

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 15th April, 1998

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

### PAPERS LAID

The following Papers were laid on the Table:-

The 1997/1998 Supplementary Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure of the Government of Kenya for the year ending 30th June, 1998 Volumes I and II.

The 1997/1998 Supplementary Estimates of Development Expenditure of the Government of Kenya for the year ending 30th June, 1998 Volumes I and II.

*(By the Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Kirui)  
on behalf of the Minister for Finance)*

The Public Accounts Committee Report with Accounts of the Government of Kenya for the years 1993/1994 and 1994/1995 volumes I and II.

*(By Mr. Maore, on behalf of the chairman  
of Public Accounts Committee)*

### NOTICES OF MOTIONS

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES:  
RECURRENT AND DEVELOPMENT

**The Assistant Minister for Finance**, (Mr. Kirui): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notices of the following Motions:-

THAT, a sum not exceeding K£870,892,291 be granted from the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1998, in respect of Supplementary Estimates of 1997/1998, Recurrent Expenditure, having regard to the deduction of K£389,784,549 therein appearing.

THAT, a sum not exceeding K£39,380,874 be granted from the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1998 in respect of Supplementary Estimates of 1997/1998 Development Expenditure, having regard to the reduction of K£281,261,422 therein appearing.

### ADOPTION OF PAC REPORTS

**Mr. Maore**: On behalf of the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, I wish to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, this House adopts the Public Accounts Committee reports for the years 1993/1994 and 1994/1995, laid on the Table of the House on 15th April, 1998.

REHABILITATION OF DYKES IN YALA SWAMP

**Mr. Oloo-Aringo:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, in view of the fact that the Yala Swamp Irrigation and Development Projects in Siaya and Busia districts was initiated by the government of Kenya to increase food production and that area one comprising 2,300 hectares had been claimed from the swamp and transformed into farmlands and the design and plans for the reclamation of the remaining 17,000 hectares had been approved by the government for its implementation, this House urges the government to:

1. Repair the dykes and rehabilitate area one and end the re-flooding of this area
2. Implement the reclamation of the remaining part of the Yala swamp and open up the area for the agricultural settlement by the indigenous peoples of Siaya and Busia.
3. Extend irrigated

farming to the adjacent locations of Usonga, Alego, Yimbo, Bunyala and Samia to increase food production in the country.

### MOTION

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

THAT, the thanks of this House be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address from the Chair on 31st, March 1998.

*(The Minister for Lands and Settlement on 7.04.98)*

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 15.04.98)*

**The Assistant Minister in the Office of the President, (Mr. Angwenyi):** I was talking about importation of maize. This is one of the commodities that we are able to produce in this country but which has been made difficult by the importation of duty-free maize at the expense of our local farmers. I want to ask the House to support the President as he wages the fight against corrupt leaders in this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I come from an agricultural area. My constituency produces coffee and tea for export. We earn foreign exchange from those commodities. This foreign exchange has maintained this country since the beginning of this year. Otherwise, our economy would have collapsed completely. But these areas do not benefit from the proceeds of this foreign exchange money. Instead, other areas benefit a lot from this foreign exchange money in terms of provision of roads, electricity and water. These areas do not contribute at all, towards the earning of this foreign exchange money. It is high time the farmers were compensated adequately for what they produce. If they produce tea and coffee, then the foreign exchange money should be utilised in their areas. If they produce sugar, let them get the compensation for their sugar. I have heard people talking about roads or water here, but they do not consider the areas that finance these projects.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently the Minister for Finance outlined the austerity measures which the Government intends to take to revitalise the economy and I would urge everybody to support him. I do not think that there is any Government in the world which would like to reduce the salaries of its employees. There have been some misconception about teachers. I was a teacher before I came to this House, and I am going to lobby very hard for teachers in this House so that they do not lose their benefits. I have also heard some hon. Members attack senior civil servants on the Floor of this House, some of whom have performed very well like the Director of Medical Training College, Mr. Boit, who has streamlined those institutions to the extent that we are almost self-sufficient. Mr. Boit has done a good job. I wish they would attack the people who destroy our economy instead of attacking those ones who have streamlined our institutions. Also, I have heard some hon. Members attack Mr. Gichuru who has improved a company which was making losses a few years back, now it is making profits.

**Mr. Ojode:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the hon. Assistant Minister tell us what Mr. Boit has done to alleviate the problems in Kenya, unless he is also eating with Mr. him?

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Eating what?

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not a tumbo-collaborator like that Director.

**Mr. Ojode:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The hon. Assistant Minister was saying that Mr. Boit

has contributed immensely to the development of this country; I would only request the Chair to direct him to tell us, among other things, what Mr. Boit has done, unless he is telling us that they have been eating together with Mr. Boit. That is what I am saying. Could he confirm or deny that?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order, Ojode! That is one thing I am not going to accept in this House. Mr. Ojode, you are setting a very bad example to the new hon. Members. Hon. Members must address issues and they must be honourable. They should not cast aspersions on their colleagues. You two are wrong. You have no business also throwing aspersions on that hon. Member. So, the two of you are wrong and out of order. I caution both of you not to personalise debate. Further, on a more substantial issue, I think the hon. Member was expressing his opinion, however wrong, wild or unassuming it may be. When you catch my eye, tear him into pieces.

*(Applause)*

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Angwenyi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I support the Motion.

**Mr. Maore:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Address that was delivered before this august House on 31st March, 1998. In the Speech, there were some semblances of lamentations, as usual, about the "ship" of State that happens to have among its passengers so many characters that have almost sunk the vessel. There are two categories of individuals who should be talking about these issues and there is only one area that should be handling them. It is not fair for anybody from the branch of the Executive to stand up here and start addressing issues of corruption. We would like them to start doing something about it. We want action from them. So, when the language is used that we all share the responsibility of bringing down the economy, I say no.

As a Backbencher I do not believe in organising to import maize within a period of 60 days. It is very clear that by the time you organize to get titles and other securities to a bank, secure a letter of credit, then start searching for maize in Portugal, Brazil and North America, it will be the month of September. We hear that Members of the Cabinet sit and organize for the importation of maize within a certain time. Surprisingly, at the beginning of the month of April, maize was being off loaded at the port of Mombasa. We are talking about corruption at the highest level. Having permeated the high echelons, it has gone to the grassroots where we find local authorities collapsing due to corruption.

A lot of money is being paid in the form of cess, but it is ending up in pockets of individuals. Kenyans have been paying Kshs35.00 per litre of petrol before the Minister introduced Kshs3.00 on petroleum products some three weeks ago. All that tax money has been paid to individuals. When you have petrol levied at Kshs9.00 at the depot, by the time it ends up in the petrol stations, it will cost Kshs39.00. We have been paying over Kshs25.00 to individuals. These individuals are protected by the branch of the Executive.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Government talks about its intention to trim the size of the Civil Service and also reduce salaries, we are asking the Minister for Finance not to talk about these things, but to do something about collecting revenue. That is where the problem is. There is no time, since Independence, when this country has had to delay salaries for its civil servants. There is something that has happened. The "scavengers" that hang around the corridors of power have nothing else to eat and they have now started "eating" the revenue without knowing that they are behaving like a hyena. When you shoot a hyena's stomach, its intestines hang. It thinks that it is a delicacy and then start eating them. This is what had happened.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are talking about privatisation of key parastatals. We are not amused by what was done at Firestone where the Government decided to off load its shareholding of about Kshs100 million through pre-emptive rights. When the same shares, after 90 days, were off-loaded to the public, they were about Kshs2.8 billion. So, we do not want this rip off to be organised by the Government. It has cost Kenyans a lot of effort to get some of these sugar companies to where they are today. We do not want to hear of the Government organising, with a few of those who have access to "hot cash", to purchase a portion of Mumias Sugar Company instead of opening it up to the sugar growers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we would like to know the date and time when the Kenya Posts and Telecommunication Corporations (KPTC) and the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) will be privatised. The information out there is that those same "scavengers" who hang around the corridors of power are waiting to see which parts of these corporations they can "cannibalise". Already, we have not heard from the Minister, who was once the Chief

Executive of KPTC, organising to sell the paging services or organising to privatise the POSTEL; the company that prints directories and which is among the most lucrative contracts in this country. We do not know when this will happen. There are African Directors in it. Even though it is registered in Portugal, it is Kenyan owned. We want to run our institutions in a very transparent manner.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another issue that KANU has started lamenting about at this stage is the current decline of our institutions. Anybody who went to Mathari Mental Hospital to visit a relative or to take a friend there 17 years ago, to quote what one of the directors said last night on television, would remember that, it was running very well. If you go to Kenyatta University and get a degree from there, nobody knows whether it is a real or a fake one. The situation is the same in other institutions that used to be adored, like the Treasury. There is no other time apart from when Kotut was joined by hon. Mudavadi in mid 1994, before Mr. Cheserem was appointed, when the Consolidated Fund has ever been raided before funds are allocated in this House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are talking about sacred institutions that have to be protected for posterity and history of this country. For example, if you ever made a deal with the Kenya Armed Forces even if it is worth a pound, you were sure to be paid. Today, what has been happening for the last several years is that very many people are getting very rich from the Department of Defence (DOD) after supplying air.

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Angwenyi): On a point of order, Mr. [The Assistant Minister, Office of the President]

Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member from some part of Meru in order to say that in the DOD, they now pay one for supplying air? Have they ever paid him for supplying air?

**Mr. Maore:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would wish to continue because I have very limited time. He will be free to talk about it when he gets a chance, if he has ever worked at the DOD. But I know that a lot of people do supply air to the DOD. That is why you find soldiers in the evening hanging around with uniforms in handbags and boarding *matatus* because there are no vehicles. It has been "eaten" and "sucked" dry.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another issue that should not be overlooked is the amount of poverty that is facing Kenyans. I do not wish to dwell on the semantics of statistics. You may call it 67 per cent or 45 per cent, but whatever it is, we are moving into the 21st Century. We should not think of ever industrialising when we have over 50 per cent of the population of this country living below the poverty line. This is a country where there is no education policy. You do not intend or think of ever industrialising unless you have an education system that is able to integrate and incorporate every citizen of a country to be an equal participant in a society that is deemed to be industrialised. A lot of individuals who are talking loudly about it know that by the year 2020 and this being a democratic society, they will not be in any decision-making positions. So, they will be happy that they will be out of it and others will be there to carry the big rock.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another issue that should not be overlooked is the issue of us passing Bills in this House to raise Service Charge and Road Maintenance Levy and then knowing very well that that money is not used for those purposes. This House must be able to expose this and do something about it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to support the Motion.

**The Minister for Local Authorities** (Prof. Onger): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to take this opportunity to thank the people of Nyaribari-Masaba for having given me the opportunity to serve in this House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to take this opportunity to share with this House what I think was a fundamental speech by His Excellency the President. He covered a range of items that gave us food for thought. These are items that we must discuss and be able to have a way forward. It is easy to indulge in semantics, buck-passing and to criticise without providing a way forward. I believe the Eighth Parliament should spend the bulk of its time showing Kenyans the way forward. It becomes purely an academic situation when we start lamenting on issues that are behind us.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the President talked about many issues and I will mention a few issues. He talked about poverty and unemployment. To me, this is a time bomb. It is an issue that we should deliberate on carefully. We should be able to see which way forward in terms of narrowing the gap between the haves and the have-nots. Poverty is a central issue. It is an issue that this Parliament must debate. When we attained our Independence in 1963, we promised Kenyans that one of the issues that we shall fight tooth and nail is the issue of poverty. Poverty is here with us and because of this poverty, indeed, we cannot alleviate unemployment which is another problem. To me, these are two issues that this Parliament will be well advised to engage in and look for ways and means of tackling the issue of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already touched on daunting issues, but I need to expound a little bit further. There is no way that we can spur off the economy unless we group together the issues that we think are inimical to the development of this nation. One such issue is the economy itself and the way it is behaving. Kenya is no exception. We have had the ups and downs of the economies, even of the greatest nations including Russia. We

know that in 1970-74, there was a marshall plan to support the oil importing countries and the oil exporting countries. The most recent ones are the countries in transition; the so-called Eastern blocs. They had massive support to be able to get out of their financial burden and, of course, more recently the most favoured nation, that is Mexico. They had to pump in massive funds to enable it to get itself out of the debt ridden situation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, these are examples that this House should be picking on. Then, what are the adverse effects that will mitigate against our forward progress? One such issue that we should be discussing extensively is the issue of inflation. The interest rates are definitely a setback to our progress and we should be sitting down and seeing how we can introduce much more predictable interest rates that would spur investments in this nation. Another setback is the vagaries of weather. I have heard people saying "why do you people import XYZ?" Yes, sometimes some of the imports have been rather unnecessary, but one should be able to look forward. My own assessment of the situation is that after the *El Nino* phenomenon, we are likely to slip back into a drought situation and any Government worth its salt must be able to take care of a situation ahead of time instead of trying to find a remedy later.

If we do not deal with the situation now, we will come back here and say that the Government should have had the vision to be able to plan forward. When the Government plans forward, obviously we have to take into account the strategic reserves and the expectations from the harvest. Of course, it will look at the other aspects of the harvest that is likely to come through this season and the subsequent seasons. We must look at weather vagaries and be able to assess the situation much more fundamentally. We should not slip back into a situation of *El Nino* problem which has caused as untold problems. If we do, we will face drought that will bring us hunger and this will even create much bigger problems.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, we must surely do one thing. We should avoid the politics of hate, bickering, intimidation, chicanery and intrigue. What we witnessed last Thursday amounted to trying to do things which are contrary to the very Standing Orders of this House. This is the sort of politics that will never take us forward. But obviously we need the politics of accommodation and co-operation. I am sure that hon. Orengo is aware of this. We need the politics of accommodation and understanding. This is where I think intellectualism has a role to play. It has a positive role to play when it is appropriately applied, otherwise the whole process becomes a fiction.

Turning to the role of local authorities, I have heard people saying that the local authorities are not performing well. Yes, indeed, they are not performing well because some of them are riddled with many people who, in the circumstances, are not in a position to make enlightened decisions. It is not their fault. It is us who have allowed that situation to develop. Therefore, for local authorities to be in a position to trigger off investment and become the centre of excellence and attraction of capital for development, we must be able to look at the Local of Government Act. We must look at the future participation of our Local authorities to provide what I call "grassroots politics" which is necessary for the development of this nation. One of the biggest issues that have devastated our authorities is the question of infrastructure. By now, you must have noticed some level of improvement in Nairobi, where we have been able to do a very commendable job. Some of you used to be held up in endless queues in Kenyatta Avenue and Juja Road. I am not referring to Juja Constituency but I am glad to say that I believe we shall be able to reach Ruiru and hon. Ndichu is here to hear that.

Mr. speaker, Sir, the infrastructure is an essential part of attracting confidence and investments that are necessary to push the country forward. If we are talking of poverty alleviation, then we must make our urban centres to be areas where development is going to be pivotal. I dare say this: If you consider the Gross Domestic product in Nairobi, it is about 47 per cent. If you combine it together with that of Mombasa, it will be about 65 per cent plus. We cannot ignore the importance of these centres, and they must spur off the other areas to be able to follow the example of Nairobi and Mombasa as an example. Our nation is basically an agricultural economy.

We are also trying to bring on board the industrial sector. Together, both of these sectors must be able to bring what we desire in the year 2020, when we expect to be fully industrialised. You must be able to provide the agricultural sector with the outlets. The outlets that we are creating will be market centres in the urban centres. If we have good markets, I am sure the agriculturalists could be able to take their horticultural products to them. I am happy to say that we are going to expand markets in Dandora and Dagoretti. We will have a wider variety of shopping centres for people from the agricultural sector to bring in their produce and be able to support the economy.

At some given occasion, I intend to propose to this House the way forward for the management of local authorities. But what remains to be done is not buck passing. We should be able, as a nation, to move forward together.

with these few remarks I beg to support the Motion.

**The Nominated Member** (Mrs. Seii): Thank you Mr. Speaker, for letting me catch your eye. I want to also thank you for the way in which you controlled this House. I want to thank the Democratic Party for

nominating me to this august House. I want to say that this confounded my foes and friends. I also want to thank all those people who sent their congratulations to me. I think most Kenyans in all parties, all ethnic groups and areas sent congratulatory letters to me. I was very pleased. Perhaps only one person was not happy with my nomination.

*(Applause)*

That notwithstanding I have a few things to say. First of all, I have been in this House for the last few days, listening to debate, and seeing how the House behaves. This is because before I used to sit out there and wonder at a number of things. I have two points which I would like you to take note of. The first one concerns the confiscation of the ladies' handbags at the door. I think we do not know what the gentlemen who come in here have in their pockets. In our handbags we carry a handkerchief, a note book a pen, and a few other innocent things. I want to believe that the security of this House is sufficient to be able to check these things so that we can comfortably walk in.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also want to draw your attention to some small briefcases which the gentlemen carry in here which may contain similar things. I do not now if it is the shape of the handbag or what that matters. I know there are Standing Orders of this House but I would really like them to be reviewed so that we can carry our handbags in our hands.

Another thing which sent a cold chill down my spine is what happened on Thursday. We have been talking about co-operation. I would really like to believe that the Speaker is fair in the handling of debate in this House. But I wondered when 70 people shouted 'aye', 46 people shouted "no" and the "Noes" had it.

*(Applause)*

As a new hon. Member in this House, I am wondering if we are on the route to fairness and co-operation. Anybody, even those sitting in the galleries must have known that there was something unusual here. How can the voices of 46 people be louder than those of 70 people?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I read the Standing Orders and I am still following them carefully as we go on in this House. When there is a Division in the House, the Bell is rung and nothing else happens, then I am really wondering where we are heading. I am afraid that the same thing might happen again. The main reason was to get the Members in the Front Bench of the Government side to come back here for the purpose of a Division. I do not think that what happened gave the right reputation to this House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Now that you are new, and you are pleading with the Chair to enforce the rules, I will begin with you. Can you now be relevant because you are talking about a debate that has already collapsed? You are reopening matters contrary to the Standing Orders. So, I will begin with you: Follow the rules!

**The Nominated Member** (Mrs. Seii): I will do that, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Thank you, for beginning with me.

On the Presidential address, the President talked of the need to eradicate corruption in this country. When we talk of corruption, who are these people who are corrupt? Are they outside this country? Can we get the assistance of the Interpol so that they can be apprehended? Are they hon. Members in this House? We know the names of those people because we have read them in newspapers, met them and heard what they have done and so on. The lamentations which have been raised from both sides of the House are not fair because the Government has the ability to arrest those people and punish them accordingly.

I would like to say that the Eighth Parliament should distinguish itself by implementing what it has passed, for example, by arresting those corrupt officials. It is not enough to transfer them from one parastatal to another. It is not even enough to promote or "recycle" them. What will make sense to Kenyans, as we all lament about the collapsing economy, is to take action against the individuals who have caused miseries to this country. There is no need to lament about poverty. How does poverty come about in this country? How does corruption come about? Why should we keep the "sacred cows?" Let us arrest them and give them the punishment they deserve so that we can get on with development. If we continue talking about corruption without action, then Kenyans will look at us with contempt and wonder why we are talking about corruption or why the Ministers are lamenting about the collapsing economy. It is hard to tell which is the Opposition side or the Government side because every hon. Member is lamenting about the collapse of the economy. It is not collapsing by itself; we know the people who have put this economy into ruins. We all know those who are responsible for the collapse of the economy in this House.

The President mentioned something to do with the population of the country. We need to plan the

population of this country. However, we have seen that we are incapable of planning for our people. We should also check the population of this country so that we do not have to deal with street children whom we cannot absorb in our schools. We do not have to deal with issues that are beyond our economy.

I was very happy to read from the Presidential address about co-operation and the Constitutional Review. I was also glad to hear from the Attorney-General this morning that the Constitution Review Commission has to be broad-based. All stakeholders will contribute on the Constitutional Review of Kenya Act. In addition to that, we need a neutral chairman to chair the Commission. The Attorney-General is a mouth-piece of KANU because he was the first person to come to the House on Thursday. I am sure that he was here, not to cast a vote for the Opposition, but for KANU. We need a neutral chairman so that we have a Constitution that will not favour some people. We need a Constitution that will out-last the Members of this House; a Constitution that is here to stay and which spells out procedures through which the problems of this country can be dealt with. I would urge hon. Members of this House and all the stake-holders, including the NCEC which is most feared by this Government, to give their submissions to this Commission when it is finally formed. I do not know why hon. Members tend to censure the NCEC when they stand to contribute to debates in this House. Maybe it is because the NCEC has the substance for the overhaul of the Constitution in this country. Any Government that claims to be in control should not be afraid of any pressure group. I hope that there will be a review of the Constitution in this country that will be hurried and which will outlive the Membership of this House so that we are able to address issues which had not been addressed because the Constitution has been lacking in many respects.

**The Minister for East African and Regional Co-operation** (Mr. Biwott): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Address to this House. I would like to support the sentiments expressed by the President, especially in highlighting some words of wisdom. First of all, he talked about co-operation which enabled us last time to bridge a gap that would have destroyed this country. That co-operation allowed us to participate in the IPPG talks which were successful. He agreed that he will want to meet the leaders of the Opposition.

He also talked to us about the economy and the need to look at our economy on a non-partisan basis because the Kenyan economy belongs to all and the Kenyan welfare is for all. He again talked about the problem of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs), the economic reforms that must come, the liberalisation and globalisation of the world economy and the need for Kenyans to appraise themselves with the realities of today in order to talk to their electorate and to educate them to know exactly what needs to be done.

He has also highlighted the fact that today Kenya is competing with the rest of the world. For Kenyans to be able to succeed, they have to attend to their economy so that they can improve the lot of the ordinary mwananchi. For us to be able to do that we have to grow. Growth requires saving; savings require employment. Therefore, our greatest problems today are poverty and unemployment and we have to fight both of these problems in order to improve our economy.

I will address this House at a later stage because I intend to make a Ministerial Statement about the East African Co-operation and why it had to come about. We need to fight poverty and promote growth on a greater geographical area. We need to create conditions here that will permit the flow of investment to a much larger area. We should remove a lot of restrictions that are hampering our own trade. We should focus ourselves so that we can know where to channel our efforts, especially in terms of our own exports and neighbours, who are good markets. They are the logical people to trade with, and with whom we must work together to promote peace among ourselves. I will be detailing that in full.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier on an hon. Member said in passing the Government side has improved its intellectual capacity. I would like to say that if anything, it is KANU that is responsible for the intellect within this House, except maybe for one or two people. I will tell you why. The hon. Member also talked about the co-operation between both sides of the House, and even the proportion of representation that we have here today. But he has forgotten to explain how that came about. Firstly, we have the KANU 'donation' that we gave to the Opposition by way of membership. Most of those who went to the Opposition were KANU stalwarts. They were responsible for everything that happened in the one-party system. Therefore, whoever you were calling intellectuals at that particular time are KANU products.

Recently you benefited enormously because of KANU's nomination process. You were just waiting to collect whatever was falling by the way side to enrich your own intellectualism. You should be grateful to KANU for enabling you to have good policy makers, whom you can rely on to deliver. What that hon. Member forgot to say about the quality of this House today is the fact that the Opposition hon. Members have now matured. They realised over the whole period of the Seventh Parliament that it does not pay to demonstrate, boycott the House, parade placards and yell. They have now realised that they have to sit down with their colleagues and offer better solutions, if they have any. Unfortunately, up to today, it is still the KANU MPs, and those pseudo-KANU MPs on

the opposite side, who are talking about the things that matter, which we must as MPs face as a reality.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today we cannot get away from the problems that are facing us. We cannot get away from the need to work together and promote unity, peace and understanding among our own people. The hon. Member also talked about cattle rustling and issuing of warnings. But he also forgot that not so long ago someone, from the Opposition side warned of an impending attack in Molo and it did take place. None of the Opposition MPs and the international community uttered a word of censure. We should not shy away from condemning anything that will threaten the peace and security of this country, or the perfect harmony among our people. I think we should be able to stand up and be counted, and to work for the good of this nation, irrespective of one's side in the House.

It is true that Kenya is now a multi-party society and this has been ingrained in the Constitution. Therefore, there is no fear that there will be a return to the single-party system. But I will dare to say that even during the single-party system there was a lot of democracy. This is because in those days we had the "Shikukus", who were doing whatever they wanted. But there was only one problem that arose. This is the problem that was brought about by the queue voting system in 1988. I think that was a wrong system. We did admit this when we had the Saitoti Commission. There was also the problem of expulsion of KANU members which we said was wrong. Again that was rectified. The multi-party system should flourish, to the extent that people do not have suspicion among themselves. They should be able to contribute to the good of the country. Mwananchi should be allowed to decide who to elect to this House and to lead. Once a leader has been elected it is incumbent upon every Kenyan to give support to him. President Moi, who has been given the mantle of leadership, should be supported fully for the whole five-year period until, Kenyans decide what to do about future leadership.

On corruption, I think there is no use in talking about it. The President challenged everybody to report corrupt people to the police. People should not stand by and watch things. They should report to the police so that the culprits are arrested.

**The Member for Ntonyiri** (Mr. Maore): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member for Kerio South in order to ask Kenyans to report corrupt people to the police when the Commissioner of Police himself reported to Kenyans about an impending coup?

**The Minister for East African and Regional Co-operation** (Mr. Biwott): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have the laws of this country and the law enforcement organs. I think it is up to Kenyans to follow those procedures. It is pointless to complain about a corrupt person. Act and let that person be prosecuted. Produce evidence and take it to the Anti-Corruption Authority, which has already been formed. People should stop relying on foreigners. For the whole of the Seventh Parliament hon. Members were going round in embassies and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Now, I am glad that they have realised that all that was futile. It is for you to act so that we can co-operate. Nobody is worried about the National Convention Executive Council (NCEC). We already have NCEC members in this House.

*(An hon. Member stood up in his place  
and said: 'Mr. Speaker, Sir.')*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order Minister! Order Minister! There is an hon. Member there, who is totally out of order. You cannot just rise in your place and say: " Mr. Speaker, Sir." If you have something that you want to complain about, say: "On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir." But you are totally out of order to address me before I give you the Floor. Proceed.

**The Minister for East African and Regional Co-operation** (Mr. Biwott): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks I beg to support.

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir, for giving me this chance. My name is John Munyes Kiyonga. I am the Member of Parliament for Turkana North. I came in through a Ford (K) ticket. I want to thank the people of Turkana North for giving me this opportunity. I should also thank Ford (K) for giving me the ticket because it was difficult to get it from KANU.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a small request for this House. I am putting an appeal to this House on behalf of the Turkana people. Yesterday you heard hon. Choge and hon. Nyanja speaking about the Turkana people. They said that Turkana is backward and is one of the most marginalised communities in this country. I want to look at it from a more positive angle. I want to ask what this House and the Government are doing for the Turkana, given that we are very much behind.

The colonial regime marginalised us. The Kenyatta regime also marginalised us, and the Moi regime is

even worse. I am saying this because we are said to be in the KAMATUSA group. What are we getting from the KAMATUSA group? Do you know that in this country no Turkana has ever gone beyond the position of assistant director?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this country, a Turkana has never got a post beyond that of an Assistant Director. We have never been Permanent Secretaries or appointed to represent Kenya in any country as ambassadors.

**Mr. Ndicho:** Very serious!

*(Loud consultations)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order, Members! The hon. Member is not only new, he is also complaining about his constituency being marginalised. I will not allow him to be marginalised here by very loud consultations. Proceed!

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We are not sharing equally, the cake of this country. There are certain people who are benefitting more than others and yet, they claim that we are together under the KAMATUSA umbrella. What about if another Government came into being and we are put together with people who have "eaten" a lot in this country and yet we have not?

**Mr. Ndicho:** We shall take care of that!

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, has a Turkana ever sat on the Front Bench of the Government side?

*(Loud consultations)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order, Members!

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): We have very intelligent people in Government, and yet they are just sidelined. There are six Kalenjins on the Front Bench; why do you not give the Turkana only one chance to show that we are together? This shows that we are not getting anything from this system. Other countries like Uganda have tried to help minority groups. Members of Parliament felt that the Karamajong' of Uganda had lagged behind all the years and were suffering. So, the Government of Uganda started a Ministry for them which I also think should be emulated by this Government; the Ministry for Karamajong Affairs. I think we should also give pastoralists a Ministry in this Government. That way, we will direct resources to pastoral areas and enable pastoralists manage themselves. That is one way we can be helped.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been getting relief food for all these years and yet, Turkana has a lot of potential for food production. For instance, we have Lake Turkana where we can do a lot of fishing. In the 1970s we used to export fish to West Africa. For irrigation purposes, River Turkwel has three times the potential of River Nzoia. We can also sell livestock, hides and skins. We also mine gold and other precious stones. We should not be left to suffer and yet, we can be productive. The Government should assist us exploit these resources.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as concerns security, I am sorry to say that the Omo Delta where I come from - I was born in Todonya (Upper Lake Turkana) - has gone to the Ethiopians. My people were displaced six months ago. They are now in a place called Luarang'a, an area of over 100 square kilometres which has gone to Ethiopia. What is this Government doing about this? Our land has been taken by another country, people have been displaced and livestock taken. They have now started raiding boats and fishing nets. This is a challenge I am giving to the regime that is in place now. Something must be done. We cannot allow our land to go to another country. I have raised this issue a number of times and there is no action from the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another area of concern which poses a big problem is the Eleme Triangle. I understand it was discussed in the Seventh Parliament. We are killed in large numbers; about 20 people are killed on monthly basis and there is no action from the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other issue is about corruption in Turkana. For the last six months, the District Treasury has been empty. We have never had money in Turkana District because of the District Commissioner, who boasts of protection from higher proxies and other connections at the top. The District Commissioner of Turkana is selling food openly. We have tried to discuss the issue with him but he has refused to discuss with us. We have reported the matter to many people including the President as well as the police and no action has been taken. He sells 3,000 bags every day.

**Mr. Ndicho:** What is his name?

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): He used to be in Ngong'.

**Hon. Members:** Reuben Rotich!

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is stealing from Turkana. He is reaping from us. We raised over Kshs20 million for the National Youth and Women Funds. He has been taking this money and is now driving BMW cars and building a very big house, and the money has disappeared.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have written to the Ministry of Finance but I have not got any reply. Everybody in the District is complaining about this. We have even told the President about this and no action is being taken. We are talking about corruption and yet, we are coming up with all these ideas. The DC continues to be there and he can neither be transferred nor prosecuted. He is just stripping us of our wealth. It will reach a time when Turkana's will take another action.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! What is the matter? Proceed!

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the third point is on the refugee influx in Turkana. This Government is dumping all the refugees in Kakuma, in my constituency. We are not getting any benefits from these refugees and yet, the Government is benefiting a lot. Our people do not even get employed in these refugee camps. We have over 40 NGOs in Kakuma and Lokichoggio and yet, we are just getting a raw deal. In one NGO, you may only find one Turkana out of 70 employees and yet, we are getting a lot of environmental and social problems as a result of these refugees. So, I am appealing to the Government to take action. We cannot allow Turkana to be a dumping ground for refugees from all countries, like Somalia and Ethiopia. Why can they not be taken to the Coast or some other places in this country. Why are they being dumped there? In any case, they are not of any benefit to us. I really feel that the Government should take action on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not happy with the composition of the Kenya Constitution Review Committee. I would also like to say that Turkanas did not benefit from the IPPG package. This is because, during the elections, I had to get a permit to hold rallies. I do not think these Members had to get permits for holding rallies. When my Chairman, hon. Wamalwa came to Kakuma, he was thrown out. Chiefs are still powerful in that area. They can even beat you up. The DC can slap you. He threw me out of his office the other day.

**Hon. Members:** Pole!

**The Member for Turkana North** (Mr. Kiyonga): We are talking about it here and yet, there is no change in this country.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**The Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social Services** (Ms. Mwachai): Asante sana, Bw. Spika kwa kunipa nafasi hii kwa mara yangu ya kwanza kuzungumza mbele ya wenzangu waliochaguliwa na wale waliopewa nafasi hiyo kama tuzo kwa kazi ngumu waliofanya kwenye vyama vyao.

Bw. Spika, mimi ni mwanamke wa pekee aliyechaguliwa kwa chama cha KANU. Kwanza, ningependa kuwashukuru watu wa Msambweni kwa kukata shauri kuongozwa na mama. Pia, ningependa kuwashukuru Waislamu wote walioko Msambweni na nchini Kenya, walionisaidia wakati wa kutafuta kura kwa wananchi. Kwani, ilikuwa mara ya kwanza Kenya hii kupata mwanamke wa Kiislamu na buibui kuingia Bunge kwa kupigiwa kura.

Pia ninamshukuru Rais Daniel arap Moi kwa kunipatia kiti cha Waziri Mdogo ili nijifundishe mambo vizuri kama mwanamke Muislamu wa kwanza katika Bunge hili na serikali yetu tukufu ya Kenya. Kulingana na Hotuba ya mtukufu Rais, kwa hakika Rais Moi anayo mawazo ambayo ni muhimu sana kwa wananchi wa Kenya. Kuna uzalendo ulionyeshwa katika Hotuba yake na kama ilivyo, mimi pia sisiti kuzungumza kuhusu uzalendo wangu katika Msambweni ambapo nilipewa kura na wananchi wa huko. Rais Moi alizungumzia kuhusu mambo ya kijamii, ukulima, na hali ya fedha katika nchi yetu. Hivyo basi, yeye kama kiongozi wa serikali tukufu, ana jukumu kubwa kwa wananchi wote wa Kenya, wawe kwenye chama cha KANU au chama chochote cha upinzani. Mtukufu Rais ameonyesha vile anawapenda watu wake wa Kenya. Mimi pia ninachukua kiti hicho cha Waziri Mdogo alichonipa, ili nipanue ufanisi katika sehemu ya Msambweni. Hayo yote ninayazungumza kuambatana na mfumo na utu ule, ambao Rais Moi aliozungumzia.

Bw. Spika, kwanza nitaangalia taabu zilizowakumba wananchi wa Msambweni kutokana na mvua ya *El Nino* ilionyesha sehemu hiyo. Katika ulimwengu huu, kila kitu kina ubaya na uzuri wake. Kila mtu hapa, anategemea kupata mazao yake kupitia mvua. Lakini mvua ya mwaka huu ilikuwa ni mvua yenye shida kubwa sana, kwa sababu ilionyesha kupita kiasi kilichohitajika. Mvua hii ya *El Nino* iliharibu barabara. Ningependa kuomba Wizara ile inayohusika na mambo ya kurekebisha barabara iangalie zile barabara zilizo harihiwa na mvua

hii, kwani ninaangalia chipukizi haya matatizo yanayowakumba watu wa Msambweni. Ningependa Wizara ya Ujenzi na Nyumba irekebishe barabara ya Lunga Lunga/Mombasa, Kikoneni, Mivumoni, Shimoni, Vanga na hata sehemu moja ya Kata ya Kikoneni inayoitwa Dzombo. Inafaa barabara za sehemu hizi zirekebishwe kama vile Rais Moi alivyozungumza kuhusu watu wake. Itakuwa bora kama yule anayehusika ataangalia barabara za sehemu hiyo.

Bw. Spika, pia ningependa tuangalie Wizara ya Utalii. Katika Wizara hii, mwenzangu aliyekuwa na jukumu hilo alikuja kule Pwani na akazunguka na akaona vile mambo yalivyo. Hayo yote yanatendeka kwa minajili ya watu wetu wa Kenya. Nitazungumza kuhusu vijana ambao wanarandaranda kwenye ufuo wa bahari. Ningependa yule anayehusika ashughulikie tatizo la hawa vijana, kwani wananchi wanakuja kwangu wakilalamika, na wananiuliza: "Sisi beach boys and girls" tumefanyiwa nini? Kwa hakika niliwaambia kwamba Waziri huyo alikuwa akifanya kazi kama vile Rais Moi anavyotaka. Hata hivyo, ningemuomba ashughulikie vilivyo, jambo hilo la hao vijana wanaorandaranda kwenye ufuo wa bahari. Serikali ijue kwamba kama mtu hana pesa, atafanya biashara ambayo ni rahisi kwake.

Bw. Spika, pia nitazungumza kuhusu uchumi wetu na jambo hili litamwendea yule mwenzangu anayehusika na Wizara ya Kilimo. Kule kwangu, watu wanalia sana kuhusu mazao yao kama bixa, nazi, korosho na machungwa. Ukitembea katika sehemu za Mwereni, Kikoneni na Dzombo, utaona wakulima wanakuza machungwa lakini hawajui watayapeleka wapi. Kadhalika, kuna shida ya maji katika sehemu ya Msambweni. Kama vile tujuavyo, maji ni uti wa mgongo kwa maisha ya binadamu. Kwa hivyo, Waziri anayehusika pia, anaweza kuangalia tatizo hilo.

Ndugu zangu, zote tuko hapa kwa minajili ya kutafuta jinsi tutakavyoweza kuendeleza gurudumu la serikali yetu tukufu. Kwa hivyo, sisi wote twapaswa kuungana hata kama tuko katika chama cha KANU au chama chochote cha Upinzani. Lakini kila mmoja ameletwa hapa na matatizo ya kule alikopigiwa kura. Kwa hivyo, sioni kama itakuwa vizuri ikiwa watu watakuwa wakizozana bila kuangalia mambo ambayo ni muhimu sana kwa wale waliotuchagua.

Kwa hayo machache ninasema asante sana.

**The Member for Central Imenti** (Mr. Manyara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I take this opportunity on behalf of the people of Central Imenti who, after three decades of "baba na mama" politics, decided that the time for change had come. May I also on their behalf and my own behalf, congratulate you and your deputy upon election to the post of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, respectively. You deserved that election and contrary to the views in certain quarters, the Deputy Speaker, too, did deserve the election to the post.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I also take this opportunity to congratulate all hon. Members who were elected to represent the various constituencies in this Eighth Parliament. On the same breath, may I also congratulate those who were nominated to sit as nominated Members in this House. The fact that we on this side of the House were able to nominate Members of Parliament is a credit to that much maligned IPPG reform package. Under the reform package, the opposition parties were able to nominate Members of Parliament. What enabled the opposition parties to nominate Members to this House was part of the transitional constitutional reform that began with the Seventh Parliament. It has been said that this Eighth Parliament would be a reform Parliament to complete the work that was begun by the Seventh Parliament. We in this House, feel proud to be in this House and we have a duty to point out the failures of that side of the House. Indeed, we will be doing nothing, but recalling what was said way back in June, 1964, by the then Chairman of the Kenya African Democratic Union (KADU), now President Daniel arap Moi, and I quote:

"The KADU Chairman, Mr. Daniel arap Moi, declared at the weekend that if Kenya was to advance, she needed a strong and effective Opposition. However, Mr. Moi pledged his party's readiness to co-operate with KANU for the common good of the country."

For those who wish to read the rest of that interview, I commend them to open the pages of the *Daily Nation* of June 3rd, 1964, where, after warning that only troubles and difficulties lay ahead if parties did not co-operate, the then Chairman of KADU said that the people of Kenya, no matter whether they belong to KANU or KADU, would like to see an effective Opposition which would keep the Government on its toes and not merely let it go to sleep.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is the role of an opposition party. Under the reforms movement, the Constitution was amended to specifically declare that Kenya is a multi-party democracy. When we stand up in this House to keep the front bench, and those on the other side on their toes, we are performing a constitutional obligation. It is

a duty that we will perform without fear or favour. However, that is not to say that we will not support that which we feel would be of national interest.

If hon. Nyachae, the Minister for Finance, does take precautions that address the real issues of corruption, we will support him. If he comes to this House and tells us that there are certain untouchables to whom special legislation is required to deal with, we will not oppose that because we are in the Opposition. We will support any measures that are taken to deal with the problem of corruption.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Minister for Information and Broadcasting comes to this House and fails to tell us the criteria upon which radio and T.V. licences are given, we will tell him he is not fulfilling his Ministerial functions properly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we cannot understand why, in a country with so many companies, the Government can license the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), and give them an FM frequency, while not giving the same to the Daily Nation Newspapers, that employ far more people than the BBC does. We wish to see transparency in that important area of national resource. The national airwaves are not a commodity to be controlled by a small group of people, who are close to the people who are above the law. Nobody in this country is above the law.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we swore before you, from the President up to the Backbencher, to preserve and protect the Constitution. The Constitution requires that, in fulfilling the functions of their offices, Government Ministers must perform their duties without fear or favour. They must not discriminate on the basis of ethnic origin. We give notice that we will move a Private Members Bill in this House, similar to the one of the Kenya Union of Journalists, to cater for the media in this country. We cannot, 30 years after Independence, tolerate a situation where one person sitting in the Attorney-General's Office, or in any other office in this country, declares that one publication ought not to be published. The virtues of tolerance must take root in this House. Over the last few weeks, we have seen many Members on the Front Bench rushing to courts to obtain injunctions. The best way forward is not to curtail press freedom, but to encourage more press freedom. The market place of ideas will determine what the people of Kenya want to read or not.

As parts of the constitutional amendments that were made by the Seventh Parliament, the Attorney-General ought to have moved by now, and removed all those restrictions on banned publications. There is absolutely no reason why the people of Kenya should not read what Mr. Kenneth Matiba wrote in his book, *"Return to Reason"*. By declaring it a banned publication, you encourage underground literature. There is no reason why our Penal Code should contain more than 100 banned publications, when this country has declared itself a multi-party democracy. We ought to move to a situation where the people of Kenya themselves, decide what they want to read or not.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the constitutional reform process is underway. I commend the President, who in his Presidential Speech, recognised the weaknesses that are contained in the Constitution Review Commission Act. He admitted before this House that there are amendments to be made. The Attorney-General, in that light, must be commended for constituting a Committee that will look at the shortfalls that are contained in that Act, so that when the Commission does begin its task, it can do so, taking into consideration the concerns of the vast majority of Kenyans. As I watched and listened to the President delivering his Presidential Address, I was one of those who were very moved by his admission that time has come for us to come and reason together. The time for hatred is over and it is time to build bridges between Members of that side of the House and this side of the House.

When we talk about co-operation, it is co-operation in the national interest. There should not be, and there ought never be any deals that are made by people with nicknames. We cannot accept a situation where an hon. Member takes it upon himself the role of determining what their party deserves in the secrecy of a meeting at some point or place. What this country needs is the spirit that has been exhibited by Members of this House during the last two weeks. Every Member has spoken of the need to reach out to the two sides. This is the spirit that all of us need to look deeply into. If we can come together and create an equivalent of the IPPG on economic reforms, this country will be moving in the right direction. A lot of time has been spent on constitutional reforms. I say that the constitutional reform process is underway. What this country needs to address most urgently, are the economic reforms. In this regard, the Leader of the Official Opposition has set the tone by recommending an all-party meeting, similar to the one of the IPPG on Constitutional reforms.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**The Minister for Public Works and Housing (Mr. Kones):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for granting me this opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion. First of all, I would like to congratulate you for your re-election into the Office of the Speaker, and for the election of your Deputy Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my constituents for re-electing me for the third time into this august House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to touch on some few issues that His Excellency the President addressed the nation on. On the issue of the economy, I think everyone realises that we have an economic crisis in the

country. That should be addressed very urgently. That is where we need the co-operation of everybody in this House. The co-operation to tackle this problem should go beyond party politics. Let us look at our nation as a block and address the looming problem.

When the Minister for Finance talked about retrenchment and reduction of the Civil Service by 20 per cent, I think he never said, and I do not imagine him saying that, there should be a reduction of salaries. I was involved in the retrenchment programme of the Civil Service Reform Programme. I know very well that the policy was to reduce the Civil Service to a manageable level, and have a more motivated Civil Service with better salaries. I do not think the Minister could have said that there is going to be any reduction of salaries. He cannot succeed in reducing the Civil Service and at the same time, reduce their salaries. I think to get an effective Civil Service, we got to reduce the number to a manageable size, and then probably double the salaries. This is because we want to have a Civil Service which is non-corruptible. You can only get rid of corruption if civil servants are earning a good salary. I think this is going to be the way forward. There is no point in having a large Civil Service which is totally demotivated. Today, in certain offices, we have more secretaries than typewriters themselves. Whatever they produce is nothing but chatting around, gossiping, battling with information, doing nothing but stealing the information out. I think we need to address this issue if we hope to face this economic problem that is facing this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the constitutional review, I would like to commend the Attorney-General for the move he has taken after the Presidential Address, to try and get together the parties to form a standing committee that will look into the proposals that will be forwarded by various stakeholders. We should look at the formation of this Committee with a positive mind. I think there were fears from certain quarters that the Chairmanship of the Attorney-General is likely to jeopardise the whole process. I think the Attorney-General is the right person to be the Chairman of this small Committee.

The membership of this committee was drawn from various parties at their own wish. We have got to start somewhere. The position that we are in now is that, this membership of inter-parties has been volunteered by the various parties. If we look at these committees positively, we will be facing the Constitutional Review with a positive mind and I think we are in the right direction. The only thing is that we have to develop is the culture of co-operation or a culture of working together and trusting each other.

We should forget other stakeholders who feel that they are better than others. As regards the NCEC people, for example, I do not think there is anything hidden about the NCEC that is so significant. These are just some few people who grouped and decided that they knew something better than others. I think, given a chance to come and present their proposals to this committee, you will find that their proposals in many cases, will probably match with other proposals from other stakeholders. There is nobody who fears NCEC. We welcome them and we would like to see them present their views. So, this idea of always thinking like we are likely to chase them out does not arise. There is nobody who is going to be closed out. We would like to hear their views. They are Kenyans and we feel that they have something to say. And that will be taken into account very seriously. But, of course, not hovering above others. They have to be given equal chances.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to touch a bit on infrastructure because that is my portfolio. A lot has been said about the very badly damaged roads by the El-Nino rains. Members have expressed fears that certain areas of their constituencies or districts are inaccessible and they do not see anything happening. I would like to inform Members that funds are not really available. But we have released quite a bit of some money to the districts and soon or later, you will be seeing some work going on. What I want to remind the Members that we would like to see a lot of co-operation here. Let us not leave all these things to the District Commissioners and the District Works Officers (DWOs) on their own. I would like to hear proposals from Members of Parliament from various constituencies on how they would like this project to be approached. This is going to be a job for all of us. We have got to take that responsibility seriously because when I go round the country, I find that there are certain few things that could be sorted out by the residents of those districts and especially the members of those constituencies. The thing is that they do not want to talk to some of those officers. They think that they are unapproachable. Those engineers in those districts think that certain members are unapproachable.

I would like to appeal to hon. Members in the light of the spirit that we have of co-operation among Members of Parliament to co-operate with these officers out in the field, so that if there is something that can be sorted out at the district level with those officers, they can do that. I would like to assure this House that the Government and especially my Ministry, is not going to take anything that is below standard. Any contractors or engineers are put in charge in certain areas who are going to perform below expectations will have to face the law. We feel that Government funds which are very limited should go for the intended purposes. We know that certain contractors have had their way round this in most cases and have some of this money getting into their pockets. We are not going to allow this to continue. That money is not available and the little that is available must get to

the people. I think I am going to be slightly unpopular with some of the contractors, but I think it is something that is worth doing because our nation would like to do something right.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, people from certain areas of this country like the North Eastern Province think that they have been isolated. Hon. Members who have contributed to this debate have expressed the feeling that they have been left out totally. I think it is just because there is one section of the road that links up Wajir with Mandera. This section goes through the Ewaso-Nyiro swamp. As you all know, this is a very difficult area to cross. Vehicles just cannot pass through that area. There has been a lot of rains in the past that have never been seen in the past. Ewaso-Nyiro has been very swampy. There is some work which was done there, two or three years ago by Scankar Contractors; but because this kind of weather condition was not anticipated, that section of the road was swept out. This area is totally inaccessible now. I would like to appeal to the Members from North-Eastern Province to bear with the Government for a while. Within another two weeks, I think there is going to be a contractor in place to sort out the problem. After that, we are going to construct that road to a standard that will tackle any other *El-Nino* that is likely to come again, so that those roads will be passable up to Garissa, Wajir and Mandera. So, I would like to appeal to these Members to bear with us for a while. Something is going to be done about it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the same case with Moyale particularly the Isiolo-Marsabit-Moyale Road. We had similar problems there, but we are moving on site and we think we should be able to sort out problems in all those areas. Those sections of the country should be accessible.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**The Member for Laikipia East** (Mr. Kiunjuri) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for recognising my presence. I would like to take this opportunity first, to congratulate all those people in my constituency who voted for me. I believe, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you also voted for me. That is so good and it is one of the best rewards and the most grateful thing they have done to me. I would like to congratulate all the youths in the whole Republic, men and women for recognising that they can also lead this nation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we go by history, we can see that the youths, have since 1980's been suppressed. I do remember the events that took place between 1980,s and 1982 when the likes of hon. Anyona, Orengo, Koigi wa Wamwere and the likes of hon. Sifuna were really suppressed by the system of the day, and taken as radicals whenever they rose to speak for their people. I would once again try to bring the attention of this House to the plight of the common man who has been suppressed to an extent, where the Minister for Finance made a statement that he is no longer going to tax the common man above the present level.

On the Presidential Address. I would have taken it seriously if it was read on 1st April, but since it was not delivered on a fools day, I will not take it seriously. I have gone through all the Presidential Speeches since 1983. The only difference between them is that this one is too much decorated. When the Speech was delivered, it showed that Kenyans are already crossing to Canaan; the promised land. My view and understanding of the person who read it and the type of Government which prepared this Speech, is that the man is headed back to Egypt, when his shadow is the one which is leading us to Canaan.

*(Laughter)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of my experience, I know a lot of things have been done---

*(Loud consultations)*

**Mr. Speaker:** I think I have had occasion previously, to ask Mr. Kiunjuri to observe the rules of the House. May I now tell you, there are rules of decorum and rules of debate. Whether new or old, thou shall follow. Will you proceed with that understanding and it is an order? Order!

**An hon. Member:** I would like the Chair to confirm whether the hon. Member had a chance to speak on this Motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order! I think to the best of my re-collection, hon. Kiunjuri spoke on a Procedural Motion, not on this. I think I am right. Proceed.

**The Member for Laikipia East** (Mr. Kiunjuri): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is very encouraging, I have enough shock absorbers to absorb the shocks. Going back to the Presidential Speech, I believe that as an independent thinker, a man brought up through self-reliance without relying on people's mind to decide, I have the right to say what I feel is good to my people and Kenya as a whole. Going by the Speech, co-operation has been there. The Minister for East African and Regional Co-operation has talked about co-operation which has existed in Kenya all through. They are the people who preach hatred in this nation. Once we take this nation and our

parties as "baba na mama", there is no way we shall be able to take Kenya as a nation. We shall take it as part of this nation. This means Kenya will be a state within a state as for which nation, I do not know.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we talk of people being genuine, it should be expressed and shown in action. There is no way hon. Members can be genuine in this House and on the other hand, they are threatening the rights of others. There is no way we can be genuine when land clashes are going on between members of our communities. This kind of hatred is being perpetrated by senior Government officials and Ministers. For people to be honoured, they should honour themselves first. We cannot be honourable Members when some Members in this House are declaring war against the Government. One cannot be honourable by corrupting the whole system in this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, NCEC is not a monster but some people in this country see it as a monster which is out to swallow the order of the day, that is corruption. That is why most hon. Members in KANU are opposed to NCEC.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Laikipia East is beset with a high rate of insecurity. I cannot even travel to the rural areas because of insecurity. This problem has been existing for too long and it has brought animosity between the various communities that exist in that area. We have got all communities in this country living in Laikipia. Even all the major political parties in this country have supporters and sympathisers in Laikipia East. The Government should take action because people have been killed. The long arm of the law is long when it is out to suppress chang'aa brewers but it is not long when it comes to the killings in Laikipia East. I urge the Government to take stern action on illegal arms. If it is Government policy that everybody should be armed, then they better do it. Even Minister Kones over there has hands, but he does not fight. If everybody is armed, people will not kill each other. There is no way we can have some people armed and others are not. It is either that all of us are armed or all the arms are withdrawn from those who are armed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Laikipia East, the roads are so pathetic that we have to carry people for more than 48 kilometres to hospitals in wheelbarrows. That is the mess in Laikipia East. There is no single rural access road that can reach the town. The hospital is in a poor state and one cannot even get drugs there. That hospital does not belong to KANU or the Opposition. Wananchi in Laikipia East are entitled to those facilities. The whole of Ndaiga, Mukogondo Division has been hit by bandits who are well known to the system. We need emergency help. Security should be intensified in those areas. Let us have more police stations, administrative police stations and the Anti Stock Theft Unit dispatched to those areas.

Let us first respect ourselves and others will respect us. There is no way I can come to this House and joke with other hon. Members when my people are dying. We shall not do that. We shall jealously defend our people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call upon the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to take care of the wild animals. The live of a human being is sacred. In our Constitution, the first duty of the Government is to defend its citizens. When my people are dying and their crops destroyed by elephants, the KWS is doing nothing. If the Government does not take the opportunity to do something, then I will call upon my people to make sure that they deal with those elephants. By so doing, they will have some ivory to sell.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not being hostile to the system. All hon. Members on the KANU side are my friends. Even hon. Mark Too is my friend. I would like them to be genuine in their call for co-operation. If they do not want demonstrations to go on in this nation, let them adhere to the wise advice and calls made in this House. They should not take us as enemies.

**The Nominated Member** (Mr. Too): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your re-election and also---

**An hon. Member:** Who are you?

**The Nominated Member** (Mr. Too): My name is hon. Mark Too, a KANU nominated Member. My other name is "Bwana Dawa."

*(Laughter)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to congratulate the Deputy Speaker for his election to the post. I cannot also forget to congratulate the Leader of Government Business, hon. Katana Ngala, for being appointed to that position.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will touch on two issues one of them being co-operation. We should work together in this House. There are a lot of things happening in this country mainly touching on the economy and security. It is the duty of elected leaders to come together for the service of all Kenyans. I would like to say that the only thing we can do is to have dialogue and this is the duty of all the leaders. Our leaders have talked a lot on the issue of

arming Pokots and Marakwets and it is the duty of all of us, as leaders, to come together and talk to these people. It is not proper for one side to condemn the other side. I believe that through dialogue, this country should not face any such difficulties in future.

Second, I would like to touch on the issue of corruption. It is the duty of all of us to fight corruption. I am not corrupt.

*(Laughter from the Opposition side)*

Let any Member from the Opposition side who thinks I am corrupt table a Motion here challenging me on the issue instead of laughing for the sake of it. I am talking from my heart. It is the duty of each one of us to fight corruption in this country. I would like to thank the Government for appointing a police unit within the Kenya Revenue Authority and also another police unit to serve in the tourism sector. I would also like to request those officers who are in charge of these units to be reporting directly to the Commissioner of Police who will in turn be answerable to this House in case of any problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to say something on the agricultural sector. There has been a lot of importation of grains, particularly maize and wheat. We still have our maize in our stores, and farmers have not reaped anything from this crop. The cost of production of this crop is far below the selling price, and I think the Ministry of Agriculture should introduce a quota system on maize and wheat. When there is a problem on deficit, they should first buy all the maize from the local farmers before they think of importing more. Because we are killing the agricultural industry in the country, things will be very difficult for us in future. With the increased bank interest rates which now stand at between 14 and 30 per cent, nobody can make any returns on loans borrowed from banks at that interest rate. So, that is why I am asking the Ministry of Agriculture to introduce the quota system on maize and wheat. The Ministry of Agriculture should also encourage farmers to have an insurance scheme so that when there is crop failure, everyone can benefit from the scheme. This one should be made compulsory for all farmers in the country.

I also want to say something on the privatisation of sugar factories. I would suggest that sugar factories should be sold to the local farmers.

*(Applause)*

This will go a long way in assisting the farmers. Let the farmers own these factories and only allow other people to manage them. Those who will be managing these factories should only be talking about management fees rather than owning shares there. It high time we encouraged our people to own something in this country.

The last, but not the least, I want to ask everybody to consider the question of co-operation, especially on the constitutional review process. Let us all co-operate. There should be dialogue. Let us not look at each other as enemies. As the hon. Member who was on the Floor before me said, I have got a lot of friends like the hon. Karume who has been a great friend of mine. All of us should work together and embrace each other as Kenyans.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Nominated Member** (Ms Matano): Ahsante Bw. Spika. Kwanza, ningependa kutoa shukrani kwa Bwana Mungu ambaye ameniwezesha kuwa mwanamke wa pekee Mwislamu ambaye ameteuliwa. Pili, ningependa kuwapongeza Wabunge wote walioteuliwa na wale waliochaguliwa. Tatu, ningependa kutoa shukrani kubwa kwa chama cha National Development Party of Kenya (NDP) na Mwenyekiti wake, Bw. Raila Odinga, kwa kunitua mwanamke wa pekee Mwislamu katika Bunge hili la Nane. NDP imeweka historia miongoni mwa Waislamu, kwani haijawahi kutokea mwanamke Mwislamu kuingia katika Bunge hili kwa kuteuliwa.

Ningependa kutoa maoni yangu juu ya Hotuba ya Rais. Nimeipongeza, na ninakubaliana na maneno ya Rais, hasa kuhusu ushirikiano. Let me make it very clear that the co-operation is not for the benefit of the President, hon. Raila or Nyanza people, but rather for Kenyans as a whole.

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order! For the benefit of the new Members, although they are not to be interrupted, it is the job of Mr. Speaker to ensure compliance with the Standing Orders. One of the Standing Orders says that you can either speak in English or Swahili. Once you have opted for one of these, I am afraid, you are stuck with it. I think hon. Yusuf Hajj also made the same mistake this morning. So, let it go loud and clear; opt for the language you want to use, then you stick to it. You are now stuck with Swahili, hon. Matano. As a matter of fact, the House would like to hear your Swahili so as to contrast with hon. Marere's Swahili. So, can you continue in

Swahili?

**The nominated Member** (Ms Matano): Pole, Bw. Spika, na ahsante kwa kuniruhusu tena nizungumze. Hakika, ningependa kuelezea kwamba utangamano huu ama kushikana huku kwa KANU na NDP si kwa maslahi ya Rais wala Mhe. Raila. Ni kwa maslahi ya wananchi wa Kenya. Hii ningependa kuiweka wazi ili watu wote waelewe. Ingekuwa Mhe. Raila ni mtu wa ukabila, nafasi ya pekee ya kuteua Mbunge iliyopewa chama chake angeipeleka kwao. Lakini, hakufanya hivyo. Nafasi hiyo aliipeleka Pwani kwa sababu hana ukabila. Ningependa kuzungumza kuhusu matatizo yetu huko Pwani. Hakika watu wa Pwani tuna matatizo ambayo pia yameikabili Kenya nzima - tatizo la ukosefu wa kazi. Ninasikitika kusema kwamba tatizo hili limezidi Mkoani Pwani, na tatizo hili ndilo linalosababisha matatizo mengine mengi mkoani humo. Tukiandamana na elimu, watu wengi husema kwamba watu wa Pwani ni watu waliolemaa sana na waliokaa nyuma sana. Lakini, hivyo si kweli, Bw. Spika. Jambo lililopo ni kwamba watu wa Pwani hawapatiwi nafasi za hali ya juu. Utakuta ya kwamba kijana amejitahidi sana huko Pwani na kufikia kiwango cha juu cha elimu, lakini utamkuta yuko katika gadeni akitafuna miraa kwa ukosefu wa kazi. Halafu tunaambiwa eti sisi tumelemaa.

*[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]*

*[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]*

Bw. Naibu Spika, naiomba Serikali itufikirie sana kwa upande wa kazi. Jambo la pili ni afya. Lau, Wabunge wenzangu tutatoka hapa tueleke Pwani mkaiangalie Hospitali Kuu ya Pwani vile ilivyo, hakika mtastikitika sana. Inasikitisha sana kuona kwamba hospitali kuu ya Pwani iko katika hali mbaya kabisa katika upande wa dawa, malazi na kadhalika. Ningeomba Serikali iangalie sehemu ya Pwani kwa upande wa afya.

Bw. Naibu Spika, tumekuwa na matatizo ya maji kwa muda wa miaka mingi katika Mombasa. Shida ya maji imekuwa kubwa sana. Tumekuwa na matatizo haya kwa muda mrefu na tunaiomba Serikali iangalie jambo hili.

Jambo lingine ni kuifahamisha Serikali kwamba tuna siku kuu mbili za Kiislamu peke yake katika mwaka. Kwa hivyo, sifikirii kama Serikali inaelewa ya kwamba, Iddul Haj ni muhimu sana kwa Waislamu katika historia yetu kuliko ile Idd nyingine. Kwa vile siku hizo ni mbili peke yake, sisemi kwa ubaya, wala sioni uchungu kwa ndugu zangu Wakristo kuwa na siku nyingi katika Kenya isipokuwa, naomba Serikali ituangalie sisi Waislamu katika jambo hilo. Hii ni kwa sababu mambo kama haya yanatufanya sisi Waislamu tujihisi wanyonge katika nchi hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika, pia ningependa kumpongeza Rais Moi kwa kumteua Bw. Nassir kuwa Waziri ingawa haijatokea katika Mombasa kuwa na Waziri kwa muda mrefu. Kwa mara ya kwanza namshukuru Rais Moi. Hakika ya maneno yamwelea Mungu. Lakini mabadiliko tumeyaona safari hii. Jogoo limewika, Bw. Nassir amekuwa Waziri, tingatinga limelima, mimi nimekuwa Mbunge!

Kwa hayo machache, namwomba Rais Moi atuangalie sana watu wa Pwani, kwa hakika tunajihisi wanyonge sana.

Mwisho, ninasema kwamba huu utangamano wetu uwe ni wa haki na ukweli. Isiwe KANU baba, KANU mama na sisi mtuweke nyuma. La! Lazima iwe haki na ukweli.

Asante.

**The Member for Konoin** (Mr. Kitur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first I would like to thank my constituents for electing into this House. A lot has been said about our economy and agriculture, but I will stick to the aspect of agriculture because that is our main occupation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the KTDA paid the farmers Kshs6.00 per kilogramme. This is a very small amount of money. The price per kilogram should be Kshs12. The fertilizer imported by KTDA is so expensive because somebody is importing the fertilizer on contract instead of KTDA importing it. The fertilizer is being imported by a third party and, therefore, it is not affordable by the farmers. I urge the Minister concerned to waive the import duty on all farm inputs. By doing so, the price of fertilizers may become affordable by the farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, KCC has not paid the farmers since December to-date. The Managing Director of KCC has been sacked because of refusing to allow the Board of KCC to sell their plots. Mr. Cheruiyot has been sacked and KCC is in the ICU. It may come back or it might die there. We hope that the money which the Government has promised to inject into it may improve things but I am afraid, this money will be "eaten" again by the big wolves who are waiting for it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, tourism in this country is also dying. If the Government can only guarantee security to our tourists, they will come back. Tourists are not going to come into this country if they are being killed and envoys are killed and no proper security is provided.

I am requesting the Minister concerned to provide security for the tourists when they go to the game reserves. By doing so, tourists may start to come into this country.

I would also like to say something concerning the Ministry of Health, with regard to the recent outbreak of malaria in Bomet District. The Ministry of Health delayed to deliver drugs to the District Hospital to the extent that we lost 500 people within one month. We in Bomet, had never seen malaria killing such a large number of people before. This was the first time. There has never been an outbreak of cholera before. To us, cholera is known to be in those sides of Kisumu not in Bomet District. I am requesting the Minister concerned to send personnel and drugs so that the lives of our people are not lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the tea pluckers in this country have been taken for a ride by multi-national companies. Our people work from 6.00 a.m to 6.00 p.m and yet they are underpaid. In the estates where they stay, they do not know what is electricity only the managers have electricity. The tea pluckers have no electricity, not even paths leading into the toilets in the estates. After 30 years of Independence, only the tea managers are enjoying all what is being provided by the multi-national companies.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as regards importation of tea, I am asking the Minister for Finance to impose tax on tea importation. There is no point of importing tea when we produce tea. Why should we import tea from in India and other countries when the same tea has been exported from here? If you go to the supermarkets you will find imported tea. For what reason? How is tea entering into the market, unless they buy our tea cheaply and they sell back to us what we produce?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the roads, I am requesting the Minister concerned, who comes from my district, to improve the feeder roads which are used by tea pluckers. Our tea arrives in the factories very late, already wilted and hence change in colour and this is not accepted in the factories. The delay is due to the poor condition of the roads and poor collection of the tea by the KTDA.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a fund-raising last year officiated by the President to raise money for women groups throughout the country. Some cheques issued to women groups in my constituency are now being rejected by the banks and the women are being told that there is no money. Where did the money go to?

**Hon. Members:** Tell us!

**The Member for Konoin** (Mr. Kitur): The DC should tell us where the money is. So many of those cheques are lying with the women groups. They have come to see me to find out how they can get their money. I have some cheques with me! Where did the money go? It was collected, delivered to the DC for disbursement to the women groups. This is a very serious matter. I hope I am not the only one complaining and if I am, I would like the DC and people concerned to pay this money to the women groups immediately.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, once again I would like to thank the people of Konoin who made it possible for me to be in this House.

Thank you.

**The Member for South Mugirango** (Mr. Magara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I take this opportunity to thank you for being elected as Deputy Speaker of this House. At the same time, may I take this opportunity to thank all members of Parliament, both the elected and those nominated to this august House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take pleasure to note that we are here as Kenyans trying to deliberate and see to it that we salvage our country from the economic, political and social crises that are facing us at the moment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Speech which we are debating today touches on quite a good number of issues which, indeed, should be addressed objectively. I will not be able to discuss every aspect of it one by one but in brief I will try to summarise what the Speech contains.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I share the sentiments that the Presidential Speech has something for us. But my worry is whether we, as Members, are really out to address the issues raised in this Speech objectively or we are here to defend the Government even where we know it has gone wrong? Are we here, as the Opposition, to object to whatever the Government gives us?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, corruption is a cancer in our country in the sense that most insurance firms which create employment for our people have been run down by corrupt members. When we take the case of the Kenya National Assurance which employed quite a reasonable number of people in our country, it was run down by looters whom we know. Instead of having those looters penalised for that crime, we just shift them to other parastatals to go and ruin them, and then we come here and say there is unemployment. How can we create employment when the investments that we have made; in the private sector, in corporations like the Nyayo Bus Services and Nyayo Tea Zones are run down?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we know who is importing sugar and we come here and say there is evasion of

taxes by sugar importers. Honestly, for how long are we going to talk about it? Does it mean that we have no powers to have these people prosecuted?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are now crying for constitutional reforms. We can have as beautiful a constitution as ever, but will it assist us to bring these tax evaders to book? Will it protect Government property which is being stolen by looters whom we know? Can it help us to have a DO who is instigating tribal clashes transferred, or demoted or disciplined?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we talk of stability, we talk of peace. I am happy the Minister in the Office of the President in charge of internal security is here. We have a cattle rustler who is a DO in the Rift Valley, in Keyani Division, Trans-Mara District. This is a man who says that whenever he moves to Kisii, he has a right to take animals from there because the animals belong to the Pokot and the Maasai. When we try to report this, the Minister concerned does not even take any action to see that we reconcile these parties, prevent clashes and portray the image of the Government in the proper perspective. What we are saying at the moment is that today you might hear that there was a road accident at a particular place; someone goes to the Police Station and asks for Police Abstract. He is given it after parting with something, he goes to court, colludes with everybody who matters in the court, he is awarded Kshs150,000 which an insurance firm will pay. Yet this man was never involved in any accident but because of corruption from the Police Station to the Judiciary, the insurance is ripped off, several people are rendered jobless simply because of corruption.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking of poverty. I happen to come from a constituency where we grow sugar cane. A farmer procures his inputs, plants sugar cane, about seven or ten acres, and the same sugar cane over-stays and rots in the farm for over 22 months. There is no place he can take this sugar cane and we are talking of poverty. The farmer has invested in a project whose fruits he does not reap.

When we talk about the importation of any cereals into this country, we should first think about our own farmers who are wasting their resources investing in farming and at the end of the day, hon. Magara imports sugar from Brazil duty-free. We know these people. So, as much as we discuss the Presidential Speech, it would be useless and nugatory if the executors, Members of the Cabinet, are not giving the President the support he needs from them.

Instead of the Attorney-General recommending for a particular corrupt magistrate to be sacked, he transfers him from Nakuru to Kisii to replace his colleague who has also been transferred from Kisii to Nakuru. There are so many ways the Government can deal with such people. It can either take them to civil jail or to any other place they can think of, but not to transfer them from one place to another. If we do so, we will not have not solved the problem. When a Chief Magistrate does something that is illegal, I am a lawyer by profession, we should take him to a court of law and prosecute him instead of passing the buck to an innocent person.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as much as we would like to support the policies outlined by the President, it will not serve any purpose at all if there is inefficiency, favouritism and patronage. Most of us fear coming out to say this and that is being done by the Government. When we talk of co-operation, we need total co-operation as some of us are total men. We need total co-operation from each and every Kenyan who is here to address the issues that affect our economy and infrastructure. We should not forget that those of us who are in the Opposition today, tomorrow might be in the Government and *vice versa*. So, let us be serious with whatever we do taking into account that we are all Kenyans and whatever we are doing at the moment will affect us directly, our children and our posterity.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our roads are impassable. How do we expect the farmers to market their produce if the roads are impassable? How do we expect the farmers to transport animals from Migori to Thika if there are no roads? Basically, we need roads in this country. We need honesty and trust amongst ourselves for us to achieve what is expected of this Eighth Parliament.

Thank you.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Mr. Ndambuki): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to talk to this august House. First, I congratulate you for being elected as the Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the people of Kaiti for electing me to represent them in this august House. I would also like to thank His Excellency the President for appointing me to work in his Cabinet and I promise that I will do my best.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot has been said about the Presidential Speech. Almost every hon. Member has agreed that our country is facing a myriad of problems. What we need is to stand up and come up with ways and means of sorting out these problems. We have heard what every hon. Member has said, but now we need to address the cause of some of these problems. For example, when we talk of unemployment, it is true we have quite a number of people who are unemployed, but at the same time, you would find some Members always issuing

threats and ultimatums of mass action. By doing so, we are threatening foreign and local investors who are likely to invest in this country. We need to stop some of these threats because they are not going to help us. We need to rise above some of the politics being witnessed in this House. We need to have the interest of this country first and then our own interest if we have to go anywhere.

If we have to revitalize our economy, we need peace and an enabling environment for potential investors. But as long as we keep on threatening each other and pointing fingers at each other, we are not sorting out anything. I would like to appeal to all hon. Members to rise above political affiliation for the benefit of our country. Our country is more important than anything else. If our economy collapses, it is not going to collapse on the KANU Government, but it will collapse for everybody in this Parliament and we will be blamed. I would like to urge hon. Members to forget about what happened in the Seventh Parliament and co-operate to face the challenges, as a nation, so that we can transform this country into a peaceful nation to live in and to have a very good economy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, about ten to 15 years ago, the country was faced with a similar problem of unemployment and the Government requested most of the companies and parastatals to employ at least ten people each and that really helped. I do not see why that cannot be done although there is a lot of restructuring still going on. We need to come up with solutions not just talking. We should not point fingers at each other, but co-operate in order to succeed. I would also like to thank the Government for giving funds for tarmacking the Katumani-Wote Road. During this year's Easter Holidays, we were stranded on the road because we could not get to our homes.

Without people there is no country. I am a bit concerned about the kind of drink that is being sold in my constituency and which is wiping out my people. It is causing a lot of concern to women as well as to children because their fathers cannot pay school fees. They are not even going home and the fathers cannot father children any more. I would like to ask the Minister for Health, through the Chair, to look into this drink because it is seriously causing a lot of concern among our people. My constituency is not going to be developed because the people are getting weaker and weaker after drinking this brew. We need to take urgent measures to arrest this situation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this drink is called *Kuluta*. I would also like to say a few things which the Government did during the *El Nino* rains. The Government has set up a National Disaster Operation Centre which is based in Harambee House. It co-ordinates affairs in all the districts. This is where the district officers report what is happening in the districts; for example if there is an outbreak of cholera. They are supposed to report such cases so that each department concerned can be involved and then quick action is taken. These disaster management committees are also spread out in all the districts. They look at these things and communicate with the national office so that our offices can follow up. This National Disaster Centre is managed by four people from the Army, four people from the police, four people from the Ministry of Public Works and Housing and three people from the Office of the President. They operate 24 hours. So, if there is any problem, like an outbreak of a disease or any other disaster, they have to take action. All the district commissioners have the numbers and the fax machines and they are expected to communicate with the centre so that action can be taken.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the *El Nino* period, the Government managed to distribute 667,090 bags of maize to various districts. It also managed to distribute 22,000 bags of beans. I also to some extent agree with some Members that this food has been misused in some cases and I would like to say that if you have evidence, but not really witchhunting, I would like that information to be passed to the office and then we do something about it. If the food that the Government has donated is properly used the way that it is supposed to be, nobody will starve, but due to misuse by a few people, some people never get this food. This is something that we are looking into and it has to stop. That food cost the Government over Kshs1 billion to buy and distribute to various places. The Government also airlifted about 3,000 persons who had been stranded in various places. Those affected were students, civil servants and other Kenya citizens. We also airlifted about 2,875 individuals from various places.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at this point, I would also like to thank some agencies for coming to our assistance during that time. For example, the American Government gave us two C132 Aircraft with which we managed to airdrop food especially in Tana River because we could not get access to that place by road. We managed to airdrop about 500 metric tonnes of assorted food. I would also like to thank some United Nations agencies like the World Food Programme (WFP) which also did some jobs in distributing various types of food to different parts of the country. As I speak, the exercise is still in progress. They are still donating food in Tana River and North Eastern parts of Kenya. This is something which is worth noting.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also want to thank our Department of Defence (DOD) for assisting us; particularly the exercise that they undertook on Mombasa Road by making sure that our lifeline was not disconnected or was not messed up by the *El Nino* phenomenon.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would want to finally request the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development that once they start to review the 8-4-4 education system, to expand the bursary fund because if it continues the way that it is operating, some Kenyan children will go without education and that will be very bad. If we could expand it and give it to the needy children, then it will really help.

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

**The Member for Naivasha** (Mr. Kihara): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. First of all, I would like to thank the people of Naivasha for voting for me overwhelmingly with nearly 26,000 votes. I would like to assure them that I will do my best to justify the confidence that they have shown in me. This I will do by serving them diligently and with dedication.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my constituency happens to be a rural constituency which is predominantly agricultural and when I sat here to listen to the Presidential Speech, I was looking forward to hearing something about what policies he had to give us with regard to agriculture because in my part of the world, farming is not a hobby; it is serious business. For the majority of our people, this is the only source of their income and I was disappointed because I did not see any mention in this Speech about the agriculture sector.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am of the view that our people have been subjected to extreme poverty by the policies of the KANU Government. I will tell you how this has happened. I would like to focus on those issues which have reduced these people who were predominantly farmers to paupers; that our leadership has almost come to accept poverty as a way of life or as a normal rather than an abnormal.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to touch on the quality of seeds that we continue to get now, as farmers, from the Kenya Seed Company. This parastatal as you know, has been manned by some political failures who have been appointed to head this organisation and we have been receiving seeds like wheat, maize and so on from the who-is-who in KANU under the pretext that they are offering the right seeds when actually they are ordinary seeds that you and I grow. The quality of seeds that we plant in this part of the world is absolutely low quality. They are not seeds at all. They just masquerade as seeds.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue is that, some time back, we used to have something called the Guaranteed Minimum Return (GMR). This Government sometime back abolished the GMR, a move which I believe was for good reasons because it was terribly misused. There were misunderstandings between farmers and Government officials or those administering that fund. But the Ministry of Agriculture should have quickly put on their thinking caps and come up with some other policies similar to GMR which would ensure that the farmer is not required to underline the losses that he would undergo in order to feed Kenyans. He is performing a national duty and requires to be guaranteed some returns rather than to be required to write off those losses. I have seen cases of some farmers who have surveyed their fields and upon noticing that there is a crop failure they collapse or get heart attack and die. That is a fact; it is not hearsay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope and I would like to suggest that this issue of GMR or something like that should be looked into by the Minister for Agriculture. I think this is really what our people have been trying to allude to, when talking about subsidized fertilizers and so on. Let us see how we can assist our farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of insecurity has been touched on in this House. I sympathise with my friend from Marakwet East, Mr. Marrimoi, and others like Mr Mwiraria. We have been permanently suffering in Naivasha because of insecurity. Go to Mai Mahiu, through to Kikope and the outskirts of Nakuru Town and you will find there is no security. Our people living on the base of the Rift Valley cannot keep livestock anymore. They cannot even cultivate because of the presence of Maasais who graze freely. These dispossessed people are from Utheriwa area, right in Mai Mahiu. They have built *Manyattas* there and taken over Utheri wa Lari School. People there are displaced. Those people neither keep livestock anymore nor cultivate, though this area is an agricultural zone. When, I say that it is the policy of this government to subject our people to poverty, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you can see what I mean. Ten to 12 people were killed in January 1995, in Mai Mahiu area and upto now, there is no trace of them. I think it is only in Kenya where people die and the murderers are never known.

These people I am talking about are the Maasais who have occupied this area and have even been given an assistant chief. I think it is an unwritten rule that chiefs should come from the pre-dominant community in an area. But, in this area, all the chiefs and assistant chiefs are either Maasais, Boranas or Kalenjins. How they arbitrate matters involving the Kikuyus, I do not know.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me touch on pig and chicken farming. With the business activities in tourism sector going low in Coast Province, we cannot now market our pigs. Industries like Farmers Choice are not buying them anymore. The eggs cannot get a good market as the hotels in the Coast Province are not ready for them. So, a battle intended for some people in the Coast has affected even the Rift Valley people. We are destroying this country with our own hands.

On infrastructure, let us not blame the *El Nino* weather phenomenon. We had no roads long before the weather change. Our roads in Nairobi were like abandoned disused quarries, and one can witness this in Lunga Lunga Road and many others serving the Industrial Area. Recently, we were given some bulldozers in Naivasha. We were required to provide diesel and spare parts for these bulldozers and even lunch to the drivers. I thought I heard the Minister say that they will provide us with some funds for this work.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a practice of destroying vital institutions which aid the agricultural sector. We had the Kenya Farmers Association (KFA), later baptised to Kenya Grain Growers Co-operative Union (KGGCU) but it was looted. Then we reverted to KFA which is now a pale shadow of its former self. It used to be the farmers' store where one could buy all the farming tools. Now, those workers at KFA warn you that there is nothing they have, even before you speak. African Farmers Association (AFC) has also been mismanaged. We cannot get loans from AFC to revive our farms anymore. Research institutions, like Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), have also not been spared. They used to have research land for potatoes and I think that went to Mr Kuria Kanyingi. They had research land for goats, cattle, wheat and maize but it has all been grabbed. Right now, as I am speaking, a piece of KARI land on Lake Naivasha has been grabbed by a KANU activist from Koibatek. The Dairy Training School has also been grabbed by the same group.

We have talked about "eating". Yes there was some "eating" during the late Kenyatta's time. I was there and I served in the Government during that time and know there was some "eating". But the "eating" was done with a pen-knife. The present "eating" is done using a *njora*. If what we saw with our Kikuyu elites who were "eating" crumbs and licking plates, is anything to go by---

With those words I beg to oppose.

**The Assistant Minister, Office Of the President** (Mr. Gumo): Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to this important matter. I also take this opportunity to thank the people of Westlands Constituency for electing me again despite the strong DP wave.

*(Applause)*

DP Members forgot that the majority in the Constituency are cooks and watchmen. Whether you came in with power or not, there was no chance for you. Whoever is talking of rigging should know that there are some people here who think that Nairobi can only be managed by certain people or a certain tribe. That is why they are talking like that. They do not know that Nairobi is for each and everybody and tribe. Everybody is free to stand here and win an election. Whoever thinks that I rigged the election should know that I had people to vote for me.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many people have talked about farmers and farming. In fact, farming in this country has been liberalised. Even the farmers themselves have been liberated. When you go to areas where the farmers used to grow maize and wheat, there is nothing any more. Farmers are now poor, mainly because of liberalisation. If you go to many countries today, including countries which are forcing us to liberalise farming, you will see that they do not allow even a single crop like maize to be imported into their own countries. But here we were told that we must liberalize farming. This has caused many problems and farmers are in trouble. If we do not stop this idea of importing maize, very soon there will be riots. This is because farmers cannot live any more. I am a farmer myself. I used to grow maize on 400 acres but today I grow it on 250 acres. Farmers are now competing with imported maize and something must be done immediately. If nothing is done we are going to be in bigger problems very soon.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, sugar cane is what is remaining in the Western part of Kenya. We were told sometime back that factories like Mumias would be sold through the Nairobi Stock Exchange. This is the only thing that is remaining in that area. When the people of western Kenya heard that the shares of this factory were being sold through the Nairobi Stock Exchange--- Most of the people down there do not have money even to buy these shares, and yet the land that produces sugar is theirs. In fact, it was acquired compulsorily and farmers were going to be paid about Ksh1400 per acre. Eventually, they were paid Kshs400 per acre.

**Mr. Ndicho:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Gumo in order to come and lecture us here on how farmers in Mumias will be affected by the purported sale of shares of Mumias Sugar Factory when he knows very well that he fleeced them and made sure that the factory collapsed? Now, farmers live in abject poverty because of Mr. Gumo.

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Gumo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mr. Ndicho knows very well that I did not contribute to the collapse of that factory---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! There is no debate between you and Mr. Ndicho. Please, address the Chair.

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Gumo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, farmers were never paid the balance of Kshs1,000 per acre. The land that was acquired was about 80,000 acres and the money which was supposed to be paid was about Kshs8 million which has never been paid to-date. If the Government wants to sell that factory in Western Kenya to other people we will not allow it, just the same way the Kikuyu of Central Province will not allow outsiders to buy tea factories in their province. If Luhyas around Mumias Sugar Factory could not buy that factory in 1968, today, they can buy it. We want that factory to be sold to the local farmers.

Hon. Members have talked about insecurity in this country. I know there is a problem of insecurity throughout the country. Some of this insecurity is caused by leaders. We have leaders who incite ordinary wananchi to arm themselves and fight their fellow Kenyans. Some of these leaders blame the police by saying that the police are not maintaining security in this country. What do we want the police to do when we incite wananchi to arm themselves against fellow Kenyans?

We must always choose our words when we are addressing our people because some of the things we tell them to do might work against ourselves. Guns are not toys to play around with. If you incite wananchi to fight against their fellow Kenyans and you are arrested, you tend to attack the police. In fact, if there is any person who is suffering most in this country, it is the policeman. When the police arrest criminals, the politicians attack them and sometimes they are even forced to release the criminals. The same politician will come here and say that the policemen are not doing their work. By so doing, the policemen are demoralised and do not know what to do. How do we expect the policemen to work if criminals are released after politicians have intervened? Let the policemen do their work, and if there is a problem with the Police Force, let us complain to their bosses. This idea of attacking civil servants in general has demoralised them.

We talk about corruption as being rampant among the civil servants. We know that some civil servants are corrupt, but why do we not find out the solution to it? Corruption is a two way-traffic. We cannot say that only Members from the Government side are corrupt. There are also Members from the Opposition side who are corrupt. Some Asians are also corrupt. They corrupt by changing the name of a commodity and offering a commission on it. Let us be serious when we talk about corruption. It is true that most of us are corrupt. The ones who shout loudest against corruption are the most corrupt individuals.

Today, everybody is corrupt, including the office messenger, but what differs is the degree. It is a disease that we have to fight together. Let us not apportion blame to each other.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, civil servants have tried to do their best. However, without any political support, they cannot do much. Today, when hon. Angwenyi was talking about power in this country, he said that the management of KPLC has done a good job. There is electricity supply everywhere in this country.

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

**The Member for Yatta** (Mr. Wambua): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to give my contributions to the Presidential Speech. My name is Mr. Francis Philip Wambua Kyole, Member for Yatta Constituency, in Machakos District.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out some things which have been addressed in the Presidential Speech. A lot has been said from both sides of the House on this Speech. I would like to say that the President has a lot of work to do for this country. Unfortunately, some Government officers are failing our President in his duties of running this country. When he gives a directive he has to make a follow-up and see that it is implemented. The Head of State should only give a directive without making a follow-up to see whether it has been implemented or not. Budgets are prepared every year, but projects are never completed. That is why we are blaming our fellow Members on the other side of the House because they are responsible for running the affairs of this country. We are blaming the Government for the mess in this country because it is the Government which has the machinery to solve these problems. Next time, we may be on the other side, but if we mess up this country, you will blame us. Therefore, you have to take the blame.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we would like to have a very clear and open co-operation. If, of course, we need to co-operate we should, at least, see that things move in the right direction. There is no need of saying that we should co-operate either in this House or outside, when what we say is not followed. I am urging the Government side to be aware of that. Of course, the other side is lucky because there are hon. Members of the Opposition who are trying to provide guidelines. We are not opposing anything but are trying to say what is wrong. That is not opposing anything. Here we are sitting as brothers. We have been elected to this House to lead and see that the economy of this country develops very well.

Many people have been talking about the economy. But this time we are pleased to hear KANU hon. Members say that the economy of this country is not doing well. When the economy started becoming weak you never told the House why it was declining. The Minister for Finance and the President have said that something

has to be done about the economy. We will give the guidelines to the Ministers concerned but they should also work very hard. We have to give credit where it is due. I must congratulate the Minister for Local Authorities, Prof. Ogeri, for the work he is doing in Nairobi. The City is now beginning to look clean. There were other Ministers before him when garbage was not as much as it is today, but they were doing nothing. So, if a Minister fails we have to tell him that he has failed. Probably, because Prof. Ogeri was voted out of Parliament some time back, and was out in the cold for five years, when he came back he was very active. He has learnt. I wish that some of the hon. Members who have been Ministers for long could be voted out for five years, so that they can come back with a fresh mind.

The other thing is about the projects that are being started in some areas. We are surprised to see that some of the projects that are being initiated by some donors are not suitable for the places they are being initiated. They are just initiated there because it is a way of granting money for that project. For instance, there are some underground water tank projects which have been initiated in my Constituency and which are useless. They have been put up in schools. I think the projects were initiated when hon. Kamotho was the Minister for Education and I do not know whether he knew that these projects were useless. These tanks are useless because the water in them is dirty and school children cannot drink it. Last month, four of the primary school children drowned in those tanks. So, it means that this is not a suitable project. Its initiators knew that they were installing these tanks in primary schools where there are young children and instead of covering them, they left them open. I would request the Ministry concerned to check some of these projects which are being initiated by the Non-Governmental Organisations.

The other issue is about unemployment in our country. Everybody is very much concerned about the unemployment rate in our country. We should assist our people. I am very sure that everybody will agree with me that all Kenyans are very hard working. Even those who sell vegetables try very hard to look for their daily bread. These people need to have somewhere where they can do their work and get their daily bread. That is one way of fighting unemployment. I am happy that the Minister for Local Authorities is here, and I know that he is having a lot of problems with hawkers in the City and he is doing his best to solve the problem. But there are some other things which have to be considered.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are some small business people who sell clothes. For example, at Kigali Car Park where there are curio dealers. Curios are part of tourist attraction and even the President commended those people for doing very good work. He even said that the Kigali Car Park should be allocated to the curio dealers so that they can make it an international mall. Unfortunately, some tycoons are trying to get that plot. They want to be allocated the plot so that the Kigali Car Park curio dealers are relocated somewhere in Kariokor. There is no tourist who will go all the way to Kariokor to buy curios. Selling curios is not like selling vegetables. Curios should be sold in the city centre since it is very clean business.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Minister for Energy** (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to first thank the people of Nambale Constituency for making it possible for me to represent them in this honourable House. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank His Excellency the President for giving me a chance to serve in his Government as Minister for Energy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been sitting here for a couple of weeks watching and listening to hon. Members of Parliament, some very experienced in the House and some very new like myself. Some have been very fiery, others very well composed. I must say that it has been a real learning experience. I have learnt quite a bit from contributions of particularly, hon. Anyona, hon. Kibaki and a little bit from hon. Ndicho, though I would not like to emulate his style. However, I must say that those of us who have come to this august House for the first time, are coming up with one conclusion. That, as much as we may seem to be very different in our views or our approaches to the problems that face this country, I see one thread running through all of us. I think, the genuine wish that we all have is to address the problems of our country. That is very clear. The Opposition have the right to criticise, except, I would request that your criticism be constructive, sincere and well intentioned. I think we will all accept where we make mistakes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Government should be given the chance and opportunity to govern. We are asking for co-operation in having a blend of ideas from our learned friends from both sides of the House, so that we come up with ideas that are going to push this nation forward. At the end of the day, we are all Kenyans. Whether you are in DP, NDPK or KANU, we are all Kenyans. That is the bottom line.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to make a request to hon. Members of this House, that, there are very many of us on the Government side who are trying very hard to do a good job for this country in our respective Ministries. I would like to request that you give us encouragement. Please do not criticise us for the sake of criticism, but point out where those shortcomings are. I think, as national leaders, we should accept criticism

where it is due. Where we feel that the criticism is not justified, we will be defensive, but in the spirit of co-operation which all of us have talked about.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also would like to make one observation, that the fact that Kenya needs to reform its Constitution is not in dispute. I have not heard any single hon. Member stand up here and say that we should not reform our Constitution. If I am wrong, I stand to be corrected. I think, the area of contention has been the modality for doing so. I wish to observe that the hon. Attorney-General has attempted to address that problem by having various Members from the various political parties form this committee which is now going to listen to views from various stake holders. I think, that is a positive move.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one hon. Member earlier on mentioned that those of us on the Government side are all a bunch of crooks. I think, I took very strong exception to that, because I am sure, I am not a crook. I am also sure that many of hon. Members on the Government side are not crooks. So, what I would suggest is that, for example, if you have genuine, concrete evidence that hon. Okemo is a crook, please stand up and say so. We will discuss and try to correct that errant crooked Member of this House.

**Hon. Members:** Hon. Sajjad!

**The Minister for Energy** (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since this is my maiden speech I would like to utilise every minute of my time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also heard hon. Members in this House talk about corruption. I would like to say that corruption is a two way street. For every corrupt practise, there must be a giver and taker. I think, we have put far too much emphasis on those who are taking and not those who are giving. Because, if there is any corrupt act, it involves two or more parties. One is receiving a favour and the other is giving a favour. So, when we are addressing this issues, we must look on both sides. Somebody said that all these problems are brought about by KANU. I want to stretch my imagination beyond the multi-party era, and go as far back as 1963, and maybe 1965 and mention that some of the most prominent Members on the opposition side today, were prominent Members of the then single party KANU and the Government. In fact, the Leader of the Official Opposition was a very senior member of the Government at that time. I would like to make one curious observation. During his tenure as the Minister for Finance, there was a very curious coincidence.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order! Hon. Okemo you are treading on very dangerous ground!

**The Minister for Energy** (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now, I will avoid the dangerous ground. Let me move back to my earlier position, where I was talking about measures we should take to alleviate the poverty and employment problems now facing the people. How do we address the problem of high external and domestic debts that we find ourselves in today? How do we address the problem of high interest rates? I think we have been talking about these problems, which we have been enumerating. I feel that we should now begin addressing solutions to these problems. That is why we started talking about co-operation; that we on this side, have certain ideas and Members of the Opposition too have their own ideas. Let us put these ideas together and find solutions to these problems. Name calling and character assassination is not going to help us solve these problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, an hon. Member here talked about the freedom of the Press. He said that some of us are very quick to run to the courts of law in order to make it difficult for the Press to exercise their freedom. Surely, we as individuals who are attacked by the Press have also got the freedom to defend ourselves using the law. If somebody stands up here, like I was beginning to tread on that dangerous ground, and says certain things against somebody, surely, that person should have some form of redress. For example, if somebody were to wake up tomorrow and begin writing something in the newspapers, saying that hon. Okemo is a smuggler or hon. Ndicho is a cattle rustler or something to that effect---

*(Laughter)*

That is just an example!

Thank you very much Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Njenga Karume!

**The Member for Kiambaa** (Mr. Karume): Asante sana Bw. Naibu Spika, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ili niseme machache kuhusu Hotuba ya Rais Daniel arap Moi. Kwanza ningependa kuwaambia wenzangu jina langu. Mimi naitwa Njenga Karume, Mbunge wa Kiambaa. Ninawashukuru watu wa Kiambaa kwa kunichagua ili niwakilisha kwa miaka mitano hapa. Nikiangalia Hotuba ya Rais Moi, nitasema kwamba ilikuwa fupi lakini ilikuwa na mambo mengi ya muhimu. Mimi ninaunga mkono sehemu ya Hotuba ya Rais Moi inayotuomba sisi Wabunge wa vyama mbali mbali tushirikiane. Pia, ninaunga mkono ile sehemu ya kuwaita viongozi wa vyama

vya Upinzani ili wakae chini na kuongea. Ninaunga mkono mambo haya kwa sababu ninapenda kuona watu wakifanya kazi pamoja. Ni heri tujue ya kwamba ushirikiano huu utahitaji tufanye kazi pamoja ili tuwasaidie watu wetu wa Kenya, kwa vile sisi wote tumechaguliwa na wananchi ili tuwafanyie kazi. Kwa hivyo, ningependelea tukae pamoja na tujadiliane vile tutawasaidia watu wetu.

Bw. Naibu Spika, Rais Moi alisema pia kwamba, ni juu yetu tujiangalie na tufikirie vile watu wetu watatuona. Jambo hili ni la maana sana kwa sababu wananchi wa Kenya wanaelewa mambo mengi sana. Wakiona vile unafanya, wanajua unawatendea mema au mabaya. Jambo lingine ni kuhusu uchumi wa nchi hii. Kama vile kila mmoja wetu amezungumza hapa, tunaona kwamba uchumi wetu umezorota kidogo. Kwa hivyo, ni juu yetu tukiwa pamoja kufikiria vile tutafanya ili kuinua hali ya uchumi wetu. Kama mtu amekosea, yeye ajitokeze na aseme makosa yake na ajirekebishe ili wananchi waone tunawafanyia kazi nzuri. Hata sasa tunapozungumza kuhusu uchumi na kuahidi kwamba tutajaribu kurekebisha hali hiyo, hawawezi kuamini hadi waone haya yakitendwa. Kwa kweli, tunajua kwamba watu wengi wamekosea na ni vizuri wajirekebishe. Kwa mfano, kama kuna kitu wamechukua kwa njia isiyo halali, warudishe ili wananchi waone kwamba kazi nzuri inafanyika.

Bw. Naibu Spika, Rais Moi alisema asaidiwe kuangamiza uufisadi hapa, na hiyo haikuwa mara yake ya kwanza kusema hivyo. Mwaka jana, mwezi wa kumi na mbili, tarehe kumi na mbili, wakati wa kusherehekea siku kuu ya Jamuhuri, Rais Moi alisema angependa kila mwananchi na kiongozi aliye nchini Kenya amsaidie ili aangamize tatizo hilo. Aliposema hivyo, mimi nilifikiria kwamba Mawaziri wanaohusika, Kamishona wa Polisi Bw. Duncan Wachira na maofisa wengine wa Serikali wangekaa chini ili waanze kutatua swala hilo. Wajiulize ni wapi wameenda kombo. Wakati mwingi, ninasikia kwamba kuna sukari na petroli inayoagizwa kutoka nchi za ng'ambo na hailipiwi ushuru. Mimi nilifikiria kwamba hao viongozi ambao nimewataja wangekaa chini ili washauriane juu ya jambo hilo. Waambie maofisa wa Serikali wanataka orodha inayoonyesha ni tani ngambi za sukari zimeingia nchini bila kulipiwa ushuru ili hiyo kodi itolewe kwa Serikali. Kwa kufanya hivyo, tutamsaidia Rais Moi kutatua tatizo hilo. Lakini, hata sasa ninawauliza wale ambao wanahusika wahakikishe kwamba yeyote aliyekwepa kulipa kodi, awe ni Bw. Karume, aambiwe alipe hiyo kodi.

Bw. Naibu Spika, kutokana na ripoti ya Mhasibu Mkuu, Bw. Njoroge, tunaona kwamba kuna watu wengine ambao wanapewa kandarasi kwa pesa kiasi fulani, kwa mfano Kshs.10,000 lakini wakimaliza hiyo kazi, wanalipwa mamilioni ya pesa. Pia tunaambiwa kwamba watu wengine wanalipwa pesa hata kabla hawajamaliza kazi yao. Kwa hivyo, kama tunataka kurekebisha uchumi wa Kenya, kama hao watu wanajulikana wambiwe warudishe hizo pesa au wapelekwe kortini ili wananchi waamini tunayoyasema hapa. Lakini tukiongea hapa na hakuna kitu kinafanyika, wananchi watasema kwamba ni yale tu wanaongea kila siku. Ninafahamu kwamba raia wanasema ati mtu akiwa mkubwa, akiiba na apelekwe kortini, hakuna kitakachofanyika kwa sababu yeye anajua watu fulani. Wakati umefika ambapo tusipojihadhari, tutakuwa na taabu zaidi. Kuharibika kwa uchumi kunaleta ukosefu wa kazi. Tuna vijana wengi ambao wana digrii na wengine ambao wamemaliza vidato vya sita na nne, lakini hawana kazi. Kazi haiwezi kupatikana ikiwa hakuna viwanda vinavyojengwa. Watu wataajiriwa kazi wapi? Kwa mfano, kijana akimaliza chuo kikuu na apate kazi akiwa na miaka 25, ikiwa hataharibu kazi, atanufaika kwa sababu atakuwa amefanya kazi kwa miaka 30 kwa vile atastaafu akiwa na miaka 55. Watu wanazaliwa kila siku na wanamaliza masomo kila mwaka. Kama hakuna viwanda, tutafanya nini? Viwanda vilivyokuwa hapo mbeleni tumeviharibu. Wapi Uplands Bacon Factory, Kenya Meat Commission na Kenya Farmers Association ambazo tuliachiwa na wazungu. Tulipigana ili tujitawale na kufanya mazuri kuliko wazungu. Lakini hata mengine walioacha tumeharibu na hatujui yako wapi.

Ni juu yetu kukaa chini na tujiulize tutafanya nini. Zaidi, lazima tushughulikie mambo ya kilimo. Lazima Serikali iingilie ukulima.

**An hon. Member:** Si urudishe GEMA?

**The Member for Kiambaa (Mr. Karume):** Usiniambie eti nirudishe GEMA! GEMA was very clean na imefanya mambo mengi sana ya haki. Imenunulia watu wengi mashamba na wanaendelea. Tunajua hapa Kenya tuko na bahati. Tuna udongo wenye rotuba nzuri. Katika Mikoa ya Nyanza na Western, ikiwa pesa zinazoibiwa kwa kuleta sukari, petroli na mambo mengine katika nchi hii zingetumiwa kujenga viwanda vya sukari katika mikoa hii, na wananchi wasaidiwe kulima, hatungekuwa tukileta sukari kutoka ng'ambo. Hata tungekuwa tunauza sukari katika nchi za nje na kuleta pesa katika nchi hii.

Utalii umekwisha katika nchi hii. Mahoteli mengi huko Mombasa na sehemu zingine yamefungwa. Kiwanda cha Farmers' Choice kinachouza nyama ya nguruwe kiko karibu kufungwa. Meneja wa kiwanda hicho anasema hakuna watalii wanakuja na sisi hatuli nyama ya nguruwe kwa wingi. Wakati umefika wa kukaa chini na kuwachunguza wale ambao wamechukua pesa za umma. Ikiwa umezaliwa hapa nchini, wewe ni mwenye hisa wa nchi hii. Kwa nini mtu mmoja anakula pesa ya wengine peke yake? Ni vibaya sana! Kama tutazungumza kama vile tumezoea na hakuna kitu kinachofanyika, wananchi hawataamini. Hata tukiongea juu ya unyakuzi, wananchi hawataamini.

Nitamwona Waziri wa Serikali za Wilaya baadaye. Katika mji wa Kiambu, barabara ya kwenda mahali ambapo kuna juakali, karibu na posta, imenyakuliwa hivi majuzi. Niliporudi kutoka ng'ambo hapo jana, nilipatiwa habari hiyo na madiwani kuwa barabara imenyakuliwa na hakuna njia ya kufika hapo.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono.

*(Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair)*

*(Mr. Speaker took the Chair)*

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development** (Mr. Afe): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for finally realising my presence in this House. I rise to support the Presidential Address. But before I do that, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for having been elected the Speaker of this House. I take this opportunity to thank the people of Wajir South for having found it fit to have me as their Member of Parliament. These people elected me under extremely difficult circumstances. As you all know, there was the famous *El Nino*. With the *El Nino*, came the upsurge of all sorts of strange diseases. We had cholera, the so-called Rift-Valley Fever, although we do not live in the Rift-Valley, and other water borne diseases. I take this opportunity to pass a message of condolences to all the people who lost their relatives and loved ones during the upsurge of these strange diseases.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I talk now, the people of Wajir South Constituency receive relief food dropped there by aircrafts. We have a section of this country which continue to receive relief food using aircrafts. I think it is a shame to have some sections of this country; I prefer to call North-Easter Province a country because it can be a country on its own, if we desire it to be. We have received a very raw deal in terms of the sharing of the national cake over the years. Consequent governments have not been able to develop any plans to develop this area.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent people who have been neglected over the years. I represent people, who as I talk now, continue to receive relief food dropped by aircrafts. We do not have roads and the little that we had, have been destroyed by the *El Nino* rains. The problem that we have in this country is that of perception. We have not been perceived in a manner which we ought to have been perceived. People perceive North-Eastern Province as a province which cannot deliver anything. They perceive it as a foreign land which is good for nothing. I would like to say that the province is one of the richest at present, in terms of natural resources. Yet, we have not been able to harness these resources for the benefit of the people there.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have a section of a road that connects Modogashe and Wajir. It is a small stretch of about 30 kilometres, but when it rains, it is rendered impassable. We have heard the Minister for Public Works and Housing reassuring us that something will be done. But this is a matter of life and death. People are dying because food cannot be taken there. Even the schools cannot open and primary schools students have forgotten the size of vehicles. They do not know how they look like. For eight months, they have not seen even one single truck passing through the constituency. We need collective responsibility of every Member of this House in addressing this issue. Some years back we were told that we had enormous oil deposits. If it is true that we have enormous oil deposits, we require the good will to make sure that this oil is used for the betterment of the people of this country. We require massive injection of funds and positive conception---

*(An hon. Member passed between the Table and the Chair)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order! Order, hon. Members! One hon. Member on my right side has just transgressed. No Member is allowed ever, to pass between the Table and the Chair. Since you are new, you are forgiven, but warned appropriately. Proceed.

*(Laughter)*

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development** (Mr. Afe): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I was saying, we require massive injection of funds. We require a lot of money to develop our areas. There is a perception problem. The media for instance, has not been too keen to highlight our problems. We would like to request them to open offices in that province so that the rest of this country can get to know what happens there.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a team that has been appointed by Members of different parties to collect views. It is surprising to note that although this committee has been appointed to collect views or rather to prepare the ground for constitutional reforms, not a single Member comes from North Eastern Province. Does it mean that we

have nothing to offer? Does it mean that we have nothing to contribute to this committee? What I am saying is that, not a single Member of Parliament from North Eastern Province has got the opportunity to serve in this committee. The other day, when the Leader of Government Business was moving a Motion, the only name that appeared from North Eastern Province is that of hon. Ali Muhammed Noor and in the course of the debate an hon. Member moved a Motion to delete his name. When parties were nominating Members, KANU found it fit not to appoint somebody from that area. Safina did the same. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have reservations here. We want our views known and heard because we are representing people here. Views of those people are important. Finally, I would like to appeal once more, to the Minister for Public Works and Housing as a matter of urgency, national importance or life and death to open up the road between Habaswein and Modogashe.

Thank you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, hon. Members! I am afraid that this House resolved that the debate on the Presidential Speech shall continue for seven days and today is the seventh day. The House also resolved that the Mover will have 20 minutes to move and 20 minutes to reply. I have no option but to abide by your own resolution. I now call upon the Mover to reply.

**The Minister for Lands and Settlement** (Mr. Ngala): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to reply.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank all the Members who contributed so ably to the Presidential Speech. I was highly moved by the high standard of debate in this House. Both old and new Members displayed in their contributions, high standard of debate. I hope that is how this House is going to conduct itself in terms of the level of debate. I want to encourage all hon. Members to continue in the same manner of contributing meaningfully in this House. Some hon. Members contributed with some of overtones and others were a bit harsh in their contributions, but we are all in the learning process and I am sure that some time, the degree of contribution will just be as good to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when hon. Members were contributing, I was listening and taking a few notes. One of the messages that came out very clearly through the speeches of the hon. Members, especially those from the Opposition, is the question of seriousness and commitment on the Government side. I want to assure the House and more so, the hon. Members from the Opposition, that the Government is committed to all that it is saying. If we use the Presidential Speech as one of the areas for us to show our commitment, I wish to assure all hon. Members that the Government is committed to good governance. This is the agenda that has come out very clearly from hon. Members of the Opposition. What they are asking is: Is it possible? Is the Government serious? Is it real or is it something that is being said for the sake of being said? I want to repeat that the Government is committed. Therefore, let us remove mistrust on the Government. There seems to be a feeling that people do not trust the Government. They seem to be feeling that the Government is taking them for a ride. That is the impression I am getting. Let us trust one another and take this House seriously. We have been told in the Presidential Speech to discuss among ourselves, all issues affecting this country. I believe that this is the spirit which the Eighth Parliament is going to carry along, as we continue with the challenges of debate and dealing with the issues that are before us and which affect the ordinary mwananchi. I thank all hon. Members for what they have said.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Address touched on corruption and all the 128 hon. Members who contributed on this Motion talked about corruption. They were trying to explain and tell the Government that, what the President has highlighted in his Speech is true about corruption. So, all the hon. Members displayed the commitment on the part of Members of Parliament to show corruption as an evil and a vice that should not be encouraged in this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is, therefore, necessary for the Government to assure this House that it is committed to fighting corruption in both the private and public sectors. Let us continue the process of fighting corruption collectively. It is not for the Government side alone to fight corruption, but rather for all of us in this House. We should identify the wrong-doing and talk strongly against it. The Government is committed to fight this vice and I would, therefore, like to assure the House that whatever Members said about corruption has been noted and the Government will put the right machinery in place to try and tackle the vice.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is also committed to economic reforms. As many hon. Members have said, our economy needs to be revamped. I want to connect economic development with peace and stability. I strongly believe that although we may have degrees in Economic Management and other related disciplines, if we do not have peace and stability, the economy will not grow. So, let us continue advocating for peace and stability in this country and also do away with cultures of disobedience if we want our economy to grow. I believe that it is possible for the economy to grow if we continue to maintain peace and stability. Let us use the meagre resources available to try and enhance economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, multipartysm is here to stay, but multipartysm in this country has been misunderstood for tribal groupings. In Kenya, multipartysm is based on tribalism, and we must get rid of this attitude.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, KANU as a Government, is committed to co-operating with political parties willing to work together for the good of this country. That is an assurance that has been given by the Chairman of the ruling party, KANU. For those who are willing to co-operate, let us co-operate, but co-operation does not mean making the Government's situation difficult. I do not think that making life difficult for the Government is co-operation. It is not good to make it difficult for the Government to rule. KANU is willing to co-operate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members talked about infrastructure. It is true that infrastructure in our country has been badly damaged by heavy rains and we all know that. I want to say that the rains have had a share. Do not tell me that the rains have not caused any damage. So, what the hon. Members have expressed about infrastructure has been noted by the Government. I am thanking the Minister for Public Works and Housing for his contribution on this matter. He did commit himself and the Government, that money will be found and that some of the activities are already in motion. In some roads, repair work has started. Therefore, let us give the Ministry of Public Works and Housing time. I am sure they will do a good job for this country in terms of infrastructure because it is true that roads are in a bad state. We should not give up and it should not be a case of an Opposition person or a KANU person to be blamed unnecessarily. This is a situation beyond our control. In fact, this has descended from God and we cannot do anything about it. So, infrastructure needs fixing, rehabilitation and, I am sure within a short time, we will be able to drive on very good roads and our goods, passengers and services will be able to move smoothly and quickly to the areas where they are wanted.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other thing which was talked about is the constitutional review. This is a matter which was referred to by the President and the hon. Members here touched on it very ably. That is a matter that needs attention, it is a matter that needs to be looked at urgently. I want to say that this is an issue that requires very sober mind. We should avoid emotions on this matter. We do not want other people to believe that they can speak on behalf of others. Kenyans should be given the platform to say what they feel they should say. That is the democratic process which is the fairest of all. Let the people be given an opportunity to speak for themselves, not a group of people purporting to speak for others.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the spirit of IPPG, where we are going to discuss and look at the modalities, amendments, corrections--- That is the spirit we should encourage. I am sure the Attorney-General is doing a lot in trying to enhance and bring this spirit of togetherness. So, again, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that the Government is committed to the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission. It is a matter that the Government is committed to and there is no way it is going to sideline the debate on the constitutional review. We are going to support it to the hilt. So, let us all support it with the understanding that all the people in the Republic of Kenya will be given an opportunity to be able to say what they want to say, because they have a right, they are living in this country and even if it is the smallest community, it must be accorded an opportunity to say what they would like to say.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, what we are saying, as the President suggested, is let there be a speedy movement in putting together the Committee and finally come up with a committee which will move around and be able to listen to the views of the Kenyan people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Members also talked about the Ministry of Lands and Settlement. They expressed their dissatisfaction with certain issues or acts. I want to assure them that the Ministry is committed to correcting these ills. I just want to assure Members that we are busy trying to correct where we see mistakes were made. We have suggested what needs to be done about parastatals and schools. Let them bring forward their documentation for their land to be given titles so that they can protect their land. We are serious in the Ministry of Lands and Settlement. If there are any areas where Members think they need to give us more information, our doors are open. We just want to know how we can handle those situations.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue I am going to touch on; I am sure you are capable of dealing with it. The other day when the Leader of the Official Opposition was contributing here, there are certain remarks he made which I am sure did not go well in the House. We have officers who work in this House and I think one of the comments he made was in reference to an incident where an hon. Member was talking to the Speaker. The Leader of the Official Opposition said, "Could the Member leave the Speaker to listen?" Consultations are allowed with the Speaker and I think it is not fair for us to get into those situations. The other thing which I think is contravening the working relationship in the House--- I think when the Leader of the Official Opposition was also speaking--- When the officers were trying to do the timing---

**Mr. Speaker:** Order!

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Speaker:** Order now! Hon. Members, it is now time for us to interrupt our business and the House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, the 16th April, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.