

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 7th July, 1998

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

Mr. Munyao: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We have no Order Papers in the House. How do we proceed?

Mr. Speaker: Have you checked in your pigeon hole?

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am used to getting one here and the other one in the study room. As you know, I am entitled to have an office here. So, when I came here, there were no Order Papers and I thought there would be no Parliament this afternoon.

Mr. Gitonga: On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I checked my pigeon hole and there was no Order Paper. Does it mean there is no Parliament this afternoon?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Maitha: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is there anything that can be done to reduce the coldness in this House? Those of us who come from hot areas are suffering because it is very cold in this House!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Maitha, I think there is nothing we can do about that. It is not only cold here, but also in the streets. There is not much I can do. But for the Order Papers, you will get them.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The usual practice is that, there are copies of the Order Paper, both in the pigeon holes and at the entrance. Today, there are no copies out there. There are a few copies in the pigeon holes. So, it is not true to say that there are completely no copies of the Order Paper. There are few, but I do not know how the House will proceed.

Mr. Speaker: I think what we normally do is to put the Order Papers in the pigeon holes. But for those who, for one reason or the other, cannot get to their pigeon holes, we will make them available at the entrance. We have always done that and we will continue to do so.

An hon. Member: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, now! We are not going to make it a debate.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. There is a tragedy here, because there are no photocopy papers in this Parliament. I wanted some copies this afternoon and I was told that I could only get one copy. I was told that there were no papers. So, it is not a problem of the system of your office, but the department that is charged with the responsibility of purchasing photocopy papers. One rim costs Kshs300.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Ndicho, have you ever heard of something called a Financial Year? If you have, you would not be complaining!

(Laughter)

PAPERS LAID

The following papers were laid on the Table:-

Annual Report and Accounts of Seasonal Crop Credit Scheme, Agricultural Finance Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 1996 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of Agricultural Finance Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 1996 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of Mumias Sugar Company Limited for the year ended 30th June, 1996 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of Pest Control Products Board for the year ended 30th June, 1995 and the certificate thereon by Auditor-General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Dairy Board for the year ended 30th June, 1994 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor- General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of the Kenya Dairy Board for the year ended 30th June, 1995 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor- General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of Agro-Chemical and Food Company for the year ended 30th June, 1996 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of the National Cereals and Produce Board for the year ended 30th June, 1996 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations)

*(By the Assistant Minister for Agriculture
(Dr. Wamukoya) on behalf of the Minister for
Agriculture)*

Annual and Accounts of National Social Security Fund for the year ended 30th June, 1995 and the certificate thereon by the Auditor- General (Corporations)

*(By the Assistant Minister for Agriculture
(Dr. Wamukoya) on behalf of the Minister for Labour
and Manpower Development)*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.094

IMPLEMENTATION OF IPPG RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Murungi asked the Minister of State, Office of the President whether he could table the Sessional Paper on the implementation of Administrative Reforms recommended by the Inter-Parties Parliamentary Group (IPPG) last year.

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

There is no plan to table the Sessional Paper on the implementation of Administrative Reforms recommended by the IPPG last year. This is because what had been agreed upon last year became law under Constitutional (Amendment) Act of 1997. Discussions on the recommendations over the administrative reforms had not been concluded by the time Parliament was dissolved last year. Administrative reforms, as proposed by the IPPG, are part of the normal Government review of its activities. The implementation of the IPPG administrative reforms will, therefore, be done as part of the normal review exercise. Tabling of a Sessional Paper may not be necessary.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Question is talking about the Sessional Paper. It is not talking about those reforms of the IPPG which became law after they were passed by this House. So, the first part of the Minister's answer is totally out of order. In the second part of his reply, he said that discussions on the Sessional Paper were not completed. Yet the position is that the IPPG members completed the Sessional Paper and it was sent back to the Government for publication. The Questioner is really asking for that Paper to be tabled here. Is he in order?

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the information that I have, most of the things which were recommended by the IPPG Members have been effected including, for example, the appointment of more electoral commissioners, release of political prisoners and so on. Whatever is remaining is in the process of being implemented.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we who participated in the IPPG talks are very disappointed. This Government seems to be a government which has no shame or embarrassment. The Sessional Paper which the Minister said is not going to be tabled before this House was prepared and was ready. Mr. Anyona and I were among people who saw a copy of that Paper. We made some comments and returned it to the Government for preparation and publication of the final copy. Could the Minister tell this House what happened to that Paper because most of the things we recommended have not been implemented? Could he tell this House where that Paper is now?

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not agree with the hon. Member's sentiments that the

Government has no shame or embarrassment. I cannot say where the Paper is now. It must be somewhere in the Cabinet Office. The information I have here---

Mr. Murungi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Minister knew that he was coming to this House to answer this Question. Is it in order for him to come here and tell the House shamelessly that he does not know where that Paper is? Is that in order?

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, where that Paper is not part of this Question. I was just trying to answer the Question. I do not know which item in the Paper the hon. Member is saying has not been implemented. Most of the items in the Paper have already been implemented and the Government will continue to implement the rest.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Minister confirm that the reason why the Sessional Paper has not been tabled in this House is due to lack of commitment on the part of the Government to adhere to the IPPG reforms, both legal and administrative? We know that the DCs and the chiefs have continued flouting the IPPG reforms with impunity. We know that the policy guidelines to those officers were supposed to be given in the Sessional Paper. Could the Minister, therefore, confirm that the refusal by the Government to table the Paper here is meant to facilitate the disobedience of the laws passed by this House and sabotage the IPPG reforms?

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not agree that the failure to table this Paper here is due to lack of commitment on the Government part. Most of the things which were discussed during the IPPG talks have been implemented. The Government is still continuing to implement the rest of the reforms as agreed in the IPPG talks.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, maybe the Minister does not know what happened. What happened is that the Office of the President changed the procedure and started working through the Office of the Attorney-General as a clearing house. So when we sat down with the Attorney-General and Mr. Kuindwa, we finalised the Paper. It went back and was supposed to come back here, and to the public, through the Office of the Attorney-General. In view of the importance of this Question, would I be in order to suggest that this Question to be deferred so that the Attorney-General, whose office was the clearing house, can tell us where that Paper is?

Mr. Speaker: What is your reaction, Mr. Minister?

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I could check with the Attorney-General to know what exactly happened although that was not part of the Question. The issue is whether those reforms were implemented as agreed in the IPPG package. But the information I have is that a lot of those reforms have been implemented.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the things that we recommended as Members of the IPPG was that all applications for radio and television licences which were pending be granted or refused within 30 days or before 1.12.97. Could the Minister tell this House why this particular recommendation of the IPPG has not been implemented to date?

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is not part of this Question. There is a Ministry which deals with the issuance of radio and television licences. I suggest that the hon. Member puts a Question to that effect.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a copy of the Sessional Paper which we discussed during the IPPG talks. However, I will leave that alone and ask my Question.

Question No. 106

ADMISSIONS TO PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

Mr. N. Nyagah asked the Minister for Education and Human Resource Development:-

- (a) what the Ministry's plans are in admitting those students who qualify to join the five public universities, but fail due to limited vacancies; and,
- (b) whether there are any intentions to expand or build new universities.

The Assistant Minister for Education and Human Resource Development (Mr. Awori): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Government has no immediate plans to admit more students than the capacity and the resources available in these universities can support. However, the Government encourages those, who do not secure admission to apply into public post secondary school institutions. The Government also encourages those who qualify and wish to pursue university education, to seek admission into local private and foreign universities.

(b) Due to the current economic difficulties the Government has no plans at the moment to expand the existing universities or build new universities.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a couple of years ago, I brought a proposal to this House on how this Government could build other universities. We were willing to part with some of the infrastructures that are already in place in Embu District. However, be that as it may, in 1997 20,000 students did not manage to join public universities. In 1998, there are more than 16,000 students who will not join public universities. The minimum qualification is C plus, which many of our students are attaining. The Government is telling us to put these students through local private and foreign universities. Does the Government not consider that it is overburdening parents by asking them to hold Harambees to raise money which they do not have? Could it also consider building an extra university to cater for our students who are doing fairly well?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amount of money that would be required to set up a new university is so colossal that it is not possible to raise it. We will continue to encourage both parents and the community to help in raising monies in order for us to send these students to overseas universities.

Dr. Omamo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the facilities for university education are limited and the number of students being admitted has been going down. If it is true, as the Government says that the students are encouraged to find university places overseas, could it take a lead in helping those students to find places in overseas universities? At the moment, individual students are struggling on their own. The Government should play a leading role in advertising overseas university places for our students if we want to be an industrialised nation by the year 2020. Some of us will not be alive at that time, but we should all be concerned. I would like the Assistant Minister to tell this House whether the Government is going to help these students.

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, the number of students being admitted to the public universities is not decreasing. What is happening is simply that the numbers of students who are qualifying for university admission is increasing. As regards the question of active participation by the Government, to help students to go overseas for further studies, surely, boys and girls who have qualified for admission in overseas universities can take the initiative and go to the various embassies, which are all represented here, to find out what is available and what is not available.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, last question. Dr. Wako!

Dr. Wako: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First and foremost, the Assistant Minister should know that there are anomalies in the sense that students with a mean grade of B+ miss university admission while those with mean grades of C+ get admitted to public universities. I think this anomaly should be rectified. Secondly, when this House approved the C+ mean grade as the minimum qualification for admission to the public universities, much consideration was given to students from arid areas, who are now missing university admission even if they qualify for admission with mean grades B+ or B plain.

Could the Assistant Minister consider students from arid areas who have missed university admission, for admission into the public universities?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no evidence to the effect that students who scored C+ have been given preference over those who have scored B. Regarding the question of students from disadvantaged areas like arid and semi-arid areas, we consider such students on their own merit.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Speaker: What is your point of order, Mr. Anyona?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that the Assistant Minister is wittingly or unwittingly, misleading the House. Yesterday, there was a news item on the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) attributed to the Director of Education, in which it was stated said that the Government is lowering the university entry points so that more students can be able to join the public universities. This is what this Question is seeking to find out. Could the Assistant Minister tell us whether this is true or not? The answer he has given us here is contrary to the news item attributed to the Director of Education?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not listen to the radio and, therefore, I do not know what the Director of Education said.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Obwocha's Question!

Question No.226

IMPRISONMENT OF MR. KISILU

Mr. Obwocha asked the Minister for Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social

Services:-

- (a) if he could consider pardoning and releasing Mr. Kisilu Mutua who has been in prison since July, 1965; and,
- (b) if he is aware that many of his colleagues, who were on life sentence, have been released under Presidential Amnesty.

The Minister for Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Nassir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Minister cannot pardon and release Mr. Kisilu Mutua from prison because prisoners, who are serving life sentences like Kisilu, normally have their cases reviewed by a Board which reviews prisoners' sentences and forwards recommendations for their early release under the prerogative of mercy. Mr. Kisilu's case has been reviewed regularly, but he has not yet been considered for release. His case will continue to be reviewed in the normal manner together with all other cases.

(b) It is not true that Mr. Kisilu's colleagues who were serving life sentences have been released under Presidential Amnesty. There has never been any prisoner serving a life sentence who has ever been released under Presidential Amnesty other than under the prerogative of mercy.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this was an ordinary issue, I would not have raised this Question. But I have raised the Question because the issue about this man was raised on 1st February, 1998 by the *Nation* Newspaper. The prisoner is almost blind. When he was convicted, the then Chief Justice said: "I am convinced that the accused was at least, either a companion of the killer or an eye-witness of the killing."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you are an eye-witness to a killing, you cannot be the killer. So, it is obvious that the Chief Justice who sentenced him doubted whether this man was actually the killer. That is why he sentenced him to life imprisonment. This is the Pio Gama Pinto's case. I am informing the Minister that Mr. Kisilu, having been in prison for 33 years, is almost blind. Could he tell this House whether he has received any petition from any prison to release this man? This is because cases of prisoners on life imprisonment are reviewed annually by all prisons?

Mr. Nassir: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not a lawyer myself, but I think my colleague here, the hon. Obwocha, would have been in the court at that time to plead with it. However, there is always a way one can plead with the Government. Since Mr. Obwocha knows about this provision, he may do that.

Mr. Kathangu: Bw. Spika, mimi ni mmoja wa wale wanaomjua Bw. Kisilu sana kwa sababu nilikaa naye katika jela. Bw. Kisilu ni mtu ambaye anaumia kutokana na mambo ambayo hayajui kamwe. Yeye alikuwa mchuuzi wa matunda tu katika barabara za jiji la Nairobi.

Bw. Spika, tangu mwaka wa 1975 kumekuwa na wafungwa zaidi ya 300 waliohukumiwa vifungo vya maisha na ambao wameachiliwa na Serikali ya marehemu Rais Kenyatta na hii ya Rais Moi. Kama Serikali hii, au ile iliyotangulia, hazikuhusika na mauaji ya Pio Gama Pinto, ni kwa nini Serikali haijamwachilia huru Bw. Kisilu kama walivyoachiliwa huru wafungwa wengine? Wafungwa wengine waliua hadi watu kumi mara moja!

Mr. Nassir: Bw. Spika, kwanza ni furaha yangu kwamba mhe. Kathangu ameuliza swali lake kwa ile lugha niipendayo.

(Laughter)

Bw. Spika, Bw. Kisilu aliuu mtu---

An hon. Member: Hakuu!

Mr. Nassir: Kesi ikafanywa na, akahukumiwa kifo. Baadaye, Serikali ya hayati Rais Kenyatta ikampunguzia hukumu hiyo hadi kifungo cha maisha. Huko gereza, Bw. Kisilu ameshafanya fujo mara nyingi sana.

Mr. Kathangu: Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Spika.

Mr. Speaker: Ni nini, Bw. Kathangu?

Mr. Kathangu: Bw. Spika, Waziri amesema kwamba Serikali ya marehemu Rais Kenyatta iliamua kumpatia Bw. Kisilu kifungo cha maisha. Hivyo ni kusema kwamba si korti lakini Serikali ya marehemu Kenyatta ndiyo iliyomhukumu Bw. Kisilu. Hii ndiyo sababu ninasema kwamba huenda Serikali ilihusika katika mauaji ya Pinto. Hii ni kwa sababu Bw. Kisilu alifungwa na Serikali na si korti!

Mr. Nassir: Bw. Spika, nadhani---

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Nassir you know that the Question was asked in English!

Mr. Nassir: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member asked his supplementary question in Swahili which happens to be my language. I am happy to reply the question in Swahili!

(Laughter)

Bw. Spika, nafikiri mtu akishakuwa mhe. Mbunge, huwa anazifahamu hata sheria za Serikali. Korti ndiyo "mikono" ya Serikali; hakuna kitu kingine. Mikono ya Serikali ni Utawala, Korti, Polisi--- Serikali haifungi watu; Serikali huwaachia kazi hiyo korti na mawakili ambao hufanya kazi yao sawasawa. Kwa hivyo, Bw. Kisilu, alifungwa na korti. Hakuweko hayati Rais Kenyatta wala Rais Moi pale kortini.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a matter of fact, when I went to Naivasha Prison sometime in 1989 to see some prisoners, a group of other prisoners came to ask me to go and see Mr. Kisilu and to raise his case so that he could be released like other prisoners who had been in Naivasha Prison and had been released. Although Mr. Kisilu has been convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for killing a prominent politician, Mr. Gama Pinto, he deserves Presidential pardon. I am not asking a question, but appealing to the Minister to talk to the President so that Mr. Kisilu can be released.

Mr. Nassir: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is a lawyer and, he understands these issues. If there was a time that a Member of Parliament had come to this House and pleaded for somebody in prison, then this is the first one. There is a procedure for doing that and I am quite sure that the hon. Member, who is a lawyer, knows what to do.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Shitanda!

Question No.361

WITHDRAWAL OF MEDICINE KIT

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Shitanda is not here? That Question will be stood over for the moment. Next Question!

Question No.066

REHABILITATION OF COAST GENERAL HOSPITAL

Mr. Maitha asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) what plans the Ministry has to rehabilitate the Coast General Hospital; and,
- (b) whether he could consider providing new facilities to the hospital as a matter of urgency.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Criticos): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) My Ministry has plans to rehabilitate buildings and equipment at the Coast General Hospital with financial support from JICA and USAID. Rehabilitation works will cover the casualty, laboratory, X-ray, mortuary, operating theatres, eye department and painting of the wards. These works are estimated to cost US\$15 million.

(b) During the rehabilitation exercise, a new maternity wing, laundry, kitchen and toilet blocks will be constructed. New equipment will also be purchased and installed.

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for that answer. I thank him for getting money for the rehabilitation of Coast General Hospital. But at the moment, especially in the maternity wing, three mothers have to share one bed. Doctors do not have even forceps to equip their trays for any operation and other equipments. They do not have even plates for patient to use for meals. What are your immediate plans before JICA and USAID come to action? We do not know when they will start. What are your immediate action plans now? We know that you collect a lot of money through the cost-sharing exercise

Mr. Criticos: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I sympathise with the hon. Member. As a matter of fact, we toured the facility in question with the hon. Member in March this year, together with the Minister and other officials from the Ministry. The matter had not been brought to my attention but now that I am aware, I will look into it. As we all know, the cost-sharing money is for emergency use. One of those uses is what the hon. Member has just brought to my attention.

Mr. Mwakiringo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know the conditions prevailing at the Coast General Hospital. Can the Assistant Minister confirm when the rehabilitation work will start and when the funds will be made available? It is not just a question of saying these works are estimated to cost US\$15 million. When will this money be made available and when will the rehabilitation process take place?

Mr. Criticos: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the drawings and bills of quantities are ready and JICA is in the process of selecting contractors through competitive bidding in consultation with the Government. The rehabilitation of the hospital is expected to be completed within 15 months from 1st June, 1998.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the essence of cost-sharing in hospitals is to cater for what the Assistant Minister has just said - emergency cases. Therefore, I would like to appeal to the Assistant Minister to ensure that in future, cost-sharing money is never, ever put into capital projects because that is what is happening today. Would the Minister direct all the hospitals in the country to stop using cost-sharing money in capital projects?

Mr. Criticos: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that cost-sharing money should not be put into capital projects. However, I am not aware of any projects to that effect unless the hon. Member can tell me which hospitals are involved in this.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, he can tell you that in private. Next Question, Mr. Kathangu!

Question No.237

NUMBER OF VEHICLES PURCHASED BY MINISTRY

Mr. Kathangu asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

(a) the number of new vehicles the Ministry has purchased in the last five years; and,

(b) what models they have been.

The Assistant Minister for Public Works and Housing (Mr. Khaniri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to inform the House that we are not ready with the answer to this particular Question by hon. Kathangu. Therefore, I beg to request that this Question be deferred to Tuesday or Wednesday next week.

Mr. Speaker: What is your reaction, Mr. Kathangu?

Mr. Kathangu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had received what I may call a skeleton answer and maybe this is why they would need more time. Both the Minister and his Assistant are there, but I would like to know--

Mr. Speaker: Are you happy with the request for deferment?

Mr. Kathangu: It is very difficult to be happy when the Question is not answered.

Mr. Speaker: Are you acceding to his request?

Mr. Kathangu: When exactly will it be answered?

Mr. Speaker: Wednesday next week.

Mr. Kathangu: That is okay with me.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Katuku!

Question No.264

COMPLETION OF KIBAUNI WATER PROJECT

Mr. Katuku asked the Minister for Water Resources:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kibauni Water Project which was meant to supply water to Ikalaasa, Kibauni and Kalawa locations has stalled;

(b) whether he is further aware that the water pumping machine for the project was moved to Kathiani Constituency; and,

(c) in view of the above, what he is doing to have the project completed to ensure constant water supply.

The Assistant Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Mokku): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Kibauni Water Project is not in operation because the old pumps at the intake were recently submerged following heavy rains.

(b) I am, however, not aware of any transfer of pumping machines to Kathiani Constituency.

(c) In view of my answer to part (a), my Ministry has now embarked on repair of the damaged pumps.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is one of the projects earmarked for rehabilitation under the Water User Association Support Programme in my Ministry, after which the project will be handed over to the community for management. I appeal to the hon. Member to mobilise his constituents in readiness for the management of the water supply when it is handed over to them.

Mr. Katuku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer given by the Assistant Minister is very misleading. The

fact of the matter is that this project was never completed at all. It has never supplied water to the areas he is talking about and since last year--- The Assistant Minister says the pumps were submerged following heavy rains. They were not submerged. These pumps were taken away in April, 1997. Up-to-date, they have not been returned. My understanding is that they were taken to another project in another constituency. Can the Assistant Minister stop misleading this House and confirm whether these pumps have been sold or they are still in the hands of the Government?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is assuming things but I am telling him the correct position; that these pumps are under repair. As soon as the repair is over, these pumps will be returned to the project to be used by the people in those areas.

Mr. Munyao: Since I am the "Senior Minister for Water", the Assistant Minister will learn something from me because I started that Kibauni Water Project. At that time, Kibauni Location was in Mbooni and I was the Member of Parliament for Mbooni. The project was funded by FIDP. The answer given by the Assistant Minister is totally misleading because this project has not been working for the last ten years while the *El Nino* induced floods came six months ago. Could the Assistant Minister get his facts right? He should go back to the Ministry and give us a right answer.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Karauri): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Hon. Munyao says that he is the "Senior Minister for Water". If he does not refer to himself as a Shadow Minister, it is very misleading. There is only one Minister for Water Resources in this country. He could be a Shadow Minister but not the Minister for Water Resources.

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure that the Chair will find it very difficult for yet another junior Minister to challenge me. How many Assistant Ministers are you allowing to challenge me today?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! I do not want to be brought into this argument as to who is senior; a Shadow Minister or an Assistant Minister. I have never actually directed my mind to it. So, can we leave it to rest for now?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to waste my time on the issue of Shadow Ministers or "Senior Ministers". I will come back straight to the Question. As far as the Ministry of Water Resources is concerned, I am telling the hon. Questioner that the pump is not operational now. That is why the Ministry has embarked on repairing it. As soon as it is repaired, it will be taken back to Kibauni.

Mr. Munyao: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Even the written reply by the Assistant Minister is alleging that the pumps were submerged by the *El Nino* induced floods. I have said that these pumps were not operational five years ago when the area was as dry as the North Eastern Province where the Assistant Minister comes from.

Mr. Speaker: What is your point of order?

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking if he is in order to mislead the House in the first place. The pumps have not been submerged.

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, unless the hon. Member actually did not notice, the correct answer is that this pump is under repair. It is in Machakos and as soon as it is ready, it will be returned.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Munyao! Do not take this personally. It has nothing to do with you as a person. Can we also give other Members a chance to participate?

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems that the KANU Government has totally failed to do what it has been mandated to do, including running hospitals and everything else for that matter. Would I be in order now to ask the Ministry of Water Resources to hand over all the water development projects in this country to the communities around, so that these communities can handle these projects themselves? They can repair those pumps, the pipes and everything else. The people concerned just sit in their offices calling themselves; "the Ministers for Water Resources" and so forth. Can they hand over the projects to the communities today, if possible?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not possible.

Mr. Katuku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have said before, the Assistant Minister is misleading the House. In part "a" of his answer, he says that the machines were submerged. In the last part of his answer, he says the pumps will be rehabilitated. He says that the project has been earmarked for rehabilitation. Can he tell us when these repairs will be done? It is ten years since the machines were taken for repairs.

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the project has been earmarked for rehabilitation at an estimated cost of Kshs1,983,060, and as soon as the repairs are over, it will become operational.

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

Mr. Speaker: Sorry, time is up. Dr. Oburu!

Question No. 239

FLOODING OF RECLAIMED LAND IN YALA SWAMP

Dr. Oburu asked the Minister for Rural Development:-

(a) if he is aware that due to heavy rains, River Yala has burst its banks and as a result the reclaimed land in the Yala Swamp has been flooded and the crops washed away; and,

(b) if the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, what urgent steps he is taking to control the flooding of reclaimed land in Yala Swamp to save farmers from imminent famine.

The Minister for Rural Development (Mr. Mohamed): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that due to heavy rains, River Yala has burst its banks and as a result, part of the reclaimed land in Yala Swamp has been flooded and crops washed away.

(b) The Ministry, through the Lake Basin Development Authority, has taken the following steps to control the flooding of the reclaimed land in Yala Swamp.

1. The broken old river mouth has been sealed and the dyke repaired to prevent any more flood water flowing into the reclaimed land.

2. The communication between Siaya and Usenge has been restored.

3. My Ministry, through the Lake Basin Development Authority, is monitoring the situation and is carrying out further remedial measures and maintenance work on the whole dyke to ensure that the situation does not recur.

4. A final solution to the flood problem is being undertaken by the Ministry through the Lake Basin Development Authority, by constructing a weir at the cost of Kshs150 million. This will ensure that the farmers' crop is not destroyed by flood.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer from the Minister is quite misleading. It is misleading because out of five broken river banks at the swamp, only one was repaired. As a result, more than 1,000 hectares of the 2,300 hectares which was reclaimed has been eaten away by water and farmers' crops have been destroyed. I am tabling the budget of the Ministry for this year. The Minister says in his answer that they are going to spend Kshs150 million on the project and it is not even--

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Oburu, the Ministry's budget has already been tabled, you do not need to table it again.

Dr. Oburu: My question to the Minister is: Where in the budget is this Kshs150 million he is talking about?

Mr. Mohamed: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought that the hon. Member would say "thank you very much" because I said that we are going to construct it and the work will start very soon. About Kshs150 million will be spent. I do not know why the hon. Member is questioning where the money will come from. We have secured a loan from IDB, under the Kenya Rainfed Rice Programme. The construction work is going to start very soon.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am just wondering whether money can be spent if it is not provided for in the Budget. But if that is true, I am very happy and I would like to congratulate the Minister. Farmers' crops were destroyed and the farmers are desperately in need of relief food. Does the Government have any contingency plan to assist the poor farmers whose crops were destroyed by both the human "El Nino" and the natural El Nino. The human "El Nino" was induced by the manager of the Lake Basin Development Authority who uprooted the crops of the farmers when they were almost ready for harvesting. Is there any plan by the Government to give relief food to the farmers because in other areas where *El Nino* induced rain destroyed crops, those areas were declared disaster areas? I do not know why my area was not declared a disaster area when *El Nino* destroyed people's crops.

Mr. Mohamed: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the crops were destroyed by the flood waters from the river and the Government has done a lot. In the last three years, we have spent Kshs4.5 million in repairing the dykes. We have spent Kshs1.9 million on communications between Siaya and Usenge.

On the issue of famine relief food, I am not in a position to talk about it right now because there is a Ministry concerned with famine relief matters. But I would like to assure the hon. Member that plans are at an advanced stage to award a contract for this project, and the work is going to start very soon and this problem will be solved once and for all.

Question No.027

ESTABLISHMENT OF FISH PROCESSING PLANTS

Mr. Onyango asked the Minister for Natural Resources what plans he has to establish small scale fish processing plants along Lake Victoria in order to assist the local businessmen to process their fish in a more efficient and economic manner.

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

The Ministry has plans to establish fish processing plants along Lake Victoria. These plans include the establishment of fishing centres in the following areas:- Port Victoria, Kaloka, Usenge, Kendu Bay and Karungu beaches. There will also be an establishment of satellite stations in the following areas:- Sio Port, Wichilumu Luanda and Maiya, Kusa Sango, Luanda Canyon, Nyakwere, Wakula, Nyandiwa and Muhuru beaches. Already one centre has been established at Mbita in Suba District and it is about 80 per cent complete.

Mr. Onyango: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while appreciating that the Assistant Minister has got plans establish fish processing plants along Lake Victoria, could he tell this House how much his Ministry is intending to spend and when are they going to establish those fish processing plants?

Mr. Lengees: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, there is one processing plant that has been built at Mbita. I am sorry, I did not come with the figures showing how much we are likely to spend.

Mr. Kanyauchi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish the Assistant Minister could give us a more precise answer because this is a very important Question, particularly, to the fishermen along Lake Victoria. Very briefly, without a cooler, there is a lot of wastage of the fishermen's catches. Now, the Assistant Minister has spoken of a cooler, or a plant at Mbita. Is he aware that the so called "cooler," or plant has been incomplete for the last ten years? If he is aware, if at all, do they have any plans to complete it?

Mr. Lengees: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that as soon as the Mbita Fish Processing Plant is completed, and I am also saying that there will be eight fishing centres established along Lake Victoria, and these centres will have cold room storage facilities for fish before sale, or transportation to the main point--

Dr. Omamo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am taking it that the Assistant Minister is aware that the European Union standards that are now required to be met to enable Kenya export fish overseas are now strict. I gather that, as we are speaking now, in the Eastern African Region, only Uganda has met those standards. Tanzania has only up to the year 2000, and that Kenya has not. Could the Assistant Minister assure the House that these processing plants that the Ministry is planning to establish along the Lake shore are going to be so planned and so designed, as to meet the highest export standards that are demanded overseas?

Mr. Lengees: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, I am happy that the Questioner has information. The Mbita Fish Processing Plant is going to be one of the best examples along Lake Victoria because it is going to have all the facilities required by modern fishermen.

Dr. Ochuodho: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House by telling us that processing plants will be establish along the Lake beaches, while we know very well that electricity will be required and we do not have electricity in many of the beaches? Also, I happen to come from Homa Bay District, which is a major fishing area. Of all the beaches that are mentioned here, there is not even a single one in Homa Bay District. Could the Assistant Minister confirm that his Ministry is really serious and they are going to implement what they are planning?

Mr. Lengees: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no fish processing plant can be installed without electricity. So, I am just telling the Member that, once these centres are established, electricity will be the first thing to be provided there.

Mr. Onyango: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister in order to avoid answering my Question? I wanted to know how much the Ministry plans to spend on this project and, when they are intending to spend that amount. This is because they have already stated that they have got plans to establish the fish processing plants. Could he tell us when the plants will be established and at what cost?

Mr. Lengees: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said before, I am sorry, I did not come with a breakdown of the figures showing how much is to be spent. But if the Questioner wants me give the breakdown, he can put it as a separate Question. I will bring the figures showing the amount of money to be spent.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Members! Time is up now.

WITHDRAWAL OF MEDICINE KIT

Mr. Speaker: Order! Hon. Members, this Question by Mr. Shitanda is deferred to next week.

(Question deferred)

Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 13 - Ministry of Public Works and Housing

The Minister for Public Works and Housing (Mr. Kones): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. Speaker Do now leave the Chair to enable me to initiate debate on Vote 13 of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

It is my hope that the discussion on my Ministry's proposals by hon. Members will yield useful ideas, views and information that will help my Ministry to improve services to the whole nation. I, therefore, invite with pleasure constructive criticism and contributions from hon. Members. As hon. Members may already have noticed, I have been visiting various provinces and districts in the country in order to familiarise myself with activities on the ground and particularly the serious damage caused to the country's road network by the *El Nino* phenomenon. I have also been emphasising to our officers on the ground the Ministry's commitments to improve and maintain the entire classified road network. I wish to assure hon. Members that I will continue to exert my energies on this noble cause since I realise that the efforts that both the Government and wananchi are making in this country, will be seriously hindered if the condition of our roads is not improved.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Ministry is listed as Vote 13 in the Government Budget, and it is responsible for various public works and housing services to the whole nation. Since I am aware that hon. Members are conversant with the Ministry's responsibility, I will now move on to present the corresponding budgetary proposals for consideration by the House. For the purpose of budgetary provision, my Ministry's services are broken down into the following Sub-Votes;- General Administration and Planning, Building and Works, Housing Development and Roads and Other Services. In order to finance services under the five Sub-Votes listed above, I will require a gross total of K£369,153,939 for the Recurrent Expenditure and K£195,344,630 for Development Expenditure. I will present proposals for the Recurrent Budget first, then move on to the Development Budget.

The first sub-vote under Vote 13 is Sub-Vote 130 which caters for the Ministry's general administration and planning services. I am seeking the authority of this House to spend K£32,995,230 on services under the three Heads in this Sub-Vote namely; Headquarters Administration Services, Provincial Administration Services as well as District Administration Services. I also expect to raise a total of K£393,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid from the three Heads through the sale of unserviceable stores, boarded vehicles and equipment. The fourth and the last expenditure comes under Sub-Vote 130 and it is headed 149, namely; Supplies Branch. This department procures common-user items in bulk and supplies the same to user Ministries and departments at cost price. The Government receives quality discount on bulk purchases of items through the Supplies Branch. The department also processes Government contracts and provides furniture for Government buildings. To enable me finance these services, I require K£2,321,663. I also expect to raise a total of K£20,020,364 as Appropriations-in-Aid through the sale of tender documents and boarded stores in this department.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will now proceed to Sub-Vote 132 - Buildings and Works. The first Head under this Sub-Vote is Head 400 - Architectural Department. Apart from designing and supervising the construction of Government buildings, the department provides professional and technical services to all Government Ministries and departments. In order to sustain this service, I will require a sum of K£1,857,112. I also anticipate to raise K£35,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid from fees payable for registration of our approved constructors. The next expenditure is under Head 401 - Quantities and Contracts Department. This department is responsible for both

financial and contract management of all Government building projects. Under this Head, I am seeking authority to spend a total of K£913,063 during the year. I also expect to raise, under the same Head, K£45,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid from the sale of tender documents. The other Head is Head 402 - Structural Department. This department provides civil and structural engineering services to building and other specified works, maintenance of sea walls, jetties and sewage disposal systems in Government institutions.

I seek the authority of this House to spend K£1,220,573 on these services throughout the year. I also wish to seek the authority of this House to spend K£3,027,720 under Head 409, namely; Government Buildings. These funds will enable me to carry out maintenance work in Government buildings as well as meeting the cost of electricity, water and commodities consumed in the course of providing these services. I also expect to raise K£20,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid from the sale of boarded items and materials as well as surcharges arising from damages and misuse of Government property.

The last Head in this Sub-Vote is Head 413 which represents Electrical Department. The responsibility of the department is to provide mechanical and electrical services in public buildings. It also maintains lifts in Government buildings, hospital equipment such as boilers, laundry and kitchen equipment and generators. I seek the authority of the House to spend K£1,582,546 on these services. I also expect to raise K£8,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will now turn to Sub-Vote 133, namely; Other Services. First, we have Head 399 representing the Kenya Building Research Centre. In order to sustain services under this Sub-Vote, I seek the authority of this House to spend K£333,678. The funds will be spent on the coordination, planning, documentation and dissemination of information on low costs. I also intend to raise K£91,685 as Appropriations-in-Aid from the sale of materials printed by the department. The next Head is Head 418 which caters for Government Housing Section. This section administers the renting and leasing of offices and houses for the Government. To enable me sustain these services, I seek the authority of this House to spend K£25,673,704. Head 505 represents Mechanical and Transport Department. The department undertakes the repair and maintenance of Government vehicles, plants and equipment. In order to provide these services, I seek the authority of the House to spend K£14,513,792. The department intends to sell boarded equipment and vehicles which are anticipated to raise K£200,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid.

I now turn to the Head 506 namely; Materials Department. This department gives support service in materials research and testing for the department of the Ministry charged with building and construction works. It also carries out research and testing of industrial materials in general.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek the authority of this House to spend K£2,471,829 on gravelling works. The Department also provides materials and services to the public. I anticipate to receive Kshs155,000 from the services.

Last in this Sub-Vote is Head 507, which represents the Kenya Institute of Highway and Building Technology (KIHBT). The Institute conducts technical courses for both pre-service and in-service training. The training facilities of the Institute are situated at Nairobi, Kisii and Ngong. The facilities at Kisii are for training supervisors for road construction and maintenance operations using labour-intensive methods. The training offered at the Kisii campus also attracts trainees from other African countries. I seek the authority of this House to spend a further K£3,899,154 on this Department. I also expect the Department to collect training levies and fees amounting to K£106,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid.

I now wish to turn to Sub-Vote 134, which represents the Housing Department. Under Head 411, I seek the authority of this House to spend K£2,022,383 on personal emoluments, Government contribution to international organisations and other operational costs at the departments headquarters. The funds will also enable the Department not only to prepare a national housing programme and policy, but also to monitor the implementation of the same. The next Head under this Sub-Vote is 416. Under this Head, housing services at the provincial level are provided. I seek the authority of this House to spend K£242,826 on services under this Head.

Last under this Sub-Vote is Head 423 - Rent Restriction Tribunal. The Tribunal's responsibility is to facilitate the stabilisation of rent, especially for the low income earners. At the same time it ensures that capital investments in houses yield satisfactory returns to the investor. In order to sustain these services, I seek the authority of this House to spend K£557,352. I also anticipate to collect K£160,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid from the sale of boarded items and fees for services rendered by the Tribunal.

Last in my Ministry's requirements is Sub-Vote 136, which caters for the Roads Department. The responsibility of this department includes planning, designing, construction and maintenance of all classified roads, which currently constitute over 63,300 kilometres. Undoubtedly roads constitute the single most important mode of transport in the country. Indeed, the development of all other economic sectors significantly depends on an efficient road network. For this reason, the long term objective of the Government is to develop and maintain a

system of all-weather roads, which will facilitate access to all key production, consumption and market centres. It is the aim of the Government to maintain roads adequately in order to preserve the benefit of the large sum of money invested in their development over the years.

To enable the Ministry carry out this task, I seek the authority of this House to spend K£277,810,800 in the new Financial Year. The expenditure of these funds is classified into two categories. The first category includes expenditure on administrative and technical services, road work inspectorate, road making and signs for which I seek the authority of this House to spend a total of K£13,800. Appropriations-in-Aid totalling to K£10,800 are also anticipated from the sale of tender documents. The second category of expenditure is on actual road maintenance activities, which includes maintenance of all roads. For these activities, I seek the authority of this House to spend a total of K£264,800,000, which I propose to raise as Appropriations-in-Aid through the fuel levy and transit toll charges. I wish to assure hon. Members that all funds accruing from both the fuel levy and transit toll charges will be utilised for the intended purpose. My Ministry will fully account for the same.

Towards this end, during this Financial Year, my Ministry plans to establish an Advisory Roads Board, which will consist of experts, to advise on road maintenance programmes, budgeting, auditing, funds allocation criteria and other road sector policies. In order to improve on transparency and management of road maintenance funds, the levy funds will be collected and deposited in a Fund at the Treasury. All disbursements will be made on the basis of approved road maintenance expenditure plans. In order to increase productivity and efficiency in road maintenance programmes, the appropriate road design standards and specifications will be applied to avoid premature failure of road basement. A manual for assessment of environmental effects of road projects will be prepared by a unit to be established within the Ministry.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the 1997/98 Financial Year, sums amounting to K£175 million were spent on both routine and periodic maintenance of paved and unpaved roads, procurement of equipment for road maintenance as well as on traffic toll administration. Under the Unpaved Roads Programme, a total of 84 road gravelling projects were carried out at a cost of K£28 million, while K£7.9 million was used on routine maintenance of roads through out the country. With regard to paved roads, several resealing and recarpeting contracts were executed at a cost of K£60.7 million. Works were also completed on the following major road projects: Ruai-Kangundo Road, Limuru-Uplands Road, Makutano-Embu Road, access to Msambweni Road and Kitale-Endebbes Road. Work is still going on on the following roads: Kisumu-Muhoroni, Mai Mahiu-Naivasha, Mai Mahiu-Masai Mara, access to Moi University, Nakuru-Njoro/Mau Summit, Njoro-Mau Narok, Makutano-Sagana, Kapsoit-Sondu, Timboroa-Miteitei-Olsongor and Multi Tamu-Lale. Others are Bachuma-Miritini Road, Miritini-Likoni Road, Kiganjo-Nanyuki Road and Mwingi-Kalanga Corner Road.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will now turn to the Ministry's Development Vote. There are three Sub-Votes under this Vote. These are: Sub-Vote 132 - Buildings and Works, Sub-Vote 133 - Other Housing Services and Sub-Vote 136 - Roads. I wish to present my proposals for the various Heads under each Sub-Vote.

Under Sub-Vote 132, Head 102 - Structural Department, Head 406 - Border Control Posts, Head 409 - Government Buildings, Head 413 - Electrical Department, I have already outlined the functions of each of these departments in my review of the benefits proposals for the Recurrent Vote. To enable these departments carry out the development responsibilities assigned to them, I seek the authority of this House to spend K£16,721,600 on the various services set out under Sub-Vote 132. The activities that will be financed with the funds include the completion of the on-going works on Malindi Sea Wall Phase II, Lamu Sea Wall and the electrification of various Government buildings.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 133, Other Services, has seven Heads catering for housing, mechanical and transport services, the materials department and the Kenya Institute of Building Technology. To enable me carry out these services, I request the authority of this House to spend K£10,273,750.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to proceed to Sub-Vote 136 - Roads. While roads are the primary mode of transport in Kenya, Government resources to upgrade and improve the road network have been inadequate due to the many competing financial needs from other sub-sectors of our economy. In view of these constraints, my Ministry plans to pursue the following policies:-

First, the preservation of past investment in existing roads infrastructure through timely and adequate maintenance.

Secondly, upgrading of high priority roads to gravel and bitumen standards in areas where absence of such roads poses serious bottlenecks to development.

Thirdly, increase use of private sector for all road maintenance works.

Fourth, use of labour-based methods in road works to generate employment opportunities.

Fifth, to raise sufficient funds for road maintenance and sixth, training of personnel to reduce costs in road maintenance and enhance efficiency.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in order to enhance the above policy, the Ministry is implementing the Roads 2000 Strategy which is aimed at improving roads using a combination of human labour, light and heavy equipment, especially in the maintenance of rural agricultural roads. In this regard, the improvement of rural roads will continue as follows:

The Government, with the assistance of DANIDA, will implement the Road 2000 Strategy in all districts of Coast Province. The Government, with the assistance of the European Union, will implement the Road 2000 Strategy in seven districts of Eastern Province at a cost of Kshs700 million. The possibility of extending the programme to the remaining districts, at an additional cost of Kshs300 million, is also being looked into.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Swedish Development Agency will assist the Government to implement the Roads 2000 Programme in two districts of Central Province. The KSW of Germany will support the Roads 2000 Programme in tea growing areas of Rift Valley and Nyanza Provinces. The World Bank will assist the Government to implement the Road 2000 Programme in 16 districts of Central Province, Rift Valley and Nyanza provinces. Other donors are being approached to support this initiative in the remaining parts of the country. Government funding of the Road 2000 Strategy will be biased towards those districts which have no donor support.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to take this opportunity to enlighten hon. Members on some of the key projects which I intend to undertake in the road sub-sector during the 1998/99 Financial Year. The construction of Mombasa Road between Mtito Andei and Bachuma Gate will continue. Plans are underway to complete designs and procurement of services for the reconstruction of Mtito Andei-Sultan Hamud sections and to launch a feasibility study on the possibility of constructing the Mariakani-Mombasa Road section, to a dual-carriage way. Mai Mahiu-Naivasha-Lanet Road will be finalised in order to facilitate the procurement of construction of consultant survey.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the meantime, emergency repairs on the Mai Mahiu-Naivasha section will continue. Feasibility study for the upgrading of the Isiolo-Moyale Road as a regional project under IGAD in order to promote trade with our neighbouring countries is in progress. Since the studies of strengthening and widening of Narok-Mai Mahiu Road have been completed, efforts will be made to mobilise funds to implement the project. A contract will soon be awarded for the upgrading of Katumani-Wote Road to bitumen standard. Plans are also underway to mobilise resources for the tarmacking of Wote-Makindu section. Mobilization of funds to upgrade the access road to Wajir to all-weather standards, is also underway.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Ministry has already embarked on the tarmacking of the Kisii-Chemosit Road, Kapsigak-Serem-Shamakhokho Road and Gambogi-Serem Road. Plans are also underway to reactivate a number of stalled projects throughout the country, such as Kagoi-Baricho Road and Ndori-Uwimbi-Luanda Kotieno Road.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the gross estimates for the projects and programmes under the Roads Department, amounts to K£168,349,280, of which Appropriations-in-Aid amounting to K£103,873,750 will be realised in the form of loans and grants from various donors. I therefore, seek the authority of this House to spend a gross sum of K£168,349,280 for services under this Sub-Vote.

Finally, I wish to take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President, hon. Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, for his exemplary commitment in the best interests of Kenyans and his continued determination to steer our country in the course of peace, development and prosperity. Indeed, the on-going initiative and discussions for positive constitutional, economic and other reforms are notable and commendable endeavours which will further strengthen the foundation of our nation.

With these few remarks, I beg to move.

The Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Ngala): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to second this Motion by the Minister for Public Works and Housing. First of all, I would like to thank the Minister for the manner in which he has moved this Vote; very ably and very clearly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Ministry of Public Works and Housing is a very important Ministry. We are all very eager, as Members of Parliament, to try and give suggestions and ideas as to how the problems being experienced on roads right now, can be solved.

The Ministry, at the moment, faces a great challenge more than ever, before. Therefore, I would like to wish the Minister all the best in what he is doing. I would like to thank his officers for the way in which they are trying to deal with the problems that face the country in matters relating to roads.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was listening carefully to the Minister when he was moving his Vote. There are some areas which I would like to support in seconding this Motion. I heard the Minister talk about an advisory board that is now going to be constituted. The purposes of the board will be to advise on some of the matters relating to roads, where some of the stakeholders will be part of this board. I think, this is a new dimension where we are now going to have stakeholders consulted and given an opportunity to say something about roads in the country.

I would like to thank the Minister for bringing out this point very clearly. The issue of roads will not be the responsibility of the Ministry alone. All the other stakeholders will be involved in the maintenance of roads.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other point that the Minister has raised concerns the fuel levy. A lot has been talked in this House and elsewhere, about the fuel levy and its usage. The Minister has given an assurance that the road levy will be used for the intended purposes. This assurance is very important, especially for Members of Parliament, that the fuel levy and other toll charges will be used to repair and maintain roads in this country. I think the fuel levy can go a long way to improve the roads in this country.

The Minister also talked about the Road Planning Department. The Ministry needs a department that is technical, and that can plan the roads in this country. It should be given all the technical support and machinery, so that it can plan all the roads to the required standards. The Minister has highlighted different ways of planning and building roads. What we have gone through so far explains that, there was a loose link somewhere, in terms of planning, structuring and development of roads. I think we should have all those stages done properly.

The Minister has also raised his concern about the maintenance of roads. We build new roads and leave them to wear away. Our roads should be well maintained to meet the required standards. If we spend a lot of money building good roads, and then no funds are set aside for maintenance, it will be a futile job in the long run. So, the maintenance of roads should be put into proper focus, so that we can set aside funds for the maintenance of roads.

The Minister also mentioned a road that was given the highest publicity in the East African region. This is the road between Mombasa and Nairobi. The Minister has given various stages in which the road will be repaired, to meet the required standards. The Nairobi-Mombasa Road is a very important road. We appeal to the Ministry, and all the other well-wishers to do something good about this road. This is because it is a life-line and very vital in terms of transportation of passengers, goods and other services. The Minister's initiative of repairing the road in different stages is very important. A lot of emphasis should be given to this particular situation.

I would like to thank the Minister for visiting my Constituency. As you are all aware, Ganze Division was the worst hit by *El Nino* rains in Kilifi District. I suffered a lot even during the time of election campaigns. I would like to appeal to the Minister to try and give Ganze Division some consideration, and help it even more. I thank him for being there, with the German Ambassador, to inspect some of the roads that were done. I would like to call upon him to do a little bit more. I have a section of the Bamba-Mariakani Road which is still cut off. I have an area called Jaribuni which has got a problem. Jaribuni drift was cut off. Speaking on my Constituency, those two areas are very important. I would like to urge the Minister to see whether he can support us in this particular situation.

The Roads 2000 Programme is very important. There are some areas which will be dealt with, under the World Bank Programme. There are other sections which are going to be dealt with, under other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). I would like this particular programme to be expanded. It should give more emphasis to the Coast Province, which was badly affected by the *El Nino* rains. Even a Fund was established by His Excellency the President to support some of those areas. We have read and seen, and even the Minister has visited the area himself, to see some of the areas that have been affected. So, this particular programme is very important, and we wish it well, if it will improve the condition of our roads, and add even more roads to facilitate the road network in this country. We need to support this programme as much as possible.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing has a lot to do. The Minister talked about boarded vehicles which have been lying at the Ministry's Headquarters and the districts for a long time. He intends to raise some money through Appropriations-in-Aid. We are tired of seeing boarded vehicles lying in our offices, spoiling the beauty and scenery of such offices. It is time for the vehicles to be done away with. They should be sold and the money kept in the Ministry's kit, to assist in other projects. They are lying at various places and rotting. I think it is important for the Minister to tackle this issue, so that he can generate the much Mariira needed revenue for his Ministry.

With those few remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Eng. Toro: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First and foremost, I would like to say that I am the official Shadow Minister for Public Works and Housing. I am hon. Kones's shadow and I intend to follow him wherever he goes, as long as he is the Minister for Public Works and Housing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has been very eloquent in moving the Vote for his Ministry. He has been

very clear on what he intends to do in the Ministry. Everybody has heard very clearly what he intends to do. I would like to thank the Minister for bringing his senior officers here in Parliament. They will be here to hear what the hon. Members will say in this House. The officers from the Ministry are the ones who can make the Ministry to either perform or not.

I have known the Ministry for a long time, and sometimes I wonder what has gone wrong with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, because at one time, the same engineers and officers used to ensure that the Ministry did its work. They were very thorough in their work, but I do not know what has happened over the years. It is a challenge to the officers of the Ministry who are seated here with us today, to ensure that they give Kenyans what they require in terms of infrastructure, particularly roads and housing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing is a very important Ministry and its importance cannot be over-emphasized. Its importance is the core of the country's economy, because Kenya being an agricultural country, and a tourist destination for the other countries of the world, needs to have road infrastructure updated to the latest world standards. Our officers in the Ministry have been trained and they know what is required of them. They know the standards that are supposed to be maintained, but in the process of their work, it appears somehow, somewhere, they are compromised and throw their technical expertise out of the window and do other compromising activities.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, since the Minister for Public Works and Housing was appointed by the President, he has said over and over again that he is going to be dedicated to turning round the Ministry, so that whatever evils have been going on would stop. I have confidence in the present Minister for Public Works and Housing, and whatever he has said, if he does not renege on it, I am sure that my shadow will be very comfortable with him.

We have had Development Expenditures in the past years which have not been put into good use. The money allocated for the personnel of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing is a lot, because the amount of work being done all over the country by this personnel is enormous. Every province, district and division in the Republic requires trained personnel of the Ministry to carry out road maintenance, and supervision of road construction works to the best of their ability. Once enough money is not voted for road maintenance under the Development Expenditure, all the personnel will be idle. They will continue getting their pay without working for it. So, it is up to the Government to ensure that the personnel in the Ministry are kept busy working.

Recently, the damaged road infrastructure has been blamed on the *El Nino* rains, but that is not true, because our infrastructure had disintegrated even before the *El Nino* rains set in. It is only that the *El Nino* rains set in and washed away the tarmac and what was under the carpet was left bare. So, the Minister has told the House that one of the areas he is going to enhance in the Ministry is the establishment of the Advisory Roads Board. The idea of setting up this Board is good, but what remains to be seen is whether it will work. We have had very many good projects undertaken, and boards being established, but at the end of the day what starts as a good idea ends up on the drawing board. The onus is now on the Minister to ensure that the Advisory Roads Board works to the advantage of Kenyans, because Kenyans have suffered enough and they want the suffering to come to an end.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to turn to the issue of corruption in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. It is a well-known fact to all of us, that corruption has been very rife in the Ministry, and tenders have been awarded to politically-correct contractors. Most of the money that was supposed to have been spent in the last financial year to the tune of K£5.2 billion was awarded to politically-correct contractors who did not perform. Today, it is very, very hard to point out where the K£5.2 billion earmarked for the recarpeting and resealing of various roads in the Republic as indicated in the Printed Estimates, went. Those roads which were resealed or recarpeted barely one year ago, are in need of more repair.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Minister for Public Works and Housing, in the course of his duties, to tell this House how he intends to deal with corruption in the Ministry. The corrupt contractors who have been conniving with the officials - and I hope those officials of the Ministry are not here - have over the years looted money allocated for maintenance of roads. The onus is on the Minister now to tell us whether he can investigate, and I am sure he already knows who these contractors are, and advise the House whether they will be struck off from further Government contracts in future. There is no need of compromising

with the standards of our road repairs. It is a very expensive exercise re-doing the work over again. We would like the contractors to guarantee the period of time after carrying out the repairs and tell us how they are going to cope with any major defects that will occur on the work that they have already done. The contract should specifically pin down the contractor on the professional performance of his work.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, technical standards, which every professional engineer is aware of, have to be maintained. If they are not maintained because of corruption, then we will end up in problems. Design specifications form the core of any engineering undertaking before works are carried out. These specifications are sometimes compromised for personal financial gains by some officers in the Ministry. It is up to the Minister now to put a stop to this compromise of specifications by his officers in the Ministry, who want to gain personally through these compromises.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is very much aware that after contractors have done some sub-standard work, the over-loading of vehicles which has not been controlled over the years does the rest of the damage when the vehicles use these roads. Previously, we used to keep officers of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing very busy using mobile weigh bridges, trying to get hold of transporters who were exceeding the specified axle loads on certain roads. This is no longer being done and where it is being done in places like Athi River and Mariakani, there is a lot of corruption taking place such that any transporter who exceeds the axle load is never taken to court to be fined. Instead such a transporter is allowed to proceed with his journey. Attention has to be paid to axle loading and if possible, maybe we could increase the capacity of the axle loading when designing new roads, especially the Mombasa-Nairobi Road where enormous damage is being done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that notwithstanding, the Materials Branch, in my opinion, has failed to control the materials used for road construction and building services. It is very normal to see materials failing. Just go to any roundabout and you will find materials have collapsed in one way or the other. If you could inspect climbing lanes where they are provided, you will find that materials have collapsed. In my opinion, I would like to request the engineers who are here to look into the materials aspect because, no matter how much we want to make our roads good, we cannot afford to have materials collapsing. The specifications are there and the Materials Branch is free to go and take samples of any public works being carried out for tests since contractors are obliged to comply with the requirements of the Materials Branch. So, that is one area where the hon. Minister should take interest because at the end of the day, we do not want our road network to collapse due to poor supervision by the Materials Branch.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, training of personnel in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing is paramount. We cannot have properly supervised construction work without proper training of our personnel, like our engineers, architects and quantity surveyors. Sometime ago, the Ministry used to have an ambitious programme where engineers would be taken overseas for further training. I do not know whether that programme goes on today or not. Without training our personnel and re-training the trained personnel, we will not be able to cope with whatever is happening around the world. We need to keep our technology in Kenya in line with whatever is going on in the developed countries. The training which has been going on, in my opinion, has slackened over the years. It should be reactivated.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister talked about planning in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. I do not know what to say because it appears that we are now talking about things which used to happen long time ago in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. There was proper planning some years ago in the Ministry. Everything that was being done was well planned and executed in a professional manner. It is only over the recent years when things have started going wrong. Planning in the Ministry is not a new concept; it has been there before. If it is reactivated by the hon. Minister, it will help in rejuvenating what has gone wrong in the Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Roads 2000 Programme is a very ambitious programme as it has been said here by the hon. Minister. Like all ambitious programmes, it requires co-operation from all concerned. It requires co-operation from the officers in the Ministry and hon. Members in this House. Whenever there are any roadworks taking place in various constituencies and districts, Members should try to find out or to endeavour to follow up what the contractors are doing. This is because it is wrong for hon. Members to be ignored by the Ministry officers who keep on saying that the work of hon. Members is to come and make noise here or say what is going wrong in their constituencies. They also say that hon. Members come here to say that the contractor is doing a bad job, and yet nothing is being done against him. Hon. Members are just ignored. I would request the hon. Minister to take note of what the hon. Members are saying in this House as regards road maintenance or new projects because they act as his eyes. If you ignore them, then hon. Minister, you will come back here and be asked by the same hon. Members what went wrong. It would be better if precautionary measures were taken at the construction stage rather than wait until things have gone wrong and start wondering what happened.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Roads 2000 Programme is catering for a lot of districts which are basically productive. The hon. Minister has told the House that priorities will be given to those areas which are productive or which are going to support the economy. I would request the hon. Minister to give priority to tea, coffee and horticultural growing areas and also areas where there is tourism. About 47.8 per cent of our country's exports are derived from coffee, tea and horticultural products. This is almost 50 per cent of our exports and it would be wrong for these areas to be ignored as far as roads are concerned. We have areas where tea is grown. Tea, coffee and horticultural farmers cannot transport their produce to the required destinations because of poor roads. These areas require attention. As regards tourism, I would say that the roads and infrastructure in areas which earn this country foreign exchange through tourism, for example, Narok and the coastal areas, should not be ignored.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if those areas are well taken care of, they will be able to generate revenue. More coffee, tea and horticultural production and more tourists coming into the country, will mean that the less privileged areas in the country will have more money to develop them. We cannot continue to ignore those areas for political expediency. Sometimes, you will find the Ministry of Public Works and Housing carrying out road works in some areas which, in the short term, are not going to benefit the country, while ignoring those areas which are very productive. Some of the areas that have been ignored are places like Nyandarua District, which as we are all aware, is a very productive area. But when it rains, no vehicle can move in that area and I have seen that very little has been provided to develop that district. Farm produce, milk, cabbages, carrots and a lot of vegetables we eat in Nairobi come from that district. Instead of having all those commodities rotting in the farms, we should look into possibilities of transporting them to Nairobi and other towns for consumption. That is just an example of one of the areas that have been ignored, as far as road construction is concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I talk about horticultural areas, I come from a place where we grow coffee and tea, that is Murang'a and Maragwa districts. We wonder where the money which has been allocated for maintenance goes, because we have had very little maintenance in those districts. Maragwa District is new and at this juncture, I would like to talk about Kandara, which is my constituency. There is a road which runs from Kabati to Kariua and to Mariira, which is the new district headquarters. That road had been ear-marked for tarmacking many years ago. Money had been allocated, but we do not know what happened. I can see from the estimates, some new roads being ear-marked for gravelling and tarmacking; yet, the road from Kabati to Kariua has been left out and I wonder what criteria is being used to allocate funds for tarmacking certain roads.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are some other new districts like Thika, Malindi, Mbeere, Moyale, Suba, Rachuonyo, Trans Mara, Marakwet, Koibatek, Lugari, Malava and Teso. I have noted that under Recurrent Expenditure, sub-vote 136, Head 482, those districts have not been allocated funds for personal emoluments, house allowances, transfer allowances and medical allowances and I wonder what the personnel are supposed to do. I do not know whether that was an over-sight or whether personnel in those districts are supposed to be withdrawn. But I would request the hon. Minister to look into that, so that we continue getting services in those districts. In Maragwa, we already have engineers and other staff members from the Ministry of Public Works and Housing and yet, I can see that they have not been taken care of.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot will be said in this House regarding the Estimates for the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. The Ministry's strategic plan, as given last year, is very clear. I would like to refer the Minister for Public Works and Housing to that strategic plan and I would like to go over what the Ministry had already agreed to do. If you allow me, I will read the seven points that the Ministry had given, so that the Minister can find out whether they will adhere to the strategic plan, as defined by the Ministry. The Ministry's strategic plan defining policy frame-work within which road development and maintenance programme would be implemented were given as follows:-

(1) Preservation of substantial investment in the existing road infrastructures, through timely and adequate maintenance.

(2) Up-grading high priority roads to gravel and bitumen standard in areas where absence of such roads poses serious bottle-necks to development.

(3) Increased use of the private sector for all road maintenance work.

(4) Use of labour intensive methods in works to generate employment opportunities.

(5) Raising sufficient funds for road maintenance.

(6) Training and re-training of our personnel to reduce costs of road maintenance.

(7) Promotion of road safety and rural employment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, little has been done regarding those seven points by the Ministry in the last Financial Year and I will appeal to the Minister to look into ways of ensuring that, that policy framework, which is very nice and workable, is looked into.

Dr. Oburu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to continue reading a speech, when the Standing Orders require that he can only make reference but not read?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was not reading. I read only those seven points, because there is no way---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order. Mr. Toro. Your time is up.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Nyagah, it is your time.

*(Mr. N. Nyagah and Mr. J. Nyagah stood
up in their places)*

(Laughter)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, I meant Mr. Joseph Nyagah.

The Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. J. Nyagah): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for appointing the senior Nyagah to speak on this occasion.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to support this Motion. First of all, I would like to thank the Minister for Public Works and Housing for his excellent presentation. He has very clearly explained to us what the Ministry's intentions are or what plans are in place, and how they intend to achieve them. He has also very clearly explained new concepts, which most of us have been hoping will be introduced into this country and we see the beginning of the concepts. I think if the Ministry continues along this line, we will be satisfied that they are making a good beginning. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the *El Nino* induced rains totally damaged our infrastructure. The Minister and his team, therefore, have had to face great pressure from the public in terms of road maintenance and opening up new areas in this country. I would like to thank the Minister and his officers for a job well done. We can only thank them because they have attempted to do a good job in very difficult circumstances. We should give credit where it is due.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me mention a few areas that are of interest to me. I am very happy to note that the Ministry will pay much attention to rural access roads. For some times now, our rural access roads, particularly in the remote areas, have been ignored. In 1970s and '80s, a lot of resources were set aside for their maintenance. Those roads used to open up remote districts in this country. I would like also to thank him for negotiating with the European Union for the Roads 2000 Programme. Most of the districts in Eastern Province operate under very difficult circumstances, and I hope that they will benefit from the programme.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the European Union for their support to this critical programme.

As far as implementation of this programme is concerned, I would like to appeal to the Minister to create jobs for unemployed youths in this country. We would like to see more labour intensive methods being used in the rehabilitation of our roads instead of us using big contractors. It is important for us to use labour intensive methods because there are so many unemployed youths who can be mobilised to work in rehabilitation of our roads in urban and rural areas. If we do that, our youths will have income.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, maintenance of roads is a major problem in this country. I am happy that the Minister has indicated that he will pay special attention to the maintenance of roads. I would urge him and his team of engineers to be detecting potholes on our roads at an early stage instead of waiting for them to become big. By so doing, the Ministry will not spend a lot of money in the maintenance of our roads. For example, the Embu-Kitui Road is now developing some potholes. If the Ministry could repair them before they are big, this would help the Government to save a lot of money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish the Minister for Finance had allocated more funds to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, although looking at the printed Estimates, one gets the impression that the Ministry was allocated more funds in the Budget than other Ministries. However, I am convinced that those funds are not enough to maintain our infrastructure. If the Government wants to address the poor infrastructure problem in this country seriously, then it should have allocated more funds to this Ministry. I hope that the Government will allocate more resources to this Ministry because infrastructure is very important in the promotion of agriculture, tourism and other economical sectors in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would urge the Minister to pay attention to the poor state of roads in the new districts. For example, Maragua District is not well linked to other districts in terms of infrastructure. I would also like to urge him to pay special attention to bridges in this country. For example, when hon. Ita wants to move from one corner to another of his constituency, he has to pass through several constituencies. I would

like to appeal to the Ministry to build a bridge that would connect Gachoka Constituency and Kirinyaga District. This will promote the horticultural sector in that area. That bridge should be one of the bridges that will benefit from the European Union Programme.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me also talk about axle load. We need to be strict in our axle load limitation in order to stop damage on our roads. It is very expensive to maintain roads. It is important that we maintain our roads in good standards so that we can serve both Kenyans and our neighbours. I would like to take this opportunity to urge our neighbouring countries to implement strict axle load rules on their roads, so that we do not have heavy vehicles which will damage our roads. We may have to stop their vehicles from using our roads, and this may create diplomatic problems.

Finally, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about the role of the private sector in the maintenance of our roads. My question is: Is it possible for the Ministry of Public Works and Housing to privatise our roads and bridges? For example, in Europe, bridges and roads are privatised. The private sector in Europe charges a fee for the maintenance of roads. If we privatise our roads we may open up rural areas for investors, and probably, maintain our roads despite our budgetary constraints. With the new board and advisory committees to be set up in the Ministry, we hope that our roads and bridges will be privatised as we move into the next century.

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

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to say a few things. I want to start with general remarks and then move on to more specific things. The hon. Minister has invited us to make some critical remarks about his presentation and Vote for his Ministry. Eventually, I will say that this Ministry is asking for money in a way that contradicts the request by the Minister for Finance. But I will come to that shortly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, first, I like the eloquence of hon. J.Nyagah about axle weight rules on commercial vehicles. Unfortunately, the overwhelming majority of those vehicles enter our neighbouring countries from Kenya, and not the other way round. So, the problem gets to those countries after it has passed through Kenya. We should ask ourselves why implementing officers of the Government wait until the President says, "Something wrong is happening here", and then they appear to be doing something about it. Whether we are talking about dumping of uncustomed fuel on the local market or owners of over-loaded vehicles who bribe traffic police officers to pass the weigh bridges carrying excessive weights; there is always this tendency that when somebody in very high office says something, then everybody becomes perfect.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also wanted to request the Minister, in these general remarks to see a problem that need not be there. Why is it that we live in a country where 90 per cent of drivers do not know that on a dual-carriage road vehicles drive on the left? We surrender all the space on pedestrian bridges to commercial companies to advertise instead of the Ministry putting there signs for these drivers to enable them to know what they do not know! If you pass a person driving on the right hand side and tell him to go left, he will think that you are insulting him and start showing signs and saying: "Why do you not use some of your space?" You should use the foot bridges and the rail-crossings you have to tell such people to drive on the left hand side for slower vehicles. Similarly, is it not possible for this Ministry to standardise the size of bumps on the road? We have some mountains--- I mean, the potholes we drive through are bad enough. But there are some places which are impassable because of bumps built by jua kali workers on the road.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, the hon. Minister mentioned something to the effect that he is happy that the money from the Fuel Levy will be used exclusively for the purposes for which the Fund was created. I want to engage him on this issue.

A month ago, while negotiations on multilateral funding of the road network for East Africa were going on, principal donors wrote to the Minister and requested for audited accounts of the Fuel Levy. They requested for audited accounts which have never been presented to this country. In fact, the absence of proper auditing of the Road Maintenance Levy was responsible for the scandal last year, in which some people wanted to divert the money into a mysterious malaria treatment and prevention programme. The Minister did not give that information. Instead, the people who were demanding that information were left wondering whether the Minister had bought his very beautiful VX4.5 Turbo Land Cruiser and his elegant E230 Mercedes Benz from money belonging to the Fuel Levy or the Ministry's mainstream money.

We cannot be satisfied with the shaking of heads until we have audited accounts for this Fund. It will be in the interest of the Minister, who always says that he likes the truth to come out, that he pushes his officers to give us an audited account of the Fuel Levy to show us that the money that has been collected from this Fund is, actually, reflected in the Estimates for development and maintenance of roads.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, now, to come to some specifics, I started off by mentioning

something very interesting; that the Minister for Finance has told us that the Government is terminating leases on private houses for civil servants and that instead, the officers will be given a third of their monthly salary as house allowance. If you look at page 777 of the Recurrent Estimates, under Head 418, at the bottom, you will find item No.181 - payment of rents and rates on residential properties. Last year, the Ministry used K£25,200,000 to pay rent for houses for civil servants. This year, the Ministry is asking for the same amount. How does this relate with the promise by the Minister for Finance that he is going to terminate renting arrangements for residential houses for civil servants? You are asking us to give you money to do what the Minister for Finance has told us you are not going to do!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was looking very closely at the Development Estimates. It is very painful to see the truth of the collapse of the infrastructure. It is a national shame that there is no road between Mombasa and Malaba. The Government can say a thousand times that this is due to the recent *El Nino* rains but everybody knows that the rains exacerbated an already existing problem. The vocabulary, the thinking and attitude of maintenance does not exist in the management of the road infrastructure in this country. We rehabilitate totally destroyed roads. We do not maintain roads or fill up potholes until they become what are sometimes called "moiholes".

For two years, the Minister has been asking for K£1 million to carry out research on the Sultan Hamud to Mutito Andei stretch of the Nairobi-Mombasa Road. Why do you still need to do research when we know that this stretch is a major source of pain to travellers in this country? Even this year, as we are looking for money to fix other areas, the Minister is still looking for his traditional K£1 million to do research on this stretch. This is money which will be used to "oil" certain pockets, not by politicians but, by civil servants. The Minister should tell his officers that the Mito Andei-Sultan Hamud stretch of the Nairobi-Mombasa Road does not need research but rehabilitation. For how long are you going to spend money on that research?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, like myself, has the misfortune of travelling on the " Biwott" Road; the Molo-Timboroa Road. Some 38 kilometres of this road were built at the same time as the Timboroa-Edoret and Nakuru-Molo Roads. But when you reach there, you will suddenly find that there exists no road but a "moonscape". It should be public policy that contractors who cannot perform should not be allowed to get more Government contracts. On the basis of that stretch, that Biwott company should not have been involved in the construction of the road to Sagana. This is because the company has demonstrated that they are not able to perform.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of the Kisii-Chemosit Road is different. The Kisii-Chemosit Road project is similar to that of Kibabii Teachers Training College. It is not a road; it is a political project. It appears in Annual Estimates only to disappear in Supplementary Estimates. We should forget about who is going to build the Kisii-Chemosit Road because there will be none there, just like there will be no TTC in Kibabii since they are political projects.

What I am saying is that if a company does a shoddy job, like the job done on the Timboroa-Molo stretch, that company should not be allowed to tender for further Government projects.

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the hon. Member is misleading this House by claiming that the Kisii-Chemosit Road does not exist and that the area does not deserve development unless it is a political project. This is an economic project which is doing better than the projects in the hon. Member's home area!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish I knew Ekegusii. I would have explained this to the hon. Minister. What he has said has no bearing to what I was saying. If he could listen to me, I would tell him that whereas the people of Kisii and Chemosit desperately need a road, and I totally agree with their need for the road--- However, this road does not get constructed because it is promised as a political tool and when it comes to disbursing money for constructing it, just like the Kibabii TTC, the money disappears. I am not saying that people do not deserve a road in the area; I am saying that they will never get it. The hon. Minister should see the difference between those two positions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the current Estimates, the Minister has set aside only K£200,000 for the Timboroa-Molo Road. This amount of money cannot do anything on a road section which is virtually wiped out. Fundamentally, I am surprised that there is no reflection of Appropriations-in-aid coming out of the sale of Government houses. We know that this Ministry has continued to condemn and sell Government houses. Is the Ministry changing its policy and going to give these Houses for free? Why does it not reflect the money accrued from the sale of these houses in any of the sections under Appropriations-in-aid?

Finally, this Minister did something that was very upsetting. If you look at the Estimates of this Ministry, you will find that it is the most dependent on goodwill from donors; it receives overwhelming amounts of money. In fact, the amount of money donors are putting into roads alone, is more than the total amount of Recurrent

Expenditure by the Government. Yet, when there was a major donor meeting in Arusha to discuss the regional road network, this Minister went gallivanting in other parts of Kenya and did not attend. I wish he could see the relationship between the two.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Dr. Kituyi, your time is up!

Mrs. Kittony: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, allow me to add my voice in commending the Minister for Public Works and Housing for presenting the Motion on the Vote of his Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to tell him that prevention is better than cure. The road that hon. Kituyi has just mentioned, that is Eldoret-Makutano Road is beyond repair. Some of us who use that road know that it is a nightmare. It is always being repaired, but there are a lot of potholes. When a small pothole occurs on the road, it is left until it becomes unmanageable. So, there is laxity on the part of the officers. I would like to appeal to the Minister to see to it that, the officers in the Ministry do, indeed, implement what he has brought to the House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, overloading of vehicles on our roads is another serious problem. Lorries are overloaded, and nobody checks on them. In the process, they ruin our roads. The matatus are also doing the same thing. This practice endangers the lives of our people especially the women who do not have the energy to protect themselves. A vivid example where matatus are not overloaded is Uganda. If a matatu is overloaded both the passenger and the matatu driver are fined. So, we would like the Minister to look into this issue very seriously, so that a number of lives can be saved.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like also to see a gender balance in the Ministry. When we look at the Ministry officials on the civil servants benches from one corner to the other, there is no woman. I am sure that we have women who have done engineering at the university, and one wonders what happens in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. We know that women are very honest and they can do a good job. Therefore, I would like to appeal to the Minister to see to it that, women engineers are employed to take care of our roads.

Mr. Ita: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member not misleading the House by alleging that there are no women engineers in the Ministry, when the Roads Engineer in Mbere District where I come from is a Mrs. Ndirangu?

Mrs. Kittony: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sure Mrs. Ndirangu is possibly the only Roads Engineer in Kenya because wherever I have gone, I have not seen one. I am referring to the officers in this House who are very senior. There is no lady on those benches! If there is one, I would be happy to see her.

An hon. Member: They are very experienced. They are working in the field.

Mrs. Kittony: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very serious. When I was speaking, the Minister was consulting with other hon. Members. So, I want him to note the seriousness of overloading on our roads by both matatus and lorries. If we check this, we shall be able to save the lives of the people of this country. With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Munyao: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. At least, you have seen me. I would like to note that 10 minutes is too little a time to say what one would like to say about this Ministry, which is the nerve centre of Kenya. I will try to prioritise my points and, maybe, I will see the Minister somewhere in Bomet and remind him of what I intend to say.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to begin by congratulating the Minister whom we know to have a very clean heart in wanting to do good things. He has already toured many parts of Kenya and yet, we do not have any money. I do not know where he gets the money to fuel his cars. I believe that he must be selling a few cows in order to fuel his cars, because we hear him every weekend in Bomet. We also congratulate his young officers who are fairly educated young Kenyans. But we wonder why they have shelved the planning and designing of roads in Kenya, given all those qualified officers and the tours which the Minister has made all over the world. The Minister has seen how roads are designed in overseas countries. There are highways where one can travel in whatever direction he wants without difficulty. The road designs in Kenya are confusing and one cannot know where one road will lead to. I do not know where we are heading to. At one time, we were told that the Mombasa Road will have about 10 lanes going in either direction. But today, the whole road is caving in. Where are we heading to? I know that perhaps, the Minister might not be fully responsible over land issues, but he is part of that collective responsibility. Please, say it in the Cabinet that the greed of selling land, including road reserves, is leading us into a very serious situation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the designs in Kenya--- I am sure that even the Chief Roads Engineer is very bitter because he has designed roads which cannot be constructed. What he has designed this year cannot be carried out next year because the land will have been sold. Roads are designed with the availability of land in mind but by the time the physical planning will be carried out, the land will have been

issued out by the Commissioner of Lands. Why can you not in the Cabinet have collective discussions and have a vision of the future of Kenya. What we used to know in 1963 is not there. Our roads are in a miserable condition.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to remind the Minister that all parts of Kenya became Independent on the same day and same date; on December, 12th 1963. But when we see the development in all parts of the country, it is not the same. There are some people who were born in some parts of Ukambani who are older than the Minister, but they have never seen a tarmacked road. In schools, teachers have got to bring children to Nairobi and other parts of the country like Kisii to at least, see tarmac roads because they have never seen any. With all the pleasure and interest, we would like to see good roads. But when we look at the Budget today, like hon. Joseph Nyagah has said, I am one person who would like to support the Minister, so that he should be given more money than any other Minister. Today, it is only the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development which has got Kshs2 billion. We would like the Minister for Public Works and Housing to be given more money, so that he does whatever he wants to do. But it is unfortunate that we read in the Budget that the Minister wants money to complete this or that project while those of us in Ukambani have got nothing to complete. Does he expect me to be as happy as the hon. Minister for Finance or the Mzungu, hon. Criticos, who use tarmacked roads all the time? The situation is miserable and we are asking the Minister to be a little bit rational. What is aggrieving the Minister and he knows---

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member is misleading the House. Some of us go to our farms and we get stuck for hours in Mau Narok. There is no tarmac and therefore, you must not mislead the House that some of us are walking on tarmac!

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know very well that the Minister is just taking my time. He does not come from Narok. He has invested there, in Taita/Taveta and in other areas all over the country. That is his own problem if he invested in some areas where he cannot reach. In any case, he invested in those areas because he wanted to buy cheaper land.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that the Government is straining and it cannot budget more money. The Minister for Finance has told us that, he cannot offer what he cannot give. But why can he not for once, forget this business of completing tarmac roads and make sure that he provides equal services to all of us, from the money he collects from us in form of taxes? We would like to have tarmacked roads in Eastern, North Eastern and Coast provinces and where you come from. He should gravel these roads so that, at least, we can reach home. It is a misery and big shame, because every time we are about to go on recess, the Minister for Finance will get to his home but some of us may not do so. Where will I go because we cannot even reach home? You hear a Minister talking very well in support of a Motion to adjourn the House, so that Members can go home to preach about what they have seen in the last three months. When I hear that I say: "My God, what do I do?" In fact, we have not been given telephones to call our constituents to tell them how eloquent the Minister was.

This time, we want the Minister for Public Works and Housing to make sure that the districts are accessible. It is shocking that as we sit here, there is a district called Makueni where the DC takes two days to travel from Emali to Makueni. Yesterday he was here, I am sure that he must be somewhere near Nunguni, still trying to get home. When he reaches Machakos, he changes his Land Rover and gets onto a motorbike, which he leaves in Makutano. He then gets a bicycle to somewhere and from there, he is escorted by women to his home. Is this the kind of country we are delighted to have? The policy ought to change somehow. At least, try to make sure that the country is given the equitable services. Hold the road expansion and tarmacking, so that we can at least, gravel and begin together. If we got Independence together on the same day, why should some areas have better roads than others? Every year on 12th December, we are told that all Kenyans got Independence. Is there a Kenya "a", Kenya "b" and Kenya "c"? Where do we belong? Are we in "f" or in "g"? We want to be together.

My suggestion is that, we should make sure that roads are gravelled together; let us try and do that with our own taxes. Mr. Minister, I am giving you some advice. The DP had a commitment last year when we went out. We told Kenyans to elect us and even now, we are committed and we will provide good roads, particularly those touching the borders. We can privatise our own major roads; the Nairobi-Moyale Road, Namanga-Garrisa-Moyale Road, Mombasa Road, Kisumu-Busia Road and the other roads. We can go out and get money from wherever and build better roads. Today, nobody will be too stingy to pay two or three hundred shillings to travel on a better road, particularly if you live in Mombasa, Kisii or Busia. Those roads which are touching the borders should be developed. We should privatise and give people contracts for 10 to 20 years. We will be paying the road toll as long as it is controlled. The DP was ready to control it. We had a method.

I know, I may not be able to cover here, all that we had planned to do but if the Minister can see me later, I will give him a leaf from DP. We had a full project; we knew exactly what to do with this country. We are still waiting, because you will "nod off" at some point and if we take over, you will see good things happening. This

issue of Members asking, one after the other, that certain roads be repaired will end, because we know what to do. If you want to try, go and suggest it one of these days and we will do it. Having said all that in general, I want to ask the Minister in the course of his time, because he has been touring around, to try and spare some time. I thank him for his tour on Wamunyu-Kalawa Road with his officials recently. They have given out contracts and assured us that, the Road will be okay and I have no doubt at all in my mind.

I want to tell him that there are quite a number of people who will be pulling his efforts down. He should employ all of us to be his eyes in the field, so that we can see for him and tell him. The co-ordination from his office and areas like Ukambani, North Eastern, Kisii and all the others should be beyond reproach.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have yet, another road, Tawa-Wote Road, which is also in a miserable state. We may not enumerate all the roads which are in a pathetic situation all over Kenya. We know that the Minister has already held a consultative meeting with his own field officers and all the others. We would only like to say that, we are going to support the Minister's efforts, as long as he gives us what we need.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we moved from road toll station to Petroleum Levy. This was like a miracle, because he had to disband the road toll stations when he found that some of the Government officers, not him, but maybe other Ministers, had earlier had to stop over at the toll station near Athi River and ask: "How much have you collected?"; and then, they would put some in their pockets. That is what led to the change from road toll stations to the Petroleum Levy. Even after having changed to Petroleum Levy, they have gone round and some of them have built houses and put fuel tanks there to try and--- We compliment the Minister's efforts and determination and wish him good luck.

With those few remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Lomada): Asante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii niweze kusema machache kuhusu Hoja ya Wizara ya Ujenzi na Nyumba.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwanza ningependa kuomba nafasi ili niweze kupongeza Waziri wa Fedha kwa Hotuba ya Bajeti ya mwaka huu ambayo iliweza kulisisimua Bunge hili, na wananchi wa Kenya kwa jumla. Ningependa kumpongeza Waziri kwa kusoma Hotuba ya Bajeti mwaka huu katika Bunge hili. Hotuba ya Waziri kuhusu Bajeti imewatia moyo wananchi na kuwatuliza. Hotuba ya Bajeti haikuweza kupingwa na walio katika Bunge hili wala wale walio nje. Inaonekana kwamba Hotuba ya Bajeti ilikubalika na kuchukuliwa na wananchi kwa mioyo mikunjufu na tulivu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kusema kwamba, fedha ambazo zimetengwa na zile ambazo tutazungumzia katika Bunge hili, yafaa zitumiwe kwa uangalifu sana. Wale maofisa wanaopanga namna ya kutumia zile pesa, yafaa wapange kulingana na miradi ambayo imependekezwa katika kila wilaya. Tunajua kwamba kila mara tunapata malalamiko kutoka sehemu mbali mbali kuhusu jinsi pesa zinavyoweza kutumika. Hatungependa tena katika mwaka huu, na vile vile mwaka ujao, kuwe na malalamiko kama yale. Tungependa pesa hizo ziweze kutumika kunufaisha miradi ambayo wananchi wamepanga itelekezwe kwanza katika tarafa zao.

Pia ningependa kumshukuru Waziri wa Wizara ya Ujenzi na Nyumba, kutokana na mipango ya dharura ambayo alifanya wakati wa janga la *El Nino*. Waziri huyu ameweza kutembelea sehemu mbali mbali za nchi hii, hasa sehemu ambazo zilikumbwa na shida ya *El Nino*. Daraja nyingi katika mito mbali mbali zilisombwa na maji ya mafuriko na kuwatatiza wananchi. Waziri alitembelea sehemu hizo mwenyewe pamoja na maofisa wa Serikali ambao wanahusika na mambo ya Wizara hiyo na kusaidia kujenga kurekebisha daraja hizo. Pia ningependa kuwashukuru maofisa wa jeshi ambao waliosaidia katika sehemu mbali mbali kuhakikisha kwamba daraja ambazo zilihita kutengenezwa zilitengenezwa. Namuomba Waziri anayehusika aiendeleze kazi hii na wenzake pia, yafaa waangalie na kusahihisha Wizara zao mahali ambapo zinahitajika kusahihishwa ili mambo yaweze kufanywa kwa utaratibu katika nchi hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, pia ningependa kumpongeza Waziri wa Ujenzi na Nyumba kwa kurekebisha daraja la Gwei Gwei lililoharibiwa na mvua ya *El Nino* katika sehemu ninayoiwakilisha Bungeni ya Sigor. Daraja hiyo imekamilika na sasa inaweza kupitika. Wananchi walikuwa wanaumia walipokuwa wanavuka mito kwenda kupata matibabu katika hospitali ambazo zilikuwa zimefungiwa katika ng'ambo ya pili, lakini sasa wananchi wanaweza kunufaika kwa yale matibabu na kuweza kufanya biashara zao bila shida. Pia ningemuomba aingalie kazi hii ili ikamilike sawa sawa, kwa sababu kuna sehemu ndogo iliyobaki kujazwa murrum ili iweze kupitika vizuri.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, pia kuna barabara ya Kapenguria-Lodwar, iliyojengwa na watu wa Norway. Barabara hiyo imo mikononi mwa Serikali yetu na chini ya Wizara ya Ujenzi na Nyumba. Ningependa kumjulisha Waziri kwamba barabara hiyo sasa iko katika hali mbaya kiasi, kwamba kuna mashimo mengi katikati ya Chepareria na Kainuk. Barabara hiyo sasa inaendelea kuharibika zaidi. Wahenga walisema kwamba: "Usipoziba ufa utajenga ukuta." Ninaomba Wizara ya Ujenzi na Nyumba ipeleke maofisa wanaohusika yaani wataalum, waende waangalie na kuona ya kwamba wameweza kutengeneza barabara hiyo na kuziba mashimo, ili barabara

irudi katika hali yake ya kawaida. Hii ni kwa sababu barabara hiyo ikiachwa kwa muda mrefu, itaweza kuharibika zaidi na kuwa na mashimo mengi na haitaweza kupitika tena. Itakumbukwa kwamba barabara hiyo ndiyo inayoitwa: "The Great North Road", ambayo inatoka hapa Nairobi kuelekea Lodwar na Juba huko Sudan. Ningependa barabara hiyo ichukuliwe kama barabara inayoweza kuinufaisha nchi hii kwa namna moja au nyingine.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, pia ningependa kumkumbusha Waziri kwamba, barabara itokayo Marich Pass hadi Chesegon, kwenye mpaka wa sehemu ninayoiwakilisha Bungeni ya Sigor na upande wa Elgeyo-Marakwet--- Barabara hiyo iko katika hali mbaya kwa sababu kuna mito ambayo imeiharibu barabara hiyo. Ningependa Wizara hii iangalie na kujenga daraja kwenye mito ya Bartino, Lomuto na Kibas ili magari yaweze kupita kwa urahisi kwa sababu hiyo mito imesababisha shida, hasa wakati kulikuwako na wizi wa mifugo.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa sababu ya shida hiyo utapata kwamba wakati wezi wa mifugo wanapovamia, inakuwa shida sana kuwafukuza na mara nyingi wanatoroka na mifugo. Kwa hivyo, ninaweza kuchukulia barabara hiyo kuwa security road. Ningependa Serikali itengeneze barabara hiyo hasa kwa kuweka murrum na kutengenezea karabati ile mito.

Nikimalizia, ningependa pia kusema ya kwamba, kuna mradi mmoja ambao sasa uko kwa upande wa Wizara ya Maji ambao unaitwa Yalatekemorugus Water Project. Huo mradi ulikuwa umemalizika na maji yalikuwa yamefika mahali yalipokusudiwa kufika, lakini kwa sababu ya kazi mbaya iliyofaywa, maji hayo yaliweza kukatika. Hii ni kwa sababu mifereji ambayo ilitumiwa haikustahimili nguvu ya yale maji. Kwa hivyo, ningependa Serikali yetu ihakikishe kwamba fedha ambazo zimetengewa kila Wizara, zinatumiwa kwa kazi iliyotarajiwa kufanya. Ningependa Serikali isaidie wananchi wa Murupus kwa maana ni wananchi ambao wamewachwa katika sehemu kavu ambapo hakuna maji. Akina mama wanatembea mbali sana kuchota maji.

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

Mrs. Mugo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I too would like to add my voice to the on-going debate on infrastructure, but before I do that, I would like to support my sister for raising the issue of gender sensitivity. I am afraid my brother here gave a very light answer to the question that was raised. It is very clear that there is not a single woman sitting there. I know that we have very talented women who can perform those duties. We were not talking about what is out there, but what we are seeing here. I would like that imbalance corrected. I would also like to congratulate the Minister for his presentation and the good intentions of the Minister and the Ministry. Of course, we are going to see the fruits of the intentions because this has happened time and again, where good plans are never implemented. And I think that is what is ailing this country's development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Ministry is very central to the talks going on now of jump-starting the economy. We cannot change the *status quo* of the economy or any reforms, unless great seriousness is seen in this Ministry through infrastructure. A lot of economic hardships prevail, especially in areas which are producing cash crops and other crops which add to the economy of this country, due to lack of proper roads. This is something which is very difficult to understand because where production is high, roads should be taken care of, unless as an hon. Member said earlier on, the roads are based on political reasoning. I say this because I have had the privilege of travelling up-country. In some areas of this Republic, there is hardly any economic reason why roads should be so well tarmacked while others are not. I have nothing against goats lying on the roads, but I fail to understand why on a stretch of so many miles of tarmacked road, there are just goats lying there. I am talking about Baringo, Kerio Valley and Marakwet. All those areas have beautiful roads. When I saw that, I said to myself: "I have been to areas where coffee, tea, pyrethrum and horticultural products cannot get to the market because there are no roads"!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we cannot help jump-start the economy, unless we developed those areas that would reverse the situation of the economy. I hope that the Minister will definitely visit those areas which produce a lot for our country and give them a priority, when planning which roads are going to be tarmacked. The practice which has been there should not be there anymore. The question of whose constituency a road falls under, or how well politically-connected a person is or who travels on a particular road, should not arise.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I urge the Ministry of Public Works and Housing to be reasonable in deciding the roads it is going to rehabilitate first. I also believe that there are a lot of problems emanating from the way the Ministry of Public Works and Housing--- Road repair work falls under different Ministries. The Ministry of Local Authorities and the ministry of Public Works and Housing repair our roads. If the repair work is carried out by a single Ministry, then corruption will be controlled. A better job will also be done at a much lower cost. I recommend that when the President trims his Cabinet, which we believe will happen, he should merge those three Ministries, so that we can get better services more cheaply. One Ministry should be responsible for maintaining the roads in the country.

When it comes to investment, there is nobody who will invest in this country, if he cannot carry out his activities smoothly because of poor infrastructure. If we want to attract foreign and local businessmen and women, we have to pay a lot of attention to the poor infrastructure. If we are now serious to stomp out corruption in this country, through which a lot of money is lost, then we should be able to turn round the economy. This is because the gentlemen who are here, together with the Minister, should deliver what they are promising Kenyans.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to touch on housing, especially in the urban areas. I have not seen anything indicating that the Minister will improve housing for the low income population. We talk of slums in this country and yet, we do not have them. We have people who are living like animals and yet, they are Kenyans. This is because all the money goes to a small group of people who drive big cars. It seems as if there is a group of people in this country who do not--- In other countries, when one speaks of slums, he or she means that there is infrastructure, water and proper sewage drainage in them. In Kenya, we do not have that. In respect of Nairobi City and other urban areas, I would like to see the Ministry of Public Works and Housing take the low income people more seriously. It should also think of low cost housing schemes to enable our people lead a decent life.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to mention something about Mombasa Road. If we are talking about economic reforms, we cannot have them when that road is not operational. It is not operational because of the number of vehicles that damage it daily. We cannot transport our goods to markets on time. I would like to ask the Ministry to consider constructing a dual carriage way on that road. That will ensure that people will be safe and trade can then develop. We are losing a lot of money in buying spare parts for our motor vehicles. There is no way we can revive the economy on this land, when a lot of money is going down the drain because we do not maintain our transportation system. I believe that Kenya works under a crisis system. This is because we wait until something is completely damaged. If it is a bridge, we wait until it is completely broken down before we repair it. A vehicle could even go down with that kind of bridge before the bridge is repaired. We should now start repairing what gets damaged, instead of waiting for it to be completely out of order. This has got a lot to do with corruption in the tendering system. People are given jobs to do not because they will deliver, but because of who they know and who will get a cut where. If all Kenyans were serious now, especially senior officials and the Ministers--- We are now telling the teachers, the people who go without food, to reduce their salaries. We have to be serious and stamp out corruption. We need patriotism at the top and not just at the bottom. In that way, we can ensure that the money will go where it is supposed to be. Then, we shall be able to maintain all the roads. All the money meant to repair our roads should be used for that purpose.

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

The Assistant Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Chanzu): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand here to support the Ministry of Public Works and Housing Vote. I wish to congratulate the Minister and the staff of the Ministry for the good work and effort they are making in spite of hardships, especially the *El Nino* induced rains. The rains afflicted the country towards the end of last year and early this year. There has also been inherent inadequacies that we have experienced in budgetary provisions all along.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problems that we see in the programmes of the Ministry are not current. They are problems which have been carried over from previous years. For example, we have had contractors and consultants who have rendered services to the Ministry, but the Ministry has not had enough budgetary provision from the Treasury to finance the payments. There is an element of Government housing. There is need for adequate funding for housing schemes, like the Nairobi West Housing Scheme, to be completed. This will enable us to provide accommodation for civil servants.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have got the National Housing Corporation under the Ministry, which was meant to provide tenant, house-purchase houses. But because of lack of finance, the National Housing Corporation has not been able to meet its objectives. It is our wish that the National Housing Corporation is strengthened, and more funds are availed, so that we can have more houses for the entire population of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing's depots in various centres are supposed to have officers who can look after Government property. It is my wish that those centres are properly equipped, so that they can continue rendering the intended services.

The Kenya Building Research Centre was supposed to carry out studies on various alternative building materials, production processes and devising the building code. Because of inadequacies, the centre has not been able to render those services. If we have to maintain standards in the building industry, we must restructure and strengthen the centre.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Material Testing Department is also very important. We have had buildings collapsing because materials which were used to put them up were not up-to-date. If attention is

paid to that department, I think, we shall be moving in the right direction.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, because of insufficient funds, the road signs and markings are not installed in some places, resulting to accidents. I would like to appeal to the Government to make provisions for the road signs. If the country has to be industrialised by the year 2020, the infrastructure must be up-to-date. Therefore, there is need for sufficient funds to be allocated for the rehabilitation of rural access roads, feeder roads and highways. This will help the tourism industry to pick up.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I notice, that the Road 2000 Programme has been spread to all districts. There are also donors in all the provinces, except Western Province. I am appealing to the Ministry to identify a donor for the roads in Western Province. If that is not forthcoming, the Ministry should look for ways of financing that programme in some of the districts in Western Province.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a technical Ministry, and the services rendered by the staff, particularly engineers, quantity surveyors, architects and the rest, are comparable with services rendered by consultants in the private sector. Consultants are paid on certain fee scales. It is imperative that the professional and technical staff in the Ministry are well remunerated, so that they are motivated to render the services effectively.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ita: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make some few remarks, on the Vote of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Rather than beginning with the general things like many hon. Members, I would like to start with the specifics. This is with regard to what the hon. Member for Gachoka said. I would like to make it very clear to the Minister that, I am one Member of Parliament who cannot travel to my constituency without passing through two or three other constituencies. For example, if I want to go to Kiambere Dam, which is in my constituency, I have to go through Manyatta, Gachoka and Col. Kiluta's Masinga constituencies before I get there. If I start from my home district, I cover only a distance of about 30 kilometres. But it takes me about 200 kilometres. This is because there are no roads and bridges. If I started walking on foot, it would take me two to three days before I reach there.

If I want to go to Ishiara Division, where I regularly attend the District Development Committee (DDC) meetings, I have to go through Manyatta and Runyenjes constituencies before I get there. This is a very serious matter. I hope the Minister will take note of this, so that he can make it easier for me to represent, meet and talk to my people to assist them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other specific issue that I would like to raise concerns Road No. C92. That particular road has been talked about for so many times, and it connects my Constituency from Nthagaiya on the Embu-Meru Road, and part of the old Mate Road No. C92. It goes to a very important market in that region known as Ishiara Market. It is the largest and biggest livestock market in the region. As we are talking now, that road is impassable. Even if you want to use your vehicle to go to Ishiara, it is very difficult. Last December, His Excellency the President tried to go to Ishiara. He issued instructions that something should be done about the road. To date, there is very little that has been done on that particular road. Over the week-end, I tried to make my way to Ishiara. I turned back half-way because it is impossible to use the road. I cannot pass through Kanyuambora to Ishiara, which is a distance of about 10 to 20 kilometres. I would like the Minister to take note of this. We have requested again and again for something to be done for that road. We have recommended even patching and minor repairs of the worst parts, but nothing has been done so far. Meanwhile, the population continues to complain and cry. That particular road leads to a teachers college, district hospital and a divisional headquarters, and it is completely impassable. Even to get patients to other referral hospitals is very difficult. This is a very serious matter. I do not know what amount of talking or complaining will make the Ministry do something. There are several roads which are equally bad.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the Minister's attention to page 794 under the Recurrent Estimates, where Mbeere District does not have provisions for personal emoluments, house allowances, transfer allowances, medical allowances, passage and leave allowances and refund of medical expenses. They are not indicated and yet, we have staff on the ground. We have a Roads Engineer and a big pool of Ministry of Works and Housing personnel at Siakago District Headquarters, and I do not know how they are going to be maintained. Somebody suggested to me that they will be catered for under the Embu District provisions. But we do not come under Embu District. We have a full-fledged district headquarters and no provisions are made for it.

I do not know how our Roads Engineer will operate. Somebody has even suggested that we raise this issue during the Committee Stage. But I would like to draw the attention of the Minister that we have no provisions from Item 000 to Item 092 for Siakago Roads Engineer's Office. We have a District Roads Engineer in Siakago and there is no provision for roads whatsoever. The rest are some very little and minor Items which have been provided for. But I hope the Minister will do something about that.

Let me now dwell on general issues. With regard to investments, there are no investors who will come to this country, where the road network is in a sorry state. So, hon. Kones, if we do not have any investors in this country, remember that your Ministry contributed to that fact.

The other item is on the economies of scale. Today, even my people have said that matatu fares from Siakago to Embu have gone up. The fares have gone up everywhere because of bad road maintenance. The economies of scale are a benefit to the economy. When we are undertaking economic reforms in this country, if we cannot achieve the economies of scale because our road network is so expensive to operate within, then we may not even make up what is already there. The Minister knows that roads are going to contribute to the economic growth of this country. If they are in a bad state, we cannot achieve the economies of scale, and this country will be deficient on one side and yet, money has been provided.

Looking at the problem as a whole, I think the Ministry is trying to deal with the problem in a piece-meal manner. I think the Ministry should look at the whole problem inflicting our road network, and have a masterplan on where to start. The Chinese said that even the longest journey begins with one step. But it looks like we are moving from one area to another, maybe because of ourselves putting pressure on the Minister, by telling him how our constituencies are bad. But there is need to look at the problem as a whole, and set out our priorities right, so that we can be convinced that the Ministry is moving systematically from one year to another year. The road network problem should be looked into, on an overall basis. Otherwise, the Minister will be doing patch work and nobody will know what he will be doing.

My constituents are asking me: "What is the Ministry of Public Works and Housing doing? We do not see anything! We were told that money will come in July!" But even after July, they were asking me today: "Where is the money? How long does the money take to reach the constituency? If you came from Nairobi on 1st July and the money has not arrived, when is it going to arrive?" In my maiden speech, I said that it takes almost four to five months for the money to get to Siakago, whereas for me, it takes just two hours to get to Siakago! I would like the money to get there before I get there over the week-end, so that we can start doing some work. I would like to invite the Minister to come to our district. I hear that he has travelled in all the other districts.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Planning and National Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to contribute to the Vote of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing by saying that most of our roads in the rural areas were under the local authorities in the past, but these local authorities are non-functional at the moment. They have no money, no machinery and manpower and as a result of the "Golden Handshake", the whole system of maintenance of roads in the rural areas has been grounded. So, I would like to appeal to the Minister concerned to ensure that the Ministry takes over the maintenance and management of all the rural roads, because the county councils are no longer capable of doing so.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to bring to the attention of this House the fact that this animal called "The District Development Committee (DDC)" which is supposed to decide on which roads need maintenance and who should be awarded road contracts - I do not want to criticise the civil servants who are members of this committee - comprise of members who are not residents of the area. The DDC should have members from the local community like the elected councillors, Members of Parliament and church elders to decide on which roads should be given first priority. We are leaving everything to civil servants, who are there to serve the Government, but most of them are not knowledgeable on the geography of the area. So, I would like to recommend that the DDC should be manned by local people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are blaming the *El Nino* rains, but there are roads in my constituency like the Biretwo-Tot-Marich and Kipkaa Roads which have been impassable even before the *El Nino* rains were cited. We are not being truthful to ourselves. We would like to admit that these roads have been impassable for sometime, and we do not want to pass the buck. We would like to see these roads made passable. For example, the road I have just mentioned, the Biretwo-Marich Road, it was once said that there was money to tarmac it because it was one of the main roads for our tourist circuit in Western Kenya, but I do not know what happened later on. The other one is Anin-Kapchebele Road, which I have said several times in this House that it is impassable. The sick people in those remote areas cannot reach the hospitals because they have to be carried by hand-made stretchers all the way from the valley. So, I would like to see the Kipkaa-Tambach and Kapteren-Cheberem-Kapkoi Roads repaired when the money for the maintenance of these roads is given out.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like also to say something about the houses, because this Ministry is also responsible for renting and leasing out Government houses. Although, we know that the Structural Adjustment Programme, which was born by the IMF and the World Bank, recommended the disposal of some of the condemned houses, it is not possible in the rural areas to dispose of Government houses. It is better to

rehabilitate those houses, because if we dispose of a DC's, OCPD's or DDO's house, and then give them some allowances, there are no houses to rent in those remote areas. It is better to maintain those houses. In any case, the money that is used to maintain those houses is minimal. It is not the same as putting up a house altogether. So, I would like to recommend that these houses be retained, and the Government continues to look for money to repair them, so that the civil servants are not disadvantaged, otherwise, they will be looking for rental houses which are non-existent in those areas.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to join my colleagues who have talked about accidents in our roads. Kenya has the highest incidence of road carnage in Africa, if not in the world, and the reason why those road accidents occur frequently is because of the poor state of our roads.

Our roads are made in such a way that they do not have parking bays for broken down vehicles. The roads are made in such a way that the embankments are very stiff such that when drivers are overtaking and there is an oncoming unsuspecting vehicle they find it very difficult to escape. So, I think that is as a result of the way our engineers are designing the roads. In other countries where some of us have been, you find that there are parking bays reserved for broken down vehicles. If a vehicle breaks down it has to be removed from the main road, but here in this country, it is very common to find a broken down vehicle parked in the middle of the road with some tree branches spread on the roads to warn the motorists. That is not enough because it inconveniences motorists.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another thing which I would like the Ministry to consider and, perhaps, explore is the question of installing telephones after certain intervals of kilometres on our highways to enable motorists who have got problems, who have their vehicles broken down, or who have been involved in accidents to communicate with the police or report serious accidents which have occurred on the roads. All in all, I think our engineers should be more careful when they are supervising these contractors. Once one has been awarded a contract to make our roads, our road engineers should be constantly on one's heels. This is because once the roads have been completed, there is no way the Government can stand back and say that the job was shoddy and so the contractor is to blame. He will have escaped. So, we would like to see more supervision being carried out by our engineers, otherwise, they are doing a good job and I thank them.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

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

First of all, I stand here to congratulate the Minister concerned, hon. Kones, for making efforts to visit the disaster areas and more so for visiting my constituency during the period when some bridges which pass over Athi and the Thange Rivers were washed away by the *El Nino* rains. While contributing on this Vote, I would like to pin-point a few areas which I think are of importance to the Minister and his team which need to be implemented. Most of the rural areas are served by rural access roads. Before these roads can be maintained by the Ministry, they have to be classified. However, it will be very important at this moment, instead of a road being classified so that it can be put into a computer for whatever purposes, let the roads in this country be declared public roads. Once they are declared public roads, leaders in the respective areas will be able to say which roads should be graded, maintained by the Ministry or by the villagers. However, here is a case whereby unless a road has been classified, that road does not exist in the Ministry's records. Therefore, I would suggest that these roads under the Roads 2000 Programme should be graded and maintained by the Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about the year 2000, because the Minister has said that there are some roads which are maintained by DANIDA, European Union and SIDA. He mentioned one road in Eastern Province, and that is Wote-Makindu Road which is a very important road in my constituency. It links my constituency with the district headquarters. However, during the rainy season and even the dry season, that road is impassable. If you take your vehicle there, it will cost you more money to maintain the vehicle and put it back on the road. So, I would request the Minister to give first priority to that road as soon as these funds are availed. This is because I understand that the funds are available at the moment to repair bridges which have been washed away. However, it has been confirmed in this House that they will be done before the end of October. I would request that they be done without further delay.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing is about the road maintenance camp. The road maintenance units in this country have disappeared. There used to be four maintenance camps situated along the Nairobi-Mtito-Andei Road which have disappeared. These camps were accommodating people who used to repair the roads by filling and patching the potholes. However, now these road maintenance units are no longer there. If you ask the Ministry officials where these road maintenance units went to, they will tell you the retrenchment programme is what caused their disappearance. So, I would request the Ministry to put back these units on our roads so that the roads can be maintained properly to motorable standards. Another thing is that grass and bushes

have overgrown in this highway. Our roads have become very dangerous. You cannot even see anything sideways since the roads are not clear and they have become very dangerous to the road users.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing is the fuel levy into which we are contributing Kshs1.80 per litre. This fuel levy goes to the Ministry. We would like to see that money being used fully to maintain roads in town councils. Of course, this money must go to the town councils. They must maintain the existing roads. Instead of having to construct new roads, the existing roads should be maintained fully by the fuel levy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing is about overloading. Our roads have been damaged by the excess load in this country. Our roads can only sustain a load of over 45 tonnes. However, you find loads of over 70,000 being transported on our roads. This has damaged our road network in this country. I would request the Minister to be strict on the excess load in order to minimise the road maintenance work.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is another department which has been overlooked here; the Supplies Branch. The supplies branch is a department which the Government relies on when it is procuring goods. This department has been doing a very commendable job because it has made the Government not to incur heavy losses on the pricing of stocks and goods supplied to the Ministry. It acts as a control point of all Government departments. I would request the Minister that since the money that has been allocated during this financial year is not adequate to open up new avenues for small departments, to be buying their goods directly from the department at affordable prices. So, I would request the Minister to allocate more money to the Supplies Branch so that it has enough money to buy goods for all the Ministries at very competitive prices. Government Ministries should buy goods from the Supplies Branch at affordable prices. The Supplies Branch operates depots all over the country. Since these depots are to be found in every province, Government departments and schools can buy cheap stores and office equipment from the Supplies Branch. Therefore, it is a department which requires more money so that it can continue to supplement Government services, as far as stores and office equipment are concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to comment on Government houses. These houses have been condemned when they are still in good condition. We had good houses in Kileleshwa and South "C" Estates, but most of them have been condemned and allocated to politically-correct individuals. These politically-correct individuals do not even live in those houses. They live in posh estates. This has cost Government a lot of money to rent houses for its senior civil servants. In the last Financial Year the Government spent well over K£25 million on rent. If those houses were not allocated to politically-correct individuals, then this Government would have saved a lot of money. We find that some of the houses rented by the Government are occupied by the same individuals. Some of the officers who have been allocated Government houses do not even qualify for them. I would urge the Minister to stop any further condemnation of Government houses. Let them be maintained and allocated to civil servants who do a good job for this country.

It is a pity to see a DC or a PC who has been working in Garissa or Moyale being transferred to Nairobi, and then he cannot be allocated a Government house because houses have been given to politically-correct individuals. Housing in Nairobi is very expensive. If those houses were not allocated to those individuals, then they would have been allocated to those senior civil servants. The Minister should stop any further condemnation of Government houses.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the general administration in this Ministry, the Minister has asked for a huge sum of money. Most of this money is spent in the Ministry's headquarters. Officers at the district level have no vehicles to use to tour and inspect roads construction in the district. It will be very important if those officers are given proper facilities to oversee construction of our infrastructure in the rural areas.

I would like to appeal to the Minister to allow more funds to go to the district. Officers at the district level should be given authority in order for them to perform the duties. Currently, if they want to do something in their districts, they have to ask for authority from the Permanent Secretary. The Permanent Secretary should give authority to officers at the district, so that if they want to do something for this country they can do it without necessarily going back to the Permanent Secretary.

The Kibwezi-Kitui Road needs to be tarmacked because it will serve the entire area around Mount Kenya.

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

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute on the Vote of this Ministry. I would like to congratulate the Minister for Public Works and Housing for presenting a very good Budget for his Ministry, and for being active in trying to rehabilitate our roads.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish the amount voted for this Ministry for Recurrent Expenditure were for Development Expenditure. If you make an audit to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing's headquarters you will find engineers and architects lying idle because there are no funds for them to rehabilitate

our roads. So, I hope that since we have balanced our Budget this year the next Budget will have a provision for those qualified people to be employed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about two roads that affect my district. One is the Chemosit-Kisii Road which has been "tarmacked" five times in the last 25 years but it has never actually been tarmacked! Last year, we were told that this road had been allocated Kshs780 million. We have been told that Kshs446 million was paid to the contractor to remove earth works on four kilometres of the said road. This means that Kshs100 million was paid for every one kilometre of earth works removed and not tarmac.

Mr. Maitha: Say that again!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not a defector like that man over there. I am a staunch supporter of KANU and nobody will remove me from KANU. Actually, I will remove you from the Opposition to KANU.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Can hon. Angwenyi, whom I respect very much, explain to this House who "that man" is, in the language of the House?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this road has really messed us up in Kisii because year-in-year-out we are told that the road is going to be tarmacked and no work is done. Because of this road, no new road has been constructed in the three Gusii districts. Every time we suggest a new project, we are told it will be considered after this road has been tarmacked. The other road is the Ahero-Kisii Road.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There was an issue raised by hon. Anyang'-Nyong'o about the contractor and hon. Angwenyi knows that the contractor is HZ Construction Company, which belongs to hon. Biwott. He should just say that!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think hon. Obwocha knows that I do not fear hon. Biwott. I was talking about the Ahero-Kisii Road. This road has been constructed for the last nine years. Unfortunately, it was constructed upto the border of Rachuonyo and Kisii districts and the money got finished. The allocations which have been made for this road are not adequate to complete it. So, this is another way through which the Kisii people have been deprived of their share of the national cake. The two roads which I have talked about, that is the Chemosit-Kisii Road and the Ahero-Kisii Road, have made it impossible for us to construct new roads although the DDCs for the Kisii districts have approved these roads to be tarmacked: E208 Marani-Nyakoe-Bonyunyu-Ekerenyo Road, Keroka-Magombo-Marani-Oyugis Road, Keroka-Masimba-Nyakieki-Nyangweso Road, Mogonga-Itako-Yosire Road, Kebirigo-Kenyanya-Keroka Road. All these roads have been recommended to be tarmacked for the last five years but none of them has been tarmacked, let alone gravelled because we have been held back by the two roads which I talked about.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Gusii districts are very productive. In fact, we contribute a substantial amount of money which is used to maintain roads elsewhere in the country. I heard one hon. Member here say that we should spend Kshs2 billion in a place where we have already spend Kshs2 billion on relief food. We should spend Kshs2 billion in Gusiiland for "relief roads"

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are amounts which have been voted for various roads but it is not specified which roads they are for. For example, there is the Minor Roads Programme - Headquarters Kshs9 million. We do not know what we are going to construct at the Ministry's headquarters in Nairobi for that amount of money. There is an amount of Kshs106 million which has been voted for agricultural produce roads - coffee and tea. I come from a coffee and tea growing district. There is no money which has been spent on a road for coffee and tea. I do not know which coffee and tea districts these are. They must be specific. There is also the Roads 2000 Programme, which has been allocated Kshs90 million, but the district is not specified.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is the Minor Roads Programme Technical Unit which requires Kshs36 million but no specific area has been indicated where this amount is going to be used. There is an item on road maintenance amounting to Kshs120 million, but it is not specified what it is going to be used for. There is the District Road Network Rehabilitation Project which requires Kshs300 million and no specific district or road has been specified for its use.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Kisii District, we have been allocated Kshs4 million for the Minor Road Programme. But Kajjado District has been allocated Kshs144 million. I do not know whether the criteria for this allocation was trees, grass or people!

An hon. Member: What about Baringo?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my district, we have no serviceable vehicles and equipment. There are no graders and the ones we are using

were provided by the colonial government. The shovels are not there. There is one tipper which is as old as I am, and I am an old man. There are no rollers in my district. I remember that last year I gave my own money to construct a road but Government officers did not have a tipper, a grader nor a roller. Kisii District which produces a substantial amount of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of this country--- I am wondering what happens to a place like Mwingi where the Temporary Deputy Speaker comes from, and where you do not produce very much; you may not have anything actually.

(Laughter)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other problem we have got in this Ministry is poor workmanship. A road can be constructed and after six months it is washed away because it was not done to the required standards. I am happy that the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing is one person who has grown up in the system and he knows the tricks. So, I hope he is going to stop shoddy works and have proper work done, so that once a road is constructed, we do not have to do it the next year.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Obure): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Angwenyi, who is on the Floor, has made some accusations against the Chair regarding the Chair's own district, when he knows very well that the Chair is not in a position to defend itself. Is it in order, for him to do so?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was sympathising with your constituency because I know that you cannot speak for it. We need professionalism--- I know that our people are qualified. We have qualified engineers and many other people. If they want to do a good job for this country, they can do it. I believe that this year, with the Minister and the Permanent Secretary who are concerned about our road system, a good job will be done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, starting with Kisii District, the District Engineer, Roads, should do his job. Maybe, we should change our budgeting system, so that we do it on constituency basis in order for us to know whether the job is being done or not. Lumping together of various projects and allocating us a small amount of money for each of the projects, should be discontinued so that projects can be completed.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to rise to support hon. Angwenyi's sentiments and to congratulate him for a job well done and his very good homework.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Budget Speech read by the Minister for Finance laid down the principles on which these Estimates and the Finance Bill are based. The Minister did say that they are going to set up an Executive Roads Board in this Financial Year to look after road maintenance, repairs and affairs related thereto. The same Budget also said that there will be a fund in the Government which the local authorities will use for running their affairs. In these Estimates, there is money already allocated from the Ministry to local authorities to run their roads. It is an insignificant amount of money considering the condition of roads in the rural areas. I do believe that the bulk of our roads, for the purposes of economic development, are found in the rural areas, where we have the rural access roads and so on. You will find that the money that is allocated to rural access roads and local authorities roads is less than Kshs 1 billion. Indeed, I think it is about Kshs829 million, whereas the total---

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 8th July, 1998, at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.