

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 24th June, 2004

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notices of the following Motions:-

INTRODUCTION OF MICRO- FINANCE BILL

THAT, in view of the poverty levels prevailing in the country; given that these poverty levels have made it difficult for most Kenyans to access credit from financial institutions due to stringent rules applied by these institutions; aware that there are no credit facility institutions for the poor in this country; this House do grant leave for the introduction of the Micro-Finance Bill to address the void.

ENACTMENT OF LAW TO MAKE ECONOMIC CRIMES CAPITAL OFFENCES

THAT, considering the fact that economic crimes have risen tremendously in the recent past; aware that these crimes have had an enormous impact on our economy and, therefore, affected the general welfare of our people negatively, further aware that the existing laws have not helped in deterring the commission of such crimes; this House urges the Government to enact a law to make economic crimes capital offences.

ENACTMENT OF LAW TO BAR FOREIGNERS FROM ENGAGING IN RETAIL BUSINESS

THAT, considering the unfair competition small-scale Kenyan entrepreneurs are facing from foreigners in the rural areas, aware that this competition poses real danger to the advancement of locals in business; this House urges the Government to enact a law prohibiting foreigners from engaging in retail business in the provincial, district and rural towns of this country.

AMENDMENT OF LABOUR LAWS TO CATER FOR RETRENCHED WORKERS

THAT, in view of the increasing levels of unemployment among Kenyans; considering that most companies are laying off workers under the guise of increasing efficiency and, therefore, earning abnormal profit; aware that such lay offs are visiting untold suffering on most Kenyans; this House urges the Government to amend labour laws to make it mandatory for employers to compensate laid off workers for a period not exceeding five years from the date of retrenchment.

Hon. Members: Mr. Wamwere!

Mr. Speaker: Let us now move on to the next Order!

(Laughter)

Order, hon. Members! You all know that Mr. Wamwere is not on the Order Paper!

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

RESETTLEMENT OF ENOOSUPUKIA TRIBAL CLASH VICTIMS

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that eight families are camping at the All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi after returning from a refugee camp in Mbarara, Uganda, where they had sought refuge following the ethnic clashes at Enosupukia in 1993?

(b) When will the Minister implement the recommendations of this House in a Motion approved on 30th July, 2003?

Mr. Speaker: Is there anyone from the Office of the President? Where are they? Mrs. Tett, do you have some information for the House?

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mrs. Tett): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Tarus is on his way to this House. He is a very committed Assistant Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Why is he not here now with that commitment?

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mrs. Tett): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was a lot of traffic today.

(Laughter)

Maj. Gen. Nkaiserry: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think the Minister is hiding somewhere within the precincts of Parliament because I saw him when I was walking into the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Maj. Gen. Nkaiserry! Hon. Members, like Generals, do not hide! Let us move on to the next Question by Mr. Moroto!

PUPILS' FAILURE TO SIT FOR KCPE EXAMINATIONS

(Mr. Moroto) to ask the Minister for Education, Science and Technology:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that two pupils of Nateleng Primary School in West Pokot District were denied to sit for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education examinations last year?

(b) What steps has the Minister taken against the officers who denied the pupils a chance to sit for the examinations?

(c) What further action is he taking to ensure that the pupils continue with their education?

Mr. Speaker: Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry, where is Mr. Moroto? Where is he hiding?

(Laughter)

Maj. Gen. Nkaissery: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Moroto is on the way to the House.

MASS EXODUS OF STUDENTS/
TEACHERS FROM LAISAMIS
SECONDARY SCHOOL

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Education, Science and Technology the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that Laisamis Secondary School has closed prematurely due to mass exodus of students?

(b) What is the cause of the mass exodus of students and teachers from the school?

(c) What is the Minister doing to arrest the situation?

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Dr. Mwiria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Laisamis Secondary School closed 11 days earlier than the official closing date last term but not due to mass exodus of students. The students went on strike on 19th March, 2004 which led to the closure of the school on 21st March, 2004. I can confirm that the school re-opened on 11th May, 2004 and is operational as per the report given by the Provincial Director of Education, Eastern Province, dated 16th June, 2004.

(b) In view of the answer given above, part "b" of the Question does not arise because, really, there is no exodus. This also applies to part "c" of the Question.

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, definitely, the Assistant Minister is not informed. He is relying on the Provincial Director of Education (PDE), who is even less informed than him!

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we speak now, that school is not operational. There is a mass exodus of students from the school. I would like to issue a statement to the Assistant Minister and, maybe, all Government Ministers on the other side of the House. I was a civil servant. I resigned recently and came to this House. If that is the kind of service I was giving to Kenyans when I was a civil servant-- I want to confess today on the Floor of this House that we have been giving Kenyans a disservice. The Assistant Minister is not informed--

Mr. Speaker: Well! After all that confession, what is the question?

(Laughter)

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister answer the Question? The school is not operational as we speak now and yet, he has the courage to tell the House that the school--- Maybe, he can get the truth.

Hon. Members: Truthfully!

Mr. Ngoyoni: Truthfully!

(Laughter)

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am answering as truthfully as one can do in view of the information that we got. We know that there has not really been a mass exodus. What happened is that after the strike, 41 students were withdrawn from the school. But, otherwise, there are 111 students attending school as per the report by the PDE. The staff position is the same. All the teachers were there as of 16th. So, really, I think Mr. Ngoyoni is giving other facts that have nothing to do with the situation.

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I need your guidance on this issue. The hon. Member, who comes from the ground, is saying that the school has not been re-opened. The Assistant Minister is telling us that it is opened. Whom are we going to believe? Can you give guidance on that?

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! That is entirely up to you! That is because I cannot get into the hearts of the Assistant Minister and the hon. Member. So, make your judgements yourself!

Mr. Abdirahman, I saw you first. Please, proceed!

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as much as the Assistant Minister is claiming that the school is operational, it is not something that we can take very lightly. He has just said that 41 students have left that school after the strike. Considering the drop-out rate in our region, that is not a small number to be taken lightly. What monitoring mechanisms has the Ministry put in place to ensure that, either those students who have dropped out come back to the same school, or go to other schools? That is because we are already below the enrolment rate

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is in our interest, as a Ministry, to ensure that young people remain in schools. So, we are doing everything to ensure that after we carry out investigations--- That is because the story is that---

(Mr. Ngoyoni stood up in his place)

Why do you not just wait? Please, relax!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Dr. Mwiria! That is purely restricted to Mr. Speaker! I hold a patent for it. So, please, do not assume my powers! Now, relax, Mr. Assistant Minister and proceed!

(Laughter)

Dr. Mwiria: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We were informed that the parents withdrew their students and enrolled them in other schools. But, if we fight, because there was a problem, you find that some of those students were actually not enrolled. So, please, count on us to try our very best to ensure that they join other schools.

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, part (b) of the Question is asking: "What is the cause of the mass exodus of students and teachers from the school?" Definitely, there is a problem, but the Assistant Minister is not addressing it. For the information of the Assistant Minister, there are about 33 students in the whole school; that is from Form I to Form IV. You know very well that a class

normally contains 45 students. Therefore, if a whole school has only 33 students, definitely, this Question is relevant and there is mass exodus. What is the cause of that exodus?

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that Mr. Ngoyoni has confirmed what I had said earlier on, that the school is actually operational. He has just said that there are 33 students in the school now. Previously, he had convinced the House that the school was closed, and everybody was asking who was telling the truth.

(Mr. Ngoyoni stood up in his place)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ngoyoni! It does help the House if we heard from the Assistant Minister as well!

Dr. Mwiria, please, proceed!

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there were problems and we are trying to find out the cause of the strike. After investigations, we shall take the necessary action. We know that the school was closed, but we sent a team to investigate the cause of the strike.

Prof. Oniang'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the information we were given earlier, 41 students are about one-third of the total enrolment of that school. Given that this Government wants as many secondary schools as possible to cater for students who are in primary schools, and given that it has pledged to support Arid and Semi-Arid areas, could the Assistant Minister tell us what he is going to do about that school to make it operational? That is the only secondary school in that constituency! Could he send a team to inspect and see what they can do about that?

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been asked a question and I have also given a solution. So, we agree that it is important for us to investigate, and we have already sent a team. As soon as we establish the facts, it is in our interest to ensure that, that school is fully operational, especially in view of the fact that the number of secondary schools in that area is very limited.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ngoyoni! Last question!

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are used to such marginalisation and injustices. We have been suffering from those injustices since time immemorial. We have suffered from the time of the colonial government, KANU and now NARC. As Prof. Oniang'o has said, that is the only secondary school in the whole constituency. It has now closed because of mass exodus of students. The reason why the school is closing is because the Ministry responsible for education in Kenya is not fulfilling its responsibility.

An. hon. Member: They are sleeping!

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are sleeping. The school is in a very remote area and the headmaster there knows very well that the Ministry will never get the truth. They are going to "kill" it just the way they have killed other things.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ngoyoni, that is enough! Could you ask the question?

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when is the Assistant Minister going to take action? Is he waiting for the school to be buried in a grave? What is he waiting for?

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we took action yesterday. We are not waiting to take action later. I would like to assure this House again that we are doing our very best. Let me also say that if we did not have any interest in that school, we would not be having ten teachers who are fully paid by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC). I would like to assure hon. Ngoyoni that we shall do everything possible to ensure that the school is operational.

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

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ngoyoni, you cannot take all the time! Sorry, Mr. Ngoyoni! You have taken all the time! No negotiating! I think you can follow up that matter later. I want to go to other

Questions! I am sorry!

Next Question by Mr. Lucas Maitha!

Mr. Kombe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Lucas Maitha is held up somewhere and he requested me to ask Question No.4 by Private Notice on his behalf.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Kombe, this is a Question by Private Notice! Therefore, you cannot ask it on his behalf. So, it falls flat on its face!

ILLEGAL ALLOCATION OF SIR ALI
PRIMARY SCHOOL LAND

(Mr. L. Maitha) to ask the Minister for Lands and Settlement:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that a portion of Sir Ali Primary School compound was carved out and allotment letters are currently being issued?

(b) What is the Ministry doing to restore that land to the school and diffuse the tension that is mounting in the area?

(Question dropped)

Mr. Speaker: For the second time, Mr. Koigi Wamwere's Question!

RESETTLEMENT OF ENOOSUPUKIA
TRIBAL CLASHES VICTIMS

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that eight families are camping at the All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi, after returning from a refugee camp in Mbarara, Uganda, where they had sought refuge following the ethnic clashes at Enosopukia in 1993?

(b) When will the Minister implement the recommendations of this House in a Motion approved on 30th July, 2003?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Tarus): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for the inconvenience because of the delay.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

Mr. Speaker: By the way, where were you?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Tarus): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have apologised.

Mr. Speaker: I am interested for some strange reasons! Where were you?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Tarus): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was on the way coming.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Anyway, proceed!

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

(a) I am not aware of any families camping at the All Saints Cathedral. However, I am aware of eight families that returned from Uganda to Kenya in 2003, and are currently camping at the Holy Family Basilica.

(b) The Motion that was approved by the House on 30th June, 2003, will be implemented as soon as genuinely displaced persons are identified and the status of the land from where they were evicted established. Currently, verification is under way to establish genuine claimants who are yet to settle on their rightful land.

Mr. Wamwere: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Government is aware that there are eight families camping at the Holy Family Basilica, does it not embarrass the Assistant Minister that Kenyan families are begging for food and living in the cold where they should not be? Secondly, what is the Assistant Minister doing to ensure that they are immediately settled, together with other victims, after living in the wilderness for the last 12 years?

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the needs of the families that have been mentioned here have been taken into account and the Government is looking into the process of assisting them. Their request was resettlement and we are still considering it as soon as what we have stated is accomplished.

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, last year, I asked the Assistant Minister a similar Question and he said that the Government was verifying genuine victims of tribal clashes. He has given the same answer right now and I think that the Government is not serious about resettling these people. Could the Assistant Minister confirm that the Government is not willing to resettle tribal clash victims?

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was just wondering what hon. Mukiri was referring to because it is important to identify genuine squatters. This is because, whenever this problem occurs, it may be a surprise to find the number of families rising from eight to 100. So, we are supposed to use our machinery to identify genuine squatters. Two, we have to verify the real ownership of the land on which they are saying that they were evicted from. I think it is just good enough that the hon. Member takes honestly what we are saying.

Mr. Serut: Mr. Speaker, Sir, bearing in mind that those who are now running around saying that they are victims of tribal clashes are known people, since they must have had their chiefs and assistant chiefs, why can the Office of the President not use those chiefs to identify the origin of those people, even before they go to Enoosupukia?

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have said that we do have machinery to verify genuine squatters. We are dealing with a group that had also gone to Uganda and has come back. Therefore, verification is important.

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking of a period of over 12 years and the Assistant Minister says that verification is still taking place. It is a matter of great concern that the world was commemorating the International Refugees Day on Sunday and yet we have our own internally- displaced people and the Government does not appear to be having a programme to resettle them. Since those people are not on their farms and they are elsewhere like in my constituency doing business, where is this exercise of verification taking place while they have already been displaced? We have not seen the slightest evidence of verification on the ground.

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has issued adequate instructions to Provincial and District Commissioners to assist in this process.

Mr. Wamwere: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Motion was being debated in this House, and after supporting the passage of the Motion, the Assistant Minister promised us that he would set up a committee that would be used for the purpose of verification. Could he now tell the House whether the said committee was ever set up, who are the members of that committee and what concrete steps the committee has taken to ensure verification takes place?

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, indeed, the Motion was passed on 30th July, 2003 and the response that was given by the then Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of National

Reconstruction had indicated that they were going to form a committee to handle these issues of displaced persons. The objective was to study all the reports by the Government, NGOs and individuals involved in tribal land clashes. I cannot state the name of the committee but I can say that since then the Ministry has changed to the current Ministry of Regional Development. We are now looking into this issue under the Office of the President.

Mr. Speaker: For the second time, Mr. Moroto's Question!

PUPILS' FAILURE TO SIT
FOR KCPE EXAMINATIONS

(Mr. Moroto) to ask the Minister for Education, Science and Technology:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that two pupils at Nateleng Primary School in West Pokot district were denied to sit for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education examinations last year?

(b) What steps has the Minister taken against the officers who denied the pupils a chance to sit for the examinations?

(c) What further action is he taking to ensure that the pupils continue with their education?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Moroto still not here? The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.433

NUMBER OF EXTENSION
OFFICERS IN SIGOR

Mr. Rotino asked the Minister for Agriculture what the number of extension officers in Chesegon Division of Sigor Constituency is.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Kirwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply. There are only two agricultural extension officers in Chesegon Division of Sigor Constituency. In the past, it was not easy to retain them serving the area due to the insecurity situation at the time. The security situation has now improved and, consequently, I have directed that five more extension officers be posted to the area immediately.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at least, I am happy about the answer the Minister has given; that, he is posting five more extension officers to the area. However, it is one thing to post extension officers and another, to facilitate them to be able to do their work. Could the Minister tell us what other facilitation he has given the extension officers to be able to work in that division because the division is an agricultural-based one?

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do appreciate the problems faced by the Ministry and, in so doing, we are trying to look for resources to provide vehicles and other forms of logistical support to the officers. This has been factored in the Budget and we are sure that, in the next couple of years, we are going to get money for the purpose of assisting extension officers in the field.

Mr. Owino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the lack of extension workers is not confined to Sigor Constituency only. It is more or less in every constituency. Like in my constituency, we are farmers

but for the last 20 years, we have never seen an extension worker. What is the Ministry's policy in providing every constituency with these extension officers?

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not even at the constituency level. We are interested in providing a number of officers to various divisions and locations throughout the country. However, over the period since 1989, we have not had recruitment of any extension officers in the Government and we have now run short of close to 3,743 officers to be able to assist us to do the work in the field. As a way of redressing this problem and in the current strategy for revitalising agriculture, we are addressing the question of staff norms to allow us to be able to recruit more officers and also utilise the officers that we have in the field by interfacing with some of the other organisations providing extension services.

Mr. Poghiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if Chesezon Division had problems with insecurity, Kacheliba did not. However, there were no extension workers in Kacheliba. If the extension workers were not able to go to Chesezon, where were they in the district and why could they not be taken to the other divisions? In any case, the Minister has already answered by saying that he did not have enough staff. Even if he says that he is directing five extension officers to be transferred, I wonder from where because he has not recruited any. I am surprised that hon. Rotino believes him!

(Laughter)

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do appreciate the question by hon. Poghiso. However, I had also indicated that we have a shortage of more than 3,000 extension officers in the Ministry. So, I admit that there is, indeed, a shortage. In the same stretch of thought, I will direct that five officers be taken to the named division because I have already told the Permanent Secretary to write to the director instructing him to transfer the extension officers to Chesezon Division.

Hon. Members: From where?

Mr. Syongo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Printed Estimates we have about US\$40 million allocated to the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) for the purpose of research. The purpose of research is to provide additional technology which should be transferred further. You have just heard the Minister confess that the Ministry of Agriculture has a shortage of 3,000 plus extension officers who should be the link between research and farmers. In the Printed Estimates there is no provision for the required additional staff. Could the Minister, please, help this House to understand how he intends to benefit farmers from the money that has been allocated to KARI?

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the money the hon. Member is referring to is money meant for KARI under what we call the Kenya Agricultural Productivity Project (KAPP). This project, under the Ministry's new strategy, is meant to have a close interface between research and production. That is exactly the point at which extension services will come in. The money will be utilised by the current officers who are in the field for the purpose of providing essential services to the farmers.

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

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

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to seek clarification, from the Chair, on this matter.

Mr. Speaker: Did you say from the Chair?

Mr. Sasura: Yes! I need some direction from you, Mr. Speaker, Sir! Last week, you remember, the Minister for Health said that she cannot post health officers to Marsabit because of insecurity in the area. Today, the Minister for Agriculture is saying that he cannot post extension officers to Chesezon because of insecurity. Both Marsabit and Kapenguria districts are inhabited by the pastoral communities. We pastoralists have now become victims of such excuses. We are

neglected in the name of insecurity. Are you satisfied, Mr. Speaker, Sir, being also a pastoralist, that we are not suffering in the name of insecurity?

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Members! Certainly the Chair is not pastoralist.

(Laughter)

Secondly, I would not want to get involved in this issue of security because it is the business of Government to ensure security countrywide. It is also your business, as leaders from the pastoralist community, to keep peace amongst yourselves.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister knows very well that when the research department was removed from the Ministry of Agriculture, the extension services remained in the Ministry. Could the Minister consider removing the extension services from his Ministry and transferring the same to KARI? This will ensure that research services and extension services are married.

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that is a matter of detail. KARI is under the Ministry of Agriculture whereas research services are under KARI. Extension services are under the Ministry of Agriculture. It is entirely upon the Ministry of Agriculture to determine how all these units interrelate.

Question No.487

OPENING OF ESAGERI/SOLIAN
HEALTH CENTRES

Mr. Sirma asked the Minister for Health:-

(a) when the Esageri and Solian Health Centres in Koibatek District will be operational; and,

(b) how much it cost the Government to put up the health centres in question.

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

(a) Esageri and Solian health centres in Koibatek District will be operational as soon as the remaining electrical works are completed. About 99 per cent of the project has already been completed and it is expected that the remaining electrical works will be completed in the next financial year because the Ministry has set aside funds for the same purpose.

(b) The Government spent Kshs25 million to build the two health centres in the year 2001.

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am in possession of a completion certificate awarded by consultants called Unit Consultants. The consultancy firm gave the period of defect liability as March, 2003. There is outstanding work which was not completed, but was all the same approved. I wish to table this document and the payment voucher worth Kshs7,000,123 given to Pyramid Construction. There were also charges---

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Sirma, what are you doing?

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am tabling documents!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Sirma! Why are you tabling documents which have not been challenged? You have not even introduced them to the Assistant Minister! You have not asked him anything about it!

Mr. Sirma: I am asking him.

Mr. Speaker: No, you ask your question first!

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that KPLC was supposed to be paid Kshs1 million which already had been given to the contractor? Today, however, there is no power let alone electricity poles for the health centres.

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am aware that the contractor was paid money to install power. The contractor was supposed to pay KPLC, but he did not do so. The Ministry has managed to meet the contractor and the consultant. The contractor is actually being taken to court so that he can be forced to repay the money. Meanwhile, we will provide money in the next financial year for the completion of the project so that the health centres can be used.

Mr. Sirma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are too many outstanding debts for the contractor. Will the Government undertake to pay all the outstanding bills incurred by the contractor? Even watchmen and transporters have not been paid their dues and already there are too many claims by the public with regard to the two health centres. Could the Assistant Minister also consider visiting the health centres so that he sees the defects in the health centres?

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a site meeting which was held on 25th of November, 2003 revealed the shortcomings of the project in terms of the lack of funds required to complete the health centres. As far as I am informed, it is only the electrical part which remains incomplete. So, whatever the contractor was given to pay KPLC, but he did not do so, we will give KPLC the money and then follow up the matter in court to claim the money. However, if the contractor is not owed any money by the Ministry, then, it is up to him to follow up this request with the Ministry of Health.

Question No.533

UTILIZATION OF COST-SHARING
MONEY IN TURKANA DISTRICT

Mr. Ethuro asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) how much money has been received from cost-sharing in the district hospital, health centres and dispensaries in Turkana District in the last ten years;
- (b) whether he could give a breakdown on how the money was spent; and,
- (c) how much money was paid as committee allowances.

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

(a) Kshs10,661,146 was collected in Lodwar District Hospital, Lokitaung Sub-district Hospital and Katilu Health Centre in the last ten years. However, no cost-sharing money was received from the local dispensaries during the same period.

(b) Cost-sharing money was utilized for routine operational and maintenance expenses as tabulated below for the said period. Facility improvement expenditure is authorized as per the Appropriations-In-Aid (A-I-E) approved by the District Health Management Board (DHMB) and the Provincial Medical Officer (PMO), Nakuru.

I have a list of collection of revenue, which is as follows:-

Year	Amount (Kshs)
1999 - 2004	5,149,697
1993 - 1998	5,149,246
Total	10,298,943

(c) Kshs130,100 was paid as committee allowances during the last ten years. The DHMB met or meets once every three months, and the rate of the sitting allowance is based on the Ministry guidelines.

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Assistant Minister for bringing a detailed answer this time round. But you will realize that, out of one district hospital, one sub-district hospital, four health centres and 22 dispensaries over a period of ten years, they could only raise Kshs10 million. Which means that Kshs1 million was raised per annum, and Kshs88,842 was raised per month. Knowing that there was very little money being generated from cost-sharing, could the Assistant Minister consider making sure that the people are not charged anything for services in all the health facilities in Turkana District? This demonstrates the poverty of this area.

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bill for the National Social Hospital Insurance Scheme (NSHIS) will be coming before the House soon, through which poor Kenyans will be able to go to any dispensary or public hospital in the country and be treated free of charge. I expect the hon. Members of Parliament to ensure that this Bill goes through when it comes to this House, because it will be for the good of the poor of this country.

Mr. Nderitu: My question lies in the fact that there is cost-sharing money in every district hospital. Before questions about cost-sharing money in every district hospital are asked, could the Assistant Minister table how much money has been collected from all the district hospitals in the last one year, so that we can peg how the NSHIS is going to perform?

(Applause)

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the figures for cost-sharing services from all the public hospitals can be worked out; so, we need time to be able to provide those figures.

Mr. Speaker: Last question, Mr. Ethuro!

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Question was taken to the Ministry before the Bill was gazetted. The Assistant Minister should assure this House, what would happen if the Bill is not passed. I am demonstrating the fact that there is no money in Turkana District! These people cannot raise sufficient money. So, whether the Bill goes through or not, the answer should be the same from the Assistant Minister; that considering the poverty levels of the people in Turkana District, they should not pay the cost-sharing money charged in public hospitals.

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad because I have one of convertees who will fight strongly in this House to make sure that the Bill goes through. But let me assure him that we have enough dispensary kits and medicines in every dispensary in the Republic to ensure that the poor people are treated. We have given instructions to all the public health officers that no Kenyan should be turned away from any public hospital, whether he has money or not. He must be treated.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question by Mr. Muriungi!

Question No.430

CONSTRUCTION OF MAUA BUS PARK

Mr. Muriungi asked the Minister for local Government:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Kshs40 million was set aside by the Ministry for the construction of the Maua Bus Park;
- (b) which firm was awarded the contract for the work; and,
- (c) when the construction will commence given that the 2003/2004 Financial Year is coming to an end.

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

(a) Yes, the Ministry is aware that Kshs40 million was the tendered sum for the construction of a bus park in Maua Town Council.

(b) The contract has not been awarded because there was a problem with the procurement process, and the tender for Maua Town Council Bus Park was not finalized.

(c) The project is being re-tendered and the tender documents are being reviewed. The tendering will be completed in July, 2004. The construction will start after the awarding of the tender between July and August, 2004.

Mr. Muriungi: I would like to thank the Assistant Minister for renewing our hope about the construction of Maua Bus Park.

Maua is a fast-growing town with very many public service vehicles, and the council does not benefit from the revenue because there is no way of collecting it. Drivers suffer a great deal because they are charged with obstruction when they stop to pick passengers on the roads. What assurance can the Assistant Minister give us that the process will not be interfered with again? My investigation shows that a senior officer in the Ministry was interfering with this project. What assurance can we be given that the project will not be interfered with again?

Mrs. Tett: I am not aware that there are some issues interfering with the progress of the project. All I know is that the procurement matters were suspended at that particular time. That is why the construction for Maua Bus Park did not go on. But after lifting the suspension, we are now going on with the process and, as I said earlier, the construction will continue between July and August, 2004.

Mr. Muriungi: Could the Assistant Minister tell us what is the exact problem with the procurement process, if the Ministry already has a list of tenderers? Could she table the list or tell us who those tenderers who tendered for the construction of the Kshs40 million Maua Bus Park are?

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this was done before the suspension of all procurement matters by the Ministry of Finance in 2003. But after six months when the suspension was lifted, the Ministerial Committee recommended for re-tendering of these tenders.

Mr. Salat: While appreciating the Assistant Minister's answer, I would like to ask her how many projects and tenders were suspended countrywide for the same purpose, because we are also experiencing the same problem with regard to Bomet Bus Park in my constituency.

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have that information here with me.

Mr. Speaker: Last question, Mr. Muriungi!

Mr. Muriungi: Could the Assistant Minister consider raising the amount from Kshs40 million due to lack of time, so that the work can be completed?

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the construction of the bus park is an on-going exercise. It will not stop after the amount is spent. We already have a Vote to continue with that project if that money is not enough.

Question No.511

STATUS OF BISHOP ROAD

Mr. A. Haji asked the Minister for Local Government:-

(a) whether Bishop Road in Nairobi is a public or a private road; and,

(b) what the implications of the posters on that road which read:- "Friendly check-point ahead" and "Welcome me to the safest road in Nairobi" are.

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

(a) Bishop Road is a public road, manned and maintained by the council.

(b) The signs and posters established are a security measure informing the road users that there are friendly security checks for the Embassy of Israel.

Mr. A. Haji: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bishop Road is a very important road. As you approach the road from Ngong Road, there are many offices, like the offices of the Ministry of Co-operative Development and Marketing, the Ministry of Lands and Settlement and the National Social Security Fund (NSSF). We visit these offices on a daily basis. What is the essence of motorists being stopped on this road? Motorists are being asked what business they have on that road and why they cannot use other roads.

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that question should be put to the Office of the President. It is a security matter and not a matter for the Local Government Ministry.

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem is the location of the Israel Embassy on this road. Why can we not re-locate the Embassy to somewhere like North Eastern Province and have peace in Nairobi?

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I read in the newspapers that they will re-locate the Embassy, but not to North Eastern Province.

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are getting into a very dangerous situation. On another road where we have an embassy, they are again construction check-points.

Mr. Speaker: Which road is that?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the road just after the British High Commission. They are having the same sort of road blocks. Are we going to allow these embassies to take control of our roads?

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, this is a security matter and I think Mr. Tarus would be in a better position to respond to it.

Mr. Sasura: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House? She said in her initial answer that this is a public road, maintained and manned by the Nairobi City Council. Now, she is saying that it is a security matter and does not fall under her docket any more.

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, security matters fall under the Internal Security docket and not in my Ministry. Mine is to man and maintain the roads.

Mr. Wario: Asante Bw. Spika. Kulipuliwa kwa Hoteli ya Norfolk kulisababishwa na kuweko kwa Ubalozzi wa Israeli hapa nchini. Ubalozzi huu ni tisho kubwa kwa usalama wa nchi hii. Ni lini Serikali itahamisha Ubalozzi huu?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wario! Hon. Members, it is against the Standing Orders to talk ill of any foreign mission resident in Kenya. So, do not do it!

Mr. Midiwo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of foreign security agents hovering around our country without any explanation is very serious. If you go to any hotel in Mombasa, you will see people following you, whom you cannot question. Very often, they are non-Kenyans. We have asked this Question in this House in the past. These people are armed and you can see some of them holding grenades. Could it be explained to Kenyans at what point these people access this country? What policy or law are we using? We should feel safe in our country.

Mr. Speaker: Why can you not direct that to the relevant Ministry?

Mr. Midiwo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, she has said that this is a security matter. So, I guess the Question begged for a ruling from the Chair. Maybe, it can be redirected.

Mr. Speaker: Well, the Chair has directed you to put a relevant Question to the relevant Ministry. So, will you comply with my directive, Mr. Midiwo?

Mr. Midiwo: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Speaker, Sir, working in a compartmentalised way is not going to help Kenyans. The fact that the Ministry of Local Government is responsible for roads and the

Office of the President is in charge of security, in all fairness, they should have a very close working relationship or a liaison.

Could the Assistant Minister consult the Office of the President and have that road made passable? We cannot access the offices of the Ministry of Lands and Settlement through that road. For the interest of Kenyans, could the Assistant Minister consider taking up that issue with the Office of the President and make sure that those check points are removed, so that we can access the offices that are there?

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there will be consultations between the two Ministries.

Mr. A. Haji: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reason why this road has been branded the safest road in Nairobi is because of the presence of the General Service Unit (GSU) officers, who are Kenyans. However, we cannot walk in the streets of Nairobi because of insecurity. Would I be in order to ask the Assistant Minister to liaise with the Office of the President and have some GSU officers deployed in every street, so that these streets become safe?

Mrs. Tett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will oblige.

Mr. Speaker: That is the end of Question Time.
Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS

(Order for Committee read)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW
LEAVE THE CHAIR

*(The Minister for Finance
on 10.6.2004)*

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted
on 23.6.2004)*

*(Seventh and Final Day of
the Budget Debate)*

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, as we go to this Order, I urge all hon. Members, particularly the new ones, to follow very closely the procedure on the last day of the Financial Statement. You will come to learn what actually the Motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair means. At the end of the Motion, if it is carried, Mr. Speaker will actually leave the Chair and the Chairman will get into the Committee. That is why it is written there below: "In the Committee".

So, I invite hon. Members to follow this procedure very carefully. Be very attentive! I wish to encourage, particularly the new hon. Members to remain behind and follow this procedure very closely.

Was there anybody on the Floor?

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I must start by saying that the Budget Speech was a big disappointment to people who come from dry areas of this country. When you look at the money that has been allocated for provision of water, like in Ukambani region, you see that it is a mere Kshs33 million. You cannot compare that amount with what has been allocated to the greener areas of this country; like Mount Kenya region. These greener areas have been allocated over Kshs220 million. This is very unfortunate. This would have been a good Budget for Kambas if

we had been provided with funds for provision of water. Ukambani has only one---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order hon. Members, could we hear hon. C. Kilonzo?

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ukambani region has only one water canal. It would have been good if we had more money allocated for building more canals in the region. This also applies to dams and boreholes. A minimum of Kshs5 billion should have been allocated for water. The Budget seems to favour urban centres. Looking at the Budget, I find that it has nothing positive to offer to people living in the rural areas.

On the issue of elephants, I would say that they are the luckiest creatures in this country. They have been allocated Kshs224 million for translocation. We have about 30,000 elephants in this country. If you translate this to per capita expenditure on each elephant, it will amount to Kshs8,000 per elephant.

The infant mortality rate in this country is very high. We are talking about 77 infants dying out of every 1,000 who are born alive. In his wisdom, the Minister for Finance allocated only Kshs98 million for maternal health care. It appears as if we value elephants more than human beings. Are we really looking at our priorities?

Under education, we have information technology (IT). In my constituency, we only have two schools with electricity out of a total of 111 primary schools, yet Kshs4.3 billion has been allocated to IT. We are lacking very essential facilities and teachers. Why can we not think about employing more teachers instead of using that money for the purpose of IT? Less than 15 per cent of households in the rural areas have electricity. I suggest that the money be redirected from IT to other areas in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. At least not for the time being.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the NARC Government took over power from KANU, food was affordable. We, in the NARC Government, have failed to control inflation. The Budget does not state how it will make food affordable to most Kenyans. The Minister should have introduced measures to control inflation. The price of sugar in some areas of our country has shot up to Kshs80 per kilogramme up from Kshs50 a few days ago. The price of fuel is now almost Kshs70 a litre up from Kshs50 a few days ago. There was no indication in the Budget on how we are going to control inflation.

When I look at the Budget, I see that it was made for people who had ideas about making money. This is reflected in the amount of money that has been allocated for the construction of buildings. The Budget has provided Kshs206 million for the rehabilitation and partitioning of the Income Tax Department building at the Community area of Nairobi. The Budget has also provided an additional Kshs600 million in the next financial year. We are talking about Kshs820 million to renovate a building, which already exists. As a valuer, I know that the price of a commercial building ranges between Kshs400 million to Kshs500 million, with all the partitions included. The building may even be bigger than the Income Tax Department building. This is away of creating business for contractors.

Makueni District is a poor area of this country. The Government has provided Kshs168 million for construction of its headquarters. What are we talking about? Why should we give Kshs168 million to Makueni District? Why should the District have Kshs168 million for construction of buildings, yet we are giving it only Kshs3 million for construction of dams? We need to do something about that.

The Government is talking about buying BIMA House for Kshs620 million. The Budget also an additional allocation of Kshs70 billion in this financial year for purchase of buildings. The same Government wants to retrench 21,000 civil servants. Why does the Government need to buy all these properties? The figure of Kshs620 million is in doubt. Is it based on the market price of the building, or is it to cater for other purposes also?

The Minister proposes to spend over Kshs100 million to put up a police station. About Kshs100 million will be used to put up a police station in Ongata Rongai. Are we really serious? Putting up a new police station should not cost us more than Kshs10 million.

When I go through the Budget, I see that we want to compensate one Mr. Chandaria with Kshs408 million. Why are we compensating an individual with such an enormous amount of money? The National Security Intelligence Service has been allocated Kshs4.6 billion. This is a very small department of the Government. What is Kshs4.6 billion going to be used for? That money should be re-allocated to the dry areas for provision of water.

When we look at everything the Minister proposed, we get discouraged because this Government is still being accused of corruption. I am not surprised that the Minister is being threatened. When the Government deals with an unknown company, Anglo Leasing Finance, which no-one knows, then it should expect to be threatened.

On the issue of employment, it would have been good if we saw measures of what the Government was going to do to address the problem of unemployment. We never heard of any projects that are specifically going to cater for the unemployed and poor people. The problem of the poor has to be addressed whenever we make a new Budget. We must think about poor people in the rural areas. A glance at the Budget reveals that it has been tailored for those people who live in the urban centres and the rich and ignores poor people. The Budget proposes to remove VAT on cooking gas. That is going to benefit the rich people only. We should have had a Budget that is going to cut on the prices of fuel by 50 per cent. That would have been a good Budget.

I do not need to repeat myself. The prices of bread, flour and other foodstuffs become unaffordable to poor people, and yet the Minister is providing more money for unnecessary projects. What is he talking about? I am proposing that before the Budget is brought to this House, a parliamentary committee should look at it. I tried to determine how much money will go to my constituency apart from the Recurrent Expenditure. It is very disappointing. As far as I am concerned, this was a very bad Budget, but I am forced to support it in order to survive.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I would like to take hon. Members through this because I want them to learn procedures. I do not think I was quite clear when I addressed the House earlier. I was referring to Standing Order No.138. I invite all hon. Members to look at it, because it applies to the House when it goes into a Committee of Ways and Means that will consider the taxation proposals made by the Minister. That will require two days and will be in Committee under the Chairman and not the Speaker. In Committee you will not talk about the broad policy, which we have been speaking about for the last seven days. You will be talking specifically about taxes and other proposals. So, you will be out of order in the Committee of Ways and Means if you talk about policy. You will be talking about specific provisions which the Minister has proposed. That will begin next week.

This Motion must continue up to 6.30 p.m. If it does not last up to 6.30 p.m. and the Motion is carried, Mr. Speaker will have to adjourn the House because the Committee of Ways and Means must have a day, and a day under the Standing Orders means three hours. I cannot believe we will be able to get three hours after this. This means that once the Motion is carried the Speaker will not sit again. It will be the chairman sitting at the Table, and hon. Members will look at the taxation proposals and address specifics and not questions of policy. I hope we understand that. Meanwhile all hon. Members should look at Standing Order No.138.

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Sometimes the House is very disadvantaged when we come to the Committee of Ways and Means, because the Minister for Finance does propose to amend some sections of the law either increasing or decreasing taxes yet we do not have the original copy of what he is amending. Would I be in order to ask the Minister for Finance to attach a copy of what he proposes to amend, so that we are able to make references.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mwenje. I accept. Mr. Speaker does not encourage

inactivity. I have already done that on behalf of the Minister for Finance. Look at the Table. All the laws of Kenya are there. If he refers to a certain Chapter pick it, read it and understand it.

Mr. Muturi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to say one or two words about the Budget Speech. Looking through the Budget Speech I noticed a few things in the allocations. Of particular and special importance to me is an allocation in the Office of the President, which is for good governance and decentralisation support.

That particular activity is proposed to be allocated a sum of about Kshs77 million, and an extra Kshs7.6 million for strengthening capacity. Assuming that there is seriousness in that policy direction, the issues that we have been reading about in the recent past would not have found their way in the operations of the Government.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was stated here yesterday by Mr. Maore that a statement purporting to issue from the office of the Head of the Public Service exonerating certain Government officers and Ministries of wrongdoing in matters that are already before the Public Accounts Committee and therefore, before this House was an unfortunate method of doing things. If there is this sum of money intended to address the issue of governance in the Office of the President I would demand to know whether, before issuing his statement the Head of the Public Service had consulted the Permanent Secretary in charge of governance and ethics, who is the appropriate person to address governance issues.

If protocol is not being followed, even allocating so much funds to that office to address issues of governance will be another ritual. We have read in the Press that certain phantom companies have been making refunds of money, which they had been paid by the Government. We demand, as a House, to see evidence from the Governor of the CBK that he has received money from certain persons into a specific account held by the CBK. Otherwise, being told stories that money is being refunded from Anglo Leasing and Finance Company are just that, stories. There is no evidence. We need to see hard evidence. Otherwise, these issues will just be shelved and, after we give the authority to disburse these funds the next year, we will find that the money will have disappeared into some place.

The reason I am raising this point is that if you look at the allocation to the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development you will find that it is very little. Every district is allocated between Kshs2 million and Kshs5 million whereas we know that most of the land mass in this country is in the arid and semi-arid regions. What is Kshs2 million or Kshs5 million expected to do in a whole district? If there are funds which have been refunded by those phantom companies, we would like them to be used in productive areas for the benefit of this country. We, therefore, demand from the Minister, when he comes to respond, that he brings evidence from the Governor of CBK showing that he has received this Kshs91 million and the other millions, so we can ask him to allocate it to the productive sectors of our economy, preferably agriculture.

Another area which is very under-funded is technical education. Only a paltry Kshs78 million has been allocated to technical institutes in this country. We know for a fact that the instructors and teachers in those institutes go for as long as six months without any salaries. The reason for this is that their parent Ministry is under-funded. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has been allocated Kshs4.3 billion for the promotion of information and communication technology (ICT) when only about 4 per cent of Kenyans have access to electricity and fixed telephoning. We would propose that a portion of these huge sums be allocated to the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development and the promotion of tertiary education in the technical institutes, where the majority of the youth, who do not pursue university

education, will be trained.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I was reading through the Budget Speech, I noticed a very interesting provision. A sum of Kshs400 million is to be paid to a Mr. Manu Chandaria. Why is he being compensated? Why is this being done now? What happened? I would want to know whether some action was supposed to have been taken in which he was interested and the Government went to sleep and is, therefore, now paying him this amount of money.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do observe that it is good to take preventive measures. However, in the last Financial Year 2003/2004, the Ministry of Health was allocated Kshs200 million purportedly to fight the dreaded Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) disease. This financial year that figure is increased to Kshs216 million. I appreciate that. However, since we never had any cases of SARS last year, where did the Kshs200 million which was allocated go to? It was specifically meant to fight this disease. I would want to know whether Kenya is under the threat of SARS infection. Are there chances that there will be an epidemic of this disease?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I conclude, I do not think there is any seriousness in the allocations to the Arid Lands Resource Management Project (ALRMP) because no funds from the Government have been earmarked to go into it. Everything that is in the Printed Estimates and in all the documents that the Minister has given us is proposed to come from the International Development Agency (IDA). So, granted that there is so much wrangling and confusion on the Government side, especially the Front Bench, if the IDA refuses to grant funds for the project, is that to say that the ASAL areas will be forgotten? Why do we peg everything that goes to the ASAL areas to only resources coming from foreigners?

Capt. Nakitare: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to say there is a lot of confusion on this side? What kind of confusion is he talking about? Could he substantiate?

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is new to this House. He will learn some of these things in due course. The taste of the pudding is in the eating. The wrangling is there for everybody to see. Even the kindergarten children are telling us that there is too much wrangling.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wonder that if we peg every development assistance to the IDA, which goes to the ALRMP, surely are we not condemning those areas to perpetual poverty? This means that no Government revenue or resources will ever go there, if the IDA fails to give us this money. I urge the Government to have a correction of policy in this regard.

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

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to add my voice to those of my colleagues who have spoken about the Budget Speech. Of importance, I would like to talk about the Budget as seen in the light of revenue collection.

This Budget was prepared on the premise that we will have an increase in revenue collection. An increase in revenue collection means that our revenue officers will be more efficient and vigilant in ensuring that all taxes are collected as and when they are supposed to be collected. When we talk about increase in revenue collection, we should ask ourselves how we have utilised the revenue we collected before. In the last four months or so, we have heard so much as relates to corruption in this Government. About 18 months ago, when we went round soliciting for votes, our main campaign tool against the KANU regime was the corruption that was being perpetrated by those who were in power at that time. Unfortunately, in a record 16 months, we have surpassed KANU's record of 24 years as far as corrupt practices are concerned. One wonders what will really happen during the remaining three years; what will happen to the increased revenues that we anticipate to collect through taxing the common *mwananchi*?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, allocations have been done to various departments and I thank the Government for doing so. However, how sure are we that the monies allocated to Ministries will be utilised for the purposes for which they have been allocated? There is a very wasteful trend going on in this country where hon. Members of Parliament, especially those seated on the Front Bench, have

converted Government helicopters into their *matatus* for going to constituencies to attend funerals and *Harambees*. Helicopters are very expensive to maintain. I would like those Ministers charged with running Ministries where money has been allocated for development purposes to make sure that, that money is utilised in helping the poor people of this country instead of diverting the money to less priority areas, for example, purchasing limousines worth over Kshs10 million. Today, I read a very interesting article in the newspapers where a certain Cabinet Minister was quoted saying that his limousine did not cost Kshs15 million, but it only cost Kshs11 million. If Kshs11 million can be termed as "only" then I wonder what Kshs5 million can be called by these hon. Members.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the last 15 years, the Government has been undertaking a computerisation project at the Treasury, the Income Tax Department and the Customs and Excise Department. Interestingly, this project is still being undertaken, by none other than the famous Anglo Leasing Finance Company. Initially, when this project was mooted, it was to cost the Government Kshs185 million. But wonders of wonders, to date, that project has cost the Government Kshs10 billion. The Government has declined to pay and they are having a dispute with the Anglo Leasing Finance Company. So, the Government's assertion that they do not know the owners of Anglo Leasing Finance Company are not true. They know this company because they have been dealing with them for the last 15 years. All major Government projects are being undertaken by Anglo Leasing and Finance Company. It is the truth. These includes the one of the passports and the one at the Criminal Investigation Department (CID). There is one for computerisation of Government departments, where the Government has been ripped off. I believe there could be many more projects being undertaken by Anglo Leasing and Finance Company. We want to computerise the Customs Department. We want to computerise the port services. But if we do that without changing our expenditure trends, we are just wasting time. The more we collect, the more we want to steal. So, in as much as we are improving efficiency in revenue collection, we must be serious about how we want to utilise that revenue. We must also be serious on prioritising areas where we spend taxpayers' money.

There are taxation measures which *wananchi* were promised during the campaign period, especially in the area of agriculture. Our farmers are the most heavily taxed people in this country. Promises were made during the campaigns that, that problem was going to be addressed. But that problem has never been addressed.

Recently, His Excellency the President visited Western Province. We raised the issue with him. He promised us that the Minister for Finance was going to address the heavy taxation in the sugar industry. For three hours, when the Minister stood there reading the Budget, he never mentioned a single thing about the sugar industry. Yet, we keep on assuring our farmers that we care for their plight! These days, any time you hear sugar being mentioned, is when they are talking about the sugar barons. Those are the people who are out to kill the sugar industry. Those barons have their godfathers in this House. Those godfathers sit on this side of the House where I am speaking from. It is unfortunate that I am sitting with them. When we say that we love our farmers--

Capt. Nakitare: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to make unsubstantiated remarks in this House? Could he give us the names of those godfathers here?

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with due respect, Capt. Nakitare is learning the ropes and, maybe, pretty slowly.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Capt. Nakitare is right. When you make a claim here, it is your responsibility to substantiate. So, he is right!

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are protectors of sugar barons in this House. That is a known fact. It is known by all Kenyans that sugar barons are protected by Members of the Front Bench.

(Applause)

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Ojode): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You are aware that I am a Member of the Front Bench. Is it Mr. Ojode or who would it be? Could he substantiate?

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the sugar barons are protected by this Front Bench.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Ojode): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Ojode! Mr. Shitanda, you started it all and you have got to finish. You are being challenged to say who it is. Simple!

Mr. Shitanda: But, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know that I cannot mention a Member's name without bringing a substantive Motion!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): If you know that, then you do not start it. Then, withdraw.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Kosgey. Mr. Shitanda, if you know that our rules do not allow that, you do not say it. Could you withdraw?

Mr. Kosgey: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Chair in order to ask Mr. Shitanda to substantiate the obvious?

(Laughter)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order! You are wrong! Unfortunately, your time is up, Mr. Shitanda.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Ojode): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. If his time is over, he has to withdraw that remark.

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Shitanda! Mr. Ojode is raising a valid point. I have said that if you know you cannot substantiate what you say here, then you do not start it. So, you have got a duty. What you have said has gone on record and I think you should go on record to withdraw it.

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am ready to bring a substantive Motion to discuss the Members concerned.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Until you do that, Mr. Shitanda, you cannot. That is what the rule is. Until you bring a substantive Motion here to name your fellow hon. Members, then you cannot start. What you have said has gone on record. You have been challenged and you are unable to do it. Our rules here do not allow it. Therefore, you have to withdraw.

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot withdraw the obvious.

(Applause)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Mr. Shitanda, you know our rules. You do not want to take the Chair head on. The rules are very clear. If you cannot, you know what the consequences are. So, I am giving you the last chance. What you said here is unacceptable and until you bring a substantive Motion here, you have to withdraw!

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on matters relating to sugar, I will bear any consequences.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Then, I order that you withdraw from the Chamber and the precincts of the House for the rest of the day!

*(Mr. Shitanda withdrew
from the Chamber)*

Are people not interested any more? Mr. Gachagua!

Mr. Gachagua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Minister for the Budget Speech. However, there are areas that I feel must be addressed. While the Budget is very good in setting up various provisions that are going to be spent this year, I am concerned that, although we have set aside a lot of funds for the various Ministries, our procurement process is very cumbersome. That is why last week, matters were being raised in this House that, although a lot of money has been set aside for roads and other things, nothing can be seen on the ground. That is because the procurement process is not only very cumbersome, but very lengthy. The time it takes between the advertisements, the processing of the various applications, the analysis and awards of tenders is simply too long. I hope that when the Bill comes up here, the Minister will bring provisions to cut the process short, so that we are able to realise the utilisation of the funds as set up in the Budget. The other issue is that the Minister was on record as having said that, from now on, chief executive officers of various State corporations and heads of departments in the Ministries will now be on performance contracts. That is a good thing because the performance of our officers has been lacking and we have not been able to achieve a lot. However, it is not understandable how the same CEOs who were not appointed on a performance basis are going to set performance criteria for themselves. There is need for this to be checked properly because the way I understand it, it is the same CEOs who are setting their own targets for themselves and there is a danger that they will set targets that are easily achievable. For this to be meaningful, there is need for that to be looked into.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I understand that the performance contract related to the Heads of Departments in the Ministries will be done sometime next year. One fails to understand why it takes so long to implement this, given that the Ministries are very few, the Heads of Departments are not very many and this looks like just another method of prolonging something that should be done quickly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been a lot of talk about corruption in the Government Ministries. Whereas it is important, before any one is accused of corruption, that there is prove, that he indeed, is involved in corruption, there is need for those in the various Ministries who are mentioned to come out clean and clear the air because I think the general talk about corruption in this Government is actually hindering the fight against corruption. There is need, when one is mentioned, to actually come out and clear himself, even as we look for prove to take them to court. There is no need for people to wait until they are dragged screaming and kicking into the courtroom.

As you very well know, the construction industry is a leading sector in this economy. Currently, the construction industry is performing very badly because of some of the practices that are in place. Today, before a contractor can go on site, there are various deductions that are being taken from the payments that go to these contractors. It is a requirement that anybody bidding for Government contracts must secure bid security which normally attracts around 2 per cent in terms

of funds. Since the bid security is a bank guarantee, there is normally a requirement that the particular bidder must deposit about 2 per cent of the funds to secure the security. On top of that, if the contractor succeeds in getting the contract, there is usually a provision that 10 per cent of whatever payment is available to the contractor is withheld until the end of the contract. That now, already makes it 12 per cent deduction.

Furthermore, it is now a requirement that two and half per cent is deducted as presumptive tax and that gives us a total of 14 and half per cent deduction. To make matters worse, it is now mandatory that a VAT tax of 16 per cent is also taken out in advance, making it a total of 30 per cent. On top of that, in all contracts, there is a retention of 10 per cent that is withheld until the work is done. So, you find that a total of 40 per cent is deducted and this is actually killing the industry. There is a need for the Ministry of Finance to look into this because it is affecting our contractors and it tends to make the contractors control the rates when tendering and this is not good for the economy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk a bit about the education sector. I am happy that about Kshs78 billion has been voted for this very important sector and that the free primary education policy is working well. However, if you go around the country, you will find that most of the classrooms that these pupils are learning from are totally dilapidated. I am afraid that the Kshs78 billion sought by the Ministry has a very small component of repairs and rehabilitation to our primary schools. I would like to see this matter being taken a little more seriously because we cannot expect our students to give us good results when they are studying in classrooms that do not have doors or windows. It is an important area that must be addressed specifically.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy that the agricultural sector has been addressed. Let me particularly talk about coffee and say that there is a lot of hope that this industry may actually be revived because the Government has promised to come in and write off some of the debts that the coffee co-operative societies acquired during the last few years. This is a good thing. However, there is need for clarity and certainty on how this is going to be done because there are a lot of promises but the farmers need to know if these loans are going to be written off, when are they going to be written off, so that they can plan their future. The Minister needs to come out clearly on that one.

Still on the agricultural sector, I am glad that the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) has now been revived and it is fully functional. However, the price of milk is still fluctuating depending on the amount of rain that is available. It is good to see this area being strengthened so that the plants that we have in KCC are able to process dry milk and expand the market to include export and we stabilise the prices so that the farmers can plan the size of their herds accordingly. It is an important area that needs to be looked into.

There is also need to help most of these co-operative societies revive, because in the last few years, their ability to collect milk to deliver to the processing plants has been totally impaired. There is need to look along the lines of the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) to see whether funds can be availed to the co-operative societies to enable them to restructure themselves and be able to collect the milk for marketing.

Finally, I want to talk about the issue of land, because I know that when we were in Bomas of Kenya, during the constitutional review process, there was a policy that we would deal with the ownership of land in this country. There was a suggestion that there would be ceilings so that we do not have too few people owning too much land while others are landless and are living on the roadsides. This is an area that I think should be addressed specifically and on the same level of importance like other services. I would want to see funds set aside to settle the landless in our country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I come from a constituency where people are living on the roadsides, and even as we pride ourselves on all these provisions, it is difficult for people like these to understand how, as Kenyans, they can live in so much indignity in their own country. There

is need for the Government to set funds aside to buy land to settle these people so that they can live in a dignified way.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Shakombo: Ninashukuru sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda kwa kunipatia nafasi hii, nami pia niunge mkono hotuba ya Bajeti iliyosomwa hivi karibuni. Nikijaribu kuifananisha Bajeti hii na ile ile ya kwanza, ile ya kwanza ilisimamia zaidi jinsi ya kuona kwamba wale mafisa wazembe katika Serikali yetu wanaadhibiwa. Kwa hakika ile Bajeti ya kwanza ya Serikali ya NARC ilihakikisha kuwa majaji pamoja na wadogo wao walipoteza kazi zao. Vile vile, tuliona wasimamizi wa misitu wazembe na maafisa ambao walikuwa na wajibu wa kununua vitu Serikalini wakifutwa kazi na kupelekwa nyumbani.

Jambo kubwa la kufurahisha wakati wa Bajeti ile, lilikuwa kuwawezesha wanafunzi wa shule za msingi kusoma bure. Pia basari zilitolewa kwa kila sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni. Hili ni jambo ambalo halijawahi kufanyika wakati wowote. Kwa hivyo, tunamshukuru sana Waziri wa Fedha wa hii Serikali ya NARC.

Mhe. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nikija kwenye Bajeti ya wakati huu, jambo ambalo limenifurahisha zaidi ni kuona Bw. Waziri amesisitiza kuwa benki zetu zisipandishe riba kwa mikopo yao. Jambo hili lilidhoofisha sana uchumi wa nchi hii na likafanya zaidi wafanyikazi wadogo wadogo kutoweza kuendelea kwa sababu mikopo yote ya benki ilikuwa inatozwa riba ya juu sana. Lakini, ninafurahi na ninampongeza Waziri kwa kuona kuwa amejitolea kusimamia jambo hili lisije likadhuru Wanakenya zaidi.

Kwa upande wa kilimo, Waziri wa Kilimo amejitahidi kuimarisha kilimo nchini. Sote tunaalewa kuwa kilimo kinatupatia chakula na kutoa nafasi za kazi. Pia amehakikisha kuwa zaidi ya US\$13 milioni ambazo amezipata kutoka serikali za nje zimetumiwa kwa usimamazi bora wa mifugo na samaki.

Bajeti ya mwaka huu imetambua shida za wananchi kuhusiana na barabara na hivi sasa imetenga fedha za ujenzi wa barabara ya northern corridor. Benki Ya Ulimwengu pia, kwa sababu ya hekima za Waziri huyo wa Fedha, imekubali kutupatia pesa na kutengeneza barabara kutoka Lunga Lunga kupita Mombasa hadi Malaba. Hili ni jambo moja ambalo mtu yeyote mwenye imani na nchi hii angeona kuwa linafaa kusifika.

Mhe. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninaona kuwa jambo la ujengaji nyumba za kisasa limetiliwa mkazo katika Bajeti hii. Ninafurahi kwa sababu katika sehemu yangu ya uwakilishi Bungeni, wiki iliyopita maafisa wanaosimamia mambo ya National Housing Project walikuja kuanza kujenga nyumba zisizopungua 80.

Jambo ambalo ninaweza kusema halikutiliwa maanani ni lile la kuwa na bandari huru, yaani *free port*. Nilidhani kuwa Bajeti hii ingetenga pesa za kuiwezesha nchi hii kuwa na bandari huru kama vile Dubai. Hii ingewezesha nchi hii kuleta mali nyingi kutoka nchi za nje. Tuna bandari nzuri na ardhi ya kutosha. Ningetaka kuuliza hata kama jambo hili halikutajwa katika Bajeti yenyewe, Waziri wa Fedha na ile Wizara inayosimamia mambo ya uchukuzi ilifikirie tena jambo hili. Sio biashara peke yake itaongezeka Pwani bali wafanyibiashara wa sehemu za karibu kama vile Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) na Rwanda watanufaika. Bandari hii ambayo tunasema ni *free port* ni muhimu kwa sababu pia itaongeza utalii. Hii ni kwa maana watu wote hawa wakiwa watakuja kununua bidhaa hapa kwetu, lazima watalala hotelini na kula chakula chetu. Kwa hivyo ni faida ya mkulima, yule aliyejenga hoteli na watu wetu na zile kazi ambazo tuliwaahidi wananchi kuwa watapata, zitapatikana kwa rahisi.

Mhe. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo lingine ambalo lina masikitiko kwangu kidogo ni kuwa hakuna usimamizi wa bei ya petroli. Wauzaji wa petroli kila kukicha wanapandisha tu bei! Kungetafutwa njia - tunaomba Waziri wa Fedha na maafisa wake watafute njia ya kusimamia hizi bei. Tunaumia na si sisi tu bali petroli ikipanda bei ni kusema kuwa kila kitu kimepanda bei. Mkulima ana matinga anayotaka kutumia na wenye viwanda wana stima ambayo ni lazima watumie na hizo zote hutumia petroli. Kwa hivyo, ingawa bajeti haikutilia mkazo vile bei ya petroli

inavyopanda, tungeomba sana jambo hili liangaliwe.

Jambo lingine ambalo haswa linahusu mwananchi wa kawaida ni lile la bidhaa za lazima kama vile unga, mchele, mafuta ya kupikia na bidhaa zingine. Hili ni jambo ambalo sasa linafanya Serikali yetu kupata jina mbaya na kuonekana kama haiangalii maisha ya mtu wa kawaida. Ni lazima njia itafutwe ya kuyaangalia mambo haya. Ingawa tunasema kuwa tuna biashara huru, biashara ikizidi sana uhuru wa watu wengi ambao wako tayari na wana imani na hii Serikali yetu ya NARC, wataanza kukosa imani na watu wengine ambao wanataka kuchafua ule uzuri wa Serikali watafaulu kufanya hivyo.

Mhe. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo lingine ambalo pia naona Waziri alilisahau au halikufikiwa ni pesa za kununua ardhi za wale *absent landlords*. Mtakubaliana na mimi kuwa Pwani tuna ardhi ya kutosha; ile ya Serikali, ile inayosimamiwa na Serikali za Wilaya na ile kubwa ambayo wenyewe hawako. Ikiwa tunasema kuwa tuheshimu umiliki wa ardhi na tusiwaambie watu wetu wavamie ardhi isiyo yao, basi ni lazima Serikali iwalipe wenye ardhi ili maskwata wenye shida ya arhi na ambao ni karibu asilimia 95 ya wazalendo wapate ardhi. Zamani ninakumbuka nilipokuwa mfanyikazi wa Serikali kama Mkuu wa Wilaya, kulikuwa na kitu kilichoitwa Settlement Fund Trustee (SFT). Nina hakika kuwa Settelement Fund Trustee bado iko mpaka sasa. Lakini hatuoni ikitumika kunua ardhi ili kuwapa makao watu wetu. Hilo ni jambo ambalo ni rahisi kuwafanya watu wetu kuondoa imani. Wanaweza kuondoa imani wakiona kwamba yule mtu anayeambiwa ndiye ana ardhi hakuzaliwa hapo, hayuko hapo wala ile ardhi haitumii kamwe. Ni kitu gani ambacho tunangojea? Ikiwa hakuna kitu kinachofanyika, bila shaka mwananchi ataingilia na aseme kuwa ni haki yake. Kwa hivyo kabla ya kufika hicho kiwango, tungeuliza Serikali itenge pesa kwa Wizara ya Ardhi na Makao ili iweze kuwalipa ridhaa wenye mashamba ambao hawako na wale wengine ambao wako ili watu wetu wapate pahali pa kuishi.

Tunaelewa kuwa Pwani inaimarisha uchumi wa nchi hii kwa njia ya utalii. Utalii ulikuwa ukileta pesa nyingi za kigeni na umeweza pia kutoa nafasi za kazi kwa vijana wetu wa kike na wakiume. Lakini juhudi hizi zinazuiwa na kutopanuliwa kwa uwanja wa ndege wa Malindi. Watalii wengi wangependa kusafiri moja kwa moja kutoka ng'ambo hadi Malindi. Kila mwaka tunazungumza juu ya kuongezwa kwa Malindi Airport. Kila tukizingumza kunasemekana kuwa itafanyika lakini haifanyiki! Watu wengine wanafikiria kuwa Mombasa na Malindi ni karibu lakini ukiendesha gari; sisi wenyewe ambao ni watu wa Kenya--

Kwa hayo machache, ningependa kuunga mkono Hoja hii.

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

From the onset, I want to say that I am, indeed, very disturbed that we have allocated close to Kshs4 billion to the National Security Intelligence Service (NSIS), whose business I do not understand any more. All that this organisation does is tap our phones and follow us all over as we go about our business. I think it is very unfair for the Kenyan taxpayer to spend Kshs4 billion on people who have no specific duties. As a House, I think we should consider limiting the amount of funds available to these people, so that, maybe, they can concentrate on their core function of collecting security intelligence information for purposes of enhancing proper governance of the country, instead of following around perceived enemies of the Government.

Yesterday, the Head of the Civil Service and Secretary to the Cabinet, Mr. Francis Muthaura, issued a statement, apparently exonerating from blame some Government officials on issues relating to contracts which have been paid for. It is most unfortunate that a matter that is before a Committee of this House can just be dismissed by the Head of the Public Service and Secretary to the Cabinet. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Report that will be brought to this House will have been watered down by Mr. Muthaura's statement purporting to have cleared the persons involved in the Anglo Leasing and Finance Company scam, who have not found time to come and explain to the PAC how these transactions went on. Mr. Muthaura is only accusing the former regime.

Dr. Godana: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Would you like to be informed by Dr. Godana, Mr. Samoei?

Mr. Samoei: Yes, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Dr. Godana: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to inform my honourable colleague that the statement by Mr. Muthaura was not just shocking because of his attempt to clear people who are facing the PAC, but it is also even more shocking in that the Head of the Public Service and Secretary to the Cabinet purported to have the power to discipline Ministers by declaring that Ministers will not be disciplined. That authority does not lie with him!

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know very well that much as this contract was signed in the year 2001, its contents were that no payments were to be made until the substantive buildings had been put up. Last year, out of its own wisdom, or lack of it, the Government decided to pay Anglo Leasing and Finance Company Kshs152 million. To make matters worse, a colossal amount of Kshs467 million was again provided for in this year's Budget apparently to pay for a contract whose term had not fallen due. Those who have included this amount in the Budget and made that payment last year should be held accountable. They should explain to the PAC. The due process should be followed and these people charged.

The Minister for Finance told us that monies that were paid to Anglo Leasing and Finance Company have been paid back to the Government. We want concrete evidence---

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Ochillo-Ayacko): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. With due respect to my colleague, Mr. Samoei, I heard an hon. Member from the Opposition side say yesterday that such matters are still pending before the PAC. Is it in order for him to divulge information that is still under consideration before the PAC, unless the matter is perhaps open for debate?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is exactly the issue I am raising. I wish Mr. Ochillo-Ayacko, who is a Member of the Cabinet, could tell Mr. Muthaura what he has just told me. It would serve a lot of good to this House.

(Applause)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Mr. Samoei, I think you are quite right because, what this House is asking is: Why should the Head of the Public Service and Secretary to the Cabinet get involved in a matter that is already under consideration by a Committee of this House?

Mr. Samoei: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We want concrete evidence produced before this House indicating that the money that we have been told has been refunded has actually been received by the Government; showing the account number, the bank and the person who refunded it. Members of the Government have alleged that Anglo Leasing and Finance Company does not exist as far as they are concerned. Who paid the money, to whom and into which account?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the year 2001, I had an office at Harambee House. In the current Budget, the Vote of the Office of the President has an allocation of Kshs45 million for refurbishment of Harambee House. In the previous Budget, there was an allocation of Kshs30 million. However, Harambee House still looks the same as it was in the year 2001. What is the wisdom of allocating more funds for refurbishment of a building which still looks the same as it did several years ago? I suggest that we prudently allocate public funds to areas that serve the greater interests of our country.

A vote of Kshs168 million has been provided for the construction of Makueni District Headquarters. I am certain that if the people of Makueni District were asked to state their priority

areas, the construction of the district headquarters will be the least. The people of Makueni have been in the news as dying of hunger and being fed on poisoned food. If the Government uses these funds to facilitate agricultural activities in that area or purchase food or provide water for the residents of Makueni District, it would go a long way towards helping them rather than spend that money on the construction of a district headquarters.

I note that there are no substantial changes to the allocations made to the Ministry of Agriculture and yet, as a country, we confess that agriculture employs 62 per cent of our workforce. If we are serious about moving this country forward economically, we must rethink about our policy on agriculture. The National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) has been allocated Kshs350 million. The NCPB is charged with the responsibility of managing food security in the country. In the year 2001/2002, the NCPB was allocated Kshs1.5 million for the national strategic food reserves. With the looming famine in the country, the Ministry of Agriculture deserves more money with which to increase the stock of the national strategic food reserves. That way, as a country, we can avoid deaths that are occasioned by hunger which, in the 21st Century, are unnecessary.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the finance credit scheme that we re-introduced for farmers in the year 2002 has been plagued by, amongst other things, stringent measures that have been put in place by the Ministry of Agriculture through the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC). Last year and, indeed, during this year's planting season, many farmers queued at the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) offices and they were unable to access credit because they were being asked to produce all manner of things. For example, farmers were asked to produce logbooks to tractors and lorries, and many other complicated things. By the time a farmer has a logbook for a tractor, it means he does not need that credit because he is a well-off farmer. There are so many peasant farmers owning between five to 50 acres who do not have a tractor, and therefore, do not have a logbook to provide to be able to access credit from the AFC. We made a conscious decision in this House when we wrote off loans that had been given to farmers through the AFC. The loans that will be given should be to peasant farmers. Most of the maize in this country is produced by farmers who have between five to 50 acres. Majority of these farmers do not have those kinds of things the AFC demands from them.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Gumo): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to this Motion. The Minister for Finance has done his best. However, the problem we have always had is implementation. We have always had good Budgets, but we have always had problems when it comes to implementation. This is simply because the ordinary *mwananchi* wants to see what has been done by the Government. He does not want to be told how money has been spent. He wants to see development projects being implemented. The ordinary man wants to see roads constructed. In addition, he also wants to see water projects that had stalled for many years revived. He wants to see health centres and hospitals full of drugs. Further, the ordinary man wants to see the AFC giving out loans to farmers. He or she wants to feel secure so that he or she sleeps peacefully. He wants to walk comfortably on the streets of Nairobi and other towns at night without any threat. These are the things the ordinary person wants to see. But the problem we have today is priorities. Our priorities are completely different from what the citizens of this country want to see happening. We need to re-organise ourselves seriously and make sure that we do whatever we have budgeted for according to priorities, then our country will be peaceful.

A number of people are complaining that hon. Members have been making so much noise. *Wananchi* do not care how much noise we make as long as they get what they are supposed to get from the Government. We can hold many political rallies everyday, shout and abuse each other, but if the roads are being constructed and the health facilities are available, ordinary *wananchi* do not care how much noise we make. But if we are not ready to deliver services to our people, then I am very sorry.

Mr. Ngoyoni: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Mr. Gumo is an Assistant Minister in this Government. I think he is supposed to be actually doing those things which he is now belabouring about. Could he tell this House why he is in the Government?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Ngoyoni! You are out of order! You are asking questions. I thought you heard something which he had said which is not in order.

Please, proceed, Mr. Gumo!

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Gumo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member knows that the Government is the people. One can be a Minister, but he or she is not the Government. The Government is made up of *wananchi* and that is why we are here representing them. So, it is not an individual! If the *mwananchi* does not get what he or she is supposed to get from the Government, then I am sorry.

There is this illusion that when one is a Minister, he or she is not supposed to say what is wrong. That is where we go wrong. We must be ready and prepared to correct ourselves when there is a mistake. When I walk on the streets people want to know what I have done. When a tourist is mugged by thugs on the streets, everybody would want to know what Mr. Gumo is doing as the Assistant Minister for Tourism and Information. For example, recently, I was in France and a *Mzungu* asked me: "What are you doing about those small markets in Nairobi?"

QUORUM

Mr. Muiruri: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We are discussing a very important Motion here. However, the Minister for Finance and his Assistant are not in, and there is even no quorum in the House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Yes, there is no quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members! We have a quorum now. You may proceed, Mr. Gumo.

Mr. Ndambuki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Even as we continue giving our opinions, there is no one from the Ministry of Finance to take notes. Are the Ministers on the Front Bench taking notes?

Hon. Members: Yes!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Ndambuki! You are an old hon. Member of this House and you should use---

(Mr. Muriithi walked into the Chamber while the Chair was on his feet)

Order, Mr. Muriithi! Mr. Muriithi, go and read this book! It will help you know how to behave when you are in this House! Mr. Ndambuki, you should not raise frivolous points of order here because there is nowhere in the Standing Orders which states that the Minister for Finance must continuously sit here when everybody else is contributing to his statement. So, that point of order is frivolous. Mr. Gumo, you better proceed. I will add you another two minutes!

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Gumo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. When I looked at the Budget, I noticed that the Department of Forestry in the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife has only been allocated

Kshs2 million. This is the case, and yet forests have been cleared in this country. We need to plant more trees. I could not contribute to The Forests Bill when it was brought before the House. Most people who used to live in the forests lived there because they assisted in the planting of trees. But now, all of them have been removed from those forests. I wonder how the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife expects to get labourers to plant trees. This is because some of the forests stretch for as far as 30, 40 or 50 kilometres. It is not practical to collect labourers from outside and take them to the forests to plant trees. It is not possible. The Minister must think about this and have "villages" in the forests the way it was before if he really wants to develop our forests. Otherwise, he will never manage. Today, wild animals move freely out of national parks, and that is why we find lions being killed. Many lions from Nairobi National Park have been killed by Masais. We want national parks to be fenced off, so that we can confine those animals there. We can open corridors and fence along them so that wild animals can move from one national park to another. Most wild animals have been damaging people's crops and that is why you find wananchi are very bitter with them. If they find wild animals in their shambas, they kill them. That has given Kenya a bad name to tourists, who do not expect people to kill lions. This is because other countries preserve them, but we just kill them in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other problem with the Budget is that the amount of money allocated to the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development is very little. This is the case, and yet even rehabilitating water projects which stalled or collapsed requires a lot of money. I am saying this because some of those projects require an electric motor which might cost Kshs40,000 or Kshs50,000, or a diesel engine because the water pipes are there. We do not put our priorities right. We think of things which are not important. I am saying this because to me, buying a helicopter or a jet-fighter is not important because we have nobody around us to fight. We would rather have water, good roads and build airports, like in Meru, because I hear that they want to build one there.

(Laughter)

Maybe, it would be a better priority building an airport in Isiolo than buying ten jet-fighters. I, therefore, appeal to the Minister to get his priorities right when he is preparing his Budgets, and particularly, the next Budget because time is running out. We have already finished two years in office and we have only three years to go. Wananchi will be on us. They would like to know what we have done for them.

Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Dr. Manduku: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion. From the onset, I want to thank the Minister for Finance for presenting a fairly good Budget, particularly, because he did not increase taxes which affect ordinary people. Kenya is known to be a highly taxed country. From last year's and this year's Budgets, the current Minister for Finance has tried to reduce taxes. Taxes affect the ordinary people in the villages, and, therefore, we can improve the standards of living of our people when taxes are low. Although we know that there are some few unscrupulous businessmen, for example, the people who have now increased prices of petroleum products--- Although the Minister has been very honest and said that he has not increased any tax on petroleum products, something should be done because as long as the cost of petroleum products go up, the cost of living of our people also goes up. This is because everything is affected by an increase in the price of petrol. Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister to look into that aspect and ensure that prices of petroleum products come down. Ideally, Kenya's petroleum products are very expensive. If the prices of those products come down, definitely, the prices of other commodities will go down.

The Minister reduced tax on soft drinks and this is commendable because these commodities are taken by every ordinary person in the villages. But I would like to say that industrialization should also be spread out to all parts of the country. Investors will be attracted to this country by the reduction of Customs Duty from 15 per cent to 10 per cent. Once those investors are attracted, they all want to come and do business here in Nairobi. Could we influence them to invest in other parts of the country? I will give an example of The Coca Cola Company which has said that it will put in another Kshs3 billion to improve the supply of its products. But it has said that it will centralize the manufacturing of its products. This means that the factories it has in Machakos District, Thika and Nakuru will be centralized at the Nairobi Industrial Area. I think that, although that is good for industrialists, it is not good for Kenyans. That will mean that Kenyans will have to move from rural areas and come to look for jobs in Nairobi. Therefore, there will be an influx of people into the city. We need to spread out the human population from the capital city to other cities in Kenya.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the industries, Coca Cola Company included, to improve the factories which are already running. The Machakos factory can help the people in that area. So, they do not have to come to Nairobi. There are other companies in Nakuru and Kisii. They should invest in them more. They should also make sure that their products are of high quality.

We already have a legal problem on the production of Dasani mineral water by Coca Cola Company. The sale of Dasani has been banned in most parts of the world, particularly in Europe. That is as a result of its production process. In purifying the water, the Coca Cola Company uses chemicals that end up having bromide in the water. After long use of bromide, science has proven that it accumulates in the body and can cause various cancers. These include cancer of the liver, kidney and other areas. We are asking the Coca Cola Company to try and use local materials. Kenya has got very pure water from Mt. Kenya, Mt. Kilimanjaro and other areas, instead of purifying water using such chemicals which, in the long run, will affect the health of our people. We are concerned about the health of our people. The water might be good today but, after five to ten years, what happens?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government is supporting the production of that drinking water. The other day, the Minister for Trade and Industry was giving the company a clean bill of health, saying that the water is suitable for human consumption. But why is it that Britain, Germany and all other European countries are saying it is not? We must make sure that what we give to our people is of high quality and will promote good health.

We are also concerned about HIV/AIDS. If one is infected today, it will take about four or five years to develop into a full-blown disease. It is the same! It takes time in the body before it becomes full-blown. Therefore, let us fight it as we are fighting any other disease. That is because we are talking about the health of our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will not fail to talk about the health of our Kenyans. I want to commend the Minister for Health for introducing the National Social Health Insurance Fund (NSHIF). That Fund is to enable the poorest people to have access to medical care. Those of us who are in the field of health are concerned. We know how people are suffering. If anybody comes up with an idea of giving people access to good medical services, I think we should support it. If you look at the newspapers, a few people are talking ill of the system. Let it be introduced and correct whatever is wrong as we continue. Indeed, it is the motto of our country to give our people good medical care. The question of saying that we cannot do without cost-sharing does not arise. There is no need of cost-sharing. The Minister has given quite a lot of money for medical care. Even the

World Bank is giving a lot of money. The Global Fund is there. Even the President of the United States of America has given money to be used to improve medical care. Why are we out to subject our people to pay Kshs10 or Kshs20 to access medical care? The cost-sharing system should be abolished in this country. The Government should help our people to become healthy. We cannot be a "working nation" if we do not have healthy people.

I know that the World Bank is insisting that there should be cost-sharing in everything. There was cost-sharing in education. Now, we have shelved that. There is resistance to the abolition of cost-sharing in medical care. We must shelve that because it is not workable. It can work in developed places like Europe. There are people in the villages who have hospitals in their midst, but they have never seen the doors of those hospitals because of poverty. To some people, Kshs10 is a lot of money. So, we appeal to donors and investors to assist the scheme to succeed.

We should, of course, fight HIV/AIDS. I want to ask the Government to ensure that Anti-Retroviral (ARV) drugs are accessible to our people. We went on a HIV/AIDS fact-finding mission in Uganda, South Africa and Senegal recently. Those people are very poor, but all their HIV/AIDS patients are receiving ARVs. Why can we not afford it in Kenya? Our prevalence incidents are not very high. The people requiring ARVs are not too many. The drugs can be afforded. So, while we are fighting against the disease using all our systems, those who are infected should be given support to live a better life. You can live for a very long time. We have seen people who have lived with HIV/AIDS for 15 years because of using ARVs. Why does somebody say that we cannot clear HIV/AIDS. Let us support the Minister for Health. The Minister for Finance should give the Ministry of Health more money to offer Kenyans good medical care. Free medical services are scheduled to start from 1st July. Therefore, we should make sure that we have enough facilities and manpower in hospitals. That is where we have a problem. Everybody will go there and queue for free medical services, but they will not find any doctors, nurses, medicine, water and even wards. Therefore, we should look at the facilities at that level, and make sure that drugs are available.

With those few remarks, I support.

Ms. Ndung'u: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to contribute and support the Minister's Budget Speech. I would like to congratulate him for a very thorough, invigorating and not so lengthy Speech. For myself, I did not find it as lengthy as other hon. Members did. I have watched closely and listened to my colleagues contributing on issues that are close to their constituencies. The first thing which I did when I looked at the Budget Speech, was to look at my own constituency, which is the constituency of women.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I embarked on an agenda audit of this Budget and critically see what it means for women. There are positive outcomes, but there are some serious issues that are also raised. The issue of sanitary towels was the first success in terms of what this Budget has done for women. But, it has not done it just for women! That is something that the public need to understand. The issue of sanitary towels is not for women, but for households. Any man who is supporting a woman in his household, be it a wife or a daughter, has made a saving every month. If you multiply that by 12, you are making a big household saving.

(Applause)

I think that, that will go a long way to assist households in both rural and urban communities. It will also enable young school girls who drop out of school during their time, to go to school. We appeal to the Minister for Education, Science and Technology to use this opportunity to try and subsidise or supplement some of those materials to primary schools, to ensure that girls do not miss classes during that time of the month.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was very excited to see that Kshs98 million has been given towards family planning and maternal health care. However, on a closer look, I see that most of it is going to emoluments. Only Kshs37 million is going to drugs and none of it is going to counselling. In the whole reproductive health budgetary allocation, the cost of repair of unsafe abortions is not addressed. Any visit to any district or provincial hospital will show that most hospitals spend the most amounts of money on these wards and I think the only way for us to be able to reduce the money used there and distribute it to other health issues is to really look into our reproductive health policy, which I think has not been done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, further, childbirth in this country is still expensive. Women are being charged to give birth. I think this is really very terrible. I think it is an exploitation of women. How can you charge women for providing human resources to the country? In Pumwani Hospital here, one is charged Kshs200 for giving birth. If it is birth through a caesarian section, one is charged Kshs1,000. This is very unfair and I appeal to the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Health to look into this and to ensure that in the next Budget---

Mr. Sasura: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have restrained myself, with all due respect to the hon. Member. Initially, she said that sanitary towels is an issue of households when it is very clear that it is an issue of women. However, is she in order to say that women are charged for giving human resource to this country when we cannot tell whether it is human resource or liabilities, until and unless that child is born to become what that person becomes?

Ms. Ndung'u: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I like hon. Sasura because he always injects some sort of humour at any time during discussions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of access to credit, I was very pleased to hear the Minister talking about getting strict on banks, so that they become more people and customer-friendly. However, I think on the issue of women, this is something of great concern. I think the Ministry really needs to look into banking practices that are anti-women. Still, today, you will find that there are some banks which will not give women credit or accept their collateral without their husband's approval, and this is for women both living in the urban and rural areas. The whole issue of women's right to property and the ownership of titles is also something that must be considered because this is really hindering women in terms of getting access to credit and improving their lives.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to congratulate the Minister for stopping the issue of small claims courts. I think we are going to say that small claims courts will be a way of accessing justice to *wananchi*. However, we have to be very careful that these small claims courts will not be access to injustice for Kenyan women. The smaller the courts go, the more the families' small or domestic matters will be discussed. We need to be very careful. First of all, crimes like rape and abductions should never be tried at that level, but also other issues like the issue of paternity--- You cannot have DNA facilities in a small claims court. So, this is a case the Government has to think about. However, I think, with the introduction of the small claims courts, it is time for us to re-introduce the Affiliation Act. Fathers must start paying for the babies that they produce, and then those courts can be able to make the fathers pay and become parents.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of employment, I was very concerned on the issue of retrenchment. In the Civil Service today, most women occupy between Job Group "A" and Job Group "G", and I am appealing to the Minister that when it comes to the time for retrenchment, he needs to remember this; otherwise, if he starts with the lower cadre, we might end up with no women in the Civil Service. So, the issue of affirmative action needs to be taken care of for women and the minority.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also think that, perhaps, in the next year's Budget, the Minister could try and introduce measures for tax relief for companies and firms that hire women on an equal opportunity policy. This will ensure that women are not discriminated against on the basis of their reproductive lives and maternity. We saw it happening in the EPZ's where women were sacked. As soon as you get pregnant, you get sacked. We need our Government to protect us from this.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I think some of the critical issues with gender have not been followed because the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services seems not to have teeth. It has no money and teeth. It has become a Ministry of lip service. In fact, all we see is the Minister at events for sports and culture. We do not see what the Ministry is doing for women. Even the campaigns for sanitary towels was conducted from the civil society and from the Members of Parliament, but not the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services. I think, perhaps, we must increase the allocation of money to that Ministry if we expect it to do some work. Even the Gender Commission has not been taken seriously as other commissions, like the Human Rights Commission, which have been allocated substantial amounts of money to allow them work. The Gender Commission has not been given enough money to the extent that now, the commissioners appointed will be part-time because the Ministry cannot afford to have full-time commissioners. So, I think the whole issue of gender needs to be re-thought and I think that more money must be allocated to issues of gender and issues of women.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was very glad to hear the Minister say that there will be some sort of reduction of foreign missions abroad. I think this is a real problem. Kenya has several missions which it does not need. We have missions in Namibia, Canberra and so on. We have employed far too many staff in offices out there, and we do not know what they do. Interim measures that need to be taken must include not just a reduction of foreign missions abroad, but must include the reduction of non-essential staff. I think it is a shame that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs uses Kshs6 million per head, per year on drivers and cooks abroad. In our missions abroad, each ambassador employs a Kenyan driver and cook at Kshs6 million per head, per year. This should not be allowed. Even the American Ambassador here in Kenya employs a Kenyan driver. I do not see why our ambassador in Kinshasa should have a Kenyan driver. These are the changes that need to be made with immediate effect.

Another thing which I will be discussing a little more when we look at the Votes is the amount of money the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is using on what it calls contracting professional services. Each one of our Ministries contracts professional services of almost Kshs1 million or more each year. Who are these professionals? Why are they not Kenyans? Why hire professional services of more than Kshs1 million shillings in Moscow?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing, and it came to me as a shock, is that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has a whole allocation for uniforms. If you count the amount of money that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs spends on uniforms, it is more than the amount of money spent on the traffic division. We know traffic policemen need uniforms. What does the Ministry of Foreign Affairs need uniforms for? Our embassy in Los Angeles (LA) requires Kshs200,000 this year for uniforms, and it is interesting because the headquarters here also requires Kshs200,000. Who are we employing in LA that we are buying uniforms for Kshs200,000?

(Applause)

So, I think that this issue of using Kshs4 billion on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is something that should be revisited. I think that this Ministry should get busy looking for Kenyans in

the diaspora, who are making money abroad and telling us how much they earn, giving a tax holiday and be able to sell our human resources as well.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Rai: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nataka nichukue nafasi hii niungane na wenzangu kumpongeza Waziri wa Fedha kwa sababu ya makadirio ambayo yalikuwa sambamba na barabara na matarajio ya baadhi ya Wakenya wengi. Ni jambo la kusikitisha Serikali imemaliza mwaka mmoja na karibu nusu hivi sasa, na wakati Waziri wa Fedha amesoma makadirio ya pesa zitakazotumiwa za mwaka, ni kitu cha kushangaza kwamba itatuchukua zaidi ya karibu miezi sita ndio tutakuja kupata kwamba pesa zile zimeidhinishwa na Bunge kwenda kufanya kazi katika sehemu mbali mbali na pesa zile hazitaonekana kwamba zimefanya kazi gani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, wakati umefika ambapo tunamuomba Rais hivi sasa ajaribu kuwa mwangalifu na Mawaziri wake kwa sababu maeneo yetu ya uwakilishi Bungeni ni 210. Kazi ya Mawaziri, moja kati ya mambo ambayo tungetaka kuyapendekeza ni kwamba wakati tunapoidhinisha pesa hapa, wana jukumu la kutembea katika sehemu zetu na kuangalia mambo vile yalivyo, ili wakati tunapouliza maswali na tunapozungumza habari ya hali ni vipi ilivyo katika sehemu zetu, wana ripoti sahihi za kujua ni mambo gani yalioendelea.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninapozungumza hapa Bungeni leo, wenzangu katika mawakilisho ya Kinango wanakufa kwa njaa. Wanakula mizizi na matunda ya mwituni wakati ambapo pesa nyingi zimepeanwa kwa matumizi mbali mbali katika makadirio ya fedha yaliyosomwa hapa. Ni vigumu Serikali kutambua kwamba watu kadhaa wamekufa kwa njaa mahali fulani. Ukweli ni kwamba watu hawa, kwa ajili ya njaa, huvamiwa na homa ya malaria. Wanapokwenda hospitalini, daktari hutangaza kwamba ni ugonjwa huo uliosababisha vifo vya watu. Mara nyingi, maradhi yanavamia watu kwa sababu ya njaa. Watu hawa huwa hawajala chochote kwa siku mbili au zaidi. Ni masikitiko makubwa kwamba katika mawakilisho yangu, watu wanateseka na wengine kufa kwa sababu hakuna chakula. Nilipopiga kelele, tuliletewa magunia 5,000 ya mahindi. Jambo la kushangaza ni kwamba hayo magunia 5,000 hayawezi kuwatosheleza watu wote wa Kinango. Ni kama kumwaga sukari kijiko kimoja kwenye bahari. Sukari hiyo haiwezi kukolea kamwe.

Kwa hivyo, ninawaomba Mawaziri waelewe majukumu yao. Wale Mawaziri ambao wanapendelea kukaa ofisini na kupanga jinsi ya kusafiri nchi za nje, sharti waelewe kwamba kuna watu wengi ambao wanaweza kufanya kazi ya uwaziri. Vile vile, ni ombi langu kuwa Rais achukue jukumu la kuwafuta kazi Mawaziri kama hao kwa sababu hakuna haja ya kumpa mamlaka mtu asiyejali masilahi ya wananchi. Kwa nini Mawaziri waningojee mimi Mbunge wa Kinango nje hapa Bungeni kusema kwamba watu wangu wanakufa kwa njaa na hali ni jukumu la Serikali kuwahudumia wananchi hao? Wananchi ndio wanaotzwa kodi na Serikali. Sioni kwa nini mimi nipige kelele ndipo Serikali itoe magunia 5,000 ya mahindi. Baada ya wananchi kupatiwa kilo moja ya mahindi, hawayaoni mahindi hayo tena hadi mwezi mmoja upite.

Barabara zilizoharibika kutokana na mvua ya *El Nino*, 1997, bado hazijarekebishwa. Kuna madaraja matatu: Mlunguni, Kigutu, na Nyongoni, ambayo yaliharibiwa na mvua hiyo. Hata ikiwa chakula kitakuwa kimefika katika makao makuu ya wilaya na kinatazamiwa kupelekewa wananchi, hakuna barabara ya kutumia kusafirisha chakula hicho. Ripoti tunazopata kila mara kutoka humu Bungeni ni kwamba magunia 5,000 ya chakula yalipelekewa wananchi. Lakini ukienda kwenye ghala la Serikali, utaambiwa kwamba stakabadhi ilipokelewa ya kuonyesha kwamba magunia 5,000 yataletwa. Pale ghalani utapata magunia 1,000 tu ya chakula, na karatasi hiyo. Je, tutawadanganya raia hadi siku gani? Wakati umefika wa kutilia jambo hili maanani. Ninaiomba Serikali ifanye hivyo kwa sababu raia wanazidi kuteseka na watoto wengi wanarudi nyumbani kwa sababu Serikali ilikuwa imeahidi kuwapa watoto chakula wakiwa shuleni. Kwa vile chakula kimeisha, watoto

wanatoroka shule kurudi nyumbani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tunaishukuru Serikali kwa kuanzisha mfumo wa elimu ya bure. Hata hivyo, tutakuwa tunawadanganya wananchi ikiwa tutawaambia kwamba tumewasaidia na hali watoto wanatoroka shule wakirudi kukaa nyumbani. Elimu ya bure itakuwa na maana gani? Aidha, kuna upungufu wa walimu 700 katika Wilaya ya Kwale. Ikiwa wilaya nzima inakosa walimu 700, je, watoto wanatarajiwa kupata elimu gani? Je, waende shuleni kucheza mchana mzima na kurudi nyumbani, nasi huku tukijigamba kuwa tunawapa watoto wetu elimu ya bure? Ni sharti suluhisho la kudumu lipatikane ili zile sehemu zisizo na walimu zipelekewe walimu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni lazima Serikali ifahamu ni nini jambo la dharura katika nchi. Kinango ni sehemu kame na ina hatari kwa sababu hakuna usalama huko. Ni *bandit-hit area*. Wakati mwingi nimelia humu Bungeni kwamba tunahitaji gari la polisi. Ninashukuru kwamba tulipatiwa gari. Kule Samburu, ambako majambazi huvamia na kuwaua watu, nimelia nipatiwe gari la polisi, lakini umekuwa kama wimbo wa taifa. Je, tutaendelea hivi hadi lini? Ikiwa raia watakosa usalama nasi huku tunazidi kuongea tu, kutakuwa na faida gani? Ninaomba jambo lifanywe wakati huu.

Simu inayotumika kule Kinango ni ile iliyoachwa na mkoloni ya kuzungushwa kana kwamba unawasha jenereta.

(Laughter)

Majambazi wanapovamia mahali na unahitaji kupiga simu huko kwenye makao makuu ya wilaya, itakuchukuwa muda kwa sababu utakuwa ni kama unaanza kuwasha jenereta. Kazi gani hii? Tunaiomba Serikali itazame mahitaji yetu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda ni jambo la kuhuzinisha kwamba wakati Bajeti inaposomwa hapa, ukiangalia katika tabu hilo la makadirio, unatambua kwamba takriban Kshs1 milioni ama Kshs500,000 peke yake ndizo zilitengewa mawakilisho kama vile Kinango. Mimi ninaona kwamba jambo ambalo litaokoa nchi hii ni Hazina ya Maendeleo ya mawakilisho Bungeni (CDF), ijapokuwa watu wengi walipinga kuundwa kwa hazina hiyo. Ikiwa Serikali imeshindwa kupanga Bajeti, basi, afadhali pesa zote zigawanywe kulingana na idadi ya mawakilisho humu nchini. Nina uhakika kwamba baada ya miaka miwili ama mitatu, sehemu zetu zitaanza kuwa na mabadiliko ikiwa Serikali itaendelea kutapatia pesa hizi za (CDF). Bajeti iliyosomwa hapa ni kama sanamu na picha ambazo wana wa Israeli waliwekewa kuabudu, Mtume Musa alipokuwa ameenda kuchukuwa Amri Kumi za Mungu. Punde, tutaanza kuabudu Bajeti hii ilihali haitatupatia faida yoyote. Sharti tuambiane ukweli.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, sisi tunategemea kilimo lakini wakati huu maji hayapo na njaa imeingia. Sasa ni wakati wa Serikali kutilia maanani swala la usambazaji wa maji. Hata ikiwa visima vyetu vinatoa maji ya chumvi, kwa sababu sisi ni wafugaji, basi visima vichimbwe ili viwasaidie mifugo. Sisi wanadamu tutaendelea kuomba omba hapa na pale. Ninashindwa kuelewa ikiwa tunateseka katika nchi yetu tutakimbilia wapi? Nimewahi kulia hapa kwamba watu katika mawakilisho yangu waliuawa na ndovu wakati ambapo mvua ilikuwa imenyeshwa. Ndovu walizidi mbuga ya wanyama ya Tsavo na wakaanza kuingia katika makazi ya watu. Nilipopiga kelele, nilikunjiwa masikio na Mawaziri. Hakuna hata mmoja wao ambaye alikata shauri na kuamua kwamba atambelee mawakilisho yangu kuangalia kilichokuwa kikitendeka. Ndovu akiuwawa tu, ndege aina ya helikopta itatoka huku Nairobi. Lakini ikiwa ni binadamu ameuwawa na ndovu, gari la polisi halitakuwa na mafuta.

(Applause)

Tutambue kwamba mawakilisho yetu ni makubwa. Kwa mfano, mawakilisho yangu kutoka pembe moja hadi nyingine ni maili 160 mraba.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, hospitali tulizonazo ni chache mno. Tulipolia hapa, mwezi wa kumi, mwaka jana, tupatiwe ambiulensi tuliahidiwa *double cabin ambulances*. Tulipoambiwa zimenunuliwa, kule zilikoenda, Mungu ndiye ajuaye. Tulipouliza swali humu Bungeni, tulizungushwa mzunguko na hatimaye tukaambiwa kwamba tutanunuliwa gari pesa zitakapopatikana. Mwaka huu, Bajeti imesomwa lakini hatuna uhakika ikiwa magari yatanunuliwa. Sisi tunaendelea kuwapeleka watu wetu hospitalini tukitumia mikokoteni na bado tu tunaiunga Serikali mkono. Lakini Serikali ikumbuke kwamba kuna siku ya kiama.

(Applause)

Mambo haya yote Serikali inafanya yana mwisho wake. Hawa Mawaziri kuna wakati watakwenda kujibu maswali kwamba ni nini walifanyia watu wakati mimi Gonzi Rai nikipiga kelele. Wengi wao watachomeka sawasawa. Nimelia kwamba Hospitali ya Kinango haina jumba la kuhifadhi maiti na watu wanapokufa, tunapeleka maiti Msambweni. Kusafarisha maiti kutoka Msambweni hadi Kinango kunagharimu Kshs10,000. Hii ni adhabu kwa watu na maiti vile vile. Sisi hatuna uwezo huo kabisa. Ninaiomba Serikali ifikirie mambo hayo. Mimi ninawakilisha watu wa Kinango na ninaiunga mkono Bajeti hii, lakini Mawaziri wafanye kazi; la sivyo, Rais Kibaki awafute wote kazi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo niliyosema, ninaunga Mkono Hoja hii.

Mr. L. Maitha: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Hon. Members: Ongea kwa Kiswahili!

Mr. L. Maitha: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nitazungumza kwa Kiswahili kwa sababu wenzangu wameniomba kufanya hivyo.

Ningependa kumshukuru Waziri wa Fedha kwa kujaribu kugusia kila sekta katika Bajeti ya mwaka huu. Mwaka jana, Waziri alituambia kwamba hiyo Bajeti aliyokuwa akisoma ilikuwa ndiyo ya kwanza. Waziri pia alisema hivi: "Munajua kwamba tumechukua Serikali wakati ina matatizo. Kwa hivyo, mtatusamehe sana pale mahali ambapo hatukuweza kujaza kwa sababu utawala uliokuwako ulikuwa umeharibu uchumi". Kila mtu akakubaliana na maneno haya kwa sababu ilikuwa bado damu zinachemka ile hali ya kwamba yawezekana, tukaona kweli itawezekana, na tukawapa hao watu muda. Lakini hii ni Bajeti ya pili, tena taarifa iliyotolewa ni kwamba bado uchumi haujakuwa mzuri, na bado kuna matatizo. Hadi sasa, wamekaa Serikalini kwa muda wa mwaka mmoja na nusu. Sijui kama yale matatizo yaliyoletwa na KANU bado yapo, au wameongezea yao. Inakuwa tena bado kuna matatizo. Ningeiomba Serikali iwache kusingizia mambo yaliyopita na tuangalie mambo ya sasa ili tuwaokoe watu wetu kwa sasa, ndio tutaheshemika kama Serikali. Lakini tukiendelea kutoa sababu kila mwaka, basi mwaka ujao itakuwa hivyo hivyo; mwaka wa nne iwe hivyo, na mwaka wa tano pia. Wakati wa kupiga kura utakapofika, wananchi watasema: "Tunawashukuru kwa sababu mlikuwa na matatizo mengi. Kwa hivyo nendeni mkapumzike ili tulete watu wasio na matatizo ili watuokoe".

(Applause)

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nchi hii sasa inakumbwa na janga kubwa la njaa. Umemsikia Bw. Rai akisema kuwa watu wake wanakula mizizi. Jambo hilo pia linafanyika Malindi, ambapo chakula ni mizizi. Tumesoma katika magazeti kuwa watu 35 walikufa kwa njaa juzi huko Marsabit,

inaonekana kuwa hata mizizi hakuna huko. Sasa, hii Bajeti inasema nini kuhusu janga hili, kwa sababu kila siku kuna "vioja mahakamani" katika runinga kwamba Mbunge fulani au Waziri fulani amepeleka magunia 5,000 ya vyakula kusaidia watu? Ukiangalia kiwango cha chakula kinachopewa yule mtu, ni kilo kumi tu, na hajui chakula cha msaada kitaletwa tena lini. Kwa hivyo, hivyo ni vioja tu kwenye runinga, lakini watu wanaendelea kufa. Kile chakula tunacholetewa hakiokoi mtu yeyote. Ni lazima Serikali itoe suluhisho ili tuweze kuzalisha chakula wenyewe. Kenya hii iko na mito miwili mikubwa sana, nayo ni mito ya Tana na Athi. Kila mwaka, maji kutoka katika mito hii yanaharibu ufuo wa Bahari ya Hindi, hadi ufuo unapotea. Je, tunamuuliza Waziri, Bajeti yake inasema nini kuhusu pesa za kusaidia kilimo kando ya mito hii ili watu waache kula mizizi au kutegemea misaada ya vyakula vya mahindi ambayo yameua watu katika eneo la uwakilishi la Bunge la Bw. Ndile? Hili ni jambo ambalo Waziri amesahau kabisa, na kila siku tunaambiwa tungoje chakula.

Pili, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, wakati wa kampeni sisi kutoka mkoa wa Pwani tulikuwa tumeamua kuwa hakuna tofauti, na kuwa hawa wanatudanganya. Lakini waliokuja wakaja na msembo kwamba: "Viwanda vyenu viliiuawa na KANU na tutavifufua", tukasema ni kweli! Wakasema kwamba, "Mashamba yenu yaligawanywa na KANU na tutayaleta", tukasema ni kweli! Tukawapa kura. Mwaka mmoja na unusu umepita na kiwanda cha korosho hakijafufuliwa; kile cha biksa bado kimelala; kiwanda cha maziwa cha KCC hatukijui tena, na nafikiri kuwa hata mitambo iling'olewa kutoka katika kile kiwanda cha nyama.

(Applause)

Sasa, ningetaka Mawaziri ambao wananiangalia watupe majibu, kwa sababu tumechoka. Kila siku tukiuliza Maswali--- Bw. Khamisi ameleta Mswada kuhusu maskwota, na kila siku--- Nashangaa pamoja na watu wangu wa Kitongoji cha Chakama, ambao ni karibu 10,000, kuwa kitongoji hicho kinapigwa mnada kwa sababu ya Kshs60 milioni ambazo mkora fulani alichukua kutoka benki na akapotea nazo. Nimemuandikia barua Rais mwaka uliopita na akanijibu kwamba Serikali itachukua hatua zifaazo, lakini sasa mwaka umeisha. Ni hatua gani imechukuliwa? Sasa tunashangaa na kusikia uchungu ikiwa Serikali yetu iliweza kupitisha makadirio ya ziada hapa katika mwezi wa Mei ili tutumie Kshs47 milioni, ili kuisaidia familia ya marehemu Makamu wa Rais. Ni sawa na ni heshima, lakini mtu mmoja na watu 10,000, nani muhimu? Je, hamuwaonei watu wangu uchungu? Je, mwaona kuwa Kshs60 milioni ni nyingi kushinda Kshs1 bilioni kwa sababu eti zinatumika kufanyia ukarabati Harambee House? Rais mwenyewe hata hajaenda katika jumba hilo toka apate urais. Munafanya ukarabati wa nini?

(Applause)

Hii ni kupoteza pesa!

Jambo lingine ninalopenda kuzungumzia ni janga la Ukimwi, na dawa za kutibu ugonjwa huu (ARVs) kama mwenzangu katika upinzani alivyosema. Hivi sasa, kipimo cha dawa hizi cha mwezi mmoja ni Kshs500 kwa mwezi. Kila siku, Mawaziri wanafurahi kutangaza kwamba hiki ni kiwango cha chini. Ati Kshs500 ni kiwango cha chini! Hizi ni pesa nyingi! Je, unatarajia mwananchi anayekula mizizi atoe Kshs500 wapi? Tunataka zile pesa zilizokusudiwa kufanyia ukarabati Harambee House zitumike kununulia dawa ili watu wetu waweze kupata dawa za kutibu ugonjwa huu (ARVs) bila malipo!

(Applause)

Bila ya kufanya hivyo, mtatengeneza Harambee House, mtie masofa katika majumba yote, na wananchi wote watakufa. Ni nani atakayeingia katika majumba hayo? Kwa hivyo, ni lazima tuwe na mwelekeo na tuangalie ni kitu gani kinamgusia mwananchi. Sio tu kusoma Bajeti hapa ya kufurahisha watu ili tupige makofi, na hakuna chochote kinachofanyika. Hakuna mambo kama hayo!

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kuzungumzia utalii. Utalii ndio sekta kubwa ya pili inayoleta pesa za kigeni nchini. Lakini kila siku tukiuliza swali kwa nini utalii wetu unakufa, jibu tunalopewa ni kwa sababu ya misukosuko ya Likoni; mlipuko wa bomu wa Kikambala; kwa sababu ya nini--- Tunasema Serikali imelala kwa sababu haifanyi chochote kuhusu jambo hili. Hakuna mahali kunapolipuka mabomu zaidi kushinda Misri na India, na watalii wamejaa huko. Ni jambo gani linaloendelea nchini Kenya? Wamelala wote! Hakuna hata sera madhubuti ya utalii. Hakuna uhamasishaji wa umma!

Nilifurahi juzi niliposoma ripoti ya Bw. Muturi kuhusu safari yao ya Ujerumani. Walisema kuwa walipokuwa huko, walijaribu kuuliza na hakuna Mjerumani aliyejua Kenya kama kituo cha kitalii. Halafu mnataka kupata pesa za kigeni kutoka katika utalii. Je, mnataka kuvuna mashamba ambayo hamtaki kutia mbolea? Ni lazima Serikali hii iangalie sana, kwa sababu inapeleka mapeni mahali ambapo hakuna uzalishaji wowote na kuwacha zile sehemu zenye uzalishaji. Mkoa wa Pwani una hali ya juu ya utalii, lakini hivi leo hakuna chochote ambacho kimefanywa ili kuhakikisha kwamba ule utalii uliopo kule unaboreshwa. Barabara ni mbaya; kwa mfano, ukipanda gari kuelekea Malindi hivi leo, utachukua saa moja na nusu au masaa mawili kusafiri mahali unapoweza kusafiri kwa nusu saa kwa sababu barabara zimejaa mashimo.

Nitakupa kisa; hivi juzi, kuna mgeni mmoja Mtaliani amabaye alitoka Mombasa akielekea Malindi. Alipofika Mtwapa, alipeleka gari lake kwa kiasi cha mita 200, na yale mashimo aliyoyaona yalimfanya afikirie kwamba barabara yote iko na mashimo hivyo mpaka Malindi. Basi aligeuza gari, akarudi Mombasa. Sasa pengine alikuwa anatuletea mambo mazuri Malindi; pengine watu wangu wangeokoka. Mtalii huyo aligeuza gari lake, akarudi Mombasa. Nafikiri hata asharudi kwao. Hii yote ni kwa sababu picha tunayotoa ya nchi yetu ni mbaya sana. Lakini wakati Bajeti inaposomwa hapa, kila mtu anapiga makofi, na inauzwa kwa wananchi kwamba ni nzuri sana. Lakini hatuoni kitu chochote ambacho kinatufaidi. Wakati umefika ambapo ni lazima Serikali iweke pesa ambapo zina faida.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, Bunge hili limeambiwa kila mara, na hata Rais ametangaza mikutanoni, kuwa wananchi waende wakachukue mikopo katika Shirika la Fedha la Kilimo (AFC). Hivi juzi, wakati Rais alipokuwa Sagana, aliwaambia watu: "Mimi ni Rais, lakini hamtapata chochote kutoka kwangu; nendeni mkachukue mikopo!" Walifikiri kuwa kwa sababu hiyo ni wilaya anayotoka Rais, basi watakwenda tu kwa Rais na wasaidiwe. Tulishukuru sana kutokana na maneno aliyotoa Rais. Lakini tukienda katika ofisi za AFC, hatupati mikopo! Katika wilaya za Malindi na Kilifi, ofisi ni moja tu huko Kilifi, na juzi nilipokuwa huko, ofisa wa mikopo aliniambia kuwa hawawezi kutoa mikopo kwa kuwa hakuna pesa walizopata hapo. Je, hizi pesa za mikopo za AFC zinaenda wapi? Je, kuna ubaguzi wa kutoa hizi pesa? Ama munatufurahisha hapa tu na asali ya kidole kimoja lakini chupa mmeificha?

(Applause)

Ni lazima pesa hizi zitolewe kwa nchi nzima! Ukifika huko ofisini unaambiwa utoe hati ya umiliki ya ardhi au kitabu cha usajili cha magari. Watu wangu ni maskini na hawana hata magari. Ni kweli kuwa tuna mashamba, lakini hatuna hizo hati za umiliki! Je, tutapata mikopo vipi? Tutapata mikopo vipi hali sisi ni maskwota? Kwa hivyo, ni lazima Serikali iangalie mambo haya

vizuri kabla ya kumwambia mwananchi kuwa ni mvivu. Ni lazima kwanza Serikali imsaidie mwananchi kwa kumpa huduma, halafu iangalie kama atafanya kazi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tunaomba hata sisi tupewe ile mikopo ya wakulima. Hatutaki kusikia kuwa mikopo hii imetolewa Karatina, Nyeri, lakini Malindi na Mombasa haifiki. Ikiwa hivyo, hatutaunga Serikali mkono kwa sababu tunajua kuwa keki hii ni yetu sote; ukila upande mmoja, na mimi nile upande mwingine. Lakini sisi tunasikia harufu ya pilau na pilau hatuioni! Wakati unakuja---

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono.

Mr. Kimathi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to this very well balanced Budget.

Our Government is doing its best to develop this nation. I am an Opposition Member, but we must give credit where it deserves and criticise where the Government is not performing well. The Government has been in office for only one-and-a-half years---

(Loud Consultations)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I need protection because I am speaking the truth.

A child who is one-and-a-half years cannot even go to pre-unit. KANU ruled this country for 40 years even when we were a "*de facto* state", but very many things started going wrong over 30 years ago, even before the former President Moi came to power. The NARC Government is trying to put them in order. If all of us can be united---

Mr. Cheboi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to get direction from the Chair. What is a "*de facto* state"? We have been legally a state since 1963 and there has been no *de facto* state here.

Mr. Kimathi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleague, who is a lawyer, is trying to apply the legal jigsaw puzzle. I meant "a one-party state" and not a dictatorship. I was saying that since the late Mzee Kenyatta took over the Government from the colonialists, and the former President Moi continued, Kenya was a single-party state.

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members! We have enjoyed debate here. Can we give time to Mr. Kimathi, and hear his side of the story?

Mr. Kimathi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying that in Kenya, we are one family. I am very impressed by the Ninth Parliament because both sides of the House are very friendly. We debate, agree and oppose issues together. I believe that future Parliaments will follow the example of the Ninth Parliament.

Going back to the Budget, I want to give a piece of advice to the NARC Government. The success of this country depends on three things; namely, security, tourism and agriculture. If we could have good infrastructure to our national parks, for example, the Tsavo and the Mara Game Reserve, tourists will be very comfortable to visit all these parks. The money allocated to the Ministry of Tourism and Information was not sufficient. We would rather be so poor and hungry, but we are safe. The security of this country is important. In the 2003/2004 Budget, we allocated a lot of money to the Office of the President. Even in the 2004/2005 Budget, more money has been allocated to the Office of the President. Although the Minister in charge of internal security is doing his best, I hope he has a provision for police housing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, it is very sad that for the last two years, policemen have

been paying rent. It is very disturbing that some Officers Commanding Police Divisions (OCPDs) and Officers Commanding Stations (OCSs) are transferred to police stations where there are no houses, and yet they are expected to be on duty 24 hours. It is not right that when the OCSs and the OCPDs are transferred, they refuse to vacate the houses they were living in, in the divisions they were serving. The Minister in charge of internal security should ensure that if an OCS is transferred from one station, he is housed in his new station. He should also vacate the house he has been living in for the incoming OCS. The same case should apply to OCPDs. I want to ask the Government, through the Minister for internal security, to stop charging policemen rent. Police officers are rendering very important services to us and they should not pay rent. They should be provided with accommodation free of charge.

As my colleagues have said, Kenya is an agricultural country. We should allocate more money to the Ministry of Agriculture to enable it disburse Kshs3 billion to the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) for the purchase of cereals from farmers. The NARC Government is not discriminative. It has disbursed funds for the District Roads Committee and the Constituencies Development Fund to all constituencies. If we continue like this, this country will be at par with Korea or Singapore in future. I want to ask my colleagues in the Opposition to support the Government when it has done well. I would also ask my colleagues in the Government to also accept constructive criticism.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Cabinet and other civil servants should follow the example that His Excellency the President has shown. The President has said that he will not tolerate corruption. The hon. Members on the Government side should emulate that good example of His Excellency the President because one person cannot tackle corruption alone. As I sit down, I would like to ask both sides of the House to continue living as a family, giving credit where it is due, and criticising where necessary. We should live as a family in love, in Christ and united.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. M'Mukindia: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to join my colleagues in supporting the Budget Speech.

Many of my colleagues have commented on the fact that this Budget Speech was a very long one. In my mind, it needs to be stated clearly by the Minister what a Budget is supposed to achieve and how he expects to achieve the objectives of that Budget. It starts with a policy statement and I support it, although some people may have felt that it was a long one. The Government finds that they have to do so many things at the same time, and that is why the Budget Speech was that long.

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Can we consult quietly, please?

Mr. M'Mukindia: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I support the financial measures that the Minister enumerated in order to support the policy objectives of his Budget. This is especially so in the social sector. First of all, the provision of free primary education has been supported throughout the country, but we need to widen training in the tertiary and secondary education. That ought to be done now that primary education is free and the reaction has been very positive.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also support the Ministry of Health in their endeavour to provide free health services in this country. I believe the kind of policy objectives in the social sector are noble and achievable.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, last year, many people believed that we would not

achieve the free primary education policy. Nevertheless, that was achieved and it is now very successful. It is in the same faith that I believe that the envisaged objectives under the new health plan will also be achieved in the same way. Once the Minister, or the Government, has achieved these objectives in the social sector, it will be time then to concentrate on the productive sector. I have looked at what has been proposed under the Ministry of Agriculture. There is a boost in Agriculture.

While I appreciate that there is an attempt at serving agriculture, I think that it is not good enough. I am very worried of studies that are going to be done and certain strategies that are going to be formulated. We have a lot of strategies already in the Ministries of Agriculture, Trade and Industry and that of Finance. The problem has always been how we implement and ensure that what is contained in the strategy papers turns out to be money in the pockets of farmers. I think that we have to move away from a situation where we carry out study after study and do very little at the end of the day to ensure that the studies are implemented and translated effectively into cash.

In this respect, I am personally disappointed that the Minister did not find it fit to formulate some minimum farm prices for agricultural commodities. This is something we have to do to ensure that farmers continue farming. While appreciating that is the long-term objective of the new strategy in agriculture, it is important to know that farmers are increasingly unhappy about the current situation. They, therefore, need money immediately in their pockets.

In the area of industry or manufacturing, there is no clear-cut policy as to how we are going to engage in industrialisation. I think that the Budget should have gone into details of how we are going to translate this country into an industrial state. Even with the best policies, the agricultural sector will not be able to support all our population to an effective level. We must industrialise. The sooner we realise that, the better for this country. We must move from agricultural to industrialisation. How are we going to do this? Not much has been said, and I hope that in the next Budget, the Minister will spend more time in formulating industrial strategies to ensure that this country will become industrialised.

I think that the Government is doing something commendable in the areas of services, trade, banking, insurance and IT. The transport industry is also okay. It is in the productive sectors of agriculture and industry that something is lacking.

The Budget theme for this year is "enhancing efficiency for accelerated economic growth." I appreciate what the Minister is trying to do. However, as I have said in the past, I do not see how we are going to achieve this efficiency if our Civil Service is not restructured, retrained, and exposed to new ways of doing things, new management systems and proper IT systems. Even with the best intention, the Minister will not achieve this efficiency enhancement if the people who are supposed to implement his strategies are not sufficiently trained. For this reason, I strongly support the new policy of having performance contracts for top civil servants and parastatal staff. Another way of doing this is ensuring that there is a policy and implementation co-ordination committee or organ within the Government. This is something that I believe in very strongly, as well as the training and exposure of staff to new management systems.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing that will ensure efficiency is fiscal transparency. As long as there is no fiscal transparency, even with the best intentions, it will not be possible to enhance efficiency in the way we collect and use our revenue. What does this entail? First of all, we must have proper legal framework in place, which I believe the Minister is working on. But I think participatory Budget formulation is not being done effectively, and I think Parliament is moving in the right direction by trying to be part and parcel of the Budget formulation process.

The second thing is that there are no clear responsibilities. I believe that some of the

embarrassing incidents that have occurred in this Government in the last couple of weeks have probably been as a result of lack of clarity in responsibilities between Ministers and their Permanent Secretaries. This has come about because we try to marry two animals. We are marrying an animal called "parliamentary Westminster democracy," and presidential democracy. This will not work. During the time when I was serving in Government, Permanent Secretaries were in charge of money and Ministers were in charge only of policy formulation. Therefore, it will not be fair, unless things have changed, to hold our Minister responsible truly for money spent by a Permanent Secretary. The issue of who is responsible for the money allocated to a particular Ministry needs to be clarified. Is it the Minister or the Permanent Secretary? These embarrassing moments that have occurred should not have occurred if we truly knew who was fully responsible for what. I urge the Government to make sure that this is clarified in order to avoid incidents of this nature in future. What has happened has been extremely embarrassing to the NARC Government. This is not to say that crime or corruption will not occur. The most important thing is that when a crime occurs, it ought to be unearthed, investigated and punished. That is why, under the laws of this country, people who commit crimes should be investigated and charged in court.

Finally, all these things would not happen without political stability and the proper defence of our country. I believe that all of us need to promote political stability in our country.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members. It is now time to call upon the Minister for Finance to reply.

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Mwiraria): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I really wish to start off by thanking hon. Members for what I consider to have been very constructive criticism, and for the support I have received from both sides of the House. A few issues have been raised, and I would like to comment upon them.

One issue which seems to have come up time and again was why there was a difference between the targeted economic growth and the actual economic growth of 1.8 per cent of GDP. Several factors, some of them beyond our control, contributed to this shortfall. These include a fall in commodity prices for some of our principal agricultural commodities such as coffee and tea. They also include the travel advisories which really hit the tourism sector at a time when we needed to uplift it. However, as soon as we noticed that this sector was suffering, the Government took action to look for funds to promote it, particularly in Western Europe and the Far East. We got Kshs500 million; Kshs250 million from the Government and Kshs250 million came from the European Union (EU). As a result of that effort of promotion, the tourism sector grew by 18 per cent. We expect it to do even better.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, other factors relate to the very high cost of oil prices. Hon. Members are aware that within seven months, oil prices increased from US\$26 a barrel to US\$41 a barrel; nearly 60 per cent increase. This is something that is really beyond our control. One of the other issues mentioned by many hon. Members was: What we, as a Government, will do to lower the prices of petroleum products. What I would like to say is that since the NARC Government took over, we have not increased prices of petroleum products. More importantly, we charge tax on the basis of quantity, but not on the basis of price. This means that our tax has remained static over the period since we took over. Therefore, with the increase in prices, the tax level has actually been reducing as a percentage of the petrol pump price.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is important for me to emphasise here the fact that last year, we gave incentives to industrialists; both local and foreign. Hon. Members will remember that we allowed them to import plant and equipment free of duty. We allowed some of them to have tax holidays or to offset the cost of their machinery against tax for as little as US\$7,000. I can say

that a lot of people have taken advantage of this offer. We expect that when all that machinery is installed, the Kenyan economy, particularly the industrial sector, will show a big improvement.

Let me take this opportunity to give just one example to show what I mean. Many of us do not realize that Kenya has, perhaps, the best most productive and cost-effective pharmaceutical sector, with 26 firms which are selling most of the products in the COMESA countries. I think we are beginning to do well. What we, as hon. Members, need to do is to encourage these people to continue with their work, so that, in fact, our trade increases. Let me also say that many of us may not be aware that our trade with the Common Market For Eastern and Southern Africa countries (COMESA) grew up by 42 per cent last year. That is not a mean achievement. So, we are already beginning to show changes in the economic growth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another point which has been raised by many hon. Members has been on assistance from donors or development partners. Let me say that, at least, we have broken the ice. Kenya is no longer rejected in those circles. We have been accepted and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has agreed to give us a programme. With an IMF programme, we are now a respectable country, which is credit-worthy. But more importantly, let me say that the World Bank, which is the second Bretton Wood institution, has been very supportive. Last week, the World Bank Board discussed and approved support to Kenya totalling to Kshs20.4 billion. There is more to come. We are expecting another over Kshs13 billion, which has not yet been discussed by the Board. But we have done most of the negotiations.

So, all in all, we are doing well, but - and this is a real big "but - we want the mode of assistance to change. In the past, whenever we got assistance which comes into our Budget as Appropriations-in-Aid (A-in-A), there are so many conditionalities that, in the past, on average, we have been able to use only 40 per cent during the year for which the Budget has been operated. To get over that problem, I have proposed that we get budget support where development partners give us money according to the set priorities, or sector-wide approaches. That means that those who want to support water, for instance, get together and support water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can give a live example in the governance, justice, law and order sector, which has been given Kshs2.1 billion by 17 donors who have come together and agreed to support that sector. If we could get that kind of support, donor support would be very meaningful.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now turn very briefly to the financial sector. I do not want to say very much, but I really want to underscore the fact that, the measures I have included in my Budget Speech are aimed at curbing the rising charges on non-performing loans. The primary objective of those measures is to protect depositors' money, borrowers and, ultimately, even the banks, which have to deal with large stocks of non-performing assets. We believe that a healthy financial sector would provide loans at affordable rates of interest, and it is only in this way that we can expect our people to benefit and to begin doing development matters.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in order to support this sector to deepen and expand its services through enactment of a number of legislations, I stated that we need--- In fact, we are going to bring to this august House, several Bills; one on the SACCOs, another one on the micro-finance institutions, and another one on the national payment which we want to improve.

Regarding what appears to be increased payment to KRA, which is above the 1.5 per cent we have agreed to be giving them, this is true. The reason is that in the past, we have not been able to pay KRA their 1.5 per cent, and arrears have accumulated and what we intend to do this year is not only to pay those arrears, but also to give them a little more money to strengthen their operations, because, in the past--- and I have gone round the country and I can say that we are desperately in need, particularly along the coast, of patrol boats. Although there are some by the

police, they do not do the work which we expect them to do.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now turn to the agricultural sector. Several hon. Members have said that they wanted a Budget which is pro-the-poor, but we have not done much to improve on the agricultural sector. We have actually put in the monies which hon. Members have seen in support of Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC), agricultural research and so on, but more recently, and we were aware this was coming, the Ministry of Agriculture prepared the strategy for revitalisation of agriculture which is aimed at improving the contribution of this sector to economic recovery. They have also done what they call the Kenya Agricultural Productivity Project and looked at the kind of research which is required to strengthen agriculture. In order to support this aspect of the Ministry of Agriculture, we have received US\$13 million as a grant from the World Bank, and US\$27 million as a soft loan to put into agriculture. So, fairly soon, we should be able to support projects such as the Bura Irrigation Scheme, growing of cotton in Western Kenya, and so on. So, we have not really forgotten agriculture. That is what I am saying in short.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I fully share the view that fertiliser prices are a little bit prohibitive in Kenya. We are at the moment working with the Ministry of Agriculture to find out the best way of getting the cheapest fertiliser into the country. We hope that before the end of this year, we will be able to announce tangible measures on what we are going to do to make fertilisers and other agricultural inputs available to the farmers at reasonable prices. The other problem that the Government is seriously addressing is the fact that our farmers continue to get very low prices for their agricultural products. In order to change this position, we have decided that we need to add value to most of our products before we export them. We would like to have a Kenyan brand of tea, coffee, pyrethrum and practically everything we grow. We have Ministers who have gone out of their way to support this effort. I am sure that this time, next year, we will be speaking a slightly different language.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is another important point which I want to refer to. This is that from 1994, the Government of Kenya gave up price controls so that, today, we allow market prices to operate. It is true that when prices of items such as petrol go up, prices of consumer goods like *unga*, salt and sugar also go up. However, we would like to reach a position where there is so much being produced locally that producers will have to lower their prices to compete. This is how the market forces operate.

It is regrettable that, as I said the other day, sugar factories in Kenya have decided to close down for repair at the same time, thus giving the sugar barons an opportunity to hoard sugar and increase prices. This is really the truth and it will prevail; that there is hoarding of sugar, and this is what is causing the high price increases. There are no taxes. We have not imposed any taxes and the only reason is that there are some selfish Kenyan traders who want to make a kill while factories are closed for repairs.

Let me now say very briefly that we have problems which, we as hon. Members, can address. We have a responsibility to the people who have appointed or elected us, to find out what their basic needs are. I know that when this country prepared the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) four years ago, this was done, but it needs to be updated annually. My plea, therefore, to hon. Members is that as they prepare projects for the use of the Constituency Development Fund, they should make sure that uppermost in their minds is what projects will assist to reduce poverty in their constituency.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we now have an opportunity we have not had before. In the course of this year, hon. Members will have close to Kshs26 million to spend on development projects in their constituencies. Although we have just started the new financial year, the funds for the financial year that has just ended have just gone into the Constituency Development Fund, and

we will be putting more money into it. So, may I plead that we use this money for the best interests of our constituents.

May I also appeal to hon. Members to have unity of purpose. Let us create a good environment for development of our country and stop the "bleeding" from the self-inflicted "wound" by hon. Members of this House. I believe that if we focus ourselves to realising development, and getting the very best for our people, we will perform miracles. There is the potential, and we have the people who are willing to work. We are ready to prudently and efficiently use the little money that we have to give our people value for it. Therefore, I urge that we all work together. Let us have a unity of purpose in getting the economy to grow once again.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members! It is now time for interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 29th June, 2004, at 2.30 p.m. The House rose at 6.30 p.m.