

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 9th July, 2008

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

The following Papers were laid on the Table:-

Annual Report and Accounts of the Kenya College of Communications and Technology for the year ended 30th June, 2007, and the Certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

(By the Assistant Minister, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Ministry of Trade (Mr. Omingo) on behalf of the Minister for Information and Communications)

Annual Report and Accounts of the Nyayo Tea Zones Development Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 2007, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and Accounts of the Pest Control Products Board for the year ended 30th June, 2007, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

(By the Assistant Minister, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Ministry of Trade (Mr. Omingo) on behalf of the Minister for Agriculture)

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the County Council of Kisumu for the year ended 30th June, 2006, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the Town Council of Nyansiongo for the year ended 30th June, 2005, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the Town Council of Nyansiongo for the year ended 30th June, 2006, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the Municipal Council of Karatina for the year ended 30th June, 2006, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the County Council of Gusii for the year ended 30th June, 2004, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the County Council of Gusii for the year ended 30th June, 2005, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the County Council of Kwale for the year ended 30th June, 2005, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the County Council of Kwale for the year ended 30th June, 2006, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the Town Council of Kangundo for the year ended 30th June, 2006, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the County Council of Olkejuado for the year ended 30th June, 2006, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

Annual Report and the Abstract of Accounts of the Municipal Council of Chuka for the year ended 30th June, 2006, and the certificate thereon by the Controller and Auditor-General.

(By the Assistant Minister, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Ministry of Trade (Mr. Omingo) on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Local Government)

QUESTION BY PRIVATE NOTICE

MEASURES TO CONTROL HIPPO
MENACE IN KATANGI DIVISION

Mr. C. Kilonzo asked the Minister for Forestry and Wildlife the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that hippos have caused havoc in Syokisinga Village of Katangi Division in Yatta Constituency?

(b) What action is the Minister taking to avert the hippo menace in the area?

(c) Could the Minister consider compensating farmers for loss of crops caused by the hippos?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. C. Kilonzo, the Chair has intimation, in writing, by the Minister for Forestry and Wildlife that both the Minister and his Assistant are engaged on official duty in Meru. The Minister has requested that this Question comes up tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. C. Kilonzo: It is all right, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! So, it is ordered that this Question is deferred to tomorrow at 2.30 p.m., and that it be the first Question on the Order Paper.

(Question deferred)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.080

REGISTRATION/POSTING OF TEACHERS TO
KIPTORORO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Mr. Cheruiyot asked the Minister for Education:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kiptororo Secondary School has not been registered; and,

(b) when he will effect its registration and post teachers to the school.

The Minister for Education (Prof. Olweny): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Kiptororo Secondary School in Molo District has not been provisionally registered by the Ministry.

(b) The Ministry will effect provisional registration of the school upon receipt of the District Education Board's (DEB) approval and submission of all documents required for registration. Consequently, the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) will post teachers to the school based on curriculum-based establishment.

Mr. Cheruiyot: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the answer. This matter has taken more than a year. When is the Assistant Minister going to direct the DEB to meet and deliberate on this matter?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the registration of this school was delayed. However, the delay was not because of the Ministry's problem. The problem was with the school itself. They had made incomplete application and those documents for the application were not forwarded to the DEB in the previous year.

Right now, of all those documents, that are needed for the registration of the school, will be tabled in the DEB of Molo District, which is a new DEB. It will be inaugurated on 21st July, 2008. That day, those documents will be presented and then forwarded to us, and then we shall register the school immediately. For the benefit of the hon. Member, I wish to table the following documents to prove to him that the school did not provide the necessary documents. The documentation was incomplete. The form was not properly filled. I hereby table them.

*(Prof. Olweny laid the documents
on the Table)*

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the information of the Assistant Minister, in the last Parliament, the then Minister for Education, Science and Technology, promised that teachers would be posted to particular schools which are funded by the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF). In a number of cases, they were posted even before registration of those schools. Some of those schools are already receiving money for free secondary education. Has the Government changed this policy? There is no point of punishing the children. They have to wait for the school to be registered. It has taken too long to register the Board.

Why can the Government not continue with the earlier policy of recognised schools which have been started through the CDF and register them later?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by the hon. Member is slightly different from the one we are dealing with. In this particular case, the school did not indicate the sponsor. The local authority did not give its approval on the application form. The local authority should have certified that there is no question over the land on which the school is built. All these papers had not been presented to the District Education Officer (DEO).

That means that the Ministry was not aware of the existence of the school. Not a single document had been presented to the Ministry. That means that we could not post teachers to the school. If they bring these papers, and we have confirmed that they will bring them on 21st July, 2008, they will get teachers.

Mr. Bahari: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is talking of inaugurating a new DEB in Molo District. There existed a DEB of the larger Nakuru District. Now that this registration has delayed, why does he have to wait until a new Board is constituted sometime at the end of the month? This registration is urgently required!

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Molo District is a new district. We cannot take its papers

to the former larger Nakuru District, which included Molo. Schools in Molo District will be handled by the Molo DEB. It will be irregular for the Ministry to take papers from one district to another one. Molo is an existing district now and so, the papers will be handled there.

Mr. Koech: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of schools registration is very important to the children of this country, especially with the free secondary education. The Ministry always insists on the schools which are registered.

The DEBs have gone on record as causing delays by meeting after two or three months. The children are being affected. Given that now we have free secondary education, could the Assistant Minister give firm instructions to all the DEBs, especially in areas where schools have not been registered, to register all these schools within one month? This will enable the Kenyan children to benefit from the free secondary education.

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Members of Parliament are members of the DEBs. They know that DEBs are supposed to hold at least, four meetings, in a year. In case there is a DEB that is not holding these meetings in the year, the Member of Parliament should inform us and we shall order that the DEB hold its meetings as required by the law.

Dr. Kones: Mr. Speaker, Sir, people who live in Kiptororo are mainly squatters. Considering that fact and now that the Assistant Minister has assured us that the school will be registered, could he direct that teachers be posted to that school immediately?

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, and I am going to repeat if the hon. Member wants me to do so, we are going to post teachers to the school immediately those papers get to us. I am sure the papers will get to us after 21st July, 2008. It is only a few days away from now. They will get teachers.

Mr. Cheruiyot: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I refer to the Assistant Minister's grey hair and assurance that he will register the school on 21st July, 2008. I am happy about that.

Question No.112

MEASURES TO EXPEDITE REGISTRATION
OF PERSONS

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Eseli! He is not here! The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

Question No.114

RISING INSECURITY IN NORTH IMENTI

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

- (a) whether he is aware that there is increased insecurity in North Imenti that has led to heinous killing of three men in April/May, 2008, in Kaaga, Makutano and Tutua;
- (b) what he is doing to curb the rising insecurity; and,
- (c) what the police have done to bring the killers to book.

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

(a) I am not aware of the increased insecurity within North Imenti. In any case, I am aware that the insecurity has gone down. I am also aware that three men were murdered on diverse dates

at Kaaga, Makutano and Tutua areas of North Imenti District during the months of April and May. The three murder incidents do not constitute an increase in insecurity since they were sporadic in nature. As I have mentioned, the situation has been brought under control.

(b) Security patrols have been stepped up and the public has also been sensitised on community policing initiatives and are now assisting the police in intelligence gathering. The initiatives have contained the situation and no more murders or serious crimes have been reported from the area since June, 2008.

(c) The police opened three murder files and already three persons have been charged before court on the murder of one Francis M'Rimberia while investigations of the other two are still ongoing.

Mr. Ruteere: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Assistant Minister to tell me what constitutes insecurity if three murders committed in the same area do not constitute insecurity. This area has been very peaceful. He has acknowledged that three people have been murdered. He has also acknowledged that insecurity has gone down. I agree with him that insecurity has gone down. However, at that particular time, insecurity had increased.

While appreciating the fact that he has taken measures to contain insecurity in the area, I hope and believe that he will assure this House that the patrols are not part-time, but they will be permanent.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me assure the hon. Questioner that the patrols will be there permanently. If there is any other problem, he should come and see me. I will act immediately.

Mr. Ruteere: Mr. Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ruteere! You cannot ask the question if there is somebody else interested.

Mr. Letimalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, livestock, from the pastoral districts that neighbour the larger Meru District are now on the move in search of water and pasture because of the imminent drought in those areas. The convergence of these animals has caused an increase in cattle rustling and insecurity.

What is the Assistant Minister doing to contain the situation?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will agree with me that the issue of cattle rustling is a different Question. However, I will attempt to answer the question.

(Mr. Ojode pointed at Mr. Letimalo)

Mr. Olago: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I notice that the Assistant Minister is making threatening gestures towards the Questioner! He keeps on pointing at him threateningly!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, cattle rustling has been---

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Olago does not come from Meru. It seems as if he does not know that cattle rustling has been so rampant in the area.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Assistant Minister! Will you, please, contain your gestures, so that they do not cause insecurity?

(Applause)

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have increased the police patrols within the area. We

have also increased the number of officers from the Anti-Stock Theft Unit (ASTU). The situation is being contained. I do not think it is as rampant as it was before.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am willing to assist my colleague if there is a problem. If need be, we will also increase the number of patrols in the area.

Mr. Ruteere: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with the assurance that the patrol will be permanent and that insecurity has gone down, I want to thank the Assistant Minister. I hope he will keep his word.

Question No.122

ELECTRIFICATION OF LAFEY AND
KHALALIYO TOWNS

Mr. M.H. Ali asked the Minister for Energy:-

(a) whether he is aware that Lafey and Khalaliyo towns, which are large and densely-populated centres, have no electricity; and,

(b) what measures he is taking to provide electricity to these towns.

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

(a) Yes, I am aware that the two centres, namely, Lafey and Khalaliyo, have no electricity. The two centres are among the five projects in Mandera East Constituency submitted to the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) in April, 2008, for consideration.

It is, however, important to note that Lafey Trading Centre is ranked number one on the projects priority list submitted by the hon. Member while Khalaliyo Trading Centre is ranked number four. The latter can only be considered after the first three centres, subject to availability of funds.

(b) The Rural Electrification Authority in its programme of work for this year, 2008/2009, beginning July, 2008, intends to carry out survey work on projects submitted from all constituencies with a view to establishing their respective implementation costs. After completion of the survey in September, 2008, implementation modalities will be put in place, consistent with the Budget for the Financial Year 2008/2009.

I also wish to remind the hon. Members who have not submitted their projects to do so immediately. We are only going to implement the projects which are submitted by the hon. Members themselves. We are not going to implement projects from any other sector. So, I wish to ask the hon. Members who have not submitted the five projects, which we had requested, to do so, so that we can do the survey work and the costing. The implementation work will start by October this year.

Mr. M.H. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while appreciating the Assistant Minister's answer, I wish to know when the national power grid will reach northern Kenya, so that it can spur development in the area.

Mr. Keter: Mr. Speaker, Sir, currently, there is work in progress from the national grid towards the northern part of the country. It is in progress and I cannot tell the hon. Member when it will reach the area. We have got the funding and the project is in progress.

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we appreciate what the Government is doing and, in particular, this Assistant Minister. Masinga Dam is in Yatta District and about 70 per cent of the towns in the area do not have power. Could he consider having an affirmative action to ensure that where power is generated, all the towns and schools in that area have electricity?

Mr. Keter: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while appreciating the hon. Member's request, it may not be possible for the Ministry to provide electricity to all the institutions and market centres within his constituency. However, it is important to note that if power is generated from a certain area, it

dictates that priority should be given to the area. At least, from the point of the source, power should be supplied to those people. If the hon. Member could put that request in writing, we will consider it.

Mr. Chachu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, northern Kenya has so much potential for solar energy. In particular, research has shown that the northern part of Kenya has so much in terms of wind energy. The area can even supply energy to most parts of this country. What is the Ministry doing to tap this source of renewable energy?

Mr. Keter: Mr. Speaker, Sir, currently, we have a programme called "Fill in Tariffs". We are concentrating on solar and wind energy along the corridors where these are available. Hon. Chachu comes from among the corridors which we have earmarked for wind energy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are guidelines from the Ministry of Energy. If you can access the Ministry's website, you will see that there are guidelines on the Fill in Tariff.

We have opened it up to the private sector, so that it is not only the responsibility of the Ministry. We have opened it up for the private sector also to invest in wind and solar energy, so that they can supply power to the national grid. It should not be only KenGen who is generating power.

Mr. M.H. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate the Assistant Minister's answer. I am contented with it at the moment.

Dr. Khalwale: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: There is nothing out of order, Dr. Khalwale!

Question No.134

CONSTRUCTION OF THIKA-GACHARAGE-
KANGARI ROAD

Mr. M. Kamau asked the Minister for Roads:-

(a) whether he has inspected Thika-Gacharage-Kangari Road to ascertain the quality of work done; and,

(b) what action the Minister will take against the contractor for the shoddy work.

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

(a) The Ministry's engineers inspected Thika-Gacharage-Kangari Road on 30th January, 2008 and on 20th February, 2008 and they ascertained that the work was done to the specified levels.

(b) The inspection revealed that the contractor did his work to the specifications given in his contract and, therefore, I have no intention of taking any action against the contractor. Further, the scope of the work specified was maintenance of the existing road, comprising of the reconstruction of about 30 per cent of the road, potholes and edge repairs and re-sealing of the entire road in order to save it from collapsing. The actual substantial completion inspection was done on 30th January, 2008, by a team of engineers and officers from the Ministry and the contractor for the resident engineer. The contractor will now maintain the road for a period up to February, 2010. The project's roads total about 40.2 kilometres, including the following:-

(1) The Kandara Township roads, which include access to hospital, DO's office and police station, totals 2.1 kilometres. Work will start in September, 2008 and will be completed in October, 2008.

(2) The access road to Rucho School, covering 0.7 kilometres, has already been completed.

(3) The Kangare Town road, covering 1.5 kilometres, has already been completed.

(4) Work on access road to Thakarara School, covering 0.5 kilometres, will start in September, 2008, and will be completed around October, 2008.

Mr. M. Kamau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for trying to answer my

Question. The answer is half-baked. I do not know what road he is talking about. This road is supposed to have consumed about Kshs1 billion of public money, but the tarmac is so thin that it raises doubts as to whether proper standards were applied or whether proper inspection was done on it. At the same time, there are those things called "road shoulders".

In some sections of that road, road shoulders were not constructed. Where road shoulders were constructed, the material used was so bad that they have started peeling off, making the road very dangerous. At the same time, when you ride on that road, it is as if you are riding on "waves". The surface is not even at all. If you drive on that road when it is raining, the vehicle moves from one side of the road to the other all the time. It is so dangerous. So, I wonder what road he is talking about. Could he explain whether the specifications were applied?

Mr. Kinyanjui: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Member for bringing this Question, because the road in question is important. It connects the rural section of that area to the town and, basically, the market for agricultural produce from that area. I wish to state that the completion is what we call the actual substantial completion. It is not total completion, meaning that much is yet to be done on that road. The road can still be used in its current state as we wait for the contractor to complete the works. We will send our road engineers to inspect the road to see whether there are any defects and also ascertain the issues that have been raised by the hon. Member.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Dr. Khalwale: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have had an opportunity to drive on the road in question. Could the Assistant Minister tell us how much money they paid the contractor per kilometre compared to the amount of money paid per kilometre to the contractor who built the Naivasha-Nakuru Highway, because the difference is amazing. The works on the Nakuru-Naivasha Highway are excellent! The condition of this other road is exactly the way Mr. Kamau has explained. How much did the Ministry pay per kilometre for both roads?

Mr. Kinyanjui: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to state that the two roads are under different classifications. The Naivasha-Nakuru Highway is a Class "A" Road, while the one in question is Road Class "E", meaning that the load expected on either road is different. However, I will confirm the figures once I check with my engineers.

Mr. Wambugu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the answer given by the Assistant Minister about this road, we understand that it is only the engineers who did the inspection. From the reports we are getting from the ground, the reports coming from the engineers are not genuine. Could he tell this House what participation Members of Parliament are supposed to take when inspections are going on? Could he also advise hon. Members of this House what participation they will be taking in the District Roads Committees (DRCs), which are responsible for some of these roads?

Mr. Kinyanjui: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Member may be aware, all Members of Parliament sit in the DRCs. However, it has become a common complaint that most of us do not know our exact roles in the DRCs. As a result, some road engineers have tended to take advantage to, sometimes, withhold information or mislead hon. Members. In connection with that, my Ministry is organising a one-day workshop for hon. Members to enlighten them on their role and what is expected of them together with other members of the DRC. We are working closely with the Departmental Committee on Energy, Communications and Public Works. We have requested them to give us a date, so that we can inform hon. Members. For that, we will be able to communicate with you as soon as possible.

Mr. M. Kamau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard what the Assistant Minister has said but, still, I am not satisfied because this road was supposed to go through Kandara Divisional Headquarters, which is where all the Government officers are housed. That is where we have the police station, the health centre, the market, the town council, *et cetera*. However, this particular road was left out. They only built a section traversing the back of the shopping centre. When it rains, this section becomes virtually impassable. I do not know what is---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Kamau! This is Question Time, and not Debate Time! Ask your last question!

Mr. M. Kamau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like him to tell us exactly what the Ministry is doing about the particular section of that road, which passes through the Divisional Headquarters of Kandara.

Mr. Kinyanjui: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I indicated earlier, in the contract, we have a 2.1-kilometre road that stretches to Kandara Township, including an access road to the hospital, the DO's office and the police station. We will start work on that road in September, 2008, and it will be completed before the end of this year. So, the area has been taken care of. We are only waiting for the time for starting. Completion will be within this financial year.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Kaino!

Question No.142

REVIVAL OF KENATCO TAXIS LIMITED

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Kaino not here? Question dropped!

(Question dropped)

Next Question by Mr. Pesa!

Question No.161

PRESENT ROLE OF AGRICULTURAL
FINANCE CORPORATION

Where is Mr. Pesa? I thought he was here a little while ago! Is he avoiding asking his Question?

Mr. Yinda: Mr. Speaker, Sir, can I ask the Question on his behalf?

Mr. Speaker: No, you cannot!

An hon. Member: He can!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Hon. Members, I have heard an hon. Member say that "he can". Mr. Yinda is asking if he could be allowed to ask the Question on behalf of Mr. Pesa. He could, but he has to persuade and convince the Chair that he has been given authority, which, on the face of it, he has not.

So, the Question is dropped!

(Question dropped)

Mr. Speaker: Next Question by Mr. Mbau!

Question No.164

FAILURE TO DISTRIBUTE DRUGS TO
MARAGWA DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Is Mr. Mbau also not here? The Question is dropped!

(Question dropped)

POINTS OF ORDERSTATUS OF RIFT VALLEY
RAILWAYS LIMITED

Mr. Yinda: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Yesterday, I requested the Minister for Transport to clarify the issue on Rift Valley Railways Limited, but there was no specific guidance given as to when I will receive the clarification. So, could you direct the Minister to respond to the issue?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Yinda, indeed, I recollect that you sought a Ministerial Statement yesterday, pertaining to the affairs of Rift Valley Railways Limited, among other things, wanting clarification on the strike. Is the Minister here?

An hon. Member: Absent!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs, is it possible for the Ministerial Statement to be issued tomorrow?

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will expeditiously get in touch with the Minister for Transport. Indeed, I consider the whole question of Rift Valley Railways Limited a matter of national importance.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I am most obliged that you have noted the importance of the matter. So, let us have it tomorrow afternoon.

STATUS OF CONSTITUENCIES
DEVELOPMENT FUND

Mr. Ethuro: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I remember that yesterday, the Minister for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 indicated that he would issue a Ministerial Statement on the status of the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF). Given the gravity of this matter, I seek your indulgence.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, indeed, I am aware that this Ministerial Statement was sought yesterday, and the Minister was prepared to issue one immediately.

However, because of the nature of the Business that was before the House, we could not attend to the matter. The Minister was present, and he heard the direction that the Ministerial Statement should be given this afternoon. I am at a loss as to why the Minister is not here.

Mr. Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs, could you, please, assist us?

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Musyoka): Yes, indeed, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I recall your ruling yesterday. I remember hon. Peter Kenneth standing at the corner there and he was prepared to issue the Statement. I am unable to ascertain the whereabouts of hon. Kenneth but, given time--- Perhaps, he could also be on his way coming. If not, could the Chair, kindly, rule that this Statement be issued tomorrow afternoon?

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. In the light of those circumstances, I rule that, that Ministerial Statement be forthcoming tomorrow at 2.30 p.m.

Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

*(Order for Committee read, being
the First Allotted Day)*

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE
THE CHAIR

Vote 42 - Ministry of
Youth Affairs and Sports

The Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports (Prof. Sambili): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair to enable me to initiate debate on Vote 42, Ministry for Youth Affairs and Sports.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the youth in Kenya, aged between 15 and 30 years, comprise more than 30 per cent of the population, while those below 30 years old account for 75 per cent of the Kenyan society. Whereas they form a majority of the population, the youth are generally a marginalized group in the nation's political, socio-economic and development processes. Today, young Kenyans are confronted with daunting challenges, including the following:-

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first issue is unemployment. With an increasingly young labour force, limited economic growth provides for only 25 per cent absorption capacity in the labour market, leaving a majority of 75 per cent, or approximately 500,000 youths annually, joining the labour market without any jobs. About 67 per cent of all those who are unemployed are young people below the age of 30 years, and 45 per cent are below 24 years. Clearly, unemployment in Kenya is a huge problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second issue is lack of skills and training. Trends in primary school examinations reveal that 43 per cent of young Kenyans miss out in secondary schooling.

Indeed, only 1 per cent of those who pass in primary school get university education in this country. Besides, 90 per cent of young people who are unemployed lack vocational and professional training.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

The third issue, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, is crime and drugs. Over 50 per cent of all inmates in Kenyan prisons are young people. They are, especially, young males who are aged between 16 and 25 years.

[The Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports] The fourth issue is health issues, especially HIV/AIDS. One-third of all HIV/AIDS sufferers are young. About 70 per cent of all new infections are found amongst the youth.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, against the backdrop of these critical issues confronting young Kenyans, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports was formed and mandated to co-ordinate and mainstream youth issues in the Government agenda, and to empower young Kenyans by addressing their developmental and socio-economic needs.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, the Ministry of Youth Affairs was established in December, 2005, to champion the mainstreaming of youth agenda in all the sectors of the economy. This year, the Ministry has been expanded to include the sports docket and, hence, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The Ministry has been mandated with the following functions:-

First, to promote youth development by designing policies and programmes that build the young people's capacity to resist risk factors and enhance protective factors.

Secondly, to develop a National Youth Policy to ensure the Kenyan youth participation in the development of their country. Thirdly, to facilitate the establishment of the National Youth Council to co-ordinate, monitor, advocate and promote youth issues and youth-led initiatives.

Fourth, to co-ordinate youth organisations in the country to ensure youth development through structured organisations, collaboration and networking.

Fifth, to develop youth resource centres and revive the Kenya Association of Youth Centres.

Sixth, rehabilitation and promotion of youth polytechnics and the operation and expansion of the National Youth Service. Seventh, implementation of the Sports Policy. You can refer here to Sessional Paper No.3 of 2005.

Eighth, development, co-ordination and promotion of sports and, finally, national stadia management.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, the challenges that we have are as follows:-

In spite of the huge expectations from the public, the Ministry faces a number of challenges which need to be addressed. The first one is insufficient transport. The Ministry has only 46 vehicles against an approved establishment of 114. There is, therefore, need to review budgetary allocation to facilitate the mobility of the field officers.

Secondly, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, there is obsolete equipment. The National Youth Service is mandated to undertake projects of national importance. Currently, the department is operating in several marginalized areas. However, the plant and equipment in use are obsolete, having been acquired in the 1970s and are in need of replacement.

Another challenge, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, is dilapidated youth polytechnics training structures. Despite the continuing efforts to rehabilitate youth polytechnics, a lot of effort is required to improve those institutions, both in terms of infrastructure, equipment and curriculum support.

The final challenge, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, is staffing in youth polytechnics and sports departments. Although there have been efforts to recruit instructors for youth polytechnics, the number recruited is grossly inadequate.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, I would now like to highlight achievements of this Ministry, which is relatively young. In spite of the above challenges, the Ministry has endeavoured to discharge its mandate effectively. I would like to highlight some of the main activities and achievements that have been realised so far. One, is the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. Unemployment is one of the daunting economic challenges facing Kenya. The Government has placed job creation at the top of policy agenda in recognition of this fact. The youth defined here are those aged 15 and 30 years constitute two-thirds of the economically active population. The youth account for 61 per cent of the unemployed. About 92 per cent of the unemployed youth have no job training other than formal schooling, hence unemployment is not just lack of jobs but also lack of job skills due to inadequacy of the training infrastructure as well as the means to acquire skills due to poverty.

The Government mooted the idea of establishing a Youth Enterprise Development Fund in mid-2006 as one of the bold and radical interventions to address the youth unemployment problem. The objective of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund is to increase young entrepreneurs' access to loans complemented with facilitating linkages in supply chain, creating commercial infrastructure and markets. The Government's commitment was reflected in the national Budget of June, 2006, when Kshs1 billion was set aside---

Dr. Khalwale: On a point of order, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. Members of this House are this afternoon feeling ambushed by this Ministry. This is because the tradition in this House is that when we are at this stage---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): What is your point of order?

Dr. Khalwale: The point of order is that the Minister has deliberately refused to put in our pigeon holes, or at Room No.8, copies showing the district allocations for each district in respect of her Ministry. To that extent, we are in the dark. We do not know what she is talking about. More importantly, there are no civil servants from her Ministry here to take notes of the contributions that we shall be making this afternoon. Would I be in order to request that this matter be deferred until she puts her House in order? We do not know what we are going to debate.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): Yes, I think you are in order to ask that question, Dr. Khalwale. This is the first day of our 20 days of the Committee of Supply. I should take this opportunity to say that each Ministry will have two days allotted to them. I would like to mention that for the two days, we expect each Ministry to release documents.

I would like to ask the Minister to ensure that by 6.00 p.m. today, we have those documents in the pigeon holes. If she can assure us that, I would like to persuade Members that we continue with this Motion. I would also like to mention to Members that for purposes of debate in the Committee Supply, each member will be given 20 minutes. We have started today at 3.15 p.m. and we will go up to 6.15 p.m. We can continue up to 6.30 p.m. because the House normally rises at 6.30 p.m. The minimum is 6.15 p.m. and we do not want to lose a single day because Committee of Supply days are committed.

So, could you confirm that by 6.00 p.m. we should have the documents while you and the Seconder are in the Chamber so that Members can contribute?

The Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports (Prof. Sambili): Yes, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. I confirm that those documents will be there at the said time. I have civil servants from the Ministry. I apologise that these documents were not distributed. This Motion will be seconded by the Minister for Education---

Mr. Mwadeghu: On a point of order, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. Do you not see that the House will be highly disadvantaged, if we allow the Minister to continue moving the Vote of her Ministry because we do not have anything? Though she has promised to bring those documents in the evening, it is highly unfair to all of us!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): Hon. Members, I want to say that since the Printed Estimates were circulated and each Ministry has two allotted days for debate, I request Members because we cannot afford to lose any of the 20 days, we allow the Ministry concerned to circulate the document by 6.00 p.m. so that at the rise of this House, each Member who will want to contribute tomorrow will have the opportunity. So, I would like to rule that we continue with the Mover and the Seconder. In the meantime, we would like the documents delivered, Madam Minister.

Madam Minister, proceed!

Dr. Khalwale: On a point of order, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): I have ruled, Dr. Khalwale!

The Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports (Prof. Sambili): Thank you, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker.

I was talking about the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. I said that this is a Fund that was muted in the year 2006 as one of the bold and ratable intervention to address the youth unemployment and Kshs1 billion was set aside for the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. However, there was no organisational or legal framework in place to facilitate the immediate disbursement of the allocated funds. The Fund was gazetted on the 8th December, 2006, to provide for the necessary legal framework to govern its use and operations. The Fund facilitates youth employment through enterprise development and structured labour export. The 10 Member Advisory Board of the Fund was gazetted on 31st January, 2007, and has 60 per cent of its

membership from the private sector.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, the Youth Enterprise Development Fund was officially launched on 1st February, 2007 by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya. The launch marked the beginning of the fund disbursement process of the funds to the youth enterprises through the financial intermediaries and the Constituency Youth Enterprise Scheme. The Fund was authorised to transform itself into a state Corporation on 8th May, 2007 by His Excellency the President through Legal Notice No.63.

The objectives of the Fund are as follows:-

One, is to promote loans to existing micro-finance institutions, registered Non Governmental Organisations involved in micro-financing and savings and credit co-operative organisation (SACCOs) for on lending to youth enterprises.

Two, to attract and facilitate investment in micro, small and medium enterprises oriented commercial infrastructures such as business or industrial parks, market or business incubators that will be beneficial to the youth enterprises. Three, to support youth oriented, micro small and medium enterprises to develop linkages with large enterprises. Four, to facilitate marketing of products and services of youth enterprises both in the domestic and the international market.

Finally, to facilitate employment of youth in the international labour market. The only lending component of the Fund mainly work through financial intermediaries such as banks, NGOs and micro-finance institutions, from where the youth get access to funds to start or expand viable businesses. The financial intermediaries manage funds allocated to the districts. That is where the youth access funds directly either as individuals, or as organised entities such as groups, co-operative societies or companies.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, a second component is the Constituency Youth Enterprise Scheme that is meant for funding enterprises of youth groups in all the constituencies. The Divisional Youth Enterprise Development Fund Committee has been formed to effectively identify and recommend viable youth group enterprises for loans. The funds managed by the Divisional Youth Enterprise Development Committee, with the District Youth Enterprise Development Fund playing an oversight role, are only allocated to the respective constituencies.

So far, the Board has approved financial commitments for on-going lending to the youth as follows:-

I have a list of all the financial intermediaries - 28 of them - that have been given that money. Hon. Members will see that in the documents that will be in their pigeon holes by 6.00 p.m today. The total commitment that has been given is Kshs715,800,000 million. The total number of intermediaries are 28. It is important to note that, of all the partners that are involved in the disbursement of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund, only three are banks. The rest are micro enterprise institutions, non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, foundations and co-operatives, which have been chosen due to their ability to reach the young people of this country at the grassroots level.

Many of those institutions do not insist on any collateral from the youth, and rely on group or membership security for their loans. The disbursement summary of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund through the financial intermediaries are given in a table. In Nairobi, 1,780 male youth groups and 1,746 female groups - giving a total of 3,526 - have benefited. They have been given a total of Kshs156,788,668. The next one is Central Province where we have a total of 6,161 enterprises. The amount that has so far been disbursed to them is Kshs181,246,686. The list that has been given has North Eastern Province where there are 204 groups. They have received Kshs16,519,800.

Hon. Members are requested to note that loan repayment through financial intermediaries by the youth is quite impressive, and the repayment rate stand at 98 per cent. That means that the

Fund is sustainable because the youth are repaying the money. The disbursement summary to the youth enterprises through the Constituencies Youth Enterprise is detailed--- I do not think I will be able to read all of them. The funds have been released to the following districts:-

Nairobi has 196 groups. They have received Kshs7,895,570. I do not know whether I can read all of them. Hon. Members will have to look at the document.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, money is still there for the groups which have not been given any money. The money is not returned to the Treasury. If there are constituencies where some groups have not received the money, they will get it. The total amount of money that has been disbursed is Kshs211,408,165 to a total of 4,999 groups. The returns from the districts whose constituencies have not exhausted the allocation are being processed, while constituencies which have exhausted their allocations have been requested to approve applications for the second phase of disbursement and submit the returns to facilitate commencement of payment process.

However, the loan repayment performance of the first phase will be strictly assessed to release funds for the second phase. The Fund uses the Posta Pay Service of the Postal Corporation of Kenya to disburse the constituency cheques to the youth groups. That arrangement has quickened the disbursement process and ensured timely delivery of cheques to the youths.

We are proud of our youth groups who have commenced the servicing of their loans. I would like to say that the repayment of loans for initial beneficiaries will be done in early October, 2007, after the three months grace period. The total loan repayment to date stands at Kshs13.6 million.

I would like to talk about entrepreneurship training. The Fund has also been spearheading entrepreneurship training to equip the youth with relevant skills to establish and successfully run their businesses. Towards that end, the following measures have been undertaken:-

The number of youths who have benefited from the Fund Entrepreneurship Programme stands at 4,360. Secondly, the number of young people who have been trained by financial intermediaries stands at 67,550. Thirdly, the Fund sponsored the National Business Plan Competition last year and over 6,000 youths participated. The 300 young people who succeeded in the competition have now graduated and the overall winners have been awarded monies. Another business plan competition is planned for this year. I would like to talk about the progress of partnerships. For the Fund to be effective, it is important to form partnerships with like-minded organisations.

The following partnerships have been established. The Fund has entered into a partnership with a Canadian Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) which is known as Eneblis Entrepreneurship Network. I will finish this very quickly. The Eneblis Network is to offer credit and training services to the youth. The Canadian Government is supportive of this partnership. The NGO officially launched its operations in Kenya on 23rd October, 2000. An additional Kshs1 billion will be available for young people to borrow to expand or start their businesses. Another progress is that negotiations are going on between the Fund and World Bank with a view to financing some objectives.

Dr. Khalwale: On a point of order, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. It is now 3.40 p.m. One would have thought that since we started the business of the House slightly earlier, probably the civil servants were waiting to come in at 3.30 p.m. Unless the Chair has changed the rules of debate in this House, I submit that we are proceeding with business against the Standing Orders. Civil servants must be here to record the views of hon. Members on how they perceive the Budget. We are out of order. The House must adjourn and give the Minister time to bring her civil servants here.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): May I just mention the fact that the debate has not yet been opened! Debate will be opened as soon the Seconder finishes. Number two,

we cannot stop due to the absence of civil servants. I will suggest that we receive the Minister's statement; we receive the Seconder's statement and then, we can debate on whether we should proceed without the civil servants. The debate is not open yet.

Madam Minister, please, proceed!

The Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports (Prof. Sambili): Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, because I will give this document to hon. Members, I will now summarise by saying that the Gross Recurrent Estimates for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports during the year 2008/2009 amounts to Kshs4.096 billion. The details of that money is given in this document. I would like to remind this House that there were 11 million Kenyans aged between 18 years and 35 years. By 2012, that number will be 15 million. Therefore, we need to make corresponding investment and be able to deal with that very special portion of our population.

With those remarks, I beg to move and I request the Minister for Education to second.

Mr. C. Kilonzo: On a point of order, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker. We feel disadvantaged because the Printed Estimates are not there. I know that this issue has been raised several times, but how are we expected to contribute to this particular Vote if we are disadvantaged and do not have the Printed Estimates?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): Mr. C. Kilonzo, you are out of order, because when a ruling was made you were not in the House!

The Minister for Education (Prof. Onger): Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, this is a very serious debate, because we talking about the youth of this nation who constitute more than 67 per cent of our population. Most of us came to this Parliament because the youth had an expectation that we would be able to generate activities and programmes that would address and redress their problems.

By today you will have noted that in moving this Vote, the Minister is asking for a total of Kshs4,031,669,000 against the last provision in the Budget of Kshs3,213,934, giving a net increase of Kshs817,134,700. It would have been a good idea if resources were available and were directed towards the youth activities.

There are three major areas in which this Ministry will be spending its resources in trying to address the problems of the youth. One is the question of training and upgrading the youth polytechnics and providing schemes that will enable our youths to be self-propelling in every respect.

Self-employment is an important activity in this country, because given the momentum with which the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is growing at the moment, it is not physically possible to absorb all our youth in the employment sector. Therefore, we need to regenerate and activate the activities that will help our youth to be able engage in self employment activities.

The second area that this Ministry addresses, and which the resources will be spread out to in order to maximise the benefits to the youth, is the National Youth Service (NYS). As you are aware, this has become a very important avenue for training our youth to be disciplined in the national business; it is also an areas where the youth can acquire very useful skills that can stand them in good stead once they have finished their training. In fact, in the last Budget Speech, and during the State Opening of Parliament, the President indicated that we would be amending the necessary Acts on the armed forces and the Ministry of Defence in order to provide a window of opportunity for the well-trained NYS recruits to be absorbed into the armed forces of this country. So, we have every responsibility to the youth and should ensure that we channel interests to areas where they can gain to the maximum.

The third thing that this Ministry will be critically addressing is sports. As you all know, I had the privilege of being the Chairman of the Kenya Amateur Athletics Association (3As) for over 15 years. One of the things that athletics has done for this country is to elevate its esteem. We

are now known internationally. You do not have to talk about anything else when you go to another country; you only need to say that you are from Kenya and people there will say that, that is a country of great runners. Our athletes have not only shown their prowess, they have also put us on the map internationally. Also, the athletes have been a source of very hefty earnings that support this country.

Therefore, it is my expectation that once the Ministry is settled, it will equally enter, with equal force, in enhancing the status of football in this country. We have now seen some glimpses of hope that the football fraternity will be enjoying the game of football, because it has a great potential. Another game is basketball. From Mombasa, all the nine best students who excelled in basketball are now the biggest players in one college in the United States of America (USA). They earn a lot of money for that college and for themselves. Indeed, if we are seeking to engage our youth in gainful employment, then certainly the co-curriculum activities form a major avenue through which we can train our youth to take up their interests and earn for the nation and for themselves the valuable foreign exchange.

Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker, regarding the youth polytechnics, there is one good thing, namely giving skills to our youth, whether in masonry, carpentry or electronics. There is one area to which hon. Members will have to direct their attention.

This is because this nation intends to reduce the digital divide that exists between the developed countries and our developing nations. We are now introducing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in our institutions of learning. We do not expect to introduce ICT in institutions of learning and end it there.

It is my expectation that in the future, once the youth come out of school, and are not able to proceed vertically with academic learning, or in tertiary institutions, they will be able to engage in employment within the digital village centres, and be able to understand, appreciate and handle technology at the village level. Electricity is already going there. There is a lot of rural electrification and, therefore, we shall need a lot of artisan electricians to be able to do the normal maintenance of these services.

Secondly, because the world has gone the digital way, it is important that our youth are gainfully employed in the digital centres, so that they can provide the goods and services that are so critical for the development of this nation.

In fact, looking at it and appreciating what it is, we are training our youth to be self-reliant. This issue of hanging on the roadside should be history. In this nation, we have provided avenues through which they can address their problems. The infrastructure and education development, higher education attainment and value addition for our own agricultural products will require people with skills. Therefore, the Ministry of Youth Affairs then stands at a very pivotal level in which they can advance the agenda of youth development in this nation.

It is my belief that the Youth Enterprise Development Fund and the Women Enterprise Development Fund will be properly organized through the microfinance and other financial institutions and make it more user-friendly. I have noticed that some youths are scared of taking a loan because they do not know how to apply for it.

I am delighted to hear from the Minister herself that, indeed, the entrepreneurship culture must be the way forward. They may have the skills, but they may not have the entrepreneurship culture in order to be able to advance their cause one iota forward.

Therefore, it is my expectation that given this momentum that we have now set in this Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, both training and entrepreneurship will be part and parcel of the story; that we would now be able to energize our youth for gainful and, most important, support in the building of this nation.

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

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): Hon. Members, before we continue with debate, I had promised that the Chair was going to rule on the matters that were raised by Dr. Khalwale, in the absence of the district allocations books and the civil servants. I did promise that in view of the fact that we are receiving statements and support for the Motion, it is at the point of debate that we require both requests that were made by the hon. Member.

I, therefore, would like to state that in view of the fact that the district allocations books have not been circulated and the civil servants are absent - the very civil servants that we expected would be working on the same districts allocation books - it is only prudent for us to adjourn the debate and continue with it at a later time.

Hon. Members, you know, as per our rules, that when we go to the Committee of Supply, a continuous day must be three hours. So, in view of the fact that we have only reached the stage of proposing the Question, we will adjourn and start the days for this Ministry afresh. That is my ruling.

The Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and National Security (Mr. Lesrima): On a point of order, Madam Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): There is no point of order on that ruling!

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Prof. Kamar): Hon. Members, in view of the fact that we have adjourned the debate and that was the last Order of the day, that concludes the business of the day. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Thursday, 10th July, 2008, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.55 p.m.