

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 20th July, 2004

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

LIMITATION OF QUESTION TIME

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, as we get to Question Time, I wish to notify the House that I will stop Question Time at 3.20 p.m. There will be a Ministerial Statement by the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs. We will begin with Questions by Private Notice.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

Mr. Speaker: The first Question by Mr. Kagwe will be deferred to Thursday.

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

Mr. Speaker: You are here? Did you not call my office asking for your Question to be deferred?

Mr. Kagwe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was indisposed, but I managed to come.

Mr. Speaker: Welcome back to good health. You may ask your Question.

MURDER OF MR. PATRICK WAINAINA WAMWEA

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Mr. Patrick Wainaina Wamwea, who was the Assistant Chief of Kariara Sub-Location, Rutune Location, Mukurwe-ini Constituency, was murdered on 4th February, 2004?

(b) Is he further aware that suspects arrested were released and are now threatening witnesses who either forwarded or want to forward information?

(c) What steps is the Minister taking to bring the perpetrators of this crime to book?

Mr. Speaker: Where is the Minister of State, Office of the President? We hope he will be here. We will leave the Question until the end.

Next Question, Mr. Mwandawiro!

ARREST OF IRAQI REFUGEE

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that a fifty five (55) year old refugee from Iraq by the name Adel Mohammed Al-Dahas, presently at Kileleshwa Police Station, Nairobi, has been held in police cells since October, 2001?

(b) If the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative, why is the refugee being held?

(c) When will he be released and accorded his rights as a refugee?

Mr. Speaker: No one is here from the Office of the President? We will leave the Question until the end.

Next Question, Mr. Ndolo!

AWARD OF TELKOM KENYA
NGV-VOI PROJECT TENDER

Mr. Ndolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Information and Communications the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister inform the House the criteria that was used to award the tender on the supply, engineering survey, installation, testing, commissioning and commercialisation of Next Generation Network Voice-Over Internet Protocol (NGV-VOIP) Project at Telkom Kenya?

(b) Why did the Huawei Company offer a 65 per cent discount on its products?

(c) Why did Telkom Kenya management visit the said company in China before the tender was awarded?

Mr. Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Information and Communications? We will leave the Question until the end.

OUTBREAK OF STRANGE POTATO
DISEASE IN MOLO

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that there is a strange disease that is afflicting potatoes in Molo and other areas in the country causing havoc to farmers?

(b) What urgent action is he taking to contain the disease?

(c) What losses are the farmers likely to incur as a result?

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

(a) I am not aware of a strange disease, but I am aware of bacterial wilt disease affecting Molo and other areas in the country.

(b) Potatoes bacterial wilt is very difficult to eradicate when it has infested the soil. However, my Ministry is undertaking the following actions.

(i) The Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and KEPHIS have embarked on a programme for potato seed purification through tissue culture at Tigoni Potato Research Station for multiplication in the short rains in the identified material bulking sites in Molo and Nyandarua.

(ii) My Ministry through KEPHIS and KARI, in collaboration with the International Potato Research Centre (IPRC) has since August, 2003 to date undertaken a concerted training programme for potato producers on proper disease management.

(c) Losses on production caused by bacterial wilt disease can be as high as 30 to 40 per cent of the total yield, but currently, the infection in Molo area, which is a major potato-producing division in Nakuru Division, is between 5 and 15 per cent. My Ministry is educating the farmers on identification and destruction of diseased material to curb the spread of the disease to non-infested areas.

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the Assistant Minister is calling bacterial wilt has spread all over Molo and other areas of the country and it is destroying all our potatoes. Could he confirm that this disease was not introduced to the farmers through the seed that emanated from KARI Station in Limuru?

Mr. Kaindi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is not true. KARI's and KEPHIS' major undertaking is to carry out research, so that if we have diseases of that nature, they can assist the farmers to combat them. I wish to inform the hon. Member that we have problems with seed multiplication because most of the land that was used for production and multiplication was taken over by individuals. However, at KEPHIS and KARI, we are undertaking research to minimise the plight of the bacterial wilt, which is affecting our potato production.

Mr. Boit: Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers borrowed money from the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) and other financial institutions, and they have incurred a lot of losses. What is the Ministry doing to compensate these farmers?

Mr. Kaindi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Ministry, through bio-technology, is trying to introduce new varieties which are more resistant to the potato wilt. However, I informed the hon. Member that the Director of the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and his team have undertaken to extensively tour the areas of Molo next week. I will be accompanying them so that we can assess the situation and see how to remedy the plight of our farmers.

Mr. Speaker: Last question, Mr. Mukiri.

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think there is a problem with the KARI station. The other day they introduced a variety of seed for passion fruit in their research station at Njoro and it has killed all our passion fruits within the Molo sub-district. This variety that was introduced by KARI called "Supa Tigoni" is the one that is destroying all the other potatoes including local breeds. Could the Assistant Minister tell us what is happening with KARI? This is because these diseases are emanating from the KARI station. Do they have the capability to do research to help our farmers?

Mr. Kaindi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that our stations are equipped; we have the latest technology and we are able to undertake research. However, on this particular one that the hon. Member has alluded to, I will be able to undertake the necessary investigations so that our farmers do not lose all their potatoes.

APPOINTMENT OF KACC DIRECTOR

Mr. Osundwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs the following Question by Private Notice.

When will the Government appoint the Director of the Kenya Anti-Corruption Commission?

Hon. Members: *Panya! Panya!*

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! What is this "*panya*" business?

(Laughter)

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am wondering about the same! However, I beg to reply.

The Director of the KACC will be appointed once the name recommended by the KACC

Advisory Board is approved by the National Assembly and forwarded to his Excellency the President for appointment under Section 8(3 and 4) of the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act of the year 2003.

Mr. Osundwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government was elected on the platform of fighting corruption.

An hon. Member: Zero-tolerance!

Mr. Osundwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one-and-half years down the line, it has not appointed the Director of KACC. Could the Assistant Minister tell us what is hindering whoever is supposed to bring the name here for ratification? What is happening out there?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is nothing happening out there and I do not know where. These are very senior appointments and there was need to advertise them in all the main newspapers which was done. There was also need to short-list because they were very many and the names have been forwarded to the relevant Departmental Committee. It is now a question of just waiting for the Motion to be brought here.

Hon. Members: Which Committee?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the Departmental Committee on Administration of Justice and Legal Affairs. It is a question of just waiting for the Motion to be balloted and then brought to this House for debate and approval.

Mr. Billow: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are aware that the names were forwarded to the Departmental Committee.

Hon. Members: When?

Mr. Billow: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I need protection!

Mr. Speaker: Could the hon. Member be allowed to ask his question?

Mr. Billow: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has informed us that the names have been submitted to the Departmental Committee on Administration of Justice and Legal Affairs. However, there are concerns by Kenyans that there is a deliberate delay in getting those names of the Director and his deputy appointed by certain forces within the Government. What we want the Assistant Minister to tell us is whether, indeed, it is true that the Government does not intend, for the moment, to table those names for approval or rejection by Parliament, in the near future.

Mr. Githae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is not correct. As I said, it is really a question of getting time for the Motion to be balloted then to come to the Floor of this House. Then we shall have all the opportunity to look at the names and approve them. However, anti-corruption efforts are continuing. They have not come to a halt because there is no substantive Director. We have an acting Director with various officers under him. Therefore, everything is going on. I am not aware of forces that do not want the appointment of a Director.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that in the list that they short-listed, they did not get somebody from the Mount Kenya region and that is why they did not bring it to Parliament?

(Applause)

Mr. Githae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mount Kenya is also in Kenya and therefore, even if there is a candidate from the area, he will qualify because he is a citizen. Let us not get parochial and start identifying candidates from---

Mr. Speaker: Well said! This House must stop being parochial! Last question, Mr. Osundwa!

Mr. Osundwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Standing Orders in this House are very clear; that once

a matter has been referred to the relevant Departmental Committee, this House has to get a report within seven days.

Could we be told why those names have not been forwarded here for discussion?

Mr. Mukiri: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I thought that the Assistant Minister has already said that the matter is now in Parliament. Is it then the Assistant Minister who is supposed to answer that question?

Hon. Members: Who are you? Sit down!

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I will not have that done; every hon. Member has a right to speak.

Proceed, Mr. Mukiri!

Mr. Mukiri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for your protection. Is it in order, then, for Mr. Osundwa to ask the Assistant Minister to explain a matter that is purely within the relevant Departmental Committee of the House?

Mr. Speaker: Well, the Assistant Minister is in charge of that affair and he can liaise with the Committee and should let us know.

Mr. Githae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, the matter is with the relevant Departmental Committee. It is only that they have been very busy with other matters. I also said that as soon as they approve, it is a question of balloting the Motion which will then come to this House. We will discuss it and either approve or disapprove the names. It is as simple as that!

Mr. Ndambuki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I belong to the Committee the hon. Member is referring to and there is nothing like that. Is he in order to mislead this House?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! As you see, I was consulting the Clerk because to the best of my recollection, a Motion for the approval of the names presented was approved by the Chair quite some time ago. It must, therefore, be somewhere.

Hon. Members: Where?

Mr. Speaker: How would I know? Once I have approved the Motion, it gets out of my hands!

(Laughter)

Mr. Githae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just said that it is a question of balloting the Motion so that it can come here. All the Motions are on queue!

Dr. Ali: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We have been told by hon. Members of that Committee that there is nothing like that. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to insist that it is with the Committee when we are being told that it is not there? Could you reprimand this Assistant Minister so that he does not---

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! As far as I recollect, I have actually approved that Motion. What the Assistant Minister now needs to do is to have it presented to the House. That is all!

Mr. Osundwa: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is, indeed, true that you approved the Motion. It should have been referred to the relevant Departmental Committee.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Members! Hon. Members, you must appreciate that the issue of Parliament approving names for appointments to various state organs is a new concept in this House. Most hon. Members, including Ministers, have not gotten the procedure right. They must follow it. We have already approved that Motion. My direction is for the Minister to get hold of the Motion and present it to the House. It has been a little greyish whether it goes from the Minister, directly to the Committee, or it comes to the House and then goes to the Committee. My direction to the Clerk of the National Assembly was that it should come by way of a Motion to this House, which should be duly approved by me, and then the House can refer it to the relevant Departmental Committee. That is the position. That is what I directed. I am now waiting for the Minister to move the Motion. That is all on that issue.

We shall now go to other Questions. We had skipped some Questions, because the Ministers were not here to answer them. Next Question, Mr. Kagwe!

MURDER OF MR. PATRICK
WAINAINA WAMWEA

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Mr. Patrick Wainaina Wamwea, who was the Assistant Chief of Kariara Sub-Location, Rutune Location, Mukurwe-ini Constituency, was murdered on 4th February, 2004?

(b) Is he further aware that suspects arrested were released and are now threatening witnesses who either forwarded or want to forward information?

(c) What steps is the Minister taking to bring the perpetrators of this crime to book?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Prof. Kibwana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for coming late and I beg the indulgence of the House. I am not able to answer this Question now.

Mr. Speaker: Why are you not able to answer a straightforward Question?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Prof. Kibwana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not received adequate information from the police.

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

Mr. Kagwe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am shocked. Murder is something very clear. Even the police call it simple murder. So, there is nothing I can do except to ask the Chair to protect us and get the Assistant Minister to bring the answer to the Question.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, when will you bring the answer?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Prof. Kibwana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will bring it on Thursday.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. The Question is deferred.

(Question deferred)

ARREST OF IRAQI REFUGEE

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that a 55-year old refugee from Iraq by the name Adel Mohammed

Al-Dahas, presently at Kileleshwa Police Station, Nairobi, has been held in police cells since October, 2001?

(b) If the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative, why is the refugee being held?

(c) When will he be released and accorded his rights as a refugee?

Mr. Speaker: Assistant Minister, Office of the President!

Hon. Members: Indulgence! Indulgence!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Prof. Kibwana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members are quite correct. I would like to seek the indulgence of the House. This is quite a complex Question because several Government departments are involved. I request that it be deferred to Thursday.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Hon. Members, you must remain in your places until the hon. Member on the Floor has sat down!

*(Hon. Members applauded as Mr. Tarus
entered into the Chamber)*

Mr. Maore: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I thought that when the Assistant Minister seeks the indulgence of the House, the House is at liberty to decline granting the indulgence sought. Could the Assistant Minister clarify to the House why he is not able to answer the Question? He said that he does not have adequate information on the matter, but he has an Order Paper and not an inadequate answer.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, did you get any information at all on this Question?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Prof. Kibwana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am a saved Christian. I do not lie. I got some information, which I thought is not adequate to present to this House.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! Can I then defer it to Thursday?

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Are we not entitled to hear the information he has and decide whether it is adequate or not?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: We will be taking the House's time unnecessarily. Be that as it may, is Thursday okay?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Prof. Kibwana): Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I will defer it to Thursday. If I were you, Prof. Kibwana, I would be watching very carefully the attitude of the House towards me. You can see that the House is becoming a little impatient. You saw the kind of applause Mr. Tarus received when he entered the Chamber.

(Applause)

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Kibwana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Tarus did a splendid job. I am sure that the House is now missing him.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mwandawiro, is that okay with you?

Mr. Mwandawiro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. It involves somebody who has been in police custody since 2001. I hope the Assistant Minister will come with a very clear answer on Thursday.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! The Question is deferred.

(Question deferred)

Mr. M. Maitha: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I had filed a Question to the Minister of State, Office of the President, about somebody who was shot dead by a police officer. It was to appear in today's Order Paper, but it did not.

An hon. Member: It is not ready!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Mr. M. Maitha, you do not expect the Speaker to perform the functions of the Clerk of the National Assembly. That is a clerical issue. I believe that your Question will come up in the course of the week. So, please, have a little patience.

Next Question, Mr. Ndolo!

AWARD OF TELKOM KENYA NGV-VOIP
PROJECT TENDER

Mr. Ndolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Information and Communications the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister inform the House the criteria that was used to award the tender on the supply, engineering survey, installation, testing, commissioning and commercialization of Next Generation Network Voice-Over Internet Protocol (NGV-VOIP) Project at Telkom Kenya?

(b) Why did the Huawei Company offer a 65 per cent discount on its products?

(c) Why did Telkom Kenya management visit the said company in China before the tender was awarded?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is another fleecing scandal, and I hope that the Minister will answer this Question.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Hon. Members, for the benefit of the House, hon. Members are advised to look at Standing Order No.35. An hon. Member is not allowed to attach an opinion to a Question. You may seek facts and keep your opinions!

Anyone here from the Ministry of Information and Communications?

Hon. Member: Absent!

Mr. Speaker: Now, Mr. Ndolo, what do I do?

Mr. Ndolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have the written reply, but I will wait for the Minister to come and answer the Question.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Members! I think we are relapsing to the old bad days when Questions came to the House and were not attended to. This must stop. Those responsible

must carry out their duties. So, the Question is deferred to Thursday.

(Question deferred)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.540

REGULATION OF OVERSEAS TRAVEL BY CABINET/ASSISTANT MINISTERS

Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) whether he could table a list showing the number of overseas official trips made by Cabinet/Assistant Ministers since January, 2003;

(b) whether he could further inform the House the total cost of the trips tabled in (a) above and the anticipated cost of such trips in the remaining part of this financial year; and,

(c) what administrative mechanisms are in place to determine and regulate overseas travel by individual Cabinet/Assistant Ministers.

Mr. Speaker: Where is the Minister of State, Office of the President?

(Loud consultations)

Order! Order! There is a Question directed to the Minister of State, Office of the President.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg the indulgence of the House for this Question to be deferred to next week.

Hon. Members: No way!

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

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very clear that the two Assistant Ministers in the Office of the President were actually deliberately "anglo-speaking".

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Mr. Sasura, what did you actually say?

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that it is very clear that the two Assistant Ministers were misleading the House deliberately that they had no sufficient answers, when actually they were not ready to answer questions in this House.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I think the most pertinent question is: Taking into account what has transpired this afternoon, what is happening to the Office of the President?

Mr. Sirma: There is a lot of confusion in the Office of the President!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Sirma! You cannot answer that question. Only Dr. Machage can answer it. Mr. Sirma, you know nothing about it! Dr. Machage, do you have any idea why Questions are not being answered?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with all due respect to you, there has been---

Hon. Members: No! Respect to who?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): To the Speaker!

Hon. Members: To the House!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): You mean to the House?

Hon. Members: Yes!

(Laughter)

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is common knowledge that the Office of the President has been re-organised with the creation of new departments and, therefore, there is a bit of confusion as to which department falls where and so---

Hon. Members: No!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): Let me answer you. It is good to be open and tell you the exact problem. However, I believe after this week, the officers concerned with the preparation of answers will be ready to give us all the answers.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I think what you should now do is to put your house in order as quickly as possible. The House shall not be held in abeyance while you organise yourselves. So, I hope you will be all right. Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry, what do we do with your Question?

Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could we get an answer tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: Not tomorrow because tomorrow's Order Paper is already out. Dr. Machage, when will you be ready to answer it?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): Mr. Speaker, Sir, next week on Thursday.

Mr. Speaker: All right!

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to say he will answer it next week when this Question is so straightforward?

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! You may think it is straightforward but it is certainly not, because the Assistant Minister must get all the information from all the Ministries. So, you must also be understanding.

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I have read this Question and it seems it can be well answered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and not the Office of the President. Hon. Members are concerned about this Question because since Ministers have been going on overseas trips recently, this could be the time for them to talk about Anglo-Leasing scam. That is why hon. Members want this Question answered quickly.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Wanjala, I plead with you to be serious. At least, half the time.

Mr. Billow: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. To avoid the confusion in the Office of the President, could it be appropriate for the Clerks to indicate which particular department in the

Office of the President answers Questions because there is a Minister for Special Programmes and so on? Is it not appropriate to indicate which particular department should answer Questions?

Mr. Speaker; Order! I do not think it is fair to let the Clerk run the Office of the President. Let them run it themselves. That is their business! The Question is deferred to next week on Thursday.

(Question deferred)

Next Question by Mr. Moroto!

Question No.515

KVDA PROJECTS IN
KAPENGURIA CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Moroto asked the Minister for Regional Development Authorities:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kerio Valley Development Authority (KVDA) is not supporting any major project in Kapenguria Constituency; and,

(b) whether he could avail a list of projects supported by the Authority that directly involve the community in Kapenguria.

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development Authorities (Mr. Odoyo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you are aware, the Ministry of Regional Development Authorities has been moving away from the Office of the President and we have been busy trying to set up new offices at the NSSF building. Despite this particular position, with the efficiency of our Minister and ourselves, we are ready with an answer. I beg to reply.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: What did you say?

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development Authorities (Mr. Odoyo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just alerted the hon. Members of Parliament that we have been moving from the Office of the President, and that, despite the many files we have to peruse and move from that office, we are very ready with an answer and I will not be seeking any indulgence of the House.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: So, what are all these preliminaries about?

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development Authorities (Mr. Odoyo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me proceed with the answer.

I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that KVDA is not supporting any major projects in Kapenguria Constituency. However, I wish to state that I am aware that KVDA is supporting several projects in that particular constituency.

(b) I wish to table a list of the projects.

*(Mr. Odoyo laid the document
on the Table)*

On this particular occasion, I wish to mention two major projects. One, Turkwel Gorge Multi-purpose Project. Two, Suam River Conservation and Rehabilitation Project. The community is involved in the following ways. For Turkwel, bearing in mind that this is a pastoral community in Kapenguria Constituency, we have availed dam water for 366 days in a year free of costs to the *wananchi* in Kapenguria. We also provide a free primary school facility. There is free healthcare at the Turkwel Health Centre. This project has also improved the road network in Kapenguria Constituency. The Suam River Conservation and Rehabilitation Project has provided other facilities like water harvesting and soil conservation and in addition, it has a special project for fodder development so that the cattle, sheep and goats can have appropriate food to eat. Finally, we have employment opportunities and in this particular instance, we employ several people from Kapenguria

Constituency including casual workers who number not less than 400 and we pay them a monthly wage of which I have the figure here.

Mr. Moroto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am partially satisfied with the answer the Assistant Minister has given. Although he is so organised, he is misleading the House because I mentioned about the Turkwel Gorge Dam which is full of crocodiles. It is not helping us. So many people have died due to those crocodiles. There are no areas where people can fetch water from that dam. It is not fenced. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was a planned irrigation project for that area which has not been implemented.

Mr. Speaker: Ask your question now!

Mr. Moroto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is: Since the school is managed by KENGEN and not KVDA, what is KVDA going to do so that my constituency can have tangible projects that can alleviate poverty in that area?

Mr. Odoyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not go into the merits and demerits of crocodiles. However, I wish to assure the hon. Member that in our planning we continue to assist communities. We have also funded those projects initiated by the community. However, for the time being, we are involving the community in tree planting and water harvesting. I am satisfied that we are keeping about 22 per cent of Kapenguria Constituency population busy in those various projects.

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have four regional bodies that were formed with an intention of addressing poverty in most of those areas, for example, the Coast Development Authority (CDA), TARDA, KVDA and Ewaso Nyiro. However, these organisations are seriously under-funded.

Could the Assistant Minister consider increasing funding to these organisations, so that they can achieve their mandates and make an impact in those areas?

Mr. Odoyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the regional authorities are six and not four. They were supposed to be multi-sectoral authorities that cut across the individual line Ministries. We discovered to our dismay when the NARC Government came into power that their original mandate had been diverted a little bit.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to assure this House that we intend to streamline these authorities; both in their management capacities and funding programmes, including bringing back on board the donors who had abandoned them.

Mr. Poghiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you have noted, the Assistant Minister is new to this Ministry and he is trying to speak as though he is actually experienced in that Ministry. He knows very little and that is a very basic fact. I come from the district and I know that the Kerio Valley Development Authority (KVDA) does not do the things he is talking about. He also knows the KVDA owns nothing. The KVDA is completely marginalised. So, all this verbosity is about

nothing. Could he seriously review the work or mandate of the KVDA? He should either agree to keep it as it is, or dissolve it, and let it go completely because it is not doing any work for us. Could he review the mandate of the KVDA and give it the money it requires?

Mr. Odoyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there were some problems. The hydro-electric component of the KVDA and all the other authorities were transferred to KenGen. The hydro-electric component was providing the main source of revenue. Since that particular transfer, definitely, there has been a serious decline in the revenue base of these authorities.

At the moment, we are trying to enter into negotiations with KenGen, so that a portion of those generation funds could be ploughed back to these particular communities.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to assure the hon. Member that despite my short time in that particular Ministry, my background, training and opportunities in economics enable me to perform my duties accordingly.

Mr. Moroto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister says there are 302 men and women on casual labour. Could he consider employing them on permanent basis, so that they benefit more from these projects?

Mr. Odoyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of casual jobs was part and parcel of my previous role in the Ministry of Labour and Human Resource Development. However, I wish to say that, we employ casuals because of the seasonality requirements. Tree planting has to be aligned with the time when rains come. Sometimes we employ as many as 600 casuals. But for those who have served in those organisations, that request will be considered.

Mr. Poghiso: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is misleading the House about tree planting. I come from that place and I know those casuals are not planting any trees. He is now talking as if they have come up with any forest, but there is nothing.

Mr. Speaker: What about seedlings? Are they growing any?

Mr. Poghiso: But he is talking about trees.

Mr. Odoyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, because of the ability and availability of sunshine and water that we have in this particular area, tree nurseries and conservation projects are working and we are transporting these seedlings to other parts of Kenya.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Mbai!

Question No.425

ELECTRIFICATION OF MARKETS
IN MASINGA CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Mbai asked the Minister for Energy:-

(a) whether he is aware that Ikatini, Itundumuni and Kwewanzillu markets in Ikatini Location have not been supplied with electricity under the Rural Electrification Programme; and,

(b) what urgent measures he is taking to ensure that rural electrification is provided to those markets and other Government institutions around them.

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

(a) Yes, I am aware that Ikatini, Itundumuni and Kwewanzillu markets in Ikatini Location have not been supplied with electricity.

(b) The Ministry of Energy is discussing with a number of donors towards provision of funds to finance rural electrification programmes in the country. Ikatini, Itundumuni and Kwewanzillu markets in Ikatini Location are among the projects which have been submitted to

donors who have expressed interest to fund the Rural Electrification Programme (REP) over the period, 2004/2005 and 2005/2006.

Mr. Mbai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first, I want to thank the Assistant Minister for that answer. These are just three markets amongst many others in my constituency which have not been able to access rural electrification. Could he be specific and tell the House how much he has budgeted for these three markets?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Mbai is aware that the Government spent over Kshs20 million for the last one-and-a-half years in implementing the Ekalakala and Nzukuni projects. At the same time, he is also aware that this was done under the Spanish Phase Two Project. Now that we have considered his constituency for the French Phase Two Programme, then he is aware that it will be implemented. He should also count himself very lucky.

Mr. Karaba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it looks like the REP is something which has been negotiated by various hon. Members, so that they can be supplied with electricity. Are there conditions that we must all fulfil, so that we get to know exactly when the rural electrification projects will be implemented in our constituencies?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a programme. An hon. Member does not have to negotiate to get electricity. It is done in accordance with the prioritisation of the District Development Committees (DDCs). At the same time, it depends on whether other aspects have been fulfilled. We have called all hon. Members, and once again, I am reminding them to attend their relevant DDC meetings, so that they can prioritise their projects.

Mr. Mbai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 75 per cent of the electricity used in this country is generated in Masinga Hydro-electric Power Station. What plans does the Assistant Minister have in place to supply electricity to the markets and institutions around Masinga Hydro-electric Power Station?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the markets and institutions have applied to be supplied with electricity, they will be considered alongside others. However, I am proud to inform the hon. Member that Ikatini, Itundumuni and Kwewanzillu markets have already been considered for the Phase II Project to be implemented in the next one year.

Question No.370

HARVESTING OF LOGS BY PAN PAPER MILLS

Mr. Kipchumba asked the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources:-

- (a) what the total tonnage of logs harvested by Pan Paper Mills and Rai Plywoods in Uasin Gishu District from January, 2003 to date is;
- (b) what the total value of the harvest in (a) above is; and,
- (c) what benefits have accrued to the district as a result of the logging.

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Prof. Maathai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Pan African Paper Mills and Rai Plywoods removed a total of 139,993 tonnes of timber from Government forest areas in Uasin Gishu District from January, 2003 to date.

(b) The total volume for the timber removed was 150,073 cubic metres.

(c) The two companies paid revenue totalling to Kshs61,756,736 for timber removed from the district. The revenue was paid to the Consolidated Fund from which the Government allocates resources, for example, the Constituency Development Fund for development projects and services in the districts including Uasin Gishu. Other benefits include employment, levies to the local

authority, environmental amelioration and other multiplier benefits.

Mr. Kipchumba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think you will agree with me that, that is an answer meant for a nursery school kid!

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Kipchumba!

Hon. Members: You are not a nursery school kid!

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I think we must be mindful of the language we use. The answer was actually directed to you, Mr. Kipchumba, and you are saying that it is directed to a nursery school kid! Please, let us be serious with our work.

Mr. Kipchumba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying that this answer is not meant for me. This is because my Question talks about the benefits accruing to the local people of Uasin Gishu District and she is talking about revenues being paid to the Consolidated Fund. That is why I am saying that this answer was not meant for me. I wish the Assistant Minister could answer my Question.

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did say that the people of Uasin Gishu do benefit from employment, the levies paid to the local authority and environmental amelioration. On the Kshs61 million which is sent to the Consolidated Fund, the hon. Member does get a Constituency Development Fund which comes from the Consolidated Fund.

*(Prof. Maathai consulted with
Mr. Kiunjuri)*

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I seek your indulgence so that the Assistant Minister can listen? Pan African Paper Mills causes the greatest environmental destruction not only in the North Rift but also--- The company has destroyed the environment from Mount Elgon to Dr. Kibunguchy's constituency which is Lugari and from Kakamega to the whole of the North Rift. That company cuts down trees and never plants tree seedlings. Could the Assistant Minister consider closing it down before we do it physically?

(Applause)

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a mistake was made from the very beginning when those companies were allowed to log without being compelled to replant tree seedlings. In our new Forest Bill, we had incorporated a requirement that those who log must also replant tree seedlings, but the Bill was not passed by this House. At the moment, we are still using the old law.

Mr. Wanjala: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Pan African Paper Mills and Rai Plywoods are the major cause of the floods which are experienced in Budalangi Constituency. That constituency experiences floods because of deforestation. Budalangi, Bondo and Siaya share a swamp which covers 17,000 hectares of land. That swamp is full of papyrus. Could the Assistant Minister now advise Rai Plywoods and Pan African Paper Mills to use papyrus to make papers, blockboards and charcoal instead of cutting down trees?

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, companies have many alternatives they can opt for. It is also important that we pass a law which stipulates that we no longer use wood for the production of paper and instead use other alternatives. That is within our capacity. In order for us to save trees, I have requested that we use both sides of a paper. If that is done, it will save the many trees that those companies cut down and in the process, destroy our environment on our hills.

Prof. Mango: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Pan Paper Mills is responsible for the pollution which has killed all the fish in River Nzoia. What is the Assistant Minister doing about it?

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no way we can stop the soil from being eroded into the rivers, polluting them and, therefore, killing the fish if the trees on the mountains are cut down.

Hon. Members: No! It is the chemicals which kill fish!

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry I had not heard the question properly. If it is the chemicals which kill fish, we have in place a law which should be applied by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). The NEMA is supposed to see to it that this does not happen.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request the community to approach the NEMA and it will make sure that there is no company which pollutes the river.

Mr. Speaker: Madam Assistant Minister, I think Prof. Mango is entitled to a better answer! Who is in charge of NEMA? Is it not you?

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are supposed to be aware of any pollution which takes place anywhere at any time. But sometimes, it may not be possible for us to know the exact area that the hon. Member has referred to. So, could the hon. Member draw that to our attention?

Mr. Kipchumba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will agree with me that indeed, the Assistant Minister has not answered this Question satisfactorily. This is because I would have appreciated if she gave me the number of job opportunities created for the people of Uasin Gishu, the amount that has been raised by our local authority in form of taxes and other multiplier effects she has talked about. This is because she cannot answer a Question by giving a lot of literature.

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I was asked to give those details, I would have given them. At the moment, I have answered the Question as it is in the Order Paper. I believe that I have responded to it. But if he asks for more details, I am prepared to provide them.

Mr. Sirma: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has not given an adequate answer! Could you defer the Question? We have a lot of interest on it and we are not satisfied!

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: I think we have already ventilated enough!

(Loud consultations)

Order, Members! Can we have order in that corner? So, hon. Members, I think time is up. Next Order!

Mr. Omingo: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This is the second time that my Question has not been called in this House! It has been your consistent judicious ruling that, when a Question is deferred, it takes the first priority the following day. Could you give that ruling now?

Mr. Speaker: Very well, Mr. Omingo. I so direct that, it must take priority. Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW
LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 05 - Office of Vice-President and
Ministry of Home Affairs

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Members! Order, Mr. Ojode! The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs is introducing the budget for his Ministry! Could we give him a hearing?

Proceed!

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my pleasure to present to this august House the estimates of the Recurrent and Development Expenditures for the 2004/2005 financial year, for the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs, which falls under the Public Safety, Law and Order Sector.

In arriving at the estimates of the Recurrent and Development Expenditure for the 2004/2005 financial year, my Ministry considered current Government policy documents, including the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation the Poverty Reduction Strategy Reduction Paper and the Government Action Plan.

(Loud consultations)

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We can hardly hear what His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs is saying, because of the commotion by those who are not interested in the debate in this House. Could they leave quietly?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Members! We are just getting into business. Those hon. Members who wish to take leave, please, do so! But, really, there is no need for a stampede!

(Laughter)

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Ministry's vision is to provide a secure, cohesive and socially stable society, with a well preserved national heritage. Our mission is to preserve Kenya's rich heritage, rehabilitate offenders and promote a just, secure and conducive environment for socio-economic development and aspirations of Kenyans. The core function of the Ministry is to provide ministerial policy guidelines relating to national and international issues, provide immigration and nationality services, keep in custody and rehabilitate all categories of offenders, provide protection, safety and care for all Kenyan children, resettle, rehabilitate and provide after-care services for all offenders, preserve and care for all public records and archives, train youth to acquire appropriate knowledge and skills for the task of nation building and impart discipline to make them responsible citizens. We also coordinate and harmonise

activities of the Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) operating in the country, regulate and license betting and gaming premises and related activities, undertake all matters relating to refugees and aliens in the country, campaign against drug and substance abuse, mainstream HIV/AIDS issues in the core functions of the Ministry, mainstream the fight against corruption in the Ministry's operations and conserve all historical sites and monuments.

Besides, the Ministry's Headquarters located in Jogoo House A, the Ministry of Home Affairs has nine departments and two State corporations; namely, Kenya Prisons Service, National Youth Service, Immigration, Children Services, Probation and After-Care Services, Kenya National Archives and Documentary Services, Betting and Control Licensing Board, National Agency for the Campaign Against Drug Abuse and Refugee Affairs which, at the moment, is in its formative stage. The State corporations under the Ministry are the National Museums of Kenya and the Non-Governmental Organisations Coordinating Bureau.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on budgetary provisions, I must, at least, start by assuring this House that my Ministry is committed to implementing all Government policies as contained in the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation 2003-2007, whose underlying feature is the improvement of service delivery and reforms aimed at reviving the productive and service sectors of our economy. Hon. Members may have noted that, for the past one year, I took time to tour institutions within my Ministry, which are spread across the country. The aim of those tours was to assess and evaluate the projects, development programmes and service delivery. During the tours, I observed a number of challenges in service delivery.

The major challenge was the lack of sufficient financial and human resources, which are prerequisite to effective and efficient services. For my Ministry to operate effectively and efficiently, I had submitted a total budget request of Kshs23,535,896,878 to the Public Safety Law and Order Sector and the Treasury for the 2004/2005 financial year. From that amount, about Kshs17,338,555,537 or 73 per cent and Kshs6,197,378,341 or 26 per cent, were Recurrent and Development Votes respectively. However, due to financial constraints, I have only been allocated a total of Kshs8,419,941,798. That represents only 35 per cent of my initial request. That has now been distributed as follows: Kshs7,464,728,376 or 88 per cent and Kshs955,213,422 or 11 per cent for Recurrent and Development Votes, respectively. During the same period, I am expected to raise Appropriations-in-Aid (A-in-A) of Kshs1,657,551,626 up from Kshs1,359,826,000.

The allocations this year compare favourably with those of 2003/2004 Financial Year, particularly for operations and maintenance which has a reduction of Kshs253 million. However, the allocation for personal emoluments has gone up so as to cater for salary increments for the uniformed staff in my Ministry. The allocation for the Development Vote has also gone up to cater for the completion of some critical, but stalled projects.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to reiterate not only my commitment, but also that of officers in my Ministry that these funds will be put to proper use and Kenyans will receive value for their money from the services offered by Ministry.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following are the details for the Ministry's Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2004/2005 for your consideration.

With regard to Recurrent Expenditure, out of the Recurrent Vote allocation of Kshs7 billion, personal emoluments account for Kshs4 billion or 56 per cent while operations and maintenance account for Kshs3 billion or 43 per cent. Hon. Members may note that not less than half of our allocation is left for our operations and maintenance activities in the Recurrent Vote.

Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs Headquarters has been allocated Kshs427 million. The Ministry's Headquarters provides overall policy directions, leadership and coordinates all development matters relating to programmes, projects and activities. In addition, as

hon. Members are aware, my office serves as the Principal Assistant to the Head of State and also the Leader of Government Business in this august House. With the above allocations, the proportion of personal emoluments and operations and maintenance are Kshs93 million or 22 per cent and Kshs336 million or 78 per cent respectively. Besides the normal operation expenses, critical engagements for the Ministry's Headquarters shall include co-ordination and supervision of various departments in the Ministry; planning and development services; mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS activities through HIV/AIDS control unit; mainstreaming the fight against corruption; and, monitoring and evaluation of activities.

The National Youth Service (NYS) has been allocated Kshs1 billion. The NYS has satisfactorily discharged its mandate under the Act of Parliament to train and provide an organised and disciplined manpower for national duty. NYS also engages in activities that open up remote areas and promote socio-economic development. Hon. Members will note that the NYS, on many important occasions, supplements the role of the police and is always called upon to respond to emergency situations. Considerations are being made to also engage the NYS personnel on security matters such as securing national strategic installations. With the above allocation, personal emoluments and operation and maintenance account for Kshs400 million or 38 per cent and Kshs655 million or 61 per cent respectively. The department will also raise Kshs34 million as Appropriations-in-Aid. There is an increased responsibility on the NYS in rehabilitating former street youths into responsible citizens of this country. An allocation of Kshs50 million is set aside for this purpose. So far about 800 former street youths have been trained. Other key spending areas of the NYS include: Purchase of food and rations, Kshs131 million; purchase of uniforms and clothing, Kshs39 million; conversion training unit, Kshs31 million.

The National Museums of Kenya requires Kshs339 million. The National Museums of Kenya is one of the two State corporations in my Ministry charged with the mission of collecting, documenting, preserving, studying and presenting our past and present cultural and national heritage. It requires enhanced knowledge, appreciation, respect, management and use of these resources for the benefit of Kenya and the world. The National Museums of Kenya also engages in crucial research at the Institute of Primate Research which produces valuable research outcome. Personal emoluments account for Kshs335 million or 98 per cent while operations and maintenance accounts for Kshs3 million or one per cent. The National Museums of Kenya will put emphasis on management of our historical sites and monuments to attract tourists and open up the country for potential foreign investments.

The Kenya National Archives and Documentation Service is going to receive Kshs40 million. This department is the sole Government agency providing advisory services to public offices on the custody of all archives and all public records, authority for destruction of public records and reference service for the public at large. It is thus a treasure of public information that must be properly secured and managed. The allocation to this department shall, therefore, address this crucial function at the national, provincial and district record centres. Personal emoluments and operation and maintenance shall account for Kshs25 million or 62 per cent and Kshs15 million or 37 per cent respectively.

Prison Service has been allocated Kshs4 billion. The core function of the Kenya Prison Service is to rehabilitate and contain in safe custody all categories of convicted persons and remandees. Hon. Members must have taken note of the open door policy which we have adopted in the management of our penal institutions. This is within the overall programme to transform prisons into effective correctional institutions. With the allocated funds, the proportion of personal emoluments and operation and maintenance shall account for Kshs2 million or 70 per cent and Kshs1.2 million or 30 per cent respectively. The operation and maintenance fund will mainly be

used for improved service delivery, general welfare of prisoners and remandees as well as prisons staff. Critical spending in the Prisons Department will include training and retraining of staff to enhance their capacity for improved service delivery; developing and transforming prison industries into viable centres for rehabilitation of offenders; settling pending electricity and water bills of Kshs162 million; purchase of food and rations, Kshs600 million; expenses on utilities, telephone, electricity, water, fuel and gas, transport, travelling and accommodation expenses.

Children services have been allocated Kshs205 million. The Department of Children Services is mandated by an Act of Parliament to protect and safeguard the rights and welfare of children. Out of the stated allocation, personal emoluments, operation and maintenance account for Kshs87 million or 42 per cent and Kshs118 million or 57 per cent respectively. I wish to thank hon. Members for having enacted this watershed law to protect and safeguard the rights and welfare of children in Kenya.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the National Council of Children's Services has been put in place to oversee the effective implementation of the Children Act. In 2003/2004, the Council was allocated Kshs9 million. That amount has now been reduced to only Kshs5 million this financial year. This will severely impact negatively on our service delivery. Other vital areas to be addressed shall include: Rehabilitation and provision of educational and other social amenities for children admitted in various children's homes and approved schools; capacity building and training for these institutions; collaboration and networking with stakeholders in handling vulnerable children; and, amendment of the Children Act to provide for the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer of the National Council of Children Services.

Probation and After-Care services have been allocated Kshs179 million. The Department of Probation and After-Care Service is one of the key departments involved in the administration of justice. The department handles offenders who are on non-custodial sentences and those who have already completed their sentence terms. So, the allocated funds, personal emoluments and operation and maintenance shall account for Kshs116 million or 65 per cent and Kshs62 million or 35 per cent respectively. The funds allocated will be used in key programmes namely: Probation orders; community service orders; after-care service; and capacity building and training. In addition, the Community Service Order, a programme aimed at de-congesting prisons, a secretariat charged with overseeing the effective implementation of the Community Service Order, has been established with an allocation of Kshs5.5 million, while the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Co-ordination Bureau has an allocation of Kshs75 million.

Mr. Speaker, Sir this is the second parastatal in my Ministry. It is the executive arm of the NGO Co-ordinating Board which is mandated by an Act of Parliament to register, co-ordinate and facilitate the work of NGOs; advise the Government on the activities of NGOs and their role in the country; and monitor the activities of NGOs in the country. Besides the usual operational activities, the bureau is engaged in facilitating the process of developing an NGO Sector Policy. The bureau is also involved in the IGAD member States NGO/CSO Secretariat activities for nurturing and sustaining effective partnership and collaborative mechanisms among indigenous NGOs and the civil society organizations of the IGAD member States in response to development challenges of the regions. The allocation for the latter activity shall address policy studies in the five cross-cutting thematic areas, namely conflict resolution, food and security, HIV/AIDS, environmental management and NGO/CSOs capacity building. The increased allocation to this State Corporation is, therefore, earmarked to fund the foregoing activities.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kshs36 million or 48 per cent and Kshs39 million or 55 per cent shall cater for personal emoluments, operations and maintenance respectively. The Betting Control and Licensing Board has been allocated Kshs55 million. The department is charged with the responsibility of supervising, controlling and licensing of betting and gaming premises, authorization of public lotteries, inspection and control of illegal gambling, and the authorization of price competition. This will contribute to the maintenance of social order and the realization of Government revenue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, out of this allocation, Kshs37 million or 67 per cent and Kshs17 million or 32 per cent shall cater for personal emoluments and operations and maintenance respectively. The department shall also be expected to raise Appropriations-in-Aid (A-i-A) of Kshs31 million.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Immigration Department has an allocation of Kshs800 million. This department offers the first and last contact for travellers with the Government at various points of entry and exit across the country. This draws from the departments' core mandate of controlling and regulating entry, exit, residency, citizenship and issuance of travel documents and work permits in accordance with the relevant legislation. This is a crucial department in the enhancement of the security of the nation. Members will, no doubt, agree with me that the security of this nation is paramount, and funds allocated to the department should go a long way in strengthening security at all entry and exit points in Kenya. This is an area that requires hon. Members' understanding and support for the department's Budget allocation. Personal emoluments, and operations and maintenance shall account for Kshs137 million or 17 per cent and Kshs600 million or 82 per cent respectively. The department is, on the other hand, expected to raise A-i-A of Kshs1.5 billion in the process of discharging its duties. Key activities for which funds have been allocated are the purchase and installation of specialized equipment, including radio communication sets, hand-held metal detectors, identity card verifiers, forgery detection equipment, printing machines, aquae detectors, fire-proof cabinets and currency validators at Kshs42 million. Regarding the adoption of information and communications technology in the issuance of travel documents, a provision of Kshs150 million has been made during this financial year. The purchase of stationery, including application forms, permits, visas, stamps, passes, travel documents and micro-filming consumables for safe and reliable keeping of records, has an allocation of Kshs158 million.

The National Agency for the Campaign Against Drug Abuse (NACADA) has a provision of Kshs42 million. Drug and substance abuse is a recognized global problem in which many countries spend billions of dollars to address. It is one of those major problems which seem to be growing and impacting negatively on our productive population, as well as on security. For this reason, the entire allocation for NACADA shall cater for operation and maintenance. Personal emoluments for the staff is paid by their parent Ministries from where they have been seconded. NACADA shall, therefore, use the funds allocated to it as follows:-

- (1) Awareness and publicity campaigns;
- (2) Train core team of trainers who will further train others;
- (3) Conduct preventive education and introduce curricular on drug abuse prevention in educational institutions; and,
- (4) Mobilize communities to participate in awareness campaigns, among others.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding the National Refugee Secretariat, as already mentioned, the Refugees Affairs Department is in its formative stages. It shall be established as a full-fledged Government department within a legal framework once the Refugee Bill goes through this august

House. In the meantime, the secretariat based at the Ministry headquarters continues implementing its policies as relates to refugee matters with the resource allocation at the headquarters. We believe that services to the refugees will be greatly improved once the department is in place.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the Development Vote an allocation of Kshs900 million, the Government of Kenya funding accounts for Kshs595 million, or 63 per cent, while donor funding accounts for Kshs359 million or 37 per cent. Further, the donor funding, which is grand external receipt, is composed of Kshs349 million or 97 per cent, and Kshs10 million or 3 per cent for A-i-A revenue respectively.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in line with the Government policy, my Ministry has prioritized the completion of stalled projects and ongoing development programmes instead of starting new ones. We have also continued to receive donor support for specific projects in some of our departments. The following are the specific details relating to my Ministry's Development Vote:-

Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs headquarters - Kshs35 million. Besides my office and the Ministry Headquarters, Jogoo House "A" building also hosts the Ministry of Local Government and the Department of Information. The building is in a deplorable state, and hon. Members must have already observed this. Its maintenance in the past has not been adequate. It has obsolete lifts which have been malfunctioning, and they are too expensive to run.

It is for this reason that we have allocated Kshs20 million for the rehabilitation and/or replacement of lifts, and Kshs15 million for the refurbishment of Jogoo House "A".

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the National Youth Service (NYS) has a provision of Kshs380 million. In line with the role of the NYS in national development, we look forward to completing projects which have remained stalled for many years, yet they are of national significance. Some of these projects stalled when they were over 90 per cent complete, and have caused the Government a lot of embarrassment. The funds have been specifically allocated to the following projects:-

(1) Tana River road construction - Kshs80 million. This is a project on the Garissa-Hola-Garsen Road stretch, which previously received funding from the Government of Japan and Kenya. Funds allocated will be used in completing the construction of the road and undertaking repairs on sections of the road that were damaged by *El Nino* rains. The road is intended to open up and improve communication channels in the North Eastern and Coast Provinces. Substantial work has already gone into this project. This includes the construction of residential buildings Phases 2 and 3 at the National Youth Service Complex, Ruaraka.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, construction of buildings at the National Youth Service, in Gilgil, will take Kshs36 million. The National Museums of Kenya is one of the key departments and on this, we will spend Kshs306 million. We will spend Kshs17 million on training, and Kshs3 million on strengthening the department. We will spend Kshs10 million for the development of Uhuru Gardens Heroes Square. This is a new GoK project intended to recognise the heroes of this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the prisons services require Kshs112 million to improve the lives of the prisoners, including the officers who are looking after them. We need Kshs95 million for the Children Department and we have donor funding that will take a great deal of that.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

The Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs (Mr. Balala) seconded.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Do I understand that Mr. Salat is the Official Opposition Responder? Mr. Salat, you have a maximum of 30 minutes.

Mr. Salat: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me this opportunity to respond to Vote 05, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs.

As the Shadow Minister for that Ministry, I want to thank the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs because, on many occasions, I have had to go to him and he has never, at any one given time, not had time for me. I must thank him for that. Having said that, I know that the Government is faced with financial constraints as the economy pulls out of a decline that is coupled with high expenditure resulting in high fiscal deficits. It is important to note some of the shortcomings in the recent budgetary allocations to various Ministries, especially to this Ministry. The Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs was allocated more than Kshs5.8 billion. This was before two new Ministries were lumped together to make up this Ministry. Looking at the various Heads and Items in the Recurrent Expenditure, one will wonder why several millions of shillings have been allocated to transport operations, travelling and accommodation.

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

Ms. Mbarire: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Official Opposition Responder in order to read a speech on the Floor of the House? Is he not supposed to challenge the Mover?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): I will allow him to the extent that he has figures and he is responding to an official document.

Mr. Salat: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I choose not to respond to that point of order.

As I was saying, under Head 240, Items 100, 110, 111, 112, 113, 132 and 190 are meant to cater for the Vice-President's Press Unit and houses for staff. Owing to the fact that the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs is supposed to be a deputy to the President, when we passed the Vote of the Office of the President, we catered for the President's travel. So, Kshs92,838,519 is a lot of money to be allocated to the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs for transport operations, travelling and accommodation. Sincerely, the Vice-President's travel should be catered for from the Office of the President.

Mr. N. Nyagah: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is nothing as bad as flouting the rules of this House. Is it in order for Mr. Salat to continue reading a written speech on his behalf without consulting figures? Should he not stop reading, or let someone else respond?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Let that be my call. I will know when to stop him.

Mr. Salat: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sure the Chief Whip has problems. If he could allow me to respond, I will concentrate on what I am doing because I find it very important. I am referring to figures and if he wants to find out, he should come and look at the document.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Mr. Salat, I would advise that you do not get into those kinds of exchanges. Basically, the rules do not allow you to read and I am watching you!

Mr. Salat: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not reading. I am consulting.

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member claims to be responding to the Motion as the Shadow Minister for Home Affairs. I need the Chair's

guidance. Since we formed a Government of national unity with KANU, do we still have Shadow Ministers from KANU?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Mr. Wanjala, if I did not know better, I would have done something. You should desist from raising those kinds of points of order.

Proceed, Mr. Salat!

Mr. Salat: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I need your protection here because there are some issues that we need to tackle to let Kenyans know how their money is being spent. That is exactly what I am doing. As I was saying, there is also the issue of the Government spending huge amounts of money, especially in the National Youth Service.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the National Youth Service (NYS) is an institution that has been training the youth of this country for a long time in all areas. The Yatta Complex is supposed to teach our youth how to farm. You will find that the Government has been allocated Kshs8.2 million for the purchase of food and rations; Kshs8.2 million has been injected into the complex for purchase of food and rations and yet it is a farm. We also have an allocation for farm inputs. That tells you that this particular facility is supposed to be providing catering and teaching services. If it cannot sustain itself in terms of food production, how long will we have Kshs8.2 million being injected into it? What are the returns from it to the taxpayer?

I would recommend that the cost of foreign trips by the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs be met from the Office of the President's budget. A good percentage of finances was allocated to entertainment within three Ministries. Right now, the country is undergoing a lot of hardships like drought, and yet this Ministry has allocated so much of its finances to entertainment. I find that this allocation is not meant for a worthwhile purpose.

When the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs was moving this Vote, I heard him say that very soon the NYS will be used to man Government installations. Does this mean that we will have a new security organ in the form of the NYS? Will we arm the NYS?

The Minister for Finance did point out the other day that this Government will not purchase any more vehicles. Under Head 117, Items 200 and 210, the Government has allocated this Ministry Kshs10 million for purchase of vehicles. The Minister for Finance said that all purchases of vehicles would be put on hold. We are still wondering if this Government is serious and committed to whatever it promises.

The NYS is supposed to be self-sufficient in terms of production of food. Farms in Trans Nzoia used to produce thousands of bags of maize. Currently, the country is experiencing drought. We are recommending that this particular Ministry concentrates on getting the prisoners to produce food for this country. What is of concern is that of late we have heard that the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs has introduced *mwana wa mberi* kind of treatment in most of our prisons. He seems to have catered a lot for treatment of convicts.

We have to look into the welfare of wardens, which is of concern. Wardens are living in deplorable conditions. You will find three families sharing a room. These rooms are partitioned with sheets and there is no privacy. Prisons like those in Narok and Kericho are self-sustaining. Kericho GK Prison produces a lot of tea. Where does that tea go to? If you look at wardens' houses there, you will wonder where the funds from what is produced in that prison go. Such income should be used to assist wardens.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was looking at Head 123, Items 160, 161 and 170 on rehabilitation of schools, and I wondered for whose babies the Government buys food. This Head caters for purchase of food for babies. Funds are also allocated for food rations and consumable stores. The same food could be used to feed the babies.

On Development Expenditure, Head 013, Item 434 is on Tana River Basin Road

Construction. I hope that the Kshs61.3 million which was allocated last year will be accounted for before the Kshs80 million has been allocated this year is given out to fund that project. Hon. Members from that particular region should know that Kshs61.3 million was allocated last year and, hopefully, we will see what was done with that money before the Kshs80 million that is requested is given out.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope that the NYS recruits will be given sufficient training on relevant fields. They should not use taxpayers money to construct roads when we have the Ministry of Roads and Public Works, whose work is undertaking road construction. Under Items 500 and 505, Kshs240 million has been allocated for the construction of residential houses and NYS complexes. I would have wished to see this Ministry utilise this money on building proper residential houses for wardens. The Ministry has instead utilised a lot of its funds on purchasing televisions and new uniforms for prisoners, yet wardens are suffering. So, that is one of the items that should be looked into.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Hon. Members, we need clarification on the use of the words, "warder" and "warden". Mr. Salat is using the word "wardens." In this context, I think the right word is "warders."

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, wardens are in wildlife!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Very well. We will settle for "warders." Proceed, Mr. Salat!

Mr. Salat: Thank you, for your clarification, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

I would like to turn to one issue we are all concerned with; that is corruption. Of late, this country has been bombarded and there is a lot of concern being raised by the churches and foreign missions who have all joined in to demand for transparency. Early last year, the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs stood up in the House to defend a very serious scam that has cost this country billions of shillings. This particular issue falls under the Immigration Department. Since then, I would believe, he took the issue regarding the now infamous Anglo Leasing Finance Company for a ride. He went on record in this House to actually describe this particular company as a very reputable firm. The HANSARD is here to qualify that. I was looking at the records and I found that in his own statement, he said that a Mr. Francois Charles of France---

The Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs (Mr. Balala): *Bonjour!*

Mr. Salat: *Bonjour!* Very well, that is a French word! The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs said that Mr. Francois Charles was a person of repute; somebody who would assist the Minister for Finance. When he was cornered and asked: "Did you participate, or were you aware?" He turned around and said: "I was misled". We are waiting for the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs to come out clean and tell Kenyans if he was also misled.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as Leader of Government Business in the House, he should come clear because we are still waiting. It is on record that he said that Kenyans will very soon see the fruits of the Anglo Leasing Finance Company. So, we are waiting for him to tell us what fruits we will actually get from this company. Otherwise, he should come out and exonerate himself because everybody knows, and the HANSARD is here for all to prove, that this is a scam that has cost this country billions of shillings. As friendly as the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs is, I would wish him to come out and clear his name.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one question in the minds of Kenyans is that, not long ago, there was a misprint of Kshs1 billion that was supposed to go into building the Vice-President's house. He should also come clean on that because Kshs1 billion was too big an error. I wonder how

many other errors have gone into the Budget this of year, if that is only one of them!

An hon. Member: It was not an error!

Mr. Salat: It was an error!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Salat! Stop exchanging words with other hon. Members. Address the Chair!

Mr. Salat: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sometime ago also, there were 28 prisoners who escaped from custody in Naivasha Prison. Up to date, only three have been re-arrested. It is because of the warders who are actually not taking their work very seriously. I wish that something could be done. Therefore, I am wondering, what has been put in place---

Mr. Muite: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Does the Chair notice that Mr. Salat continues to read. The way in which he is reading, is like somebody else has written the speech for him. The words are not coming from his heart.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): The issue is not more of who wrote the speech, but it is really about the reading. However, you must understand some consultations have to be done.

Mr. Salat: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish I would give him my notes once I am through, for him to know that I am actually referring to them.

I even know that somebody gave him Kshs20 million!

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You have just heard what the hon. Member has said, imputing improper motives by discussing the conduct of another hon. Member. Could he, please, withdraw and apologise?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Mr. Githae, what really did he say? Did he impute improper motives to anyone?

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he said that somebody in this House received Kshs20 million. Could he substantiate?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): I would not like to get into that.

Mr. Salat, proceed!

Mr. Salat: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. As I am about to wind up, I know---

Mr. Wamunyinyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am sure the Chair heard Mr. Salat say that a hon. Member received Kshs20 million.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Are you sure that is what he said?

Mr. Wamunyinyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. He should either substantiate or withdraw that remark!

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, hon. Members! I think you are interested in this issue and that is what you want to know. I would challenge you that when the HANSARD comes out, let us find out what he said, because you are now adding to what he said. I do not think I want to get into that.

Mr. Serut: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think I am the hon. Member nearest to Mr. Salat, I did not hear him say---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Serut! Let us not deviate

from what our main functions are. I believe, I have heard. If you want to change the subject matter, we can do it at another time. Let us concentrate!

Mr. Salat: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in conclusion, I would like to support this Motion.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the dignity of this House requires that we be truthful and honest. If an hon. Member wants the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs to explain himself and come clean, he should also be honest.

I rise to support this Motion and make a few comments on the departments in the office of the Vice-President and Ministry for Home Affairs. This office has a lot of critical departments of Government that we need to support with adequate budgetary allocations to make them function. I will start off by touching on the Department of Immigration. There is no doubt that this department does a very critical job in regulating movement in and out of this country of both our nationals and foreigners.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in doing so, I would like to urge Members to take some caution, that we should not fall prey to the stereotyping and labelling of persons on account of religion. We do appreciate as a country that, we have to be constantly extra-careful about the threats from terrorism and the duty to scrutinise carefully, and prevent suspect elements from coming to this country. Equally, I want to urge caution to the Immigration Department that, not everybody who professes the Islamic religion is either a terrorist or a potential terrorist. That is because terrorism has no religious labels. I am making reference to a programme in the Immigration Department called "Referred Visas", which is visiting a lot of damage to our tourism. We have many tourists who come to this country from the Middle East. I think to pick on one or two countries because of their religion and impose a blanket referral status on their visas is wrong. Each case must be looked at and dealt with on its own specific merit.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do understand that because of referred visas, Oman Airlines, which has been flying between Oman and Kenya, is considering closing down, and that is business lost! That is an idea that the Vice-President and his team could look at, and see how best to deal with it. Again, we have had a series of complaints about unilateral imposition of visa restrictions on South Africa nationals coming to Kenya. Maybe, the Vice-President and his team may not be aware of that. That is something I urge his office to look at and harmonise, so that we have reciprocity in our relationship with others.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country has always been a host to many refugees. At any one time, in the last ten years, we have always had more than 250,000 refugees. While we share in the plight of refugees staying in Kenya, they have a bearing on the local economy. The other day, I talked to Ms. Ndung'u, who used to work for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). She told me that on average, US\$17 million comes into this country to support refugees and their activities. But, surprisingly, I do not know whether it is because of our inaction as a Government that all that money ends up in the pockets of international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Out of that US\$17 million, I am made to understand that only Kshs4 million is given to the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs for refugee activities. The rest is taken away by the international NGOs. Kenya, as a host country - and I urge the Vice-President to look into that - must make it clear to the UNHCR that the first priority on supplies of food and other critical components like soap and blankets must first be given to the local people. If we need to supply maize to refugees, the first source must be Kenya. If it is not there, then we can out-source from elsewhere. That is the only way that the presence of refugees in Kenya can benefit the local economy. But if the US\$17 million is ending up in the hands of international NGOs

and, therefore, heads out of Kenya, then there is very little benefit that this country could get from that. We, obviously, do not want to be "merchants of death" by benefitting from the plight of others. But if an opportunity is there for locals to do some business, why not do it?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is the issue of prisons. In the old days, the Prisons Department, among other things, used to engage in food production. Mr. Salat mentioned about the Kitale Farm Prison. All the land of Kitale Farm Prison was looted and shared out between the politically-correct of the last regime. I would like to urge the Vice-President---

Mr. Salat: You were also there!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want Mr. Salat to know that he is playing with fire!

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Order, Mr. Wetangula! Order the two of you! What is this House getting to?

That is not the kind of language we would like to use! We should not use threats in the House.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to take responsibility for any hon. Member's limited knowledge of English.

(Laughter)

Mr. Kosgey: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It is not a question of English. Mr. Wetangula has issued a threat to Mr. Salat. Could he withdraw and apologise? It is not a question of English. We do not speak Bukusu English here!

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not issue a threat. That was an English expression which any ordinary English-understanding person should understand.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Order! I do not understand how you would like to use your time, if it is going to be semantics to be discussed. You have only been asked by the hon. Member, the way he and others who are on their feet understood it, to withdraw it.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, incidentally, the Chair has not ordered me to withdraw or apologise. May I carry on?

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to use a language that is not palatable to this House? Could he withdraw? Otherwise, which school did you go that we did not go?

(Laughter)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Mr. Wetangula, do the necessary!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I, for the sake of harmony and to satisfy my colleague who have some incapacities, withdraw and apologise.

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw and apologise unreservedly!

Mr. Sungu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. With due respect to the hon. Member, who is a very good friend of mine, this House must not be used to insult others! We should not use a language that could lead to altercations unnecessarily. He has been an elected Deputy Speaker of this House! It would be nice if he showed courtesy to his colleagues.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Your time is up, Mr. Wetangula!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, they have wasted my time! Could you add me five more minutes?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Your time is up!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Rotino: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on this Vote.

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

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

I want at the outset, to support this Motion on the Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs. As my colleagues have said, this is a very important Ministry, because it caters for very many important departments.

I want to talk about drugs and child abuse, issues which fall under a department in that Ministry. If you read the newspapers or listen to the radios, you will find that a lot of schools are being burnt. The Minister for Education, Science and Technology has been talking about this issue. This is a very important issue. The Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs of particularly the relevant Department should address this issue.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could you protect me from these hon. Members?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order! Order, Mr. Wetangula!

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we, as a country, are taking this issue lightly. But of late, we have been hearing of schools getting burnt and children getting out of hand. They do not listen to the administration. We should go to the root cause of this problem and see what is happening to our children.

The other day, it was on television that a kiosk which is next to a school was selling sweets laced with drugs to unsuspecting children. The Children's Department should look at this issue seriously and do a thorough survey to find out what is going on. Otherwise, we are losing our children to drugs. We are also losing a lot of money through the burning of schools by children. This is a concern to me.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about the Immigration Department. That

Department is charged with the responsibility of issuing work [Mr. Rotino] permits. Today, if you enter an Asian shop, you will find an Asian who cannot even speak English or Kiswahili. Then you ask yourself how he got a work permit--- They even have work permits for three years and, to make it worse, some of them have renewable work permits. You ask yourself, how did these people get into this country and obtain work permits? They work in funny places. They even open kiosks that our own people can operate. These people are robbing our own young people of employment. If you go deeper into this matter, work permits are being sold outside the Department at Kshs50,000. How do they get out? The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs should look into the Department of Immigration critically, because there is a lot of corruption in that Department. These Asians are even buying citizenship at a cost of Kshs250,000! I am saying that there is something wrong in that Department. The Office of the Vice-President should look into that issue seriously. As much as we are voting money for this Ministry, there should be enough checks and balances in the Departments.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now talk about the Prisons Department. The Kshs112 million allocated to the Department of Prisons is peanuts. I say this with a lot of concern, because we have children and relatives working in the Prisons Department, as Prison Warders. Many of the warders do not live with their families because of the houses they live in. You find that many of their families live in the rural areas and the warders live in the prison estates. Many warders are dying because of HIV/AIDS since they do not stay with their families because of the nature of the houses they are given. If you go to the Industrial Area Remand Prison, you will sympathise with them, because of the state in which they live. Even the vehicles that are used to transport prisoners are in a terrible state of disrepair. I want to submit that this Kshs112 million is nothing. We should allocate more money so that the Prisons Department can improve.

Even the uniforms the warders put on are not good. I am asking the Vice-President to change the uniforms of the warders. They put on old khaki, colonial-type uniforms! I want to urge the Vice-President that, as he changes the state of our prisons, he should change the uniforms of the prison warders so that they, at least, look presentable. I know the Vice-President is capable of doing this. We should give him this money so that next time, we see these officers very well dressed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me address the issue of refugees. In Kapenguria Town, there are many refugees who are not in their camps. They are doing business, competing with the locals. If you go to Kakuma Refugee Camp, those who supply firewood and charcoal and the grass for thatching the houses are not locals. The refugees themselves get into business and compete with the local Turkana people. Yet, we know they get a lot of money! So, I am pleading with the Vice-President to ensure that refugees stay in their camps. Even if they do business, they should do it within their camps, not buying *matatus*. If you go to Eastleigh today, many of the *matatus* plying that route are not run by Kenyans. At least, 50 per cent of them are run by refugees. Even if the refugees have extra money from maybe, their relatives who are staying out of this country, we should not disadvantage our own people by allowing the refugees to move around the way they want.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of street children, I know that there was a big campaign when the NARC Government came into power. They moved around and collected all the street children and took them to the National Youth Service (NYS). There are other towns in this country that have street children. If you go to Kitale, there are thousands of street [Mr. Rotino] children. These children need to be taken away to the NYS to be trained, so that they may become better citizens of this country. By not doing that, we are not able to help those children, since they get out because of poverty and engage in activities that are not very good.

I also want to talk about the NYS. If you drive along Thika Road, you will see incomplete

structures belonging to the NYS. I am pleading with the Vice-President to ensure that those buildings are completed. It is a shame to us. Everybody who drives along that road sees incomplete structures. Even the allocation that has been made here is not enough to complete those houses, so that we can remove that shame of unfinished structures. We should also make use of the young NYS recruits to do community works like constructing roads, *et cetera*. At least we can reduce the cost of even completing those houses if we use the National Youth Service (NYS) young men to do that work.

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

Mr. Muite: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. In supporting this Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry for Home Affairs, I would like to make the following points. The first one is on approved schools. I have two approved schools in Kabete Constituency; Dagoreti Approved School and Kabete Approved School. They are both in Kikuyu Division. They are in a state of complete dilapidation and I would urge the Vice-President to bring approved schools to be in consonant with modern times. Let us not continue to retain them the way they were during the colonial times when they were prisons for minors. We can put these approved schools to better use and the starting point, is perhaps, to get a more consumer-friendly title or name for them; perhaps rehabilitation centres. Let the Vice-President spend a bit of money in rehabilitating these places. I suspect that the other approved schools across the entire country are in the same state of neglect. Let us upgrade them. All these street children who we are seeing can be taken to these places for rehabilitation. Let us have a Budget that is going to actually cater for children as they are increasingly taking the centre place. We have infrastructure across the entire country called "approved schools" and we can train some good people to rehabilitate them.

We can actually divide them into two sections; one for minors who may have been convicted while the other side will be for children who are being rehabilitated. Let us make use of them, devote and give them a good enough budget.

The second point I would like to make is about the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse (NACADA). I heard the Vice-President say that this particular issue has been allocated Kshs42 million.

Mr. Sungu: That is peanuts!

Mr. Muite: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is totally inadequate! The Ministry should be in the forefront in co-ordinating efforts to tackle drug abuse in this country. Let us do away with this culture as a nation; of rushing at the eleventh hour when things are already out of hand. The fact of the matter is that Kenya is a major drug transit country. However, it is no longer just a transit nation but a lot of those drugs are being consumed in this country.

Our children are in grave danger and they get addicted and enticed when they are still in schools. If you go to these buses that take children from the so-called "high cost schools", where they are being dropped after school, you will find some people loitering around. Initially, they will sell these drugs at a very low price until the kids are hooked. Once they are hooked, they will then do anything, including stealing, in order to get money to keep up the habit. This is a national disaster getting out of hand. However, one does not see enough counter-measures beyond talking. **[Mr. Muite]**

One does not see plans on how we can arrest drug abuse in this country. The result is that we are losing a generation! Perhaps, in terms of statistics, this is as bad as the spread of HIV/AIDS. There are so many kids! The worst part of it is that we do not even recognise it as a major disaster! As it is, there are very few institutions of drying up and counselling these people. We do not have such places! We will find some children being taken all the way to Homa Bay where, I think, the Catholic Church has a good institution. All the others are private institutions. I would urge the Vice-

President, since this falls within his docket, to get back and do sufficient homework so that he can come up with plans on how to support institutions of rehabilitation and good programmes for arresting this major calamity before it gets out of hand.

The other point I would like to make is that I see that the Immigration Department has been allocated Kshs800 million. Of course, I am waiting anxiously to hear the final Government investigations about the M/S Anglo Leasing and Finance Limited on the issue of the passports.

(Applause)

We are waiting anxiously! However, we have a situation where on the one hand, the Americans are talking about how porous our borders are. They are speaking about how Kenya is an entry point in terms of international terrorism. On the other hand, our passports - if you travel to many countries these days, you will find that visas are Information Technology (IT) compliant. Somehow we have got to upgrade our passports because the Kenyan passport is quickly going to be worthless unless it is IT compliant. I would have wished to hear the Vice-President say how the Kenya Government is approaching these Americans who are issuing travel advisories because of how porous our borders are and how ill-equipped we are as a nation. Instead of Kenya taking the flak and trying to upgrade the passports, why can the Government not ask the Americans to pick up the task? Let them fund the upgrading of our passports. After all, Kenya always suffers collateral damage in the world war on terrorism. We are not the target! This is a war between the fundamentalists and Americans, and I agree entirely that it is not every Muslim who is a fundamentalist. However, this is a war between the Muslim fundamentalist and the Americans. Kenya is not there! Therefore, if we are going to be required to spend money to do something in terms of closing our borders and upgrading our passports and visas, why can we not tell the Americans that they are the primary target of this terrorism? They, therefore, must take the flak! They must meet the cost of what we need to do. That is something that should not necessarily come from the pockets of the Kenyan taxpayers. That is something that should come from the Americans.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that when it comes to handling some of these issues like the war on terrorism and statements that are being issued by diplomats, and I say this with all seriousness, I think that this Government needs to persuade KANU to hold for it a seminar and teach it how power is wielded.

(Applause)

It does not appear to know how power is wielded! It still does not appear to know that it is in power! It continues to behave as if KANU is still in power and NARC is still in the Opposition! We need decisive action and leadership on all these issues! Never mind that KANU was negated but at least when it came to wielding power, it knew how to do it!

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

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

I must commend the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for the hard work and seriousness he has shown. This Ministry has very critical departments. I wish to concentrate on a few of them. The Immigration Department generates a lot of revenue for this country through levies such as passport application fees.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I come from a border area with three border entry points, namely, Lwakhakha, Malava and Busia. The services rendered to the people undertaking

cross-border business at those entry points are quite inadequate. I did a survey and established that there are certain points along the Kenya/Uganda border where we need to establish new entry and exit points. In my own Teso District, there is a place called Buteba, as you approach Adungosi Police Station, where there is a lot influx of people. That is an ideal place to establish an entry or exit point.

A lot of money, which the Government could have collected in the form of taxes, is being pocketed by unscrupulous police officers who have established their own *Jua Kali* entry and exit points. If the Government had set up an entry and exit point at that place, it could be collecting so much money. The Immigration Department is allocated some money for construction of certain entry and exit points. If that money could be used to put up an entry and exit point at Buteba, along the Kenya/Uganda border, it would serve our country very well.

I wish to centre my contribution on the Prisons Department and particularly on the welfare of prisoners. We have provided a lot of money towards the welfare of prisoners. In the previous Government, prisoners never used to be accorded any respect. Following the Vice-President's personal initiative towards improvement of the welfare of prisoners, there has been an improvement in the face value, but inside the prisons, the situation is worrying. At the Busia Prison, which is in the neighbourhood of my rural home, there are complaints of prisoners being mistreated. The food they are provided with is inadequate. At times, they starve. Consequently, the prisoners undergo a lot of suffering. I have personally been to some hotels in Busia District. I have also talked to some of the suppliers of foodstuffs to prisons, and they have revealed how they steal food meant for prisoners.

Mr. Sungu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. You have heard the hon. Member, who is a very good friend of mine, say that some people have confided in him to have stolen public property. Would I be in order to ask that he names those people, so that they can be prosecuted? He should have reported to the relevant authorities!

Mr. Ojaamong: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would mention their names if the rules of this House permit. I am very sure what is provided for the upkeep of prisoners is inadequate. Even the prisoners themselves can testify to that effect. They sometimes starve. The people who supply foodstuffs to Busia Prison are known to me. I regularly interact with them. So, there is nothing to hide.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order! Order, Mr. Ojaamong! You have just made some serious allegations and you have been challenged to substantiate. You should either substantiate those allegations or you withdraw and apologise.

Mr. Ojaamong: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the point I was trying to drive home is that---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Ojaamong, you should withdraw and apologise!

Mr. Ojaamong: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw and apologise.

[Mr. Ojaamong]

The point I am trying to stress is that the food meant for prisons does not reach them. So, I would like the Ministry to put in place some mechanisms to ensure that the food meant for prisoners is distributed to them in a very transparent way. A prisoner should be able to know the number of kilos of meat that have been supplied and how they have been shared.

The second aspect is mistreatment of prisoners by prison warders. Prisoners complain that they are being beaten. I came across some prisoners who said that they were made to strip naked and perform traditional dances with very young boys. Young people and old men are made to strip

naked and perform traditional dances for some time. This is very unfair. It is not the African way of doing things. I would, therefore, appeal to the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs to address this anomaly.

A lot of money has been allocated to the Children's Department for service provision. There are some districts which were created by the previous regime but, to date, they do not have Children's Officers. These include Teso and Kuria districts, among others. Last year, people were interviewed for the posts of Children's Officers. I appeal that some of these funds be used for the recruitment of such officers, so that some can be posted to districts without such officers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also realise, in the Printed Estimates, that a lot of money has been provided for street children rehabilitation centres and towards training of street children. In my own thinking, the Government seems to imagine that the street children menace is going to be a permanent feature in this country. Street children have relatives and other members of the society, who could take care of them properly. It will be very unwise for us to continue budgeting for children who have relatives, who can look after them. That encourages certain communities to send children to the streets and burden Kenyans. I would wish that the current Budget provision be utilised to settle the street children currently in Government-run rehabilitation centres and look for a permanent solution to the problem, so that children do not go to the streets again. The Government should ensure that people do not release their children to go to the streets.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing (Mrs. Tett): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs is a huge Ministry. Indeed, I would like to commend the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for running this Ministry well and making sure that all the departments under it work well because there are a lot of challenges in this Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must start by talking about the campaign against drug abuse which falls under the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs. Drug abuse is a global problem and many of our children have fallen into it. The other day, we saw in a primary school in Westlands where a *kiosk* owner had laced sweets with drugs so that the children are hooked to them. This person targeted very young children of about eight years to 11 years old. What happens after that? They will be hooked and they will never get back to normal life unless, of course, they are counselled properly. This is a really big problem in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, drug abuse kills and makes one mad. I have been involved in counselling many children, especially the street children and I know exactly what I am talking about. When these children take drugs, they forget who they are. Some of them are raped by their own brothers and that is how they are infected with the HIV/AIDS disease because at that moment, they do not know exactly what they are doing. It is a very big problem and I urge the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs to invest more money into this campaign, so that we hammer the point home to everybody in Kenya. We should advertise in the media the dangers of drug abuse.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in some cases, the drug abusers do not last for more than seven years, since they die at that age. So, if a country is full of children who take drugs, then what will happen to the future? Our population will diminish and indeed, we will lose the core population of the country which compromises the youth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to talk about the National Youth Service (NYS). I salute the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs because, ever since he took over this docket, it is doing very well. The NYS colleges admit approximately 5,000 youths. I have seen some of the former street children who have been taken to the NYS colleges. When I go

to see them after a month, I find they are totally different human beings. You cannot actually believe that they were the drug abusers who were in the streets and who did not care about their lives. When I see them clean, saluting and mark-timing, my heart is filled with happiness when I see those reformed young children. They are taught skills such as engineering, secretarial studies, catering, driving and many others.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in 2003, over 800 street families were admitted in the NYS and we can imagine what would have happened if the Government did not admit these 5,000 youths to the NYS. I request the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs to set aside more money, so that instead of admitting only 5,000 children, he can admit maybe, 10,000 children from all the districts in the whole country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, many people have spoken about the prisons and one of my colleagues said that they are in a bad state. However, I have seen on television that there are a lot of improvements ever since our Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs took over. We need prisons that are humane. We do not need to just dump the prisoners there and leave them to die. Although the prisoners have committed crimes, they are Kenyan citizens and they need to eat well. As one hon. Member said, they also need to sleep well and need attention when they fall sick. Our prisons should not be death chambers. Those years of Hitler are long gone. They are our citizens. They go into the prisons when they are criminals but come out when they are reformed. I have seen many of them coming out of prison totally reformed and they go back to their families. You cannot believe that they were the same convicts. We also need to motivate the prison staff. Although we are motivating the prisoners so that they can be rehabilitated, the staff also need to be motivated. Some of them live in pathetic quarters. You can find five or six of them living in a ten by ten feet structure. The Ministry should rehabilitate the structures so that the staff can be motivated to take care of the prisoners well.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we look at the Children's Department, we see many of our children suffering. They suffer in silence. Some of them are raped by their own fathers. Some are mistreated. The rights of the children are not taken care of. We have seen these cases many times. They just suffer in silence. I would like to request the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs to send social workers throughout the country to take care of the children who are suffering. They are battered and raped and there is nowhere they can go for help. If they go for help, they are told by their families not to go because they will embarrass them, especially in cases where fathers have raped their own daughters. This is appalling and it is very important that we send our social workers all over the country to help those mistreated children.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the children's homes and approved schools as one of the hon. Member of Parliament said, are very important. They are important because when the children commit crimes, the Government needs to keep them in approved schools so that they can be counselled and come out better citizens.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, after talking about the children because they touch our hearts, I would like to talk about the Immigration Department. This department must work harder. There must be adequate security controls. When we remember the 1998 Bomb Blast, we ask ourselves one question which is: How did these people enter the country? We need to tighten security at all the borders of Kenya so that we do not live in fear. We should not fear visitors who have come into the country. We should not be afraid that they may be terrorists. This is very important. There is nothing as sad as living in fear when you know that a solution can be found to the insecurity problem.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, refugees are also part and parcel of human beings. We should take care of them adequately. However, I would like to ask the Office of the Vice-President

and Ministry of Home Affairs to be very careful because some of the so-called refugees are not genuine refugees. They just want to come and capitalise on what Kenyans give them. So, I would like the Ministry to screen the refugees and those who are found not to be genuine refugees should be sent home because we are spending a lot of money caring for them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to commend the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for saying that Jogoo House needs to be rehabilitated.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Serut: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. From the outset, I support this Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs. However, the amount of money that has been allocated to this important office is not enough. I hope the Vice-President will very soon bring a supplementary budget before this House for approval.

I want to echo the sentiments of my colleagues, especially on recruitment to the National Youth Service (NYS). I think, of late, the Government has deviated from its own policy on recruitment to the NYS. When this institution came into being, it was meant to recruit youth from all over the country and not from the streets. However, of late, what has happened is that the Ministry recruits street children to the NYS. As a result, there is an influx of street children because they believe it is only by being in the streets that one can access the NYS. I think all of us pay taxes to the kitty of this nation. Let the NYS recruit youth from all over the country. If there are any street children, let them be taken to the rehabilitation centres. Thereafter, they can be repatriated back to their own homes. This is because I believe we are all Africans and we have our own origin.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of reforms in prisons has been talked about. I want to appreciate the work that the Vice-President has done for the time he has been heading that particular Department of Prisons. However, I am so much concerned about the priorities when it comes to reforms in prisons. I feel that reforms should have started with the prisons officers because these are the people who instil discipline in the prisoners and not the prisoners. However, what is happening in this country is that, the reforms now are geared towards improving conditions of the prisoners. That, in essence means that, the prisoners will not appreciate the officers who are taking care of them in prisons. So, I would request that this time round, the policies of the Department of Prisons be changed a little bit, so that the reforms start with the prison officers. The reforms I am talking about range from the uniforms they put on, shoes, the big batons they carry around and promotions. I believe the Minister must have received a lot of complaints about promotions. There has been a lot of bias and nepotism in promotions. There has been no proper way of carrying out promotions, especially for the low cadre. I am made to understand that, some officers have been waking up to being promoted to the ranks of sergeants, senior sergeants and so on, leaving behind officers who have worked for more than 20 years the same job group. I think that should, at least, be streamlined.

There is also the issue of housing. Most of my colleagues have talked about housing. I think there is a big problem with housing in prisons. I do not know what the Ministry is doing about it, but I would propose that the Ministry experiments by, maybe, coming up with one prison camp and advertising it for a private investor to come up with buildings which will have to be leased by the Government. As far as I know, there is no single prison camp which has been built of late. So, our priorities in the Department of Prisons, to me, seem not to have been there at all. So, when we talk of coming up with reforms in prisons, I think it should also start with the housing for the officers within the prisons. When you visit, for example, the Industrial Area Prison, what is there for the prisons officers is not what you can describe as a habitable environment. There are no latrines and some are still using those old jerricans and pails, just as before we attained Independence. I think it

is a sad situation.

I want to also speak about approved schools. I come from Western Province. There is an approved school in Kakamega District. That school used to do very well in terms of discipline. But of late, I think the school is no longer what it used to be. Where has this Government been? Was it on leave?

Many people have talked about corruption. Who has been causing this corruption? I think it is high time Kenyans started with themselves. I want to see a situation where, I, as the Member of Parliament for Mt. Elgon Constituency, start with reforming myself and saying "no" to corruption before I can talk of the other hon. Members and members of the public. Those who are talking loudly about corruption in this country are the ones who are corrupt themselves.

Some hon. Members have talked about drug abuse. When we take people for counselling, I presume we are dealing with the end product and not the real issue. We should go back to our roots and ask ourselves: Where did we lose our steps? We lost our steps immediately we tried to emulate what is in the West; where we started talking about human rights. As a result, for example, a five-year-old child cannot be disciplined. If you are found disciplining your own child, you will be arrested. The Government banned caning of pupils in schools. We, as Kenyans, need to ask ourselves why we banned caning in schools. What did we put in place instead? We put nothing. This is why we have a lot of indiscipline which has resulted in what we are now calling drug abuse. Our own children are out of hand. We, as a nation, I think it is a high time we went back to the drawing board and asked ourselves: What can we do about discipline in schools in this country? Yes, we withdrew the cane in schools, but what are we doing about it?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I beg to say, again, I support this Vote of the Office of the Vice-President.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to talk about the Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs. First of all, I would like to compare the figures with regard to Development Vote and Recurrent Vote. The NYS has been allocated about Kshs380 million for Development Expenditure, while the same NYS has been allocated Kshs1.6 billion under the Recurrent Expenditure. The Prisons Department has been allocated approximately Kshs148 million for Development Expenditure as opposed to Kshs4.2 billion under Recurrent Expenditure. Another example is the Immigration Department with a paltry Kshs3 million under the Development Vote. There is a donor funded project of about Kshs1.5 billion and a Government contribution of approximately Kshs800 million. If you compare those figures, you will note that we spend, in fact, less than 10 per cent of the Budget of this Ministry on Development Expenditure, while the rest of the money is spent on Recurrent Expenditure. This means that there will be very minimal development in this Ministry. It means, for example, that the prisons, where there is a lot of congestion--- I have had the honour to visit Kodiaga Prison with the Vice-President himself. That prison is over-congested and there is no provision for putting up additional facilities, for example, the ablution block to get rid of the effluent, so that it does not infect the local community. I come from the area near Kibos Prison, and Kodiaga Prison is also within my domain. As I speak here, the effluent and all the rubbish from those prisons is a lot and it affects the local community, particularly during the rainy season when we have an outbreak of cholera and other diseases. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me go to my favourite subject and I will not tire in talking about it. I would like to appeal to my very good old friend, His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs not to protect corrupt people. When he rose in this House, and I did protest at that time, and said that it was above board and later it appeared it was not above board--- He was taking responsibility for something which I believe from my heart--- I have known the family of the Vice-President since 1969 when I

was a young man. I believe that he is not capable of doing that. So, I urge him not to defend those who are corrupt. This should also go to all the Ministers. Let those who are corrupt die their own death! Let them carry their own cross!

(Applause)

Therefore, when it comes to the Anglo Leasing and Finance Company--- Let us not allow corruption to permeate into this Republic again. Let us just call a spade a spade. We will not come out of the yoke of corruption and this country will go to the dogs if we do not act now. People will give up hope on us. When we were elected into office about 18 months ago, we had a lot of hope. Right now, one could rightly say that, that has gone to the dogs because people have seen that there is no difference between this Government and the previous one. We see corruption in our midst and yet we promised Kenyans that there would be no holy cows. The holy cows exist up to now! What is all this? I believe that this country is capable of eradicating corruption and all the other vices which afflict our society and giving our people a fair chance. What is the point, for example, of people like us to take our children overseas for studies? We do this because there are riots in our public universities. Our children riot because they have given up hope. There are no equal opportunities because of nepotism, due to corruption. Therefore, we have to take our children overseas and spend a lot of money. Some of those children stay there because there are no job opportunities here. The money that the Government wastes on some of those things could be well used on developing this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, still on corruption, if you give me only 1 per cent of the over Kshs2.6 billion which was involved in the passports scandal, I will do a lot of work in my constituency. When it comes to disbursing money to our constituencies, it takes years, but when it comes to getting money for corrupt practices, it takes a very short time to be availed. Let us make sure that there will be no corruption in this country. Let us also make sure that there will be transparency and accountability.

As a Member of the Public Investments Committee (PIC), we visited Germany and found that there is no PIC in that country because no corruption case will reach Parliament, unless it is a major one. This is because there is a Public Audit Office which takes action. That office will carry out investigations and take action, and the Attorney-General will prosecute people without waiting for instructions from anybody. This is the case, and yet in this country, we have to wait for ten years before we look at the PIC reports here in Parliament. In the meantime, the money is stolen, there is unemployment and we are unable to develop this country because people have put the money into their pockets. This is unfair and unacceptable. The trend should be reversed immediately.

With respect to the National Youth Service (NYS), I want to point out one thing. Let us rationalise the NYS. Let us make sure that the stalled projects are revitalised, particularly, the NYS complex just opposite Utalii College. That complex is a shame to us. Even in Kisumu, there is a plot which, unfortunately, was being grabbed the other day. Those plots must be utilised. The Government must have a plan. To say that we do not have plans for the future shows that we do not believe in the future of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I believe that the NYS personnel should be used for better things, for example, in food production and flood control rather than wait until there is an occasion in this Republic or there is a function here in Parliament and you find them lining up the routes because the President is coming. That should not be the case. They should be used for economic purposes because I believe that as future leaders, that is what they wanted.

The Vice-President has talked about training. I want to congratulate him for making a major effort in improving our prisons. That is a well done job and a very noble thing. I wish that he had been allocated the portfolio of also looking after the HIV/AIDS victims and orphans. If that was done, I believe we would have gone very far. But as we do that, let us also not overdo it. This is because, the other day, I saw a beauty pageant at Lang'ata Women's Prison.

Frankly, I thought that if I had a chance to look for a wife, I might as well have gone to Lang'ata Women's Prison, because they were very well dressed. Maybe, we are going too far there. We should use them for community service rather than confine them in our prisons because they are overcrowded.

With respect to refugees, I want the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs to reflect on the environmental impact of refugees in this country. I had a chance to visit Kakuma Refugee Camp in Turkana District, and I can assure you that what I saw there was an eye-opener. The very large number of refugees descend on the little vegetation available and use it as firewood. This is the case, and yet the trees they plant do not grow because of the harsh weather conditions. We must look into this aspect. We must look at the expense and the fact that it is time some of those refugees went back to their countries because there is peace there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, because of shortage of time, I beg to support.

Mr. Wario: Ahsante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia fursa ambayo nimeingojea kwa muda mrefu. Kama Serikali itavunja sheria, basi mwananchi atavunja pia. Ukiangalia Bajeti ya mwaka huu, utaona kwamba kuna huduma ya afya ambayo imewekwa na itanyang'anya mwananchi pesa zake na hali Bunge hili halijaipitisha huduma hiyo. Ninasimama kuiunga mkono Hoja hii kwa sababu katika Ofisi ya Makamu wa Rais, hizo huduma za kuwanyang'anya wafanyakazi pesa zao haiko mwaka huu. Ningependa kumpongeza Makamu wa Rais kwa kutoweka huduma hiyo katika bajeti yake. Hakuenda kudhulumu. Kwa sababu kuweka pesa ya *Medical Scheme* ambayo haijapitishwa na Bunge hili, ni kuwanyang'anya wafanyakazi pesa zao.

Ninaamini kwamba Ofisi ya Makamu wa Rais na Wizara ya Mambo ya Nchi ni mrundiko wa Wizara. Pengine, ni kwa sababu hii katika safari zake nyingi, Makamu wa Rais amezuru sehemu mbali mbali humu nchini, ikiwemo Bura. Sikuamini kwamba siku moja Makamu wa Rais atafika kwangu, lakini ninafuraha kutangaza leo kwamba alifika. Kwa sababu Ofisi ya Makamu wa Rais ni mrundiko wa Wizara, Kshs5 bilioni zilizotengwa ni kidogo.

Nilipoipitia bajeti ya mwaka huu ya Ofisi ya Makamu wa Rais na Wizara ya Mambo ya Nchi, niliona kwamba wakimbizi hawakutengewa chochote. Kwangu, hii ni hofu. Kwangu ni hofu kwa sababu idadi kubwa ya wakimbizi ambao wamekimbilia nchi ya Kenya. Watu hao wametoka katika hali isiyofurahisha. Sio kupenda kwao kuwa wakimbizi. Hali imewalazimu kuwa wakimbizi. Kwa hivyo, ni vizuri Serikali itenge pesa za kushughulikia matatizo ya wakimbizi halisi. Si sawa kwa Serikali kukaa na kungojea mashirika ya kimataifa kama United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) kujigamba katika nchi yetu, kushughulikia maswala ya wakimbizi. Lazima Serikali iingilie na kutenga pesa za kushughulikia swala ya wakimbizi. Wakimbizi ni watu kama wengine na ni muhimu.

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

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

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mwenzangu hapa amegusia swala la Kshs80 milioni zilizotengewa Wilaya ya Tana River. Wengi hawajajua Tana River ni wapi na hali haswa ya kiasili kule. Nampongeza Makamu wa Rais na Waziri wa Maswala ya Ndani kwa pesa alizozitenga. Mifugo na mimea, yakiwemo maembe, yanaoza mashambani kutokana na ukosefu wa barabara.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, leo, tukitengewa Kshs80 milioni, naona ni kidogo sana kwa sababu haziwezi kutoshelesha mahitaji. Lakini hata hivyo, badala ya kuikashifu, nasema pongezi na itakapofika mwaka ujao, tuongeze pesa hizo ili barabara hiyo ikamilike.

Singependa kusahau kwamba National Youth Service (NYS) wamechukua miaka 26 katika Wilaya ya Tana River, wakijenga barabara ya kilomita mia moja. Huo ni muda mrefu sana. Hivi karibuni, utatambia kwamba utajenga kilomita moja kwa miaka mmoja. Hali kama hiyo hairuhusiwi! Hata kama ni kujifundisha, tujifundishe kwa kiasi kinachokubalika. Lakini Miaka 26! Aaah! Nafikiri Makamu wa Rais na Waziri wa Maswala ya Ndani amesikia hayo na ataingilia.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nataka kuzungumzia juu ya maswala ya uhamiaji. Sitaki kuwalaumu wale wafanyakazi. Natumai kwamba Makamu wa Rais na Waziri wa Maswala ya Ndani atanielewa. Wakati kulitokea matatizo ya kuwahamisha watu wa Africa Muslim Agency, mimi na viongozi wengine wengi wa Kiislamu tuliandamana na kwenda kumwona Makamu wa Rais. Tulifanya hivyo kwa sababu shirika hilo linaangalia zaidi ya watoto 2,000 mayatima. Nimehofika kwa sababu Serikali, katika upande mmoja, iko tayari kutekeleza mahitaji ya wafadhili. Lakini haiko tayari kutekeleza mahitaji ya wafadhili wa Mashariki ya Kati. Kwa nini? Kwa sababu Wamarekani wameteka nyara Serikali ya Kenya na wanatambia: "Lete kampuni fulani! Lete Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) fulani na fukuza NGO fulani. Nimesikitishwa sana na kusimamishwa kwa Almultadal Islami, baada ya mkurugenzi wake kutolewa Kenya. Shirika hilo limefungwa. Serikali imefungwa Africa Muslim Agency. Shirika hili limetangaza litafunga vituo vyake 43 na kuwaacha mayatima 2,000, bila ya mtu wa kuwashughulikia. Swala hilo limenisikitisha sana. Nataka kumwambia Makamu wa Rais na Waziri wa Maswala ya Ndani kwamba, cheo hutolewa na Mwenyezi Mungu na cheo huchukuliwa na Mwenyezi Mungu. Kuambatana na maswala ya mayatima 2,000, aliye juu anangojewa chini. Sisi tuko kule chini tukikuangalia. Ni swala la kusikitisha sana, haswa tunapozungumzia maswala ya watoto mayatima.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kugusia swala la NYS. Zamani, ukiajiri kijana ambaye ametoka NYS, ulikuwa na imani ana ujuzi wa kutosha, na una dereva au mafundi wa maana kabisa. Siku hizi, hali hiyo imebadilika. Kule mitaani, vijana hao wanaitwa "machokora"! Ni lazima ieleweke kwamba wakati mwingine, Serikali inataka kufanya kitu muhimu. Lakini katika utekelezaji, inaharibu hicho kitu muhimu. Uso na heshima ya NYS imeharibika kwa sababu tumeokota vijana wa mitaani kiholela. Sisemi hao sio binadamu. Ni binadamu na wanastahili kuhudumiwa. Lakini siyo kupelekwa kwa NYS. NYS ni chuo ambacho kina lengo na maana ya kuboresha huduma katika nchi ya Kenya. Leo wanaitwa "machokora"! Hatuna imani tena kwao. Mhe. Makamu wa Rais, ile hali ya kuwachukua vijama wa mitaa na kuwapeleka katika NYS imeleta madhara makubwa. Natumai ulipoenda Bura, watu walikuomba huwaruhusu vijana wa NYS kufufua ule mradi wa mchele wa Bura. Natumai kwamba hukusahau na bajeti ijayo, utahusisha NYS katika uzalishaji wa mimea katika nchi ya Kenya.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, miaka iliyopita, jamii za mitaa zimetengewa Kshs44 milioni. Mwaka huu, jamii hizo zimetengewa Kshs22 milioni. Miaka iliyopita, fikira na nguvu zenu mliweka katika mji wa Nairobi. Naomba mwende sehemu zingine katika mikoa. Jamii za mitaa ziko katika kila mahali katika nchi ya Kenya. Usiangalie Nairobi na kulenga jamii moja. Teremka kule mashinani. Nampongeza Makamu wa Rais na Waziri wa Maswala ya Ndani kwa sababu ya mabadiliko aliyoleta katika magereza. Mabadiliko hayo yanatupa heshima kama Wakenya au binadamu. Mahabusu ni wanadamu. Ni ndugu zetu, baba, mama, kaka na dada. Na kule waliko

gerezani, natumai ni mahali pa kubadilisha maisha yao! Siyo mahali ya kuwaadhibu, vile ilivyokuwa hapo awali. Wakati Bw. Awori aliingia katika Wizara hiyo, amefanya makubwa kubadilisha hali yao ya maisha. Juzi, niliona kwa runinga--- Unajua sisi Waislamu tunaruhusiwa wake wanne. Kwa hivyo, nilipoangalia, nilisema: "Bado kuna nafasi hapa!"

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, singependa kusahau kwamba katika ile hali ya kuboresha magereza, utafaulu tu utakapoboresha hali ya wafanyakazi wa magereza. Huko, ukabila umetanda. Vyeo hutolewa kwa minajili ya ni nani mkubwa katika ofisi fulani. Tunataka huduma zitolewe kuambatana na miaka ambayo mtu alifanya kazi katika ofisi ile. Isiwe mapendeleo ya kikabila. Wale vijana wanaofanya kazi magerezani, wapewe fursa ya kupata vyeo ili hali yao iboreshwe.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, katika maswala ya watoto, Wilaya ya Tana River haina hata ofisa mmoja wa watoto. Ni wilaya kubwa yenye eneo la kilomita 38,900 mraba. Wilaya hiyo ni kubwa kuliko nchi ya Rwanda na tunataka, angalau, iwe na ofisa mmoja wa watoto atakayeweza kuboresha hali yao.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nikimalizia, tumepoteza utu wa taifa letu kwa sababu ya dawa za kulevya. Nakumbuka kule Mombasa, wananchi walijitokeza na kusema: "Fulani analeta madawa! Huyu anauza! Huyu anaangamiza watoto wetu!" Majina yalitajwa lakini, **[Mr. Wario]**

tunasikita mpaka leo kwamba watu hao wako nje na watoto wetu wanaangaishwa. Naomba Makamu wa Raisi na Waziri wa Mambo ya Ndani aingilie kati swala hilo na aanzishe vita dhidi ya madawa ya kulevya. Tusimame wima, tushikane mikono na tuhakikishe kwamba tumewakomboza Wakenya kutokana na janga la dawa za kulevya.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I rise to support the Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs. I will not speak about the prison service, because I think it has been adequately spoken about. I will also not speak about the National Youth Service for the same reasons. I will talk about national heritage which, so far, nobody has talked about.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is our national heritage as a country? Is it a country of famine? Is it a country where Kenyans require visas to visit almost all the countries? Is that our national heritage? I think that is a very important department which should play its rightful role by educating Kenyans on their national heritage. I want to be on record by saying that we are sitting on a disaster, if a whole country can depend on one crop, that is maize, for its livelihood. We are sitting on a disaster! Maize is the only crop that Kenyans depend on. We need to diversify our crops.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need to go back to the traditional foods that used to sustain this country. Right now we are experiencing drought which has caused famine. But why has it caused famine at this time when we had only one poor harvest? It is because we sell our maize immediately we harvest it. In the olden days, our grandparents would never sell their maize before harvesting in the next season. That is no longer happening. The maize that we are going to import from the USA is the maize that was harvested more than ten years ago. That means that even if the USA had famine for nine years, it would still be able to feed the people. However, their maize is not the best. What I am advocating for is that we need to diversify the crops we grow. We used to grow yams, millet, sorghum, cassava, green grams, sweet potatoes, arrow roots and bananas, but not any more. People just want to eat maize and maize alone. For example, during the crisis in which there was bad maize killing people, a better substitute would have been bananas, but nothing happened because Kenyans do not want to eat bananas. All they want to eat is maize. Uganda was faced with

civil war for 20 years, but it never experienced famine because of bananas. Bananas can really save this country.

We need to change our cultural beliefs and outlook. For example, it is the view of many Kenyans that *matoke* is for women and children. You will find someone hungry, but who will not eat bananas simply because he holds the view that bananas are food for women and children. We need to change that attitude. We also need to grow pumpkins because they are the only ones that can pass for a whole meal. Pumpkins contain carbohydrates, proteins and vitamins. Our mothers, a long time ago, used to feed babies on pumpkins. Nowadays, mothers go for cerelac and falex. All the crops I have mentioned just require rainfall period of one month. The maize we are so fond of requires, at least, a rainfall period of six months. I am advocating that unless we change our eating habits, this country will continue to suffer from famine. It is not possible for 31 million people to depend on one type of food.

I am even surprised that most people do not even know that maize is a foreign crop. Indeed, it came from Latin America. I do not know how it came about to be the most popular crop in our country to the extent of overshadowing the other indigenous crops. We need to diversify our eating habits too. We cannot depend on maize alone. In other countries which have not suffered famine, people eat all sorts of things. Again, I want to be on record. I know what I have been saying is not popular, but as leaders, we need to inform our people that this is the time to start eating other things and not just maize. In today's newspapers, I was caricatured as owning a butchery and a restaurant where I am selling all sorts of meat including donkey meat, camel meat, rat meat and so on. But this is exactly what is happening at Carnivore Restaurant and other places where majority of us go to eat. In Carnivore Restaurant, you can order for the kind of meat you want to eat.

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

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Ethuro) resumed the Chair]*

If, really, we would diversify our eating habits, we would actually create market for our donkeys which are dying in Turkana. The donkeys cannot be sold because Kenyans do not eat donkey meat. There was a time when donkey meat was being sold secretly here in Nairobi and we ate it without knowing. Nothing ever happened to us after eating the donkey meat. So, we need to diversify our eating habits.

With regard to camels, camel meat is the main meal in Egypt, Middle East and even North Eastern Province of our country. However, camels are dying in North Eastern Province and if you suggest to Kenyans to eat camel meat, they will not want to hear of it let alone touching the meat. What is wrong with camel meat? In this period of drought in North Eastern Province, the people there would sell us the camels for camel meat. In return, we would give them money to buy maize which everyone wants to eat. At Carnivore Restaurant, you can order for crocodile meat and yet if you tell Kenyans that crocodile meat is edible, they think that you are speaking a foreign language. This is the reality. So, we need to diversify our eating habits and I am calling upon the Department of National Heritage to spearhead this campaign of changing the eating habits of Kenyans. In other countries, people eat all sorts of food and that is why countries like Japan and Korea are not faced with famine.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying that countries like Japan and Korea are not faced with famine because people in those countries eat what is available to them. If you read the Bible, especially the Acts, Chapter ten, Verse 4, you will realise that Christians are allowed to eat all

sorts of things.

The Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs (Mr. Balala): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to turn this meeting into a dietician meeting instead of contributing to the Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs?

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about the national heritage which has been charged with changing our cultural beliefs. It is there in the budget.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Balala in order to refer to the sitting of the august House as "this meeting"?

(Mr. Balala rushed to the Dispatch Box)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): You referred to this august House as "this meeting" and before I even give you a chance to speak, you are already holding the microphone! You are completely out of order! There is no "this meeting" here. This is the august House. It is the Kenya National Assembly. Please, let us maintain that dignity!

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was saying that in one of the Items in the Budget, there is money that has been voted for cultural activities. One of the cultural activities that the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs should involve itself in is changing our eating habits which are part of our culture.

The Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs (Mr. Balala): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is supposed to be contributing to the Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs and not the Department of Culture which is in charge of nutrition and food.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): You are right Mr. Balala. Mr. Githae, for quite a while now you have been talking about famine.

(Loud consultations)

Order, Members! The Chair is giving proper directions and you are advised to listen. Please, confine your contributions to the Vote of the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs. I appreciate that famine is a natural disaster, but we had that debate sometime last week.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the department responsible for cultural affairs is under the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs.

With these few remarks, because I can see that my time is over, I beg to support.

Mr. Twaha: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I stand to support this Motion.

First, I would like to congratulate His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for the very able way in which he has been running this Ministry since he took over. He has even had occasion to visit the prisons in Lamu, and, as you are aware, Lamu is a world heritage site. So, I want to commend the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for all the good work that he has been doing, and we wish him well in the remaining future programmes of his Ministry.

I rise to support this Vote, because as I have said, Lamu is a world heritage site, and we are

now very keen on issues regarding heritage, history and conservation. We have not yet mastered the fine nuances of this new Cabinet after the reshuffle, and we do not know who is responsible for which docket as yet. So, we are asking for the indulgence of the Chair to guide us as we slowly get to learn who is in charge of each Ministry. In this respect, I also want to urge hon. Balala to exercise more restraint and not be too critical of us by bombarding us with points of orders.

The contribution by hon. Githae was very constructive, considering that he comes from a rural constituency, unlike hon. Balala.

(Laughter)

Issues of the stomach, diet and nutrition are very important to us. There are very few hamburger joints in the rural areas of Kenya. So, I support hon. Githae for his wonderful contribution, and Kenyans will do well to take note of what he said.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs practically covers everything. It is only that it delegates some of its responsibilities to other Ministries. But I think it is all encompassing. It has everything to do with Kenya, *hapa ndani*.

As we reflect upon this Vote, I came across another document the other day. The University of Illinois was advertising for the post of the president of the university. After giving the job description, the announcement actually stated that the annual Budget for that university is US\$3.3 billion. Upon reflection, I realized that it was equivalent to the total budget of the Republic of Kenya, which serves 30 million people. When we put this fact into perspective, we realize just how economically-challenged our circumstances are, and that there is a serious need for us to think about expanding our economy or the so-called "national cake"; because, in a sense, we are only equivalent to one university in America, and there are hundreds of universities in those other nations there, which we like to call "friendly nations". Things are going to be very difficult in the future unless we expand our economy. We have to make it our priority to expand and grow this economy, so that we can reduce poverty because our people are suffering so much that they cannot get access basic needs. The priority should be the economy and not all this business about constitution-making and party wrangles, because these things will have no effect, whatsoever, on the well-being of Kenyans. They are just there to create a few jobs for a few people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the economy of Kenya needs to be diversified. Hon. Githae talked about the diversification of our diet. I would go further and say that our economy needs to be diversified. We need to reflect upon which areas in our economy have the potential for rapid growth, and the available resources of capital, labour, land and the physical and geographical situation that we are in. We should also concentrate on how to optimize all the sectors of production that we have so as to help in the growth of our national cake in order to uplift the living standards of our people.

We are living in a culture of envy where people think "small" and negatively. If we hear the news that somebody has been lucky enough to win a tender somewhere or to do something that will earn him a few million shillings, everybody is up in arms and very much against any sort of any economic advancement of any other individual who is in the country. We need to have capital formation in order to get investments. How is the *mwananchi* going to accumulate this capital to invest for this economy to grow? So, we need to change our attitudes, we have to think positively and be proactive in our approach to national issues. We have to wish each other well in Kenya in order for Kenyans to develop and move ahead.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a problem of insecurity in Kenya. I know that people will refer me to the Office of the President, but this is also the responsibility of the Office of

the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs, because it is about Kenya. The Minister of State, Office of the President is undertaking some reforms in the Kenya Police Reserve, because the Kenya Police Reservists stationed in the cities of Nairobi and Mombasa were largely misusing their positions. But I will strongly urge the Government not to do away with the Kenya Police Reservists in the rural areas, especially in places like Lamu where, for decades, we have been harassed by the *shifita* and other bandits from neighbouring countries because they have been doing a very good job very conscientiously. They do not have ulterior motives, they only want to protect their families, children and livestock in the villages. So, I would strongly urge the Government, if they have any attempts to cut back on the police reservists, to restrict that exercise to urban centres where this honourable service has been misused.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, HIV/AIDS is a national problem. So much money is being spent on many conferences where people just talk over lunch. In fact, some people have referred to them as "Oxfam lunches", but very little is being done on the ground. The only people with a network, outreach and moral authority to reach the *wananchi* on such issues are the teachers. The Government should be well advised to channel whatever resources they have through the Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) or other teacher organizations to perform this function of civic education, to teach the children about HIV/AIDS and its prevention instead of wasting money on bogus Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), which are only there to enrich themselves.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the prisons service has undergone a lot of reforms, and our people in the prisons are very happy with what the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs is doing. When I visit convicts in my constituency, they tell me to pass their greetings to hon. Uncle Awori.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Trade and Industry (Mr. Miriti): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. First, let me congratulate the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs and all the Ministers who are under him for the work which they have done for this country. They have really made the NARC Government proud by the way they have worked and changed the atmosphere in that Ministry, especially in the prisons.

I would like to make a few comments on refugees. Refugees come here because of political problems in their countries of origin, while others come because of national disasters. We also have some of them who we can refer to as "economic refugees".

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the way refugees enter into this country needs a lot of scrutiny. We have many refugees who are here for reasons other than threats in their countries. Refugees have entered into this country through the porous borders due to absolutely economic reasons. They come here to do business, but once they are approached, they claim to be here because of threats in their countries. There has to be well founded reasons of persecution for someone to qualify to be a refugee in this country. We have a problem with the way the reporting of the arrival of refugees and the interview process is conducted. We have thousands of refugees in the country who are yet to report to the authorities concerned. Such people can only qualify to be illegal aliens and, indeed, they are criminals. Others have come here as illegal aliens under the cover of refugees and have acquired properties. Some have even purchased land. Others have intermarried with our local people and others have children who are working in the Government. Such people could easily turn out to be spies.

I want to propose that, due to the large number of refugees and illegal aliens we have in this country, we should establish a refugee police unit, whose task would be mainly to monitor what these people are doing. If you look at our neighbouring countries, you will find that most of them

have stabilised. We have people who came here because of the threat of the Amin regime and they are still here claiming to be refugees, and yet the regime has changed. We have refugees who came here during the Haile Selassie era and they are still here. We have others who came from Somalia a long time ago and the regime in Somalia has changed. I do not know how they would qualify to be refugees when the systems, which made them run away, have already collapsed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to comment on the prisons. We need more prisons in this country. We require a prison in every district. There are prisons which used to be there long time and were closed in the 1960s. We had one at Chuka. It should be revived because people are encountering a lot of problems as they travel long distances to visit their relatives and friends who are in custody. I would also like to comment about the plight of remand prisoners. Remand prisoners are people who have not been convicted. Some of them are innocent people, while others could have committed the crimes for which they have been arrested. When these people are put in remand, they are mistreated. Some of them are beaten up, others go without food and proper clothing. They wear the clothes they were wearing when they were arrested. I would call upon the Ministry concerned to look after these people who often are innocent. Due to such treatment in the remand prisons, some suspects, especially those who have committed traffic offences and other minor offences, confess to crimes just because of fear of being taken to remand homes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to comment on the Children's Department. We have many children in the country who are really suffering. Normally, we have one children's officer in every district and I feel that the number of officers we have is not adequate. We have so many cases of neglected children. We have very many cases of children being brutalised by their parents and sometimes neighbours, and it is very difficult for the officers available to handle all such cases. Some districts have a high population density and it is very difficult for one officer to monitor all the families and ensure that children are not mistreated.

We have very many children who are not going to school, despite the fact that there is free primary education now. We have others who do not even have clothing and shelter. Children whose parents are divorced or separated also experience a lot of problems. We need officers to monitor such cases on a daily basis to ensure that such children also enjoy life.

I would like to comment on the rehabilitation of street children. Whilst very many people have appreciated the removal of street children from the streets and taking them to training centres, we have some organisations which were involved child rehabilitation programmes before the NYS rehabilitation programme was set up. These organisations are not getting support from the Ministry. I call upon the Ministry to consider supporting institutions like Ndagani near Chuka, which supports street children, so that they also feel that the Government is appreciative of what they are doing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the national campaign against drug abuse, its effect has been felt slightly, particularly in major urban centres. But when you go to the grassroots, especially in schools, small markets and the villages, you will find that its effects have not been felt. People continue to abuse drugs, plant bhang and smoke it openly with impunity. I would suggest that we have more anti-drug abuse officers posted to such areas to monitor growing and misuse of drugs. They can also apprehend drug dealers.

The drug abuse problem is prevalent in secondary schools, and is now becoming common even in primary schools. The case where sweets were found to have been laced with drugs was mentioned here, and that is just one case. I would think that there are more cases which have not been detected.

On the issue of travelling outside the country, Kenyans continue to have a lot of problems

when acquiring visas to visit certain countries. The only way to assist such Kenyans is to practise reciprocity. We should apply similar measures to the citizens of countries which are making it difficult for Kenyans to visit them. We should not allow some countries to pretend that it is only our nationals who can cause damage to their countries or to their nationals, but theirs cannot to do so to nationals of other countries. So, I would recommend reciprocity.

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

Eng. Okundi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for allowing me to contribute to this very important Motion. I stand to support this Motion. First of all, I would like to congratulate the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for the able manner in which he is running the Ministry. He has toured almost all prisons in this country. In all those visits, he has instituted some very good and major reforms.

I wish to take this opportunity to talk about the Children's Department within this Ministry. Today, this country has orphans and vulnerable children whose numbers are rising fast because of the HIV/AIDS scourge. The number is galloping and it is approaching close to three million. It is only that we have not conducted very good research to get to know the actual number of orphans in this country. It is unfortunate that these children do not have homes of their own because their parents died as a result of this scourge.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the NARC Government recently implemented the free primary education programme. This is a very commendable move. Indeed, it confirms that the NARC Government means what it pledged to do to the children of this country. It fulfilled its contract with the people of this country. However, I would urge the Government to make this programme compulsory to all children in this country. All parents must take their children to schools, either private or public. I know that in the case of private schools, the fees are higher. However, the Government can allocate a portion of its money that it pays to maintain a child in a public school and let the parents who prefer to keep their children to private schools pay the other portion.

As far as orphans and vulnerable children are concerned, I would like to re-visit some traditional ways of past living. When I was a child, we used to sleep in our grandmothers' huts. Both boys and girls preferred to spend nights in those huts. Whenever we lived there, we were told stories of the past and advised on what to be in future. We were also told things that we could avoid so that we could not fall in the hands of people who would influence us with bad habits. As a result, orphaned children were taken care of logically and naturally by the families and the relatives of those families. At that time, the HIV/AIDS scourge did not exist. So, indeed, orphans and vulnerable children were very few. Therefore, our people were able to look after those children who did have opportunities like the other children whose parents were still alive.

Today, many families in the country are finding out that apart from taking care of their own children, they have other children of their relatives who died of HIV/AIDS. That is happening in galloping numbers and, hence, the idea of orphans and vulnerable children. The children of your dead relatives who come to you for livelihood, safety, education and future because you belong to the family line-up, deprive your own children of what you would have offered them had you not had them. Now, your own children become vulnerable! I would like to say that this Government should come up with very specific programmes under the Children's Department. It should ascertain the number of such families in the country, draw a specific budget to be released to those families each month, so that they can take care of the children whose parents have died of HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for example, if the Government targeted about 1,000,000 families and gave each of them Kshs1,000 every month, and the statistics of the children they care for are known, you will find that the Government will spend approximately Kshs1 billion!

That will take care of orphans and vulnerable children. That would work out to a yearly budget of Kshs12 billion. That is just an example and I know that the Vice-President has talked about that elsewhere. We are dealing with orphans and vulnerable children on a very vulnerable basis. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this week, there is a meeting in Mombasa handling the issue of orphans and vulnerable children. They are trying to see how the Government could look into that particular matter financially.

I would like to say that we should support the Vote of the office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs, so that we could strengthen the Childrens' Department in such a way that, in future, we do not just find ourselves looking for development partners and donors to help us to take care of our children who have no livelihood because of poverty and the HIV/AIDS scourge.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about recruitment into the National Youth Service (NYS). It should be done on constituency basis so that, at the end of the day, we know who went to NYS from our constituencies. That would take care of the practice in the past where, people from other constituencies are recruited in your own constituency and yet, you have your own people! I can see the Chair is becoming uneasy!

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! It is now time for the interruption of business. The House, therefore, stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 21st July, 2004, at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.