

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 25th February, 2003

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

MEASURES TO PROTECT KENYANS FROM VIOLENCE

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Kaindi not here?

An hon. Member: He is not here!

(Mr. Kaindi) to ask the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

Given the escalating wave of domestic and internationally motivated violence that has hit the country in the recent past, could the Minister explain what security measures the Government has put in place to protect the lives of Kenyans, foreigners and their property from such attacks?

Mr. Speaker: The Question is dropped!

(Question dropped)

DISBANDMENT OF UNDER 17 SOCCER TEAM

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services the following Question by Private Notice.

Following the disbandment of the Under 17 Years National Soccer Team by the Minister:-

- (a) Could he inform the House who were involved in this scandal?
- (b) What action is he taking against the entire KFF leadership who are ultimately responsible for sports in the country?
- (c) What steps is he taking to save Kenya from being expelled by CAF and FIFA?

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Balala): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to this Question by Private Notice by the Member for Shinyalu---

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Hon. Members, you may forgive the Minister; he is new.

Mr. Minister, let me help you. You should not have read out the Question. I had already called it out. You should only have stood up and said: "Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply", and then read out the contents of your reply. So, forget about the other formalities.

Hon. Members, do not laugh at the Minister! He has not been in this House before.

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Balala): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. That shows why we, new hon. Members, need a proper induction before participating in parliamentary business.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The selection of the National Under 17 Football Team was done by a technical bench appointed by the KFF. The bench comprised of the Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager and the Team Doctor. However, it was the responsibility of the KFF to forward the details of the players to the Confederation of African Football

(CAF) Headquarters in Cairo for participation in the Africa Youth Championships.

(b) I wish to draw the attention of this august House to the limitation the Government faces in as far as FIFA rules, which bar Government from all forms of interference in the management of football affairs, are concerned. That notwithstanding, I have personally written to FIFA demanding that they take appropriate action against those concerned in line with their rules and regulations. This must be done within the general knowledge of the existing problem at the KFF. My office will, however, not hesitate to dissolve the KFF if the on-going investigation into this saga, which has caused this country an embarrassment and pain, necessitates it. I will, therefore, issue a timetable for the election of new KFF office bearers. The Government does not desire to run football or any other sport. It is, however, in the interest of the nation that all sports affairs are run smoothly and be devoid of avoidable controversies.

(c) I do not expect CAF or FIFA to mete out harsh penalties against Kenya. Our mitigating factors are as follows:-

(i) It was our own discovery that some of the players were, indeed, over-age. I personally interviewed one of the players, and he confirmed to me that he was over-age.

(ii) Upon this discovery, we discontinued our country from participating in the Africa Youth Tournament.

(iii) We have, as a nation, apologised to Eritrea, Ghana and Ethiopia.

(iv) We have asked for the reinstatement of Ghana to the Tournament as its team lost unfairly to ours. It would absolutely not be in the interest of football to punish Kenya, especially now that there is a marked improvement in the performance of our senior national team.

I have communicated these sentiments to both CAF and FIFA---

Dr. Galgalo: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Minister is not answering the Question. He is just reading out a statement.

An hon. Member: That is the answer to the Question!

Dr. Galgalo: The Question seeks---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Proceed, Mr. Minister.

Dr. Galgalo: So to speak---

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Balala): Sit down!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, the two of you! I expect that when you are called to order, you comply.

Mr. Minister, the Speaker never requires your assistance. I am capable of keeping the hon. Member down. So, please, do not try to help me.

You may proceed.

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Balala): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thanks for your protection.

I have communicated all these sentiments to both CAF and FIFA. Under the standard---

The Member for Kitutu Chache (Mr. Angwenyi): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Are you encouraging that man to open his mouth and comment on everything in the manner he did on the Report of the Tribunal on the review of our salaries?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Mr. Angwenyi, first of all, I see no men here. I see the Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, and he is, obviously, entitled to open his mouth. How else would he answer a Question if he does not open his mouth?

(Laughter)

So, proceed, Mr. Minister.

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Balala): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to open my mouth. I still stand by what I said over the weekend.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Mr. Minister, it is one thing to take on Mr. Angwenyi and quite another to take on the House. If I were you, I would now keep my mouth shut.

So, could you now proceed and answer the Question?

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Balala): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have communicated these sentiments to both CAF and FIFA. Under the standard FIFA regulations, countries which are in breach of its rules are uniformly punished with a two-year ban irrespective of whether it was during CAF or

FIFA-organised championships.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

Hon. Members: Move! Move!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Minister, I am afraid that, that is not the correct procedure. You may sit down!

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Balala): Thank you, Sir.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! The Minister is learning, and is doing so fast. We will teach him appropriately, but gently.

Mr. Minister, you do not move a reply to a Question. Once you are through with your reply to a Question, you just sit down.

The Member for South Mugirango (Mr. Omingo): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I do not know whether I would be in order to suggest that the embarrassment caused by Members is not giving the House the dignity it deserves. Could you kindly take Members of Parliament, particularly Ministers, to a learning session, so that we could save this House the embarrassment that we are seeing?

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I have said in the past and I repeat that, at an appropriate time, I will have--- I think the first week of June---

Hon. Members: June is too late!

Mr. Speaker: Order! I will give you an appropriate time to be taught but, in the meantime, I am available to teach the young Members. As I said earlier, please help the Chair in that regard. I think we will all reach a better point. We can occasionally laugh at those things and I am told laughter is the best medicine!

Proceed, Mr. Khamasi!

The Member for Shinyalu (Mr. Khamasi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Minister took a little of his time over the weekend just to read the Odidi Report on the Kenya Football Federation (KFF), perhaps he would have come with a better answer. The KFF is rotten and the leadership is in shambles. The Minister has said that he is going to give a timetable on when he is going to dissolve the KFF. He cannot dissolve the KFF because he is not allowed under the FIFA rules. So, we would like to know the day he will order for fresh elections at the KFF in order to resolve the problems in that particular organisation.

Mr. Balala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, we do not have powers to dissolve the KFF. In fact, the timetable I am talking about is to call the KFF and demand for fresh elections. I think there is need to have a fresh mandate. They have lost the confidence of the people who have entrusted it to them. Immediately after that, I will put in place a caretaker committee to supervise the elections.

The Member for Lamu West (Mr. Twaha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, from time to time, our country has been treated to legal battles among the KFF officials. Some of those battles have gone as far as the Court of Appeal. Could the Minister inform the House what is so sweet about the KFF offices that the petitions for the KFF positions go up to the Court of Appeal? Even parliamentary petitions do not go up to the Court of Appeal!

Mr. Balala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what attracts peoples' interest in those offices is corruption! There is a lot of money collected from the gates which is not accounted for. We do not know how the KFF uses the money. We are putting in place an investigation team straightaway, as they go for elections, to look into their finances and give us a detailed report of how the monies, including the FIFA funds for the development of youth soccer, were used.

The Member for Central Imenti (Mr. M'Mukindia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Minister assure this House that Kenya is not in danger of suffering the same kind of embarrassment in other sport disciplines as we have suffered as far as football is concerned? Could he assure this House that we are not going to be embarrassed?

Mr. Balala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have talked to different associations dealing with sports including athletics, cricket and others. We are looking at their constitutions with a view of calling for fresh elections and new mandates. We want to streamline all the associations, as the President mentioned in his Speech, and remove corruption. I want to assure the hon. Member that we are taking action on those associations.

The Member for Saku (Mr. Sasura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have learnt along the way, in this House and outside, that parts of this country have been marginalised in many ways. The under-17 soccer team is a national team. What assurance could the Minister give us to make sure that the team is comprised of players from all over the country and not the so-called footballers; that is the Luos and Luhyas?

Mr. Balala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry intends to aggressively develop sports from the grassroots,

including the North Eastern Province. So, in future, North Eastern Province will be represented!

The Member for Kisumu Town East (Mr. Sungu): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. May I know whether it is in order for Mr. Sasura to single out two communities, of which I belong to one---

I love football! We know that there are people from Mombasa in that team. Are they Luhyas and Luos only?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I think if I were you, I should be worried about the language used; the "so-called"! They do actually exist! They are not "so called"! Is there any further supplementary question on this matter? Yes, Mr. Madoka?

The Member for Mwatate (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the associations have very good constitutions and everything else, but the problem with sports is the quality of the officials running them. Could the Minister tell us how he is going to ensure that officials who are truly committed to sports are elected?

Mr. Balala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want to use democracy and the elections will start from the grassroots. But, definitely, the elections board that we are going to appoint very soon is going to develop a proper criteria as to who can contest in the elections. We want all the politicians to keep away!

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you heard the Minister admit here that the KFF officials are corrupt! The Minister has said that he is NARC compliant! Could he give this House an indication as to when he is going to change the leadership of the KFF to save that important sport from collapsing in this country? He should give us a rough idea about the time plan.

Mr. Balala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is pushing to get a date from me. I propose that we will launch the election board on Monday, the 3rd of March and ask the KFF to call for elections.

KNH DEPOSITS WITH EURO BANK

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Health the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister explain how Kshs411,893,077.90 belonging to Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) ended up in Euro Bank?

(b) Who exempted the hospital from the provisions of the Exchequer and Audit Act (Cap.412); and from the Treasury Circular No.10 of 15th July, 1992, in regard to that transaction?

(c) What disciplinary action has been taken against officer(s) involved in that transaction?

The Minister for Health (Mrs. Ngilu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg your indulgence because I do not have all that information that I would have liked to bring to this House. But I can do it next week.

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

Mr. Sambu: It is okay, Mr. Speaker, Sir! There is no problem provided she answers the Question next week!

Mr. Speaker: Very well! The Question is deferred until Tuesday next week.

(Question deferred)

Next Question!

REMOVAL OF EQUIPMENT FROM HOSPITAL MORTUARY

Mr. Kagwe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Health the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Under what circumstances did the contractor remove the equipment from Mukurweini Hospital Mortuary, thereby paralysing the mortuary operations?

(b) What action is the Minister taking to have the equipment re-installed to avoid rotting of bodies, inconveniences and high costs incurred by the bereaved who have to transfer bodies to the Karatina District Hospital Mortuary?

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

The contractor disabled the mortuary equipment due to a pending bill by the Ministry of Health. But since that time, I have visited the hospital, inspected the mortuary and given instructions that the bill should be paid. It has now been reopened and the mortuary is ready for use.

Mr. Speaker: Are you happy, Mr. Kagwe?

Mr. Kagwe: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, provided that, indeed, when I go there on Saturday, it will be working!

POINT OF ORDER

MEMBERS SHOULD NOT DISCUSS PARLIAMENTARY MATTERS OUTSIDE THE HOUSE

Mr. Maore: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We are about to move to debate on the Presidential Address and when hon. Members start contributing, we are not supposed to interrupt them because they will be making their maiden speeches. If you go through reports published in the media over the weekend and a report contained in today's *East African Standard* newspaper, you will find that two Cabinet Ministers discussed the contents of a Tribunal Report which was tabled before this House last week, which we are likely to debate sometime next week.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would be wise for us to counsel the new hon. Members and Ministers, who are not aware that the campaign period is over. We should inform them that it does not matter how exciting a topic is, when it is tabled before the House, hon. Members do not go to look for a cheering crowd out there to address, so that they could appear holier than the other hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! For the benefit of all the new hon. Members, when a matter has been tabled before the House, members of the public are at liberty to discuss it because they have no opportunity to come to the House. Therefore, such a matter is open for public discussion. But the hon. Members have the opportunity not only to discuss the matter, but even to determine its course by voting. Therefore, it is out of order for hon. Members of this House to discuss outside the House a matter that is pending before the House.

I realise that this habit developed in the last Parliament, and almost got out of control, but I think discussing matters outside the House is not the right thing to do. You should come here and give your views before your colleagues and vote appropriately. If you go and discuss matters that are before the House outside, then you may have to contend with several possibilities. First, you may have to contend with the reaction of your colleagues, and the possibility of the fact that since you have already aired your views, you do not have to air them here. You should respect the House. You should come to the House and say as much as you want. But I want to be absolutely clear in this issue: Members of the public have a right to discuss, in whatever way they want, any matter pending before this House. This is because they have no opportunity to discuss it in the House. Hon. Members have an opportunity to discuss the matter in the House.

MOTION

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

THAT, the thanks of this House be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address from the Chair on Tuesday 18th February, 2003.

*(The Vice-President and Minister for National
Reconstruction on 19.2.03)*

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 20.2.03)

Mr. Speaker: Was there anybody on the Floor? Yes, Prof. Olweny, you have five minutes to finish your contribution.

The Member for Muhoroni (Prof. Olweny): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Thursday last week, I started making my contribution in support of the Presidential Address. I talked about the problems facing the agricultural sector. As the House rose, I was talking about the sugar industry.

Miwani Sugar Factory is one of those factories which are in a dilemma today. This factory has the biggest nuclear estate among all the sugar factories in this country. Through some mysterious transactions, the factory was handed over to Mr. Somaia through his company called M/s Vanesa International Ltd. I have been informed that Mr. Somaia borrowed money from a Kenyan bank and bought the factory and the nuclear estate of about 9,000 hectares at Kshs20 million only. Today, the nuclear estate is faced with the danger of being auctioned by a

management company which was recruited by Mr. Somaia to run the factory. The management company has incurred losses and today it wants to auction the factory to raise money. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development should address this issue. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development is silent on this issue although it has been simmering for quite sometime.

Another issue which I wish to talk about is rice growing. Most of the Kenyan rice is grown through irrigation. Irrigation in this country is handled by the National Irrigation Board (NIB). All irrigation schemes in western Kenya have collapsed. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development has not addressed these issues. It is my wish that, given what the President said in his Presidential Address, the Government will address the issue of rice growing in Kenya, which is done through irrigation.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Speaker: Who is the hon. Member standing over there?

The Member for Mogotio (Mr. Korir): Ahsante sana Bw. Spika. Jina langu ni mhe. Joseph Korir.

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kiunjuri, are you interrupting the maiden speech of a new hon. Member?

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am wondering who to direct my point of order to now that Mr. Speaker cannot recognise his former District Commissioner (DC).

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Kiunjuri, I would like to tell you two things. First of all, the Chair has no DC. Secondly, if I were you, I would be very careful now that you are an Assistant Minister.

Proceed, Mr. Korir.

The Member for Mogotio (Mr. Korir): Ahsante sana Bw. Spika. Jina langu ni mhe. Joseph Korir, mwakilishi wa eneo la Mogotio. Ningetaka kuchukua nafasi hii kuchangia Hotuba ya Mhe. Rais ambayo alitoa kwa ufasaha ingawa amekuwa na matatizo ya afya. Tunamuomba dua kwa Maulana Mwenyezi Mungu ampe baraka zake ili apate nafuu haraka.

Ningependa kuongea kuhusu mashirika ambayo si ya Serikali. Mashirika haya yanatekeleza wajibu muhimu katika maendeleo kote nchini. Haya mashirika yanasambaza miradi mbali mbali katika sehemu mbali mbali nchini. Ningependa kuyashukuru haya mashirika. Ningependa kusema kwamba mashirika haya hayajawahi kufika katika eneo la Mogotio kwa sababu viongozi waliotangulia hawakuyakaribisha. Ningependa kuchukua fursa hii kuyajulisha mashirika haya kwamba yamekaribishwa kwa mikono miwili katika eneo la Mogotio. Ningetaka kusema kuwa vile vitisho vilivyokuwako hapo mbeleni, haviko tena.

Ningependa pia kuongea kuhusu usalama. Katika ukurasa wa tisa aya ya tatu ya Hotuba ya Mhe. Rais inasema: "Pale hofu hutawala roho za watu, hakuna aina yoyote ya maendeleo halisi inayoweza kufanyika, hata kama ni hofu kutokana na uhalifu, uharibifu au vyombo vya Serikali, matokeo yake ni moja".

Bw. Spika, wajibu wa Serikali yoyote duniani ni kuhakikisha kwamba inalinda mali na maisha ya wananchi wake. Ninasikitika kidogo kwa sababu huko Laikipia, Wapokot, Wasamburu, Wakalenjin na Waturkana ambao ni wafugaji wanaishi kwa hofu. Ninasema hivi kwa sababu wafugaji hao wanahangaishwa, na wakati mwingine kuuawa. Kwa mfano, juma lililopita mfugaji mmoja alipigwa risasi na mkuu wa tarafa na hatujapata habari kama ofisa huyo ameshtakiwa kortini. Wafugaji hao wanasumbuliwa, wanagandamizwa, wanadhulumwiwa na kunyanyaswa. Ningependa kusema kwamba hata binti na bibi zao wananajisiwa na polisi. Haya yote yanafanywa kwa sababu wao ni wafugaji. Sifahamu kama kuna sheria ambayo inadhulumu mtu yeyote au kikundi chochote cha watu kwa kuwa wafugaji. Ningependa kuiomba Serikali ihakikishe kwamba kuna mfugaji yeyote ambaye amekosea, anashtakiwa badala ya kusumbuliwa, kutishwa au kunyanyaswa.

Sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni ya Mogotio ni moja ya sehemu kavu humu nchini. Kuna uhaba wa mvua, upungufu wa chakula na watu wa Mogotio wanategemea mifugo yao. Ingawa kuna ukavu huo, wakaazi wa sehemu hiyo wana bidii na ningependa kuiomba Serikali ianzishe miradi ambayo inaweza kusambasa maji ili wananchi wapate maji ya kutumia nyumbani, kunywesha mifugo wao na kunyunyizia mashamba yao. Nina hakika kwamba tukipata maji, watu wa Mogotio watajitoshelesha kwa vyakula.

Kuna miradi mbali mbali ambayo ilianzishwa na Serikali na ambayo ilikuwa chini ya Ofisi ya Rais kama vile *El Nino* Emergency Programme. Tumekuwa na miradi kadhaa katika sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni ya Mogotio. Moja ya miradi hiyo ni barabara ya Esageri-Emining. Barabara hiyo ilifanyiwa ukarabati lakini kabla ya mwenye kandarasi kuondoka, ilikuwa imebomoka. Licha ya kuwa barabara hiyo ilikuwa imebomoka, mwenye kandarasi alilipwa pesa zake na kuondoka. Wakati huu, barabara hiyo haipitiki. Mradi mwingine ni ujenzi wa bomba la Shule ya Upili ya Mogotio ambao uligharimu Kshs3 milioni. Aliyepewa kandarasi ya kujenga bomba hilo hakufanya kazi yoyote na hali tunaambiwa kuwa alilipwa pesa.

Bw. Spika, ninakushukuru kwa hayo machache.

The Minister for Water Resources Management and Development (Ms. Karua): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise in support of the Motion that we should record appreciation for His Excellency's very good Speech which set out the policy. But before I say so, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I, first of all, thank the wonderful people of Busia who rescued us after the plane crash. I thank the hon. Members of both sides of the House who prayed and visited us at the hospital and, indeed, all Kenyans who prayed, visited or supported us in anyway.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I mostly thank the Almighty. It feels good to be alive and I am happy to be here.

(Applause)

This Speech is really great in that it sets out the national goals that the NARC Government would like to achieve. One of the things that has held this country down and prevented progress is corruption. The Speech by His Excellency the President pledges zero-tolerance on corruption by the NARC Government. This means that the NARC Government has to use a spotlight to check all Ministries and public positions and find out whether those holding them are competent and, indeed, free of corruption. Any person who is corrupt or associated with corrupt practices must go irrespective of their tribes or ethnic background. We know that this kind of statement, naturally, will cause panic among the corrupt or among those who are likely to be swept by the broom. Those who have nothing to fear need not panic. But those who know that the successive Reports of the PAC and the PIC have their names year-after-year, as people involved in corrupt practices, are now panicking. They are now invoking their ethnic communities. I do not know of anybody who goes to loot public coffers in the name of his or her community. I know that individuals loot public coffers for their personal gain. As leaders, we must stop confusing the public. If you have something to fear or know that the dragnet will catch you, please, take it quietly or surrender yourself in good time but stop confusing the poor Kenyans who will benefit when corruption is finally weeded out. The reason why we do not get good services in the hospitals is because monies voted year-after-year for the Ministry of Health have been embezzled. We also cannot get water in this country because money meant for water projects has ended up funding projects in the air or in people's pockets. Who is this person who is against fighting corruption?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am also a little puzzled and, maybe, I should not be. This country had never experienced a change of Government until 30th December, last year. It was the first change of Government from one-party to another and not routinely handing over to the same political party. So, perhaps we are ignorant of what happens when a new party comes to power. May I say that when a new party comes into power, it has a free hand to put in new managers that it has confidence in. Therefore, people must expect that the axe will fall on those considered by the new administration not good enough to carry out their programmes and policies. This is a fact of life. Let us not mislead the public. Once again, I would like to say how commendable the fight against corruption is but, unfortunately, it will net those who have been involved in corrupt practices. The message must be clear; corruption does not pay.

The Speech also talks about upholding the rule of law. This means that everybody must be responsible for his or her utterances. It would be a sad day if, in any country, people were to be allowed to have a blank cheque to make war or hate speeches. The war in Rwanda did not come about accidentally, but it was individuals who started it. Let those who are preaching hate and war know that Kenya is a country which is under the rule of law, and they continue with their ways at the risk of having the law come after them, at which time they may once again remember to call upon their communities which were not there when they made the hate speeches.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying that the time has come when we should reason together for the good of this country. We have, as the NARC Government, inherited ruins similar to those created by an earthquake. When you turn around you hear cries. When you look around you do not know what to attend to first because you hear cries all around you. You see suffering all around you. It will take the efforts of both sides of the House, of leaders of all walks of life, to build these ruins into the country we would want to see.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kenyans should watch out and be wary of those who want to confine them to perpetual suffering. It is time we supported policies not because of who brought them forward, but because they are good for this country. It is time we supported policies not because they are going to benefit us personally, but because they are going to support the majority of Kenyans, those we are supposed to represent. It is sad that the rogue behaviour of yesterday is finding its way in the year 2003. Those who were used to making warlike speeches, and getting away with it, had better know that the rule of law will be observed as this Speech clearly says.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also want to say that the Speech is good in that it does place the constitutional

review process at the centre stage of things and it demonstrates the Government's commitment to carry forward the review process. I just want to say that it is again a bit funny that those who were doing their best to stop the review process from coming to a conclusion, only a few months ago, are now the champions of review. I want to accept that Saul on his way to Damascus did become Paul. We are watching to see whether Paul surely carries on with his new baptism or it is Paul trying to disguise himself as Saul. Let us all be serious and join in the nation building.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in line with the Presidential Speech on zero-tolerance to corruption, we want to see the institutions charged with investigations carrying out proper investigations so that the message is loud and clear to all of us that no one can get away with crime so that we can build a country that is free of crime or, at least, minimise the level of crime and make it safe for everybody. Let us all be reminded that even with the best of security which money can hire, you cannot be safe if your neighbours are not safe. You cannot even enjoy your ill-gotten wealth or hard-earned wealth if your neighbours are suffering. We want to join together and ensure that this country is liveable by all of us.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to commend the Speech once again by underlining the commitment to free and compulsory primary education. Although we have teething problems, we ought to appreciate the commitment that has been shown and to appreciate also the number of children who have been availed or have now access to education who previously did not have. What we need is to contribute our ideas on how to overcome the difficulties that are there, but not to get impatient with the programme as it is being implemented.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I note that there is a commitment on water which falls under my Ministry. I want to assure Kenyans that plans are underway to ensure that everybody has access to water for their needs be it domestic, agricultural, industrial or for livestock. It will take us time. It will take the efforts of me and you to make this policy a success.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally, I want to laud the Speech for paying special attention to marginalised areas especially the North Eastern Province and other areas. I do remember the days I was in the Opposition and we were talking of affirmative action policy for this area. The time has come when our Government has embraced those policies. We look forward to having one united Kenya where people have access to equal services that are provided by the Government.

I beg to support.

Nominated Member (Prof. Oniang'o): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make my maiden speech and, fortunately, I hope I will not be disturbed. I want to take you from somebody I admire immensely and that is hon. Ms. Karua. I saw her in hospital and I am glad to see her looking so well.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to congratulate you for having been re-elected. Having seen your performance here over the last few days, I am surprised that anybody could have voted against you. So, I look forward to good engagement and your good stewardship in this House over the next five years. I am shocked, since I come from professional academia, to see that hon. Members do not even listen to each other. We sit and camp here and spent four hours and we do not even listen to each other. Whom are we talking to? I am thoroughly shocked. I come from the public which looks at hon. Members as selfish, disorganised and they do not know who they are serving or who their constituents are. That is where I am coming from.

Now, I am here and I have to join you and I hope that after five years here, God help me, we shall see a different House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have to see a different House because I have already reached the top ladder of my career and I want to pave the way for the many women who want to come to this House. I hope when they come here, they do not have to leave their handbags at the door because I want to look into my handbag since it is part of my attire. I want the women, who come later on, be they your wives, sisters, girlfriends, mothers or grandmothers because that is how old I am - to be able to come here and feel equal to these men. I hope we can already change that and actually bring in a proper gender perspective into this House. I think they never thought that women would enter this House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to congratulate my KANU Members of Parliament here. They had the most difficult job because they had to fight and now they are trying to recover from shock because they are now in the Opposition.

(Laughter)

However, I can tell you that our nascent democracy that we have at the moment, will not be lauded internationally nor valued it if we decide to kill KANU, put it in a coffin and bury it in the ground. It will not! We need a credible Opposition and, indeed, that is why I decided to accept the offer they gave me to join them because my students said: "Professor, you are always asking questions", and I am here to ask questions. I am not here to sing in praise of NARC because KANU at one time was very popular. KANU was as popular as NARC if not more, but do you see where it went? We do not want NARC to go to that direction. I see some of you stand up and start accusing these young boys here or these young men here.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are taking my minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Hon. Members, let her enjoy her immunity which is coming to an end very soon!

(Laughter)

Nominated Member (Prof. Oniang'o): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call them boys because they call me "*mathe*". They are very young here and they do not know about the corruption the NARC Government is talking about. You point fingers here, but you should be pointing fingers at yourselves.

(Applause)

If there are people who brought down this previous Government, then NARC has most of them and so let us not point fingers at each other.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here to really say that we are here to work with you but the onus is on NARC to show that they are not selectively targeting people, witchhunting and really they are not systematic. It is a question of systems.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we want to go back and dig into the past and look for corruption, personally I was also headed for Nyayo House. I looked at those two men in their faces who came to arrest me and asked them: "Do I look like somebody who has to go to the Nyayo Chambers?" "What have I done?" So, we must come up with a system where we should bring restitution and bring these things to a closure because over 60 per cent of Kenyans are young people who want Kenya to go forward.

(The red light on the Table was switched on)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, are you stopping me?

Mr. Speaker: No!

(Laughter)

Nominated Member (Prof. R. Oniang'o): Thank you. On the question of young people, especially university students, they are tarmacking and they have no jobs. We have teachers who spend more time with our children than we do as parents and we do not want even to think about them. I have to think of the pledges NARC made; to respect the rule of law. They should follow them unless they want to forget them. They pledged that they were going to make sure that every Kenyan enjoyed equitability. We are not seeing that. They pledged to have a lean government but, last night, three new Assistant Ministers were appointed. On what basis was that done? We want a lean government.

(Applause)

We want them to tell us that, as they fight corruption, they have made some savings. We also want to know how the savings will be used. We want to see the extravagant and flamboyant lifestyles of Ministers brought to an end. I am here to talk for the poor, the women and people who do not have a voice. Since I entered this Parliament, I have been comfortable. Everything is done professionally and I want to tell the Clerk that he has very professional staff. I hope that, when we come to discuss our own remuneration, those people's too will be included. I am one person who has been very upset by the fact that we tend to think about ourselves

and not other people. I would like to believe that we are here to serve the people as the President put it; that is, service to the people.

An hon. Member: You were nominated!

Nominated Member (Prof. R. Oniang'o): I am glad I was nominated because my Butere---

Mr. Speaker: Would you address the Chair?

(Laughter)

Nominated Member (Prof. R. Oniang'o): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad I was nominated. I do not have a constituency to worry about.

Finally, the way the NARC Government is going, it needs to be watched very carefully. They missed a first step; that is, to send off our retired President like a dog. That is completely unAfrican. It is not acceptable! It would not have caused them anything to give him a good send-off.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I look forward to working with you and everybody else. I do not know whether I am supposed to be proposing---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! I will give you some time! Mr. Katuku and your colleagues, you must respect the maiden speech of an hon. Member, particularly if it is from a lady. It may be paining you, but she is entitled to rub it hard. Please, proceed to rub it on Mr. Katuku!

(Laughter)

Hon. Members: Yes!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Give the new Members a chance to say whatever they please, they are immune.

Proceed!

Nominated Member (Prof. R. Oniang'o): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. If I have stepped on anybody's toes, it is too bad, but I will be here to make sure that our country, Kenya, moves forward and that we move together. My job is not to praise the NARC Government, but to make sure that they do what they pledged to do and that I work with my fellow KANU MPs to just ensure that.

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Mwau?

Hon. Members: Mwau?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, hon. Mwau! Are you not hon. Mwau?

(Ms. Mwau stood up in her place)

Nominated Member (Ms. Mwau): Yes!

Mr. Speaker: Why are they disputing it? I know her!

Hon. Members: Mwau!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Can we hear the other hon. Member? Again, that is a maiden speech.

(Loud consultations)

Nominated Member (Ms. Mwau): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First of all, I want to inform the House that I have no relation with a certain Ukambani politician. We only share a surname.

Hon. Members: Mwau! Mwau!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order!

Nominated Member (Ms. Mwau): My names are Adelina Ndetto Mwau---

Hon. Members: No! No!

Nominated Member (Ms. Mwau): I want to repeat that I have no relation with a certain Mwau of Ukambani!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to congratulate the people of Kenya for voting in NARC, voting in new liberation and voting in change. They had struggled to do that for the last few years. I would like also to congratulate the NARC Government, and particularly His Excellency the President, for nominating me to serve in the Ninth Parliament. I will do it with a lot of dedication. I wish to join Kenyans and hon. Members of this House who have praised the Presidential Address as excellent, focused, comprehensive, well-rounded and touching on real issues affecting Kenyans. Issues about water and health are very close to the hearts of Kenyan men and women. The Presidential Speech was one of the best that we have had since Independence. As I said, it really touched on issues that we have been struggling for.

We have been going to health centres which have no medicine and even for a patient to be diagnosed, he has got to bring a writing pad. It is not that the KANU Government did not have the money, the money went into people's pockets.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Kenyan women are also experiencing a new dawn and a new beginning. The new beginning is that we have seen women appointed in key Ministries. The NARC Government has demystified a lot of myths about women leadership. We have seen women in positions of power, like in the Police Force, where a woman is second in command and also, we have seen a woman being appointed the Commissioner of Lands. I know this is not the end, but the beginning. We are looking forward to a critical mark in public life and in all Government offices. The NARC Government has moved away from giving women positions as a token of appreciation. For example, the NARC Party had seven slots for nominations and they gave five of them to women. That is a clear indication that the NARC Government is committed to see that women participate in public life.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Address placed much emphasis on eradication of poverty. I am sure the NARC Government is going to commit resources to enable Kenyan people to eradicate poverty. We are aware that 50 per cent of our population lives below the poverty line and, according to the Poverty Report 2000, 51 per cent of the women in the rural areas are very poor. The same trend happens in urban areas. Mr. Speaker, Sir, of great concern is that women do not have opportunities and tools to enable them pull out of that poverty. They lack education and training which are very important tools. Access and control of resources that everybody needs to pull themselves out of poverty is what women do not have. I know that the NARC Government will require special measures to address the disadvantages women face. To ensure that this happens, affirmative action, which the NARC Government is committed to seeing the constitutional review process goes to its end will be one measure towards making sure that the disadvantaged women and the marginalised are catered for.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as stated in the President's Speech, the NARC Government is going to put in place a gender commission. I would like to inform hon. Members that gender does not mean women alone. It relates to men and women. It actually means the relationship between men and women and the roles they play. For example, in the Parliamentary Committees, you might find women hon. Members being put in the Catering Committee, because, for a long time, women have been seen to actually work in the kitchen.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally I would like to talk about the NGO sector which I come from. I would like to ask the Government to respect the work of NGOs because it is actually the NGOs - after 1998 when the KANU Government ignored the social services - which supported the poor, it was the health and relief provided by the NGOs which assisted the poor. It is important that the NGO world continues to thrive. For the last 15 years NGOs have worked to support the poor. There is a lot of criticism going around about the NGOs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the constitutional review process is a priority to every Kenyan. This would not have come about had it not been for the NCCK, the 4Cs, the NCEC, Kenya Women Political Caucus, the Political Alliance, FIDA, League of Women Voters and the Collaborative Centre of Gender and Development. Where would the fire have come from if the NGOs were not out there asking for change? I wish to emphasise that there is a role for the NGOs to play. They have the expertise and experience of working with both men and women in Kenya. However, I know, like any other institution in this country, NGOs are not perfect. I know that the NGO Bureau is putting up a policy to regulate the operations of NGOs. I would like to urge the NARC Government to be supportive and create a favourable climate for NGOs to work in. I look forward to the day when the NGOs will get part of their funding from the Government.

Thank you, and I beg to support.

The Member for Ijara (Mr. Haji): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to support the Motion and at the same time wish His Excellency the President quick recovery; Godspeed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, KANU is going to be a very constructive Opposition party unlike the previous Opposition parties. We will give credit where it is due and criticise where it is necessary.

I wish to congratulate His Excellency the President for his Speech which covered many topics that affect the country and wananchi in general. For any country to develop, the question of infrastructure must be given priority. I say this because, during the last General Election, it rained very heavily in my constituency. I remember being stuck for nearly 24 hours. It reached a point where I started wondering how I would represent the people if I was not able to move. I am pleased to note that His Excellency the President took cognisance of the problems facing the people in the northern part of Kenya. It is historical because during the colonial time it was a restricted and closed area. Unfortunately, immediately after Independence, the area was afflicted by the *shifita* menace.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we would like to believe that the promise His Excellency the President made during his Speech here, that there will be special consideration for development in North Eastern Province will actually be fulfilled. When I said that we will congratulate the Government when it deserves it, I will not hesitate to say that while some Ministers are doing a very good job, it is unfortunate that some of our friends are going overboard. They are going overboard in the sense that, whereas they accused the KANU Government of issuing decrees and directives by the roadside, we now see Ministers issuing directives in the middle of the road and in front of toilets. Some even stand in front of toilet doors and issue directives. I think this is not the right way to go about it. The Ministers must restrain themselves. I have very good friends like Mr. Eerie, His Excellency the Vice-President and many others. I would like to urge some of our colleagues to borrow a leaf from these elders who perhaps have been in Parliament longer and know how to deal with human problems.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the NARC Government promised Kenyans free education. This is not a new occurrence since, under the Sessional Paper on the African Socialism in 1965, the same promise was made. We know that because of the peculiar problems in the northern part of Kenya, even the British Government established boarding primary schools to allow the pastoralists or nomads to take their children to school. As time went by this was discarded, and the situation went back to square one. We would like to appeal to this Government that, if it is serious about giving free education, it must give some kind of consideration to the people of northern Kenya so that boarding primary schools are re-introduced. That is the only way people from that area can benefit from this free education. Otherwise, they will never benefit from it.

On alleviation of poverty, we know that the previous Government had spent a substantial amount of money on huge irrigation schemes all of which have failed. A good example are the major irrigation schemes like Hola, Ahero and Bunyala which have failed. However, we know that the small-scale irrigation schemes have been very successful particularly in places like Garissa and Tana River. We would like to see the same replicated in parts of Tana River, Garissa and Ijara Districts and even in Lamu along the Sabaki River because this water is being wasted when it flows into the Indian Ocean. I feel that if these small irrigations schemes were properly organised, we would eradicate poverty in those areas and many Kenyans would benefit.

On the Constitution, our brothers on the other side have promised to give us a new Constitution within 100 days. I know this is not practical. I do not think we should rush this process because any constitution which is written in a hurry will always have some flaws. We would like to see a situation whereby constitution-making is given very serious consideration. Nobody should be agitated or annoyed when people talk about what they would like to tell the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission. For example, when my friends from Rift Valley Province said that they might even ask for a Rift Valley State, I do not think they meant that they intended to secede. They were not declaring secession. All they were trying to suggest is that when the Constitutional Review Conference starts, they will go home and talk about what they want. The NARC Government should allow us to give our views. I am one person who will never, ever dream of secession. My father was against it; I am against it and we are all against it. In a more civilised manner, please give people a chance to say what they feel without being intimidated. Once you start intimidating people, then you will not be a true democratic Government.

On the issue of the Kadhis courts - and I would like my brothers and sisters here to listen to me very carefully---

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My name is Robinson Njeru Githae, Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs. I think the hon. Member is misleading this House. Is he not aware that it is such talk that led to the clashes of 1992? When he was PC---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Githae! This is a timed debate and you are actually giving your argument. In other words, you are telling this House that your views are superior to those of Mr. Haji, which is not true. You both have the same right. You have two minutes Mr. Haji.

The Member for Ijara (Mr. Haji): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the Kadhis courts, I want to appeal to my brothers in Kenya, particularly the evangelists, to stop speaking on behalf of Muslims. The colonial government allowed us to have Kadhis, and this was the time when the colonial Government never gave Kenyans their right. We have every right to have Kadhis courts to determine Muslims' problems. We do not want this Government, or anybody else, to create a precedence because if we are forced to do things against our wish, we, Muslim Members of Parliament, will vacate the House and nobody will represent us for the rest of the session.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. ole Ntimama! I hope you will contribute without threats.

(Laughter)

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. First and foremost, I want to commend and applaud the Speech by His Excellency the President which was delivered to this House a few days ago. This is about the best I have ever heard in recent years. It was the most vigorous and focused Speech that I have heard for the last quarter of a century that the Moi misrule lasted. I want to say very clearly that I am also very grateful that this speech is focused and has a meaning. You can see in his Speech that he has covered all the sectors of the economy of this country. First in the priority list are the issues of the economy and corruption. Indeed, we will all attack corruption from the top to the bottom.

I would also like to thank the Almighty God because he actually dismissed all those spin doctors of doom who said that President Kibaki would not officiate the State Opening of the Ninth Parliament. I am sure all of them are ashamed because the President is in robust health and will continue to lead us again. So, those who thought otherwise had better close their eyes in shame. I was very elated when I saw the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs instituting a process of reforming the Judiciary. For the past two years this Judiciary has been dependent on very corrupt and inefficient people. In fact a few people were appointed to be judges with the purpose of subverting the course of justice there because some of them are not even qualified. I would like to tell the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs to continue probing every judge, magistrate or policeman in the corridors of the court and in fact turn a spotlight on the lawyers.

There are some lawyers who walk along the court corridors with bags full of money corrupting the judges and magistrates. I know one of them and if the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs is interested, I could supply the name in private. I could give the Minister the names of the fellows who specialise and professionalise in manipulating the judges and magistrates. These are the people who should also be punished. The Judiciary must be cleaned up because a corrupt Judiciary is an impediment to good governance and democracy. We must get rid of those people completely; once and for all.

I have heard people on the other side of the House talk about the sanctity of a document. Where is the sanctity in a fake document which has been issued fraudulently and illegally by a corrupt system?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. ole Ntimama! A few things are going over my head particularly a certain peculiar situation. I would urge you to please spare the House too much debate into the Judiciary. It is for particular reasons that you know of. I do not want you to turn me here into a judge when I am already a chairman of a certain tribunal. I am sitting here and I would like you to steer clear of that issue for the time being.

The Member for Kitutu Chache (Mr. Angwenyi): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Are your extra-parliamentary duties going to impinge the work of Parliament?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! I think I must put this into a clear perspective. Hon. Members must understand that, the debate we are talking about puts the rule of law in its foremost position. I am talking about the rule of law, not rule of the jungle! You do understand that, because of the constitutional provisions, I have been made Chairman of a certain tribunal. If it does appear that I am not approaching that job or that duty--- Sorry, not job, but duty. I beg your pardon! That duty is bestowed upon me by the Constitution. By having a parallel discussion to what ought to be in another forum; then I think, in all honesty, it may not be so. But it may be perceived that unfairness will ensue from that tribunal. I want that to be disabused as soon as possible! I plead with all hon. Members to let your Speaker enjoy your debate without having his head on his spin; as it is getting to be perceived or not being perceived. Please, let me too relax and enjoy your discussion.

(Applause)

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to be given the extra few minutes to compensate those which have been wasted here in the middle.

Mr. Speaker: Do we "waste" time, Mr. ole Ntimama?

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I was talking about the sanctity of these title deeds. Already 4,000 acres have been hived out of the Mara National Park, secretly and solemnly. The Mara is not just an ordinary park, it is our national heritage! It is held by the people in the other side of the House! I am telling the Chair that this is the kind of thing I am saying--- Where is the sanctity and the holiness of things like these?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that a man like Karisa Maitha deserves a gold medal! He has gone out of his way sacking officers and controlling thieves in our local authorities.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. ole Ntimama, I will not allow you to continue in that line! How do you stand there and judge Kenyans unheard and declare them thieves? Follow the rules of the House! That is the rule of the jungle, and it will not happen here. So, please, modernize your language.

(Applause)

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): I withdraw that, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): What I am saying is that, he has been cleaning the rot in our local authorities. Whether he has done it in the office, in the house, or on the road, it does not really matter. I want to say that---

The Member for Malava (Mr. Shitanda): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is hon. ole Ntimama telling us that, when he was the Minister for Local Government, he was condoning thieves?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! First of all, again, you two have fallen into the trap. But, as the expression goes, "the shoe is now in another foot"! Proceed!

(Laughter)

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): Mr. Speaker, Sir, those are the sentiments that I will never respond to, because they look wayward, indeed!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, again! I truly plead with Mzee ole Ntimama. "Wayward" is actually an insulting term and you are calling your colleagues "wayward". Hon. Members are not "wayward". Wewe ni Mzee kabisa. So, please, cool down!

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to commend the Minister for Home Affairs, who is now in charge of the Immigration Department, because he is a very efficient and honest Minister. We must not forget that the Department of Immigration was number two in the index of some of our corrupt departments. This is mainly because they allowed people to come across our border, they allowed people to come from Europe and America, and gave them work permits, even as shop stewards, cooks *et cetera*. Where are we going to get 500,000 jobs, if we have to import these people? Kenyans can do everything in tourism. They can be big chefs, leaders and they can do everything. I would wish to make sure that the Minister for Tourism and Information also controls the amounts of money that is being left out in those areas and also the money that is being siphoned out of this country. We are losing billions of shillings. We could turn round the economy of this country if we controlled money that is going out of our country.

Lastly, over the sentiments that have been made about the Rift Valley, I think I really want to plead with the Minister of State, Office of the President, to ignore some of them. As far as I am concerned, in congressional terms, these people are freshmen who have not learnt the art of politics. We should know that they are approaching politics from the rear!

(Laughter)

I would like to ask the Minister of State, Office of the President, to just ignore what they say because most of them are swimming in their own shame. I hope, if they do it again--- In Maasai tradition, we have---

The Member for Marakwet West (Mr. Sudi): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to inform the hon. Member that, I was in Enoosupokia one time---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Sudi! You have been here long enough to know the rules of the House. There is not one single Standing Order that allows you to stand in your place to tell another hon. Member what you think! You are totally out of order! Proceed!

The Member for Narok North (Mr. ole Ntimama): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am only saying that I want the Minister to leave them alone because they are drowning in their own shame for what they have told Kenyans in this time and age. They can talk about anything else, but not secession. When the whole world is re-uniting; for instance in Europe, America and everywhere---

The Member for Kitutu Masaba (Mr. Okioma): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my names are: Samson Nyang'au Okioma, Member of Parliament for Kitutu Masaba; Nyamira District.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for giving me this chance, amidst competition. I would like also to congratulate His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki, for being elected the President of this country. I wish to say a few things regarding his Speech.

On health, I wish to say that, despite the fact that quite an elaborate statement was made on health, as I speak now, Nyamira District Hospital has absolutely no water and the patients have a problem washing their linen.

Although malaria is a curable and preventable disease, I wish to note with disappointment that there are frequent epidemics in Nyamira and the Greater Gusii and it has now spread to Bomet District. Until and unless urgent actions are taken, we are still going to have epidemics, like we have had in the past; where many of our people have lost their lives.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I note with great regrets that in the past, the Minister for Health used to hide patients in congested hospitals whenever the President was visiting such hospitals. I hope this time round, the Minister for Health in the NARC Government will not hide patients in congested hospitals from the President so that he does not see the congestion in those hospitals.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the education sector, I would like to congratulate the NARC Government for making good their promise on compulsory and free education. However, it is rather disappointing to note that schools that offer special education for disabled pupils still charge school fees. This morning I rang Joy Town School for them to admit a pupil free of charge, but I was told that I have to pay Kshs14,000. I hope the Minister in charge will give the relevant notice to make special education totally free.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the water sector, I would like to point out that water shortage has become a big problem, especially in my constituency. It is not surprising for women to wake up at 4.00 a.m. to go and fetch water. I hope that the Minister will come up with a programme that will provide sufficient water to wananchi.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the energy sector, I was a little disappointed that the President did not mention anything in this sector. It is disappointing to note that the hon. Member from Kuria District only sees electricity light on the Tanzanian side of the border. In my area, it is sad that electric poles pass through Gesima and Metamaywa markets and yet our people do not enjoy electricity. I hope the Minister in charge will move with speed to make sure that those markets get electricity.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the roads subsector is the most disappointing because our farmers cannot take their tea and coffee to weighing centres. As a result of bad roads, mothers stay in tea buying centres until midnight. It is a pity that sometimes they are told to go back with their tea. As a result, they have suffered a lot of losses. I hope the Minister in charge, who is doing a good job, will move fast and provide sufficient funds so that our roads are passable and our produce will be delivered in time. In any case, the Government gets a lot of revenue from tea and coffee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the price of tea, farmers wonder why a kilo of tea costs Kshs200, but they are only paid Kshs7 per kilo of tea delivered. They wonder what happens with Kshs193.

I was happy to note that the President said that, this time round, the fight against corruption will start at the top. I hope that this will be achieved and that we will have zero-tolerance to corruption as stipulated in the President's Speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the constitutional review process, Kenyans wonder whether the KANU Government was right in delaying this process. This is because until now, nothing has been put in place to make sure that we have a new Constitution within the shortest time possible.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on job creation, most job-seekers are wondering when the NARC Government will employ the first 50,000 employees, out of the 500,000 they have already promised. I hope that this will be achieved. This Speech will not go down like many of the speeches we have had in the past.

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

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mrs. Tett): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank His Excellency the President for his comprehensive Speech which touched on the country's economy and many other things that are so dear to our hearts.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, permit me to start with education. Previously, it emerged that there were one million children in Kenya who had never seen the door of a classroom. However, it has now been confirmed that there are over three million children who are illiterate in this country. That is, indeed, a very sad affair. What can a child do if he or she cannot write or read his or her name? That is why we have such a high rate of crime and insecurity in our country. The NARC Government has, indeed, given us hope. Those children who otherwise would have had no hope whatsoever of getting education now have a chance. The President also focused on this issue. I would like to believe that the North Eastern Members of Parliament will focus on this issue and, indeed, construct many boarding schools for the children in that province.

I would like also to thank the many NGOs who have helped street children. It is because of lack of education that many children were on the streets. Some NGOs have done a very good job for those children, but some did not. We must now rehabilitate these children immediately by taking them to the National Youth Service and giving them some vocational training.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I carry the dreams of many Kenyans in this august House. I am referring to many daughters and sons who live below the poverty line in this country. These constitute over 52 per cent of our people. They need quick and sustainable intervention. I am talking about the many hawkers in the streets. In the past, we have seen a lot of our hawkers in the streets being frustrated and beaten up. Mothers with babies strapped on their backs were locked up simply because those mothers were trying to sell some groceries on the streets. Although their investment is minimal, hawkers work very hard to earn a living.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, apart from protecting the hawkers, we must also find ways and means of funding their activities. We must also allocate them strategic places within the streets to carry out their activities, and ensure that they are not harassed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in his Address, the President also mentioned the *Jua Kali* sector. I believe that players in the *Jua Kali* sector are the producers of the necessities of the majority of this country. If directed properly, this sector can, indeed, become the engine of industrialisation. For a long time, we have witnessed this sector neglected. *Jua Kali* artisans try their level best to earn a living. I believe that the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC) Government will do all it can to give players in this sector both moral and material support to enable them earn a decent living, and open the door to this country's industrialisation.

The President also addressed the issue of corruption. We all know that local authorities top the list of corrupt public institutions in this country. Previously, one could not access services without paying for them. It is, indeed, commendable that this vice has completely been wiped out in local authorities. You can now access all services at our local authorities free of charge. You realise that we have intensified the collection of garbage and started the street children rehabilitation programme. The Ministry is trying very much to improve many areas which were previously ignored.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was very surprised to hear some hon. Members suggest that internal and external investors should suspend their investments because of the ownership dispute over the Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC) between the Government and the Kenya African National Union (KANU). I would like to urge hon. Members to refrain from discouraging investors from coming into the country. The KICC issue is internal, and can be determined in-house. We need investors to come to our country and do business. So, hon. Members should refrain from urging investors to stay away allegedly because the Government does not respect the rule of law.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Kituyi, you may take the Floor.

(Mr. Sirma stood up in his place)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Sirma!

The Minister for Trade and Industry (Dr. Kituyi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for the opportunity. In due course, I will say something about Mr. Sirma. While observing all protocol, I would like to say one or two things, and then later dwell on a matter that should be of immense interest to my friend, Mr. Sirma, who is emerging as a leader of a group of parliamentarians.

Today, we have a Parliament which is at the threshold of a major change in our country; a Parliament which, for the first time in the history of Eastern Africa, is in a Session which will be covered live for the nation to see what Members of Parliament do and say in the House. Before those momentous signs are with us, I think it is important for us to hone our ability to deal with issues with decorum, decency and respect, so that even when I disagree with some of my colleagues terribly, I will try very much to do what I hope we can all be able to do.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the outset, I wish to say a few things. Enjoying the benefit and privilege of being a Minister of the Government, one is placed in a unique situation where one is easily criticised even by those who do not understand what one is doing. As the Minister for Trade and Industry, when I returned from Mauritius, I found some industrial unrest in one of our Export Processing Zones (EPZs). What has emerged is a chorus of condemnation of the Government that, it was firing people and unleashing the police on workers, and that, my Ministry's officials were friends of the employers and enemies of the workers. I wish to set the record straight at the earliest opportunity. One of my most important achievements in the two months I have been a Minister in this Government is that I pushed all investors in the EPZs to accept that the workers have a citizen right to join trade unions of their choice. This is a principle I have always upheld.

The recent state of industrial unrest in the EPZs helped Kenyans to realise that some of the investments were executed in a way that was very, very oppressive and provided no avenues for internal communication and consultation. Unrest has opened our eyes to that reality and given us an opportunity to close those loopholes in a sustainable investment. We support workers' rights. We fight for the rights of Kenyan workers to get as much as they can out their employers, so long as it remains viable that the profit margins can enable employers to remain in business.

Having said that, I would like to clarify that three-quarters of the workers who went on strike in the EPZs, after we worked out return-to-work formulae, resumed their work. People have been confusing about two specific incidents, and are writing about them as if they cover all the EPZs. One is a case in Athi River, where workers at some factories went on strike, demanding the right to be represented, join trade unions and negotiate for higher wages. However, their neighbours at three other factories did not want to go on strike. What happened was that the workers from the factories that went on strike attacked the factories of workers who refused to join their strike. They destroyed buildings belonging to the Government and burnt bicycles belonging to other workers. I condemned this as a primitive act. No worker has the right to invade another worker in a working place and force him to join a strike.

The second was the case of a firm called "Rafiki Enterprises" in Ruaraka, where workers entered negotiations with their employer after going on strike, agreed on a return-to-work formula, and then refused to go back to work. We, as a Ministry, have no right, or authority, or ability, to even pretend that we can sack workers who have been employed by a private enterprise. What we can do is join our colleagues in the Ministry of Labour and Human Resource Development to assist facilitate dialogue in order to reduce industrial unrest and find amicable solutions to industrial problems. When workers walk away from a negotiating process, after signing a formula to return to work, and they lose their jobs, as a Ministry, after consulting the labour movement, we have no choice but to say: "Unfortunately, you are shooting yourselves in the foot." Unfortunately, this position has elicited all types of commentaries to the effect that we are firing workers. One commentary said that unlike my predecessor, Mr. Biwott, I have fired 4,000 workers. That is totally ridiculous.

To complete my speech on that matter I would like to say that as the process of dialogue gains ground and unionisation proceeds in the EPZs, most workers are returning to work, and that we would very much like to have sustainable jobs in those areas as one of the first steps towards creating the jobs we have promised the citizens of this country. As a sign of confidence and peace returning to the EPZs, over the last three weeks we have had three fresh external investors joining the EPZs. This is an indication that industrial calm is returning to the EPZs. There will continue to be some minimal unrest, but it cannot be written large as a sector in a crisis. That is about all I would say about that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am enjoying the privilege of sitting on the Government side after ten years of sitting on the other side of the House. One of my earliest challenges on this side of the House is to see how my colleagues on the other side execute their business. After all, they have a momentous job than we do. Some of them know that, whereas they used to read out speeches written for them while on this side of the House, they now have to use their heads as they sit on that side of the House. It would be exciting to see how they do it. I am not getting tickled about the way some of them are doing it outside this House. My friend, Mr. Sirma, is a leader of a

group which, all of a sudden, claims leadership of a province, which would like to declare whether it wants to remain part of the country or secede from it. It tickles me, because we want to see whether they are going to struggle to demonstrate competence to reason, and whether they deserve to be called hon. Members.

The Member for Eldama Ravine (Mr. Sirma): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Dr. Kituyi has referred to me as a leader of a group! Given that the constitutional review process is in place, and we are talking about several issues in that draft, what is wrong with talking about a federal state?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Sirma, you have been in this House before and you know that is not a point of order!

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. You see, that is a failure on the part of Parliament in teaching Members of Parliament, even those who were there in the last Parliament! The words he used were that he was emerging as a leader; he is coming up as a leader! He is not a leader yet!

The Minister for Trade and Industry (Dr. Kituyi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was admonished that when I have the privilege of serving as a Minister, I should keep my opinions about individual colleagues as much as possible unstated, particularly, if they are very brutal opinions. This Chamber accords us an opportunity to exchange ideas about how governance should proceed in our country, the containment of bad manners, the definition of the agenda on how to move forward and moving everybody along. Any person who has useful ideas and has a privilege to serve as a Member of this House has an opportunity and access to use this Chamber to articulate those concerns. But when the blind have a one-eyed, the one-eyed should know where to go, so that the blind do not get lost. But when the one-eyed does not even seem to understand the direction he is supposed to go, in spite of five years in Parliament, it is frightening! It is frightening that, all of a sudden, the fulcrum or the locus of political energy in a critical part of this country does not show any acquaintance with decorum. It is saddening that persons think that you can now start popularising bad manners, that if you define tribes; if you put on brinkmanship purporting to speak on behalf of a tribe, you become respectable. You tell them: "Go slow"! They are not inventing anything! Tell Mr. Salat that there are people who have been in this House before him who have seen vitriol and tribalism get stigmatised! That one will also get stigmatised! We have a collective responsibility and we are able to rise up to that onerous responsibility; to make it stigmatised that you do not deserve to be sitting in the middle of us; to be called one of us, if you are so petty to incite ethnic hate when you go to your constituency, and when you come to Nairobi, we call you mheshimiwa! When you go home, you say: "My tribe will illegally walk out of the country"!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I sympathise with my neighbour, the Member of Parliament for Mt. Elgon, who must transverse my constituency to get to his rural home! When he was threatening to go to Rift Valley, I do not know how he will carry that mountain out of Western Province. But you see, we want to help him, that it is possible to cultivate a popular political career; even to be seen as reasonable, if, when you have nothing to say, you do not say it, or, when you say something, you sound reasonable! But you do not just follow into the bandwagon or trying to build up hysteria on the basis of a very narrow memory of history. Some of those friends of mine have a lot to be humble about. They should be praying God that attention does not go towards them. They have bundles and we know they cannot go anywhere. If you put yourself in the shoes of a person; if you took money from the Greeks promising them that you would hide Ocalan; and you took money from the Turks to tell them where Ocalan was being hidden, where can you run to? If you run away from Kenya, where can you go to? You do not create conditions as if you are capable of running away. There is no other place for you. Persons with a modest culture cannot survive outside their home village when they go into retirement. They should behave as if they know the limits of their actions. They should behave as if they are some of us; they are colleagues; they are honourable! They should uphold the dignity of this Parliament by stopping doing rapid and primitive utterances when they go to the villages.

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

The Member for Saku (Mr. Sasura): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. First and foremost, let me not hesitate to congratulate hon. Members on the other side of the House for having been elected and mandated to govern this country. Having said that, I wish to tell them three things.

First, they are not in the Government because of any achievement. They are in the Government because of the mistakes made by KANU. They should be very cautious because by the end of five years, as the Swahilis say, if they are going to make the same mistakes: "Wembe ni ule ule"!

Secondly, I would like to tell them that there is the talk of the Government being new. They are saying: "We are only two weeks old in power! We are only one month old in power"! Now, I am sure they are saying: "We are only two months in power"! What grace period does this Government need to respond to the demands of Kenyans?

Thirdly, I would like to remind them--- I wish Dr. Kituyi was in the House! I wish to remind them about Harambees. In 1992, KANU could not be removed from power by individual parties like the DP, FORD(K) and so on. In 1997, KANU could not be removed from power by individual parties. But in the year 2002, KANU was removed from power by a Harambee of 13 parties called NARC. So, the Government is in power because of Harambee! The 14th party---

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I notice that Members of the Opposition are speaking from the Dispatch Box. I am wondering whether that is in our Standing Orders! Is it because the Leader of the Official Opposition has not appointed his Shadow Cabinet?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Githae, you are right! But for the time being, we give them the leeway until we know their Shadow Ministers!

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Could we ask the Leader of the Official Opposition to appoint his Cabinet?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Githae! That is not our work!

The Member for Saku (Mr. Sasura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are so much disadvantaged by the newness of these Members! Mr. Angwenyi is also joining the new Members!

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. You can see we are wasting a lot of time because our new Members, including Ministers, do not know the simple rules of this House. I am asking for an urgent seminar to train us all, so that when we come to the business of the House, we transact it expeditiously.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Angwenyi, you have belaboured so much on that point and I think the Chair made a communication on that matter!

The Member for Saku (Mr. Sasura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the expectations of Kenyans are very high in terms of delivery of services, good governance and economic recovery from the Government. I would really like to urge the NARC Government not to live in the past. It should be action-oriented and start working and serving Kenyans. To begin with, they should stop living in the past; by stopping the pirated tune of Gidi Gidi Maji Maji, the *unbwogable!* Please, let us move forward. Let us forget the campaign slogans. You have won the elections and so, let us now settle down to work.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming back to the Presidential Speech, it was very well articulated and must be commended. We wish him quick recovery. As far as corruption is concerned, I am sure he is going to get support from across the Floor and a big cross-section of Kenyans. That is because Kenyans do not want corruption. It is very painful to fight corruption, especially when it affects an individual. But deep down our hearts, no one wants corruption. We commend him for that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he left one field where corruption has been institutionalised. A few years ago, the Government scrapped what used to be called Services Charge, and replaced it with what was called the Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF). Over the last four or five years, a few individuals, especially the chief officers in our councils, have enriched themselves from those funds. If this Government will closely monitor what has happened, I am sure it is going to unearth massive corruption in as far as LATF funds are concerned. The Local Authorities Transfer Fund (LATF) is now called the Local Authorities Service Delivery Programme (LASDP). Every councillor presents his project proposals to the council, the council forwards them to the Ministry of Local Government and the money is sent to the council. But at the end of the day, it is the chief officers who benefit. The President failed to emphasise this issue. I would urge the Minister for Local Government to look into this issue because there is a lot of corruption taking place there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we welcome the Government's move to provide free and compulsory primary education, but we cannot achieve anything without employing enough teachers. Before the free and compulsory primary education programme was started, we had a shortage of teachers in this country. Now that the number of pupils has increased, definitely we have a shortage of about threefold. That is the first area the Government should look into. We not only need to have our children in schools, but we want them to have quality education.

As far as the area of investment is concerned, the President mentioned that the Government will create an enabling environment for investments, but we cannot have investments in a country where we do not have security. Kenya is a peaceful country, but we had two very ugly incidents of terrorism in this country. In 1998, we had the bomb blast in Nairobi, and last year we had another bomb blast in Mombasa. The Government should find out why terrorists operate in this country. Why is Kenya a safe haven for terrorists? Is it our foreign policy that is attracting terrorism, or is it our security machinery which is relaxed and has created an enabling environment for terrorism in this country? If this continues, then we cannot talk of having an enabling environment for investments in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was very happy to hear the President talking about pastoralism in northern Kenya and the arid and semi-arid areas. This talk is not very new. We have heard it several times before. The late Mzee Kenyatta's Government did not know much about the northern Kenya region. It did not care. The region was referred to as the "place of the castaways" of this country. Even the immediate former Moi's Government did not do much for the pastoralists. The pastoralists and the people of the northern Kenya region do not want sympathy from the Government. We do not want to be sympathised with. It is our right to get what other Kenyans get. So, when the President makes a special reference to districts that have been ignored, it gives the impression that the Government is sympathising with us. We do not want the Government to sympathise with us. We want the Government to just give us what is due to us. It should provide us with education and health services.

The Government can never provide us with grass, but it can provide us with water. We always fight because of water sources. If the Government provides us with water, we will not have to go looking for water in other districts and then conflicts arise. If the Government wants to solve the problem of insecurity in northern Kenya, it should just provide water to the residents and the residents will not go around fighting over the meagre water resources in the region.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about health services. Kenyans really want to hear about getting free services. Immediately after being sworn in, the Minister for Health pronounced that all the patients in hospitals should go home without paying their bills if they had been held up there because of non-payment of medical bills. That is welcome. But if you tell people in Nairobi that they should not pay any medical bill, where will they go to? The Government should rather invest in health clinics. Kenyatta National Hospital is a referral Hospital. Instead of people going to the Casino Clinic to have sexually transmitted diseases treated because that health clinic is not working, they all go to congest KNH. The Government should revive Nairobi City Council health centres instead of telling people to go and get free medical services from nowhere. You cannot get free medical services from health clinics which have no drugs unless you want to go there for nothing.

We welcome the provision of free services and we want to have them. In fact, I was happy to hear hon. Tett telling a crowd the other day that from that day onwards, even demonstrations would be free of charge. I have never heard of demonstrations being paid for, but we want to have free services. We should also check our words. We want to be treated free of charge at health clinics and get drugs. But drugs are not there now.

I want to challenge the Minister for Lands and Settlement, Mr. Kimunya. When we talk about northern Kenya, we talk about pastoralism. People are trying to mislead us by telling us that the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) cannot be revived because there is no holding ground. We do not need the holding ground. The Government has promised to put up abattoirs in different areas of the country and then we could take our meat to the KMC. But the challenge to Mr. Kimunya is that he should tell us where the holding ground of the KMC has gone to. We would be glad to hear that the holding ground has been grabbed by so and so.

An hon. Member: Ask KANU!

The Member for Saku (Mr. Sasura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, KANU is not a human being. Lastly, I would like to touch on the Devil Worship Report.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Member for Mutitu (Mr. J. Kilonzo): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to comment on the Presidential Address.

The Presidential Address was quite visionary and I wish the President a quick recovery. The Address gave Kenyans hope. For the first time, Kenyans could see direction as to where they are going. The President touched on the issue of the infrastructure. He talked about the Government's intention to expand and improve our infrastructure so that the cost of transport is lowered in this country. The issue of roads needs to be addressed.

First, the Constituency Roads Fund of Kshs5 million is not enough to finance the repairs and the upgrading of roads in constituencies. So, I would like to request the Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Housing to increase that Fund to a higher figure which would be enough to maintain roads in every constituency.

I would like to call upon the Government to tarmack the Kitui-Kibwezi-Mombasa Road in my constituency. If that road is tarmacked, then Kenyans who travel to Mwingi District and to the northern Kenya region will not have to pass through Nairobi if they have no business in the City. This will also open up new markets in Kitui and Mwingi Districts.

The President's Address was so touching when he talked about creating 500,000 jobs annually. That was a very good gesture. I want to call upon the Government to make sure that these jobs are not just created for people who have retired. We have had cases of retired officers being appointed to positions when young educated and experienced Kenyans are languishing in poverty. Industries should also be opened up outside Nairobi City so that jobs are created in the districts. In Kitui District, we grow a lot of mangoes and other fruits, and an industry should be built there to process these fruits. This would create jobs for Kenyans. That would be one way of curbing

the problem of unemployment.

There is also the issue of the health sector. The Presidential Address covered sufficiently the health sector. I would like to call upon the Government to upgrade Mutitu Health Centre to a sub-district hospital. We also want to commend the Government for the speed with which it moved to address the malaria outbreak in the constituency. The other aspect I would like to touch on relates to the nurses and doctors. You will realise that there are hospitals in the constituencies, but there are not enough doctors and nurses to treat patients. So, we would like the Ministry of Health to address that issue so that the people of that region can also enjoy services from professional doctors rather than from the quack doctors who open the so-called "dispensaries" behind shopping centres.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on free primary school education, I would like to commend the NARC Government for having lived to its promise which it made during the campaign period. Indeed, this has been received very well across the country. In the region where I come from, the turnout of children who went to primary schools was overwhelming. However, the biggest impediment to implementation of the programme is lack of enough teachers. In my constituency alone, we have a shortage of about 250 teachers. I would like to call upon the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) to move fast and ensure that these children do not just go to school and stay there, but have got teachers to teach them. Of course, the other problem can be understood. We do not expect the Government to move in the first day and construct classrooms, but if we get enough teachers, the pupils can learn under the trees.

The biggest problem facing Ukambani region, where I come from is water. If we get water today, we can be the food basket of this country. So, I would like to commend the Minister for Water Resources Management Development, Ms. Karua, for saying that she will provide water in this region. But I would like to say that if dams and boreholes are sunk in Ukambani, they will help alleviate water shortage in the area. We do not want the NARC Government to do what the previous regime used to do; that is, giving Kambas relief food for political expedience.

The other issue I would like to talk about concerns electricity. Electricity is a crucial component for the growth of industries of any region. The constituency where I come from touches Kitui Town. The Ukambani area, which starts from Mwembe Tayari, Wikililye up to Savalula and Kwa Kilonzo, requires electricity as a matter of urgency. I would like to thank the Ministry because of the manner in which it is moving towards that direction. But I think more effort needs to be put in this area.

On tourism, the President's Speech touched on expanding regions of tourism. I would like to thank the Minister for Tourism and Information because of opening the northern circuits, and tourists are now going towards Kakamega and those areas. I would like to inform the nation that I come from an area where there are the famous Ukambani stones. If you want to change yourself, you just need to go round the stones five times and then you can become the opposite sex.

(Laughter)

Therefore, I would like the Minister for Tourism and Information to have a keen interest in that area. He can accompany me so that he can see the area, so that he can promote it as a tourist destination. Our area is rich in culture and I believe that the Ministry of Tourism and Information should take advantage of this region.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, land is very sensitive. I would like to say that people have been allocated land fraudulently. I think it is high time the Minister for Lands and Settlement repossessed the pieces of land which were allocated illegally. However, non-issuance of title deeds is another problem when it comes to land. There are some people who have not been issued with title deeds from in area. These people are from Nzombe, Mwitika and Endau. So, I would like to call upon the Ministry of Lands and Settlement to look at the issue of title deeds because this will assist our people a lot. I want to believe that a title deed is a right of the people and, therefore, they should be issued with them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it seems as if I have come to the end of my speech. I support the Motion.

The Member for Mbita (Mr. Kajwang): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for recognising me. The Speech of the President was comforting to Kenyans because it touched on areas which affect Kenyans very dearly. I would like to say that 17 times, the President mentioned the word "corruption". I would like to propose that the heart of the President's Speech was to deal with this monster called "corruption". Corruption is a great feat of social engineers and it has grown into a monster which is very difficult to tame. We cannot fight corruption with ordinary means. In fact, if you want to deal with corruption, you must use extra-ordinary means. This is because every time you try to fight it, whether through the police, you will find that there is corruption there. If you try to deal with corruption in the courts, you will find that there is also corruption there.

You will also find that there is corruption in the Executive if you try to deal with the vice through the Executive. So, you will have a merry-go-round and you cannot deal with this monster. The President is clearly worried and he should be because this monster will destroy this country. So, how do we deal with corruption? Do we deal with corruption in the manner we have dealt with it before by asking corruption-infested police to investigate corruption, and asking the corruption-infested Judiciary to deal with the vice? Sometime, the President was so perplexed and he said that even the Attorney-General, who was supposed to deal with the vice, was not advising him well. He asked: "Could I now appoint an inquiry? This is because he had reached the limit. He has looked at the Constitution and means of dealing with it and said that he was appointing a Presidential Judicial Inquiry into Corruption. I would like to applaud the President because he has seized the opportunity to deal with it himself and the buck stops with the President to deal with corruption in this case.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that we have that inquiry we are now going to talk because we have tried to deal with it in this House, but we are dismissed that it is *sub judice* and so you cannot talk about corruption. When you try to deal with it outside, somebody takes you to court and you get some substantial or extraordinary damages against you, with costs. So, nobody knows how to deal with this monster called corruption. I think the President has done a commendable job and we hope that those who have been appointed to these commissions of inquiries will do a good job. We hope the Press will be present and report to us what will be said there and Kenyans will know the beginning and the end of this monster.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would even want to suggest something very drastic; something outside our normal laws and Constitution. When we deal with the Anti-Corruption Amendment Bill, which has already been published, some of us will be suggesting something very extraordinary. To deal with this monster, we need something very extraordinary. That is a tribunal which sits for 24 hours and gives judgement for hanging.

(Applause)

In 24 hours, any court will have already known whether hon. Kajwang is corrupt or not. It does not need ten years to determine whether when I was in office, I awarded a tender irregularly. It is very simple. So, within two hours, the punishment should be 30 to 50 years' imprisonment or hanging and let me tell you that within six months there will be no corruption in this country. We will be a good place to do business in.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is because you cannot tell anybody to invest his money in Kenya here. Even if it is me who had billions of dollars, you would have to persuade me to invest it in Kenya. Why? Because the cost of doing business in Kenya is so expensive because of this monster. Now, if you are a businessman you would want to look at the cost of production because it is after you produce that you can sell. If you are going to produce something so expensive that nobody will buy it, you will go elsewhere. Even if you are a Kenyan you will want to go and invest somewhere else where you can make some money. This is because if we do not deal with the costs of corruption, insecurity, power and the energy sector which has been replete with corruption; and now they are trying to do something about it, transport and labour, which hon. Dr. Kituyi was talking about a few minutes ago, money and finally the cost of justice, this country is too expensive. You cannot invest your money here. So, we must be serious if we want people to come and invest their money here because they must make some money. They do not come here because they love us. They come here because they want to make money and we must put infrastructural institutions in place which will make them bring their money here.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you cannot talk about creation of jobs and poverty reduction if nobody is going to invest his money here and nobody is going to invest his money if these conditions which have I just talked about are not met. I learnt about them sometime back when I was in Form Five and those are the costs of production, and I think they are still the same. However, look at it this way: If you are importing your goods - raw materials - from South Africa, you will notice that transporting them from Durban to Kampala takes less time and less money than transporting your goods from Mombasa to Nairobi. So, why would anybody want to invest in Nairobi? Just ask yourself that question. Is it because one is in love with us? One cannot do that! So, if you want to create jobs, then you must be serious about it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now look at the situation in Nzoia Sugar Company, SONY and Muhoroni sugar factories, and there is only one thing. Because of corruption of so many years, since there are piles of corruption cases for many years, the corporations are crippled. The other day one very brave manager from Nzoia said: "This thing as it is, it is technically insolvent". That was the managing director. He suggests that the only way to revive it, because the Government owns 98 per cent of the shares there, is to write off the debts or turn them into equity. It is not going to help us to come here and say: "If a corporation is not making profit, we wipe it out". We did not create these corporations to make profits. It is for the employment that it generates; it is the sugar that it generates; it is the multiplier effects of what that Muhoroni or Miwani sugar factory is doing that creates more wealth than

the debts which which we are crying about. Let the Government write off those debts or turn them into equity quickly so that our jobs are secure, and so that we can have our sugar cheaply, and so that our people can be happy again in that region. It is simple!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in fact, I am happy that the Head of State is an economist. He knows that if you just write off those debts, you will generate money. We wrote off Kshs8 billion of Kenya Airways and now, people are saying that Kenya Airways is the most profitable institution. This is because we wrote off those debts. You cannot tell people to buy shares in SONY or Muhoroni. Who will invest his money in a debt-ridden institution? If you advise your constituents to buy shares in them, you will be voted out very quickly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so there are some institutions which were not created to make profits, like Kenya Railways Corporation. You do not say that if Kenya Railways is not making profit, then we close it down. Kenya Railways was not built to make profits; it was built to facilitate people to do business in order to make profits. It is like a road. Roads are not built to make profits. They are built so that people can move and make money. So, invest money in the Kenya Railways. We want to have a cheap, fast and efficient railways system and then people will invest their money here and we will make more money than the money we are investing in Kenya Railways.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy about Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). We wrote off its debts here last time. Although we made a lot of noise because we were in the Opposition and we did not want the Government to take advantage, we are very happy that KMC now does not have any debts to worry it. So, let the Government move quickly and open it up so that our animals can be slaughtered and we can have good meat and we can export some, so that our people do not lose. There is going to be a big drought and our people should not lose their animals any more.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to finally say that those who have kept their money abroad because some of the Members on the other side were very rich and the banks here were not very trustworthy and so they kept their money abroad; now there is a transparent Government, bring your money back so that we invest it here. In fact, unless those on the other side and their friends bring their money back, nobody will invest his money here.

I support.

The Member for Eldoret South (Mr. Koros): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to comment on His Excellency's Speech. It touched on almost each sector, especially our economy. We commend him for that. Since it touched mostly on the parts of our economy, I would like to ask the Minister for Co-operative Development to make sure that the co-operatives which have been run down are revived, especially the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) and the Kenya Farmers Association (KFA), and those culprits behind this mess be brought to book.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we commend the President for introducing free primary education, but the impediment to this policy is the shortage of teachers. We urge the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to move fast and employ more teachers. We are also experiencing the problem of HIV/AIDS orphans. Most of the orphans are not able to pay school fees and we would request the Ministry concerned to set aside funds for these orphans.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, the East African Tanning and Extract Company (EATEC) recently sold their farms and the squatters there were not settled in these farms. Some were given two acres of rocky and salty places to settle and I would request the Minister for Lands and Settlement to act and see how he can assist these people.

Also, there is the issue of title deeds. Most of the farms in Uasin Gishu District, particularly in my constituency, were not issued with title deeds. I would request the Government and the Minister concerned to move with speed and assist the farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since the Minister for Energy is here, I would like to bring to his attention the fact that there are some farms which have raised money; the 10 per cent required for the Rural Electrification Programme, but they have not been supplied with electricity.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Planning and Development (Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to support the President's Speech as one that laid down the road map for a new Government, that it is determined to live by what it says, and say what it believes. When the NARC Government came into power, it promised this nation a new beginning which would see rapid economic growth and the creation of a nation in which all Kenyans would feel at home. This was the essence of the President's Speech because the President laid out exactly how this was going to be done and what Kenyans have to expect from the NARC Government. When the President said that we are going to create 500,000 jobs a year, he underlined it by saying that this economy must grow at 7 per cent per annum.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that many Kenyans are very worried about the problems that the NARC Government has inherited from the previous authoritarian, repressive, exploitative and thoroughly irresponsible regime of Daniel Toroitich arap Moi. But this Government is determined to ensure that the Civil Service is reformed, that merit will be the criterion for putting people in positions of responsibility, that work will be awarded and that opportunities will exist for the private sector, given that the Government will ensure that the rule of law prevails, and that there is predictability in the actions of Government; and that profit made will be made genuinely without overdue exploitation of labour. In that regard, the NARC Government will lay emphasis on ensuring that energy costs are brought down. Indeed, the Minister for Energy was today reported in the papers as already taking measures to bring down the cost of energy as a critical factor of production.

(Applause)

The Minister for Public Works, Roads and Housing has, indeed, been on the move to revamp the infrastructure and to ensure that the Road Levy Fund is used for maintenance of roads as it was meant to do. But in the area of energy, Kenya has a tremendous comparative advantage in geo-thermal energy. We intend to exploit geo-thermal energy because it is the most cost-effective source of energy that we should use. We would have ascertained that we tap from the cheap energy from southern Africa to bring it to our national grid so that the cost of energy is down and affordable to both domestic and foreign investors. We will ensure that the area of tourism, which is one of the fastest growing industries in this country, will be properly exploited by the Government and as such add to wealth creation in our nation. But we must look for new markets, particularly Asian markets, a market that has so far not been tapped but must be tapped; a market that is promising but we must ensure that we inform the Asians of the existence of good tourist facilities in Kenya. In that regard, we must welcome the advent of daily flights from Nairobi to Bangkok by Kenya Airways. We do hope that Singaporean Airlines will very soon be flying to Nairobi to ensure that communication between Kenya and South-East Asian countries is regular and efficient. But we would like to propose for future consideration that we do open an embassy in Seoul, South Korea, with consulates in Bangkok and Singapore to ascertain that the opening of that market for both tourists and investors from South-East Asia guarantees a future for Kenya in terms of economic development.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the previous two Parliaments, I have always said that Kenya must ensure that it enjoys the comparative advantage in this region as a service country, a country that provides not just ordinary services that we are used to like hotels and so on, but services like financial, insurance, conference, schooling and health. In this region, Kenya is already regarded by her neighbours as a country in which you can send your kids to school and get good education, as a country in which you can send your sick to hospitals and get good treatment; and a country in which you can hold conferences and get value for your money. While the previous Government has not fully exploited this, the NARC Government intends to exploit this fully and make sure that we, as a service country, earn from our neighbours the money we need for rapid industrial and economic growth. But we cannot do this unless there is security in this country, unless the infrastructure works, unless there is an efficient Civil Service. That is one of the reasons why we have waged a war on corruption, a war on a corrupt Judiciary and a war on an inefficient Civil Service. We want to make the Civil Service efficient and competent. We want to make sure that the Judiciary is a Judiciary that promotes justice and not corruption.

But more importantly in terms of wealth creation, the NARC Government intends to target small enterprises as a pool for economic growth and for greater thought, the nomenclature of the informal sector. There is nothing informal about producing *jikos* in Burma Market. There is nothing informal about running a means of transport called a *matatu*. There is nothing informal about having a barber shop on Kenyatta Avenue. All these are formal activities that should be synchronized into the normal economic and industrial life of the nation by laws and regulations that make sure that the Government provides them with services and makes sure that when they create and make wealth, they too contribute to the revenue generation of this country in terms of taxes. The only thing that has been informal about these enterprises in the past is that the Government has neglected them in terms of provision of services, and it has not paid them attention in terms of collecting taxes from them. The NARC Government would like to banish the vocabulary of informality forever and bring these small enterprises into the national grid of the economy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country too has a comparative advantage of having very high development of human resources. Indeed, countries within the region are expecting us, and have always expected us to export to them human resources. The only thing that has not happened in the past, is that the Government has not organised the export of human resources to our neighbours in East and Central Africa.

The NARC Government would like to enter into formal and proper negotiations and agreements with our

neighbours within the context of NEPAD and the East African Community to ensure that where we have human resources to export within the region, and add to the economic growth of this country, that we do so, ascertaining that we repatriate income from our people working outside, so that it adds to the resources for the national development of our nation.

This means that we must move rapidly to ensure that we have a proper investment code in this country. The Investment Promotion Centre has no excuse whatsoever not to have a proper investment code, understood and fair to investors, both domestic and foreign. The Ministry of Planning and National Development is moving very fast in discussions with the Investment Promotion Centre to put in place an investment code that will encourage both domestic and foreign investors to ensure job creation and wealth creation in our nation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, it is important to note that without good labour relations - as Dr. Kituyi said earlier - we cannot have good economic and healthy national development in our nation. This Government is determined to have discourse with the labour movement, the employers in this country and all representatives of the people, so that there is industrial harmony in the nation. In that regard, I would like to extend an invitation to the National Assembly, that we shall be soon organising a seminar for all hon. Members of Parliament to discuss our strategy for economic growth for the nation. I hope that the Business Committee of the National Assembly, the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Clerk to the National Assembly will make possible this seminar so that hon. Members of this Assembly can buy into, and support our strategy for economic growth.

I beg to support.

The Member for Lamu East (Mr. A.C. Mohammed): Asante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ili niungane pamoja na Wabunge wote kuchangia Hoja hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika, hotuba ya Rais ilikuwa ya kuisimua na imegusia sekta zote ambazo wananchi wa Kenya wanatarajia mema. Hotuba iliguzia elimu ya bure na ya lazima. Hakuna taifa ambalo linaweza kufaulu ikiwa wananchi hawana elimu ya kutosha. Elimu ndio chanzo cha maendeleo katika taifa lolote. Kwa hivyo, ningependa kumpongeza mhe. Rais na Serikali ya NARC ambayo ilishinda katika uchaguzi uliopita. Tumekubali kushindwa, na asiyekubali kushindwa si mshindani.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ningetaka vile vile kumpongeza Rais kwa kutilia mkazo kumaliza ufisadi. Nchi hii ilikuwa na historia nzuri ya maendeleo, lakini baada ya viongozi wengine na wafanyi biashara kufikirikia kwamba ili wanufaike ni lazima watafute njia za kujitajirisha kwa haraka huku wakisambaratisha uchumi wa taifa hili, hio ndio sababu uchumi wa taifa hili ni duni. Kulikuwa na watu ambao walileta sukari nchini bila kujali sehemu ambazo zinakuza miwa na kusambaratisha viwanda vya sukari. Sisi tunampongeza mhe. Rais na tutamuunga mkono kikamilifu ili ufisadi umalizike Kenya nzima.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ningependa kuchukua fursa hii vile vile kuwashukuru watu wa Lamu Mashariki ambao walinichagua Bungeni. Ni jukumu kubwa mtu kuchagulia, na nina wajibu mkubwa wa kuwatetea watu wa Lamu Mashariki ambao uchumi wao unategemea uvuvi. Wavuvi wa Lamu kwa jumla hutumia nyavu za inchi moja. Hivi sasa wanaambiwa na Idara ya Uvuvi wasitumie nyavu hizo ilhali walitumia mamilioni ya pesa kununua nyavu hizo, na hilo ndilo tegemeo lao kwa maisha. Hivi sasa wanalazimishwa kutumia nyavu zenye inchi kubwa.

Ikiwa hali ni hiyo, inafaa idara inayohusika na Wizara ya Co-operative Development wanunulie wavuvi wa Lamu nyavu za inchi mbili na wachukue zile nyavu zingine. Halitakuwa jambo la busara kuwaambia ya kwamba wanunue nyavu zingine ilhali wao wamenunua nyavu za inchi moja.

Bw. Naibu Spika, vile vile watu wa Lamu wanakata mikoko ambayo ni sehemu kubwa ya uchumi wao. Kuzuia watu wasikate mikoko ni kumaanisha kwamba watu wasifanye kazi ili wakuze maisha yao. Inafaa tutenge miaka fulani ya kukata mikoko na kuiruhusu mingine imee. Kwa miaka hii yote iliyopita, mikoko imekuwa ikikatwa mfululizo bila kujali kwamba wakati mmoja itakwisha ama kuna hatari ya kuisha. Hii ni sehemu muhimu ya uchumi kwa watu wa sehemu hiyo, na ni wajibu wangu kuwaambia wale wanaohusika washirikiane na watu wa Lamu ambao wanakata mikoko ili wawe na mipangilio ya maana. Lakini kuwazuilia peke yake ni jambo ambalo litazorotesha uchumi wao.

Ni lazima watu wote wazingatie kwamba nchi kuinuka ni kuweka rasilimali mikononi mwa watu wenyewe. Hiyo ndio njia pekee ambayo watu wa Lamu wanaweza kuendelea.

Bw. Naibu Spika, Ningetaka vile vile kuchukua nafasi kuwashukuru wale watu waliotuchagua sisi zote. Jambo la muhimu ambalo Rais Kibaki ametilia maanani ni umuhimu wa kulinda sheria za nchi hii. Kenya inajulikana kuwa nchi ya kuhifadhi sheria zake. Njia moja ya kuhakikisha kuwa watu wanaoleta rasilimali kutoka nje wanaendelea kufanya hivyo ni kwa kulinda masilahi yao.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono kikamilifu.

The Member for Mukurweini (Mr. Kagwe): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. My name is Mr. Mutahi Kagwe, the Member for Mukurweini, Nyeri District. I just wanted to comment on a couple of things that the President mentioned in his Speech. His Excellency the President first spoke about the second liberation of this

country. The second liberation must not be forgotten like the first one. If there will be any monuments that will be built this time round, they should be in honour of those people who suffered in the Nyayo dungeons and in other areas of incarceration, so that we can remember in future that some people suffered in order for us to get the liberation that this country is enjoying, moving on towards this second Republic.

The President spoke about economic recovery and I have in mind the agricultural sector in particular. The agricultural sector has virtually collapsed, particularly in coffee growing areas. It goes without saying, therefore, that action is required to revive those areas. When corrupt nations become debt-ridden, they normally ask for debt relief. Countries across the world are asking for debt relief. As Mr. Kajwang just said a few minutes ago, we did write-off a huge loan for the AFC. In order for the coffee sector to recover, we should look at the entire debt situation with a view of writing off some of the debts owed, particularly by those co-operatives who borrowed money without Government intervention to ensure that the money is not stolen by those who were managing those sectors at the time.

The area I come from, probably, has the largest debt as far as the coffee sector is concerned in a single co-operative society. This debt amounts to Kshs264 million. We simply cannot pay back the money because we do not have it. There is no need of asking somebody who does not have money to pay it. Even if you ask for the money 20 times, if they do not have it, they will simply not pay. In a situation like that, I would urge that instead of forgiving individuals who owe the AFC money that they borrowed and bought Mercedes Benzes, we should instead forgive co-operatives like those ones so that those people can recover. Otherwise, no matter how many times you talk about recovering these loans, it is of no use since they will take a whole decade to even start paying school fees for the children.

In the area of health we did not mention the issue of mortuaries. Earlier on, I was glad to hear the Minister for Health say that the Mukurweini Mortuary will be opened. It is not just the Mukurweini Mortuary which needs attention. If you visit mortuaries throughout the country, you will note that we are simply not giving our dead the respect that they deserve. In most mortuaries the dead are piled up like cabbages or dead cows in fridges that do not work. This is an area that we must address.

The issue of corruption was touched on to a large extent. Indeed the Speech focused a lot on corruption. There is one branch of governance that was not mentioned and which is absolutely crucial in the fight against corruption. We must wipe out corruption at the Legislative, Executive and Judiciary levels. One of the branches of Government that will help us fight corruption is the media. I propose that this House should not make laws that will interfere with the freedom of the Press. That way we will have a free Press that can criticise and point out where we are going wrong as a Government and where there is corruption.

On tourism, the only way that this industry will thrive is if we promote this country locally and internationally. The image of Kenya is not good. Even though we know that a new Government is in place, the people outside this country are not aware of that. It is like winking at a person in the dark. You know what you are doing, but nobody else does. Therefore, it is absolutely crucial for the Government to invest money in attracting tourism both internally and externally. In doing so, we need a paradigm shift as far as the management of our foreign office is concerned. The Minister for Foreign Affairs should look at ways of changing the management and meeting the expectations as far as the foreign office is concerned.

Kenya is a poor country. We cannot afford offices overseas that are not commercial-oriented. It is time for us to set commercial targets for our foreign offices. Let the London foreign office know that Kenya expects so many numbers as far as tourism is concerned. Let those people in Sweden know that we expect so much from them as far as tourism is concerned. Let the office in Russia know how much tea and coffee we expect to sell in their country. If they cannot meet those targets, then it is time for those diplomats there to come home and we send businessmen to run those offices. We should also include the banking sector in the process of recovery. In countries like Thailand and Malaysia, banks are allowed to take up equity in organisations. We must revolutionise the banking sector in this country so that banks can take up equity and relieve the debt for those organisations. If given time and space, such organisations can recover, but given their indebtedness, they will simply close down. Therefore, it is important for us to look at the area of banking so that banks can own equity and we can move on as far as re-organisation is concerned.

In order for this nation to move forward, there is also the issue of the East African Co-operation. Even as we talk about the new Constitution in this country and we look forward to a time when the East African nations shall unite, it is important for us to compare notes with our East African partners so that as we move towards a political merger with our neighbours in future, we will have common ground as far as the constitutions are concerned. Therefore, it will not be too difficult to merge them into one.

On economic recovery, there is a lot of excitement as far as our borrowing of loans from organisations like the World Bank and the IMF is concerned. Whereas I am not against the borrowing of loans from these

financial institutions, I think we are spending so much time negotiating and being taken round that given the same amount of time, we would be able to get the same money from friendly governments on grants rather than borrowing from every source available. Let us not borrow money from the IMF for any other reason except in areas where we know we will get returns from the borrowing. When we borrow money just to meet a budget deficit, it goes without saying that we are putting money in a hole because in 20 years from now, our children will still be paying the same money. That is how nations have gone bankrupt and some have been taken over by those institutions. So, we must be careful that the money that we are borrowing is put to proper use. For that reason, there is no need for us to borrow money from the World Bank and the IMF until we have an internal infrastructure that will make sure that the money is put to good use.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of pastoralism, I believe that the President was right and he paid proper attention to those areas. There is need to re-look at the land policy so that in future we have areas for pastoralism. What is happening is that the rest of us are buying out everything that the pastoralists owned.

In future there will be no land for pastoralism and meat and *nyama choma* will be extremely expensive when it is found in ranches.

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

The Member for Chepalungu (Mr. arap Koech): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to join my colleagues in making a few comments on the Presidential Speech.

First and foremost, I would like to commend His Excellency the President for making a very forecast Speech, giving us a new direction in the socio-economic development of this country. While I commend the President for a very good Speech, I would like to make the following comments.

It is true that corruption has brought---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Koech! Could I ask hon. Members to consult quietly so that we can hear Mr. Koech's contribution?

The Member for Chepalungu (Mr. arap Koech): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

While we all know that corruption has done a lot of damage to this country; all hon. Members, including us on this side of the House, do not condone corruption because we know that, with corruption we cannot develop. I should also like to warn the Government that when they are in the process of eliminating corruption, they should not be vindictive. This is because we can be carried over by the enthusiasm of removing quite a good number of civil servants who served under the previous Government and who are now serving under the new Government, and then we overstep and remove people who could be utilized for the development of this country. So, we on this side of the House would like to see that when the fight against corruption goes on, we do not become vindictive because we are also not supporting corruption.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the NARC Government has promised free and compulsory primary education. I commend them for that, and we appreciate that quite a good number of children have gone to school. This is a good move, but surely, classrooms are very much congested! I would also like to urge the Government to make a very quick move in the employment and redeployment of teachers to all primary schools in the Republic. We cannot talk of free and compulsory primary education when there is no education! This is because, right now, in quite a good number of schools in this country, there are no teachers. Previously, in our own areas, parents were employing teachers through what they normally called Parents and Teachers Association (PTA). But at this time, because no child is supposed to pay any money, those teachers have left schools and the children are suffering. There is no education the children are getting because there are no teachers! I hope the Minister for Education, Science and Technology, will move fast enough and ensure that there are enough teachers in schools. Otherwise, the very good aim of bringing about free and compulsory primary education, will not be of any use.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I come from an agriculturally-based constituency, especially with regard to dairy farming. It is a constituency which is known for keeping of dairy animals. Over the years, with the decline and finally the collapse of Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC), farmers have had a lot of problems. So, I hope the NARC Government will revive agriculture and ensure that the marketing of dairy produce will be efficiently done for the good of the farmers. Our farmers have suffered greatly. In fact, I know some farmers in my area who have suffered because of poor management of farming activities and lack of extension and veterinary officers. Because of lack of these officers in my constituency, quite a good number of animals have died. And, in the process, some people have also died because of losing their animals! I remember one *mzee* who lost all his herd because of the East Coast Fever disease. After that, the old man collapsed as a result of a stroke and he died. I

hope such things will not recur. I hope the Government will come out very fast and improve agriculture in my area and make sure that there are enough extension officers. We should not be revisiting some of the mistakes which had been done in the past.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have quite a good number of assistant chiefs and chiefs. Honestly, when we do not have veterinary officers, what are these people going to do? Some of these chiefs and assistant chiefs can be trained and be made technical officers, so that they can serve in those areas in order to make them agriculturally productive.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a lot of hope in quite a number of people in this country. But, of course, that hope will not exclude us because we know we shall also come back in a big way. We will make sure that we make our party a different KANU from the one which participated in the 2002 General Elections. This is because we must change and we will move fast. We know, of course, you are human beings; you are not angels! Soon you will start making a lot of mistakes, which we will capitalise on and come back in Government, even before the year 2007.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, right now, malaria has become a very big problem in this country. There was a time when we could not talk about malaria in this country and that was a time when diseases like typhoid had been forgotten. But this time, some of these diseases are again affecting our people. Typhoid and malaria have become a very big problem in this country. We hope that the NARC Government will address these issues. Currently, in our own district, Bomet, we have had an outbreak of malaria and we are losing a good number of children. I have not heard this Government getting concerned about the large number of children who are dying due to malaria. This is because we do not have enough nurses, neither do we have enough drugs in our hospitals. Yet, the Minister for Health tells us here that we have got free medicines being taken to health centres. Honestly, if the Minister was honest and was telling us the truth, then we should not be witnessing a lot of deaths, especially of children who are less resistant to malaria! So, I do hope that the Minister concerned will, from tonight, ensure that there are enough drugs in hospitals in those areas which have been affected by malaria this time round. She should also make sure that there are sufficient personnel in public hospitals because for some years, there have not been enough personnel in the hospitals, hence creating a lot of havoc to quite a good number of people.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so much has been said about heavy borrowing by the Government from the Central Bank of Kenya. I was quite happy when the President said in his Speech that he will reduce domestic borrowing so that the common *mwananchi* can borrow from domestic source. I am waiting for the time when domestic borrowing will come to an end, so that *mwananchi* can borrow from the domestic sources, instead of the Government borrowing from the domestic source, at an interest rate which will not be so high as to discourage him from borrowing.

We all know that in this country there are quite many honourable people who are having very heavy debts. This is not because of their mistakes, but because once the interest rates go up, how do you expect people to do any business? Now, the Government has been very enthusiastic and they say that they will improve the economy of this country. How will the Government improve the economy of this country if the banks are still charging high rates of interest? It is now two months since the new Government entered office, and I do not think it is difficult to reduce the domestic borrowing and ensure that banks lend money to ordinary *mwananchi*. Once this is done, I expect the interest rates to go down immediately. We are still waiting anxiously for this to happen. How will the Government develop this country if it will not do some of the small things which will reduce the problems that we face?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have also been promised about donors coming back to assist this country. Of course, I do give the Government a nod for giving some hope to Kenyans that donors will resume aid to this country. We hope foreign aid will be resumed and assist this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, corruption did not start with Kenyans. Corruption also started from donors because some of the people who bring money to this country could even request some of the key persons - when they are giving the money - to tell them whether there are some accounts outside the country to bank the money. We have got to be careful because sometimes we believe that donors are angels, while they are not. Of course, I am not condemning all the donor community because we have quite a good number of them who have good intentions, when they are giving loans to this country. Human beings are human beings! We have some donors who can advise some of our people here to bank their money in banks outside this country. Of course, we are very keen, we must make sure that we uproot those people because I know we are not dealing with angels. So, we have got to be aware of donors who are going to misuse this country for their own benefit, so that when the money comes, it reaches the common *mwananchi*. This is because sometimes foreign aid is not aid at all.

With these few remarks, I beg to support.

The Member for Bahari (Mr. Khamisi): Bw. Naibu Spika, jina langu ni Joe Khamisi kutoka Bahari,

Wilaya ya Kilifi. Ninasimama kuunga mkono kwa dharti Hotuba ya Mtukufu Rais aliyoitoa katika Bunge hili kwa njia ya busara sana. Mimi nina furaha kwamba tulimuona Rais katika hali ya afya njema na ya kutabasamu, kinyume na fikra zilizokuwa katika akili za wenzetu. Ninamshuru Mungu kwa kumuweka Rais katika hali hiyo nzuri.

Bw. Naibu Spika, mimi natoka Bahari ambapo tatizo kubwa ni la maskwota. Asilimia 70 ya wananchi wa Bahari ni maskwota. Hii ni aibu kubwa kwa nchi hii. Baada ya miaka 40 ya Uhuru, bado kuna Wakenya wanaoishi katika hali ya utumwa; hawana hata ardhi ya kuweza kuchimba vyoo, kulima na kujipatia mazao yao wenyewe ili waishi kama Wakenya wengine. Ninaiomba Serikali hii ya NARC, ikiwa inataka kupata ufuasi wa wananchi wa Pwani, na hasa wananchi wa Bahari, iangalie kwa dharti swala hili. Ninamshukuru Rais kwa sababu alisema atajaribu kuunganisha sheria za ardhi na pia kuweza kuleta Mswada katika Bunge hili ili kusawazisha swala hilo.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ni jambo la kusikitisha sana kwamba hata katika mipango ya kuwapa mashamba wananchi ambayo Serikali ya KANU ilianzisha, viongozi fulani walipora ardhi. Kwa unyenyekevu mkubwa, tunataka viongozi hao warudishe ardhi hiyo kwa sababu hatutaki kufika wakati ambapo tutakuwa katika hali kama ile ya Zimbabwe, ambapo wananchi waliyavamia mashamba. Tayari katika sehemu ya Vipingo wananchi wamevamia ardhi ya Vipingo Estate. Jana kulikuwa na mkutano wa Bw. DC wa kujaribu kusawazisha jambo hilo. Hili ni jambo ambalo ni nyeti sana na tunataka Serikali yetu, kama vile Rais alivyotuahidi, iangalie jambo hili kwa dharti sana.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ninaunga mkono Serikali katika vita vyake dhidi ya ufisadi. Tunaiomba Serikali ihakikishe, kama vile tulivyoahidi wakati wa kampeini, kwamba sisi viongozi tutatangaza utajiri wetu. Hakuna haja ya kuzungumza juu ya ufisadi kama hatutangaza utajiri wetu. Itakuwa ni kama tunaimba nyimbo ambazo Serikali ya KANU iliimba kwa muda wa miaka 40. Maneno matupu bila vitendo! Tunataka tuone vitendo kutoka kwa Serikali ya NARC.

Zaidi ya asilimia 60 ya wananchi wa Bahari hawana maji safi ya kunywa. Visima vilivyochimbwa na wananchi havijakaguliwa ili kuhakikisha maji hayo ni safi kuambatana na afya ya wananchi. Tunataka Serikali yetu iwapeleke wataalamu katika sehemu hiyo ili waweze kuyakagua maji hayo na kuhakikisha kama yanafaa kwa binadamu. Tunaiomba Serikali ifanye hivyo kwa sababu tunaamini kwamba lile shirika la maji nchini limeshindwa kufanya kazi yake. Sisi wananchi wa Bahari tunataka lifunjwe na kuanzishwe shirika ambalo linaweza kuleta manufaa kwa wananchi wetu.

Bw. Naibu Spika, kuhusu stima, ni jambo la aibu kuona ya kwamba wananchi wetu hawana stima na stima yenyewe iko kilomita mbili kutoka barabara ya Malindi. Hata mimi mhe. Mbunge wa Bahari sina stima na hali ninaishi kilomita tano tu kutoka barabara hiyo. Ule mpango wa stima mashinani haukufika katika sehemu yangu. Mimi nimesikitishwa sana na taarifa ambayo ilitolewa na Waziri wa Hazina akisema kwamba Serikali itatumia bilioni Kshs14 kuweka simu sehemu za mashambani katika miaka mitano ijayo. Sisi wananchi wa Bahari hatuna haja ya simu. Tunahitaji maji, barabara na elimu ya kutosha. Kuna mhe. Mbunge mmoja aliyesema wananchi wa Pwani hawafai kupewa kazi katika Serikali kwa sababu hawana digrii ya PhD. Kuna wananchi waliyo na digrii ya PhD Je, kuna haja ya kuwa na digrii ya PhD ili kuweza kupewa kazi ya ukatibu katika Wizara? Je, kuna haja ya kuwa na digrii ya PhD ili kuchaguliwa kama Mkurugenzi Mkuu wa kampuni au shirika fulani? Kwa hivyo, ningependa kulaani taarifa kama zile ambazo zinapotosha. Sisi viongozi wa Pwani tumezilaani kwa dharti sana.

Tumependezwa pia na msimamo wa Serikali kuhusu mashirika ambayo hayana faida. Mashirika hayo hayafai na yapazwa kufungwa mara moja. Lakini pia ni muhimu kwamba tuangalie idara fulani za Serikali ambazo pia hazina maana. Hapa ningependa kuitaja idara ya habari ya Kenya News Agency (KNA). Serikali haina haja ya kufanya biashara ya habari. Serikali haina haja ya kukusanya habari. Sekta hii ni huru katika uchumi wetu. Tungependa Serikali ifunje shirika hilo na badala yake, kazi hiyo ifanywe na shirika la Utangazaji la Kenya. Hivi majuzi, tulipokuwa tukipigwa vita kuhusu mchezo wa Cricket, ilikuwa ni kazi ya Waziri wa Michezo na Ujinsia kutetea Serikali ya Kenya. Ningependa tuwe na Central Information Office ambayo kazi yake itakuwa ni kujishughulisha na sera ya mambo ya nje, uchumi, biashara na utalii. Kazi ya Central Information Office itakuwa ni kupiga propaganda na kutetea nchi hii. Hatuwezi kuendelea kuketi kitako na huku nchi kama New Zealand inayojifanya rafiki wetu inatukashifu. Nchi hii imetupiga vita na ikaungwa mkono na marafiki wetu wengine kama vile Uingereza. Sisi hatukuwa na vyombo vya habari vinavyoweza kutatua jambo hili na kupigana vita na kututetea ili watu wajue Kenya si nchi ya majambazi. Ikiwa ni mtandao wa *Al Qaeda*, wako kule New York kwa sababu kulipigwa bomu pia. Ikiwa mtandao huu wa *Al Qaeda* upo, basi upo katika nchi za Switzerland, New Zealand, Afrika na Asia. Kwa hivyo, ningependa kituo hicho kuanzishwe kwa haraka ili tuwe na sauti moja wakati tunapopigana vita na maadui wetu.

Bw. Naibu Spika, ningependa kutoa mwito kwa Serikali yetu kutofuata mifano ya Serikali ya KANU ya

kuogopa kutoa habari ambazo ni za kisawa. Tunataka Serikali iwe na msemaji wa kiserikali na pia tuwe na msemaji wa Rais ambaye kazi yake itakuwa anatwaambia ni jambo gani linalotokea mara kwa mara katika Ikulu ili wananchi waepukane na uvumi na propaganda ambayo haifai. Tungependa Serikali hii ifanye jambo hilo kwa sababu ni Serikali ya wazi na inaweka masilahi ya wananchi mbele. Ni Serikali inayopendwa na wananchi wa Kenya. Kwa hivyo tusiogope jambo lolote.

Bw. Naibu wa Spika, jambo lingine ni juu ya mtambo wa korosho. Kama tunavyojua, mtambo wa korosho uliporwa na viongozi wa chama cha KANU. Ripoti iliyotolewa ilitaja majina ya watu tisa ambao, kama kungekuwa na sheria ya haki, wangekuwa wamefikishwa mahakamani na kushtakiwa. Baadhi ya waliopora mtambo huo walikuwa wahudumu wakuu wa zamani wa Ikulu. Vipande vya mtambo huo viliuzwa nchini Tanzania. Tunamshukuru Makamu wa Rais kwa ziara yake katika Pwani hivi majuzi. Alitupa moyo na akawataka wenye raslimali kutumia raslimali yao kuhakikisha kwamba kiwanda cha korosho kimefuliwa. Tunataka wale walioiba na kupora mali ya umma wakamatwe. Tunataka Serikali yetu iwe na ari ya kukifufua kiwanda cha korosho na vivanda vingine ambavyo vimezorota kutokana na udhalimu na ufisadi uliokuwepo katika serikali iliyotangulia ya KANU.

Utalii ni moja ya fani ambazo hutuletea pesa nyingi sana za kigeni. Utalii hivi sasa umechafuka kwa sababu mbalimbali.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Mr. Khamisi, I am afraid your time is up. You may take the Floor, Mr. Lesrima.

The Member for Samburu West (Lesrima): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my name is Simeon Saimanga Lesrima. I am the Member for Samburu West Constituency, in Samburu District.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for having been elected overwhelmingly as the Deputy Speaker of this House. I would also like to thank the people of Samburu West for the great confidence they have demonstrated in me by electing me to this House with a landslide majority. The vision that the people of Samburu West want me to project is that of leadership to remove the roadblocks to peace and development in that area. Such roadblocks have bogged down the residents of that area over the last 30 years.

His Excellency the President's Address to this House was very comprehensive---

*(Mr. Machage crossed the Floor
without bowing to the Chair)*

The Member for Kinangop (Mr. Waithaka): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Member for Kuria to cross to the other side of the House without bowing to the Chair?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Machage, could you go to the Bar and bow to the Chair?

*(Mr. Machage proceeded to the Bar
and bowed to the Chair)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well. Hon. Members, we are still in the process of facilitating the learning process of the procedures of the House by our new colleagues.

Could you proceed, Mr. Lesrima?

The Member for Samburu West (Mr. Lesrima): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that His Excellency the President's Address to this House was comprehensive, and I would like to expound a few points about it.

My constituents have very much welcomed the idea of free primary education. However, the district I come from is larger than the whole of Central Province, with a population that is smaller than the population of primary school girls in the old Murang'a District. This means that there are large districts which are sparsely populated, hence children have to cover between 10 and 20 kilometres everyday, in the midst of all the dangers associated with the wilderness. Therefore, whereas we welcome the idea of free primary education, we would like the Government to speed up the provision of boarding schools and desks. In addition to that, unless food is provided for the children who are now enrolling in schools in large numbers, it will be very difficult for the Government to achieve the goals it has set.

In addition to that, there is the problem of the teacher shortages. Since the imposition of the embargo on recruitment of teachers, more than 50,000 primary teachers remain unemployed, and who would very well fit into the vacancies that have resulted from the enrolment of 2.1 million new pupils in our primary schools.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to urge the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to put

emphasis on those areas. They should have new innovations on education, such as after-school programmes, provide for children to learn the technique of taking care of livestock in the day while, at the same time, being able to attend schools in the afternoon and at night. There are other programmes such as mobile schools which cannot be implemented.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while we talk about primary education, I would appeal to the Government to look into the issue of secondary schools. In Samburu District, we have nine secondary schools. The fees arrears range between Kshs2 million to Kshs4 million. That is school fees which has remained unpaid over the last few years because of poverty level. As you know, according to various surveys, Samburu District ranks the lowest in terms of poverty levels.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to mention something about the affirmative action. Affirmative action has been practised in this country even during colonial days. I happened to be a beneficiary of affirmative action, by going to a national school. There are 17 national schools in Kenya. I would like to appeal to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to give Samburu children an opportunity to go to the 17 national schools, so that they could feel integrated in the community of Kenyans.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Government for removing street children and other street people from the streets. That is a very laudable move. Unfortunately, they are coming back to the streets of Nairobi. We are aware that, that is a massive problem which, at present, is in every urban centre in the districts, including my town Maralal. I thought that was an excellent idea and I believe it would help if we involve social workers and other professionals. I have been able to talk to a few street people in the streets of Nairobi and asked them why they have come back. They answer that there is a bit of violence in the community halls where they have been taken to. The adults are mixed with young people who sniff glue and have other problems. So, there is violence, shortage of food and idleness. I think the Government should not lose momentum in removing street children from the streets. I know that, that exercise would have been better handled if there was better coordination, and if it was done in a more organised manner. I know that the Government is anxious to fulfil the promises made to Kenyans. But I think the Government should be more careful not to chew more than it can swallow!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I now want to turn to security. The President alluded to conflicts in Sudan and Somalia. The origin of my people is Somalia and Sudan. Unless the problems in Somalia are settled; unless there is peace among the people of Turkana and Karamojong in Uganda; unless the people of Somalia form a government, we will never feel secure in Samburu. That is because of the movement of small arms. As from today, it seems to me that the boundary between Kenya and Somalia is a bit fuzzy. The sooner the IGAD Initiative produces some results the better. I have a lot of confidence in Ambassador Bethuel Kiplagat in trying to resolve that particular problem. But he needs all the support from the Ministry of Home Affairs and National Heritage.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I talk about development of North Eastern and north western districts of Kenya, we do have Kenya Police Reserves (KPR), commonly known as homeguards, taking care of community security in my constituency. Those people do not have uniforms and it would be very nice to give them a small allowance, so that the temptation to misuse the guns does not arise, while we are awaiting demobilisation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President talked about marginalised tribes. I recall that the former Government was manned by pastoralists. In fact, 80 per cent of the hon. Members who were in the former Cabinet were pastoralists. So, sometimes I feel a bit shy to talk about the pastoralists having been marginalised by the Government when the same Government's Cabinet had a majority pastoralists. I would like to recommend the formation of a Ministry of Pastoralism which could be combined with the current Department of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL), which is doing an excellent job.

On the issue of tourism, I would like to congratulate our Kenyan cricket team for their wonderful performance yesterday. I do not understand the rules of cricket, but I know that 2 billion people in the world watch this game on television. I also watch the game although I do not follow the rules. I feel that I am part of the 2 billion people who watched the game worldwide. If only 1 per cent of the 2 billion people, which is about 20 million people, could visit Kenya as a tourist destination, we could earn a lot of foreign exchange and move forward in development.

I would like my people to be involved in wildlife conservation activities. We want them to benefit from the proceeds of wildlife activities. The policy on wildlife needs to be reviewed further so that we know who is supposed to benefit from the proceeds and who is supposed to control them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President talked about the use of technology in the agricultural sector. We have institutions such as the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), which have a lot of technology gathering dust on office shelves and not being utilised. Time has come for us to establish an office of a director of

linkages, to link research results from the research institutions and universities to the people of Kenya.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Member for Bumula (Mr. Bifwoli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my names are Mwalimu Silvester Wakoli Bifwoli, the Member of Parliament for Bumula Constituency.

I would like to start my maiden speech by first of all congratulating the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC) for winning the last general election against the former KANU Government. If the former KANU Government remained in office for a few more months, I do not know where Kenya would be today. When the President has declared war on corruption and the Government is targeting corrupt people who have stolen from the public coffers, another group in KANU is saying that it is being targeted as a tribe. Everybody is wondering whether those thieves stole on behalf of their tribes or as individuals.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the President for declaring war against corruption. He should not get tired. I wish him quick recovery so that he could fight against corruption with more vigour. It does not matter whether the corrupt person is in the Government or is my brother; as long as one is corrupt, one should be apprehended. We challenge the people who grabbed land to surrender it voluntarily before they are apprehended.

I am a teacher who has been a Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) branch secretary and a member of the National Executive Council. During the campaign period, the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC) promised that it would implement the teachers' salary increment if elected. Today, nobody is talking about this issue. Before you inherit your brother's wife, you must know what killed him before you sleep in his house. I am telling my brothers in the NARC Government that if we do not implement the teachers' salary increment, teachers will vote us out, come the next general election. I am not ready to go home. Why do we not implement the teachers' salary increment? The KANU Government made an agreement with the teachers that it would pay them the remaining phases in ten years and that is why it was voted out. We cannot pay teachers the remaining phases in ten years. Let us pay them within a shorter period of time so that KANU will not have a chance in life to come back to power.

The free primary school education is good. I like it but it has compromised the quality of education because we have taken too many children to school. I am a teacher and I used to teach 40 students in a classroom, but today, a teacher teaches 300 pupils in a classroom. If we are serious, let us employ teachers. I made an inquiry from the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) and I was told that our primary schools are understaffed by 64,000 teachers in this country. This is the case, and yet, there are some teachers who qualified from teacher training colleges idling at home.

An hon. Member: Tell them!

The Member for Bumula (Mr. Bifwoli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know this and that is why I said that if KANU had ruled us for more months, we would have been dead. Now that we have taken over, let us correct this simple anomaly.

As we condemn corruption, let us also know that our policemen earn peanuts and the worst part of it is that four policemen share a single house with their wives. How can this happen? When nature dictates, what happens?

(Laughter)

Surely, let us do something about it. Let us do something for our brothers, who are human beings. Four men cannot sleep with their families in one house. I would like to look at the KANU side.

(Mr. Bifwoli looked at the KANU side)

What happened with you? How were you ruling us?

Even the chiefs, who are very unpopular with us, are really underpaid. I would like to ask the officers in charge of personnel management to look at the salary structure of the chiefs and their assistants. There is a very good group called the "village elders", who do the donkey's work, but they are not paid a single shilling. How can this happen? If we do not employ these village elders and pay them some money, we are encouraging corruption.

Corruption starts from there. We cannot eradicate corruption when somebody is hungry. We cannot be eating and then ask the hungry person not to be bribed. How is it possible? Let us also be realistic.

An hon. Member: You are a KANU mole!

The Member for Bumula (Mr. Bifwoli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not in KANU and I will never

go to KANU. I am only agitating for national issues. I do not care whether it is hurting the Government or not. But I am in the Government and I would like to say---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! The hon. Member is making his maiden speech. So, please, give him time.

Continue, Mwalimu!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wanted to make my remarks concerning a poorly paid group of people called councillors. First of all, they are too many in this country and again they are paid very little. There are some councils that cannot collect any money and these councillors are expected to contribute money in harambees. I do not know where we expect them to get money. Why do we not come up with a system where the Kenya Government will pay councillors and trim their numbers?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming to Bumula Constituency, where I come from, it is really a forgotten place in the world. There is no single factory, road or electricity in this constituency.

A hon. Member: You are a KANU mole!

The Member for Bumula (Mr. Bifwoli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are some old men here who have no regard for young men. They want to disrupt me but, please, allow me to continue. We even do not have markets for the little cash crops that we grow in Bumula, like cotton, tobacco and sugar-cane. We are people suffering between two factories. Mumias Sugar Factory has its own problems. Nzoia Sugar Factory has a million-and-a-thousand problems. We do not know where to go and everybody is saying all is well and let us revive it. We are asking: "Some are eating and what shall we eat?" We are suffering and we cannot open our mouths to beg and question what happened to Nzoia Sugar Factory. What went wrong with Malaba/Malakisi ginnery? Now, when I talk like this and an hon. Member says that I am a KANU mole, I feel like shedding tears because all these miseries were brought about by KANU.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am trying to bring up these problems not for criticism purposes, [**The Member for Bumula**]

but for information purposes to the Government so that when they sit down to plan, they know that in a constituency called Bumula, there is no electricity, there are no roads or factories, and there is absolutely nothing there, and so they should think about that. Even there is no clean water. There is no hospital. With a population of 200,000 human beings, there is no doctor. Up to recently, no livestock officer has been posted there. Recently, a disease came from Uganda and killed all the animals in Teso, and also invaded us.

An hon. Member: What is the name of the disease?

The Member for Bumula (Mr. Bifwoli): I do not know it. I do not know its name. I am not a medical doctor and so leave me alone. You know I know one job and that is the one of making men into men, but this one of animals I do not know.

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you see me with a traditional knife, that is when I will talk well. When I have that knife which I normally use when the time comes, do not call it a bad weapon. It is a good one.

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to end my first contribution---

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

I have not concluded my speech but I want to end. My time is still there. I can end it in five minutes. I want to end it by thanking God for sparing our President. I want to thank God for sparing my brothers and sisters from a very bad air accident in Busia. I felt so sorry. I was standing down there and when I saw my brothers go---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Your time is up!

The Member for Mount Elgon (Mr. Serut): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mount Elgon is in Western Province. The Presidential Speech in the House was commendable. It was a good one. It dealt with most of the issues that affect Kenyans in general. It talked of corruption, compulsory free education, roads, HIV/AIDS, clean drinking water, good governance, the rule of law---

The Minister for Roads, Public Works and Housing (Mr. Raila): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member is making a maiden speech, but have you noticed that he is reading his speech? Is he in order? I think he does not know that he does not have to read his speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: As we said, we are learning. You are not allowed to read a speech although you can refer to your notes.

(Loud consultations)

Order! Order! You may refer to the notes, but you may not read the speech. Continue.

The Member for Mt. Elgon (Mr. Serut): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was not reading the speech, but I was referring to the notes. I saw most of the hon. Members refer to their notes, but I can proceed without looking at them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Mt. Elgon where I come from---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! Hon. Members, please, allow the hon. Member to proceed.

The Member for Mt. Elgon (Mr. Serut): In Mt. Elgon Constituency where I come from, there are no roads. I am happy the Minister for Roads, Public Works and Housing is here; he has been there. I do not need to say much about the roads in Mt. Elgon since he is aware of what I am talking about. I will only request him to give some special attention to the roads in Mt. Elgon in the next financial year. As I speak, the only means of transport there is the donkey. In fact, I will tell the House that sooner or later, the donkeys in Mt. Elgon will become extinct because they have no time to breathe. From Monday to Sunday, they are on the road doing transportation. I know some hon. Members will say I am a KANU Member and KANU has been in power for the last 40 years. Precisely, that is correct, but the representation is important. It is the players who are important. You can be in the ruling party but without proper representation; there will be nothing that will come out of your representation in the august House. I am not going to blame the KANU Government, neither do I want to pass the buck to the NARC Government. I am only requesting the NARC Government to assist the people of Mt. Elgon, especially on the road network. As I talk, there is not even a millimetre of tarmac road in Mt. Elgon, and yet people pay road levies through fuel.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the question of settlement, we have a settlement scheme referred to as Chebiuk. It has been there for the last 30 years and the Government has shown interest in it. I would request that the Minister for Lands and Settlement moves very fast and settles those people on the ground and not people who are living in Nairobi, or in market places. The people who are already settled there should be issued with letters of allotment and thereafter title deeds. It is interesting that, as we talk today, the Government is giving out that land to other people, and yet there are people who have been living there for the last 30 years. Still on the land issue, there is an "animal" known as diversionary interest, which I am sure most hon. Members do not understand and which is also a source of what I may refer to here as corruption, where absentee landlords own land. I would like to request the Ministry of Lands and Settlement to move very fast and ensure that idle land is reverted to the Government so that it becomes the trustee instead of an absentee landlord.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while still on the issue of land allocations, I would like to say that there is a lot of land in this country, but the problem we have is greed. The Government should come up with a policy to ensure that there is an acreage limit per person in this country. There is no need to own thousands of acres in Trans Nzoia or elsewhere, and yet you are living in Nairobi while there are so many squatters.

The squatter problem has been mentioned by one hon. Member from the Coast region. It is not by chance that he mentioned it. I would like to say that the squatter phenomenon is everywhere in this country. It is more pronounced in the white highlands, and I feel the NARC Government should move very fast and do a collection of data of the acreage of land which is there, and settle the squatters once and for all.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are squatters who, ten years ago, were removed from a place called Kiboroo in Trans Nzoia District. These squatters have nowhere to stay. I know they have been living in Trans

Nzoia as squatters in their own country after 40 years of Independence. I would like to say that two or three weeks ago, the same people were evicted from where they have been earning a living. Their houses and stores of maize were burnt, and yet we say that there is a shortage of maize in this country. If these people had made any error, why could the Government not give them notice in order to harvest their maize, and then move them out?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have talked a lot about corruption. To me we are dealing with an end product instead of the root cause of corruption. We should look back and find out why we have corruption in this country; how it started and how we can treat it. Dealing with the end product is not assisting this country.

The President's Speech also talked of the economy. There are so many structures which are envisaged to be put in place in order to improve the economy of this country. But I would like to look at it from a different way. Why do we talk of the growth of the economy when even bread and eggs in a kiosk are imported from South Africa and India, and yet we have chickens which can lay the eggs? Why do we not produce Kenyan products and buy them instead of importing? We should have an economy which is corporate instead of an open economy which is manageable. Today, we are talking of *Jua Kali* and job creation. There are jobs in the *Jua Kali* sector. When every district in this country will give *Jua Kali* artisans tools to start sewing and making desks during this era of free primary education, I know we shall create jobs for so many Kenyans instead of looking for white collar jobs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Mt. Elgon where I come from, the people honoured me by electing me to come to this House. They must have trusted me, and because of that fact, I would like to request that Mt. Elgon District which was created out of Bungoma be given special treatment. This is because, when Mt. Elgon District was carved from Bungoma District, all the good schools which had been developed in Bungoma District through contributions made by the people of Mt. Elgon District remained in Bungoma, and there was no contribution which came from Bungoma District. When it comes to considering the districts which were marginalised, Mt. Elgon should be considered as under-developed.

I support.

The Member for Kinangop (Mr. Waithaka): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. My name is Waithaka Mwangi, the Member for Kinangop in Nyandarua. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate His Excellency the President for his Speech on the 18th of this month which gave Kenyans a lot of hope. For those who may have checked, soon after the Presidential Speech on policy, the value of the Kenya Shilling immediately appreciated against the hard currency.

The Speech by His Excellency the President touched on almost every aspect of our economy. I would first like to touch on the issue of education. It seems the NARC Government is very committed to fulfilling the pledges made during the campaign, one of them being to give free and compulsory primary education. This has already been put in place and it is doing well despite a few problems here and there which are normal when a new programme is started. However, if the Minister for Education is here, we are expecting a problem regarding the implementation of free education. Immediately this policy was implemented, a circular was issued by the Director of Education to the effect that all primary school heads should admit pupils regardless of their respective ages. Some parents took children aged four years and less to school simply because there was that clause indicating that all children should be taken to school regardless of their age.

We would also like the Government to address the issue of Early Childhood Development Centres. As was stated here by Mr. Nyachae when he was contributing, we may talk about providing free primary education and end up compromising the quality of education that we will offer to our children. Unless these Early Childhood Development Centres are included in the educational programme, parents will not take their children to nursery schools and pre-unit. They will be waiting until a child is six or seven years before taking them to Standard One because education there is free. We would urge the Ministry to make Early Childhood Development Centres also part of our primary education because you will note that those centres were not included as part of primary education in the education curriculum.

Land is a very sensitive issue and an important factor of production which we should address if we are talking about resuscitating our economy. His Excellency the President talked about trying to bring in one set of legislation to harmonise the more than 20 legalisations which deal with land. Sometimes it is very difficult to understand land laws because you have to go through so many statutes. You will find land in the same area being governed by different sets of laws.

Due to this confusion, those who are mandated to interpret land law, even in the lands office, are not able to do what they are expected to do. If you look at the current law on land ownership and the right to dispose of land, nobody in this country has a right to sell and develop land. If you are granted a piece of land in a town like Nairobi, you are supposed to submit a building plan to the local authority within six months. This building plan should indicate the kind of structure that you want to put up.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Waithaka! Hon. Members, it is now time to interrupt the business of today. The House remains adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 26th February, 2003, at 9.00 a.m.

Mr. Waithaka, you will continue tomorrow. You have six minutes.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.