buying centres because the few vehicles that are there cannot transport it to the factories, which are also few. On the coffee industry, I would like to say that some of the coffee factories we have, for example, Nyabomite Coffee Co-operative Society, the Government has left corrupt officials to continue running them down despite protests from farmers. This is an issue which the Minister for Agriculture should address. Unfortunately, I do not see him here although he comes from Kisii; he must address it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, very many people have talked much about the PAC and PIC Reports. We do not need to over-emphasise the issue of implementing the recommendations of these two Committees. The other day I was very shocked to hear the President say that we need Ministers to sit in this Committee. The purpose of these audit Committees is basically to examine what the Government has done. There is no way Ministers can sit in those Committees to audit themselves. In any case, I assume that since the President was at one time the Leader of the Opposition he must have been the Chairman of Public Accounts Committee, and he knows this unless he wanted to mislead Kenyans. I think we should say "no" to the issue of Ministers sitting in those Committees.

The other issue I want to talk about is AIDS. AIDS is a big problem. When the Members of Parliament went for this seminar in Mombasa, we were promised that the issue of AIDS was going to start through the MPs and other commissions that are going to be set up. Where is this money they were talking about? Have we been facilitated to go and tell our constituents what they should do? Have we held barazas to make them aware about the dangers of this disease and to tell them that no cure has been found for AIDS? I understand this money was transferred to the Office of the President. What is it doing there? We need a statement from the Minister for Health.

An issue that was touched on in the Presidential Speech was about the Constitutional Review Process. I thought that the President in his wisdom would have come up with a proposal on how to get this process moving so that we do not have two sets of Kenyans approaching this issue; one led by the Parliamentary Select Committee and the other being the religious forum. That was missing in his Speech. That basically is leaving Kenyans to fight over an

issue which should be resolved. I find it very interesting that President Moi has said he is leaving the presidency in 2002 and at the same time he is very keen to see that he controls this review process. He should tell us why he feels so strongly that he should control this process.

Finally, many of the Opposition leaders in political parties have copied President Moi; they have become dictators. President Moi and President Mugabe are some of the worst dictators in Eastern Africa.

The Minister for Medical Services (Dr. Anangwe): On point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to talk about another MP who is also the President without bringing a substantive Motion here?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Yes, hon. Obwocha, you are really out of order.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was just mentioning the style in which the President is manning the---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The style is what refers to his character.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I intend to bring a Motion here to censure President Moi.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When you have brought the Motion you can discuss it. Before you do, you cannot and I will not allow you to do so.

Mr. Obwocha: I was saying that he is like President Mugabe. These are the two people---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Obwocha. This is not only in respect of hon. Moi, but in respect of all the leaders of political parties in this House. If you want to discuss their character which is to say you want to discuss their style of management, you are really required by our Standing Orders to bring a substantive Motion. If you do not I will not allow you.

Mr. Obwocha: When leaders of political parties go and say: "Look, you will not do this", there is no internal democracy in political parties. In fact one thing this Parliament did good was to bring that Clause in to the Constitution that nobody can remove you from Parliament except your constituents.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You can go and discuss with them their character in your party meetings and not in the House.

Mr. Obwocha: Let me go ahead and say this---

The Assistant Minister for Health (Dr. G.B. Galgalo): On a point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does he want it?

Mr. Obwocha: No, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not need it.

Finally, the President said that people who had been chased away from their farms during the 1991 land clashes should be resettled, but this has not been done up to date. There seems to be nobody to follow up this issue. There are people from various parts of the country who are still languishing in poverty and they have been expelled from their farms. An order has been given that they be resettled and nobody has taken it up.

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Bw. Naibu Spika, ninasimama kwanza kumpongeza Rais kwa ile Hotuba yake aliyotoa.

Hotuba hiyo iligusa mambo yote yanayotuhusu sisi wananchi na pia inaonyesha wazi kwamba Rais anaelewa taabu ambazo zipo katika nchi hii. Kuna mambo mengi ambayo aligusia na mengi ambayo yanafaa tuzidi kuyachangia. Ningetaka nianze kuongea juu ya kutokuwepo kwa usalama katika nchi hii. Bila usalama mambo mengi hayawezi kufanyika. Sote tunatambua kwamba usalama ni kitu muhimu na ni wajibu wa Serikali kuhakikisha kwamba inadumisha usalama ili kuwe na maendeleo. Tukiwa tunatambua hivyo, ningetaka wananchi waelewe kwamba sisi kama Serikali, tuna mzigo mkubwa ambao tunaubeba kwa jambo la usalama. Ninataka waelewe kwamba kuna taabu zingine zinazotukumba ambazo ni ngumu na hatuwezi kujaribu kuzuia mambo ya kutokuwepo kwa usalama.

Urefu wa mpaka wa Kenya unaozunguka Bara Hindi ni zaidi ya kilometa 4300. Ni kweli kwamba hatuwezi kuwa na askari katika kila sehemu ya mpaka huu wetu. Kutokana na kutokuwepo kwa usalama bunduki nyingi zimeingia nchi hii na wakora wengi pia wameingia nchi hii kupitia hii mipaka. Kwa sababu ya hiyo tumejaribu vile tunavyoweza kuhakikisha kwamba makundi yetu ya polisi, jeshi na kadhalika wanafanya kazi yao lakini tunaomba waelewe. Kwa mfano, Karamojong' na Wateso mpakani mwa Kenya na Uganda, wamepewa bunduki na Serikali yao. Wasi wasi wetu ni kuwa bunduki hizo huingizwa hapa nchini na huleta matatizo mengi ya kiusalama mpakani. Serikali inafanya iwezavyo kuimarisha hali ya usalama mpakani.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ukosefu wa nafasi za kazi na umaskini kumechangia kuzoroteka kwa usalama katika nchi yetu. Askari wetu wanajaribu wawezavyo kuthibiti usalama. Hii ni kwa sababu kuna visa vingi ambavyo vingeweza kutokea, lakini askari wetu wameweza kuvizua na tuna usalama wa kutosha hapa nchini. Hata hivyo, kuna askari fulani ambao wanaharibu kikozi cha polisi kwa kula hongo. Ni haki kwa Serikali kuwachukulia hatua askari hawa, ili wasiharibu jina njema la kikozi hicho? Tunawaomba wananchi wote kwa jumla washirikiane na kikozi cha polisi, ili

tuhakikishe kuwa kuna usalama wa kutosha hapa nchini.

Bw. Naibu Spika, jambo lingine ambalo Rais alizungumza juu yake ni ukabila unaoweza kuharibu nchi yetu. Nchi hii ina makabila 42. Idadi hii imesaidia sana kuleta uthabiti katika nchi hii. Kama nchi hii ingalikuwa na makabila mawili, pengine tungeshuhudia vita vibaya vya ukabila. Lakini kuwa na makabila mengi, kumesaidia kuleta utulivu nchini. Jambo linalotuharibu ni kutumia makabila yetu kudhulumu watu wengine. Ni maombi yetu kuwa sote tusikubali kutumia makabila yetu kudhulumu watu wengine, au kujipendekeza wenyewe. Yufaa tuchunge mambo haya sana, ili nchi hii isitumbukie katika vita vya kikabila.

Bw. Naibu Spika, tumezungumza juu ya Katiba ya nchi hii. Ningependa kusema kwamba wakati Katiba itakapoandikwa upya, ni lazima vipengele fulani viangaliwe vyema. Kwa mfano, wilaya ya Taita-Taveta, theluthi mbili za ardhi ni mbuga za wanyama wa porini. Wananchi wetu hawapati pesa zozote kutokana na mapato ya utalii katika sehemu hiyo, kwa sababu ilitwaliwa na Serikali. Wananchi wetu wanahitajika kupiga magoti mbele ya Shirika la Wanyama wa Porini (KWS) kwa minajili ya kupata misaada. Yafaa wakati ufike Katiba ibadilishwe ili wananchi wetu wawe na haki ya kukusanya ushuru unaotokana na shughuli za utalii na pia, wadi zetu zipate pesa za kusaidia katika elimu ya watoto wetu na za kurekebisha barabara zetu. Tunajua kwamba Konseli ya Narok hukusanya pesa nyingi sana kutoka kwa watalii wanaozuru mbuga zao za kuhifadhia wanyama wa porini. Wananchi wa sehemu hiyo wanasomesha watoto wao, wanatengeneza barabara zao na kufanya mambo mengi ya maendeleo kwa sababu sehemu yao ni Trust Land. Wakati utakapofika Katiba ibadilishwe, sehemu hiyo ifanywe Trust Land, ili tuweze kukusanya pesa ambazo zitafaidi wadi zetu na tuwasaidie wananchi wa sehemu hiyo.

Bw. Naibu Spika, kuna rasilmali zinazopatikana katika sehemu yetu. Kwa mfano, tuna madini. Watu wanaochimba madini hayo ni lazima walipe ushuru fulani kwa wadi zetu. Hii ni kwa sababu watu wamepata pesa nyingi kutokana na madini hayo, lakini wenyeji katika sehemu hiyo hawapati hata darahimu moja.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ni lazima Katiba yetu iwe na kipengee cha kuundwa kwa Serikali ya Majimbo. Hii ni kwa sababu asilimia 72 za pesa zinazopatikana kutokana na shughuli za utalii, zinapatikana katika Mkoa wa Pwani. Lakini pesa hizo haziwafaidi watu wa mkoa huu kimaendeleo. Tukiandika upya Katiba, ni lazima pesa zinazopatikana katika shughuli za utalii, jimbo la Pwani lipewe kiasi fulani, ili wananchi wetu wafanye maendeleo.

Bw. Naibu Spika, mara nyingi viongozi fulani hulalamika juu ya mambo ambayo hayana msingi wowote. Inafaa sisi viongozi kupima maneno yetu na tuwe na nidhamu katika matamshi yetu. Nakumbuka vizuri wakati marehemu Kapten alipoaga dunia, viongozi fulani walilaumu Serikali bila msingi wowote. Ni vyema tuendeleze siasa ambazo zimekomaa.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ni kweli kuwa ajali zinazotokea barabarani husababishwa na hali mbaya ya barabara zetu. Lakini ikiwa madereva wangukuwa na nidhamu, basi ajali hizo hazingeweza kutokea. Jambo muhimu ni lazima madereva wetu na Wakenya wote kwa jumla kuwa na nidhamu, ili mambo mengi yasiharibike hapa nchini.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ningependa kutia mkazo kuwa wanasiasa wote wanahitajika kupima matamshi yao kwa vile hatutaki kusema mambo ambayo yatachochea wananchi wetu wachukue hatua za kuwadhuru ndugu zao.

Bw. Naibu Spika, baadhi ya waheshimiwa Wabunge wamezungumza juu ya ugonjwa wa UKIMWI. Ningependa kusema kwamba Serikali imeunda The National AIDS Council. Tunafanya bidii kuona ya kwamba kuna mipango mwafaka ya kuwezesha tume hiyo kufanya kazi sawa sawa. Ukweli ni kwamba kufikia sasa, hatujapata pesa za kugharamia shughuli zote za tume hiyo. Hii ni kwa sababu hazina yetu kuu haijapokea pesa hizo kutoka kwa mataifa wahisani. Hata hivyo, tumehaidiwa tutapata pesa hizo, ikiwa tutarekebisha mipango kadha wa kadha ya The National AIDS Council.

Bw. Naibu Spika, tunapozungumza juu ya Katiba, ni lazima tujaribu kugeuza roho zetu. Hii ni kwa sababu hata tuandike Katiba nzuri namna gani, haitatufaa ikiwa roho zetu ni mbaya. Kwa mfano, tunaweza kusema tuwe na idara huru ya mahakama, lakini hatuwezi kuhakikisha kwamba mahakimu hawatafanya ufisadi. Tutaendelea kuwa na mahakimu wafisadi, hata kama tukirekebisha Katiba yetu. Kwa hivyo, ni lazima tuhakikishe ya kwamba roho za wananchi wetu zimegeuzwa. Makanisa yana wajibu wa kuhakikisha ya kwamba wanafanya kazi hiyo yao muhimu ya kujaribu kugeuza roho za binadamu, ili tuishi na amani katika nchi hii. Ikiwa wananchi wote wanaweza kufuata mafunzo ya kidini, basi tutaangamiza usherati, ufisadi na mambo yote machafu.

Bw. Naibu Spika, kwa hayo machache, ninaunga Hotuba ya Rais mkono.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Speech which was given nine days ago by His Excellency the President. I understood the President to have identified the following areas as bedevilled with problems. I understood him to have said that poverty is an endemic problem. He equally said that insecurity is also a problem affecting Kenyans. He also talked about the need for reforms and the need to have proper revenue collection. But one thing the President did not say, and I think it is important because I understood his entire speech to have been a confession that this country is in problems and he went ahead to state them-- But he did not tell us the extent to which the Government was responsible for those problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the KANU Government has been in power for over 35 years, and if Kenya has any

problem that should have been sorted out. So, for the President to have come here and admit that we have problems and not gone ahead and confessed that his Government may have contributed to those problems, it is not enough confession. When we talk about corruption, for instance, there are members of his family that have been mentioned in the corrupt dealings. But he has not dealt with them. There are people closely associated with him that have been identified positively and condemned by PIC and PAC Reports, but he has done nothing about it.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so, in as much as we are expected to suggest ways and means we can use to come out of these problems, I think the buck starts and stops with the Presidency!

(Applause)

This is because that is the highest office upon which we fall to when we have problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want us to look at the history of a country that had similar problems like the ones that we have today. Take for instance in 1926, when I think the United States of America had the Great Depression. At that time, I believe the President of USA was Mr. Herbert Hoover and he suggested the kind of policy that IMF and the World Bank were trying to push down our throats; that we should open up our economy to every person who wanted to invest in this country. They were advocating a *laissez faire* economy. What happened? That kind of policy did not work. The Americans voted out that kind of regime and brought in another person. I think it was Mr. Franklin Dulano Roosevelt who took over. In other words, I am saying that when we are in serious problems like we are today, I think it takes a new leader and a new deal to solve those problems.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my first suggestion is that the Constitution states very well that the President has no other term other than up to the year 2002. I think we should have a very clear system that will give us proper leadership and which will replace the KANU leadership that we have. I really do not have anything in person against KANU. It really does not matter whether the next leader comes from KANU or from the Opposition side of the House. But there must be fairness in the electoral process, because this country has a problem of leadership. The Americans came out of their problem because they changed a leader and gave votes to a new leader who had a new deal. There are Members of this House who have stood here before us and talked to this Government by suggesting brilliant ideas, but you can see we are sliding into a worse kind of abuse.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should now concentrate on the suggestion of how to transfer leadership. In Tanzania, right in our neighbourhood, the late Julius Nyerere, and he was a person who was revered in his life, because he was able to peacefully transfer leadership--- He was not revered because he turned Tanzania into an economic giant, but he was able to admit that he failed Tanzanians because his policies did not work. I think that is the kind of advice we in the Opposition side can suggest to the KANU side. We will really respect the current President if he is able to transfer peacefully the kind of power he has to somebody more able than the kind of leadership that his Government has exuded.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now, to come back home, right where we are, we are told to identify ways and means of fighting poverty. Last week on Monday, and a week before that, I was in my constituency. I was in the company of my friend, hon. Kajwang', and we went to see the area OCS and notified him that we intended to have a farmers' meeting. We expected the farmers to come to the meeting and tell us the problems they had. But what happened? When that meeting was about to take off, somebody calling himself a DO and an OCS came and cocked guns and everybody ran halter-skelter. How then are we, as Members of Parliament, expected to receive the problems that affect wananchi and find solutions to them? Now, I read in today's newspapers that farmers in Murang'a tried to meet in order to put down their problems and, probably, look for solutions to them. What did the Government do? The Government sent police officers with truncheons and teargas and many of those farmers were injured and are in hospital now.

An hon. Member: Shame! Shame!

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, about a month ago, Muhoroni was tear-gased. Also, Nyeri was tear-gased. It appears that somewhere, somebody does not want people to come together and identify their problems and see how to sort them out. That is hardly the way we can proceed. You will find that, for instance, in my own district, the DC and the PC are trying to run around with political rejects. What kind of arrangement do we have if there are elected leaders; people who were voted for by over 70 per cent of the franchise of that place, are not listened

to by the so-called Government agents like the DCs? I think there is something wrong with our system and until we identify it and the institution of the presidency and the person of the president decides to leave us with a legacy of peaceful transition, I do not think that this country is heading anywhere. We will talk and suggest what is correct, but until leadership of KANU is transferred to those able gentlemen on that side, so that we are able to talk with people who have the ability to bind that side, then, we are not getting anywhere. That is very serious.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for instance, we can even take the example of the "Dream Team" that the whole of this House applauded as having hope for Kenyans. Now, the so-called Leakey-led team have very good dreams, but take for instance, the dream that Mr. Zackayo Cheruiyot had. Mr. Cheruiyot wanted to retire all the assistant chiefs. What did the President do? He made a quick about-turn and said no. We know of brilliant dreams by Mr. Leakey and Mr. Oduor-Otieno that will be said no to. So, that is why I said the problem is that of change. We in the Opposition must try to assist those in the Government to have a peaceful change. Let those on this side of the House not appear to be vindictive to that side, but that side and, particularly the President, has a duty to retire like Mr. Mandela and Mr. Nyerere did.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few and humble remarks, I beg to---

Mr. Ndicho: You have three minutes more to go.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Thank you very much. I do not want to say anything and dilute what I have said.

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

To begin with, I would like to congratulate His Excellency the President for the excellent Speech that he delivered on the Floor of this House during the Official State Opening of the Fourth Session of the Eighth Parliament. His Speech covered all the important aspects of problems that we suffer from as a country and also underscored the "catalytic role" that the Government will play in order to jump-start our economy. He made sure that we understand that the Government will provide an enabling atmosphere to enable Kenyans to get out of the present economic difficulties. To quote his own words on page 10, second paragraph at the top, he says:-

"Economic growth driven by the opportunities---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Kajwang!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me read out the second paragraph of the Presidential Address:-

"Economic growth driven by the opportunities offered to the citizens by their elected Government is the foundation for success."

The President meant that he needs the support of all of us. He appealed to us to give him that support, starting from hon. Members to all leaders and wananchi. I think it is only fair that since we are all in the same boat, we should give him that support.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the present economic situation is to be improved upon, it is important that the correct infrastructure be put in place. Our roads were damaged by the *El Nino* rains three to four years ago, and we were made to believe that money had been provided to rectify them. Up to now, very little has happened. There is some development going on in various urban areas and the City of Nairobi, but very little on the countryside. The more we delay, the more expensive it will be. We have lost a lot of time during the dry spell when it is easier, for example, to carry a lorry-load of sand than during the rainy season.

QUORUM

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no quorum in the House. The Front Bench is almost empty!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is true we do not have a quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: We have a quorum now. You may proceed, Mr. Muchilwa.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the *El Nino* funds should be released quickly to do the roads. Otherwise, it will be more expensive if [**The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation**] they delay in doing the works.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are trunk roads which were also damaged by the *El Nino* rains. There are sections of the main road from Mombasa to Kampala which are being repaired under contract. But there are very big portions on this road which have potholes, and have not yet been contracted for. It is those potholes which are posing danger.

(Mr. Khamasi attempted to withdraw from the Chamber)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Khamasi! You cannot draw the Chair's attention to the fact that there is no quorum and then proceed to leave the Chamber! Proceed, Mr. Muchilwa!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, potholes are causing many deaths on our roads. Last year we had a nasty accident near Naivasha, where a bus which was trying to avoid a pothole rammed into a matatu and killed many people. And only last week, over 100 people perished near Kericho.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we used to have the Ministry of Works Maintenance Camps along the roads and we do not know what happened to them. If they were functioning, they would be repairing those potholes through the Fuel Levy Fund, so that we do not lose so many people on the roads. Apart from losing people on the roads, those potholes cause a lot of damage to vehicles, and that increases the cost of transport. It also forces motorists to spend a lot of money on vehicle repairs. I am also told that when a pothole is not repaired, water sinks into the sub-structure of the road and eventually it becomes more expensive to repair. I would like to urge the relevant Ministry to utilise the Fuel Levy Fund for repair of potholes before they are fully carpeted. This will improve our infrastructure on the roads. If we do not do that, we will drain our pockets. Because, if a road is good you drive properly and do not use much fuel.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to turn to the manufacturing sector. This sector has been very hard hit by the high cost of electricity. Some companies, like the Webuye Paper Mills are spending about six per cent of their costs on electricity. Apart from electricity being expensive, it is hardly available. So, manufacturers lose a lot of money, because they have to keep their factories idle. To ease that situation, I would suggest that electric generators be zero-rated to enable companies to supplement their power requirements by generating it themselves. If they do that, there would be an alternative if KenGen hike their prices because they are a monopoly. If they do that, then, companies will switch to generating their own electricity and the dynamics of economics will prevail.

Meanwhile, I understand that by the year 2004, Uganda will be having extra electricity to sell to other countries. Perhaps those concerned, should make applications now, so that we get cheaper electricity from Uganda.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while still on electricity, I would like to comment on the Rural Electrification Programme. The procedure for rural electrification has not been clarified. As a result, when electricity reaches a market place and wananchi want to access it, they are charged commercial rates. We are told that if they do not want to be charged commercial rates, they should apply for the supply of electricity at the time that plans are being made to do rural electrification in that particular area. This is an impossible task, because, first of all, not everybody knows that, that application has been made; and secondly, there are those who need the supply, long after the electricity had been installed. For example, Jua Kali artisans who would like to set up their businesses, it is not fair to tell them that they should have applied earlier. The Ministry of Energy should simplify the system, so that once rural electrification is done in a place, it should be accessed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on farming, it is absurd that all institutions that used to help farmers, for example, GMR, AFC, KCC, KFA have collapsed. They failed because of bad management. This is because they used to be managed by former politicians. Since those institutions had worked well before, it means that they can work well again, if you put in the right management. It is, therefore, important that they be revived. They should be revived to help farmers when there are crop failures.

I beg to support.

Mr. P.K. Mwangi: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the debate on the Presidential Address, which touched a lot on the youths of this country.

It was good that the President pointed out that we have corruption in this country. He also pointed out the insecurity in this country, the AIDS disaster and other small issues, which have no effect on the youth, who comprise 70 per cent of the total population. It is a reality that for any country to exist, it has to know the proper ways and means of making its youth to achieve better living standards in order to take over leadership from the older people. The President seems to be very much ready to remain in power, but the time is ripe for him to go.

On corruption, the Government had better agree that it is the one which has accommodated the development and the growth of this culture in this country, to the extent that it is now like AIDS. Government officials have been very much ready to exploit the resources of this country. Right now, we do not have timber since forests have been closed down. We know very well that those who were licensed by the Government were not the only ones who were

harvesting trees from our forests. The forest officials have been allowing other business people to fell trees in our forests who do not pay anything to the Government. It is high time that the Government noted that the youths of this country, in future, will have to construct buildings. The Government has the duty to protect those forests without giving them to politically-correct individuals.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue is poverty. There is no way that we can eradicate poverty by appointing commissions. Commissions will not take us anywhere and the only way to eradicate poverty in this country is to know the root cause of the problem. The problem started when the Government itself started disrespecting the farmer of this country. The Government should market the products of a farmer so that a farmer can get a better pay. The Government should implement its policies, but when it leaves them to collect dust on the shelves, it does not achieve anything.

The Government, once upon a time, came up with an idea that it would support the Jua Kali sector. In many towns in this country today, we have so many Jua Kali projects, which stalled a long time ago. Even those Jua Kali projects which have been completed have no power. It seems now that those Jua Kali projects will not get power. Kenyans have noted that the power that we get today is very expensive and it is easier to buy a generator and provide power in our factory or our house. People who are generating power are getting it at around Kshs2 per unit but they are selling it to the people at around Kshs8 per unit. What has happened? We know that the power company has been taken up by certain individuals to exploit the poor wananchi. We know very well that each and every electricity consumer in this country pays a levy of five per cent towards the Rural Electrification Programme. How many districts have achieved this programme? None! In my district, we have never seen anything in the name of "Rural Electrification Programme". Each year we attend four DDC, meetings. We have passed more than 12 projects which should be facilitated by the Government, yet, it has done nothing. We should discard this and start doing something else.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you visit such a good town as Thika, you will feel very much frustrated to note that so many factories and companies have closed down. This means that so many people have lost their jobs. We would advise the Government to look for ways and means of reviving such big factories, for example, the East African Bag and Cordage, Yoken and so many others which will employ the many job seekers that we have today in this country.

On security, it is a dream that this Government will on any other day, contain insecurity, if it cannot fight poverty. It is not that the parents of the so-called criminals are criminals, but they are very good citizens of this country. These youngsters cannot get their daily bread and yet they see so many people driving very big vehicles while they have not taken breakfast or lunch. What do you expect them to do? They will have to fight for their own survival. We are not condoning insecurity, but it is high time that the Government went back to the drawing board and noted that without jobs, there will be no security.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue is on the judiciary. We have so many cases which have been pending, especially civil cases, in our courts. Some of these civil cases have taken more than 20 years. You will agree with me that "judgement delayed is justice denied". We have so many universities in this country. We should train many judges so that we can have a court in each division to solve this problem of delayed judgements and justice. Just within my Constituency, we have a case of M/s Kakuzi Limited versus other people, which has taken 12 years. This problem has caused a big dispute between the people of Maragwa Constituency and M/s Kakuzi Limited. What is this Government doing to its people? Is it very good for the Government to see blood being shed? The Government has to do something. I wish the Attorney-General was here so that I could tell him that.

This morning, I almost fought with a Government officer in my Constituency. This Government officer tried to use a Provincial Administration Policeman (AP) against the squatters of Mararanjau who had a dispute, and wanted to know how much they will get. But a Government officer went to the DO's office and got two rifles and vowed to shoot one person to show that the Government has a very long "hand". Does it mean that the "hand" of the Government should be used to kill? Right now, we are crying over a police shoot out which occurred on Monday. It seems as if the Government is encouraging its people to engage in criminal activities. This should be stopped. If the President himself has talked against this, why then should a Government officer, who is even below the rank of a DC, send two policemen to go and shoot people?

We are very bitter and ready to see to it that those squatters are settled. We will ensure justice is done to them. We shall make sure that we enjoy the fruits of Independence. It is high time the Government noted that Makuyu people existed, and are no longer squatters. They need title deeds.

Thank you very much.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Dr. Godana): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to make my contribution to this debate on the Presidential Address to the nation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to support the Motion. The Speech by His Excellency the President dwelt at length on a number of issues and problems that face the nation, among them poverty. The bottom-line of our contributions in this House, our pre-occupations as Members of Parliament over the weekends or elsewhere, when we are addressing our constituents, is development. We want the quality of life for our respective peoples to improve. That is what fighting poverty is. Whether we ask for better education, roads or medical care, the bottom-line is that, we want the quality of life of our people to improve. Fortunately, we are endowed with certain resources in this country. We have one of the best manpower resources in the continent. This is now universally recognised. This country has developed its manpower in terms of education in all fields, to a level of competition with the top two or three countries in Black Africa. Indeed, according to the International Education Institute, Kenya now beats even Nigeria in terms of numbers of students at universities in the United States of America. This is partly the problem behind the difficulties of Kenyan students getting visas to some countries. The feeling is that relative to the size of our population, we have inundated those places.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, over the last decade or so, the very decade when democratisation became the order of the day in this Continent, poverty here, as elsewhere in this Continent, has expanded. That is in sharp contrast to remarkable decline of the poverty levels in countries in Asia which, at one time, were at our level. So, it is right and proper for the Government to seize the initiative, and give the nation a target of eliminating poverty by the year, 2015. The Government alone will not be able to do it, especially in a liberalised economy such as ours. It requires the unity of purpose of all Kenyans, irrespective of political divide. When there are major national problems which affect all Kenyans, irrespective of the side of the House on which we are; irrespective of the region of the country from which we come, it is important that we de-politicise poverty as the President asked, and work with a unity of purpose. I think the Government has to be commended for making it possible for NGOs and other private sector representatives, to participate in the formulation of the Poverty Eradication Strategy Paper.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want now to turn to a discussion on issues on Constitutional reforms. I know that the Report of the Committee appointed for this purpose has not been tabled and will be forthcoming. I have no desire to pre-empt the discussions on that Report. But I think it is proper and fitting to re-state what has been stated time and again. I think it deserves to be repeated for the umpteenth time, if possible, that this House will be judged by posterity, on whether it helped to develop constitutionalism, or whether it helped to develop the practice of deviation from the Constitution. We cannot permit any extra-constitutional procedures in the adoption of the new Constitution. We must take into account the views of all Kenyans irrespective of region, profession, sex or political affiliation. But ultimately, the responsibility to debate and amend the Constitution is legally vested in Parliament alone! I would, therefore, want to appeal to all those who have, unfortunately, tried to create the so-called "Ufungamano Initiative" - I say the so-called "Ufungamano Initiative" because it cannot be a constitutional initiative in the manner in which they seek it. They can be recognised only as a pressure group, for that is what they are. It is important that they recognise that, Parliament alone has the mandate to ventilate the views through established parliamentary channels.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans, despite the difficult or harsh economic times, have a lot to be proud of. This country is now recognised by the outside world as the anchor for peace and stability in a troubled Continent, extending from the Horn of Africa to the Great Lakes. But President Moi's tireless efforts in the pursuit of peaceful settlement of disputes, whether in Somalia, Great Lakes or Sudan - where we have been entrusted by the international community to lead the IGAD process, has been recognised the world over. Peace in our neighbourhood is peace for us. Peace in our neighbourhood will mean fewer inflow of refugees into our country. Peace in the neighbourhood will mean less inflow of illegal weapons that have increased the problem of insecurity that the previous speaker talked about. Peace in our neighbourhood will mean that we can get together with our neighbours in the pursuit of development, through regional integration. Peace in our neighbourhood will mean better market to our goods. Therefore, it is important that Members of Parliament and Kenyans in general support the Government in such efforts. We should cherish what we have.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at this point again, I would like to say a few words on the problem of our image. We have a national image. The national image of this country outside is dependent by and large, on what happens here, and what is reported out of here. The people need to know that some of the bad coverage that we get outside the country is because of our transparency and openness. This is the country with the largest concentration of foreign media house representatives. Many of them are based in Nairobi to cover not just Kenya, but the whole of East and Central Africa and Africa at large. The closest African capital, in the numbers of such accreditations, has about half our number. So, any story filed about the Burundi National Park Massacre, or the massacre by the devilish sect in Western Uganda, invariably appears in the international Press under the caption: "Nairobi, Kenya". So, the person who reads the story thinks that it is about Kenya. But it is a story which is filed from Kenya. We have refrained from taking hard attitudes about this kind of reporting, as many countries in this Continent have done. I would want to appeal to the local media people to be fair and honest in their reporting.

This afternoon, I had a meeting with a diplomat regarding what he is supposed to have said; only to learn that, in fact, many of the words used in the newspaper were not uttered by the diplomat. In fact, the diplomat is supposed to have uttered the words one week ago, and the story was carried in bold print one week later. One wonders what was the intention. First, it was to distort the story and secondly, to bring it up as news, when it was one week old! The image that we have here will determine the amount of tourists that flow here. The image that we have here will determine the amount of investments that will flow here. The image that we have here will determine the attitudes of outsiders to our country. The number of tourists who flow here, the inflow of investments here and the economic performance of this country, is for the benefit of all Kenyans. It is not just for the benefit of those in the Government. When our national image suffers you and I suffer. So, it is up to us to be patriotic. We tend to be our own worst enemies in that we seem to be the people peddling some misinformation with interested or uninterested parties outside the country, not knowing the damage we are doing to ourselves.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I want to commend the Office of the President for having streamlined the distribution of famine relief in this country. I hope the same efforts towards streamlining the use of public resources will be put into the supervision of AIEs at the district level. Since Independence, the Government has spent millions of shillings on the so-called "Rural Development Projects". They were properly envisaged and designed but invariably resources end up being pilfered. Everyone knows this. We all know it and so the Government ends up being accused of corruption. The corruption is in the hands of Kenyans and not just those in the Government. The corruption is perpetuated by many of the officials at the grassroots who divert resources meant for specific projects. These are individuals working for the Government. More often than not, I dare say, they are people who, in fact, are hostile to the Government for which they work. They are people who are sympathetic to some of the parties in the Opposition. So, again, the problem of corruption should be a matter which all of us can fight in unison.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I want to say that the rains have just started. We hope they will be good rains. I would want to appeal that this be the last time that as a nation, we will be compelled to appeal internationally for famine relief.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Muithia: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. I have gone through the Speech which was presented here on the day of the opening of this Session. This Speech goes ahead to acknowledge that the Government has completely failed in steering this country ahead. The Speech acknowledges that economic activity has declined. There is no expansion of markets for our goods.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

All our youngsters in this country are not getting jobs and maybe, this is why, many times if you look at the galleries, you will notice that they are normally packed. These young men and women are not here because they are on leave. They are here because they do not have jobs and the President's Speech acknowledged that this country is not creating jobs for our youngsters.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I tend to think that this Speech is as hollow as it is wanting. I would have expected the President to come and tell the Kenyans in this country what steps his Government is taking to change the lives of Kenyans. We had a great American President, Roosevelt, who, when there was the Great Depression in America, went out of his way and said: "Yes, let there be jobs for every American; Let us go and build the roads using our hands, and let every American get a job". Right now, the roads are in a deplorable condition. I have just travelled from Gatundu and as you know it started raining yesterday. Soon, most people will not be able to get to their houses or homes. These hon. Members will not be able to get back there and I do know that the European Union has offered this country millions of shillings to help in the road reconstruction. In Eastern Province, Kshs700 million was agreed upon in 1998 and today the Government has only spent Kshs350,000. What a shame! This money is in banks.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a few minutes ago, I tried to make a telephone call. You cannot communicate within Nairobi leave alone within the country because the telecommunications network has completely broken down. You cannot do business if your telecommunications equipment has broken down and those who are responsible for bringing down the telecommunications equipment here are Ministers in this Government. Reports have been made that certain individuals should not hold public offices and yet, they are still in the Government. If this Government is serious, we must take action on the PIC and PAC reports.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of the previous speakers here just talked about the electricity

problem. We are paying for rural electrification and if you go back there through the DDC and make recommendations, no action is taken. Recently, in Thika District, we were told that the Government has given Thika District Kshs18 million for rural electrification and in my constituency, we agreed to start with the public schools. It was resolved that Mururia High School, Karinga Girls High, and Icaciri Girls High School should be electrified so that people there and our children can do their work. When I walked to the Ministry of Energy, I was told: "This value you got of Kshs18 million is on paper. This is just academic work". Is this Government serious? While we are languishing in these electricity problems, the European Union (EU) has given this country Kshs375 million to electrify coffee factories in the constituencies. From 1998, they only spent Kshs120 million. They electrified only 23 instead of 57 factories. Where did the balance of the money go? This points to why the EU has said: "You are not going to withdraw any more money if KPLC is not going to follow the programme agreed upon". The EU is ready to give us Kshs500 million more. What is happening? What is this Government doing with free money in the bank?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, turning to agriculture, we say that we should increase production in agriculture. The mainstay of agriculture in this country has been coffee and tea. When the Minister for Agriculture stood here and said that he was going to solve the problems in the coffee industry by bringing in new members for the Coffee Board of Kenya, many coffee farmers thought that they were going to get a reprieve. The World Bank has produced a report which says that we must destroy the co-operative movement. If we destroy the co-operative movement here so that the coffee is taken by foreigners and we do know the highest person sitting in the Government today went to dine and wine with some Germans so that they can take our coffee, I think we are joking and that is why you find---

The Vice-President (Prof. Saitoti): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member has made an allegation that the highest person in this country went to Germany, dined with some Germans for the purpose of destroying the coffee industry in this country. In any case, if the hon. Member was attempting to discuss the President, the Standing Orders bars an ordinary Member from discussing the conduct of the President save by a substantive Motion.

Mr. Muihia. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not discussing the President, I am discussing coffee. The Newman Group of Companies from Germany would attest that there was a dinner and there was wine drunk to destroy the coffee industry in this country.

The Minister for Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Mudavadi): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the hon. Member is misleading this House. It should also be acknowledged that, if the Head of State makes a State visit to a country, it is in his full authority to market the products that are produced in this country. There is nothing wrong, if in the process, he was trying to seek broader markets for the Kenyan coffee. But we are not aware, maybe, the hon. Member should make us aware, if indeed, he has any evidence that the President was destroying the coffee industry?

Mr. Muihia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would have congratulated the President if the World Bank is not coming with the Paper which says that, we must destroy our central coffee auction so that our coffee is sold at the farm's gate. That is what the World Bank is saying! We should not allow ourselves to be misled by the World Bank although they are our partners in development.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Mr. Muihia, are you saying that you have not referred to the President, in the first place?

Mr. Muihia: No, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. They are putting words into my mouth. I have not talked about the President!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one thing; that we have been doing a lot of research work and this country is full of brains and so much research papers have been written. We should not continue to talk about writing research papers. We should now go back to the shelves, take out those research papers and then start implementing what is recommended in them. This is the only way we can get out of this massive poverty which we are in.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, most hon. Members have talked about insecurity in this country and I want to be associated with what they have said. Poverty is playing a great role in contributing to insecurity in this country. If we reduce poverty in our country our young people would be engaged throughout the day and they will have little time to go for unwarranted activities.

Finally, our rivers are drying up. We are talking about increased production in agriculture while our rivers are drying up. In that part of the country where I come from, Kinale and Aberdares Forests have been wiped out and those rivers we rely on, like Thiririka, Ndarugo and Karimenu are all drying up. Why does the Government continue to allow the forests which induce rain for us to be destroyed? What is the point of having an Environmental Bill passed here in this House?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope I have been heard by the Government and I will be willing to

work with the Government that listens to me.

Thank you very much.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kiangoi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute in support of this Motion.

I wish to underscore the various points which were raised in His Excellency's Presidential Address and do wish to commend His Excellency the President for such an elaborate policy statement.

If you look at paragraph 2, on page 10, it reads as follows: "The realisation of this potential will of course depend on many factors." The realisation of poverty eradication will depend on many factors. First and foremost, the slow-down in economic growth must be halted. That is my starting point. Before we talk of increased production and eradication of poverty, we must stop the downward trend of economic growth. How do we achieve this? In my view, agriculture being the mainstay of this economy, it should be our starting point.

QUORUM

Mr. Magara: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is no quorum in the House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): That is correct, hon. Magara. There is no quorum in the House. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! We have a quorum now. Mr. Kiangoi, you can now proceed.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kiangoi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. As I was saying, we must begin from the known to the unknown. I was referring to the tea sector where feeder roads are constructed by use of the tea cess which comes from the production of tea. If we utilise the tea cess properly, we will maintain the roads that serve the tea areas of this country and in that way, we shall be able, at least, to, maintain tea production. Tea is the greatest earner of income to this country and it should be maintained.

In the coffee sector, there is also the coffee cess. Besides, I urge those who are charged with the responsibility of managing coffee, not only at the highest level, but also at the lower society level to be accountable. These people are not accountable in most cases and this leads to bad management. It has been said here that the co-operative movement in this country is being "killed".

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been said that the co-operative movement should be streamlined and we must be open to say where things are going wrong. In a district like Nyamira, out of Kshs76 million which was earned last year, about Kshs44 million reached the farmers. Where did the difference go to? It found its way into the pockets of the management. The coffee farmer is affected by deductions right from the Coffee Board of Kenya, the union and right to the society level. Some of these deductions are unnecessary because these people earn money from the farmer for doing nothing. The farmer takes his coffee to the society and that coffee is taken straight to Kenya Planters' Co-operative Union (KPCU). So, there is no justification whatsoever for these deductions which cause the farmer to lose a lot of money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the livestock sector, we should encourage the pastoralists by finding markets for their products. We need to encourage them to market their products in foreign countries so that whatever they produce is sold so that they can realize the fruits of their labour. The same applies to the cereals sector. The farmer in areas like Trans Nzoia and Uasin Gishu is paid an amount that does not cover his costs. If we ensure that the farmer's cost is at least covered and he gets some profit on top of his costs, he will have the initiative to produce in the subsequent years and we shall not experience famine in this country like is the case now. We will be able to alleviate poverty.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the *Jua Kali* sector needs to be encouraged so that we can industrialise. Many hon. Members have talked about rural electrification and I want to associate myself with their sentiments. We do

not need heavy industries but light ones in this country. The *Jua Kali* sector will cater for the unemployed youths because this is idle labour and could have been utilised.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another area which we need to look into is the health sector. Malaria in Nyamira District is prevalent around this time of the year. We need to guard against the outbreak of malaria so that we have a healthy people in that part of the country. These are hard working people and if they are healthy, they will be able to fend for themselves. So, steps should be taken to ensure that the perennial outbreak in that area is curbed so that the people are able to be effective in their work.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, AIDS is taking toll on the population of this country and it costs a lot of money, particularly when we have kept to the practice of taking people to the rural areas for burial. This can either be both negative or positive depending on the culture of the people. The cost that is going to the transportation of bodies for burial is immense. If we proceed as I have underlined, we will succeed.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Magara: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to the Presidential Speech.

In the Presidential Speech, there are several issues that have been raised, for instance, poverty eradication, economic recovery and corruption, but I do not remember him mentioning infrastructure. It is quite interesting that every time during the State Opening of Parliament, the President gives us a beautiful speech which is rhetorical, but at the end of the day, nothing much is executed by his Ministers. One wonders how eradication of poverty can be attained if our most important institutions which used to create employment for our young people are being run down each day by hon. Members on the Government side. Some of them ran down such big institutions like the Kenya National Assurance Company. Over 4,000 people were employed in that institution. The same people who ran down that institution are Cabinet Ministers in Moi's Government. There are no worse murderers in this country than Cabinet Ministers who have failed to maintain our roads where several people have died and who have approved that roads have been repaired or approved some substandard work which has been done on those roads. At the end of the day, we end up blaming the drivers, but not the engineers or the Ministers who are seated here. These Ministers are the worst looters in this Government. I do not think I will be wrong to say this Government "died" long time ago.

Mr. Sambu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could he prove the allegation that the Government is dead?

Mr. Magara: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. If we have a Government that cannot fight corruption; a Government which has corrupt Ministers, and a Government which cannot be able to provide security for our people, is that a Government?

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not think there is any trust at all in this Government. In 1992, His Excellency the President came to my constituency and promised my people that he was going to donate a bus to Nduru Secondary School. Up to this time, there is no bus in that school. What do you expect from my people? For the last 16 years, the Kisii-Chemosit Road has been on record that it will be tarmacked. Does this Government have any business to be in power?

It is quite interesting that, every time the President opens this House, he spells out what he intends to do. It is unfortunate that the President can just lament that there is corruption and that the Government is committed to fighting it, when, in actual, sense, the looters are in the Government. It is high time we realised what our people want. It is high time we realised that our educational institutions have been run down. You cannot believe it, as I sometimes do not believe, that some students in the University of Nairobi who are doing a Masters Degree in Medicine have no curriculum as to what they are supposed to do for them to complete their Masters Degree in Medicine. Can we call that one a Government? There are several issues we can talk about, but why can we not address our issues properly? Why can we not get our priorities right, so that we can sit down soberly and understand the problems facing our people?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we cannot talk of improving our economy and eradicating poverty in this country, when farmers in rural areas are unable to transport their agricultural produce to market centres. Even after selling them, they are not paid, like is happening to farmers in South Nyanza Sugar Company at the moment. For the last two years, some farmers are still claiming their payments, which have not yet been paid. How do we eradicate poverty when a farmer harvests his sugar-cane and takes it to the factory, but he is not paid for over two years? Someone retires and for the last two years, he has not received his benefits from the NSSF, and we say we have a Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, insecurity in this country is beyond imagination. You are aware that last year, the "Jogoo" was taken from the bedroom of His Excellency the President. Earlier this year, they raided his Njoro

Farm and took away everything from there. If His Excellency the President, who has all the security in this country, can be robbed, what would happen to a common man like hon. Magara, who is standing here before you? What about hon. Otieno-Kajwang who was tabled here last year? What about Shaaban, whom we are likely to table here in the course of this year?

(Laughter)

Let us address the issues affecting our people positively and for the time being, let us forget the succession coups in KANU. It is not going to be easy, that when you lobby with the President, he will name you the heir apparent of this country. This is a multiparty era and whatever we are doing now, we will ensure that we get the right person to give us good governance. It is a pity that most of the cream of Members seated here have travelled all over this country. It is on record that when Kenya attained her Independence, our economy was far much better than that of Singapore, Malaysia, Southern Korea, Pakistan and India. But if you imagine where those countries have reached economically, you can tell what good governance is to any country in this world. It is because of good governance that these Third World countries like Singapore, Malaysia, India and Pakistan have overtaken us. For how long should we be crying that we are eradicating poverty? For how long should we cry that we are giving our people employment when the Ministers seated here have run down our institutions, where our young generations are supposed to get employment? For how long should we be singing? If it was my wish, I think we could have even debated the Speaker's Speech. It has some substance in the sense that it mentioned our Independence. If you look at the pay slips of last month, for most of the Members who are seated here, they were reading nil. So, I think we could have even dwelt on that Speech to empower these Members who are seated here, so that they do not become sycophants. They should be enabled to address issues so that we could rise beyond trivial issues which are giving us problems.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on security, it is very evident that this Government is not in charge of security. The thugs who are hungry out there are the ones in charge of security. Before it is too late, it is high time the Government addressed the issue of security with the seriousness it deserves. Nobody is secure in this country. There is no security in North Eastern Province. There is a lot of insecurity everywhere.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we cannot improve our economy if we cannot empower our farmers. We have the National Irrigation Board (NIB). What is the NIB doing? Always, when we have drought, there is a hue and cry that there is famine. Why can the NIB not come out clearly and use the water resources we have to improve agriculture and empower our people, so that we can talk of improving our economy and eradicating poverty?

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

Mr. Odongo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion. The Presidential Address was a very good one, but we tend to repeat whatever the President has said in the previous Speeches. I would request that we would rather have the policies raised by the President implemented by those responsible.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few things about transportation in this country. For the last 15 to 20 years ago, we had a very well organised rail transport in this country. What has happened? Could somebody look into this issue? There used to be two trains operating from Nairobi to Mombasa on a daily basis; two trains plying between Nairobi and Kisumu and then, Kisumu to Butere. It is ridiculous that on the Kisumu line, we have either one train in a week and the Kisumu-Butere train no longer exists. What has happened? Those of us who use the Kisumu Airport would agree with me that any time now, we shall have a very serious accident in that Airport. We have the biggest pothole that I have ever seen within the runway so far in any other airport I have known.

Unless the runway of that airport is repaired, we are likely to experience another serious accident at that airport. What became of the projects that were to be funded by the World Bank through the *El Nino* Emergency Projects Fund? Some projects which were to benefit from that Fund were identified in Butere/Mumias District. However, two years have lapsed now, but none of those projects has been implemented. I would, therefore, like to request the relevant Minister in the Office of the President to follow up this matter. Could we be told whether we got the money for those World Bank-funded projects, or whether we did not?

It is now high time Government Ministers moved around this country to see for themselves what we are talking about. It is, indeed, very unfair for Ministers to sit in Nairobi throughout the year, and yet, most of the issues that are raised about their Ministries concern people in the districts. Ministers do not bother to find out what is happening; they do not even bother to visit those places to see for themselves what is happening there. Why do they not visit certain areas of this country? What is difficult in doing that?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, news of the famine that has ravaged Wajir District dominated the Kenyan Press in the recent past. We have a lot of maize in the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) silos, and rice at Mwea Irrigation Scheme. Is it because there is no means of transport by which to take that food to Wajir that

those people are starving? There are very many trucks lying idle within Kenya Army barracks. Why do we not use those lorries to ferry that food to Wajir District?

I would now like to talk about the economic activities that take place in and around Lake Victoria. We have heard about the exportation ban the European Union (EU) has slapped on fish from this country to its member countries. What is this country doing about that ban? Who is this "creature" who cannot move and discuss this matter with the EU with a view to having the ban lifted? Lake Victoria is now fully covered by the water hyacinth weed. Sometime back, we were told that a company that is based in the United States of American (USA) had been awarded the contract to remove those weeds. Could we be briefed on that company's progress in removing that weed from that lake?

I would like to repeat something that has been said by a colleague in this House. Both the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and the Public Investments Committee (PIC) have, for many years, come up with very strong recommendations, which were adopted by this House. However, none of those recommendations has been implemented so far. Now, do those Committees, really, need to continue doing that, knowing very well that nothing can be done about the recommendations they make? This House had better make a decision on whether the activities of the two Committees are a worthwhile endeavour or not.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we know of a private company that has been awarded two berths at Kilindini Harbour. The company was opened recently, and it is now transacting business. Kilindini Harbour is a public facility. I do not understand how a private company could be allowed to operate within that facility, which is also very important as far as the security of this nation is concerned. I would, therefore, like to appeal to the Government and, particularly, to the President, to cancel that award.

I do not know how many textile factories are still in existence in this country. Ten years ago, 8,000 to 10,000 Kenyans were working in the textile industry. We ran down all the textile factories in this country, and we are now talking about eradicating poverty. How can we eradicate poverty when the textile industry has collapsed? Those people who were employed by the industry during that period are now jobless.

(Mr. Nyanja's mobile phone rang)

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! Hon. Members, who has brought a mobile phone into this House?

Mr. Odoyo: It is hon. Nyanja, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Nyanja, could you apologise to the House for having a mobile phone with you in this Chamber?

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Nowadays, Speakers in many Parliaments are making rulings on whether hon. Members should have mobile phones with them while in the Chambers or not. The Standing Orders were written before mobile phones came into existence. Is it not proper for this House to make a substantive ruling on whether mobile phones should be allowed in the House or not?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Sunkuli, I think a ruling on this matter was made some time back by the Chair; mobile phones are not allowed in this House.

Mr. Nyanja, could you apologise to the House, please?

Mr. Nyanja: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, honestly, I left the mobile phone on without my knowledge, and I am very sorry about that.

(Applause)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Odongo, I am sorry, your time is up. I now give the Floor to hon. N. Nyagah.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy, Sir, for giving me this opportunity, belatedly. Many eloquent hon. Members have contributed to this Motion. It becomes very difficult to contribute to such a Motion after heavyweights like hon. Sunkuli, and other eloquent hon. Members have spoken

Without belittling the Office of the President, I would like to say rightaway that the Motion on the Presidential Address takes seven sittings because when it was first debated, the Governor then wanted to be praised on the things he was doing. I would, therefore, like to request that, if the House finds it fit, we reduce the number of sittings allocated for this Motion in future. I say so because we have many other important pending Bills, among which

is the Parliamentary Service Commission Bill, and the Reports of the Parliamentary Select Committees, which we expect to deliberate on soon.

Having said that, given that I am now remaining with about eight minutes to contribute to the Motion, I would like to concentrate on three areas, namely, insecurity, constitutional review process, and economic recovery.

Nowadays, the state of our security has become deplorable. There is nobody, whether in the Opposition or in the Government, who would say that this position is not so and, yet, we get assurances from the Government that it will improve. Let us look at the root causes of insecurity in our country. First and foremost, there is insecurity in our country because of our bad economy, because of rampant corruption. However much we talk about security, we will not achieve much until we address these issues. Look at what we have done to our policemen; we have given them guns. This is a "wounded animal" that has got a gun and it is very dangerous. I am saying this because, first of all, look at his housing problems; for him to procreate, he has to chase other men out when he is visited by his wife in order to have privacy, because there is no housing scheme for him. Look at the low salaries that these policemen are paid and, yet, you tell them to keep law and order. First and foremost, they will look after their stomachs. One day the iron lady said:

"A country that cannot offer security to its people--- Security is paramount."

I believe that security is paramount in Kenya. A seminar that was held for the armed forces was told as follows:

"Every single month; from 1st to 30th, we are having 500 policemen dying of the dreaded AIDS scourge."

Over the last 30 years, Kiganjo Police Training College has not developed greatly. It can only accommodate 1,000 trainees in any one year. It therefore, means that the rate at which we recruit our security men, and the rate at which some are dying are getting very close. It is high time that this Government thought of expanding Kiganjo Police Training College, so that it can accommodate more recruits or come up with different police training colleges within Kenya to cater for this need. I would like to say one other thing before I move away from the issue of security, because it is a dream come true to keep on saying that security will improve in this country. Look around Nairobi, where most of us spend a lot of our time; the policemen cannot get to Eastlands, Kayole, Dandora, my own constituency, Eastleigh, and elsewhere on time because they either have no vehicles or money to buy petrol for those vehicles. I would like to urge the Government to follow up Somaia, who took Kshs2.4 billion from the Government to supply equipment to the Kenyan Police. Let us have it so that we can be seen to be working towards empowering the policemen.

On the Constitution, I would like to say that the time has come for Kenya to make a decision that may be painful, if we go in the wrong direction. I am saying "painful" because there are three known transitions that have happened around the world. One of them is what the present Government wants us to go through, where they want to control a constitutional change. That has not worked; it never worked and will not work. Mr. Botha tried it in South Africa but it did not work. The next transition is that the Government has lost control in this matter. That is why the civil society, which includes the churches and women organisations, will take effect. What is the effect of this?

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. This afternoon, a report was tabled before this House regarding the constitutional issue. The Chair can clearly see that the hon. Member is anticipating debate on that. Is he not out of order?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Definitely, Mr. Nyagah, you are out of order to anticipate debate on a document that was laid on the Table this evening. So, would you stay clear of that?

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I accept and abide by your ruling. But is it wrong for me to mention the word "Constitution"? I have not discussed the report that was tabled here. I have only talked about what the world knows about transition in any Government. First, I have talked about the Government controlling the constitutional change, and in the event of it losing that control, the civil society takes over, which is a very painful thing. We have seen this in Kenya before; for example, Nane Nane and Saba Saba. I think those examples are important for us to differentiate between what is anticipation of a debate--- I would also like to talk about the third transition, where the conservative elite in the ruling party accepts to sit down with hon. Members of the Opposition and civil society so that whatever is given forth to is not a still-birth. We need a Constitution that is acceptable to all Kenyans. That is what will steer this country to greater heights.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you can see that with my wisdom and knowledge of Standing Orders, I have not talked about this report. I have not looked at it at all. Having said that, who is greater than the other; the Parliament or the people? This Parliament was created through a Constitution that was made by the people and, therefore, the people are more important than Parliament. In this case, the people are Kenyans. The Chair can clearly see the line I am led to think along and I will not do that. Let me even forget what I had written and concentrate on---

I am totally against the establishment of the Raila Select Committee because it was illegally constituted.

Hon. Members: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Nyagah! I thought you did agree to abide by the ruling of the Chair. You could have gone on with the debate on the Constitution in as far as it relates to the Presidential Speech, but now you have gone to the report that you are holding. Could you, please, steer clear of that?

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am getting lost and people are getting jittery. Let me state the manner in which the Select Committee was constituted because I am not discussing the report.

Hon. Members: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Nyagah! I will once again direct you to refrain from referring to the Select Committee since it has already tabled a report, which you will have ample opportunity to discuss.

Mr. N. Nyagah: When the time comes, I will come to this Floor and show the illegality of this Committee, and it will never be legal.

With those few words, I oppose.

Mr. Sambu: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for at long last recognising someone here. Presidential speeches have been made time and again during State Openings of Parliament and in other forums. Out of those policy statements of the Head of State, plans are made. These plans do not achieve what they are intended to do. When our ancestors and those who are still there fought for independence, they intended to eradicate poverty, diseases and to reduce illiteracy among the people. The plans being made year in, year out, whether they are yearly plans in terms of the budget or five-year plans are all meant to achieve that, but they never do this. The Government should pose the question: Is it really worth it producing five-year plans or even yearly plans like the budget which is brought here and we are asked to tax the people, yet the services are never delivered?

This speech dwelt quite a lot on poverty eradication. I believe that if it could not be achieved in all those 30 years, we should be simply talking about reduction. We cannot reduce poverty through seminars or by making long speeches. There have to be tangible plans of action, and they have to start with the people. They have to be people-based and be implemented at the district level. I hear that 15 districts have been selected. The Minister of State in charge of this affair will tell us about this. How do you select 15 districts as pilot areas? Poverty knows no selection. People are poor in all districts of Kenya although in some other areas it is critical. When people are dying of hunger, some Government Ministers dare say that nobody will die of hunger. It is obvious to all who can see that people are actually living skeletons.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Did the hon. Member mention my name?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Nassir. Mr. Sambu is the one on the Floor. He did not mention your name.

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about poverty in general. If we are to eradicate or reduce poverty, then we have to create jobs in the industrial and agricultural sectors. Those two sectors will create jobs in the service sector; in areas like the insurance, and hotel industries, *et cetera*. The former Member of Parliament for Kabras, hon. Angatia, used to say that by 2020, we will be fully industrialised. How are we going to industrialise by 2020 when for example, in Eldoret town we have closed down four major factories? We have closed Furfural, KCC which used to employ 400 people, and we are in the process of closing down the main textile factory of Rivatex? This is because of poor management which emanates from poor governance. We direct appointments for people to head those companies. We make political appointments.

One thing that this Government should do first and foremost is to start appointing people on merit. It should advertise and get Kenyans who are fully qualified to run these industries. That is how you can get back the 800 jobs in Rivatex, the 400 jobs in KCC and multiply the effects of the milk farmer. In the Agricultural sector, we have to make intensive use of the land. Our rivers just flow to the River Nile. We have to intensify land use and open up new areas for irrigation. Even if they grab it, it will still provide employment for people to produce rice, bananas and cotton. Let us invest in land irrigation. Let us reclaim our land from the dryness by using our rivers, so that people from densely populated areas where poverty is extreme, and those from the very dry areas where the drought is killing their livestock, can be productive in these areas.

Land being a primary production factor is very sensitive in this nation. The Government must be careful on how it handles land matters in this country. ADC land is being dished out. For example in Kimwani down in Nandi Hills, somebody who already has 2000 acres of land which he or she is not really utilising is allocated more land in the Kimwani Sugar Estate whereas there are people who have been squatters there since 1905 when the colonial government defeated the Nandi people. What are we doing? Are we serious about eradicating poverty? If we want to eradicate poverty, let us give those squatters a place to live in.

The EATEC Lonrho land in Eldoret is Nandi traditional land. Those who are buying it without the consent

and the understanding of the Nandi leaders and people are simply donating their money to Lonrho, which, in the past few years, has been running at a loss. They are doing so because our people have said that they shall not live on it. We do not want to make war with anyone, but we want to make it very clear that they are buying it at their own risk. They may live on it for one or two years, but they will not live on it forever because we are saying "no" to this. The price we are going to pay is Kshs10,000 per acre because that was our ancestral traditional land. Secondly, the bulk of the people who are there now cannot afford the Kshs80,000 per acre. In any case, what did the colonialists pay for it because those are colonial companies? They paid Kshs1 an acre, per year. That is the least amount they are paying to the Government.

I am saying this for the record here so that, later on, when they lose the land and their money, they do not say they were not forewarned. I am even told that there are people who are using pension funds from Moi University to buy land. When did a pension fund become money to be used for buying land? Pension fund should be invested in quasi-money investments. It must be invested in projects which generate money so that when people go on retirement they can get their pension. Somebody is misleading people and allowing pension funds to be used for buying that land. They are wasting their time. I am sorry for them because they will go home with no pension, and they will see no land. I have a right to talk about the Constitution without referring to that document which has been tabled.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there can be no Parliament without people, but there can be people without Parliament. What I mean is that, Kenyans lived for many centuries without a Parliament. Therefore, we have to listen to the voice of our people in the constitutional review process. Whether this exercise is carried out by a Select Committee of this House or the Ufungamano Group, we must listen to the voice of our people. In my view, if we have to get the fairest views of what wananchi would wish to be incorporated in the constitution, then we must have a referendum. This is because some Commissioners might decide to brush aside some important issues, like land rights.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there may be five or six types of government in the world. So, we should allow our people to get civic education. This Government should not threaten people who are carrying out civic education in this country. Let civic education be carried out on what type and form of Government is good for our country. After the civic education, we should be allowed to have a referendum, so that we know what our people want to be included in the Constitution. Without a referendum, even those commissioners will not give us the factual position of what Kenyans want in the Constitution. So, a referendum is a must in the constitutional review process.

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

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to join other Members who have spoken before me in recording thanks to the President for the speech he made on 28th March, 2000. If you look at the first page, you see the President giving direction as to what is to be expected from the Speech. He said what he was doing was offering some thoughts and observations on the state of the nation and the prospects for the future. To be fair, I think, it would be dishonest for any one to say that the President did not make any observation on the state of the nation. It would also be unfair for anyone to say that the President did not offer any thoughts on the state of the nation. I think he did. If you look at page 10, the second paragraph says:-

"First and foremost, the slow-down in economic activity and growth must be halted and reversed. During the past two years, the unemployment situation has worsened, while the incidents of poverty, especially in the rural areas, have increased." Who can say that is not true? I think, as an observation of what is happening in our country, that is correct. I think, I would give the President 100 per cent marks.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, where I find the Speech wanting and hopeless is on the prospects for the future. This is because it is not enough merely to observe the state of the nation. He should go ahead and say what we are going to do about that state of affairs in this country.

On the same page 10, it says:-

"I want to assure all hon. Members that my Government will continue to assign priority to addressing the ills affecting the economy. We will do everything possible to stimulate increased production in agriculture, *et cetera*. My Government will, therefore, continue to direct more of its resources towards the eradication of poverty."

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we find that for the past two years, the economy of this country has been declining, and this Government should not continue with those efforts. We would have expected them to give us hope. The President would have told us that they recognised the efforts they took were wrong and that they are going to improve the performance of our economy. How can the economy be moving from bad to worse, and the President tells us that he will continue with the same efforts? As has been said, when the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere realised that Ujamaa had failed in Tanzania, he owned up and they embraced liberalisation and capitalism like us. So, we expected the President would make a break from the past. I am scared of what this Government has done for the last so many years. That is why I did not get much hope out of this Speech. The President did not give us hope that, in the near

future, there might be some change.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been said that we should not politicise poverty. Who has been politicising poverty? It is this Government. When they want to make themselves preferable to other political parties; for example, when there is a by-election, they will go with a lot of money to bribe voters. They say for them, they do not just talk, but they give handouts to the electorate. Is this not politicising poverty? In the past two years, the Government knew the economy was sinking, but they had the audacity of saying KANU is the only party that is development conscious. Why? This is because on Saturdays and Sundays, they raise Kshs1 million for different schools. So, when they come here on Tuesday, they purport to have done a lot of work over the weekend. Are those the efforts they are talking about?

In 1996 and 1997, this Government engaged us in what I knew was a useless effort. We raised money for youths and women groups in this country. They said that, that was how they were going to solve the problem of poverty. However, two years down the line, the economy got worse. But they are saying they will continue with the same efforts. Which efforts was the President talking about? Are those the efforts that we saw in 1996 and 1997 that you are going to continue with to solve the problem of poverty here? Why does this Government continue politicising poverty? Then you turn around and you say it is conventional wisdom. For any one to tell us not to politicise poverty, we all agree, even on this side. Who is politicising poverty? What hope does the President give us in this Speech? None. That is why I said whereas the observations were okay, the prospects are not there. So, I am at a loss as to whether to really give thanks or to withhold them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we are talking about poverty, poverty sometimes is induced. At the moment, there is "Chepkube magendo" going on, on the border of Kenya and Uganda. In 1976, Kenya offered better prices for coffee and Ugandans sold their coffee here. However, this year, it is Uganda that is paying better. What is happening? Those of us on the border are losing coffee to Uganda. Recently, there were 38 bags of coffee that were stolen from Nakayonjo Coffee Factory. The fellows who stole it were caught by the police at the border in Busia. I would have thanked the police because those bags are marked Nakayonjo Coffee Factory, but from early February up to now, we are asking the police officers to return the coffee to the owners---- I am wondering why they are holding that coffee. There are even speculations that they want to give it to someone who has emerged from Kisii claiming that the coffee is his. What is wrong with those police officers? Those bags are marked Nakayonjo, but they say there other claimants.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, teachers have complained about their salary increases which this Government agreed to pay sometimes in 1996. The Government has been claiming there is no money, and for sometime we were inclined to believe them. But what is happening now is that they have proposed, and it might already have been implemented, I do not know; maybe, it will be in the Supplementary Estimates, that the education officers, school inspectors, the Assistant Education Officers (AEOs) and others will be upgraded. So, the teachers you agreed to pay are still asking for money and you are not paying them, but you want to pay some other group. Is that not provocative? How do you solve the problem of poverty among the teachers, who provide a major market for the little shops in the rural areas, when you will only increase salaries for other categories of education officers?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been the question of infrastructure which has been talked about here. The Rural Electrification Programme (REP) will, indeed, assist in opening up avenues for other types of businesses. To-date, Sirisia constituency is the darkest constituency in Western Kenya, but in the current Printed Estimates, there is K£980,000 allocated for its electrification. But up-to now, nothing has been done and the Financial Year is about to end. I am wondering: How can this Government be promising anything when they cannot do the little that---

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mimi pia nafurahi kuyazungumza maneno ambayo yamgusa kila Mkenya, haswa wale maskini na wenye taabu. Nafurahi kwa sababu nimepewa Wizara ambayo imefanya nione taabu iko namna gani katika Kenya. Nimesikia wenzangu katika Bunge wakipinga maneno ya Mtukufu Rais juu ya mambo ya umaskini. Siwezi kuwalaumu, kwa sababu ni watu wanacho chakula na pesa chungu nzima na kila kitu. Kwa hivyo, watajuaje shida ya yule anahisi njaa ambao kwao hakuna kahawa, majani ya chai, viwanda au pahali pa kufanyia kazi? Wao hawezi kujua taabu hiyo.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, taabu hiyo haiwezi kuondoka kwa kuzungumza juu yake hapa Bungeni. Ni lazima tuende kwenye vitongoji na kuwe na usawa kati ya watajiri na maskini; kidogo kuwe tofauti. Sio leo pekee ndiyo wale matajiri wamekuwa matajiri sana na wale maskini wamekuwa maskini sana. Hata mitambo ikija, yatiwa kule ambako kuna matajiri. Haiwezi kufikiriwa kuwa kule pahali kwenye taabu na umaskini kunahitaji mitambo hiyo ili watu wapate kazi na kama hawana chakula wapate pesa ya kujinunulia chakula.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, si ajabu watu kupinga habari ya umaskini, kwa sababu lazima kutakuwa na mabadiliko katika Kenya. Mabadiliko hayo ni kama mhe. Shariff Nassir ana ardhi ya ekari 5,000 na hailimi, na

wengine hawana hata nusu nchi, umaskini hurejea zaidi. Lazima kuwe na mipango ya kupambana na umaskini katika nchi. Hivi tunapoketi katika Jumba hili, tuna mpango. Ninaposema tupangie nchi yetu, watu wanasema kuwa Mhe. Nassir ataka "Majimbo," na kutakuwa na taabu. Lakini si hivyo. Namaanisha tuwatumze hawa binadamu na tuangalie kule ambako hakuna chakula na tutafute njia ya kuwapea chakula na kuangalia ni kilimo gani tunaweza kutumia. Lakini kama tutaketi Nairobi na kuongea juu ya habari ya njaa, tutaendelea mpaka asubuhi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, wale matajiri ndio kabisa hawataki kusikia jambo la umaskini. Wataipinga hiyo fikra ya Rais Moi mpaka wachoke, kwa sababu wanaogopa kwani lazima kutakuwa na mabadiliko. Hatuwezi kuketi katika nchi na watu hawana chakula na madawa. Kokote nilikokwenda katika Kenya, kuna njaa, lakini kama watu wangepata pesa, kungekuwa na tahadhari, ama watu wapatiwe kazi. Lakini hakuna watu waliofikiria juu ya hilo jambo. Watu wanafikiria juu ya viwanda vya majani chai na kahawa na mambo yao ya mapenzi na namna gani ya kwao kuwe kuzuri na kupata bendera tu. Hawajui wenzao wana taabu katika Kenya, na ni zaidi ya nusu.

Mtukufu Rais hakufikiria vibaya kwa sababu anajua kama watu wengi wana njaa, taabu na umaskini, basi hata wale matajiri wakipata bendera itakuwa bendera ya upepo, kwa sababu vifo vitakuwa vingi. Hakuna mtu ataketi katika nchi na wenzao waone wana shibe kubwa na hawa hawafikiriwi. Kuna watu ambao wana fikra nyingi nzuri juu ya Kenya, lakini wengine ni hodari kusema na kutukana. Matukano hayawezi kujenga nchi. Maskini hawezi kula matukano. Wanatukana Rais, mimi na mtu watakaye. Lakini hiyo sio chakula cha maskini. Tutafute njia ya kuweza kufanya maskini wawe na chakula.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni lazima Utumishi wa Serikali uende chini kabisa, hapana Nairobi. Kule ambako nilikofika huwezi kujua kama uko katika Kenya, kwa sababu ya taabu. Kwa hivyo ni lazima mabadiliko yapatikane. Mipango ya nchi ifanywe. Kama hakumei mahindi, kuwamea ngano, kahawa, pamba na makonge. Lakini kama kila mtu afikiria siasa tu, basi iko taabu. Lakini leo, umaskini umeenea hadi kwa watu wengi; hata ndani ya miji, wazazi hawana karo ya shule ya watoto wao. Nani anaweza kuniambia kuwa kuna Mbunge mmoja anayefikiria juu ya mambo hayo? Juzi, tumepewa gari kubwa, lakini taabu waliyonao watu ndani ya miji hatuwezi kufikiria.

(Laughter)

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nafikiri huu ndio wakati kila mwezi Mbunge apewe amri ya kuenda kwake na kukutana na watu wake, kama wahandisi na wengineo. Nakumbuka nilizuru sehemu ya mhe. M.A. Galgallo. Watu huko ni warembo; wasichana ni wazuri, lakini shingo zao zimewatoka kwani hawana maji ya kunywa.

(Applause)

Lakini leo, mtu anatoka hapa, aenda Hotel Inter-Continental na hupiga pombe zake mbili na kuita waandishi wa habari na kutoa matamshi ya vita na matukano. Hatuwezi kuomba, lakini ni lazima uwezo upelekwe katika miji; na msizue. Ikiwa mtazua, sisi tutachukua.

Mr. Kihoro: Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Mimi ningetaka kupata thibitisho kutoka kwa mzungumzaji kama kusema kweli, kwa sababu amekuwa katika Bunge hili kutoka mwaka 1974 na amezungumza kama Mbunge wa Upinzani, atakuja upande wa Upinzani, ama ataendelea kuzungumza kutoka upande wa KANU?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Jambo la nidhamu ni---

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, wacha nikusaidie kwa kumjibu. Taabu iliyoko ni kuwa kuna Football Club hapa Bunge na hawa Wabunge wa Upinzani wanafikiria Jumba hili ni Football Club na tumekuwa kuteta. Ikiwa katika Serikali mimi ni Waziri na ninaona makosa fulani, ni lazima niyaseme, maanake nimepewa kura kuja kuwasaidia watu wangu.

(Applause)

Ninasema tubadilishe mwendo na chuki ndani ya Kenya na tuseme taabu walizo nazo maskini. Maskini wanatungojea sisi; hawangojee uhodari kutoka wale wanaotaja nani ni mfidadi ama la. Ningependa kusema kwamba, inafaa tuondoe njaa kule tunakotoka. Haifai tuweke pesa hapa Nairobi, ilhali watu hawana barabara, chakula, maji na kadhalika. Wakamba wataimarisha ukulima ikiwa watapeleka maji ya kutosha, kwa sababu watu wengine hawana njaa, hasa hawa Wabunge wa Upinzani ambao wanakotoka kuna kahawa na mimea mingine, hawajali ikiwa Wakenya watakufa kwa njaa.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono.

Mr. Odoyo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion.

I would like to echo the sentiments of other hon. Members. The Presidential Speech is not very different from the "State of the Union" Speech by the President of the United States of America. The Presidential Speech is meant to expound to the state where we are and where we are heading to. The Presidential Speech dwelt much on the prevailing state of affairs, and partially on the way forward. I would like to comment on poverty eradication and the constitutional

review process.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a misconception that if we equip our hospitals with medicine, provide water and social amenities, we shall be eradicating poverty. That is a misnomer because poverty can only be eradicated by economic growth. In the past, poverty eradication policy papers have dwelt so much on the social issues and not how we can enrich our people. The Kenyan economy is akin to the state of the individual Kenyan. For any person to be able to get proper medication, they have to earn a good salary or engage in good business. There has been a problem with the policy makers of this country. This Government has not learnt macro-aggregate creation of wealth for this country. Leaders in the present Government only mind about enriching themselves. As a matter of fact, we should find ways and means of planning for, and taking care of, the wealth of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have an advantage over the land-locked countries such as Rwanda, Burundi, the lower part of Sudan and Ethiopia, for having the Port of Mombasa and a good railway system. That advantage which can be a source of wealth for this country is not being exploited. The other affected sector is agriculture. We should not waste time talking about industrialization by the year 2020 unless we get agriculture back on its feet. If we earn about Kshs6 per year billion from the fishing industry, why should fishermen continue to earn only Kshs400 million, whereas middlemen are earning Kshs5.6 billion? Those are the issues we should address. I will not repeat what has been said about coffee, tea, rice and sugar farming. All I can say is that, we should concentrate on creating a favourable environment for the farmer, and offer credit facilities to them. We should have agricultural banks and export and credit banks to serve the farmer. Once we have enough food, industrialization will come automatically.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President talked about medium-term expenditure framework, investment, Capital Markets Authority, the Central Depository Service at the Stock Exchange and the rest. All these are very good indicators of improving the economy, but every effort must be made to assist the farmer.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the constitution review process, I will not hesitate to commend the good work that hon. Raila has done as the Chairman of the Select Committee on the review of the Constitution of Kenya Review Act. That Select Committee did a commendable job.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Adoyo, you should not anticipate debate. I am sure you will have the opportunity to debate that report.

Mr. Odoyo: I would like to apologise, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, and not make any further comments on that subject.

In view of the limited time from now to the end of the Eighth Parliament, we should not waste more time. We should let Members of the Select Committee go around the country and collect the views of the people of this country.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Odoyo! I take it seriously that you have persistently continued to disregard the ruling of the Chair in as far as referring to the work of the Select Committee is concerned. Could you apologise to the Chair for that?

Mr. Odoyo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with all due respect to the Chair, I would like to sincerely apologise.

There have been malicious rumours that the President wants to extend his term in office. I would like to suggest that after we have discussed the report of the Select Committee on the Constitution of Kenya Review Act, Parliament should mandate hon. Raila to proceed with his good work.

There have also been rumours that the President will have another IPPG at the last moment to deter the people of this country from indulging in meaningful constitutional change. But since time is short, hon. Raila should be allowed to carry on with the work of reviewing the Constitution. There have also been speculations about a military Government---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, hon. Odoyo! You have continued to disobey the Chair, and for that reason, I declare you disorderly and order you to be excluded from the proceedings of the House this afternoon.

(Mr. Odoyo withdrew from the Chamber)

Mr. Kombe: Ahsante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ili niweze kuchangia kuhusu Hotuba ya Rais. Ningetaka kuiunga mkono Hotuba hiyo kwa sababu iligusia mambo mengi na ya maana ambayo ni lazima tuyaunge mkono. Ningetaka kusoma maneno machache ambayo Hotuba ya Rais iligusia, halafu nitaendelea kuchangia Hotuba hiyo. Maneno haya mazuri yanasema hivi:

"Vile vile, mashirika ya Serikali ni sehemu nyingine ambako fedha za umma zimepotea kwa wingi

kama vile inavyodhihirika katika Ripoti za Kamati ya Bunge ya Uwekaji Rasilimali za Umma".

Hiyo ilikuwa ni sehemu moja katika Hotuba ya Rais. Rais wa nchi hii aliona na akakubali kwa kweli pesa za Serikali zinapotea kupitia kwa mashirika.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, sitataja mashirika mengi, lakini ningetaka kutaja shirika moja ambalo ni la

muhimu na ambalo ninaona kwa kweli halifanyi kazi yake sawasawa. Shirika hili ni Kenya Airports Authority. Mwenzangu hapo awali alisimama na akataja kuhusu urekebishaji wa uwanja wa ndege wa Kisumu. Alitwambia kwamba uwanja huo wa ndege umejaa mashimo na unahatarisha maisha ya abiria wanaotumia uwanja huo. Shirika hili ambalo linapata pesa nyingi, pesa hizi wanazifanyia nini ikiwa hata kurekebisha uwanja wa ndege ambao uko chini yao hawawezi? Ningetaka kuchukua mfano mwingine kuhusu uwanja wa ndege wa Malindi, ambao ulipangiwa kupanuliwa katika mwaka wa 1993 lakini haukupanuliwa. Katika mwaka wa 1997, huu uwanja wa ndege ulipangiwa tena kupanuliwa na haukupanuliwa. Hii ni sehemu ambayo watalii wanaingilia na wanaleta pesa za kigeni katika nchi hii. Huu ni mwaka wa 2000, na Kenya Airports Authority haijataja tena jambo hilo la kuupanua uwanja wa ndege wa Malindi. Pesa ambazo wanapata wanazipeleka wapi?

Jambo lingine la kushangaza ni kwamba tulisoma katika magazeti kuwa Kenya Airports Authority ilitoa tenda za ukarabati wa Uwanja wa Ndege wa Kimataifa wa Jomo Kenyatta. Walitarajia kutumia Kshs2,600,000,000 kwa kutengeneza huo uwanja wa ndege. Taratibu za kutoa tenda hazikufuatwa. Ninakubaliana na Rais kabisa kwamba Serikali inapoteza pesa kupitia kwa mashirika ya Serikali nchini. Ningependa Bunge lisimame imara ili hali hizi mbovu katika mashirika ya Serikali yetu zimalizwe.

Jambo lingine ambalo ningetaka kuzungumzia ni usalama. Wenzangu wengi wamezungumza juu ya usalama. Tukiuliza mara nyingi, tunaambiwa kwamba polisi hawana vifaa vya kukumbana na uovu ambao uko katika nchi yetu. Vifaa hivi vinanunuliwa kwa pesa, lakini kwa nini Serikali inatumia pesa kwa idara nyingine ambazo hazina faida tena katika nchi hii? Kwa mfano, pesa nyingi zinaelekezwa katika Idara ya National Youth Service. Zamani, tulikuwa tukiwaona vijana kutoka idara hii wakiwa barabarani wakitegemea au wakirekebisha barabara. Siku hizi, tunawaona tu siku za sherehe za Serikali wakiwa wamebeba miiko na majembe, na tunaambiwa kuwa hao ni vijana ambao wanajenga taifa hili. Lakini katika siku nyingine, hutaona kijana hata mmoja barabarani. Ukiangalia katika Bajeti ya Serikali hii, National Youth Service inapewa pesa nyingi za ajabu. Kwa nini pesa hizi zisichukuliwe na kuwekwa katika Idara ya Polisi ili vifaa ambavyo vinahitajika katika kukumbana na uovu katika nchi hii viweze kupatikana? Hawa vijana wanafaa wachukuliwe na kuwekwa katika Idara ya Polisi au katika sehemu nyingine ambapo wanaweza kusaidia Serikali hii. Ukitembea katika kambi za National Youth Service, utaona kwamba kuna vifaa ghali sana ambavyo havitumiwi. Kwa nini Serikali iendelee kuweka pesa kule, hali kunazo idara nyingine ambazo zinahitaji pesa hizi?

Jambo langu la tatu ni kwamba kumekuwa na mikutano mingi ya kuzungumza juu ya kupunguza au kuondoa umaskini. Swali ambalo ningetaka tulijibu sisi Wakenya ni hili: Je, tunatumia rasilimali zile ambazo tukonazo katika hali ya kupunguza au kuondoa umaskini? Kwa mfano, tuna Ziwa Victoria, lakini maji yake yanasaidia watu wa Misri. Haya ni maji ambayo yametoka hapa kwetu. Hatujakaa tukafikiria jinsi ya kutumia yale maji, pengine kuyasafirisha kwa bomba na kunyunyizia mashamba yetu maji katika kuendeleza kilimo. Ni kwa nini hatujafikiria jambo hili? Kule Pwani kunayo mito Tana na Athi, na maji kutoka kwa mito hii yanamwagika baharini bure, na hapa tunazungumza na kusema kwamba tunataka kumaliza umaskini. Tutamaliza umaskini vipi kama hatutajiingiza katika kilimo? Kwanza, ni lazima tupate chakula chetu. Watu wakipata chakula wanaweza kufikiria mambo mengine. Lakini tutamaliza umaskini vipi ikiwa hatutatumia rasilimali zetu ambazo tuko nazo?

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni jambo la kusikitisha ikiwa tunazo rasilimali hizi zote na kila siku tunasikia ya kwamba njaa iko katika eneo la Turkana, Mkoa wa Kaskazini Mashariki na Magarini. Hili ni jambo la aibu ikiwa tunazo rasilimali ambazo tunaweza kuzitumia na kumaliza huu umaskini na njaa ambayo inawakumba watu wetu. Hatutaondoa au kupunguza umaskini ikiwa hata barabara zetu hazipitiki. Tumekuwa tukitegemea ukulima katika nchi hii. Ukiangalia eneo lote la Kenya, ni asilimia 20 tu ya ardhi yetu peke yake ambayo inaweza kuzalisha mazao mazuri. Lile eneo lingine la asilimia 80 ni jangwa tupu.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 11th April, 2000, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.