

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 20th August, 2009

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

NOTICE OF MOTION

EXTENSION OF MANDATE OF SELECT COMMITTEE ON CATTLE RUSTLING

Mr. Kaino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, this House extends the mandate of the Parliamentary Select Committee to investigate the root cause of cattle rustling by a further two months to enable the Committee conclude its activities as per the terms of reference of its establishment.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

STALLING OF MT. KENYA ELECTRIC FENCING PROJECT

Mr. Warugongo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Forestry and Wildlife the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Why did the electric fencing around Mr. Kenya stall even though construction materials are available at the site?

(b) When will the construction commence?

(c) What measures is he taking to keep away wildlife, especially monkeys from farmlands around the Aberdares?

The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Wildlife (Mr. Nanok): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Mt. Kenya Electric Fence is a joint initiative of the local community, the Kenya Wildlife Service, the Kenya Forest Service, the Arid and Semi Arid Lands, Action Aid Kenya and other stakeholders through funding from the World Food Programme. The project stalled because of a boundary dispute in the project area.

(b) My Ministry will soon convene a meeting of the parties concerned to resolve the dispute to enable the project to proceed.

(c) My Ministry, through the Kenya Wildlife Service, is committed to minimizing cases of monkeys invading farmland in the Aberdare area through the following measures:-

(1) Education and awareness programmes have been carried out by the KWS officers in the Aberdare National Park on animal behavior and safety measures against wildlife. Farmers have been advised to safeguard their farms by scaring away the monkeys and reporting incidents immediately to the local warden for information and further action.

(2) Each park and station managed by the KWS has specially trained rangers whose work is to handle problem animals. So far, several monkeys have been controlled during the exercises, patrols have been intensified with the aim of reducing crop destruction incidents. The local community has been advised on how to scare the animals back to the surrounding forest.

(3) The wardens are working closely with the provincial administration, especially the local chiefs to ensure that the cases are reported to them on time for quick intervention.

(4) The KWS has in addition developed and is maintaining a database of incidents that enable it to make decisions.

Mr. Warugongo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of human wildlife conflict around Mt. Kenya and the Aberdares has been a big problem for the communities living there. The communities living on Mt. Kenya side have even started constructing their own fence to protect them from animals which normally come to their farms, destroy crops and even sometimes kill them. In this case, they have started constructing their own fence because it is as if they have been forgotten by the Government for a long time. It is now that the Government---

Mr. Speaker: Come to the question, Mr. Warugongo.

Mr. Warugongo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell this House how long it will take the Government to keep these animals in the forests and the people in their farms?

Mr. Nanok: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of the electric fence around Mt. Kenya has taken quite some time. Since the hon. Member has brought this matter to our attention, within three months time, we will resolve it. The KWS wanted the electric fence to be put at the edge of the plantation forest while KFS and NEMA wanted it to be put just after the indigenous forest because elephants were also destroying the plantation forest. We will resolve this matter in the next couple of weeks. Funds are available and that fence should be ready for construction within the next three months.

Mr. Njuguna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that the Assistant Minister has admitted that these monkeys have really destroyed the crops and farmers are now suffering, could he consider compensating them because there is a lot of drought in that area

Mr. Nanok: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our current law limits us from compensating for crop destruction. We have revised a new Bill which we will be presenting in this House very soon to cover crop compensation aspect amongst other issues.

Mr. James Maina Kamau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that other than Mt. Kenya where animals are kept in the forest, there are dead monkeys along Kiambu Road as a result of speeding motorists? If we continue like this, we will have no animals in Kiambu forest.

Mr. Nanok: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the hon. Member for bringing that matter to our attention. I would like him to discuss it with me in detail so that he can give me the information and we will take the necessary action.

Mr. Warugongo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want the Assistant Minister to talk about the materials that are on the ground. The materials have been there for many years, but it seems as if there is a problem. He should tell us who is involved in the dispute. We have been told there is a dispute between two parties.

Mr. Nanok: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said much earlier, there was a disagreement on where the fence line should be put, particularly between KFS and NEMA on one hand which did an environmental impact assessment report and the KWS that wanted the indigenous forest and the plantation forest to be included within the 75 kilometre fenced area. The community wanted the plantation forest to be outside the fenced off area. This is a matter that has come to our attention and we are going to resolve it. As I promised earlier, in the next three months we will have resolved it. We will have internal discussions with the community and have the fence erected. The funds are ready and the material is ready. So, it is only a matter of taking the decision and then it will be done.

Mr. Speaker: The Member for Igembe South!

INTERDICTION OF MERU
G.K. PRISON OFFICERS

Mr. Linturi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Vice-President confirm that Mr. Daniel Mutiria M'ikiugu, the Superintendent of Prisons in charge of the main Meru G.K Prison and eight other Prison officers were interdicted on 2nd May, 2009 and that a *nolle prosequi* was subsequently entered on 14th July, 2009, thereby discharging them?

(b) What steps is the Vice-President taking to ensure that the officers are reinstated to duty as Prison officers and their powers and privileges reinstated in compliance with rule of natural justice?

(c) Could the Vice-President also give an undertaking that the said officers' dues will be paid for the time they have been out of office?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs (Mrs. Kones): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg that I be given more time. I have been given this Question just about an hour ago. I beg that it be deferred to next week on Thursday.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Linturi, is that okay?

Mr. Linturi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will have to oblige because madam is a new Member of Parliament and a new Assistant Minister. I have no option but to give her the indulgence. However, I would expect her to come prepared next time.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Member for Igembe South, for being a gentleman.

However, Madam Assistant Minister, please, note that in future, it is easier for you to consult with the Member before you approach the microphone. It seems you had not done that.

(Question deferred)

Next Question by the Member for Kisumu Town West!

CONTRAVENTION OF TSC HIRING POLICY

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that relevant provisions pertaining to the hiring of teachers under the Teachers Service Commission Act will be contravened if teachers are recruited by the Ministry and/or Board of Governors?

(b) What steps is the Ministry taking to ensure harmonized remuneration and other terms of service across the country to ascertain that no teacher is discriminated against or is underpaid?

(c) What is the basis for this shift in policy in the hiring of teachers?

The Assistant Minister of Education (Prof. Olweny): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply. However, I beg the indulgence of the House because the answer is long. So, please, bear with me.

(a) No, I am not aware that the relevant provisions pertaining to the hiring of teachers under the TSC Act will be contravened if teachers are recruited by the Ministry or the Board of Governors since:-

(i) Intern teachers will be on contract and will be employed under Board of Governors (BOGs) and School Management Committees (SMCs) as I stated in my budget speech on 29th July.

(ii) It should be understood that over the years, the same SMCs and BOGs have been hiring teachers on contract basis to supplement the services of TSC teachers employed on permanent terms.

(iii) Under the current arrangement, intern teachers will be paid standardized salary package of Kshs10, 500 for primary school teachers and Kshs14, 000 for secondary school teachers per month. This will safeguard the teachers against the very low salary packages currently being paid by the BOGs and SMCs.

Hon. Members may wish to note that employment of teachers by SMCs and BOGs already exists but they are paid very low salaries.

(b) The Ministry is taking the following steps to ensure harmonized remuneration and other terms of service for the whole country to ascertain that no teacher is discriminated against or unpaid.

(i) Hiring of teachers under the internship will be done on the basis of regional equity and gender balance basis.

(ii) An equal number of teachers will be recruited per constituency; 50 primary school teachers and ten secondary school teachers.

(iii) For primary schools, the District Education Boards (DEBs) will be used to interview teachers for individual schools in order to ensure quality and fairness.

(iv) DEBs will conduct the interviews and rank the candidates on terms of merit.

(v) In order to exercise a high degree of accountability and transparency, the selection panel in the DEB will consist of the following: Director of City Education (DCE) or the Municipality Education Officer (MEO) or the District Education Officer (DEO) who will chair the panel, the Deputy DEO, District Staffing Officer (DSO) who

will be the secretary, the officer in charge of quality standards, two area education officers representing the divisions as members and two DEB members.

(c) As you are aware, hon. Members, the Minister for Finance during the Budget Speech initiated measures to jump-start the economy recovery through Economic Stimulus Projects. Hiring of intern teachers is one of the five projects by the Ministry of Education. However, this does not constitute a change in the recruitment of teachers on permanent and pensionable terms of employment.

The recruitment of teachers by the TSC will remain for all approved 245,000 positions. That remains unchanged. The current strategy will relieve parents the burden of paying teachers in a period of great economic hardship.

Mr. Olago: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you heard the hon. Assistant Minister's answer. The policy on the implementation of this is very wrong. In answer to part "a" of the Question, the Assistant Minister says that he is not aware that the TSC Act is being contravened. This answer is based on ignorance because the preamble to Chapter 212 of the Teachers Service Commission Act says that it is an Act of Parliament to provide for, among other things the determination of remuneration of teachers and purposes connected therewith.

In addition, Section 13 of the same Act gives the provision for the establishment of an agency known as the Teachers Service Remuneration Committee which is engaged for the purposes of fixing the remuneration of teachers. So, clearly, if the Ministry is going to hire teachers directly then that is a direct contravention of the Act and the Ministry must accept that.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reasoning behind this is all wrong because the amount of money for constituencies is the same irrespective of the number of enrolment per constituency. The number of pupils in primary schools in Kisumu Town West Constituency may not be the same as the number in North Horr Constituency. Why is the amount the same? This is an issue that the Ministry must answer now!

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have told the House that teachers who are going to be hired will not be hired by the TSC, neither will they be hired by the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Education does not hire teachers. When the TSC hires teachers, the money for that is got through the Ministry of Education to the TSC. The same applies to this case. These teachers are going to be hired by SMCs but the money to pay them passes through the Ministry of Education. The money will be taken to the schools directly.

Mr. Olago: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House that the hiring of teachers in primary schools will be done by SMCs when he ought to be aware that SMCs are not bodies recognized in law? They can neither sue nor be sued?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member knows very well that even as of now, school management committees employ teachers. That is where the Government will give assistance.

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information from the Assistant Minister is not very clear with regard to the recruitment of teachers by the Board of Governors (BoGs). Currently, the BoGs employ teachers using school resources and are only on contract as far as the communities are concerned. However, we want some clarification from the Assistant Minister. Whom will the teachers who will be hired by the boards of governors, as he claims, be answerable to? How will that money be channeled to them?

Will it be channeled directly to school accounts or they will be paid directly by the TSC? What is the position?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker Sir, I think I will repeat this although I have already said it. I gave the same point a few minutes ago. The money will be paid by the school management committees; BoGs in case of secondary schools and PTAs in case of primary schools. The money will be channeled to the schools' accounts the way the free education funds are channeled.

(Mr. Olago stood up in his place)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Olago! Let the Assistant Minister be heard.

Mr. Gunda: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The reasons why school boards of governors and management committees in primary schools are hiring teachers is because we have shortages. Having realized that, if the Ministry wants to alleviate that problem, why can they not ask the TSC, using the monies they will send to these boards and committees, to hire the extra teachers?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is public knowledge that teachers are not retiring this year. We have to wait for another five years for the oldest teachers today to reach 60 years. That means that we have no vacancies to hire teachers. We only hire to replace teachers who have retired. That is what we do. Otherwise, we all know that---

Mr. Mwangi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Right from his first answer, the Assistant Minister has misled this House. The Act, CAP 211, Ministry of Education, does not give the Ministry authority to employ teachers. It is the Teachers Service Commission Act which gives the TSC authority to employ teachers. When the Assistant Minister says that there are no teachers retiring this year and yet we know that there is a shortage of about 60,000 teachers, is he not misleading this House and taking the wrong direction by allowing the Ministry to employ teachers? This is wrong to mislead this House that the Ministry can employ teachers! Is he in order?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Assistant Minister, are you in order to mislead this House?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not misled anyone in this House. It is only a few hon. Members who did not get the point well. I did not mislead anybody. I have said that the TSC is not hiring and the Ministry of Education is not hiring. The Government is assisting schools management---

(Loud consultations)

I think I will be heard! The school management committees are the ones which are being supported to hire teachers on contract.

With regard to teachers being hired by the TSC, the TSC is not hiring teachers. We all know that in this country, employment in the Public Service was frozen. So, we cannot claim to have vacancies which we do not have.

Mr. Gunda: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has not answered my question. Why can he not channel this money through the TSC to employ more teachers? He has not answered that question.

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will repeat it to the hon. Member that TSC does not have the vacancies to hire teachers. We know that we do not have enough teachers in this country. However, that does not necessarily mean that we have vacancies to hire.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, could you take care of those hon. Members?

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! The Assistant Minister shall be heard!

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we know very well that we have a shortage of over 60,000 teachers in this country. That we know. However, due to the freeze in employment, we cannot employ and everybody knows that. Some of these people were in the Civil Service, they know that.

Mr. Olago: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this is the view of the Ministry of Education, based on the economic stimulus package announced by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, why is the Ministry, clearly, putting these teachers through internship at salaries much lower than what is paid by the TSC? Is that not modern day slavery and taking advantage of these teachers?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that is much better than the Kshs1,000 some of them are getting today from the BoGs and PTAs.

Mr. Speaker: Fair enough:

STATUS OF *WOMEN OF KENYA INITIATIVE*

Mrs. Noor: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Development the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister clarify whether the Women of Kenya Initiative is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) or a government initiative?

(b) If it is a Government initiative:

(i) when and how was it formed?

(ii) Did the Minister receive Cabinet approval?

(iii) Will the initiative be funded by the taxpayers and, if so, at what rate?

(iv) What are its mission and operation guidelines?

(v) What is the number and location of its offices in the country?

(vi) How much of the taxpayers' money has already been spent on thereon; and,

(c) If it is an NGO:-

(i) How is it related to the Ministry?

(ii) What is the identity of its officials?

(iii) What relationship does the Minister have with the organization?

(iv) Is the organization registered in accordance with the NGO Registration Act?

The Minister for Gender, Children and Social Development (Ms. Mathenge):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Women of Kenya Initiative (WOKI) is not an NGO but is a registered as self-help group project in each of the respective districts where it is operating.

(b) It is not a Government initiative but an initiative of like-minded women from different spheres of life, I being one of them. It came into being about three months ago. As a self-help group project, it does not require Cabinet approval. There are other

683,000 registered self-help groups in the country. The initiative is not funded by the Government and therefore, does not cost anything to the taxpayers. Its mission is to bring together every woman in this country without regard to race, colour, creed, or religion and to empower them economically under the motto “building strong families” and ultimately, to create among women the spirit of self-esteem, self-confidence, self-reliance and self-improvement, among many other issues. It also serves the women in close co-operation with all sectors of the society to mobilize and coordinate all social services for women and children. The operations are not yet developed as the initiative is still in the formative stages. After recruitment, members hold elections from the grassroots level to the national level.

The districts only have volunteer recruiting teams and will start physical offices after they form their respective district committees. No taxpayers’ money has been spent on this initiative.

(c) WOKI is related to the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development by virtue of being registered under it. The Minister for Gender, Children and Social Development is a member being a woman of Kenya. However, she is neither an official nor a signatory to the initiative’s bank account. Similar organizations are formed all over the world to articulate and bring the gender agenda forward. I do not see any difference in what WOKI aims to do. The relation between the Minister and the Initiative is, therefore, one of being a member and an inspiring force to ensure its success.

The organization is registered as a self-help group by the Ministry and, therefore, it does not fall under the NGO registration Act. It would be a pity if this noble movement for women to better themselves is killed by themselves, thereby living to the old belief that women are their own worst enemies.

Mrs. Noor: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have heard the response from the Minister. First, the initiative is not three months old. She has misled this House because I have a communication she made in February this year. So, that shows it is more than three months old. It is an initiative she started herself. The women organizations of this country have been writing a lot of complaints. The Ministry is supposed to empower and capacity-build women organizations, but not create parallel organizations. Could she confirm that this initiative is not three months old? This is a parallel initiative she has started herself.

Ms. Mathenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as I am concerned, this initiative is three months old. I may have talked about it three years ago, but it actually came into force three months ago. As a woman, I am entitled to form a woman’s initiative. I do not think that there are any restrictions to that, whether I am a Minister, Prime Minister or President of this country. I am a woman. I am entitled to do so.

Mr. Olago: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. As much as the hon. Minister has got high entitlement as a woman, I think the issue of conflict of interest must be addressed also.

Mr. Speaker: Madam Minister, is there any conflict of interest?

Ms. Mathenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, conflict of interest with who and what?

Mr. Speaker: Fair enough!

Prof. Kamar: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Minister clarify the relationship between this initiative, the National Council of Women of Kenya (NCWK) and Maendeleo ya Wanawake Organization? Are they working together or differently? Could

she also clarify whether the organizations under the Department of Social Services where funds are channeled through the districts--- Will these organizations work together or will each of them look for its own funding? Finally, will this initiative be funded by the Government or Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) like the others?

Ms. Mathenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kenya has 18.9 million women. Maendeleo ya Wanawake has a registration of four million, leaving out 14 million women. The NCWK is a coalition of women organizations. So, as far as I am concerned, we are all working together for the agenda of all women. That is what the Women of Kenya Initiative (WOKI) is doing. This WOKI does not intend to get any money from the Government. It will use its own initiative. But if the Government feels that it can give them money, so be it. If I have a good proposal and I go to the Government and it feels it wants to fund it, I will be happy to take the money.

Mr. Speaker: Last question, Mrs. Noor!

Mrs. Noor: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that when we bring critical and important issues to this House, we get such answers. What forced me to ask this Question is the fact that the Minister, herself, is using her letterhead to issue instructions. I do not mind the fact that she is a woman and she can register an organization. She is free to do so. Here is a Minister who is supposed to care for all the women in this country. She is supposed to empower, facilitate and give them capacity. She is now biased against a group people---

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Noor! This is Question Time and not time for debate, argument or opinions. What is your last question?

Mrs. Noor: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first, I want to table this document.

(Mrs. Noor laid the document on the Table)

Secondly, I want the Minister to clarify if she has used her office to promote a certain group of people in this country.

(Applause)

Ms. Mathenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not.

Mr. Speaker: Fair enough!

Next Question by Mr. Mwathi!

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON *KAZI*
KWA VIJANA PROGRAMME IN LIMURU

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

(a) Could the Minister state how much money was allocated for roadworks in Limuru Constituency under the *Kazi Kwa Vijana* Programme?

(b) How much money has been paid out for the works so far and why have some workers not been paid to date even after having worked?

(c) When they will be paid?

The Minister for Roads (Mr. Bett): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The amount of money allocated for Limuru Constituency was Kshs2.4 million.

(b) I want to assure the hon. Member that all the money received for Limuru Constituency was utilized. In addition, all the workers contracted were paid in full.

(c) As stated above, all the workers were paid and the Ministry has, therefore, no pending bills except for one Margaret Muthoni, who is owed Kshs250 for work done for one day.

Mr. Mwathi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Minister for the attempt. However, it is clear that the Minister sends the AIE to the person on the ground and the same person is doing recruitment, supervision and accounting, while all the other administrative officers like the District Commissioners (DCs), District Officers (DOs), Members of Parliament and all others are not aware of the activities. Has he done an audit to find out what was done with the Kshs2.4 million?

Mr. Bett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a good question. At the moment, we are involved in the compilation of reports from all the districts to make sure that the money was utilized. We are obtaining duly signed payment vouchers from all districts. As I speak, in my office, I already have a bundle of papers from Limuru Constituency showing the number of people who were employed. The DC, Kiambu West District, was fully aware of the people who were recruited.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mwathi! The Minister has already responded. You will have one more chance towards the end.

Yes, Mr. Mbau!

Mr. Mbau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the huge interest that the *Kazi Kwa Vijana* Programme has generated across the country, especially regarding accountability for monies that have been sent to the districts, could he consider revising the mechanism in which this programme will be rolled out? We want to reduce the amount of inquiries and Questions we are putting to his office and the Office of the Prime Minister for lack of knowledge and information about this programme.

Mr. Bett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government will continue to support the *Kazi Kwa Vijana* Programme in order to give a livelihood to our youth in the countryside and, at the same time, improve our roads.

I want to assure the House that we have learnt lessons on recruitment and payment of the youth. I want to assure the House that with those lessons, I am sure we will improve in the next exercise and it will be better than the one we have had this time round.

Mr. Shakeel: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Minister to confirm to us that in future, the Member of Parliament and other leaders will be consulted before implementation, though we agree that the payment will be made by the District Roads Engineer. We have no problem with that but we want consultations so that the right roads are constructed.

Mr. Bett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, yes, I undertake to make sure that hon. Members are consulted and at an appropriate time, I may request your office that we go to a *Kamukunji* in order to brief hon. Members on how these young people are being recruited, how much they will be paid, how they will be supervised and who will be involved in the recruitment.

Mr. Mwathi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heard the Minister say that there is only one person who has not been paid Kshs250. The truth of the matter is that 1,500 people have not been paid, a bill amounting to over Kshs1.5 million. The point that I am bringing forward is that those people are already up in arms with the administration. When is the Minister going to move into action to audit what has been done and verify the truth and at the same time, Table those documents he has from Limuru because we also have information about it?

Mr. Bett: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no obligation whatsoever to individuals who have been recruited outside the provided system of recruitment.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.068

NON-PAYMENT OF TERMINAL BENEFITS TO RETIRED CHIEFS IN SAMBURU EAST

Mr. Letimalo asked the Minister of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security:-

(a) why Messrs David Lesadera Lekoloi (P/No.75077836), George Leariwala (P.No.92019134), Timothy Lekango (P.No.144515) and Kombera Lemiruni (P/No.820855230) who retired as chiefs or assistant chiefs on diverse dates, have not been paid terminal benefits; and,

(b) when they will be paid.

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Lesrima): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Mr. George Leariwala's retirement benefit claim was processed and submitted to the Director of Pensions on 24th November, 2008. He should therefore confirm with his local bank if payment has been made or plan to come to our office so that we can explain to him his entitlements to erase any uncertainties.

Mr. Kombera Lemiruni was written a letter dated 28th April, 2008 requesting him to complete and forward documents to our office to enable us process his entitlement. He has since not replied.

Mr. David Lekoloi and Mr. Timothy Lekango should also be advised to come to our office with all the necessary documents as they will be required to fill and sign documents to facilitate their payment.

(b) The retirees will be paid immediately once all the necessary paperwork is completed by them.

Mr. Letimalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I really appreciate the efforts made by the Minister to sort out this problem. However, now that Mr. Kombera has not received the letter being referred to, is it possible for the Assistant Minister to write another letter to the retiree? For the case of the other two, instead of requiring them to come to Nairobi, is it not possible to send these documents through the District Commissioner (DC) so that they could fill the forms and then submit through the same channel?

Mr. Lesrima: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I referred to our officer, I meant the DC's office in Samburu West although these officers were working in Samburu East. At the

moment, the DC has managed to trace some of them. So they do not need to come to Nairobi. I will write a letter and give the hon. Member a copy if he could assist me to trace this other gentleman, Mr. Kombera Lemiruni who claims not to have received the letter.

Mr. Speaker: That should do it. Hon. Member for Samburu East, that settles the matter, really!

Mr. Letimalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate.

Question No.317

NUMBER OF TOURIST CIRCUITS IN KENYA

Mr. ole Lankas asked the Minister for Tourism:-

(a) to state how many tourist circuits exist in Kenya and indicate what packages they offer; and,

(b) what the Ministry is doing to ensure sufficient promotion and publicity for all of them.

The Assistant Minister for Tourism (Ms. Mbarire): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

Kenya is currently divided in five tourist circuits. They are:

1. The South Eastern Tourist Circuit which covers Nairobi, Amboseli, Chyulu Hills, Tsavo West and East, Shimba Hills, Malindi, Mombasa, Kisite and Punguti. Safaris in this circuit begin in Nairobi and end in Mombasa or vice versa. Nairobi or Mombasa City tours can also be arranged by private tour companies.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, package tours here include, Nairobi National Park, Amboseli, Tsavo East and West, Chyulu Hills National Park. Also Shimba Hills National Reserve and Arabuko Sokoke Forest Reserve. Beach Package Tours also feature in this circuit.

2. The South Western Tourist Circuit. The City of Nairobi is also the main safari base for the South Western Circuit which includes Mt. Longonot National Park, Hell's Gate National Park, Lake Nakuru National Park, Ruma/Ndere Island, Kisumu Impala Sanctuary and the world famous Mara Game Reserve.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, packages here include Mt. Longonot volcano which rises 2,776 metres above sea level, Menengai Crater and the Great Rift Valley. Day trips can be organized to Hell's Gate from Nairobi, Lake Nakuru which is the home for pink flamingoes while Mara is world renown for the famous wildebeest migration.

3. The Western Tourist Circuit which includes captivating landscape sights ranging from tropical forests, the Savannah to arid and semi-desert. The circuit broadly comprises of Kakamega Forest, Mt. Elgon, Saiwa Camp, Nasalot, South Turkana, Kamnarok, Kerio Valley and Lake Bogoria.

The packages here include visits to the Elgon cave, spectacular view of Kerio Valley, Saiwa Swamp and the rare Sitatunga antelope.

4. The fourth circuit is the North Tourist Circuit which includes Maralal, South Island and Central Island on Lake Turkana, Sibiloi, Marsabit Losai and Samburu. This circuit is ideal for the adventure loving visitors as it is endowed with challenging terrain. Sibiloi National Park is credited with one of the world's greatest treasury of paleontology as the proof of man's origin has been unearthed in this area. Over 160 fossilized remains

of early man, that is, Homo Habilis and Homo Erectus were found here. Lake Turkana is home for over 12,000 crocodiles, the largest surviving community in the world. Ferguson's Gulf is also especially a wonderful place during March and April to view the northward flight of migrant birds.

5. The fifth is the Mid-Northern Tourist Circuit which embraces Maralal, Samburu Buffalo Springs, Shaba, Meru, Bisanadi, Mt. Kenya and the Aberdares Range. The circuit is figuratively the "jewel in the crown" as it abounds with wildlife and embraces the most captivating sceneries in the country. Packages include Samburu Buffalo Springs and Shaba National Reserve. At Shaba, one will view the Joy Adamson Monument---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Madam Assistant Minister! This Question looks fairly simple and straight forward. You are saying too much and taking too long and some of it, in my view, is repetitive.

The Assistant Minister for Tourism (Ms. Mbarire): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member wanted to know what is in those circuits and that is why I am going into detail. But I can summarize.

Mr. Speaker: What I would have done, if I were in your shoes, when I named the circuits, I would have put the contents of the circuits as I named them. You have named the circuits and you have gone ahead now to rename them and put the details. Could you summarize?

The Assistant Minister for Tourism (Ms. Mbarire): I will now summarize, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Our Ministry goes to detail because it is a sensitive Ministry.

Accommodation is available in all these circuits either through home-stay, two-star to five-star hotels and we have luxurious lodges within the parks and the reserves. To ensure sufficient promotion and publicity of all of them, we have opened up tourism regional offices in most major tourist areas. We have developed area plans. We are also advocating for regional boards through the proposed Tourist Bill, that will soon come on the Floor of the House. We also have branding of regions, branding of parks and marketing through the Kenya Tourist Board.

Thank you.

Mr. ole Lankas: I wish to thank the Assistant Minister for the answer although as she rightly put it, it is a bit confusing. But this House is aware that the world recognizes the Masai Mara as one of the seventh wonders of the world. Could the Assistant Minister, citing some of the approaches she has just outlined, tell us what the Ministry has done to enhance that international recognition accorded to one of the world famous tourist attractions in this country?

Ms. Mbarire: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have carried out various campaign strategies through the Kenya Tourist Board (KTB). I think Kenya has been very well known as a safari and coast destination. Through that, we have used Masai Mara a lot in all our campaigns either through the internet or brochures. We have arranged familiarization trips for tour operators from various destinations to visit the Mara and be able to see what it has to offer. So, there is no doubt that Masai Mara is very key in our campaign strategies for tourism in this country.

Mr. Bahari: I would like the Assistant Minister to confirm that the mid-northern circuit, particularly around Buffalo Springs and Shaba Game Reserve has been overtaken by bandits. What is the Ministry doing to secure that circuit?

Ms. Mbarire: Within the Ministry of Tourism, we have the Kenya Tourist Police Unit which we work with very closely. We also work very closely with the Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security to ensure that there is adequate security in all the areas where tourists visit. We are at the moment working very closely with the Ministry of State for Provincial administration and the Tourist Police Unit to ensure there is security for tourists.

Mr. Ethuro: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I also wish to thank the Assistant Minister for her very comprehensive answer, except that the Northern Tourist Circuit around Lake Turkana, which she has described in a flowery language and correctly so, is the home of *Homo Habilis* and *Homo Erectus*, 12,000 crocodiles; the largest surviving community in the world. What are they doing to encourage investors to open the central highlands, the Sibilo National Park, the Iles Springs Lodge and Angling Lodge that are now desolate because there are no visitors?

Ms. Mbarire: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the Member is aware that the Kenya Tourist Development Corporation (KTDC) was given Kshs800 million. The main purpose of that money is to encourage investors to borrow the money and build infrastructure for tourists. I want to tell the Member that one of the things we are doing right now is really diversifying our product in the country, so that tourists are not just coming to the Masai Mara, but they are able to come to Kenya and visit Lake Turkana and its environs. Therefore, any investor who is interested in investing in that area is welcome to visit the KTDC for money.

Mr. ole Lankas: Mr. Speaker, Sir, climate change is a global challenge and tourism is one of the sectors affected by this problem. Could the Assistant Minister tell us how the Ministry intends to address the problem so that they are not affected? It is a big challenge.

Ms. Mbarire: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of climate change is a big threat to tourism. We already have a task force within the Ministry that is dealing with measures to mitigate against climate change. Yesterday, we were in the Masai Mara with the Minister for Tourism from South Africa, and we realized that the Mara River is almost drying up. Therefore, as a Ministry, we have made it very clear that it is about time that the Mau issue was sorted out, among many other water catchment areas and conservation areas, so that the tourism industry is not threatened. We support conservation very strongly, as a Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! In view of the quantum of business before the House, I am afraid I will defer Questions No. 114 by Mr. Ethuro and No.410 by Mr. James Maina Kamau to Tuesday next week. However, the Member for Mwea can proceed to ask Question QPM/014. This is the third time it has been on the Order Paper.

Question No.114

PROVISION OF HEALTH FACILITIES IN TURKANA REGION

(Question deferred)

*Question No.410*RE-LOCATION OF EASTLEIGH AIRBASE
FOR SAFETY REASONS*(Question deferred)*

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ethuro! I gave directions with respect to the Question in which you are interested. I am afraid those directions will stay.

*Question No.QPM\014*PROVISION OF CLEAN DRINKING WATER
TO MWEA RESIDENTS

Mr. Gitau asked the Minister for Water and Irrigation; considering that Mwea GK Prison uses River Murubara for drainage and the villagers use the same water for domestic purposes, what urgent measures he is taking to ensure the area residents have access to clean drinking water and the prison stopped from releasing sewerage into the river.

The Assistant Minister for Water and Irrigation (Mr. Kiunjuri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Question was supposed to be answered by the Prime Minister. But now in my capacity, I have been directed to answer it by the Prime Minister. I will go ahead and do so. Yesterday, he got a lot of powers!

I beg to reply.

My Ministry is constructing Ndikiki Water Supply which will serve Ndindiruku, Kiumbi and Kianugu areas that are traversed by Murubara stream on the downstream of the Mwea GK Prison. The project which is estimated to cost Kshs25million is being funded by IFAD and is about 40 percent complete. When completed, it will ensure the residents of all these areas have access to safe drinking water so as not to draw water from the Murubara stream.

The Government, through the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs, is rehabilitating the sewerage disposal system at Mwea GK Prison to prevent any discharges of waste water into Murubara water course. Rehabilitation measures already undertaken include construction of a new septic tank, construction of two ablution blocks and rehabilitation of the existing dilapidated septic tank.

Further, construction of a sewer network and a soak pit is ongoing. Long term measures for sewerage systems to serve not only Mwea GK Prison, but also Wanguru urban Centre, Kimbimbi, Muthithi and Kang'ondeu areas are under planning and design. My Ministry will implement the project when the design is completed in the next financial year.

Mr. Gitau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Assistant Minister for the answer but it is very sad that Ndikiki Water Project has been ongoing for the last four years and it is only 30 percent complete, which means that it might take another four

years to complete. What immediate measures could the Assistant Minister put in place to help the people downstream so that they can access clean drinking water?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have requested the Mwea GK Prison, now that they have a borehole, to allow the local communities to draw water from it. We are also setting aside some funds to make sure that we can have an extension pipe and a tank where the community can be able to fetch water without interfering with the GK Prison. We are also going to send geologists next week to tell us whether we can be able to sink a bore hole so that the surrounding communities could start drawing water there immediately.

Mr. Gitau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Assistant Minister to know that the ablution blocks being put in place are for the inmates only. Could he also consider building ablution blocks for the prison warders so that we can also alleviate that problem?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are having a meeting early next week with the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs so that we can see whatever can be done on emergency basis. We are also going, next week but one, to visit the GK Prison with the hon. Member. We have already agreed and we are also requesting the Vice-President to send his representative so that we sort out this issue amicably so that the prisons will not go behind our back and refuse to allow the community to draw water from them. If there is any need to build more ablution blocks, that will be done. It will not require a lot of money.

Mr. Speaker: Next Order!

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, we will take two Statements beginning with the one by the Minister of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security on cattle rustling. Please do it within five minutes. Do not go beyond there!

CATTLE RUSTLING IN KOMKALA RIVER\LOWANGU

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will try to make it within three minutes, if possible.

Mr. Speaker. Sir, on 12th August, 2009, Mr. Letimalo demanded a Ministerial Statement in connection to cattle raids in Komkala River and Lowangu. I wish to state as follows:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 30th June, 2009, at about 1200 hours, armed raiders believed to be Samburu morans attacked herders from the Borana Community residing in Nyachisi area, which is approximately 70 kilometres from Merti Divisional Headquarters. During the attack, raiders stole about 90 head of cattle and drove them towards Komkala area. Immediately after the attack, residents of Nyachisi assisted by some police reservists pursued the raiders and caught up with them at a watering point within Komkala area, which is approximately some few kilometers to the Samburu and Isiolo districts border. This impelled an exchange of fire in which a 27 year old police reservist, one Isaac Fugicha, lost his life, a 37 year old police reservist, one Adan Godana and a 40 year old

Borana herdsman, Dadaso Gulicho were injured. That notwithstanding, the herdsman, with the support of the police reservists, managed to recover all the 90 stolen head of cattle.

Two police reservists, namely Halkano Roba and Hussein Huka reported the incident at Merti Police Station on 1st July, 2009, and entered in the occurrence book (OB), entry No.7 of 1st July, 2009. Immediately after the report was received, police officers under the command of the OCS, Merti, visited the scene of the exchange and collected one dead body of the said Isaac Fugicha. An inquest file No.1/09 was immediately opened and is now pending investigations. On 3rd July, 2009, another report about the attack was made at Archers Post Police Post and entered in the OB No.5 of 3rd July, 2009 by the chief of Serolithi Location, one Mr. Malakwan. The chief reported that Samburu herdsman had been attacked and the following persons killed: Lepelelau, a Samburu from Serolithi, Lekeja, a Samburu from Merile. The chief further reported that the following persons had been injured: Lokomunit Letabawa, a herdsman from Serolithi, Lolomongoi Leokerimau, a herdsman from Serolithi and Leyapora Kalielo, a herdsman from Merile. On receipt of the report, the officer in charge of Archers Police Post and the area District Officer visited the scene accompanied by the chief but did not find the alleged bodies or the injured. Bu the police confirmed the exchange of fire between cattle raiders and Borana herdsman from their counterparts in Isiolo District who also confirmed only one body was collected. It is suspected that the rest of the bodies might have been moved by fellow raiders before the arrival of the police. However, investigations are underway to establish the whereabouts of the bodies and the injured. Taking on board the outlined account, the Government has responded and visited the scene of the incident.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in regard to the attacks at Lawalu on 9th August, 2009, a preliminary unconfirmed report indicates that two people whose names have not been established might have unfortunately lost their lives and three others injured. Identification of the two who lost their lives and the three who were injured has been made difficult by unco-operative locals. It is believed that they fear that they may be arrested in connection with the same. Regarding the point raised on being biased, the Government has no bias against any community. At no point was the handling of this incident discriminative.

Relating to the question of the steps the Government has taken, I wish to say the following: We have recovered all the stolen head of cattle amounting to 90. Further, the police, with the assistance of local reservists, have intensified patrols in areas hit by rampant cattle rustling. In addition, peace committees have been reinvigorated with the support of local leaders and elders, besides the several barazas which have been held to preempt or forestall and avert any future attacks.

Regarding the question on our allowing the pastoralist to graze their livestock in the parks, the Government does not intend to allow pastoralists to graze livestock in the parks due to the following reasons.

- (i) It poses a security threat to the tourists visiting the parks.
- (ii) It may open doors wide to poaching by illegally armed pastoralists and consequently, generate a human/wildlife conflict within the communities living nearby.
- (iii) It will certainly result into destabilization of the natural ecosystem in which the wildlife dwell best.

To conclude, the Government has put in place several measures to the address cattle rustling menace, which include, but not limited to, sensitization of community leaders on both sides on the need to co-exist and report known suspects through the community policing strategy, and beefing up of security in the affected areas.

Secondly, the Government has established district, divisional, locational and sub-locational peace committees composed of elders from local communities to help the Provincial Administration in making, building and maintaining peace.

Thirdly, we have also closed the Kenya-Somalia border to de-escalate the otherwise proliferation of illegal small arms, particularly guns from our unstable neighbours.

Lastly, we have embarked on continuous disarmament by the Government designed at affording surrender of illegally held small arms with special emphasis on guns in exchange for amnesty. In this regard, the Government enlists support for peaceful disarmament of people at grassroots level through rigorous sensitization programmes. We have entered into bilateral agreements and co-operation with our neighboring countries like Ethiopia and Sudan, in a concurrent fight against the small arms.

The *Kazi kwa Vijana* initiative which is meant to alleviate the vagaries of unemployment against the youth and reforms are in the pipeline to strengthen, make more effective the police and the Judicial system to ensure peace and administration of justice.

Education through barazas by the Provincial administration on the need to discard harmful cultural practices more particularly in cattle rustling areas is on-going.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ojode, you did not honor your undertaking. You did nine minutes instead of three minutes!

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise. Next time I will stick to five minutes.

Mr. Speaker: We need two clarifications!

Mr. Letimalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is really misleading this House because the incidents he has talked about happened in Isiolo. He has not talked about what I raised, that is, the incidents that took place in Samburu East. I was very specific. I talked about incidents that took place on 30th June, 2009 and 9th August, 2009. This confirms my fears that that the Government is biased in responding to raids that take place in Samburu East. Why was there no response on 30th June, 2009 when three people were killed, two were injured and animals taken away? No officer visited the scene to collect the bodies or take the injured to hospital? Why was there no response on 9th August, 2009 too? How about the animals that were stolen? What arrangements has the Assistant Minister made to ensure that the animals are returned to avoid revenge attacks? This is what makes conflicts continue in this region.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Letimalo! You have done well. Leave it there. I said that I will allow two hon. Members to seek clarifications. Is there anybody else who is interested in this matter?

Mr. Lekuton: Mr. Speaker, Sir, two people from Laisamis District were killed and hundreds of livestock taken away in the raid that was carried out on 30th June, 2009. I confirm what Mr. Letimalo has said. For three days, there was no Government response and yet bodies lay in the fields for days and some were eaten by hyenas.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Lekuton! Mr. Letimalo has already said what you are saying. So you are being repetitive!

Mr. Lekuton: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg your indulgence. What has the Assistant Minister done to make sure that Laisamis gets justice?

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will recall I confirmed here that we responded immediately and that is why we recovered 90 head of cattle.

Mr. Letimalo: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is misleading this House. The 90 head of cattle that he has said were returned were stolen before 30th June, 2009. We are talking about specific dates, that is, 30th June, 2009 and 9th August. When will he recover and return those animals?

Mr. Speaker: That is fine, Mr. Letimalo. Mr. Lekuton, do you have a similar point of order?

Mr. Lekuton: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know what the hon. Member is going through. We responded immediately to the raid he has talked about. We have been experiencing raids in that area where on three or four occasions, the Samburu have raided the Borana. Police officers visit the scene immediately a report is made and that is why we have contained further raids. As Provincial Administrators---

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Letimalo! The Assistant Minister must be heard! At this rate we will get nowhere.

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I urge hon. Members to report to the police any time a raid is mooted. Hon. Members do not have to go to the Chiefs because we have patrol vehicles. We have police stations with police officers and patrol vehicles. I urge my colleagues to report any raid immediately in order for us to recover the stolen cattle. I assure this House that we will never have these raids if reports are made immediately.

Mr. Ethuro: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to continue misleading this House by saying that the police have patrol vehicles when, indeed, we have always reported cases to the officers, including those that happened in Turkana South, but they never respond? In some cases, the police do not even have vehicles. We have been asking the Assistant Minister to provide vehicles to the police but he has not done that even after promising to do so. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead this House?

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there would be no recovery if, indeed, the police do not respond to those raids. Hon. Members should also appreciate what we are doing on the ground. As I am speaking---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ojode! This matter is very worrisome. As a matter of fact, apart from the concerns that have been expressed in the House this afternoon, several hon. Members have been to the Speaker's Office to express concern over insecurity. Many lives and livestock have been lost. The frequency of these incidents is very worrisome.

Therefore, Mr. Assistant Minister, you will have to reinforce the security measures that you are taking. I want you to ensure that those incidents reduce and file a report in this House in the next six weeks to confirm that you are on top of thing.

(Applause)

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will do exactly what you have said. Let me also give---

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, I want you to do that and the matter to rest there because the situation is worrisome. You have given undertakings in this House, but nothing seems to happen. There is no effect! So, comply with my directions. I want a report in this House that will clearly demonstrate that the incidents have diminished and that you are on top of things.

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will do that.

Mr. Speaker: Let that matter rest there!

Hon. Members, we have another Ministerial Statement although we are short of time. However, this is a matter so topical and important to the nation as it pertaining to the Kenya Airways. We will have to take that Ministerial Statement.

Mr. Minister, try and issue the Statement in seven minutes.

EFFECTS OF STRIKE BY KENYA AIRWAYS STAFF

The Minister for Transport (Mr. Mwakwere): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to make a Ministerial Statement on the recent Kenya Airways staff strike.

The national carrier, Kenya Airways, whose unionisable staff are members of the Aviation and Allied Workers Union, went on strike last weekend from early morning, 14th August, 2009 to Sunday morning, 16th August, 2009. The strike partially paralysed flight operations of the national carrier, locally and internationally.

Following consultations between Kenya Airways Limited and the Aviation and Allied Workers Union under the reconciliation of the Federation of Kenya Employers and the Central Organisation of Trade Union (COTU), the parties agreed to a return-to-work formula which addressed all the issues under dispute.

The unionisable staff of Kenya Airways include cabin crew, flight technicians, cargo loaders, customer service desk personnel, security and ground support staff. A review of their qualifications confirms that they aptly satisfy international standards necessary for the execution of their duties. I congratulate the Kenya Airways Board and the Management for maintaining appropriate academic and professional standards amongst its employees.

I confirm that their remuneration is determined, amongst other factors, by local economic and regulatory guidance which satisfy international standards. I am, therefore, pleased to lay on the Table, a copy of the Collective Bargaining Agreement that was reached collectively by the concerned parties.

(Mr. Mwakwere laid the document on the Table)

I further confirm that none of the workers who participated in the industrial action will be victimized. This is confirmed in the CBA which I have laid on the Table.

The total loss incurred during the strike is estimated at about Kshs600 million. To avert industrial action in future involving the national carrier, the management is working on a reconciliation with the union staff to ensure no repeat of the situation.

Finally, senior Kenya Airways staff and union officials have organised a retreat next week to take stock of the events that led to the unfortunate industrial action and the array of concomitant occurrences. They will collectively chart the way forward to avert any recurrence.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, I will allow a maximum of three clarifications, starting with Mr. Mungatana's.

Mr. Mungatana: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Aviation and Allied Workers' Union (AAWU) is composed of 3,645 members. Therefore, it is critical when a union of such magnitude issues a strike notice. Last October, there was a strike notice issued against the management of the Kenya Airways as regards foreign employees in that company. A very quick action was taken and the strike did not take place. This time round, a strike notice was issued, but the management and the Ministry watched until the strike took place. Why was the Government keeping quiet when things were happening? Who is going to pay the Kshs600 million loss that occurred because of pure negligence by the Government?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Minister, please, take notes.

Mr. Mbadi!

Mr. Mbadi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The speed with which this strike was resolved after the workers withdrew their labour indicates that there was high-handedness in the management. If they had taken action earlier, the strike would have been averted before it took place. What is the Ministry doing with a management that seems to be complacent, and with a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who seems to have outlived his usefulness in that position? Why can the Ministry not take a bold step to replace such an officer, so that there could be fresh blood to run such an important airline?

Mr. Wambugu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Minister to clarify why he took so long to understand the situation in Kenya Airways, especially after the same issue had been discussed in this House when we were contributing to the debate on the Vote of the Ministry of Transport? I would also like him to clarify whether we have any reciprocating agreements with other airlines to employ our cabin crew? Kenya Airways has employed so many foreign cabin crew members, but we do not have any cabin crew who are employed in other countries.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Minister, please, respond.

The Minister for Transport (Mr. Mwakwere): Mr. Speaker, Sir, those are very useful interventions. I think I need to make a thorough clarification.

The Ministry does not involve itself in matters relating to industrial action in private companies. Kenya Airways is not a State corporation. It is a private company, just like the companies that some of us have. Kenya Airways manages its industrial relation activities under the labour laws, and not through the Ministry of Transport. Kenya Airways can even face competition. I only recognise it as a national carrier. It does not appear under any Act for me to recognise it as the national carrier. We can recognise any

other airline. In other words, we can even license other airlines to compete with it, or even de-register it. That is a brief explanation as to why the Ministry was not involved right from the beginning.

Where do we come in? We come in, in matters that relate to the provision of aviation services in the country, which we have done satisfactorily. We did---

Mr. Mungatana: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is a very disappointing day today. The Minister is, on one hand, says that this is a national carrier and the other, he says: "We are not involved. It is a private company." What are we saying? Are we saying that if a problem arises tomorrow, he is going to sit and watch? This Government is abdicating its duty to its citizens. Somebody needs to wake up and do something! What is going on?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Minister, are you misleading the House?

The Minister for Transport (Mr. Mwakwere): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not misleading the House. I urge hon. Members of Parliament to exercise respect and decorum when they refer to another hon. Member of the House and where a response is required.

I would like to educate the young Member of Parliament that the terminology "national carrier" does not appear in any of our laws or statutes or Acts. It is just a terminology in passing. In other words, there are countries in the world that do not have what we call "national carriers", yet they have registered airlines. This is an honour that we have given to Kenya Airways, and it receives certain preferential consideration from me, as the Minister for Transport. It is not by law that we refer to it as our "national carrier". I can stop referring to it as the "national carrier" even today, if I so wish and it will not have any cause to demand that it be referred to as such.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Members! The Minister will be heard!

Mr. Minister, please, run through the responses quickly! You can see that we are desperately out of time.

The Minister for Transport (Mr. Mwakwere): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Management of Kenya Airways and its staff could not agree in good time because the union was demanding a 130 per cent salary increase. At this time, when we have economic strain all over the world – when there is recession virtually everywhere – such a demand was totally unacceptable. In fact, as a case in point, the British Airways staff agreed to have a cut in their salaries this year to ensure that they sustained their airline. They did not demand more money. Therefore, there was no delay occasioned by the Kenya Airways; the problem was the outrageous demand for a salary increase of 130 per cent.

So far, in the collective bargaining agreement that they signed, they accepted a 10 per cent increase, to be backdated to 1st July, 2008, and another 10 per cent increase with effect from 1st July, 2009. That is reasonable. Negotiations are continuing so that a stalemate does not occur any more.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally, I would like to confirm that we have Kenyans employed as cabin crew in other countries. We do not have to go very far. Even the national airline of the United Arab Emirates--- By the way, there is not one. They have the Airline of

Dubai – Emirates Airline. A national airline does not exist there. Emirates Airline employs many Kenyans as cabin crew. Therefore, we do not want to put ourselves in a cocoon by saying that we will not employ nationals of any other country. If anything, the Kenyans working with the Kenya Airways constitute more than 95 per cent, which is very good.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, this matter will have to rest there!

(Mr. Samoie stood up in his place)

Mr. Speaker: What is it, Mr. Samoie?

PERSONAL STATEMENT

CLARIFICATION ON LIST OF ADC LAND BENEFICIARIES

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): On a point of order Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise under Standing Order No.76 to address a matter that involves my name.

Yesterday, at the request of this House, we tabled the list of beneficiaries of Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) land that was given out. My Assistant Minister complied with a request from the House. As a Ministry, we believe in doing the right thing when we are asked to do it by this House. The ADC is a State corporation under my Ministry. The list that was tabled in this House contained the name “William Ruto”, who was given 10 acres of land somewhere and another 10 acres or 50 acres in another place.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to state categorically that the William Ruto referred to in that particular set of names that were beneficiaries of the ADC land is not the Minister for Agriculture. Unfortunately, I do not have the patent for the names “William Ruto”. There are other Kenyans who carry that name. I have not applied for the said land. I have not been allocated any such land. I have not been sold such land. I have not sold any land that formerly belonged to the ADC.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to state that some media houses decided to assign those particular pieces of land to me. I do not qualify to be a squatter to be given that kind of land. I think it is important for the right impression to be given – that the William Ruto that was listed in that list of names, which emanated from my Ministry, is not me. My Assistant Minister knew that very well.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a reason to make this Statement because it is important that the newspapers and the media houses correct that impression. If by miracle or mischief, some land has been allocated to a Mr. William Ruto and he does not exist, because it is not me, then that piece of land should either be returned to the ADC or be given to a deserving squatter. I do not qualify.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

POINT OF ORDER

UNPARLIAMENTARY REFERENCE TO MP

Mr. Ruto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to bring to your attention the contents of the HANSARD yesterday in which Mr. Jakoyo Midiwo referred to me as “a rogue Member of a political party”. I was not able to respond to this because the Chair immediately rose and, therefore, in accordance with the rules, I could not raise any more points of orders.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish the hon. Member to withdraw this statement and apologise or he should be named for being grossly disorderly, especially for a senior Member like a party Whip and a cousin to a very senior---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ruto. Your concern is noted. I expect hon. Members to be vigilant at all times, particularly when they are present in the House. They should point out matters that are out of order instantly, more so, when they are affected. The hon. Member for Chepalungu was to the extent that he did not raise this concern yesterday, negligent. But that notwithstanding, Mr. Midiwo is not here to withdraw and apologise. The Chair does find the term “rogue” referring to a Member of Parliament, unparliamentary. I direct that it be expunged from the records.

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

Mr. Speaker: That settles the matter unless it is a different issue.

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a slightly different matter.

Mr. Speaker: A slightly different matter, means it relates to it to some extent.

Mr. Ethuro: It is related to it to some extent.

Mr. Speaker: If that is so, no.

Hon. Members I have two communications to make.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW STANDING ORDERS WITH REGARD TO SELECT COMMITTEES

Hon. Members, my attention has been drawn to the operations and general management of select committees of the House, especially following implementation of the new Standing Orders which commenced with the third Session. I, therefore, wish to give the following guidelines on the matter.

The procedure for the establishment, management and mandate of select committees is set out in Part 22 of the Standing Orders. I would like to appeal to hon. Members to familiarize themselves with the provisions thereof.

As hon. Members are aware, the new Standing Orders in so far as they relate to management of select committees are purposefully designed and crafted to streamline the manner in which committees discharge their mandate and in particular to ensure that they are not only effective, but also efficient.

I am, however, informed and I have, as a matter of fact, witnessed that a number of committees have experienced operational hitches during meetings. For instance, some meetings have been adjourned due to failure to raise the requisite quorum within the stipulated time. In other cases, hon. Members fail to attend meetings for one reason or the other, without obtaining permission from the Chair.

In other instances, some hon. Members do not even take the trouble to notify the chairperson of their inability to attend meetings. Many explanatory variables have applied.

Hon. Members, allow me to draw your attention to the provisions of Standing Order No.169(1). It says:-

“If a member fails to attend four consecutive meetings of a Committee without the written permission of the chairperson of the Committee or the permission of the Speaker, if the member is the chairperson, the member or the chairperson, as the case may be, shall cease to be a Member of that Committee and the matter shall be reported to the Liaison Committee.

(2) Upon receipt of a report under paragraph (1), the Liaison Committee shall report the matter to the House for replacement of the Member concerned.”

In my view, sending a verbal apology is not enough to discharge the duty imposed by this Standing Order. Committees and the chairs must as a matter of priority, devise practical mechanisms to bring this into effect.

I am happy to note that some Committees have already taken measures to comply with this rule.

Hon. Members, I am now putting all Members of committees on notice that from now henceforth, any apologies should be in writing and addressed to the chairperson of the Committee. Members who fail to attend four consecutive sittings without written apologies, will by operation of the Standing Order aforesaid, automatically cease to be members of the committee.

PARLIAMENTARY PENSIONS MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE *KAMUKUNJI*

Hon. Members, as you are already aware, the Parliamentary Pensions Management Committee has organized a *Kamukunji* to appraise hon. Members on details of their pension scheme under the Pensions Act, Cap.196 of the Laws of Kenya.

The *Kamukunji* will be held on Tuesday, 25th August, 2009 in the Old Chamber, Parliament Buildings, starting 10.00 a.m. The Pensions Department will make presentation to the hon. Members after which Members will be free to seek any clarifications to the same. This is, therefore, to invite all hon. Members to the *Kamukunji*.

Further, hon. Members are requested to note that the presentation of a video and publication entitled: “Kenya Burning” will be done immediately thereafter giving it a timing of about 11.00 a.m.

Thank you.

Mr. Mungatana: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we need further direction on the first communication. In an instance where a Committee has traveled outside the country or other parts of the country, will the meeting that has taken place on the date and subsequent days, be considered as separate meetings? If an hon. Member has missed a meeting for whatever reason, and the Committee is out for four days, does that rule apply? We need some form of accommodation in such instances. I think further direction needs to come out to clarify that issue.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, on that intervention, the rule will be interpreted as it provides, that, an hon. Member who misses four consecutive meetings without apology; in other words the hon. Member is in a position to request for an apology and he fails to do so, then the membership will be discontinued.

Being a lawyer and, indeed, most hon. Members here being reasonably educated, we do know that there is a silent rule which says; to every law, there is an exception. So, as long as the circumstances are reasonable, for example, if an hon. Member fails to attend meetings because he is admitted in hospital, then obviously, he will be exempted. If an hon. Member is out of the country on duty and he did not expect that he would travel, then that also will be excused. Otherwise, the rule must apply strictly and to all Members regardless of their status in the Government or elsewhere. It applies to all of us equally because first we are Members of Parliament. Second, we are Members of the Cabinet and third, we may be higher than Members of the Cabinet. So, let that rule apply.

Mr. Ethuro: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Thank you for the ruling and clarification. I think the ruling was whether you could actually make verbal apology or have it in writing. Now that you have confirmed that it shall be in writing, then the rule should not apply retrospectively to those Members who gave apologies verbally.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ethuro! This is why I said earlier on relating to the matter raised by Mr. Isaac Ruto that, when Members are present they must be vigilant, listen and attend to everything proceeding in the House. Part of that Communication used the word, "henceforth". "Henceforth"---- Do you want me to go further, Mr. Ekwee?

Mr. Ethuro: I am satisfied, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

(Laughter)

Mr. Bahari: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is on a matter you touched on but which was not quite clear to me. I want a clarification. In a situation where a Member is away on duty authorized by the Speaker, does that automatically mean permission from committee sittings?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Bahari, I think it follows because for a Member to be given permission by the Speaker, the Standing Orders say that you make a written request to be granted permission. Normally, the Speaker will endorse on your request that it is noted and the Speaker directs the Clerk of the National Assembly to register that absence. So, it follows that the request will have been made in writing and if the Speaker has granted permission, then that does it.

Eng. Gumbo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that as a House, it is important that our Standing Orders appear to have harmony between them. I am looking at the ruling that you have made and trying to reconcile it with the fact that for a Member to lose his seat in the House he or she needs to be away from the House for eight consecutive sittings. I wonder why then it should not be possible to make it harmonious so that even for committees it becomes eight sittings instead of four. Does it not look disharmonious that one part of the Standing Orders says this and another says that?

Mr. Speaker: Eng. Gumbo, I do not think that it is justifiable to link what happens in a committee to what happens in the House. I think the House is certainly a greater institution than a committee. In mathematical terms, which I think an engineer will understand, a committee is a sub-set of the House. So the rules that apply will naturally be different. There is rationale why the House was put at eight meetings and the committee at four meetings. Essentially the committees feed the House. That should be understood.

Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

MOTION

THAT THE SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 10 – Ministry of Agriculture

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, you will note that we will have to continue the business of the House until 10.15 p.m. We got into this situation out of necessity. So, Members should be prepared to make the extra sacrifice.

Mr. Minister, please, proceed!

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to present to this House the budget for the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 2009/2010.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the outset, I want to say that the Ministry of Agriculture is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that there is sufficient food in the country, good incomes for our farmers, reduce hunger, reduce poverty---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Minister! Mr. William Samoei, I think we pointed out this very many times. My attention was not quite fully focused on you. The Motion before the House is to move that the Speaker do now leave the Chair! Can you start from there?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:-
That The Speaker Do Now Leave the Chair.

As I have said, the mission and mandate of my Ministry is to get this country to produce enough food, reduce hunger, eliminate poverty by enhancing incomes of our farmers and build our economy by availing more jobs through value addition and other value chain activities in the agricultural sector.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, vision 2030 identifies agriculture as a pillar to support the Vision 2030 Initiative. Under Vision 2030, we have undertaken to make agriculture profitable, commercially viable and internationally competitive. It was realized way back in 2003 by Heads of States and Government in what is now commonly referred to as the Maputo Declaration, that there is a strong correlation in agro-based economies between growth in agriculture and growth in the economy. When agriculture grows by 10 per cent, there is a very high likelihood that the economy will grow by the same margin. If agriculture goes down, in every likelihood the economy will go down. Therefore, the way to meaningfully grow the economy is to ensure that there is growth in the agricultural sector.

In the 1980s, 13 per cent of the Budget used to be allocated to the agricultural sector. We are experiencing very serious challenges in food security and poverty, partly because of the level of funding that the agricultural sector Ministries, at the moment, enjoy.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the year 2000 to 2008, the average allocation for the agricultural sector Ministries has been about 4 per cent of the Budget. For a sector that produces 25 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and another 27 with its linkages in manufacturing and other sectors, the kind of sector that employs 80 per cent of all working Kenyans and produces 60 per cent of all our foreign exchange earnings, it is not correct to give such an important sector a budget we have seen over the years.

I want to appeal to this House that even as we look at the broad concept of growing this economy so that we can meet the challenges of unemployment and the slow pace of growth, we must and should focus our energies, resources and money on the agricultural sector. We managed to put in place several intervention mechanisms because in the last two years we have experienced a down-turn in the growth of the agricultural sector.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, to mitigate the effects of that downturn and to try and bring back growth in the agricultural sector, which to a great extent will determine what kind of intervention mechanisms--- To be able to encourage farmers to produce and get yields, the Government intervened in reducing the cost of production. Hon. Members will remember that last year, the Government through an intervention by my Ministry and corporations in my Ministry, managed through bulk purchase of fertilizer, to reduce the cost of fertilizers from an average of about Kshs6,000 in December 2008 to an average of Kshs2,500 in April this year. I am happy that because of that and the positive effects it has had on farmers, the Government again has taken a further step in the last one week to increase subsidy on farm inputs, especially fertilizer. The same fertilizer now will be sold for Kshs2, 000. It is the same one that used be sold for Kshs2, 500. The CN that used to be sold for Kshs7, 500 will now be sold for Kshs1, 400.

We believe that interventions that encourage farmers to produce are necessary if we have to stimulate this economy to grow to the levels envisioned in Vision 2030 by double digits. Last year we managed to buy 67 motor vehicles and 170 motor cycles. Due to the expanded service provision by the Ministry, we managed to reach 700,000 more farmers last year than we did in the previous year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in 2008/2009, using extension services through trainings, farmer field days, farmer demonstrations and farmer visits, we managed to reach 2.2 million farmers in 2008 and 2.9 million farmers in 2009. The other avenue and tool that we use to disseminate new technologies is our agricultural training centres. Most of these agricultural training centres were in a state that they could not perform the mandate assigned to them. Last year, we managed to refurbish seven agricultural training centres and we have put some money this year in the budget to refurbish additional agricultural training centres so that farmers can receive more training and access more technology that is being disseminated from the agricultural training centres.

Another avenue used by the Government to reach out to farmers in an attempt to reduce the cost of production is our agricultural mechanization service. Last year, we managed to buy 70 new tractors and accessories and 11 graders. We have 23 Agricultural Mechanization Stations (AMS) across the country. We realize that there is inadequacy in mechanizing our farming. It is not possible in the 21st Century to attract talent and expertise into the agricultural sector which we desperately need if agricultural productivity will depend on crude implements like jembes, oxen and things like those.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for us to attract investment and the necessary human resource that we need to mechanize our agriculture and transform it into a profitable business, we must mechanize. There is no shortcut. Therefore, in this year's package, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and friendly countries, we intend to extend this service to more Kenyans and, hopefully, if the negotiations that are underway are concluded, we should access an additional 1,000 tractors this year which will then be disseminated or given out through our AMS stations to various parts of our country.

We realize that there are farmers who have farms but due to the cycle of poverty they are in, they have been trapped and are unable to procure certified seeds or fertilizer. Realizing the importance of this sector on our society and the need to get them out of the cycle of poverty, my Ministry initiated what we call the National Accelerated Agricultural Inputs Programme. Under this programme, we identify farmers who have the land but do not have the capacity to purchase certified seed or fertilizer. In the last three years, we have spend Kshs905 million to reach out to 131,000 farmers under this programme; where a farmer is given one bag of fertilizer and 10 kilogrammes of seed and another bag of top-dressing fertilizer.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the enormity of the turnover in this area is mind boggling. I was in Kisii with the area MP, Dr. Monda. It is amazing how farmers have transformed their productivity from areas where they could produce only four bags of maize to produce between 20 and 25 bags of maize. I went to Msambweni with four hon. Members from the coast where we visited some of the beneficiaries of this programme. They told us about the amount of success they have come across as result of enhanced productivity that came with this particular programme. It was my intention to upscale this programme to between 100,000 to 200,000 famers but because of the budget constraints, I will only access 36,000 farmers this financial year. I think it is necessary that we upscale this programme because of the positive effects it has on both food production and also poverty reduction.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, under the Kilimo Biashara arrangement, we have put in place a credit scheme of Kshs4 billion with Equity Bank. I am happy to note that Kshs741 million has already been disbursed. We are looking forward to more farmers coming on board with proposals on the agricultural sector; how to enhance their productivity and food production so that they can benefit from this arrangement.

I want to single out donors who have supported my Ministry. In this year's budget, we have Kshs3.82 billion that has been given to us by friendly countries and donors to support, especially our research departments.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, three other areas deserve mention. We are facing very serious challenges of climate change. As a result, we need a much more comprehensive response to the effects of climate change. My Ministry, in consultation

with the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife and the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources, has already agreed on regulations that I am shortly going to gazette under the Agriculture Act, where it is going to be mandatory for all farmers in the country to plant 10 per cent of their land with trees. This is significant because even after we have planted trees in all our water catchment areas in Mt. Kenya, Aberdares, Cherangany, Mau and Mt. Elgon, we will increase our forest cover from the current 1.7 per cent to only 2 per cent. The target internationally is to take it to 10 per cent. So, we must put in place other mechanisms to ensure that we reach the 10 per cent that is recommended internationally. Under this programme, we should be able to take our forest cover from 2 per cent to 5 per cent. I am sure other initiatives must be put in place to drive this programme, so that we can eventually get to the internationally accepted level of 10 per cent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy to note that my Ministry, alongside other agricultural sector Ministries, have now agreed on the need to shift our agriculture from rain-fed agriculture to irrigation or irrigated agriculture. This will be the agriculture of the 21st Century. At the moment, we are using less than 1 per cent of all the water that we get in this country for food production. About 99.9 per cent of all the water that we receive still goes to the ocean and lakes. Let me answer the question that may be in the minds of many people. We have rolled out a comprehensive and ambitious programme to irrigate one million acres in five years, starting with the programme of 40,000 acres that was launched this year in Tana River. The question that many people are asking is: "Do we have the water to do this ambitious programme of one million acres?" When we have irrigated one million acres, we will be using less than 20 per cent of all the water. About 80 per cent of the water will still be left to go to the ocean, sea and lakes. Therefore, we have what it takes to reach there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another final initiative is that we must continue to use our Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASALs). Under that programme, we have what we call traditional crops.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Minister, your time is up!

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me just conclude in one minute.

We have developed a mechanism where we are going to partner with seed companies, private farmers and agricultural training centres to develop this seed so that we can access it to farmers, for food production, especially in our ASALs.

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

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Ndambuki): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to second this Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture.

First, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Minister. Since we were appointed to that Ministry, we have not stayed in the office. Last season, for example, we went to every division of Rift Valley doing a sensitization campaign to make the people aware that rain was coming and also giving vouchers to those who qualify. Since then, we have not settled. I would like to congratulate and thank him for very good leadership in the Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing I would like to thank him for is clearing the air that he is not the "William Ruto" who was given the ten acres which appeared in the newspapers and is being talked about in many radio stations. I would like

those who have grabbed land whether from the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) or the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) to give it back. This is because we are now buying land for demonstration and also bulking of seed. Why should we spend money buying land when we had enough land to use? So, if you are sure that you got land, whether or not you have a title deed, we would like to see that it is given back to us. The one which was allocated to the so-called "William Ruto" should not be given to anybody else, but it should go back to the ADC. A time has come when we have to live up to what we say. If you have taken something that does not belong to you, you have to surrender it back. It is not really a shame to do so. We have to lead by action.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we hear a big outcry from Members of Parliament and also the Kenyan people saying that the Government has collapsed or is not doing this and that. But to my surprise, this Government has done a lot of work, especially when it comes to the kind of money and work the Ministry of Agriculture has put in, and nobody is really appreciating this. It is up to us, Members of Parliament, to start leading and also giving Kenyans hope. This is because what we are doing is really showing them that there is a lot of despair in this country. I am sure that all is not lost. We need to start talking and saying the truth. If something is done right, we should really appreciate, like what we have done. For example, the Ministry, in conjunction with the Government, has reduced the cost of fertilizers from Kshs6,000 to Kshs2,500. I can assure you that the next fertilizer which will go to the market, will cost even less. This is something which is happening in this country for the first time. Kenyans and Members of Parliament should give the Government credit for that.

The Government is really bringing 50 per cent of the fertilizer which is being used in this country. This means that we are a major player. We would like to appeal to the private sector to come and even do business and make sure that they care about our farmers. We are also concerned about the fertilizers. The reason the Government went into it, is because of the price and also quality of what farmers were getting. Some farmers were getting ashes. They were being told that, that ash was fertilizer. That is why we moved in and will continue being there, to make sure that the farmer gets what is due to him.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of seeds, we are spending a lot of money on seed multiplication and we are paying farmers to do this business for the Government. That is why we are saying that those people who have taken land that belongs to the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) return it so that we do not use money to pay people to do bulking of the seeds. We can do it in our farms and it will be cheaper for us. We have many field days and I would like to appeal to hon. Members to be attending to them. They are educative activities of the Ministry. You will learn many things which you as a Member of Parliament can apply in your *shamba*. Farming is no longer for the poor. We should involve even hon. Members and even those in the private sector. They should not put their hands in the pocket.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Assistant! Your time is up!

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Lesrima!

Hon. Members: The Chairman!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! He took too long to stand up.

Mr. Lesrima!

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Lesrima): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will give the Chairman enough time. Thank you for this opportunity. I want to congratulate the Minister and his technocrats for the manner in which they run the Ministry. I think if there is any Minister in Government who understands the operations of his Ministry in detail, it is this Minister.

I want to say that we can no longer rely on rain-fed agriculture because of global warming. It is for that reason that we want to support the recommendations by the Minister on desilting. He is spending Kshs9 billion to be paid by Treasury in installments for desilting all dams. We hope that these dams will be used to do small-scale drip irrigation using modern technology, to increase our food production.

I also want to congratulate the Ministry for the huge irrigation programmes that they are reviving. I would like to say that we should not forget the small-scale farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, KARI is a very important institution in the Ministry of Agriculture and we need to strengthen it and allocate it more resources because there is a lot of research done there. Not only do they do a lot of useful research for our farmers, but they can also be utilized as extension services. I would like the Ministry to encourage the support of KARI to do extension work. In this context, I would like to invite KARI to my constituency because we have 1,200 acres of land which is suitable with buildings so that they can also extend a facility there.

The universities also do a lot of research. They can also form part of the extension services to use the knowledge that they discover there for the benefit of our people. Similarly, the National Council for Science and Technology should also be involved in extension work.

I want to commend the Minister for the programme on orphan crops. I think it should not just be another subordinate programme within the Ministry. This is a programme that can be very useful for arid and semi-arid places. I also want to say that this will assist us to move away from dependence on maize. We have become a nation that is totally dependent on maize. Having said so, we require extension services linked up with the Poverty Eradication Commission in the Ministry of Planning, National Development and Vision 2030, so that our farmers can begin to accept some crops like grain amaranth and other crops that grow within a short period. Our people can be educated on the usefulness of those types of diets.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Mututho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do apologize for taking too long to stand up but I agree with your rules. I rise to support this Motion on behalf of Members of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Co-operatives. I would like to report that the Committee scrutinized the annual estimates of Vote 10 – Ministry of Agriculture, for the financial year in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No.152 (1) and (2). Pursuant to Standing Order No.152, the Committee held eight sittings to consider the Printed Estimates for the six assigned Ministries for the

year ending 30th June, 2010 which were laid on the Table of the House on 10th June, 2009. The Committee met the Minister for Agriculture on 16th July, 2009 and extensively considered, discussed and reviewed the Estimates of this Ministry of Agriculture, Vote 10. It is on this basis that I stand here.

The role of Parliament is primarily threefold, namely; representation, legislation and oversight. We sit here to blame the Government but we represent 80 per cent of those people who depend directly on agriculture. So, we take the blame ourselves. We represent those people. We are here to say what they think. We are their voice and their voice is what we bring to the Floor of this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, legislation which looks like our core business is what we do best here. In this House, we have made over 120 laws governing agriculture. This makes it not only confusing, but some of them are archaic. For instance, I want to refer to Cap.320 – African Produce Rule 4 in which Africans are not supposed to sell eggs between 6.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. If we are going to sit here and play our role in legislation, then we must wake up to the fact that we are not doing very well as hon. Members. We need to have at least a maximum of four pieces of legislature. I am looking forward to see the Bills that will make that happen. We should repeal most of those archaic laws and then make less confusing statutes that farmers can follow, including the 10 per cent rule being introduced on agro-forestry. We want to congratulate the Minister for that. Even when we do 5 per cent on our water towers without looking at agro-forestry section, we shall still not be doing very well.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the oversight role is crucial, particularly in this Tenth Parliament which has a very powerful committee system. This oversight role is not that of a police officer or a traffic officer to sit there and harass motorists just because he or she looks hungry and ugly. An oversight role looks across the board. We are saying this with a heavy heart because in our oversight role, we are telling you now that the agricultural sector under this budget for which we are celebrating--- This sector in what they call agriculture and rural development was allocated only 3.49 per cent.

Let me make it easier for you to remember. Out of the many billions we talked about, the Ministry of Agriculture got 3.5 per cent. In terms of the Ministry of Agriculture, which is headed by Mr. William Samoei Ruto, the one who has said that he is not the one who took the land, was allocated 1.99 per cent. To please you, just let me make it 2 per cent. Two per cent is supposed to take 80 per cent of our labour force, generate our foreign exchange up to a level of 65 per cent. People in Treasury work on figures but this time round, they got zero. They do not know their mathematics right. If they do get the mathematics right, they also do not get the rules and statutes right. This is because the Maputo Protocol which has been touted and people have spoken about--- Many hon. Members would be amused to learn that those who were signatories to the Maputo Protocol were only Heads of States. It was not Mr. John Mututho and other lesser mortals. It was the Heads of States. This is what they said:-

“During the 23rd regional conference for Africa, implementation of Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of NEPAD in 2004, progress review provided a framework for restoring agricultural growth, rural development and food security in the African region.”

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I go straight to Article II which could be more relevant here so that it can go to the HANSARD so that the Head of State and hon.

Members can know that in their oversight role, we are here to push this Ministry so hard to produce. We do not want to give them even the very basic *jembe*; even what we have agreed to in international fora. This is what Article II says:

“Implement, as a matter of urgency, the CAADP and evolving action plans for agricultural development at the national, regional and continental levels. To this end, the heads of state and government agreed to adopt sound policies for agricultural and rural development and committed themselves to allocating, at least, 10 per cent of the total national budgetary resource for their implementation within five years.”

It is crystal clear! The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Ministry of Finance must learn to listen to the people. It must learn to respect what has been agreed to in all those international fora. It must see the need, and if they cannot see the need, then they still have a problem. I want to tell them and educate them mathematically so that they know: If you want to have economic growth and you have one seed of beans, you have a chance of getting about 110 seeds; that is 110 per cent growth if you want to calculate it that way. We can only grow in this country if we respect agriculture; if we respect funding and agriculture. This is the backbone of our oversight role. We have looked at it! We look at it left and right but when this funding has come down from the initial 13 per cent in the 1970s and 1980s, now we are at that Ministry of Agriculture which is theoretically having a high percentage but practically having 1.99 cent. Then there is not much we can achieve, and that includes their salaries. That also includes their vehicles which are aging, financing the heavy load of 254 districts. I do not know how they do it but 254 districts will require massive resources.

We found certain odd things in this Budget like the component on irrigation. We are not here to sanction creation of empires. We are here to make sure that Kenyans get what is rightfully theirs. Whatever the political thinking or rationale, our feeling is that the Ministry of Water and Irrigation should continue providing water to the Ministry of Agriculture as their client but the expertise in irrigation technology, which is a very complicated science, should be left to the Ministry of Agriculture. The Department of Irrigation in the Ministry of Water, politics or no politics, must be put under the Ministry of Agriculture yesterday. We are saying this because we were in Bura and Hola irrigation schemes. Last year, we were in Nyando and others and it is a disaster by any other word. You cannot expect to produce food in one million acres if we are going to have the National Irrigation Board (NIB); a board that is being supervised by people who do not understand this science. This Committee is aggrieved. This Committee takes offence at the way this whole set up has been done and the Head of Civil Service had better listen to this: That it is not about politics. It is about feeding our people. Our people are starving and this can only be done by us looking at what is rational. What is rational to do is to have the experts hired and paid by the Exchequer in the Ministry of Agriculture do their job to produce crops. Over Kshs800 million has been sunk in the two schemes; Bura and Hola. You cannot blame the Ministry of Agriculture. It is not their business. It is the NIB business and I quote from their top manager there and the regional manager for that matter; they do not have the capacity to do it, yet we are pumping billions of shillings there. The Ministry of Agriculture has the capacity. We went to Israel with our Minister for Agriculture, Mr. William Samoei. He has picked a lot of science and technology from that irrigation. That spirit of helping our people should be the guiding force in the running

of the business of this House. In the same spirit, those resources like Galana Ranch which is under the Ministry of Agriculture, is largely livestock. It should be given to the experts in the Ministry of Livestock Development, and so should the research sector, the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) which deals with livestock. Things to do with vaccine production--- There is no reason why the Minister for Agriculture would like to hold onto that because we want him to be an expert in agriculture. We will support him towards that. But, first and foremost, that irrigation is a nightmare. That is where we are going but I am telling you that we are lost already. If we are going to rely on the NIB, with due respect to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, we are lost. We are going nowhere because there is a real mismatch between technology, people's understanding and even the will to work. These people do not seem like they are willing even to understand. I do not know what the qualification of the Minister for Agriculture is but looking at his face, he is willing. He took me by 6.00 a.m. to go and show me an irrigation project somewhere in Israel. He is willing to learn. That will to learn is not there in the NIB.

Finally, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say that it is not – and I repeat – it is not the business of the Exchequer to continue pleasing people. Obviously, there are people who do bad things in all Ministries in all sectors but all those bad things which are done by the Ministries collectively, when summed up, should not outweigh the good things these Ministries are supposed to be doing. These Ministries should be enabled. This Government must wake up from the slumber and learn that they need to follow what His Excellency the President, when he was the Minister for Finance and Planning - and to remind my colleagues who may not have followed the politics then, that was in the 1980s – he said that commercial banks will channel 17 per cent of their lending portfolio to agriculture. That is, the way to go was from 13 per cent to 17 per cent, and I hope one of the hon. Members who happened to have been a bank executive at that particular time, when he rises, perhaps, will be able to elaborate that one further.

With those remarks and on a very sour note to the Minister for Agriculture---

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

I still have three minutes! Relax!

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

Mr. Mututho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those remarks, I beg to support, subject to the comments I have made.

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Defence (Mr. Musila): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I too want to support this Motion and I want to, with very few words, support what the Chair of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture has said; that the Ministry of Agriculture will not achieve anything if they rely on the NIB.

(Applause)

I know them; I worked with them! I was the District Commissioner, Tana River, and they made Hola and Bura irrigation schemes collapse. They have made others collapse and I do not think this time round they will make any success. That is all for that!

I want to, first of all, commend my friend, the Minister for Agriculture. I have a lot of respect for him, his very able deputies, the professional staff of the Ministry of Agriculture. I am sure that they are capable of moving forward the Ministry of Agriculture. Having said that, I think Kenyans are very disturbed that 46 years after Independence, we have not achieved food security in this country. Every year the Minister for Agriculture stands here and elaborates his policies in such an eloquent manner, just as the able Minister for Agriculture has done but down the line, we have become a begging nation; a nation that cannot feed itself, a nation that has lost its credibility in the international community because of its inability to produce food and feed its people. It is a great shame that from the beginning we said that Kenya is an agricultural country. If Kenya is an agricultural country, then how come Kenya has been unable to feed its citizens? I think we have failed and we failed a long time ago. It is a high time that we woke and started afresh!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we lost the path in the first instance when we dispensed with the extension services. The Ministry of Agriculture Headquarters is bloated with staff and the same case applied to the provincial and district levels. However, if you go down to the grassroots where food is produced, you will find that there are no extension officers to advise the farmers on how to grow crops. We used to have those officers long time ago and they were very close to the farmers. Those officers would tell farmers the kind of crops to grow and the type of seeds to use. Today, farmers in this country have been left on their own and that is why we have failed in food production.

Therefore, even without saying much, the first thing the Minister for Agriculture needs to do, if he really wants to revive the agricultural sector in this country, is to re-establish the extension services in the rural areas so that farmers can have easy access to knowledge and technology in order to grow crops. I listened very carefully and with a lot of interest to the Minister's Statement that he will gazette some rules, particularly as far as afforestation is concerned. This will ensure that farmers plant trees in a certain percentage of their farms. That is good. However, I hope along with that, the Minister will also consider gazetting stringent rules on cultivation along river banks. If you visit rural areas, you will find farmers cultivating up to the river bank. That is one of the reasons why we have run into very serious problems. Of late, we have been talking about---

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! I plead that you observe time. The Chair will not entertain additional minutes!

Mr. Kigen: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Minister for the Vote he has presented on behalf of his Ministry. This is a very crucial Ministry. It is a Ministry that everybody looks to for the provision of that very essential commodity - food. When I was in school, we used to be taught that agriculture was the backbone of our economy and, indeed, it was. We have been told today that at some point in the past, up to 13 per cent of funding was allocated to this Ministry. I think that is why we could feed ourselves well and agriculture played its role as the backbone of our economy. Now that we have learned from the effects of treating agriculture the way we have done, it is important that as the Ministry makes

effort to put in place modern farming techniques, we assist the farmer to acquire machinery, lower the cost of fertilizer and provide good prices for his or her produce.

It is important for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Ministry of Finance to avail sufficient funding so that as new innovations are being adopted, for example, irrigation-fed crops, the Ministry is not handicapped when it comes to finances. We have come to this House in the past and suspended debate to debate lack of food in the country, a situation that the country went through. No other business could go on in this country because there was no food. Everybody was concerned, including Members of Parliament. Hon. Members received phone calls from people in the countryside asking them what they should do. To avert such a situation, it is important that we avail sufficient funds to this Ministry.

If the graduates from middle-level agricultural colleges can be employed and facilitated to reach the farmers, they will assist them to select the right crops and even teach them not to rely on maize, but other crops. This is because when you talk about food in Kenya, you are basically talking about maize and not any other food. These graduates can be instrumental in teaching our people to diversify their menu. I urge the Ministry to look into this matter closely. If the Ministry is to achieve what it wants, then it should employ officers who are in direct contact with the farmers at all times. These are the people who bring first hand information on what the farmers go through. As a result, they address the concerns of farmers better.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another area that is of great concern is availability of fertilizer which is key in production. We have heard of a national accelerated programme and its effects. Those are the areas we should pursue more closely and avail whatever farmers want. We should reach as many farmers as possible, including those in the ASAL areas. The Government and other stakeholders should play their role and ensure that this Ministry achieves its goals.

In the past, there was talk about the setting up of a factory to manufacture fertilizer in this country. I do not know the magic involved in the manufacture of fertilizer. I think we have sufficient technical know-how and we have always borrowed money to do other things. I do not know why we have not addressed the issue of setting up a fertilizer factory in this country. We can even do this as a public/private sector venture with the donors. Since this is a very important component, I would like the Ministry to explore the possibility of coming up with a proposal to this House for debate so that funding can be sourced towards the setting up of a fertilizer factory in this country.

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

Mr. Mureithi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Minister for Agriculture for the very good and informative presentation. I would also like to support the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Co-operatives.

We say that agriculture is the backbone of this nation. I would like to support the views that have been expressed by the previous speakers with respect to agriculture. My biggest concern as a professional in that area is that over time, agriculture has been downplayed at the expense of production and turning this nation into a subsistence nation. We will not sustain this country until we move from the production line, add value and then

move on to agro-processing. That, I believe, is the way developed countries went, and they have attained industrialization.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to remind our Minister, because he has really learnt well, and he has got professionals in that area, that sometimes, they should also look at the past and see what has been done. There used to be Guaranteed Minimum Returns (GMR) scheme in case of crop failure. I would like to ask our Minister that he does all he can to re-engineer insurance for crops, so that when rains fail, there will be some resource somewhere, and the Ministry will be able to support our farmers.

For that reason, I would also like to appeal to him, that instead of looking at some of the traditional crops like maize, we now start moving to high value crops, so that farmers can have income. They should only get enough money to buy the maize to sustain them. We seem to be growing, year in, year out, food crops that we know about.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has talked of climate change. I agree with him that we are facing a very major problem. However, alongside that climate change, I would like our Minister to also get in touch with the Minister for Lands, because of the land tenure policy. High potential areas are being sub-divided into very uneconomical portions, so that even the 10 per cent forest cover you are looking for will not be attained there. So, I would like him to look into our land tenure policy, because high potential areas are being sub-divided to such an extent that planting trees there will be very difficult.

I also want to inform the Minister that, in addition to what he is doing – I agree with him on provision of farm inputs – a bit of controls should be put in place. We went to Malindi and found that AMS has sent tractors there without implements. For one year, those new tractors have been there. Some of them are being vandalised. I would like to appeal to the Minister that whenever he sends something to the field, there is a follow up to make sure that farmers get the services for which those implements are bought. We also found crawlers that have been sent to irrigation schemes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to agree with the Chairman of our Committee that when you go to irrigation schemes, you find engineers for dams. You do not find extension services officers. Could the Minister decide to take over the role of producing crops there? I was very disappointed when money was sent to those areas for food production, but the Minister for Agriculture had a peripheral role in terms of producing that food. Therefore, I would like him to be the one spearheading food production.

Finally, in the rural areas, where the white settlers were – I am sure the Minister comes from those areas – there were so many dams created. We are importing food from South Africa, produced using their dams. Why do we not re-do the dams in those areas and start increasing food production? Therefore, I believe that this Ministry has the capacity. At one time, when you said “The Ministry”, it was known it was the Ministry of Agriculture. Today I do not know whether when you say “The Ministry” it means the Ministry of Agriculture. We want the old glory to come to it, so that food will no longer be a problem.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Chachu: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I stand to support the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture.

I congratulate the Minister for Agriculture and his able Assistants as well as the professional staff in that Ministry. This is one Minister who is determined to make Kenya food-secure. He is one Minister who is willing to think outside the box for the betterment of this nation. He is one Minister who is willing to embrace innovations. The one million acres of land this Ministry is willing to put under irrigated agriculture is just one example.

The Minister is willing to learn. He has led a group of Members of Parliament to Israel to learn firsthand how the Israelis have turned their desert into productive land that has made them food-secure and even enabled them to produce a surplus for other hungry nations. The Minister has toured almost all parts of Kenya, including my own constituency of North Horr, which is at the heart of the Chalbi Desert.

Due to the hard work of the Ministry's staff, and the hard work of the staff of the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), today we have oasis farming at the heart of the Chalbi Desert. KARI staff have embarked on a major intervention to see to it that there is farming even at the heart of the Chalbi Desert to produce food and fodder for our livestock. If this country is willing to prosper as a nation, we cannot do that with a hungry people. We have to be food-secure. It is only after you are food-secure that you can think of other innovative ideas. You can be ambitious about development. Food security is the basis for any development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, this Ministry has the special role of making this country food-secure, and it is possible for it to achieve that objective. I really commend the Ministry for embarking on serious irrigation farming. There is no way you will go wrong. The land is there. The water is there. All you need is inputs and hard work. The programme that was just launched by His Excellency the President and the Prime Minister in Bura and Hola, among other areas, is just an example. I know that the Minister and his staff are willing to even go to ASALs.

The good work that the Ministry is doing, of harvesting water during the rainy season, through sand dams and many other technologies, is to ensure that we have water to irrigate land in the ASALs and even produce fodder for our livestock. Through rain water harvesting, you can produce enough fodder. We will feed our livestock. Those livestock will feed us, and that will be the end of famine and drought in this country. It can be done. If we can do it during the rainy season, why can we not do it during the dry season, if we have water?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sure that this Ministry can lead. It is a shame that we give such a crucial Ministry very limited funding. If we are serious about feeding and developing this nation, we should fund this Ministry adequately. It makes no sense to give billions of shillings to internal security and defence and give very little to the Ministry that feeds Kenya, including the constituency that I represent in this House, which is highly food-insecure, just because we have not got our priorities right.

I strongly encourage the Ministry of Agriculture to work together with the Ministry of Livestock Development. This is one Ministry that has so much capacity to produce a lot of good results, if only it can be well supported. The Ministry of Agriculture is the mother Ministry of the Ministry of Livestock and Development, the latter having been part of the former for a long time. So, the two Ministries can work together to support many ranches and a lot of other good work that needs to be done, including carrying out research for improving livestock production.

That will enable the Ministry of Livestock Development to get the necessary support that it requires, especially for those of us who come from places where the livestock sector is the backbone of our livelihood. I encourage the Ministry to invest further in dry land farming. It has been done in many parts of this world. I know that its staff are now directing a lot of focus to the reviving of the irrigation schemes, which is very good. That is the right place to start, I hope that the Ministry, through research, will look into getting into dry land farming to enable us produce fodder to feed our livestock during times of drought, so that the livestock can support the livelihood of pastoralists.

With those few remarks, I fully support the Vote.

The Assistant Minister for Education (Prof. Olweny): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion. I rise to support the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Minister for Agriculture is making good efforts. We know that this country today is in a serious food security crisis. The situation became more serious in recent times. Therefore, the effort that the Ministry is making, particularly in subsidizing farm inputs, should be applauded. In that case, the Government should keep trying. As my colleagues have said, this Ministry should be given more funds. It should be given adequate support.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I would suggest to the Ministry that other inputs should also be subsidized, particularly crop protection chemicals. If the Government allows, we should give the Ministry more money so as to subsidize some of these inputs.

Today, the Minister has told us that we will put more land under irrigated farming. I wish to agree with the Chairman of the departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives that the irrigation sub-sector is in the wrong docket. We said this during the last Parliament when irrigation was moved from the Ministry of Agriculture to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation. It is in the wrong docket. I do not know how this can be sorted out. The Minister for Agriculture sits in the Cabinet. That is where they make all the key decisions. He should propose this idea there, so that he brings that sub-sector to the right place.

We are talking of irrigation, but where is the water? Where will we get the water? Kenya is a seriously water-deficit country. All the natural water catchment areas are gone. We are virtually living in a dying country. The country is dying. Every single day, we are shown pictures of dying animals. Every single day, we see pictures of seriously starving Kenyans because of lack of water.

Egypt can only do irrigation along the River Nile where the water is. Of course, the water comes from Eastern Africa. Once the few rivers that are left dry out, how shall we do our irrigation? When leaders are crying: "Please, let us conserve what God gave us. Let us make sure we get back our forests---" Trees make forests, but a few trees will not give you a forest. It is the forests that help in creating water, not just a few isolated trees. A few isolated trees will just allow all that water to rush down into the lake and be lost through evapo-transpiration. It is the forest that allows for infiltration of rain water which comes into springs, rivers and also gives us the evapo-transpiration water which then turns into rain.

All these forests are gone and we are talking about irrigation. Let us have a second thought about it. When will we get water for irrigation? In the next 20 years, there will be no more water if we do not do something about the situation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, an hon. Member talked about sub-division of land. It is my view and with the training I have had, that not everybody must own a farm. In the rich countries, not every individual has a farm. Here, we insist on having a farm. You are employed as an engineer or a teacher somewhere, and you still insist on owning a farm.

This is one of the failures we have in this country; that each and every individual must own a farm. The large scale farms which are the most economical to use for food production to make a country food secure were all sub-divided. The little plots that we have are not sustainable for agricultural production.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the chance to support.

Dr. Laboso: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to also support this Motion.

I want to begin by congratulating the Ministry for being proactive and doing a good job. We have seen the Minister has been very active and he has really delivered. I want to particularly commend the Ministry for the subsidies that they gave on fertilizer. It has had a great impact on the farmers and I know that the farmers of Sotik have appreciated that reduction in fertilizer. I am sure it played a major role in the high yield of maize that we got this financial year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, nonetheless, I would really like to urge the Ministry to consider as has been already alluded to, value addition to raw materials. We have a lot of raw materials in this country and the farmers are really not benefiting as they should.

I am very proud to be a farmer's daughter. I was a farmer's daughter when farming used to mean something. At that time, my parents were able to take me to school to quite a high level. I do not think the same can be said of farmers right now. Farming is not able to give farmers enough to provide for their children and to also meet all their needs. This is basically because a lot has changed over the years.

I would like to say that the role of extension services has not been effective. If farming is going to make sense in this country and be taken as a business, then we must ensure that we provide farmers with extension services.

We know that there are so many people who are employed under the Ministry of Agriculture, but that they are not actually making a lot of difference on the ground because they are not providing services to the farmers. We want farmers to take it as a business. We want the extension services to provide information and knowledge to those farmers, so that whether they are growing maize or flowers, they will get value for their efforts at the end of the day.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also quite pleased that we are moving from rain-based agriculture to irrigation-based agriculture. As we have all said, there is a large part of this country that is not exploited that could produce all the food that we need in this country. As has already been indicated, food security is a major problem that we have in this country. In the 21st Century, in a country such as this, we should not be talking about not having enough food for our people. At the moment, that is the sad situation that we find ourselves in. We hope as the Minister has promised us that within the next five years, that will be a thing of the past because all our ASAL areas will have been exploited.

I would also wish to urge the Government to abide by the Maputo Protocol of allocating 10 per cent of the national Budget to agriculture. We want this Ministry to be well resourced so that it can provide for this country.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Livestock Development (Mr. Duale): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to Vote 10 of the Ministry of Agriculture. I do support this Vote from the onset.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to congratulate the able Minister for Agriculture, Mr. William Rutto and the professional Permanent Secretary that runs that Ministry. We have confidence in the team and we respect them. We know for the last 19 months how this Ministry was run.

Coming back to the basics, investment by the public sector in agriculture is very crucial if this country has to go ahead in terms of food security. We all know that 80 per cent of our people live in the rural areas. To improve on their livelihood and reduce poverty, promotion in agriculture and livestock investment by the Government in this region is very crucial.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Minister. For the first time in the history of this country, he has taken the lead in finding a way of taking this country towards adopting irrigation. We have seen Kshs3 billion allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture. We were at the launch of the Hola Irrigation Scheme from where we expect to harvest 14 million bags of maize in the next quarter of the year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming back home, when I say "home" I mean where I come from. I want to dwell on the opportunities that are available for the people of North Eastern and specifically the people of Dujis whom I represent. We have an irrigation potential of about 20,000 acres along River Tana. We have a permanent source of water and the largest river in this country. We also have enough Government and Non-Governmental Organizations' (NGOs) presence. Above all, we have a very competent technical staff of the Ministry of Agriculture. The question that comes to one's mind is, why out of the 20,000 acres of irrigation potential in Garissa, only 2,060 have been exploited? This is only close to 10 per cent.

I want to thank the Minister for Agriculture for the various income and livelihood supporting projects that his Ministry has undertaken across the country including my constituency. They include the National Agriculture and Livestock Extension Programme, the *Njaa Marufuku* Programme, the Water Harvesting Programme and many others. I would also like to thank him for the major improvements they are doing in terms of re-introducing traditional crops like sorghum, maize, cow peas and many others. However, if you look at Dujis Constituency, I have 91,000 acres of rain-fed potential. Out of this, only 1,320 acres have been exploited. The reason for this is well known.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry is not exploiting the rain-fed agriculture potential because less than 300 millimeters per annum of rainfall is what my constituency receives against the 650 millimeters expected per annum. We want to see how we can solve the food insecurity in this country.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ngugi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for noticing me. I thought you were initially not noticing me because I am short.

I stand to support the Vote of this Ministry which is very crucial. From the outset, let me commend the Minister and his staff for the good and visible work that they are doing. If all the Ministers were doing the same, this country would have moved forward.

Having said that, when I look at the amount of money allocated to the Ministry, I do not think it is enough. This money is not enough because in this country we get our priorities lopsided. This is a country that depends on agriculture but instead of exploiting agriculture, we give preference to other things. We should realize what we can do better. This is an agricultural country and we should exploit agriculture to its fullest.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me start with research. Over the years, research in agriculture has been done at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and universities but when I talk to professors, there seems to be a disconnect. The research is not disseminated to the farmers. As a result, it remains at the universities. I remember at one time they were even producing fertilizer locally. This did not get to the farmers. Farmers would have been told how to manufacture fertilizer.

In this country, we have dry lands, wet lands, agricultural lands and marginal lands. We should be finding out what is good for a particular region. If an area is fit for livestock rearing, let us concentrate on that. Let us not try farming there. If it is an area like Kinangop where I come from, it is a purely agricultural area. We do not even exploit a tenth of our potential. We should be putting more resources there by way of irrigation and research so that we can use at least half of our potential. In that area, we can produce sugar to feed this country. This is not like Muhoroni or Miwani but white sugar beets. I remember a research was done sometimes back and it was found out that we can produce sugar beets in Kinangop. It was, however, never actualized. I would urge this Ministry to do research and find out what is good for which area and capitalize on that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to divert from praising the Minister to saying how we are marginalized. In the previous Government, coffee was subsidized. As a result, the rest of Central Province and other areas that grow coffee benefitted. Today, it is Trans Nzoia and Rift Valley provinces which benefit through maize subsidies. What about those of us in Nyandarua who grow potatoes? We belong to this country but we do not get any subsidy. We would like to see ourselves get value addition and agro-processing. We have tried even on our own, to up a plant there which could freeze potatoes so that we can keep it and feed the people during the low season. We would want to see areas like Kinangop provided with subsidized fertilizer. We do not have the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) depot and yet we require one. I have no doubt because the Minister for Agriculture is an intelligent man. He is a man with a foresight and listens. I am sure he is aware that Kinangop can do a lot to feed this country.

I want to commend the Minister for talking about afforestation. Aberdares has been cleared and as a result, rivers in Kinangop are dry. Lake Naivasha has no life. It will be drying up soon. I support the Minister fully when he says that 10 per cent of agricultural land should have trees. It could be an orchard or other trees. That way this country can benefit.

Finally, we should adopt new farming methods. We cannot cling to old traditional farming methods. We should adopt modern farming methods where an acre can produce food that traditionally was produced from five acres.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Letimalo: Thank you Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to support this Motion.

I would like to start by thanking the Minister and the entire team for making sure that Kenyans are not going to starve during scarcity of food and ensuring that Kenya is going to be food secure. I also wish to thank the Minister for being accessible any time we want to consult him. We really appreciate that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I represent Samburu East Constituency which is a semi arid area. Our main economic activity is livestock keeping. However, that does not necessarily mean that there is no agricultural activity that can be undertaken in that area. I wish to inform the Minister that the Alovera plant does well. I have seen people taking initiative of growing this plant. I wish that the Ministry could pursue it and facilitate the interested groups, so that they can also make a living out of it.

Fruit crops also do well in this area. I believe that they do well because Catholic Missionaries have been growing fruits in their areas and supplying them to the schools that they sponsor. I believe if the Ministry could support those who are interested in growing fruits, that would go a long way in assisting those people who entirely depend on livestock. That includes other drought escaping crops that would take between a month or three months, so that people do not rely on animals and animal products.

I agree with the issue of organizing field days as a learning resource because that is one way of creating awareness and educating our farmers. I believe that extension officers, who have been posted there, should not give an excuse that the area is dry and, therefore, there is no crop that they can grow or concentrate on dealing with the 4K Clubs. If they organized field days, they would educate people, so that they can diversify their crops.

Lastly, I want to request the Ministry to open a National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) branch in Wamba. This is one area where there is food insecurity. Our traders procure foods either from Nyahururu or Meru. When the Government made an intervention by subsidizing cereals, we did not benefit because the traders had to cover transport costs.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology (Dr. Kosgei): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me the opportunity to support Vote 10 of the Ministry of Agriculture. These days when we talk about agriculture, we are thinking of food security because of the number of people we see starving around the country.

I want to commend the Minister and his colleagues because they have really gone out of their way to demonstrate that they are sensitive and they are listening. Obviously, behind this Minister, there must be very efficient civil servants working behind the scenes that nobody sees or even knows. Let me use this opportunity to congratulate them for a job they are doing really well.

Kenya is an agricultural country. By that, we do not only mean that we ought to be food secure, but we are also talking of the fact that the backbone of this economy remains agriculture. While a colleague will talk about what we will do with potatoes and why coffee is not being subsidized and so on, if we put all these in the context of our overall economic performance, we should immediately recognize what the Ministry must know. For example, we very rarely talk about the cash crops which are not food and

which need assistance to perform well around the world, so that we can get foreign exchange until we find oil or other things that can do that work for us.

I would, therefore, like to mention to the Ministry that, for example, their agricultural machines do not work. I have had an experience with that. I once asked for them and they were parked outside my gate for about three months and after that I was sent a bill. They did not do any work. That saga continues. I am requesting the Ministry to encourage farmers to do a better job in the more endowed areas. The areas which experience some rain have their difficulties. Right now, when there is less rain and there is no irrigation, they cannot produce even the food that they normally contribute to the national grid. We must continue to concentrate on ASAL areas, but I am afraid, I do not see enough being done in these other areas that should encourage production of immediate use.

Furthermore, I have noticed that the Ministry, of course, does what it can to respond when we have farming. So, we end up buying maize from South Africa, Mozambique and all over the world, but the maize in Uasin Gishu and Trans Nzoia districts is rotting. Could we, perhaps, assist our own farmers first? I know that you have done whatever you could with fertilizer to help them, but, please, buy their crops first. Buy Kenyan maize first!

I head a Ministry which carries science and research technology. Our universities carry out research, but we do not utilize them. We should utilize their research. These issues fall under the science and technology as well. The Ministry works with us in KARI, but we could do a little more to improve on our own agriculture.

I wish there was more time to talk about climate change because, indeed, climate change is not peculiar to Kenya. We have to do whatever we can to plant more trees and save the forests that we have. However, let us understand that there is a phenomenon called climate change. We need to address that globally with other people lest we get locked up in a cocoon of blaming each other all the time when, in fact, the original reason for the climate change comes from the developed countries.

Mr. Kioni: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to support this Vote. The Ministry's work has been felt in this country. Many hon. Members have contributed positively about the good work of this Ministry. However, I would like to ask the Ministry to do some work so that we can feel them in my constituency. We have not quite felt them.

I am only concerned with the issue of irrigation, as far as it remains under the Ministry of Water and Irrigation; I think we are headed for mucky waters. We have a history of this department. We saw what became of the Mwea Irrigation Scheme. Now, we are pumping in billions into this board. I am afraid and many hon. Members have said the same that we may end up in a disaster. It is important that what we have said be taken seriously and acted upon quickly because we do not want to come back here next year and start wondering about what became of the billions that we pumped there.

The other issue that I would want the Ministry to consider is water harvesting. The Ministry of Agriculture is doing a lot across other places. It is important as the Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology said that a little more of attention be given to those areas that produce food, particularly now when there is drought. If we are not helped at the constituencies to dig water pans and rehabilitate the existing dams, then the situation will be worse than it is now. While we must move to the ASAL areas

to increase food production in this country, we must also make sure that we do not forget where we have been relying upon in the past. It is about 20 per cent of this country's land that has kept us going for the last 45 years. Abandoning them now, certainly we will have far reaching repercussions.

I urge the Government to let the Irrigation Board be under the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry of Agriculture needs to surrender its pieces of land so that we can put it under agricultural activities. The Ministry of Livestock Development must fully utilize its holding grounds.

I come from Ndaragwa. In Ndaragwa, we have an orphaned crop; pyrethrum. Little is being done about it. We need much attention be given to this crop. We need this sector to be privatized. We need to pump in a lot of money to revive this sector. This is a crop that can earn this country a lot of foreign exchange.

Fertilizers and seeds under the *Biashara Kilimo* Programme were given to farmers. We planted three times in our region, but we did not harvest anything. If we ask these farmers to pay back, this may be the end of it. I think it is important that the Government looks for ways of relieving this burden from the farmers, so that they do not get scared of accessing these loaning facilities when land comes about.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of extension officers is crucial. Perhaps, we may now be getting a little bit of rains in these areas. Are the farmers going to be allowed to plant maize again that will mature after six or nine months? Are we not going to lose the little rain that may come in the coming months? If we have extension officers and campaign done on radio, then farmers would end up planting crops that can help us within a very short while.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been mentioned, but I want to repeat that Runda Estate is a red soil area. We have bought plots there. The damage that we did to this country by putting up these concrete blocks in area that was supposed to have been agriculturally productive is suicidal. I cannot understand why we will allow this to continue in the neighbouring areas. The Government needs to come in and stop it. If it is compensating these people so that this land remains available for agriculture even for the future generations to come, it is important that, that step is taken.

Regarding subdivision of land, especially in Central Province, we have now gone down to a quarter of an acre and, perhaps, even smaller portions. I know we said it would be two acres and it became very unpopular. If subdivision of land in this country is not stopped, to those levels that are so uneconomical, all of us will be queuing for this famine relief food. The Government must be bold enough and say "enough is enough, no more subdivision." Whatever it is that we lose as politicians, let it be. But, again, we have a future for this country and it is important that we protect it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, also we have the issue of sugar and maize. I think it may be necessary to free the market and allow the private sector to do the importation. I think the many packages that may have been offered by the Ministry can end up being prone to corruption. I think it is important that more freedom is allowed to those who would want to take part in that Ministry.

With those many remarks, I beg to support the Vote.

The Assistant Minister for Nairobi Metropolitan Development (Ms. Ongoro): Thank you, Mr. Temporarily Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture and for the very well presented proposal on how they intend to

expend their limited budgetary allocation. I say “limited” because research has shown that 70 per cent of households in Kenya are involved in agricultural activities. If we consider this against what was allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture – Kshs13.4 billion – which represents a mere 1.6 per cent of the entire Budget, then we can only call it a fuss. If we want this Ministry to improve the welfare of 70 per cent of this nation and feed them, then we must reflect that on the budgetary allocation.

This Ministry is also swimming upstream. They started just soon after the post-election crisis that we went through. Then, there were failed rains, climate change and global warming, and all other factors that make it very difficult for agricultural production. Against this, it would have been fair if this Ministry was allocated a little more than what they received.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that notwithstanding, they have presented a very good proposal. However, I want to state that a few things did not come out clearly when I listened to how they intend to expend. First, I did not see what they have allocated to a very small sector that we call “urban agriculture”. This is becoming substantial because the youth and women groups in urban areas have become very enterprising. They have now formed groups that actually produce substantial amounts of vegetables and other food crops that are actually sustaining households. We want to see this reflected in their budgetary allocation or expenditure.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, again, I might not be an expert, but I have been wondering why we keep talking about rain and irrigation. Is there not a way that the Ministry can engage the private sector that has got the capacity to invest substantially, to bring in the kind of technology that can allow us to use ocean water, which can be used upcountry for irrigation and other purposes, even domestic? I know that it is very expensive, but it has been done elsewhere. We will put in a lot once and then this will sustain this country for sometime.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, again, the Ministry did not come out clearly on how they intend to support traditional farming practices. This can cushion us against hunger in the villages and rural areas. Think about that old woman who has been using one kind of farming method for years and has not fully conceptualized the new technology that we are trying to introduce. We must have a system of sustaining the traditional farming methods and encouraging our indigenous crops that are drought resistant and some that can be used, especially in the rural areas.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it also did not come out very clearly on how the Ministry intends to convert the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) to arable land, by other ways other than irrigation, for example, the introduction and support of drought resistant crops.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, this Ministry is one of those that stand out as having a capable Minister who understands his mandate and with a support team that is giving him very good support.

I beg to support.

Mr. Gaichuhie: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to support the Ministry of Agriculture and the entire team, because of a well presented budget, although I know that it is very limited. We have not been able to go even a tenth of the Maputo Declaration. However, I am pleased that we have seen a lot

of changes in agriculture. For example, last year, they really subsidized fertilizers and seed, so that our farmers were able to do a lot. I want to thank them for that.

I also want them to change from the normal agricultural way to, at least, increase irrigation areas, so that we can be self-sufficient in our food production. They should also intensify research because we have seen in the past that many research farms have now been sold and there is no more research that is being done. So, if they can increase their allocation on research, we can have better food and start growing other crops than the normal maize and wheat. If we did this, I think we will be self-sufficient in the near future.

We should also have storage facilities for other kinds of food crops than cereals, because we normally just store grains. We do not have any other storage facilities for other kinds of crops. The Ministry of Agriculture should also be supported and liaise with the Ministry of Industrialization, so that we do not sell crops such as coffee to other countries at the original value. It should be value added before it is sold out so that we can, at least, plough back more money in the agricultural sector.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should also encourage people to start drip irrigation. This is because currently, what people are doing is using a lot of water and yet, we are having a shortage of water. So, they should encourage drip irrigation and have the agricultural extension officers going to the field to educate our farmers on how to do it and even sponsoring them by partnering with other banks, so that we can have enough food for storage.

The Ministry of Agriculture is actually the backbone of Kenya. A hungry person is a dangerous person. So, if the Ministry of Agriculture can be well funded and it uses the funds well--- They are using it well, but it is only that we do not actually give them enough funds. We should support them and make sure that the Minister for Finance listens to their budget proposals and takes them seriously, so that we have the Ministry of Agriculture being the backbone of the country.

We have run down so many sectors, including pyrethrum which used to do very well. We used to grow a lot of pyrethrum, but currently, we cannot because even the farmers who grew it were not paid. If the Ministry could pay and encourage them to continue growing that pyrethrum, we shall revive the pyrethrum industry.

Regarding cotton, we are starting again although it was there before. So, we should support all these cash crops rather the normal foods that we grow so that we can go back to our original status. We should give the Ministry of Agriculture money so that they can support the coffee and tea farmers. We should go back to the original state of agriculture. I want to urge the Minister to keep on pushing the Ministry of Finance and also hon. Members to support the Ministry so that we can go back to our original status.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Dr. Otichilo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this chance to contribute to this very important Vote which I want to support from the outset. First, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Minister, the Permanent Secretary and the entire staff of the Ministry for doing a commendable job. This is a Ministry that is dynamic and visionary. It is a Ministry that has a Minister, a Permanent Secretary and staff who actually know what they want to do and know where they want to take this country.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Ministry for the good job that they have done, particularly in the sugar industry. The Ministry is reviving the sugar industry which has had a lot of problems. Also, regarding the cotton industry which had collapsed in this country, the Minister has taken a very good strategy on how to revive it. I want to thank the Ministry for actually reviving agriculture. Agriculture in this country had gone into "Intensive Care Unit (ICU)". But with the new team, I can tell you that we are on the right track and we will be moving ahead.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to encourage the Ministry to focus on modern agriculture. Land is very scarce in this country. Therefore, we must use our land very optimally to ensure that we attain or get maximum production out of our land. In that regard, I would like us to adopt the latest technologies in agricultural production. Given the cost of inorganic fertilizer considering our soil conditions, I would like to encourage organic farming. Organic farming should be promoted given that the cost of inorganic fertilizers is very high and most of our people cannot afford it. So, we need to encourage organic farming as one of the best ways to increase food production.

Also, given the fact that our land parcels particularly in Western Kenya and many other areas are very small, we need to go into horticultural crops. We should produce high value horticultural crops. We should do that using the greenhouse technology. This will ensure that we use very little area and very little water.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Time up, Dr. Otichilo!

Dr. Otichilo: With those few remarks, I wish to support this Vote.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Hon. Members, it is time for the Minister to respond.

(Mr. Affey remained standing)

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

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me take this opportunity to thank hon. Members for the tremendous support they have given to the Ministry of Agriculture Vote. Let me single out the suggestions that have been made on the Floor of the House for increment of budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Let me underscore that if we want to grow this economy at 10 per cent, all we need to do is to grow the agricultural sector at 10 per cent. It is as simple as that. To be able to do that, we must invest human and financial resources in this sector. I want to inform the House that we have a lot of human resource on board and out there. If we get additional funding, we should be able to access or change the trend of our economy by changing the status of the agricultural sector. In the course of this year, I will be bringing to this House another Bill for the establishment of an Agricultural Development Fund so that we have specific funding for the agricultural sector, especially priority projects that we believe can stimulate the economy for food security, job creation and poverty eradication.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I appreciate the concerns of hon. Members on extension staff. It is true that in the past, before the advent of liberalization and structural adjustment programmes, we continually enhanced the level of personnel available for this exercise. I want to report to this House that we have adequate staff on

the higher scales only for the freeze on these extension staff personnel which was recommended by the World Bank. In fact, for about 10 years or 15 years we were not allowed to employ any staff.

I am happy that the Government has now accepted that we cannot transform agriculture if farmers operate with information of the last century. We must update the farmer. The farmer must use update information. The farmer can make quality decisions if he or she has quality information. The quality of decisions farmers are able to make is informed by the quality of information they have. Therefore, on average, we have been allowed to recruit 600 members of staff for this exercise. I believe that the shortage that we have, of about 7,000 staff members, we should be able to get there. If we had resources, there are many people who have been trained already and are ready to swing into action once we are in a position to support them in the budget.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I note that hon. Members have raised issues of value addition and agro-processing. That is the way to go. If you look at our tea and coffee sub-sector, value addition is still at between 1 per cent and 5 per cent. It means that most of our tea is sold in international market in bulk. The way to go, to create more jobs and create more income, is to add value so that not only the farmer gets more money but we also bring on board many jobs. We are moving in that direction and if hon. Members will notice, on other cash crops like cashewnuts, we have now banned the export of raw cashewnuts so that it is processed locally to retain our jobs. We are looking at areas of expanding value addition and agro-processing. That is the way that we are going to use the agricultural sector to create more jobs, wealth and eliminate poverty.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to single out a recommendation by the hon. Member for Ol Kalou Constituency of guaranteed minimum returns. This is a concept that I have already instructed the Ministry staff to work on. We are seriously considering re-introducing a guaranteed minimum return scheme. This is going to spread all the way to livestock farming. There must be an insurance system that does not give any chance to farmers to be impoverished because there was drought or the rains failed to come. That scheme must get funding and the Government must lead the way. I agree and I want to inform hon. Members that already some work is going into the preparation of an insurance scheme for farmers to ensure that they do not sink out of the vagaries of weather which they have no control over.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, land sub-division is a major challenge to our country. I agree with hon. Members that we must take a bold step as the Government, especially on the high potential areas to make sure that we do not use them as areas of settlement and reduce the possibility of them being used for agricultural productivity. I think this issue that cuts across the Government and my Ministry is firm, that there must be a limit beyond which it is not legally possible to sub-divide land, especially agricultural land.

I note that hon. Members are suggesting that we go for the high value crops and we have noted that, that is the way the recommendations of this House are taken very positively. The Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology mentioned that we need to assist our farmers before we look at farmers from other countries. I agree with that concept; that our farmers come first. Whatever we do, our farmers come first. Apart from creating subsidy for fertilizer, seeds and others, we have already opened up our stores to buy maize from the areas where we have a harvest in the South Rift. We already

authorized last week and maize is going to be bought from farmers at a very competitive price of Kshs2,300, which is higher than what farmers are being paid even in other parts of the world. This is going to continue well into the harvesting season. We have already made sufficient money available for this venture so that our farmers do not get stuck with their produce while we buy from farmers from other parts of the world.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree that research must be demand driven and it must inform the type of agriculture that we do. As I said, many donors have supported us in this particular endeavour, The Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), which is a premier institution, not just in Kenya but across the world, has benefited from funding from donors and the Government. We will maintain that premier position by making sure that there is adequate funding for research, both through KARI and other research institutions. I note suggestions from hon. Members that we must look at dry land farming. Already, we have a research station in Moyale which we need to upscale so that we can find out areas where we need to enhance our potential so that we can assist farmers and pastoralists in those areas to access and sustain a type of farming that can be sustained in those areas.

Lastly, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me say that the private sector is an inevitable partner in whatever we do; whether it is procurement of fertilizer, the irrigation schemes we are looking at or whether it is the coffee and tea. We will reform our legal system so that it brings the benefits of the private sector on board without necessarily allowing the Government to run away from its responsibilities to the population.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those many remarks, I want to tell hon. Members that we will take on board their suggestions and they will inform the implementation of this Budget.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): It is now the turn of the Minister for livestock Development to move his Vote.

Vote 19 – Ministry of Livestock Development

The Minister for Livestock Development (Dr. Kuti): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Speaker do now leave the Chair.

The livestock sub-sector continues to be a major component of the wider agricultural sector contributing about 12 per cent to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and about 42 per cent of the total agricultural GDP. The livestock sector plays a very major role especially in the arid and semi arid lands (ASAL) areas where over 90 per cent of the population there depends on livestock. In the highlands also, about 600,000 families depend on keeping of dairy cows through production of milk and selling that milk and, therefore, eking some livelihood from there.

In Vision 2030, this Ministry is charged with improving its performance which has been dragging along for over 20 years because of certain policy changes during the Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) in the 1980s. During this policy change period, a lot of programmes in the livestock sector stalled, some of them very key like

disease control because livestock are living animals just like human beings which can only perform well when they are healthy. Their health depends on a very well co-ordinated disease control programme through surveillance of those diseases, vaccination against those diseases and treatment of those diseases. This requires adequate and competent staff; be it the lower cadres of extension, which is very crucial for information dissemination or be it at the high technical level of veterinary doctors. It is now over 20 years since this Ministry hired its staff. We are now operating less than 40 per cent of the staff establishment that is required in this Ministry.

So in this Vision 2030, we are charged or mandated to reverse this trend through creation of disease-free zones. The falling apart of the sector due to the issues that I have mentioned has resulted in disease going out of control and the whole country, according to the OIE, which is the World Organization for Animal Health, has been branded as a diseased country. Therefore, we cannot access markets for our livestock products. In this Vision, since we cannot make the whole country disease-free, we are now charged to create certain areas and demarcate them as disease-free zones. In the Vision period, by end of 2030, we are supposed to have five of those of which two are supposed to be completed in the mid-term period, 2008 to 2012.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, already the initial steps towards establishment of this disease-free zone is at an advanced stage. As I speak here now, an African Development Bank (ADB) team is doing a feasibility study in this country for two weeks to establish the modalities and find out what is required. The team will come up with a report that will kick-start the process of creating the two disease-free zones.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the livestock sector has also lagged behind because of archaic policies some of which were mooted in the 1960s. In this period that we look forward to achieving Vision 2030, we are charged with the task of coming up with new policies for the various sub-sectors in the livestock sector. We passed the National Livestock Policy in this House and we must pass all the policies that are related to this sector by the end of this year. Already the Breeders Policy is at a very advanced stage. We also have the Agricultural Policy and Bee Keeping Policy. Most of these policies are now at an advanced stage. We should have those policies that will create a level field for producers and others in the value chain by the end of this year.

My Ministry has been allocated about Kshs3,147,400,000 for the Recurrent Expenditure and about Kshs1.2 billion for the Development Expenditure. One of the things that has made us not achieve our mandate--- I have said that the livestock sector depends upon the people who occupy 80 per cent of the land mass in this country. Depressed budgetary allocation is a major hindrance in this Ministry achieving its potential. The livestock sector can play a key role in the development of this nation. Since most households keep livestock, the revival of this sector will be the quickest way of reversing the trend of poverty in this country. This will create wealth and contribute to increased GDP in this country. The livestock and the agricultural sectors are key if we have to turn around this country. However, it is difficult with this kind of budgetary allocation. We have few staff and vehicles. For example, this Ministry received the last new vehicles in 1991. Most of the Land Rovers which belong to the Ministry in the constituencies have been placed on stones. All of them have been grounded. It is very difficult to realise the potential of this sector which could have alleviated poverty that our

citizens are in now with no extension officers, no transport, not enough staff and this kind of budgetary allocation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Ministry continues to put in place measures to control major livestock diseases despite the challenges I have mentioned. The Chair is aware that earlier this year there was a major outbreak of PPR especially in Turkana District. With the Government support and the extra budgetary support that we got from the Ministry of Finance, we immunized over 10 million goats and sheep which were threatened with extermination by the rapidly devastating viral disease called "PPR". Our farmers are happy today that we controlled that disease although we still need some funds to mop up some pockets. I am sure that, that disease is under full control.

I have a certificate for Rinderpest eradication which we received in May, this year. This is an indication that this Ministry is doing well despite these difficult challenges. We have declared Rinderpest a thing of the past in this country. That disease is totally eradicated. This certificate from the World Organisation of Animal Health shows that Kenya is now free from Rinderpest.

We are also in close collaboration with all our players, especially the veterinary doctors most of whom have left the Ministry and are now private practitioners because of the privatization policy of the livestock sector. We have been working closely with the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA) which is doing an excellent job. The Association received an international award for being the best in the world during the World Veterinary Day held last year. We are working closely with this team because we do not have enough staff. We are also working closely with the private practitioners. I would like to thank them for contributing to this sector which has so many challenges at this particular time.

In the last financial year, my Ministry vaccinated over 3 million cattle and 15 million small stock. In addition, we continue to facilitate both domestic and foreign marketing of livestock, semen, embryos, wool, hides and skins amongst others. The control of tsetse-fly is also a major effort that this Ministry, in collaboration with bilateral partners, especially, the ADB has made. We have implemented the Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC) Project whose objective is to control tsetse flies in 39 districts in the Meru/Mwea region and the Lake Bogoria region. Appropriate technologies are being disseminated to the livestock keepers to keep tsetse fly control at manageable levels.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have just come back from Botswana and Namibia which have eradicated tsetse fly completely. We have borrowed the technology of air spray and the chemicals used have been found to be less harmful to fauna and flora but harmful to tsetse flies. In collaboration with Uganda and Ethiopia, we have started a programme of eradicating tsetse-flies in the north. This is a very important programme because there are some areas with good fodder and enough water but livestock cannot access it because of tsetse-flies which cause sleeping sickness in human beings.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Ministry places a high priority on offering extension and veterinary services to livestock keepers, and training them on new methods of livestock management. In light of the limited resources available and the desire to reach more livestock keepers, my Ministry is encouraging collaboration and networking with stakeholders such as the Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK), Livestock Breeders Association (LBA), the private sector and civil society in the provision of extension

services. In addition, my Ministry has continued to build capacity at both pre-service and in-service levels to ensure quality personnel are available to deliver quality services to livestock keepers.

As hon. Members are aware, some services in the livestock sector were privatised in the 1980s as part of the implementation of the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAPS) and liberalization. These include Artificial Insemination (AI) service. The dairy sector is growing very rapidly and with it, the demand for IA services has reached its peak.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could you protect me from some hon. Members who are consulting a little bit loudly, so that I can finish moving?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! Order, Ms. Chepchumba!

The Minister for Livestock Development (Dr. Kuti): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Artificial Insemination services became very expensive after the Government pulled out from subsidizing the services, especially now when the demand is very high. We have reached a level of 600,000 inseminations per year, which is one of the highest in history, because of the good prices that farmers fetch for milk.

The Ministry is now in the process of negotiating with the Treasury, so that some sort of subsidy for AI services can be put in place. Currently, there are lots of private practitioners, who are not only bringing very expensive semen but also semen of not very good quality, and with very high failure rates. The AI Service at Kabete has now installed a Kshs50 million nitrogen plant for cooling purposes. This plant will go a long way in contributing to the quality of semen by keeping it at the required temperature and for delivery to various farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the privatisation of this service was hurriedly implemented, despite the fact that it was a very critical service to the dairy sector. This was done very hurriedly, and without assessing the capacity of the private sector players to render the same. In areas where AI service providers are present, the service is expensive to most of the livestock keepers, resulting in use of low quality bulls.

Another very crucial area that was privatised, which is affecting farmers very much, is dipping services, which have actually collapsed. This is one of the key disease control methods, especially for ticks. The use of sprays is not only ineffective since it only covers the top layer of the fur; it also has a degrading effect to the environment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in order to reverse the above trend, my Ministry is training more private AI service providers at the Animal Health and Training Institute (AHITI), Kabete, and AHITI, Ndomba. The Ministry has also intensified the supervision of AI services. It has also planned to sell IA equipment to livestock keepers and other stakeholders at subsidized prices through the Central Artificial Insemination Centre (CAIC).

Regarding tick control, my Ministry has successfully undertaken the dip wash strength analysis, and is collaborating with acaricide manufacturers and other stakeholders to develop an appropriate policy and legal framework in this area.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other area that I would like to talk about is the whole concept of marketing, which is also a very key issue in the livestock sector, because all farmers keep livestock basically for marketing them and getting the highest income possible through proper marketing. Once the issue of disease free zone is complete, I have a concept, which is exactly what I have discussed with my---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Time up!

The Minister for Livestock Development (Dr. Kuti): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a lot of issues left, but I beg to move.

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security (Mr. Lesrima): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to second the Motion.

I want to begin by congratulating the Minister and his senior staff for the job they are doing under very difficult circumstances – difficult because the level of funding reflects the mentality of the current and previous Governments towards livestock farmers. We are told that the agricultural sector, which includes the livestock sub-sector, contributes 12 per cent of Kenya's GDP.

Of that agricultural contribution to GDP, 42 per cent is from livestock. However, if you look at the Budgetary allocation to the livestock sub-sector over the years, you will realise that pure agriculture gets double the amount of money that the livestock sub-sector gets. The current Government created another Ministry for the livestock keepers, in a bid to please us, called the Ministry of State for Development of Northern Kenya and Other Arid Lands and provided it with a Budgetary provision of Kshs800,000,000. That is what I was referring to as “another shell” the other day.

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

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Prof. Kamar) took the Chair]*

I am encouraged to note that the bulk of the hon. Members present in the House now are members of the Pastoral Parliamentary Group (PPG). Of course, we also have Mrs. Shabesh, who is a national Member of Parliament, Mr. Mureithi and a former Provincial Director of Range Management, who is the Chairman of the current Departmental Committee.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, the Minister has highlighted a number of sectors he is putting emphasis on in terms of improving them. I want to say that range management development is very critical. There is no point giving us grass. The other day, I was given 1,000 bales of hay to feed 200,000 cows. That is not being quite realistic. We should just go back and strengthen the Range Management Department, as one of the most important departments, so that our people can know how to grow, conserve and manage grass.

The Minister mentioned about dipping. I agree with him. Dipping was privatised at the wrong time, because of pressure from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). But I must say that we also have difficulties dipping cows. How do you dip livestock without water? We must also develop our water resources.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, disease control is very critical. I think it is important to highlight the issue of disease control, because it does not just affect people in the northern Kenya, or those in pastoralists' areas. If a disease is not controlled in pastoralists' areas, it will kill the dairy sector. Even in the last Presidential Address to this House, the only thing that the President mentioned was the dairy sector. Even the dairy sector is threatened by lack of disease control.

I want to thank the Minister for his emphasis on working with other stakeholders. I think we should also have a regional approach and work with our neighbours also, because we may have eliminated those diseases we said we have, but as you know Ethiopia has 45 million head of cattle and 17 million goats that can freely move into Kenya. So is Tanzania. Livestock production is another very important department. Those of us who keep traditional cows want seeds and modern breeds. The carrying capacity of the environment is no longer there for keeping too many cattle.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, let me talk about the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). We need to modernize the KMC in terms of technology and management. I think this is very critical. There is a huge market outside there in Africa to sell meat.

I want to thank the Government for the current projects on off take. We want to consider also small stock.

Finally, the Ministry must recapture all the holding grounds, so that we can grow grass and support other feed manufacturers.

With those few remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Mututho: Thank you, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise to support this Motion and report that the Committee met the Minister for Livestock Development on 27th July, 2009 and examined the estimates of the Ministry of Livestock Development.

Livestock rearing supports a large segment of the Kenyan population hence the need for Government investment in this sub-sector. The sub-sector is key to the attainment of Kenya's development agenda.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, this Ministry's net allocation for the Financial Year 2009/2010 is Kshs3.1 billion and Appropriations-In-Aid (A-in-A) of only Kshs24 million. The Development Expenditure is allocated a net of only Kshs1.2 billion with A-in-A of Kshs264 million. This translates to just 0.69 per cent.

We are talking about an already suffering sector in agriculture. Even when we talk about that, I want to inform the House that in our oversight role we found that this Ministry in all the money that this Government would think of and boast of, has only 0.69 per cent of the Budget. That is slightly better compared to the Ministry of Co-operative Development which is at 0.17 per cent and Ministry of Lands which is at 0.37 per cent.

Talking about land in relation to livestock, you will realize that cattle rustling is all about the fight for land and other factors. When you look at this sector, we refer you again to the Maputo Protocol, so that you understand why it is important to have the 10 per cent financing package under this sector. If land issues can be resolved, most of these

problems we see will have been solved. The disease-free zones would be resolved much better.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, to jump from 0.69 per cent to 4 per cent which is the equitable ratio of livestock, you need a reinvention of the Treasury. You need those people, not just to think outside the box like I said the other day here, but to borrow a term common in science called “metamorphosis”. This is a process in which a very ugly caterpillar is transformed into a beautiful butterfly which can fly and do other things. As I stand now, this caterpillar is taking us nowhere.

This ideology that we can only invest 0.69 per cent in this sector and a further 1.99 per cent in agriculture and expect that 80 per cent of our labour will be deployed with that resource; and expect that 75 per cent of all the labour deployed directly will get salary from agriculture is like driving forward, but constantly engaging your eyes on driving mirrors. You do not go anywhere. You either stand there or head for a crash, but you do not make any progress.

I want to challenge the Ministry of Finance to rethink again within the budgetary framework. They should be Kenyan, objective and be able to help these sector Ministries.

I was asked by hon. Members who have taken this thing very seriously to quote: “The Ministry has a resource allocation gap of Kshs5 billion which has impacted negatively on the establishment of the disease-free zones, livestock extension services, recruitment of technical staff, construction of satellite abattoirs and livestock disease control.” I am also kindly requested by my membership for the purposes of the HANSARD to say:-

“The Treasury has not provided the funds for the creation of disease-free zones that were provided for in this financial year as per the Budget Strategy Paper presented by the Minister for Finance”.

I believe the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance does not want us to rise under Standing Order No.97 (f). We passed that strategy paper here believing that he was to allocate funds for this sub-sector. That is why we are here. We are not here just to make Ministers and Government smile. We are here to give an oversight role.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a book called the “Bible”, my Muslim brothers will bear with me. In one of the books there is one chapter which says that even those who have little, the little will be taken away from them so that it is given to those who have a lot. This is what has happened with this Ministry for the last 20 years. They have lost research stations, vehicles--- I want to tell you that around 1980s they brought a programme that was to rehabilitate Land Rovers. That time, my Land Rover was GK 612R, just to confirm. That Land Rover was rehabilitated and given to the Ministry of Agriculture. This was because the Ministry of Agriculture was a bigger brother and they were splitting Ministries. They have lost hard-earned buildings. Like thinking Kenyans and the international community put up grazing blocks like Modogashe and other structures. Now they are occupied by the District Commissioners (DCs). Yes, we need the DCs because they are good for administration. However, these are the people who are enjoying the cream. They are the ones who have the money. Why do they go to this miserable Ministry enjoying only 0.69 per cent of budgetary allocation and get the little that the Ministry has? They should vacate those buildings or give an equivalent of that budget so that this Ministry can be able to walk. You cannot keep crippling their feet and expect them to move.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, the boreholes done under the World Bank and Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) Programme and the International Livestock Programmes (ILP) and all roads done as fire breaks have been taken by somebody else. This Ministry had a capacity to do firebreaks. God forbid; they have eaten all the grass also. So, we may not have major fires. However, that firebreak capability was converted to be agricultural mechanization service and they deliberately avoided to do desilting in dams in the ASAL. What kind of Government shall we be promoting then? A Government that moves forward ten steps and backwards 20 steps, is what we are talking about here. This Committee, in its role of oversight, will not just sit there. It will report here and I am reporting here that this is an unfair treatment. This should not have occurred in the first place. There should be adequate compensation.

I know some of you may say that I do not come from the pastoral community. Really, I do not want to be a member of the pastoral community. However, I was voted in by 12,500 votes from the pastoralist community for the record. I am, therefore, a more pastoral Member of Parliament than many Members of Parliament. I should get my rightful place in this House as the chair of this Committee.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, people have gone to the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) and stolen property. They have even sent thieves to be managers there without consulting the Minister for Livestock Development. The Ministry of Livestock Development should be left to manage their own affairs. Uplands would never have collapsed if the Ministry of Livestock Development was given an opportunity. It is depressing to discuss these things sometimes, especially when you look at universities coming to take the little institutions people have to make them campuses. I am looking forward to next year during Budget when these Ministries will come to apply for construction of fresh colleges to take care of the middle level cadre.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, ADC, Galana, is clearly a livestock Farm. We went there, as a Committee, and we want to confirm to this House that 12,000 head of cattle, under very good programme, were put there. We support it. As we sit here in front of these cameras, before this House and before our God, we have only 4,285 head of cattle. The others died. Others were eaten by predators. Among the predators includes elephants. Elephants were recorded by the Committee to have contributed to this loss. We are saying this as a Committee that the Minister for Agriculture must sack that MD and hand over the Galana Ranch to people who can manage it and who can understand that the feeding habits of an elephant and its social habits prohibit it from being a predator on these animals.

This is not corruption. You cannot decide alone that the Kenyan taxpayers who have contributed money by paying taxes and given you 12,000 animals, can allow you to put into your stomach 8,000 animals and go without any explanation. There have been good ecological results, seven of them, but instead of the revenue from that going to the Ministry of Livestock Development, it has gone into people's pockets. Again, this Committee will be keen on that.

I said earlier that the Bible is very clear. It says those who have little, that little will be taken away from them even among brothers. The cousins to the Minister for Agriculture sit and eat together. If you compare the offices of the Ministry for Livestock Development and those of the Ministry of Agriculture, you will not need to be told who works for the Ministry of Agriculture and who works for the Ministry of Livestock

Development. I was there the previous day. I went there just to confirm this. It is not fair that the same Government should have double standards for two different Ministries operating on the same Floor. It is not reasonable. It is not what we are standing here for. To illustrate this point, let us look at the District Allocation for both Ministries. In Garissa, the Ministry of Livestock Development has been allocated – I am being specific – Kshs660,821 while the allocation for the Ministry of Agriculture, their bigger cousin, has been allocated Kshs2,040,271. I do not want to tell you where Garissa is. You know Garissa is deep into the livestock region. The Ministry of Agriculture has been allocated more money even in those difficult areas. I would have thought that the Ministry of Livestock Development would have over Kshs10 million. I can give all the examples that I have. Even in the Prime Minister's own constituency, the coordinator of Government affairs, the Ministry of Livestock Development has less money than the Ministry of Agriculture. I need to know what crops are grown around Kibera slums. However, as a fact, the people who are supposed to take care of cats and dogs there have less money. That is the situation. There is no way of expressing this issue.

My parting shot is that whether we like it or not, livestock will continue to contribute 40 per cent of the GDP in the agricultural sector. I want to correct by brother, Mr. Assistant Minister, Mr. Lesrima, that the agricultural sector contributes to 65 per cent of the GDP or the GDP is propelled to a level of 65 per cent. Therefore, 42 per cent is from agriculture out of 65 per cent.

I beg to support.

Mr. Affey: Thank you very much, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to support this very important Vote.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, I will just pick from where the Chairman has just left. I thank the Minister, Assistant Minister, Permanent Secretary and staff generally at the Ministry of Livestock Development. We stand here full of lamentations and do not know who to blame. This is because this Government is not sensitive to the livestock farmers in this country. It has no interest; otherwise this Ministry would not have been cannibalized the way the Chairman has just said. Part of it has gone to the Ministry of State for Development of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands and another part to the Ministry of Agriculture. So, there is general policy confusion.

Now that we have passed the Livestock Policy, I want to tell the Minister that he has substantial support in this House. You are a very powerful Minister. If you use it well, during the next Budget, we will not be lamenting the way we are doing. The starting point is to get out of the office together with your staff and go and visit all the pastoral areas in this country, together with the 60 Members of Parliament whose economic mainstay is livestock. From this House you can become a Prime Minister in 2012. When you become one, this country will never be the same again, because 70 per cent of the landmass is inhabited by livestock farmers. Therefore, it is good that you have our support.

We know the contents of the Budget now. Not enough money has been allocated to this Ministry. But some of the efforts the Government has done in the last few days are recommendable, I want to associate myself with those Members who have thanked the Minister and Government. I only did not understand the dynamics behind Kshs8,000. Why did you choose the figure Kshs8,000 and not Kshs10,000 or Kshs15,000? I am sure that some of the animals that you have collected within the Kshs8,000 can fetch much

more than that. So, I do not understand the mathematics behind it, but it is a goodwill measure and we thank you for the effort.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, a lot has been said about the Ministry in terms of the aspects of it having gone with the Ministry of Agriculture. A part of the challenges facing this Ministry is staffing. I do not know whether the Minister has requested this from the Public Service Commission. I think he needs to do more in terms of lobbying to get more staff. But even as you request, make sure that the appointments done reflect the character of the country. I say this because just about a month ago, 120 livestock production officers and about 120 animal health assistants happened to be recruited by the Public Service Commission. Out of that, only one happened to come from the entire northern Kenya. I went there and recommended two people, but none was taken. We had to lobby and see how they could be employed. It did not happen. Even after we went out of our way to see whether they could be given an opportunity, they were not accorded that opportunity. Both the Minister and Assistant Minister come from constituencies that happen to have livestock farmers. By the end of your five-year term, we shall be asking the Minister hard questions. I am sure he will be prepared to answer them. But, please, before we ask him those questions, I urge him to be vigilant, so that we can get all those Kenyans who are qualified. I am not saying that no other person can be appointed, but there are Kenyans, who are qualified, but some mischief happened and they were not recruited. For one reason or another, I could not understand.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, the disease-free zone – this flagship project – which the Government was supposed to provide money for has not been funded. It is one of the things that the Minister needs to go and think out of the box about. If this Government is not ready to help him, we will go with him anywhere in this world, where money can be acquired for livestock farmers in this country and back him with all the politics you require.

The issue of Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) is very critical. We celebrated, but somehow it went into the hands of some criminals. I do not know what we did with that report that was done by the auditors. The Minister needs to monitor that facility. It does not belong where it is. It is supposed to service North Horr all the way to Athi River. Therefore, we need that facility to be taken very seriously by the Minister and the Permanent Secretary. Be very vigilant and monitor all the time what is happening at the KMC.

On the issue of abattoirs, we have requested for them many times. Monies are coming from African Development Bank (ADB) only, but none from the Government. Again, this shows no seriousness from the side of the Government.

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

Mr. Sasura: Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to support the Vote for this Ministry. I would like to commend the Minister and the staff of this Ministry for their efforts in trying to contain, with the little money that they have, some of the diseases. They have done so much in containing some of the diseases as has been mentioned by the Minister like the PPR and others. However, a lot needs to be done. Eradication of Rinderpest is good news to the pastoralists and livestock farmers. But the issue of tsetse fly needs more effort so that these zones which are tsetse fly-infested can be used more effectively for the management and production of more livestock in that area.

Regarding abattoirs and slaughterhouses, we have been requesting that we should have them in several strategically located positions. However, that has not been happening. We need to move very fast. If we could have had those abattoirs, we would have saved many of our livestock which are dying now. Livestock could have been saved and that money could have been used to buy food for the people living in those areas. We have seen examples of these abattoirs although in small capacities in Lodwar which has been kept very well. There is ready market for the meat here in Nairobi and even outside. So, we need to invest more. The Ministry has to come up with a proper plan and seek support so that they can put up those abattoirs to save the situation.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, we know that the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) has been revived. We know that many machines are rotten and need replacement. We need new machines with the latest technology to save the livestock farmers. To add on that, we need to include meat in our food strategy reserve for this country. That way we will create more market for the livestock farmers so that even during the time of drought and famine, when we are distributing foods, the meat supplements other foodstuff as protein.

I would like to thank the Government for buying livestock from the farmers using the off-take process. On average, about Kshs8,000 is an amount that is commendable looking at the economic situation that we are facing right now. But we would like it to be implemented very fast. We do not have to wait for October or November when there will be no livestock to buy. Let it happen as soon as next week so that those animals which are dying are bought. In the last off-take system, we realized that the way KMC was buying the animals from farmers was not known to Members of Parliament. Very few farmers or livestock traders got the opportunity but many were left out. So, we want the system to be streamlined so that if the purchase is being done at the district level, then the officers concerned should be there on the spot to buy the livestock. They should not ask the farmers to bring the animals all the way from Mandera, North Horr, Moyale and Marsabit. In fact, by the time they reach there, they are all dead. So, that does not serve any purpose. But if they buy the animals right at that particular spot, I am sure we are bound to benefit. The vandalization and disposing of assets of this Ministry has contributed greatly to the staff in the Ministry becoming ineffective. We need this to be looked at seriously to revive the staff in the Ministry so that they are effective and they are able to reach livestock farmers and help them.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, to conclude, if we look at economies of countries like Botswana, for example, they largely depend on livestock and quite a number of officers manning the livestock industries in Botswana are Kenyans. They are trained here in Nairobi. If they are able to do it there, why are they not able to do it in Kenya? Goodwill is lacking so much in our country. We can do so much and we are able to do it.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mrs. Shebesh: Thank you, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. I support this Motion and I want to start by saying that many of the Ministers that we have within our Ministries are not visible but on this Ministry I want to say that we see a lot of visibility. However, the visibility is not translating because of the attitude of the Government, as my colleagues have said, towards this Ministry. Most of the communities which depend on livestock are already marginalized communities. I think it is double disaster that regions

that are already suffering due to their nature of being arid and semi-arid have to also be considered negatively when it comes to allocation and prioritization of Government. To me, that is a clear indication that we will continue to have the Kenya for Kenyans and Kenya for those who still think they are going to be Kenyans.

(Applause)

It is no longer a laughing matter because we cannot continue to pay lip service every time to issues that revolve around these communities. We have a Ministry that was created for northern Kenya and other arid lands. This is another public relations exercise. Now when we look at the Ministry of Livestock Development, as many colleagues have said, it has been dismembered that it can no longer operate or deliver. There is no point of continuing PR. I think it is about time that this House spoke loudly enough to the Government that if this issue is not addressed once and for all when we have a Coalition Government, then it is obvious that this is a community that will one day stand up and rebel against the very Government that seems to control it.

(Applause)

Why do I say this? This is because it does not only affect the community because of the livestock, it affects the community because that livestock cannot survive without water. It cannot survive without roads. It cannot survive without proper infrastructure. When a Ministry is left to only one area and not integrated into the planning system, especially when it comes to allocation of finances, then it is not going to be effective. I know the Ministry is doing well. It is winning awards. It is doing well because it has good planning systems and structures but when you go to the ground, what is the translation? How is it affecting the woman there on the ground? How is it affecting the families? At the moment, pastoralists are grazing their cattle in Nairobi. Of course, this will continue to happen in this country until serious measures are taken. Therefore, I am calling upon the Minister, as has been suggested by some of my colleagues, to use this Parliament because he has the goodwill. He should not fear. We are ready to go the full hog on this one. We are ready to say that we want to see northern Kenya and areas that are occupied by pastoralists, once and for all, taken seriously by this Government. We have seen that the Ministry of Agriculture has continued to allocate more funds to tea and coffee farming areas. Why is this so? Why is it that the dairy sector in some regions is doing well yet that livestock has no different name from the livestock that is in Garissa? It means that there is an attitude. Let us deal with it. If it is political, let us deal with it politically. If it about finance, let us deal with it that way but we must find a solution. So, as I support, I say that this Ministry must be given capacity. It must be financed and we must give the people of northern Kenya, the pastoralist communities; the livestock farmer, hope that this Government, for once, will work for them.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

(Applause)

Mr. Chachu: Thank you, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Vote of the Ministry of Livestock. From the outset, I would like to congratulate the Minister, his very able Assistant Minister and the other professional staff in the Ministry. They have done the best under very difficult circumstances. They have realised the immense work they have to do.

We always talk about the marginalization of pastoral areas. If you want evidence, then look at the budget for the Ministry of Livestock Development. If that is not enough, look at the budget for the Ministry of State for Development of Northern Kenya and Other Arid Areas. This is the case and yet these Ministries are being led by able Ministers and Assistant Ministers from the pastoral communities. They are appointed to these noble Ministries and yet they are not allocated enough resources. They are not allocated enough funds in order to perform and yet we expect them to perform. How can they perform? It is time this country did what is necessary to enable the livestock sector, which is worth over Kshs5 billion, in the ASAL areas to be of value to this nation.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, it is a shame that 45 years after Independence we still import powder milk and preserved meat from other countries and yet we have many livestock in northern Kenya and other arid areas. This shows that, as a State, we have not invested in our livestock sector. If Botswana has done it, why not Kenya? Do we lack the human resource? We have it. We only lack political will. Our policy makers do not see the need to invest in the livestock economy.

I want to congratulate the Minister for Livestock Development for the very innovative and timely programme of livestock off take now that we experience drought. I hope this programme will be well implemented. I am sure that the Ministry is targeting small stock as well as cattle. This will go a long way in alleviating the suffering of our people. We should see to it that the animals do not go to waste because they will be of value to this nation and particularly, the pastoralists.

I urge the Ministry of Livestock Development to think about market access by our people. Up to now we do not have any formal market for the livestock in this nation. We take our livestock to Kariobangi and Dandora in a very informal setting that is controlled by brokers. This cannot make our people have a good living out of this sector which is their lifeline. I urge the Ministry to think seriously about market access. It boggles my mind that Ethiopians are able to export their animals to Yemen and Saudi Arabia. This is the case and yet our animals cross the porous borders of northern Kenya and are bought by Ethiopians who sell them in Yemen. In Kenya, we are said to be within a disease zone and as such we are unable to access those markets. Something is fundamentally wrong in terms of policy. I hope that the Ministry will see to it that we access the lucrative markets in the Middle East.

I have a problem with the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). First of all, why is it located in Nairobi? Tea factories are located where people grow tea. The same case applies to coffee and pyrethrum factories or State corporations. From the outset, it was not meant to serve the livestock farmers but large-scale cattle ranchers and it is time we stopped that. We should support millions of pastoralists who are struggling hard to raise livestock in the ASAL areas as much as we support large-scale cattle ranchers.

I beg to support.

Mrs. Noor: Thank you, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to, first, thank and appreciate the Minister and the technocrats within the

Ministry. We have been affected by a terrible climate change. With this scenario and the problems that we are facing, they were able to reach out to the people and give proper services to our constituencies. So, I say “thank you so much and congratulations, Mr. Minister.”

There are many factors that we must consider. The reality is that there is a climate change. However, this is not something that started yesterday. When we do not focus and think in terms of long-term programmes and projects, we are caught up in problems like the ones we have today. So, drought is not something new to us.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, we have seen several droughts in the past. We have seen that the cycles of drought are changing. We have also seen many floods. These are critical issues to deal with. So, we need to focus on how the Government can address such issues proactively, and not reactively. We need to focus on how the Government can strategically put in place measures to mitigate and address these problems in future.

Livestock is a key subsector of our economy. We need to build the livestock industry, because it is the source of livelihood for many people. This is a subsector upon which many Kenyan communities depend. So, it is important that we give this Ministry the necessary support, so that it can facilitate and put in place a new technology in livestock development.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, people have talked about livestock being the leading source of income in Botswana. I do not want to repeat that fact. What I just want to talk about is the traditional way of doing things. We need to change our ways of addressing issues. I want to congratulate the Minister and his officials for thinking outside the box, trying to address issues and putting new systems in place. They cannot do all this unless they get critical support from the Government in the form of the resources that are required to address in full measure and weight, the problems that exist within this Ministry.

There is the issue of carbon trading that is going on, and people are discussing it. I want to caution the Ministry that we, as the pastoralists in this country, and Africa as a whole, are suffering because of carbon issues. People are going to Copenhagen to discuss carbon trading. I understand that the Kenya Government is going to negotiate on behalf of our country. I want to see our Ministry of Livestock Development sitting there and negotiating on our behalf; it should not go for trading in carbon, but for compensation for all the losses we have incurred.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, we want to see the developed countries bringing adaptation programmes to Africa. We want to see mitigation programmes being brought to the African continent. We do not want to see Europeans and the developed world spoiling our environment, which then affects our livestock, which die because of destruction of the environment in the world. What I am saying is that we want a strong message to go out from this Ministry when it goes there to do the negotiations on carbon trading.

In terms of opening up and looking for markets out there, I urge the Minister--- I know that there are many countries out there that are competing for the markets that are out there. Since the Minister is from a pastoralist community, and he has cattle, we want him to be proactive in looking for markets for our livestock; that is the only way the

woman and child at the village level will be able to compete with their counterparts in the coffee and tea growing area. Livestock is our livelihood.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): Time up!

Mrs. Noor: With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Bahari: Thank you, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I want to support the Vote of the Ministry of Livestock Development. I want to start by congratulating the Minister and his staff for doing a good job.

I also want to thank the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives for bringing out issues that they have come across. I wish he can do it by way of a report to this House, so that this matter can be debated extensively in broad daylight, not at night like now.

I was just wondering how we will organize our business here. When it comes to the issue of finances or budget, indeed, the timetable should be changed such that the Votes of the Ministries come first and the Questions should come last. This issue is not even getting attention from the Press. The Press gallery is empty. I want to request although he is not here, I will personally talk to him to make sure that he brings the report that he has on the injustice in the budget and all other issues that he has brought up here, so that we can discuss as a House in full.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, I want to say that pastoralism or livestock rearing is supposed to be a very enjoyable business. It is supposed to be a stress-free business. When you see most of the ranchers, they are hefty fellows. Even physically you can see that they are well fed people contrary to what we see in parts of northern Kenya or the pastoral community.

This is because this Government has deliberately neglected this Ministry. I do not think we will allow it to happen next time. We will make sure that this Ministry is taken care of. It has been allocated less than one per cent of the Budget. It is unbelievable yet the contribution to the GDP is 12 per cent which is even, perhaps, understated because we have not even invested in it.

I know the example of Botswana has been given. I have had the opportunity to be in Namibia to look at how that industry is developed. They have a meat company in Namibia called Namibia Meatco. Since the place is a desert the entire industry has been taken care of from the time of production up to the time of processing the product which is meat to the final market. These are people who have been trained here.

If the Ministry does not take us seriously, what we can do as the pastoralist community is to withhold the product and see what will be on the dining table. We will want to see how long they will sustain what they will have on the dining table. Probably, that kind of a sanction will do us good and people will realize that this Ministry is important and it must be supported.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Prof. Kamar) left the Chair]*

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Prof. Kaloki) took the Chair]*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to urge the Ministry to take keen interest in all the stakeholders, from the butchers, herdsperson and everybody else who adds value in this Ministry. They should not confine themselves to a small pocket. Look widely because everybody there adds value. The more you train them, the more you involve and give new technologies or advise appropriately the more you add value to the product and your contribution to the GDP, which I believe is double this. It will be appropriately reflected.

Soon we will be asking the Ministry of Finance to explain to us through the Budget Committee how *vis-a-viz* the contribution of every sector to the GDP; resources are being allocated. Then there it will be quite clear who is not doing the right job.

I want to thank the Ministry for the PATTEC programme. The PATTEC programme has been in my constituency and it has been very effective. If I have any livestock left at this time of the drought it is because of the contribution of the PATTEC programme. They have been able to almost eliminate tsetse flies.

The issue of disease control is very critical. I know we have talked about ADB funding these programmes, but that is not sufficient and the Government must come in fully and on the programme. The issue of enforcement of relevant laws to control diseases is very important. The issue of livestock routes is equally important so that we can be able to control diseases.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Njuguna: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to support this very important Motion. Let me thank the Minister, the Assistant Minister, the Permanent Secretary and other players in the Ministry for their continued commitment and dedication in the Ministry. I also take this opportunity to thank the Chairman of the Departmental Committee, Mr. Mututho, for his radical recommendations which I hope the Ministry will study and implement.

On the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), I take this opportunity to thank the Government for reviving this very important asset. The revived factory should not be allowed to collapse again. One reason why it can easily collapse is the appointment of the top management. We have noted time and again, that the top cream; the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), has been appointed on ethnic consideration. This should not be the factor to be considered. Qualified and capable Kenyans should be given the opportunity to lead such parastatals.

It is also important that the expansion programme for KMC must be embarked upon. There are so many animals that have been taken by KMC. Once they are taken there, the current facility cannot accommodate the numbers from the north eastern region.

Secondly, the KMC must embark on a very aggressive campaign to sell the end product. Secondary schools and universities should be allowed to buy meat products at subsidized prices.

On the issue of private practitioners, they have been denied a chance to buy certain semen and this has really hindered their operations in the field. That issue must be addressed critically by the Minister.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, concerning dairy farming in Central Province, we have not had rain just like other regions in the country. When I hear hay being given to farmers to keep their animals alive, I am disappointed that none has been released to Central Province. It is, therefore, important that as we create employment for

our youth and disengage them from registering into illegal groupings, it is important that we create more employment in the farming sector. Farmers must be supported.

The cost of animal feeds must also be addressed with the private sector. Regarding the livestock officers in the field, in our district, particularly the new ones, they are not known. They should be encouraged to conduct seminars so that they are known by the dairy farming communities. We need to see them. They need to organize those seminars. They should be encouraged and given vehicles. They should induct the farmers. If farmers are inducted into these fruitful seminars, productivity will also be improved.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are certain areas where animals have died and families have been left without a single animal. The Ministry must create a fund for those families. If you are giving free fertilizer, the animal keepers in the North Eastern Province must also be supported with a special fund. The next KMC slaughterhouse which is likely to be constructed should not be in Nairobi. It should be constructed in North Eastern Province.

With those few remarks, I support.

Mr. Letimalo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Vote of the Ministry of Livestock Development. I will start by thanking the Minister and his entire team for steering the Ministry well despite the enormous problems that they have been facing like inadequate staff, inadequate means of transport and low funding.

Statistics show that over 60 per cent of all livestock in Kenya is found in Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASAL) areas and employs about 90 per cent of our global population. However, the ASAL areas also have unique characteristics because they experience frequent drought and severe famine which have devastating effects on pastoral communities due to loss of their livestock. Long after the drought, the pastoralists are left without sufficient livestock to sustain their livelihood. Therefore, I want to suggest to the Minister - this was brought when we were discussing the National Livestock Policy - that there is need to come up with a livestock insurance agency so that they can cater for restocking and other recovery programmes. I am saying so because of the same reasons that my colleague has talked about. When farming communities experience crop failure due to poor rains or as result of drought, the Government comes in handy to provide them with free fertilizer and free seeds. At the moment, nothing is given to the livestock keeping communities. Through the insurance schemes, the livestock farmers will also benefit.

Mr Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, equally important, just like what happens to farming communities, institutions like the Agricultural Finance Corporation should provide credit facilities to farmers. However, there is no consideration that is given to livestock farmers. I think it is necessary that the Minister and his team, and I know that they have the capacity to do it, come up with arrangements where livestock farmers can be advanced with such facilities so that they can do restocking.

I do appreciate that in his speech, the Minister has really emphasized on animal disease control. We do know that, that greatly contributes to low productivity and poor sustainability of livestock. We remember the effects of the outbreak of PPR. Those of us who come from those areas were really affected. My extended family lost over 300 goats. It is for the same reason that we have been going to the Minister and raising Questions in

Parliament. I really do appreciate the support that we have got from the Ministry. It has managed to contain the situation. So, there is need for adequate capacity building particularly for livestock farmers, by providing them with public education and awareness, so that they can know about those kinds of diseases. At the same time, I think it is also important that when they recruit veterinary and livestock officers, the Ministry should be biased and employ more people from the pastoral communities, so that they can do surveillance and diagnose diseases. They will advise livestock farmers about common diseases and how they can actually prevent them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I want to join my colleagues in appreciating the initiative taken by the Government, through the Ministry, on the off-take project. Although there was some allocation previously, many of our areas never benefited. That means that our quotas were being taken by other farmers. I think this time round, it is important that we get support from the Ministry, now that we are facing drought. I want to suggest that those funds be submitted through the district steering groups - where we are members - so that we can participate and educate our people.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Kioni: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to say just two or three things. First, I want to go on record as having supported this Vote. The Ministry has done well and I want to stop at that before I run the risk of sounding a bit of a sycophant. But as I make my contribution, I want to say that it would be dangerous for us to allow the Minister to go, because he may end up getting the feeling that the Ministry is for issues affecting the pastoralists alone. The staff who are here need to know that there is more than just the issues that have been raised very well by those who come from the pastoralist communities. The Ministry is much more than that. There is a danger if we do not bring it out that way.

I know that the Minister has been very busy with issues affecting the pastoralist communities. It would be good if we see you in my constituency. We had a discussion in my constituency with my constituents and we agreed that, when we see the pastoralists in our area, we will allow them space and time because they are there because of the difficulties that we have in our country. That gesture is on and it will remain there. But there is a danger. When those head of cattle come through our areas--- Three months ago, I spent some Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) money to vaccinate all the dairy cows against Foot and Mouth Diseases. But we have lost it now. The Government is also absent. Nothing has come to help the farmers in Ndaragwa, even after spending CDF money to support the Ministry. No intervention measures have been seen in the dairy sector. There are pigs which are supposed to be looked after. We also have rabbits and sheep. We are supposed to see the Ministry doing something about them. We have not felt it. We have the intervention measures including what the President and the Prime Minister were doing two days ago. What is there for those who are doing dairy farming? What is there for those who rely on milk and milk products? This Ministry must also remain relevant in those areas. There is nothing more that we need to say about it. We have the issue of veterinary officers. Now, we literally have to pay for everything. The private sector has taken over and they are very expensive. We are losing our dairy cows because of very simple diseases, for simple reason that farmers can no longer afford the medicine to cure these ailments. The veterinary sector in our area is no more. It is like history to those people. It is important that we get that. When we talk of intervention

measures, we want to see fodder being given to us also. When we lose the dairy cows, what becomes of the dairy industry?

We want to see more cooling plants in our area so that we can support the dairy industry. It is also important that we have cattle dips that went during the past regime. We have not seen any programme to try and bring them back so that we can also remain relevant in that industry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, auction yards will be useful in our area for people to be encouraged to get into this industry. It is important that the new KCC adopts approaches that are going to create more employment opportunities in the area. I have one suggestion before I wind up. In the delivery of milk, the new KCC is keen on going for the milk from the farmer with a tractor and a lorry right at the doorstep. I do not think it is useful anymore. I do not even think it is economical. Why can they not empower young men in those areas with bicycles? Let them be used to deliver the milk to the nearest collection points. If we have more cooling plants within the settlement areas, because I come from a settlement area, then a number of young people should be engaged on a regular basis to deliver the milk to the cooling plant instead of having one tractor doing all that amount of work. As another hon. Member said, we would have created employment from this sector and we would have engaged more people and idleness would cease.

Finally, I would like to say that I totally agree that we need an insurance policy for the livestock industry because it will help us in future.

With those few remarks, I support.

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I fail to contribute to this Motion, then I have no business being in this House. I want to thank the Minister for the effort and determination that he is trying to put, in expending in this Ministry. But those efforts are limited by definition. They are not good enough. The Minister needs to operate like yesterday because this is a Ministry that has suffered for too long under the umbilical cord of the Ministry of Agriculture. When you hear my friend, Mr. Kioni, talking about “this is not for pastoralists” he is taking us back to those days where livestock is defined as a sub-sector of agriculture.

Mr. Kioni: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is this hon. Member in order to insinuate that I have no clear understanding of what I was talking about? It is important that he restricts himself to his contribution and leave mine alone. I also want to help him---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kaloki): Mr. Ethuro, stick to the Motion before us and if you need to bring a substantive Motion on Mr. Kioni, you can do that. Otherwise, stick to the Motion.

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the rules are very clear, I am not discussing Mr. Kioni, I am just raising a point he made which is very relevant to this Motion; that the livestock sector has suffered because of an attitude problem.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kaloki): Continue contributing to the Motion!

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister needs to operate on a few basics. One, we need a livestock census. The Minister of State for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 is doing a human a census. What are you doing about our livestock? How do you plan for something you do not know, you do not

understand and you cannot count? Two, the Minister has been a major player in a political party and he knows all of them. The political parties have merged into one to the extent that "*hata ingine ikapita katikati*". Where is the livestock insurance? We need livestock insurance like yesterday so that when our animals suffer from drought, they can be replenished.

The Minister for Agriculture talked about bringing back Guaranteed Minimum Returns (GMR) and extending "*Njaa Marufuku*". What are they doing for our livestock? I would like my good friend, the Minister, on the programme of livestock off-take, in our district; we have what we call the District Steering Groups (DSGs) which are operating very effectively. He needs to allocate a particular amount to each district and then we manage at our level. Non-Governmental organizations are doing it. How can the Government fail to do such a basic, simple procedure of ensuring livestock off-take, marketing chain and income to our households? Some of us were very excited when this particular Minister was promoted to this job because he is one of our own. He is "truly yours"! He needs to demonstrate that he is typical, he comes from there and he understands these issues. I know because of the small budget, this is what is constraining him but we are going to make sure that he gets enough money next time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of livestock diseases, PPR, my place has suffered. Turkana has suffered! He was waving here something called Rinderpest Certificate. Just last year, I also demonstrated that the East Coast Fever (ECF) had resurfaced. It comes when the wet season is there and at a time when we had thought it had been eradicated. Polio for human beings has resurfaced! He should not think that just because some organization gave him some certificate, he can now afford to go and relax. He should always be on his guard. This is a country with porous borders and we must always protect the diseases across the border in particular. This means that under the African Union (AU) programme of the Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources or under the IGAD programme, the Minister needs to link the kind of issues that are still obtaining in the region.

With those remarks, I want to agree that the Ministry of Livestock Development and the Ministry of Agriculture--- For those ones who doubt my professionalism, Dr. Kiome was my colleague in the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI). The officer in the Ministry of Livestock Development, the PS now, is a very good officer who was in the Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security. For both Ministers, there is no reason whatsoever why we should not be able to make agriculture and livestock what they used to be. We heard Mr. Mureithi talk about the Ministry. It must be dealt with in the particular article; the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Livestock Development.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Kaino: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have stood several times here but thank you because I have caught your eyes.

I have two issues to raise. First, I want to congratulate the Minister. It was a very good calculation that the Government thought it wise to bring somebody who has banked his life and everything that he has in livestock. The problem of allocation of funds to this Ministry is something which is shocking. We have been shocked to see the amount of money which has been allocated to the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock Development. These are the areas where majority of Kenyans depend on. I am really very

sorry about the Ministry and the new PS, Mr. Lusaka, who just joined them recently that they cannot do much. They cannot even gauge the performance of this Ministry because of the low allocation of funds. If you do not give somebody the equipment to cultivate land, you should not expect him to perform. How will he make it? It is very difficult!

I just want to tell the Minister that he has many challenges and one of them is staff. There is no staff on the ground. You will, perhaps, find one person in an entire location. How can one officer make it? It is very difficult. There are no vehicles. You cannot expect somebody to walk in the whole location.

Secondly, it appears as if the Government considers cattle rustling as a disease which is incurable. It is also as if the Government has decided that the pastoralists will live with cattle rustling forever because it has allowed cattle rustlers to move around with stolen livestock. For example, they move from Turkana to Pokot and from Marakwet to Garissa. Cattle rustlers can move around even with one animal! That is what our Government has decided for us. Our people do not go to school. We just fight over those few animals. In fact, they are very thin and you cannot get Kshs4,000 by selling one animal. This Government must allocate enough funds to this Ministry because millions of Kenyans depend on livestock.

The Ministry should work hard with the small allocation. Let the census and branding of animals be done because it used to be done long time ago. This exercise is not there anymore and as such cattle rustlers are having a field day. They steal livestock and sell it even next door because it is not branded. I am talking about the branding that used to be done long time ago! These are things that the Ministry has to work very hard to re-introduce.

Mr. Temporary Deputy, Speaker, Sir, another issue is the licensing of markets where animals are sold. People steal animals in Kitale and sell them in Uganda, or in auctions within our borders. We want livestock markets to be licensed. That way, it will be easy to trace somebody's stolen animals. Anybody found selling animals in the streets should be arrested and taken to court. The Minister should do something about this. Even pastoralists need to feel that something is being done to address these problems. Next year, we will make sure that this Ministry and that of Agriculture are allocated enough money. We want the two Ministers to prepare their budgets early so that we can talk to our friends in order to triple them.

With this few remarks, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kaloki): It is now time for the Minister to reply.

The Minister for Livestock Development (Dr. Kuti): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to start by saying that I appreciate the support that hon. Members have given this Vote. I appreciate the fact that they understand the various challenges that the Ministry faces. That is lack of enough funds, staff and transport. I also appreciate the challenges that the hon. Members have put to the Ministry which I lead. I would like to assure them that from now henceforth, I will call the PPGs and interested hon. Members so that we can try and address the challenges that this Ministry faces.

I also appreciate that hon. Members know the potential of this sector. We must work together in order to fulfill the expectations of livestock farmers. This Ministry had hitches when it was established but it now has a team. The Permanent Secretary, the

Assistant Minister and other senior officers are now working well. You will see more activities although we did a lot with regard to control of the PPR.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the issue of using a loan to run the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) was a misplaced one. When you give KMC a loan, it means they have to do business. You cannot do business with dying livestock. That is an issue that I also tried to challenge. I am happy that, at least, something has been in the second phase of off-take where the loan of Kshs500 million is still there but Kshs200 million is for cushioning the KMC for the losses that it may make in the process. This arrangement is still not very effective. I concur with the hon. Members who felt that DSGs should be used to do a quick off-take.

There is a co-ordinating committee in the Office of the Prime Minister. We are also pushing for more effective ways of approaching the off-take arrangement. The good news that I must announce is that this time round, the off-take will be in the districts. It will be in the various divisions. Transport costs will also be catered for by the Government. This provision was not there in the first phase of the off-take programme. This became a major hurdle because it was a loan with no provision for transport. Farmers had to bring their farmers to KMC, and that became a major challenge.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to respond to Mr. Kioni's comment that this is not just an issue for the Ministry of State for Development of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands. There are wider issues. There are the issues of dairy farming, apiculture subsectors as well as upcoming livestock. As I said earlier, all the policies that were in place were archaic. I started by saying that by the end of this year---

We have a deadline to finalise all our policies to create the road map along which every subsector will be performing. I would like to assure hon. Members and all Kenyans that this Ministry will not, in any way, show any bias in terms of service delivery to livestock farmers wherever they will be, be they in the highlands or in the ASALs. Services will be available through policies that will be implemented through time-framed deadlines.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue that was mentioned is livestock census. I have even put it in the media that we are hitching a ride on the population census; questionnaires have been produced to be used during the population census to solicit information on the various types of livestock that families may be having. So, the questions on livestock contained in the questionnaire will give us a more recent data on livestock. In fact, the last livestock census was done in 1969. So, the figures that we are using are not accurate at all. We hope that by hitching a ride on the population census, we will be able to come up with more accurate figures.

The issue of livestock insurance is very critical. I would like to assure hon. Members that very soon a policy will be taken to Cabinet for approval before it is brought to this House in order to come up with the necessary cushioning of our farmers at times like now, when they are bound to lose a lot of their livestock.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of marketing and the KMC was also raised. As soon as I was appointed Minister, I came to this House and stated clearly the very bleak situation that was facing the KMC. We have appointed a new board and a new Managing Director on very competitive terms. A five-year turn-around plan is in

place. We are very sure that in the next six months to one year, news about the KMC will not paint a bleak picture.

I would like to thank the hon. Members who have remained behind up to this late to support this Motion.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

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

Vote 10 – The Ministry of Agriculture

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

THAT a sum not exceeding Kshs5,856,153,480 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2010 in respect of:-

Vote 10 – Ministry of Agriculture

(Question proposed)

VOTE R10 – RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 – GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 190, 191, 193, 195 and 228 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 100 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 101 – POLICY, LEGAL REVIEWS AND REGULATION OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS AND OUTPUTS

(Heads 198, 230, 238 and 596 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 101 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 102 – MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF FOOD SECURITY

(Heads 235 and 502 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 102 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 103 – FACILITATION AND SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICES AND RESEARCH

*(Heads 202, 229, 255, 260,
638, 639, 661 and 759 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 103 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 104 – INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR AGRICULTURE SECTOR

(Heads 254, 257, 258, 259 and 261 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 - PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCE BASE FOR AGRICULTURE

(Head 247 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 105 agreed to)

(Vote R10 agreed to)

VOTE D10 – DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 – GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING SERVICE

(Heads 190 and 193 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 100 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 101 - POLICY, LEGAL REVIEWS AND REGULATIONS
OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS AND OUTPUTS

(Heads 198 and 596 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 101 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 102 – MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF FOOD SECURITY

Head 502 – Food Security and Management “Njaa Marufuku Kenya”

Mr. Chachu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, the Recurrent Expenditure is Kshs75 million and the Development Expenditure is about Kshs128 million, that is about

37 per cent. I think something needs to be done because most of the money is going to Recurrent Expenditure rather than Development Expenditure.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to explain that under that Vote we have money from donors to supplement the Vote on Development. However, we will use our own infrastructure and personnel whom we have to pay from the Recurrent Vote. So the real rations are much smaller than what is seen on paper. We have money that is supported by donors that is not reflected in the books.

(Heads 235 and 502 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 102 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 103 – FACILITATION AND SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICES AND RESEARCH

(Heads 225, 229, 237,246, 260, 271, 759,

760, 761,763,764 and 765 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 103 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 104 – INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR
AGRICULTURE SECTOR

(Heads 254, 257, 258 and 259 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 – PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES BASE FOR AGRICULTURE

(Head 247 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 105 agreed to)

(Vote D10 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without amendments)

Vote 19 - Ministry of Livestock Development

The Minister for Livestock Development (Dr. Kuti): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move;-

THAT a sum not exceeding Kshs2,189,730,115 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2010, in respect of:-

Vote 19 – Ministry of Livestock Development

(Question proposed)

VOTE R19 – RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 190- GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 185, 186, 640 and 641 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 190 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 191 – LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 224, 232, 266, 280, 291, 407, 408, 451, 462, 463, 465, 466, 473, 474, 477, 478, 543 and 631 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 191 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 193- VETERINARY SERVICES

(Heads 286, 290, 426, 431, 432, 437, 445, 446, 447, 448, 467, 468, 471, 472, 481, 490, 549, 551, 552 and 553 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 193 agreed to)

(Vote R19 agreed to)

VOTE D19 - DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 190 – GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Head 640 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 190 agreed to)

Vote 191 – Livestock Development

(Heads 280, 407, 408, 424 and 491 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 191 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 193 – VETERINARY SERVICES

Head 432 – District Veterinary Services

Mr. Chachu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 432, the largest district in Kenya – Marsabit North – has not been considered, while a number of other districts have been considered for the construction of structures for veterinary services.

The Minister for Livestock Development (Dr. Kuti): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, of course, we will consult and see what we can do about that.

(Heads 290, 431, 432, 447, 448, 467, 468, 471, 472, 481, 490 and 549 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 193 agreed to)

(Vote D19 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without amendment)

(The House resumed)

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Prof. Kaloki) in the Chair]*

REPORTS

Vote 10 – Ministry of Agriculture

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am directed to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding Kshs5,856,153,480 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2010 in respect of Vote 10 – Ministry of Agriculture, and has approved the same without amendment.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution.

The Minister for Livestock (Dr. Kuti) seconded.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Bahari: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Vote of this Ministry, I would like to request the Minister to consider supplying free seeds to the arid and semi-arid areas where there is a bit of irrigation. This includes areas like Kina and Malkadaka, so that we can be able to produce a lot.

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Minister, I would also want him to consider that the economic stimulus package of irrigation is extended beyond the traditional coastal areas, but also to go into those food deficit chronic areas like Turkana.

Mr. Njuguna: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I support this very important Vote, I would urge the Minister to seriously look into the issue of tea hawking in Lari District because it is almost crippling down the existing tea factories like Kagwe and Kabaa in my constituency.

(Question put and agreed to)

Vote 19 – Ministry of Livestock Development

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding Kshs2,189,730,115 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2010 in respect of Vote 19 – Ministry of Livestock Development and has approved the same without amendment.

The Minister for Livestock Development (Dr. Kuti): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Samoei) seconded.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Bahari: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Vote of the Ministry the issue of laboratories is very important. We still guess on animal diseases. The laboratories are not on the ground. Specimens have to be brought here for verification. That needs to be corrected with speed so that we are able to do diagnosis where the livestock is. In addition, I wanted to say that the issue of breeding needs to be looked at very keenly. I had an opportunity to attend an agricultural show in South Africa and I realized that some goats could deliver as much as three triplets. That is very good. I think they need to look into this area.

Mr. Chachu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with good funding we should do a feasibility study for abattoirs in northern Kenya during this financial year. I do hope that the Ministry will undertake that study and ensure that a number of abattoirs are set up in the arid areas of northern Kenya.

Mr. Mwaita: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Vote, I urge the Minister to consider setting up a honey processing plant in Marigat to discourage the rampant hawking of honey.

Mrs. Noor: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting this important Vote, I would like the Ministry to consider the disease control programme, and particular the tsetse fly infected areas, especially in Ijara District.

Mr. Chepkitony: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving an opportunity to support this Vote. While I do support the Vote, I would like to urge the Ministry to employ enough technical staff including the veterinary surgeons because the

Ministry is under-staffed. We do not have enough technicians including the Animal health technicians. I know the Ministry is under-funded but I hope that in future they are going to be given enough funds.

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that we have given the Minister money, he needs to put value; the issue of the quantum is no longer material. One, he should make sure that branding of livestock take place in order to stem rampant cattle rustling. Two, he should ensure that the Lokichoggio abattoir is made operational and another one is put at a place known as Kainuk for the benefit of the Pokot and the Turkana. Finally, the public employment of animal health workers must be given priority to northern Kenya.

(Applause)

Mr. Njuguna: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would request the Minister to clarify why he has allowed human beings in Nyeri to continue eating animal feeds, especially for pigs.

(Laughter)

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kaloki): Hon. Members, that concludes the business on the Order Paper. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 25th August, 2009, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 8.22 p.m.