

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 20th June, 2001

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

The following Paper was laid on the Table:-

Statement on the Vote on Account for the Financial Year 2001/2002.

(By the Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning (Mr. Arap-Kirui) on behalf of the Minister for Finance)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

VOTE ON ACCOUNT

The Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning (Mr. Arap-Kirui): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, in accordance with Section 101 of the Constitution of Kenya, the withdrawal from the Consolidated Fund of the sum of Kshs75,746,257,575 made up in the manner set out in the Vote on Account laid in the House, be authorised for the purpose of meeting expenditure necessary to carry all the services of the Government of Kenya during the year ending 30th June, 2002 until such time as the Appropriation Act for the year comes into operation.

(His Excellency the President has signified his consent to this Motion)

ESTABLISHMENT OF INFORMATION/
TELECOMMUNICATION CENTRES

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

THAT, in view of the pivotal role that accurate, timely and simplified information can play in

socio-economic development, and aware of the world's inevitable evolution into an electronic global village; this House urges the Government to establish information and telecommunication centres (Telecentres) and community radio stations in all districts.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No. 151

ATTACK ON DAGORETTI MP

Mrs. Mugo asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) whether he is aware that Friday, 14th May, 2000, the Member for Dagoretti was attacked and assaulted by some National Development Party supporters at Toi Market;

(b) whether he is further aware that even after the Member reported the matter to the police and statements recorded, the culprits were not prosecuted; and,

(c) whether he could explain what transpired to warrant the dismissal of the said case.

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

(a) I am aware that hon. Mrs. Beth Mugo reported at Milimani Police Division that NDP youths had attacked her during a meet-the-people tour at Toi Market. The date was on Friday, 14th April, 2000 but not 14th May, 2000, as indicated in the Question.

(b) No arrests have been made as the complainant could not have identified her assailants nor did she have a witness to do so. Moreover, by the time the police visited the scene of the alleged attack, the place was calm and there was no sign of rowdy youths.

(c) Milimani Police Inquiry File No.20/2000 in respect of the alleged incident was opened and is still pending.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, either the answer is deliberately misleading or the Assistant Minister has been misled by his officers. The Officer Commanding Police Division (OCPD) Milimani escorted me to Nairobi Hospital where I was admitted. This was shown on television; it is not an allegation. After waiting for a long time for a word from the OCPD after we had recorded our statements, I went personally to him wanting to know why these youths were not charged. The OCPD told me that somebody informed him that I had withdrawn the case, which I had not. There were several witnesses who made statements and even accompanied police officers to the houses of those attackers. I would like to know why the police decided to withdraw this case without my instructions.

Mr. Samoei: The case has not been withdrawn. To the contrary, Milimani Police Inquiry File No.20/2000 is still pending. If hon. Mrs. Mugo or any other person can identify her assailants, the police will be willing to take action.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is not quite true. The councillors who were in a campaign trail went to the police station to write statements but they were not allowed to do so. Those people know who my attackers were but the police are not interested in taking action. I would like to know why the police are reluctant in dealing with this matter? These people are known and even the numbers of their houses are known. So, could you tell the House the truth, that he does not want to prosecute those youths because they are NDP supporters?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think my position is still the same on that issue. I will give specific instructions to the police on this matter if the hon. Member wants to take this case up with the Milimani police; if there are persons who know very well who the assailants are. I would like to know that from the hon. Member and I will take the necessary action.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has said the police are willing to take action. Are they willing or are they duty-bound by law to do that? Surely, you cannot say the police officers are willing! They are bound by law.

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did say the police officers are willing because the hon. Member had alleged that they are not willing to act. They are duty-bound, as the hon. Member has said and they will duly carry out their duties if we can get some co-operation from the hon. Member or any of the persons named.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I still have one more supplementary question to ask.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I appreciate that this issue concerns an hon. Member. That is why I even allowed you to debate the issue. But we must make some progress. I would advise the Assistant Minister to get in touch with his colleague.

Next Question, Mr. Kaindi!

Question No.305

LIST OF PARASTATALS' BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Kaindi asked the Minister of State, Office of the President whether he could table a list of the current board members of parastatals/corporations, and the names of their respective chairmen.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I tabled the required list last week. I think the Questioner asked that this Question be deferred for him to look at the list and then ask

supplementary questions.

Mr. Kaindi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have had the opportunity to peruse the long list but I have found very interesting information. Certain individuals hold more than seven positions in various organisations. For example, Mr. Kassim Owango holds five; Mr. Konzollo holds four and Mr. Tom Owour holds seven. Could the Minister tell this House what special qualifications these individuals possess to be appointed to so many public institutions when there are so many Kenyans who are qualified?

Mr. ole Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the different appointees have different qualifications. But I do understand that the hon. Member is concerned about the fact that some of these appointees have been appointed to more than one position. The Government is going to ensure that, that is rectified.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry, I am on the wrong side. This House in its enquiries in respect of Public Investments Committee (PIC) and Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has named several individuals and recommended that they should not hold any public office conferred by Kenya. An example in mind is Mr. Birir and Mr. Chelashaw. What is the Government policy in appointing people who are not supposed to - as far as this House is concerned - hold any public office? Why is this Government continuing to "recycle" people who have been adjudged corrupt?

(Applause)

Mr. ole Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know why the hon. Member says he is "on the wrong side" of the House. Actually, he has "come back home" at long last. But you will appreciate that the hon. Member is talking about the resolution of the PIC and PAC which, in fact, was not within the powers of the PAC and PIC to recommend. It was not right for them to say So-and-So should not hold public office without hearing him.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for that very learned Minister to allege that those people who were adjudged to be corrupt were not heard when he has not even read those reports?

(Applause)

Mr. ole Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not talking about the Report. I am talking about the way our system is organised, because it is really the Judiciary that is supposed to declare people guilty or innocent.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to mislead this House, that this House does not have the power to identify corrupt people in the Public Accounts and Public Investments Reports and report to this House?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I think I must put that in its correct perspective: This House, has no judicial power. This House, by resolution, may make a recommendation that a certain thing be done and it calls upon the Government to do so. As far as adjudicating as to the guilt or otherwise of any Kenyan, it is beyond the capacity of this House. It is vested under the Constitution; on a duly constituted authority called a court. So, this must rest. I think everybody must understand that this House will not sit and will not be called upon to sit in a judicial capacity. But, of course, when the House has made a resolution, the Government ought to take into account the expression of this authority.

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can assure the Minister that he had not even gone through this list because some of the information is very surprising. Could the Minister confirm to this House that future appointments, particularly for chairmen, will match with the profession required in that office, and that their names will be brought to this House for approval, but not through mediocre methods in the Office of the President?

Mr. ole Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can only assure this respectable hon. Member of DP, that future appointees---

An hon. Member: He is an hon. Member of the House!

Mr. ole Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is an hon. Member from the Democratic Party, but he remains respectable. I would like to assure him that in future, as has been the case, appointees will be qualified and they will be appointed in accordance with the laws of this country by the Executive Government of the land.

Mr. Achola: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The hon. Minister has just confirmed to the House that appointments to these positions are normally done on the basis of one's ability. Could he explain how Mr. Mulu Mutisya got into this system if that was the case?

Mr. ole Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Member saying that, the time Mr. Mutisya was appointed, he was disabled?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kaindi, I am sure you did not want the Question to drift that way!

Mr. Kaindi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that the Minister is saying that proper mechanisms will be put in place so that we do not have these individuals serving in many organizations, what mechanisms has his Ministry put in place to ensure that Directors or Board members who are involved in malpractices are checked and removed from the Board? I have a case in NSSF where some Board members were part and parcel of a deal where ghost land was being bought, as reported to this House by PIC Reports?

Mr. ole Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are currently re-examining all these Boards and ensuring that those who hold those offices are people of integrity.

Mr. Speaker: Very well!

Next Question!

Question No.299

RETIREMENT OF MRS. DIETTO

Dr. Oburu asked the Minister for Agriculture:-

(a) whether he is aware that Mrs. Mercy Dietto, an Accountant with Nyayo Tea Zones Development Authority requested a transfer from Meru to Nairobi due to maternal related health complications but was instead retired on medical grounds on 31st August, 1999, with no benefits paid to her; and,

(b) whether he could consider reinstating Mrs. Dietto and paying all her dues.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware. I am also aware that the officer was suspended from duty pending investigation and finalization of disciplinary cases instituted against her for abscondment from duty.

(b) After review of the case, and due consideration of the long delay in finalising the case, the management has decided to reinstate Mrs. Dietto and pay her dues. The officer is expected to abide by the Corporation's regulations.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for the last sentence he read out which is about the issue of reinstating the lady to her job. This lady has been out of employment for more than two years. It has not been proved that this lady was suspended on disciplinary grounds. All the documents here with me show that this lady was pregnant, and she had a threatened miscarriage and, therefore, she wanted to be nearer her doctor. The doctor has even said so in these documents. When she asked the Nyayo Tea Zones Corporation management to give her leave to come to Nairobi, she instead got a letter which is also here stating that she was being retired on medical grounds. Therefore, there is no question of her having been dismissed on disciplinary grounds. I would, therefore, like to request the Assistant Minister, that in view of the fact that he is being misled by the same officers who have victimised this innocent mother who has already given birth and the child is above two years old, whether he could assure this House that these officers are not going to victimise this mother further. They are giving false reasons for having let her stay out of employment for more than two years.

(Dr. Oburu laid the documents on the Table)

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to allay the fears of the hon. Member that this lady is going to be victimised. According to the records which I have perused personally, Mrs. Dietto had a record of habitual absence from duty and abandoning her official responsibilities, necessitating the Corporation to take appropriate disciplinary measures against her. On 26th July, 1999, Mrs. Dietto absconded duty for five days. Because of habitual disappearance from duty---

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. In view of what the Assistant Minister said, and the fact that some documents have been tabled here, is it really in order for the Assistant Minister to continue reading along those lines without being able to respond to the documents that have been tabled here?

Mr. Speaker: Well, I think, much more important, Mr. Sumbeiywo, after having decided to rescind your earlier decision of interdicting and suspending and now you are reinstating her, do you think you are doing any good to this lady by broadcasting to the whole world the alleged misdemeanours which you have not scrutinised? I think it is fair that you do not read that.

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had no intention of reading out what she had done but, according to

the hon. Member, he claims that this lady is free from blame because she did not have any disciplinary cases against her. This is what I am bringing forward.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, before we go further! I think the Chair has a duty to protect the ordinary Kenyan against all this. Since he has given an undertaking to the House that he is reinstating the lady, I do not want any further ado about this. So, the matter ends there.

Next Question!

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not received a written reply.

Question No.204

EXPLOITATION BY WELLS FARGO GUARDS

Dr. Ochuodho asked the Minister for Labour:-

(a) whether he is aware that guards at Wells Fargo Limited are exploited and work under very difficult and inhuman conditions;

(b) what the official salary range for guards working for this company is, and how much the firm charges clients per month per guard; and,

(c) what the Government's position on wage guidelines for the casual workers in the security provision sub-sector is.

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry he was not given the written reply. It is supposed to have been given to him.

I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that the guards at Wells Fargo are exploited. The official salary range for the guards is a basic salary of Kshs3,219 and a house allowance of Kshs750, totalling to Kshs3,969. There is also an equivalent of Kshs1,867 for seven hours overtime or per given month.

(b) The firm charges clients between Kshs13,000 and Kshs14,000 per guard per month.

(c) Wells Fargo Limited does not employ casual workers. However, the Government policy on wage guidelines falls under the Protective Security Order which states that casual guards or employees in this particular sector, shall be paid for each day or **[The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development]** shift work at the rate of Kshs120 per day to cover both the monthly wage and housing allowance applicable to him or her as per his occupation and area of employment.

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a letter here signed by several workers of Wells Fargo who purport that the firm charges Kshs18,000 and on average pays guards, only Kshs4,000. It almost tallies with the figures given by the Assistant Minister, who has given a figure of Kshs15,000. Is the Assistant Minister convinced that these people should charge Kshs15,000 per guard and only pay Kshs4,000 per guard?

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of employment is a contractual obligation between the employer and the employee. So, I do not know where the issue of whether it is in order or not is coming from.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I always thought that it is the Government's duty to protect the poor people of this country particularly the workers. It is important for the Assistant Minister to take his job seriously by not just giving us lopsided issues. He should tell us what measures the Ministry is taking to protect the casual workers. For one, we know that these fellows are employed time on end without being employed permanently and it is illegal to employ somebody for three months on a casual basis without permanent employment.

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very true that Government protects the minimum standards in employment, including wages. The lowest paid guard at Wells Fargo earns Kshs5,836 and the highest paid guard earns Kshs6,186 per month. You will agree that the recommended minimum wages are far below what Wells Fargo is paying. So, as long as they are paying above the minimum recommended wages, there is no violation whatsoever and Government cannot be accused of not protecting workers.

Mr. Kombe: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. There are two figures that we have heard from the Assistant Minister this afternoon. When he gave the first answer he said they are paid Kshs3,900. He has again stood up and said that the lowest paid guard earns Kshs5,000. So, which one is the true figure and what are we supposed to believe?

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, part "b" of the Question sought to know the official salary range. So, the figures I gave are basically to do with the basic salary and the house allowance. So, the minimum this company is supposed to be paying is Kshs3,969. All the guards so far are paid Kshs5,836. That is, when you add the Kshs1,867 for overtime. So, there is no contradiction whatsoever. He should just reason a bit more.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister differentiate to this House the actual salary and overtime? Is overtime a salary?

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to tell Mr. Kombo that the figure I read out was the basic salary. The lowest paid guard was given the difference between the basic salary and the overtime amount. That is why I did not include the overtime amount in the basic salary pay.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ethuro, Mr. Speaker, never supports anybody, but I think Mr. Kiunjuri has a valid point. You do not earn overtime amount if you do not work overtime. So, assuming these workers work for ordinary official time, what is their salary excluding overtime and, maybe, house allowance?

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, part "c" of the Question asked what the Government policy is. First, I said that the company does not employ any guards as casual workers. The company is supposed by law to convert a worker who has worked either intermittently or continuously for 90 days with the company into a permanent worker. It is a matter of adding up the figures as follows: The basic salary - Kshs3,219 and house allowance of Kshs750. These guards work in shifts and are supposed to work for 12 hours per day for six days. They take one day off for the seven-day week; then there is compulsory overtime. It is part of their package. So, this is not ordinary overtime, but is part of their working environment.

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the letter I have here says that these guards do not have any day off. So, what the Assistant Minister has told the House is not true. Secondly, the figure of Kshs3,900 is below the minimum wage the Government has recommended. Finally, considering that the guards work under very difficult conditions, which include working overnight without any protective gear, is the Government satisfied with the little amount that the guards are being paid here, and that they are not being exploited? Could the Ministry--

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Ochuodho, with all those questions, what will the Assistant Minister answer?

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will ask the question. Could the Government consider improving conditions of the lowly paid workers, especially watchmen?

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know that we are in a liberalised economy---

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

Mr. Ethuro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not finished. We are in a liberalised economy where you contract your labour to the employer. We want to safeguard against increasing the salaries and increasing unemployment. So, where violations of the basic minimum wages are concerned, the [Mr. Ethuro] Government should intervene. Every year, during Labour Day, the Minister goes to great lengths to announce salary guidelines. We are satisfied that the basic rules on minimum wages are not being violated.

Question No.051

TARMACKING OF MERU-CHOGORIA ROAD

Mr. Murungi asked the Minister for Roads and Public Works:-

- (a) whether he is aware that the Government has made several specific promises to tarmack the Meru-Githongo-Chogoria Road in Meru Central and Meru South Districts;
- (b) whether he is further aware that the road is important as it will connect five tea factories namely, Githongo, Imenti, Kionyo, Kinoro and Weru Tea Factories; and,
- (c) when a detailed survey and technical design of the said road, for which Kshs20 million has been provided in the current financial year, will commence.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Eng. Rotich): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that the Government has made several specific promises to tarmack the Meru-Githongo-Chogoria Road in Meru Central and Meru South Districts.

(b) I am also aware that the road is very important as it will connect five tea factories, namely, Githongo, Imenti, Kionyo, Kinoro and Weru Tea Factories.

(c) Detailed survey and technical designs of the road will start as soon as the on-going procurement of the consultancy services is concluded and the selected consultant commissioned to undertake the work.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are sick and tired of empty promises made by the Government regarding the tarmacking of this road. In the HANSARD of 17th September, 1997, the late Minister for Public Works, told this House that:

"The European Union has agreed to finance the construction of the Meru-Githongo-Chogoria Road. In the meantime, the Ministry, in conjunction with donors, is in the process of appointing a consultant to undertake the feasibility study and design works of the road".

That was in 17th September, 1997. Today, five years later, the Assistant Minister is still saying that the Ministry is yet to appoint a consultant. The Kshs 20 million was allocated in the last financial year for the technical survey and design of this road. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House why it has taken five years, and what has happened to the Kshs20 million which was allocated in the last financial year for the survey and design?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can only talk about the last one year and not the last five years. It is true that the Ministry is looking for a consultant to design this road. It is also true that we allocated Kshs20 million for this road, but during the Revised Estimates, it was reduced to Kshs2 million. That money was meant for the survey and design of the road and not its tarmacking. However, we propose to gravel this road during the next financial year.

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that in the coming financial year's Estimates, there is not even a single cent allocated for this road? So, what is he really telling us?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is not true. The truth is that we hope to gravel the road while awaiting the tarmacking, which will be designed during the next financial year.

Mr. Mwenda: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has given very contradictory statements here. In 1997, the Government committed itself to tarmacking this road and now the Assistant Minister has talked about gravelling it. He has said that the Ministry is looking for a consultant to design this road. What does he mean? Is the Ministry advertising for a consultant or how is it looking for a consultant?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think there is any contradiction. I said that Kshs20 million was allocated for this road but it was reduced to Kshs2 million during the Revised Estimates. In the present Estimates, we hope to spend about Kshs30 million in gravelling the road while awaiting its tarmacking.

Cap. Ntwiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am the only Member of Parliament in Meru South District. Chogoria Town is just at the edge of Meru Central Constituency and my constituency, which is Meru South Constituency. The Assistant Minister has promised that the road will pass through Weru Tea Factory which is also in Meru South District. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that when the road reaches Chogoria Town, it will follow the route through Mutindwa Market to Weru Tea Factory? If it reaches Chogoria Town only, this road will be of no use to my constituents. How many kilometres is the road from Meru Town to Weru Tea Factory?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not be able to state the length of the road from Meru Town to Weru Tea Factory, but I know that we have to tarmack about 50 kilometres.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a matter of fact, this Assistant Minister is misleading this House. If you look at the current Printed Financial Estimates, you will find that the Government has, in fact, allocated Kshs25 million for this road, not for gravelling, but for study and design of the road. So, will the Government, during this financial year, study and design or gravel the road as the Assistant Minister has said?

Mr. Speaker: I think we are all getting confused now. Mr. Mwiraria said that nothing was allocated for the road and the Assistant Minister said that Kshs2 million was allocated for the road. Now Mr. Murungi has said that Kshs25 million was allocated for the road. What is the position, Mr. Assistant Minister?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the money is there. What we will do, as a stop-gap, is to gravel the road.

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the money is for gravelling. But the design is for tarmacking---

Mr. Murungi: So, the designing will continue?

Eng. Rotich: It will continue because it has been advertised in the *Daily Nation*. I have the evidence with me here, if you would like to see it.

Capt. Ntwiga: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Sorry, Capt. Ntwiga! Order! I thought Captains respect a lot of order! When a Captain is called to order, he immediately stands at attention and sits down! I am sorry, hon. Members, but I have to reach the Questions by Private Notice with the time available. So, please understand.

Question No.315

REPAIR OF NYAMAIYA-NYAMIRA ROAD

Mr. Obwocha asked the Minister for Roads and Public Works:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Center-Nyamaiya-Nyamira Road is currently impassable; and,
- (b) what steps he will take to repair the road.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Eng. Rotich): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that Center-Nyamaiya-Nyamira Road is currently impassable due to the heavy rains in the area.

(b) The Ministry has already released funds to the district for routine maintenance programme.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two entries to Nyamira Town. There is the Chemosit-Ikongge-Kebirigo-Ikonate-Nyamira Road, but that particular one starts from the "centre of partnership"; that is, Kisumu-Sondu-Center-Nyamira. That road is very important for Nyamira District. Currently at Nyamaiya and Rangenyo, you cannot pass! However, since the Assistant Minister has said that he will release funds to do the road, how much will be released and when?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will release Kshs4,955,954.75 in July.

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you have noticed, most of these Questions are related to roads. The real reason why roads are not being done is because the Kenya Roads Board (KRB) has not been operationalised. When will the KRB become operationalised?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a different question, but I can precisely say that, the KRB will be operationalised in July, 2001.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, last year, or the year 2000/2001, which is ending on 30th June, the Minister for Roads and Public Works used Kshs8.9 million in Nyamira. Could the Assistant Minister give us a breakdown of how that money was used, and why did they leave a very important road which starts from the "centre of partnership" to Nyamira? Why was that particular road left out when the money was being used?

Eng. Rotich: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have the breakdown now, but I wish I could know where the "centre of partnership" is, so that I can start looking for it!

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

RELIEF MAIZE DISTRIBUTION

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that over 40,000 tonnes of relief food (maize) meant for distribution in Laikipia District in February, 2001, was not issued to the residents by Administration Officers (DOs)?

(b) What immediate action is the Minister taking to ensure recovery and distribution of the said maize?

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

(a) I am not aware that over 40,000 tonnes of relief maize meant for distribution in Laikipia District in February, 2001, was not issued to the residents by the administration officials. However, I am aware that the district received 10,000 bags, that is 900 metric tonnes of relief maize in February, 2001, out of which 9,766 bags, which is 879 metric tonnes was issued to the beneficiaries by Caritas of Nyeri Relief Agency. The balance of about 233 bags, which is 21 metric tonnes, was lost due to siphoning at the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB), Nanyuki Depot. Therefore, the issue of administration officials handling the relief food does not arise, as their role is purely that of co-ordination through the District Steering Group.

(b) The Government will ensure that the relief maize lost through siphoning will be recovered and ultimately, distributed to the targeted needy people.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that for the last three years, we have been facing drought. The Assistant Minister is also aware of that because he is my neighbour. The Assistant Minister has admitted that a total of 233 bags were stolen. But instead of telling us that they were stolen, he is hiding that by using the word "siphoning!" But the fact remains that the maize was stolen. The maize was stolen with the collusion of the District Commissioner (DC) then, who happens to be a constituent of Mr. Elijah Sumbeiywo and the Caritas of Nyeri Relief Agency!

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I hope the hon. Member is not implying that, because the DC comes from my area, we are also corrupt! He should not personalise this matter!

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not implying that and I am sorry about that! It is only that Mr. William Kurumei, the former DC, comes from his area. However, in part (b) of the Question, the Assistant Minister has admitted that the food will be recovered and distributed to the people. Now that he has admitted that, could he tell us what action he will take to interdict the officers concerned? I have already told him that one of them is the former DC and Caritas of Nyeri Relief Agency. He should make sure that they are prosecuted!

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do not know whether the 233 bags that the hon. Member is talking about have been stolen. We only know that a mistake was committed at the Nanyuki Depot. If he has any evidence concerning the 233 bags that he says were stolen, he should have reported to us or the police, so that

action could have been taken!

Mr. Kiunjuri: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the Assistant Minister tell the House what he means by "siphoning?"

Mr. Speaker: What is siphoning?

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people who work in the NCPB sometimes use some needles to take out some maize from the bags. That is what I mean by siphoning, and that is what they have been doing!

Mr. Kihoro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a new style that has been invented, of denying poor people, some of them in Dol Dol, relief food that has been given by international organisations. That is a process that the Assistant Minister has come here to justify under the name of "siphoning!" But what is important here is: Are you going to recover the 233 bags that you have admitted were lost, although you have denied that the food was 40,000 bags? I have information that it was 40,000 bags and not 10,000 bags!

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know about the 40,000 bags he is talking about. I only know about the 10,000 bags. But what we are saying is that the Government has just paid money to the NCPB for the maize that it has used. But we will make sure that the maize which has been lost or siphoned is returned and given to the needy people.

Mr. Ndilinge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a very serious issue, particularly for a Member who comes from a famine stricken area like Mr. Ndilinge! Such things have been going on not only in Laikipia alone, but all over the country. Some people are capitalising on the poor people. Could the Assistant Minister tell us whether he will investigate this issue? But before he tells us that, could he tell us what action his office took when they realised that there was siphoning? Was anybody arrested and charged? Could you also tell the House when the 233 bags will be returned to Laikipia and distributed to the people? It appears like there was a conspiracy!

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the Members of Parliament are saying, that this thing has been going on, there is no report that has come to us and we do not know what is going on there at National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB). So, we will make sure that this stolen maize is returned and given to the needy people.

Mr. Ndilinge: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to misinform the House by saying that he is going to make sure that these stolen bags of maize are brought back? Who will bring them back? Can a thief return stolen bags of maize?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kochalle, where are you going to get these 200 stolen bags of maize from?

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will get these 233 stolen bags of maize because the Government has just paid money to the NCPB to buy maize. So, we know that NCPB will buy some more bags of maize and send them to the original owners of the stolen bags of maize.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has accepted that 233 bags of maize were stolen but it is very serious to note that he is not categorical on whether he is prosecuting the culprits. However, now that he has admitted and accepted that he is refunding to the people of Laikipia 233 bags of maize and noting that you have not yet received any harvest and the drought still persists, could he now consider extending the food programme at least for the next three months to ensure that the people of Laikipia will reap a harvest?

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are steering committees in every district which tell us whether this should continue or not.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question!

ERADICATION OF TSETSE FLIES

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

- (a) Is the Minister aware of the increase of tsetse fly in areas around Ruma National Park, Suba District?
- (b) What is the Ministry doing to contain the increase of tsetse fly in this area?

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware.

(b) After various attempts to contain tsetse fly dispersal to areas outside Ruma National Park, the Kenya Government and the International Atomic Energy Agency signed a joint communique in April 1999 to co-operate in the area to wipe out tsetse fly and trypanosomiasis intervention in Lambwe Valley within which Ruma National Park lies. The method to be used is called Sterilising Insect Technique (SIT). This is an advanced tsetse fly control method involving use of radio-active materials to sterilise males in the laboratory which are later released to the tsetse fly-infested areas where they compete for mating females with the wild male tsetse flies. Females mating

with sterilised males lay infertile eggs thereby controlling the production of tsetse flies.

(Laughter)

Mr. Kanyauchi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have never heard of such a wild answer in the sense that there seems to be a lot of "scientific mating" or data and what-have-you. However, specifically, if there was a communique which was released and not signed in 1999, today we are in June 2001 and taking into account the seriousness of tsetse flies both to livestock and human beings, what has the Government done between 1999 and now other than the communique, scientific and the mating which the Assistant Minister is talking about?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since this agreement was signed by the Government and the body already mentioned, the Government has sterilised the male tsetse flies. In Lambwe Valley, the SIT project will last for two years, that is 2001 and 2002. This project could not be started immediately after the signing of the contract because the funds were not available. So, the project started early this year. A consultative stakeholder meeting composed of Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Veterinary Services and the Director of Kenya Trypanosomiasis Research Institute was held at KETRI headquarters, Muguga, on 28th January this year to deliberate on the tsetse fly problem. It was acknowledged that there was an increase in the tsetse flies around Ruma National Park. The consultative meeting recommended that immediate intervention measures be put in place. That is why, immediately after that meeting, the sterilisation of male tsetse flies was started.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Sumbeiywo, for clarification, between that time and now, how many tsetse flies have been sterilised?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we reckon that 60 per cent of the male tsetse flies presently found in Ruma National Park have been sterilised.

(Laughter)

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know this Assistant Minister believes in the principle of collective responsibility and the term "trypanosomiasis" which he has problems pronouncing, simply means "sleeping sickness". What action has the Government taken to ensure that the people in Lambwe Valley are protected from sleeping sickness?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the same question. It is a question of eradicating tsetse flies and this is the method we have already instituted. I want to say that "trypanosomiasis" is not a difficult word to be pronounced.

Mr. Kajwang: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Lambwe Valley and Ruma National Park where the tsetse flies are predominant form part of my constituency and several people are now sleeping. In fact, they cannot use sharp objects because they are likely to cut their hands when they are working. That is caused by a "primitive" disease called "sleeping sickness". It is so prevalent in my place and our livestock are dying and we are hearing of some scientific jargon on some experiments of some "castration" of tsetse flies. This is not a laughing matter. Could the Assistant Minister reassure this House that he will use the method which our people [Mr. Kajwang] know, of spraying the tsetse flies, otherwise our people have resolved to burn the entire Ruma National Park so that the tsetse fly can get burnt?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask Mr. Kajwang not to incite his people because the project has already received funds amounting to US\$897,000. I would like to point out that the project was started on 11th March, 2001. So, we will eradicate tsetse flies from that area.

Mr. Kanyauchi: May, I ask the last question, Mr. Speaker, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kanyauchi, you can see that time is up!

Let us move on to the next Order!

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS

(Order for Committee read)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

(The Minister for Finance on 14.6.2001)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 20.6.2001)

(Third Day of Budget Debate)

Mr. Speaker: Who was on the Floor yesterday? Yes, Mr. Kajembe!

Mr. Kajembe: Mr. Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kajembe, I am told that you had concluded your Speech.

Mr. Kajembe: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Murathe, you can have the Floor!

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you noticed the lack of interest in this year's Budget debate. This is so because it is long on rhetoric and very short on specifics.

This is a moaning Budget; people who just decry poverty; a Government that demonstrates that it is incompetent to manage the economy of this country. I would like to point out that this is a Government which dedicates all its programmes on hope and aid, which it knows is not forthcoming.

I would like to say that this is a Government which tells us that the PRSP priorities--- This is a document by the people, and the Government of Kenya has prioritised agriculture as the major priority that the people have identified, and yet, in reality, the budgetary provision for agriculture has dropped from 12 per cent to less than 4 per cent. What are we talking about? Why do we take our priorities upside down?

The Kenya Rural Development Strategy Paper talks about agriculture. I would like to point out that the amount of money that this Government commits to non-productive use, for example, the external debt service is Kshs110 billion.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

This country is technically broke. Their papers demonstrate that 50 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is in the form of foreign debts. I would like to read these figures for Kenyans to know, because people have been joking about with them. The total external debt of Kenya is Kshs465 billion, and the internal debt stands at Kshs175 billion. I would like to point out that the GDP stands at Kshs944 billion, while 68 per cent of the country's GDP is composed of debts. There is something wrong. We are technically insolvent. This country is technically broke. We pay between Kshs35 billion and Kshs38 billion as interest on domestic debts, and yet, the total Development Budget is Kshs35 billion. I do not know what has gone wrong in this country, but one thing I know is that the debt business is the real business for people to make money. That is the problem. You know, and it is in their Estimates, that the largest net foreign exchange earner for this country are Asians who bring in foreign exchange to buy Treasury Bills. That is Kshs60 billion per year. This is because this is the only country where you can get the highest returns on investment without doing anything. You borrow money in Europe at 5 per cent or 6 per cent and here, Treasury Bills and interest rates from the banks are anything from 28 per cent to 30 per cent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a Government which borrows money from its own people or raises funds from the domestic market in order for some people who are foreigners to make a fortune. We must address the debt service problems. It is the highest charge on the Consolidated Fund Services. Last year, the Government had to put aside Kshs110 billion to pay off debts. I would like to point out that this is a Government which is proud to lay off workers. Last year, 27,000 workers were retrenched to save Kshs7 billion, and this year, 11,000 workers will be retrenched to save Kshs4 billion. It is something that is incomprehensible; that the Government pursues monetary and fiscal policies imposed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that create more poverty in this country, at a time when a few people make Kshs35 billion in interest earning on non-productive money. At the same time, those who are retrenched are not paid.

Last year, the allocation for the civil servants who were to be retrenched was Kshs240,000 per person, but they only got Kshs40,000. This Government should be accountable and tell the people where the balance of Kshs200,000 for the retrenched workers went to; and whether they are satisfied that they can send people home with Kshs40,000 and expect them to engage in any useful economic activity.

This is a Government that has given up; it is a Government which is incompetent; it is a Government which needs a shot in the arm not from the external sources, but from carrying out adequate consultations with all Kenyans involved, and working along the lines of the priorities of Kenyans. It does not make sense for Kenyans to say that their top priority in terms of the sectors is agriculture and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has been allocated only Kshs4 billion, which is actually 3 per cent of the total budgetary allocation. This is the case despite the Office of the President, the NSIS, the Department of Defence (DOD) combined with the Public Service Commission (PSC) taking about 40 per cent of the total Budget allocation.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology takes another 40 per cent of the total allocation of the Budget, and yet, parents pay double that amount of money which this Government allocates to this Ministry.

I would like to say that parents pay through the nose, whether in private or public schools, and yet, 40 per cent of our Budget goes toward education. Clearly, something does not add up. It is high time the budgetary process was based on impact so that when they tell us about the Ministry of Roads and Public Works, we want to know how many kilometres of road it will translate into. What we have here and arising from the Questions that are coming into this House, is that these people think that we came here to put figures. We came here to approve money for this Government and we must see the implementation of those programmes. This Government cannot tell you, for one moment, why the Kenya Roads Board (KRB) has not been operationalized. The only reason why it is not working is because a chief executive has not been appointed. What is so difficult about having a chief executive appointed to run the KRB? Are you saying we do not have qualified Kenyans, or is it because once those agencies start working and donors start channelling their money through the KRB, this Government will never have access to that money for misappropriation?

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

Mr. Ndilinge: Asante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Bajeti hii ilikuwa nzuri, lakini Waziri anahitaji kutuhakikishia kuwa hakutakuwa na nyongeza zingine kama vile kuongeza bei ya petroli na bidhaa zingine. Tunaweza kusema kuwa Bajeti hii ilikuwa nzuri kwa mwananchi lakini kesho, kesho kutwa au mtondogoo, utasikie kuwa bidhaa fulani zimepanda bei. Njia kama hiyo ni ya kuumiza wananchi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nikigusia kidogo juu ya mambo yaliyosemwa na mhe. Murathe, mara nyingi tumeelezwa kuwa fulani alikuwa ana mamlaka fulani na Wizara fulani ilivuja hiki na kile. Lakini kuongea tu hakutatusaidia. Hata ingawa tumechelewa, wakati umefika kwa sisi kama Wabunge kuungana pamoja bila kuzingatia misingi yetu ya kisiasa. Ikiwa mwizi amemwibia mwananchi, tumesema hadharani kuwa fulani ameiba. Ningewasihi Wabunge wenzangu kutoka upande ule wasiendelee kusema kwamba Serikali hii imeiba hiki na kile kwa sababu Serikali ina watu wengi. Kama mwizi yuko katika Wizara ya Afya na ameiba hiki au kile, anastahili kufungwa na tuache kusema hii "Serikali ya Moi". Rais Moi anakaa katika Ikulu na hawezi kujua kuwa bwawa limeharibika huko Kilome. Ikiwa lilihabirika kwa sababu pesa zilizotengewa mradi huo zilivujwa na afisa anayetakiwa kuutelekeza, tumwelekeze kidole afisa huyo. Tunapomwingilia Rais Moi tunakosa njia kwa maana tunamtaja mtu ambaye hakuiba.

An hon. Member: Yeye ni meneja wa aina gani?

Mr. Ndilinge: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, maneno kama hayo ndiyo yanafanya mwizi aendelee kuiba kwa maana anajua hajagunduliwa. Kama tungesema Ndilinge alivuja Kshs20 milioni apeleke kortini, wale wengine wangewacha. Lakini wezi wanaendelea kuiba na hapa tunataja Rais Moi akiwa katika Ikulu. Tuwataje wezi na mmoja akishikwa, wale wengine hawataiba. Lakini ukiwa mwizi na ukiiba, kunatajwa wengine, utaendelea kuiba tu kwa sababu hajajulikana. Ni wakati wetu kama Wabunge hata kama mtu ni ndugu au mjomba wako na ameiba mali ya raia, tuseme fulani ameiba.

Mr. Mboko: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for my good friend here to continue defending this Government while the PAC and the PIC Reports of this House have identified the real culprits and still the Government has not taken any action?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Ndilinge, continue!

Mr. Ndilinge: Asante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Ninajaribu kuwaonyesha njia ya kuwashika wezi lakini wametokomea na hawatawapata. Tukiwa katika Bunge hili, uwe ni Mbunge wa KANU au Upinzani, tumekuja hapa kwa jukumu moja la wananchi hawa. Tusahau mambo ya vyama vyetu. Hii ndio sababu ninawaambia tuache kutaja Rais Moi na tuwashike wezi ili wale wengine waelewe kuwa wanajulikana. Lakini jinsi tunavyoongea inaonyesha hatujawajua wezi kwa sababu kama tungewajua, tungeshirikiana sote kuwashika na kuwapeleka kortini. Lakini wimbo ni mmoja ule ule: "Serikali ya Moi!" "Serikali ya Moi" na Rais Moi yuko Ikulu. Tushikane pamoja na kuwashika wezi na uovu huu utakwisha.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, vile mhe. Murathe na wahe. Wabunge wengine wamesema ni kweli. Tunapitisha hapa kuwa pesa zitumiwe kwa miradi fulani, lakini pesa hizo hazitumiwi kwa miradi hiyo. Ninataka

kuwakumbusha wenzangu kuwa leo sisi ni viongozi na kesho hatutakuwa viongozi na kutakuwa na wengine. Historia itawafuata wale wanaovuja pesa za nchi hii. Ikiwa umepewa kazi na unatumia pesa zilizotengewa kazi hiyo kujinufaisha, siku moja utakuwa haupo na watakaokuwepo watakufuata au wafuate vizazi vyako. Hii ndio sababu ninasema kuwa wakati umefika wa kuwataja wezi hadharani. Ukiulizwa: "Kwenu ni wapi?", halafu useme: "Ni hapa hivi"; vidole ni vitano, hajui atafuata kidole kipi. Lakini ukisema ni pale, atajua mahali kidole hiki kinaonyesha. Maneno ya kusema wezi ikome na tuseme Bw. Musila aliiba hiki na Bw. Mboko---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! Mr. Ndilinge, you do not give examples using the Chair. Could you withdraw that?

Mr. Ndilinge: Ninaomba msamaha, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda na kuondoa madai hayo. Nina huzuni tukifuata wezi.

Mr. Mutahi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not know why Mr. Ndilinge is still insisting on repeating himself. He has been told that names have been mentioned through---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! What is your point of order?

Mr. Mutahi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. He is saying that thieves should be prosecuted. They have been named and it is the work of the Government to prosecute them.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Mutahi, that is not a point of order. It is a point of argument.

Continue, Mr. Ndilinge!

Mr. Ndilinge: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tunasema tunataka kupigana na umaskini, upande wa Ukambani kuna mito 16 ambayo inaelekea Bahari Hindi. Ikiwa Serikali hii ina nia ya kumaliza njaa Ukambani, pesa zinazotumiwa kuwapelekea Wakamba chakula cha msaada, zinaweza kutumiwa kujenga na kurekebisha mabwawa ili kuzuia maji yanayoelekea Bahari Hindi. Mkifanya hivyo, hamtasikia Mkamba yeyote akiomba chakula. Hii ni njia ya kumaliza njaa. Pesa tunazotumia kwa chakula cha msaada, wakati huu zitumiwe kwa kufunga mito na hamtasikia tukiwaomba chakula tena. Maji yanayoenda Bahari Hindi ni mengi sana na sisi tunakufa njaa huko Ukambani. Kwa sababu Serikali inalinda masilahi ya wananchi, ningewasihii waanze na Ukambani kwa kufunga mito 16 na mingine miwili; Athi na Tana. Ikiwa Serikali itazuia maji yasiende Bahari Hindi, Mkamba hataomba chakula isipokuwa kuwe kuna mtu ambaye ana nia fulani ya kuwaumiza Wakamba.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, sasa nitazungumza juu ya usoroveya. Kwa mfano, katika sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni ya Kilome, shughuli ya usoroveya ilianza mwaka wa 1974 lakini kufikia sasa hakuna mtu hata mmoja ambaye amepata hati ya kumiliki shamba. Kumekuwa na mchezo wa paka na panya kuhusu shughuli ya usoroveya katika sehemu hiyo. Kila ofisa mpya wa ardhi anapowasili katika sehemu hiyo, hufufua kesi ambazo huwa zimemalizwa na yule ofisa aliyetangulia, kwa sababu huwa kuna nia mbaya. Maoni yangu juu ya swala hili ni kwamba wale ambao wanahusika na kesi za ardhi waendeleo kusikiza kesi hizo na wale ambao ardhi yao imefanyiwa usoroveya wapewe vyeti vya kumiliki ardhi. Inasemekana hata kesi moja katika lokeshini inaweza kuwafanya watu wengine wangojee mpaka kesi hiyo imalizike. Hizo zilikuwa sheria za mkoloni. Sasa ni lazima tuwe na sheria za Kenya, na ikiwezekana tuwe na sheria za Kikamba.

(Laughter)

Katika jamii ya Wakamba kuna kiapo kinachoitwa *kithitu*. Wabunge wengi hapa watanielewa vibaya kwa sababu kiapo hicho hakiwahusu. Zamani, watu wawili wakibishana juu ya shamba ama ng'ombe, walikuwa wakilishwa kiapo cha *kithitu*. Mwenye kulisha *kithitu* alikuwa akisimama katikati ya watu waliokuwa wakibishana na kumuuliza kila mmoja kula kiapo hicho. Siku hizi matajiri huwanyang'anya maskini mashamba yao kwa sababu wanafahamu ya kwamba Serikali imekataa kukihalalisha kiapo hicho. Wale waliokigusa *kithutu* wakidai eti ng'ombe alikuwa wao, walikuwa wakifa. Siku hizi, watu wanajua ya kwamba pesa ni mambo yote. Hivyo basi, maskini wanaendelea kunyanganywa mali yao. Kwa hivyo, jamii ya Wakamba ina njia tofauti za kuona ya kwamba haki imetendwa.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Mda, stima imekuwa ya matajiri. Tungependa Wizara ya Kawi ionyeshe tofauti ya viwango vya ulipaji stima kwa matajiri na maskini. Maskini hawapati stima kwa sababu viwango vya ulipaji kati ya maskini na matajiri ni sawa. Mpango wa usambazaji stima katika sehemu za mashambani ungewaokoa maskini, lakini haupo kamwe! Sasa, viwango vya ulipaji stima ni sawa kwa kila mtu, awe maskini ama tajiri. Ningependa jambo hili liangaliwe na tuokolewe.

Kabla ya kutamatisha mchango wangu, ningependa kuzungumza juu ya pesa zilizotengewa Ofisi ya Rais. Ninaomba maafisa tawala, wakuu wa tarafa, machifu na manaibu wao waandaliwe semina na kupewa mafunzi juu ya siasa ya vyama vingi. Wengi wao bado wana kasumba ya wakati wa Serikali ya chama kimoja.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Mda, pia, ningependa swala la kuwafukuza maafisa wa umma waliostaafishwa kutoka kwa nyumba za Serikali liangaliwe. Haifai maafisa kama hao kufukuzwa kutoka kwa nyumba za Serikali kabla ya kulipwa marupurupu yao.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono.

Mr. Kibicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this year's Budget Speech deals with the causes of the economic problems being experienced in this country. However, it lacks solutions to those problems.

The House will note that, for the last five years, the economy has declined to stand at a growth rate of negative 0.3 per cent currently. In fact, many Kenyans believe that the rate figure given by the Minister is doctored. So, the real growth rate could be lower. Why has this come about? Although the Minister has pointed out that the negative economic growth was due to bad governance, insecurity, corruption, lack of confidence among local and international investor, among other reasons, these issues have not been addressed properly.

So, is it not a shame for the Government to make Kenyans believe that everything is normal when there is no likelihood of the economy improving? All over the world, no economy has registered a negative growth unless that country is at war. Kenya is not at war. Money is being spent as if this country is at war. The productive sectors of this country's economy have not been allocated adequate funds. What is the use of us sitting here as a House telling Kenyans that the theme of this year's Budget is to reduce poverty when we know that we have not put into place any policy that will address poverty? We cannot overemphasise the importance of agriculture as the engine of growth, as far as this economy is concerned. We have specific crops which can turn round this country's economy. We have coffee, tea, cotton, sugar as well as the livestock industry. How much money has the Government allocated those sub-sectors so that they can be turned round?

Every year, the Minister for Finance tries to please industrialists yet their contribution to this country's economy is very negligible. One wonders what is going to happen to this country in the near future. Food has become a problem. There is no solution to the food insecurity problem. Water is the biggest problem in this country. For years, water experts have been telling us that the water flow in our rivers has reduced. This is because all the water catchment areas up on our mountains have been converted into farmland. So, there are no longer water reservoirs to supply water gradually during the dry seasons. Because of the pressure that has been exerted on our land resource by our growing population over the years, this has been expected. But why has the Government not come up with a policy of constructing dams to hold water and have its flow regulated so that we can continue having adequate water even during the dry seasons, so that people in areas such as Ukambani no longer complain about lack of water and the persistent hunger that has resulted in many deaths? That is a very serious problem.

Our colleagues who joined the Government recently argue that we on the Opposition side are jealousy of their appointment as Ministers and Assistant Ministers. Is being appointed a Minister an issue? That is a very cheap argument. What is important is for Kenyans to enjoy their rights as citizens of this country and have their daily bread and shelter. That is more important than prestige. However, in the last five years, we have made this country appear as if it has been at war. Consequently, the economy has shrunk. Therefore, we seriously urge the Government to change its policies.

The Minister says in his Budget Speech that the national grid will be connected to the Tanzanian one and, hopefully, South African national grids, so that we can get power from those countries whenever we experience electricity shortfalls. South Africa produce electricity from atomic energy. Why can we not be bold enough to say that we are going to develop electric power from atomic energy, as South Africa does, instead of thinking of getting power from their national grid? You have seen a very short-sighted Government. When we had electricity shortfall in the recent past, those in Government brought in their people and called them "Independent Power Producers". As a result, the cost of electricity per unit went up so much that many people turned to using kerosene and firewood. As a result, there are no forests or water. Instead, what we have is a mass destruction of the environment in this country. There is shortsightedness in the policies of this Government. I come from around Mt. Kenya slopes where there are a lot of rivers. In my constituency, without the assistance of this Government, we did ask people from New Zealand to assess the potential of macro-electricity in our rivers. They confirmed to us that we could get 780 kilowatts from small dams. Why can this Government not think on those terms, instead of waiting until there is a crisis? Such crises lead to a decline in production due to power rationing. This country requires a change of attitude. It requires a Government which does not spent all the resources on survival tactics.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, many hon. Members have talked about money spent on Presidential visits all over the country. But there seems to be no end to it. Everyday, we see so many Presidential vehicles moving all over the country and Government officials getting allowances. Petrol is being used everyday for a purely unproductive exercise. It is a very serious matter! This should not be happening in a country where people are dying everyday because they cannot afford medicine. This Government does not care at all. We have been

talking about the HIV/AIDS menace, malaria and other diseases and we have done nothing, as a Government, to alleviate the suffering of our people. This Government is only involved in arguments; on how it will extend its term in office after the year 2002 and who will be the President of this country. These things do not matter at all.

We, as a nation, must change completely so that we think of the plight of the unfortunate people in our country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in last year's Budget, there were assumptions that money would come from donors. This Budget is also prepared on the same assumptions. A Budget which has been prepared on the assumption that funding will come from the donors, is not encouraging at all. This is because similar assumptions were made last year, but no money came from the donors. Is this a Budget which is supposed to serve as a public relations exercise for the Government or will it serve the interest of Kenyans? Is this a Budget which is supposed to address the problem of our people or is it a Government gimmick to cheat Kenyans? This is because one would have expected that the Government would have learnt a lesson from what happened last year and prepared a budget with the available resources. Without being accused of anticipating debate, I can foresee problems because even some of those Bills which the IMF and the Government have agreed to be tabled here, may later on get in the same problem like the ones which were declared unconstitutional. We have looked at them and expressed our opinion---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Kibicho, your time is up.

Mr. Kibicho: Most obliged, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Mboko: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Budget Speech.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the onset, I would like to point out that this Budget is hinged on the PRSP. However, the PRSP has not been discussed in this House. Consequently, it is an illegality to base the Budget on the PRSP which has not been debated and approved by this House. The total expenditure in the Budget is Kshs234 billion in this financial year. Out of this, Development Expenditure is Kshs33 billion. Our total projected revenue collection is Kshs105 billion. Therefore, there is a deficit of Kshs39 billion. It is this deficit which the Minister anticipates to get from donors. I can assure this House that donor funds will not be forthcoming because the Government is not serious in implementing conditionalities as spelt out by donors. We have not been able to meet those conditionalities in the last 24 months. I do not see how we will implement those demands of donors within the next 12 months. The Government will go back to the domestic market to cushion the deficit in the Budget. Our total money supply is not in excess of Kshs600 billion. Out of this, the domestic debt is about Kshs158 billion. People in the commercial sector have taken about the balance of Kshs360 billion. The balance of about Kshs60 billion will be borrowed in the domestic market. If the Government borrows this money, then this country will go on its knees.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Budget allocation of resources to various sectors is not fair. We find that the rural sector has been ignored. If I were the Minister for Finance, I would address the issue of the social welfare of this nation. When I talk about the social welfare I am talking about uplifting the living standards of our people who live in rural areas. The rural area population forms about 75 per cent of the total population in this country. These are the people we rely on to farm, keep livestock and conserve our environment. This Government has not thought about this population of this country. It is sad that the Government has not even allocated money to the macro-finance institutions to assist those people. These are the mamas who cultivate a half an acre of cabbages, youths who work in our farms and they need to be financed by this Government to turn round the economy of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister talks about Kshs31 billion as the Development Vote. This amount will not be enough because, part of it will go to tarmac roads. It is a pity that our roads will not be tarmacked. Some of these funds will be used to put up Government buildings which will never be completed. You will find that only a few contractors will be paid this money and nothing will be on the ground. For example, Jogoo Road has taken about four years and yet it has never been completed. This dual-carriage way has taken over five years and yet, it has not been completed. It is a shame because the colonial **[Mr. Mboko]** Government built a railway line from Mombasa to Kisumu within five years. They had no other means of communication other than the same railway line which they used to transport their own goods. We need a disciplined Government. This Government has failed in all aspects of governance.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have invested a lot of resources in the education sector. Each year, our youths graduate from universities. But this Government does not think of how to create employment opportunities for them. When the youths turn against us, we cry foul. It is our own mistake. As a Government, we have contributed to the insanity exhibited by our youths. Could this Government tell us when they last put up a dispensary or a primary school in this country? This Government does nothing and yet when wananchi, who

pay taxes to maintain this Government in power contribute money to put up dispensaries, primary and secondary schools, the Government does not even post personnel to those institutions. It is the same wananchi who pay PTA teachers from their own pockets. Parents buy textbooks and exercise books because the Government can no longer provide their children with books. However, in the KANU manifesto, they talk of provision of free education, healthcare, among other things.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about agriculture because almost every hon. Member has talked about it. We can as well forget about agriculture especially the sugar industry, if it cannot be revived. Even the Government should forget about the sugar industry. If I was asked I should say that we should uproot all the sugar cane in the Sugar Belt and plant maize which people can eat. There is nothing which shall be revived in the sugar industry because the odds and everything else is against us; the COMESA countries come in. Here we have small-scale plantations of one-acre or two acres. It is not economical to produce sugar in such acreage and, therefore, as long as those countries continue to bring sugar into this country we should forget about the sugar industry.

With regard to pastoralism, this Government made sure that the pastoralist farmers do not enjoy the fruits of Independence. For instance, before the last drought, how many Maasai pastoralists had over 1,000 head of cattle, but after the drought they had nothing? Despite all this, the Government continues to say that it wants to eradicate poverty. For instance, somebody who had 1,000 head of cattle, after three months he had nothing! How do you eradicate poverty under such circumstances? How will you convince the cattle farmer to go back to farming, being aware that the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) was closed down and, therefore, he has nowhere to take his milk? When he tries to hawk his milk, he is arrested. When one tries to hawk milk in Nairobi City, he is arrested because he must have a licence for hawking milk from the Dairy Board although the Dairy Board is not functioning. They tried to assist the same pastoralists but the Wakamba have really suffered after the Government ruined Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) and the Halal Meat Factory. They took away the land belonging to the KMC and then a few politically-correct individuals subdivided it among themselves. Today, even if you revive the KMC without revoking that allocation and demolishing all the buildings, that will not serve any purpose. This Government knows very well that the agricultural sector is the backbone of this country's economy, and yet they have killed the coffee and the cotton industries and now they are busy killing the last one; the tea industry. Unless we are very careful, we are going to be a useless nation. This is something the Government should think about very seriously. The Government should come to terms with the real situation in Kenya.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, instead of spending over Kshs30 billion in the Office of the President on security operations, as if this country in war--- Shall we eat security as a nation? The same policemen who are supposed to protect us are the ones who are killing us!

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Kajwang: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion on the Budget Speech.

When I listened to the long and windy Speech made by the Minister for Finance, I slumbered a bit. I slept like President Museveni did when the Minister for Finance was reading the Budget Speech in Uganda. President Museveni woke up only when the Minister started to talk about the Uganda Commercial Bank. Then he said: "You know, when I heard about Uganda Commercial Bank, I woke up because we want to privatise it". He said so because the Budget had nothing more, but it was the same, same old Speech because nothing was added to it. So, I was not bothered when the Minister for Finance was reading the Budget Speech. So, I also slept because I was bored. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was nothing new that I heard except a catalogue of complaints about negative growth for the first time of -0.3 per cent since Independence. That is what we were being told. How can you not sleep, when the only thing you hear is: "Negative growth, high interest rates, collapsing business, increase of unemployment, our youths are being devastated or HIV/AIDS is finishing us?" Why should you not sleep?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Budget Speech was boring because it had nothing new. When the Minister for Finance stands here next time, I would recommend that the length of the Budget Speech be shortened. It should take about 30 minutes and be specific on the message. Lastly, its prescriptions should be clinical and to the point. We have no time sitting here for two hours listening to woos, mournings and cries of frustrated citizens.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we were given the worst indices in growth. I have already said it to be a negative growth of -0.3 per cent in the year 2001. Then we were told that poverty level in this country increased from 52 per cent to 56 per cent. That is the only thing which had increased. That is the percentage of the people who are living below the poverty line. So, that was the only positive thing that happened in the year 2000/2001, because we recorded some growth on levels of poverty in this country. How can you not sleep when

you listen to such kind of things? They are so frightening and so annoying that you are tempted to sleep.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been told that there is a big access to the US market, which I understand is the largest market in the world. There is also something called African Growth and Opportunity Act initiative. We are told that through this initiative, we can now sell some clothing materials in the American market. But where are we going to get the clothing materials from if we have killed the cotton industry? I was so annoyed the other day when the new Provincial Commissioner for Nyanza said that they have spent Kshs2 million to improve cotton industry in Nyanza. Have we made ourselves a laughing stock, that if you want to grow cotton and you want people to prepare their farms first and then buy the correct seeds, pesticides, weed the farms and finally sell the output, you need to spend Kshs2 million in a whole province and hope that, that will generate the dead cotton industry? That is a big joke! Our people will not grow cotton under those conditions because it is a big joke. I cannot stand in front of my constituents and preach that they should grow cotton when I cannot tell them where to sell it. I cannot tell my people to spend money in growing cotton when I cannot tell them where they will sell their cotton!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a farmer must also have a balance sheet, where he or she will show what he or she has spent on preparation of the farm, the money to be spent on seeds, weeding and picking. Finally, he or she should be able to know the price at which to sell the produce. So, in that way, there is a likelihood of making some money.

Our farmers do not grow cotton for the joy of it. They want to make money. How can I stand up and tell my constituents to grow cotton, when I cannot tell them how much profits they are likely to make from an acre of cotton if they develop it? That is a big joke! We expect the Minister for Finance to come here with prescriptions which are specific. He must come here and tell us: "If you develop one acre of cotton, you will most likely use so much money and you are likely to gain so much money and so, there is some profit of so much." Our people are not fools. They do not grow maize for the joy of it. They do not keep dairy animals for the joy of keeping of them. They want to make money. We must be told that our farmers will benefit from some initiative. Otherwise, it is would be a big joke!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, so, the Minister cannot just come here and read out some long and winding speech. He cannot tell us that, "we are now going to improve agriculture, and if we improve agriculture, then, we are going to be better off." That is a good statement, but what does it say, if you do not tell the farmer how much he or she will get from that initiative.

Other than cotton which is grown in my constituency, and I am telling my people not to grow until the Minister tells them how much they will get, there is something about fishing which I would also like to talk about. Fishing gear, nets and boats and other tools which go with fishing are expensive. Fishing sector is the only area which has not been zero-rated, when you import those facilities. When you import nets and boats, you pay VAT. So, it is the only area in which my people are working so hard but they have never been encouraged or supported, in terms of zero-rating the boats and nets. Unless that is done, fishing is going to be done in a peasant manner, the way it was done in Jesus' time. You remember that when Jesus found John and his brother suffering the whole night, somehow, he performed a miracle. There are no more miracles in Lake Victoria. You must just do something about it. We are saying that the Minister must address basic things. Of course, I remember that coming from Busia, where "Boda Boda" business is thriving, he did something good on bicycles because his voters were very cheerful when they heard that there is no more VAT on bicycles.

But he forgot that he also borders the lake where fishermen are suffering. Unless we do something on fishing gear and agriculture, we are not going to solve the problem of poverty. We are going to compound poverty and the negative growth which went down to 0.3 per cent will widen. That will be another positive thing in the next Budget; he will tell us that we grew by -0.5 per cent, and I will go to sleep more that time round because it will be boring.

I want to give a few prescriptions of what we should do on security. First, there is proliferation of security guards companies. The only things that they lack are firearms. You know that security guards cannot match robbers because they are inadequately armed. Robbers just smile their way, because they shoot their way out because the security guards have only rungu. A guy with a rungu cannot solve the problem of insecurity. Nairobi has become very sophisticated and dangerous, and you do not maintain security with rungu. Rungus are now ceremonial. We have to change that and give our security guards guns. For example, if you go to Uganda, you will find that they have made use of the security guards. How have they solved their security problems? They have made sure that in every security vehicle, and there are many; whenever you take a corner in some of these residential areas, you will find a security vehicle, and there are some police officers in it - two or so. By just having two police officers in every security guard vehicle, and without costing the police force any more money, the security situation would be improved almost a hundredfold, and they have done it in Uganda. Then, they have also

armed the security guards. That is cheap because the Government would only need to arm them and give them certificates. They would buy their own arms. So, we would not spend any more money in order to improve our security in this field.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the time is almost up and I wanted to say that---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Kajwang! It is not "almost" up! Your time is gone!

Mr. Kajwang: Oh! Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I support the Motion.

Mr. M.M. Galgalo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to join my friends in contributing to the Motion. May I start by saying that the new convert to the KANU/NDP partnership, Mr Raila Odinga, in a statement - I saw him in the TV today - said that KANU/NDP alliance is going to give Kenyans free education. The issue of free education has been on the KANU manifesto ever since 1962 and up to now, we have not seen it happening. Parents are suffering because they cannot afford to pay school fees for their children.

There is the committee on national disasters, famine and drought but it has failed in enabling the pastoralist communities to educate their children. For example, in the ASAL areas, as you have heard from my friend from Ukambani, a number of livestock herds have perished because of famine, and the victims are unable to educate their children. How does the Government expect parents who depend on famine relief to be able to pay school fees amounting to Kshs50,000? The Minister should have made education free, at least at secondary school level, so that Kenyans can have some relief.

We have heard about reduction of or removal duty paid on agricultural goods in the Budget Speech. That will possibly reduce the cost of farm implements and inputs. For those of us who depend on natural bounties of Allah; the grass in the grazing lands, what has the Minister given to us? We also belong to the same Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. What have the Treasury experts given us? They have given us nothing. The few remaining livestock will also perish. We expect no recovery at all. We shall continue to be excluded from the Budget all the time, because this Government is not sensitive to the pastoralists needs. This is because this Government does not make any sensible deduction of situations. The Minister says that he expects improvement. What improvement will there be when there have been no rains in most of the areas which have been experiencing famine to enable them to even grow staple food for themselves? Maize cannot be harvested in Moyale, Marsabit and many other parts of this country. We have to import maize. Famine relief food will continue to be given out.

Just before the Minister's Speech one of the directors in the Office of the President said that most of the people in the districts which used to receive famine relief food will continue doing so and yet the Minister comes here to tell us that he is trying to reduce poverty. What poverty is he reducing if he is not building dams for our livestock owners so that their livestock can thrive in that pastureland and they can sell them at good prices? What sort of progress and improvement does he expect in the economy of this nation when businessmen who come to Nairobi to buy goods and travel to Moyale are robbed on the road? There is no security. How can we improve this economy under such circumstances?

An hon. Member referred to security people and security alarm vehicles in the estates. Why do we have to employ security guards whereas we have a government whose first constitutional responsibility is to provide security for our lives and property? Kenyans have failed to ensure that the KANU Government is brought down and it will not provide them with services. They still continue to elect it to power. I am appealing to them to co-operate with us to make sure that this Government is brought down because it is good for nothing.

Hon. Member: Even Raila!

Mr. M.M. Galgalo: We do not need an increase in the number of policemen in this country. We need an improvement in the quality of services that those policemen provide. Day in, day out, policemen, the GSU and army men are arrested for being involved in armed robbery. They are the agents of security, therefore, they are supposed to provide us with security. Instead, they engage in criminal activities. The Government should instil some discipline members of the police force. I wish to express my appreciation for the Minister's statement that, corruption and insecurity are the factors which have brought down the economic development of this nation.

It is important that we increase the salaries of the policemen so that they will not depend on the *matatus*. I was looking at the Development Estimates and I noted that we expect to raise about Kshs1 million from those who have committed crimes in the transport sector. The money we get from licensing is over Kshs650 million. Although it is not all Kenyans who commit crimes on the road, all those who do so should be taken to court so as to serve as a deterrent to others. You will find some people driving vehicles which emit so much smoke which covers the whole road that you cannot see ahead, and yet there are traffic policemen standing there, watching these vehicles and doing nothing about it.

If you pass by Kahawa or Kenyatta University, you will find that there are Ministry of Public Works officers on the road who weigh the axle load of vehicles passing there. At one time I passed by there in a lorry and I saw the driver give Kshs100 to the officer who was supposed to have weighed that lorry and collect the necessary money for the country. You will find so many of these drivers in Kisumu. You will find that a driver carrying fuel, who is supposed to carry 40 tonnes worth of cargo is carrying 80 tonnes in his trailer. The policemen will be given Kshs5,000 and the axle load men at the checkpoint are given the same amount. There are no funds coming to the state. This is the situation we need to improve.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Shidiye: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Budget Speech. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Raila and his team for co-operating with KANU. As we can see, their co-operation has borne fruits for their party. The NDP is no longer a party now; it is a religion. He is the only person on the other side who can make firm decisions and he has his disciples intact. No other party across the political divide has better discipline than his party. I give him credit for that. That man has what it takes to be a leader. He makes a decision even if it is a wrong one. This is a positive decision and we are extremely happy.

You must accept the fact that the massive support he has in Luo Nyanza and across this country has reduced the tension in this country. It has made this country to be united. That aside, we on this side are ready to work with the NDP and to organise ourselves because politics after all, is give and take. It is not a question of the winner takes it all. We want this country to be one. We do not want to have a political brinkmanship where there is too much tension in this country. The time will come when he can even become a President. There is nothing to worry about that.

On the Budget, for the first time the Minister talked about pastoralism. There was so much about pastoralism in the Budget Speech. Effectively, what did he deliver? The people who are suffering most in this country are pastoralists. Show me any factory or abattoir where we can sell our products. We have nowhere to sell our products in this country. We will complain within the party. We are not cowards to rush to the other side. If we have problems, we will complain from inside and we will amend things from within. We do not need to rush to the other side.

The pastoralists are the people who are really suffering in this country. Today, we have coffee, tea and pyrethrum factories. We have milk processing factories, but we have nowhere in this country where the pastoralists can sell their products. Our people are in abject poverty. The Minister said that 66 per cent of Kenyans are living below the poverty line, but 95 per cent of the people of the northern region are living below the poverty line. Poverty is so nauseating and disturbing. We are living in a condition where the living are envying the dead. Thirty-eight years after Independence, we are depending on famine relief food. If in every year what we get from the Government is relief food, can we depend on relief food only? For heaven's sake, why are our people, who have fought so hard for this Government, being told that the only thing that the Government has for them is relief food? That has disabled our people and made them dependent. I do not know what logic the Minister has used. Every year, the Government spends more than Kshs300 million on relief food, yet that money could have been used on water, infrastructure such as roads, and education to improve the welfare of the people. You are telling us what we will get from the Government is only the relief food. What economies is the Minister telling us about? Every year, the Government gives financial statements which have negative impact on our people. We cannot accept that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, people from North Eastern Province are dying. If you go to Lagdera Constituency today, you will find that there is no running water, the roads are in utter shame. If you talk about tarmac roads, people from the northern region will ask you how a tarmac road looks like. They will ask whether it is found in heaven and what its colour is. These are things we must change. The policy of the Government must change. We are not interested in a Budget that will tell us that the Government will allocate so much to what sector, but we want an affirmative action. We want 25 per cent of the Budget to be concentrated on the marginal areas. We want nothing short of what will help our community. Every year, we read Budgets that have negative impact on the people.

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

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

The rate of school dropouts is ashaming. Children are dropping out of schools. We are told that we have to pay school fees. If somebody is a recipient of the relief food, how do you expect him to pay school fees? Where will he get the money from? These are fundamental issues that are affecting our people. We are told that the best you hear of a Masaai, a Somali or a Turkana is somebody holding a rungu, sitting at somebody's gate and earning Kshs2,000. Will Kshs2,000 be enough for him and his family? We are talking about a vicious circle of poverty and insecurity.

In Kenya, we have two types of societies. We have societies that are dying from obesity because they are having too much of the national cake, and societies that are suffering because of hunger and poverty. These societies cannot co-exist peacefully. If your neighbour has a lot of food and you have nothing to eat, you raid into his home. You can see what is happening in the North Rift and in Meru Central District from where the Temporary Deputy Speaker comes. You never used to hear about guns and raids there, but today, people are being raided left, right and centre. If you have food, coffee and tea and you want me to live without food, is that possible? Is it justice? Is that equality? Is that what we asked for?

We want equity. If the Minister for Finance is serious, he should come up with a proposal stating: "This year, we will allocate Kshs1 billion to North Eastern Province for development". The Kshs1 billion is a pin-drop. It is less than 1 per cent of the Budget. If we are talking about Kshs219 billion and you give Kshs1 billion to the northern Kenya region, that will be one out of Kshs219 billion. That is peanuts, and that zone will improve the infrastructure such as roads and water. If you give me water, I will not need the famine relief food. If you give me education, I will not need the famine relief food. If you empower me, I will not need the famine relief food. This is the song people from northern Kenya are singing and they will continue to sing it until Mohammed and Jesus come back. This is what people from northern Kenya are asking for.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the old days, we used to have a quota system in the admission of students to public universities. Even in the national schools, we used to have a quota system. One school in Central Province, or Machakos High School, admits ten times more students than the entire northern Kenya can produce. In my constituency, for the last five years, I have never taken one single student to the national universities. This is a serious matter. I have three secondary schools in my constituency and none of their students has joined a public university in the last five years. What do you call that one? Is it underdevelopment? Is it poverty?

At least, for the first time, the Government of Kenya, in its wisdom, decided to send a native Provincial Commissioner to North Eastern Province and the roads today are clear. Vehicles can move for nights and days for the first day. This is because somebody who understands the problem of our people, just like Mr. Raburu, the former PC for Nyanza Province, understood the problem of the people of Nyanza Province, was taken there and he has told the people that the insecurity there is artificial and we must change. Those are the things that can help our community. We do not want artificial things. We want a genuine Government and a genuine Finance Minister. We want a change!

In the next constitutional dispensation, we will only support that Constitution that empowers our people. We will support nothing short of that. We will not be interested in parties, but will be interested in the Constitution that will empower our people, and our political system will be a package, as the one of the National Development Party (NDP) suggests. Those are the signals we want to send. We want to tell people that nothing short of that can bring change.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are here not by default. We are here as Kenyans and we have the right to be heard.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

Mr. Thirikwa: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Budget Speech debate.

Somebody called this Budget a manufacturers' Budget, but the only thing that he forgot was that it could have been a manufacturers' Budget if it came three or four years back. In the real sense of the word, I do not see the manufacturers who will benefit from this Budget. Most of the manufacturers have already closed down their businesses and, therefore, if the Government wants some manufacturers to benefit from this Budget, it is too late for that. I really think that we only come here to read the Budget as an annual event because gone are the days when Kenyans were excited to hear about the Budget. You will remember that in the 1970s, the Budget day was very important and everybody was anxious to hear what the Budget contained. But Kenyans are no longer interested in the Budget because there is nothing that comes out of it.

There has been some talk of the Budget being balanced or not balanced. I really do not want to say that the Budget was bad because I do not expect a Finance Minister to get revenue from nowhere. He must get revenue from somewhere. Therefore, I would like to say that given a given scenario, such as the one we are in today, I

really do not see a better Budget than the one the Minister gave. Where do you really expect the Minister to get revenue from? The Finance Minister's work is to look into ways and means of collecting revenue, and possibly saying how he wants to spend that revenue. But as to how the revenue is made available, that is not his business. Therefore, I would like to repeat one thing that the Minister said, and which I truly believe: The only thing that is holding this country together is patriotism, patience and tolerance shown by Kenyans. It is possibly the only string that is holding this country together. Otherwise, if Kenyans were not patriotic to their own country, patient and tolerant, this country would have gone to the dogs a long time ago. That is because Kenyans have been made poor over and over again. They have nothing to look forward to. That is the reason why they are not excited about the Budget Speech. They know that the Budget that was read last year will be the same that will be read this year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we read a Budget last year, and another one this year. Did the Minister sit down and find out where last year's shortfalls came from, so that he could address them? Is it that we only come here to read the Budget so that one year ends and we enter into a new year? We need to look deeper into those issues.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether the Budget was good or not is not the big issue for me now. The big and most critical issue, and what needs to be addressed by every Kenyan, is that we recorded a negative growth of 0.3 per cent! That is the issue! When you talk of a country that once enjoyed a growth of 8 per cent, and now we are at 0.3 per cent, that is very serious. The other day, somebody said that the economy was falling. The economy has already fallen and hit the ground. But what is more important is that now, ours is not a falling economy. It is a sinking economy. Otherwise, if the zero-level was the ground, then it means that we are going down. Therefore, we are sinking.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a prediction that the economy will grow by 2 per cent. But, for heaven's sake, we have heard too much of that! What are the indicators that the economy can grow by 2 per cent? Let us be realistic! When we have political uncertainty and everybody is poor, how will the economy grow by 2 per cent for the next one year? Maybe, it might happen by miracle! I want to predict that the economy will go further down if serious and deliberate measures are not going to be taken. What are the serious and deliberate measures that the Government is undertaking now?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Odoyo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to inform us about serious steps when the Nairobi City Council, controlled by the DP, is not taking any initiative to put this City in order? Nairobi is the capital of this country!

Mr. Thirikwa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have no intention of answering the Assistant Minister! But I would like to say this: Whether it is the Kisumu Municipal Council, Nairobi City Council or Mombasa Municipal Council, we have a Government! All those municipal councils are under one Government, not unless he is telling us that Nairobi City Council, Kisumu Municipal Council and Mombasa Municipal Council are governments on their own! We have a KANU Government! He should not tell us about Nairobi because the Government is responsible over Nairobi, Kisumu and everybody else. Therefore, I think it would be naive to start talking about the DP, FORD(K) or other parties because we have a Government. I am sorry, Mr. Assistant Minister, because, maybe, it is because the other day, you joined the Government! You are going to learn soon! Do not think that you are going to take us for a ride. We will be here to put you where you belong!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Odoyo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to castigate a fellow Member on terms that I consider unfavourable? When he says "to put you where you belong", we, in the NDP, would like to run the country and be in the Government! There is nothing completely wrong for us to be in the Government!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): That is not a point of order, Mr. Odoyo!

Mr. Thirikwa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to ignore the hon. Member! I want to possibly say that, for heaven's sake, let this Government give direction. Let us not give dead excuses as to why the economy cannot grow. Let us not use the *El Nino* rains. We have used them for too long! Let us not use drought. We have used it for too long. But the main question is that since 1963, Kenya has been a stable country. When you look at Tanzania, it is growing at 3 per cent. Our neighbour Uganda, which has gone through war, is growing at 5 per cent. But Kenya is today listed amongst countries like Ethiopia and Sudan which require relief food! What is really lacking? What is it that is so drastically wrong, that has put this country in that situation? The truth of the matter, whether you like it or not; whether you are KANU damu or KANU mifupa, is that you can use numbers to extend terms and for political reasons, but you can never use numbers to make the economy grow. The economy will only grow when you become factual and realistic; and

when you do what is required to be done. It does not matter whether you co-operate or not, but the major question is: Even if you co-operated and won whatever you wanted to win, for heaven's sake, how will you run a country that has nothing? Did you ever ask yourself that question? Did you ever ask yourself that, once this country is completely down, what will you have to manage? Let us stand together as Kenyans. We have no other minutes to waste. Otherwise, this country is down and it will go further down and down. Finally, you will have nothing to be proud of. The Ministers will have nothing to be proud of.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministries are all dead! The fact of the matter is that whether you are a Minister or not, the Ministries are not performing. You are only a Minister because you have been given a portfolio to say: "I am the Minister for Planning!" Planning what? What is there to be planned? Therefore---

An hon. Member: Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC)!

Mr. Thirikwa: Do not talk about that issue. I know that when you bring the KCC issue--- The other day, a Minister said that Mumias Sugar Company (MSC) will be listed on the Nairobi Stock Exchange (NSE), and its shares will be sold at the NSE. When you put MSC shares in the NSE, you are denying the owners of the factory a chance to buy them. When they are listed in the NSE, anybody else will buy them. It is the same case with the KCC shares. They were put under a holding company that was formed by a nobody. The shareholders were not informed and, therefore, really, when you bring that issue--- All I am saying is that, let us be sensible this time round, and bring this country out of the problems that it is facing. We are not going to do that because we are co-operating, or because we have the numbers, or because we have anything else.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding the issue of the donors--- I am sorry my time is up.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Odoyo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Let me say that the immediate past speaker has touched on several issues that sounded political. So, I will also start my contribution by thanking His Excellency the President, for appointing me the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. Let me assure my colleagues from the other side of the House that, the NDP as we stand now, is still very much an Opposition party.

For all that my colleagues may say, we are charting the way forward in Africa. Coalition governments are the future for Africa. That has been said by my colleague here. It is the future to ensure that tribal issues take a back stage and party issues take a front stage. That is the only way we shall unite the country. We should tell the Social Democratic Party (SDP) Members that they do not have to give up their SDP membership to be in the Government. They can retain their SDP status and still be in the Government. That is the future and it is everywhere else except in Africa. Whether it is Europe, Asia, Japan, Italy, Belgium, Germany, India, it is all coalition. I, therefore, thank His Excellency the President one more time for recognising this major political development in Africa and taking the initiative to show the way to the rest of Africa.

I will not go beyond that in matters of politics but let me make a few comments in my area of finance, especially the Budget Speech that was read by the Minister a few days ago. Let me caution all Members of this House that the growth rate of 2 per cent will be below the population growth rate of 2.4 per cent. Therefore, the reality of the matter is that we are still facing hard times. We have to face that reality whatever we do or say, that the next one year will still be a hard and tough year. So, it is only reasonable that my comments should be faced in this situation. Which are some of the good things that the Minister has brought out in his Speech? That is, faced with this negative position, what is he trying to do to make the best of this situation?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the emphasis of the Minister's speech on governance reflects a positive commitment on the Government, that time is right that we put our house in order so that we can move forward and gain the confidence of all wananchi in this country. Governance has been recognised as a major impediment in the implementation of programmes and projects. I congratulate the Minister and advise that some of the Government's steps or interventions that he has in place should be implemented by this Government at the earliest opportunity. That is, not only the major Bills; that is, the KACA, the "white collar" Crime Bill and also the Civil Service Code of Conduct, but beyond that, the actual day-to-day management of Government resources should be put at a level that is more transparent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to say that this year's speech, while it has gone back to the basics--- The basics were that when the economy was growing, agriculture and industry were held right there at the front of the sectors. Therefore, the emphasis on agriculture and manufacturing is very timely in trying to protect our agricultural sector and zero-rate the raw materials for the manufacturing sector. Based on that - the credit for the micro-finance - all of us as Members of Parliament are increasingly faced by women groups, youth groups smaller operations and small shopkeepers who want credit. Therefore, it is welcome news that micro-finance will avail credit to wananchi out there. The big high street banks do not avail any credit to our

people and the time is right that micro-finance goes down. My appeal to the Minister is that the capital requirements for setting up the micro-finance should be minimal, preferably not more than Kshs25 million. So, the supervision should go up but anybody with Kshs25 million can set up micro-finance as long as the Central Bank does its supervision.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I disagree with the Minister where he recommended that the Kshs2 increase in fuel will be absorbed by the petroleum companies. That, I disagree with the Minister, will not happen. It is more likely that the consumer will pay the price as it is becoming more and more apparent. Therefore, in the future, unless the Minister has negotiated with petroleum companies in advance, such a recommendation will be---

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for this newly-appointed Assistant Minister to disagree with the Minister that he serves with in the same Government?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Manyara): Yes, actually, are you not bound by collective responsibility?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Odoyo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I take note of the point of view but I think I am standing here giving my point of opinion as far as my reaction to the Budget is, as a Member of Parliament. But I take the issue of collective responsibility and hon. Keah is here to advise me, as soon as I sit down, on that particular issue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kisumu will be celebrating 100 years sometime this year. Let me say that we will urge the Government to make a donation towards the celebration. Kisumu, and especially the railway, is the great survivor of the 20th Century. The railway system has been in place since 1901 and it has not changed much and we call it the great survivor of the 20th Century and it ended up in Port Florence, Kisumu. We urge, wherever possible, that my fellow Minister in charge of this area will support the celebrations that are coming up.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank His Excellency the President for donating an ambulance for Nyando District Hospital, which we shall receive this weekend, to assist the new district hospital to work with the poor wananchi out there who have been facing transport problems when they want to move to the Kisumu Provincial Hospital.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Nyakach Water Supply is the main and single largest water supply project in Nyanza. However, I believe that the emphasis by the Budget on the water system is timely. Kisumu and Mombasa are the two towns nearest the largest water points; Mombasa to the Indian Ocean, and Kisumu to Lake Victoria, and yet they remain the two towns with the most problematic issues regarding water. The time is right, according to the Minister, that these water problems be resolved.

Close to that, I thank His Excellency the President for appointing a Minister of capability like hon. Okemo who has seen it fit that time is right for bicycles and irrigation and the power sector to be revamped as the only way to move this country forward. Particularly, the Sondu-Miriu Project that we have been waiting for is the agricultural sector that is irrigation. Those who have been opposing the Sondu-Miriu Project forgot that power project. The power project is but a small part of the major project. The main project is on irrigation, and that the power is a by-the-way so as to generate the necessary power to undertake the irrigation. So, by those people objecting to the current implementation of the Sondu-Miriu Hydro-Electric Project, they are in reality objecting to the planned irrigation of the Kano belt and the whole of the South Nyanza belt. I wish to put it in perspective that the local wananchi in Nyakach Constituency have rejected these so-called "self-seekers" who are perpetuating a single personal agenda and have forgotten the wider and nationalistic perspective on why that project was put in place.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I finally take this opportunity, bearing in mind that I have got exactly just two minutes, to also thank the Minister for bringing these two Bills, the Local Authority Bill and the Privatisation Bill--- As you are aware, the mayor's chain was recently stolen--- This is so that the focus on privatisation can be put in its proper perspective.

With that, I beg to support.

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to contribute on the Budget Speech. We have got so many basic things going wrong in this country.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Manyara): Order! Mr. Odoyo, let me refer you to the provisions of Section 17 of the Constitution which state:

"The Cabinet shall be collectively responsible to the National Assembly for all things done by or under the authority of the President or the Vice-President or any other Minister in the execution of his office"

So you are bound by the collective responsibility in terms of the Constitution.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Odoyo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few things. It is very unfortunate that we have had about three contributors to this Motion from that side and one of them is from North Eastern Province. The hon. Member from North Eastern Province took his first five minutes praising the Government and the co-operation. Immediately after the five minutes of praising the Government, he started to talk about things that have happened in North Eastern Province. As a Member of the ruling party KANU, it could have been very unfortunate if he was heard by His Excellency the President, who uses the platform of the public rallies to say: "Siasa mbaya, maisha mabaya".

We have been told of a whole constituency having only three secondary schools, and in the last four years, they have not had a single student joining the university, forgetting that it is "siasa mbaya, maisha mabaya".

The hon. Member also talked about lack of water and industries in North Eastern Province. The hon. Member talked about all these things after praising the current Government. You wonder why such a Member of Parliament would then turn round and criticise the Government. It would be lack of conscience to say bad things about the Government you are serving. First of all, he had urged us in the Opposition to join that side of the House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not think that we should discuss on how to improve the economy and eradicate poverty with the same Government. The KANU Government might lack so many things, but the one that is most lacking among the five natural commonsenses given by the Almighty God is the "sense of shame"!

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Col. Kiluta): There is nothing like that!

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Col. Kiluta, you have that one; it is hon. Members on that side who lack it. I am saying this because the hon. Member from Kilome said that this is the best Government and we should not---

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Col. Kiluta): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to mislead us and this House by saying that there is something like a "sense of shame"? Which English is that? I do not think that "sense of shame" is correct English. Is he in order to say that?

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the same contributor I am talking about said that His Excellency the President could be having so many thieves in the Ministry but he should not be blamed when the passengers in the same bus become pick-pockets. He should be told this: If you are a manager of a company, you shall always be blamed and praised. If things go bad in that company, you are the first person to be blamed, and if the company expands, unlike this "company of Kenya" whose economy has dropped by 0.3 per cent, you will be praised. So, there is no way we will see the other things we have been told. He was told about the PIC Report where names of people who have embezzled public funds were mentioned. A Motion was brought here requesting the Government to allow the Attorney-General to prosecute these people, but because of the large number of corrupt Members of Parliament from that side of the House, the Motion was defeated. They said that such people should not be prosecuted. So, the Chair can see the kind of Government we have. This Government says that it will eradicate poverty and improve the economy, but they are not ready to do that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when you talk about the economy, from the little mathematics and economics I have, I know that agriculture goes hand-in-hand with water. In Ukambani, and Col. Kiluta is fond of rising up on points of order, they had a bumper harvest this year. If they could have stored that food well, they could have gone for the next three years without any problem. I would like to say that the Head of this State does not want that. Now that elections are approaching, in the year 2002, if there will not be a snap election, he will pray day and night for this country, and especially Col. Kiluta's area, not to have rain. He will do this so that just before the elections, he will go there with a *goro goro* of maize to bribe---

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Col. Kiluta): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member on the Floor, first, to mislead the House that there was a bumper harvest in Masinga Constituency? There was no bumper harvest in this constituency! Secondly, is he in order to mislead the House that there is a person who can control the rains? The President does not control the rains.

(Laughter)

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier on, there are some senses that, that

side lacks. Really, Col. Kiluta, your conscience does not instruct you to tell us what you are telling us.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Mr. Mutahi, address the Chair!

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was talking about farming.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member from this side of the House in order to say that the President is not in control? If he is not in control, he should resign.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Col. Kiluta): I said he does not control rain!

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have to add me some minutes. I am talking about agriculture. I would like to say that this Government does not care about its people; the ordinary farmers and the peasant farmers. You come from a coffee-growing area and you know what has happened to this crop. You also know what happened to the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC), and, currently, the industries. The previous speaker talked about free importation of raw materials for industries, and yet, most of them have collapsed. I would like to say that many industries do not exist.

On taxes, I do not think that the Minister laid emphasis on indirect taxation, such as the Value Added Tax (VAT). You can only collect indirect taxes when there is a lot of money circulating in the country. In order for money to circulate in the country, we need to have employment opportunities. I would like to say that 27,000 civil servants were sacked the other day, and the Minister is talking about collection of the VAT. Where is the purchasing power? We are talking about imports! We are creating employment opportunities in South Africa and other countries.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I oppose the Motion on the Budget Speech.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make my remarks regarding the Budget Speech by the Minister. From the onset, I want to say that since we got into this Parliament in late 1997 or the beginning of 1998, we have had three Finance Ministers. I want to say, at the risk of appearing to be biased, that this Speech did not reflect the truth. I believe the only Minister who made a truthful remark about the state of the economy was the former Minister, Mr. Nyachae. I am saying so because he is the only Finance Minister who admitted that, this economy was in the ICU. If you look keenly at what Mr. Okemo said, you will discover that he is admitting that but he is not saying explicitly that the state of the economy---

Mr. Achola: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. speaker on his feet telling the House the truth because Mr. Okemo specifically said that the economy had declined by negative 0.3 per cent? So, he was very explicit and, therefore, what he is saying is not true.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if Mr. Achola can wait for his turn to make his remarks, it would be fair. But I want to say that the state of the economy is so bad that the kind of words that can be used to make reference to it may be unprintable. I want to say that, just like one of the speakers on the other side said, if the ground was the baseline, then the state of the economy is underground. In fact, it is dying and is almost buried.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the Minister for Finance said that another 12,000 Kenyans in the Public Service will be rendered jobless, some of those people have already died. In fact, I know a few of them who are dead because they know that their "ungaline" has been cut. Those are people who were formerly employed. The Minister did not say how many farmers are dying because their income has been cut. I represent Rongo Constituency where we grow sugar-cane and the farmers who supply cane to Sony Sugar Company have not been paid for the last one year. They went out very early in the morning after eating nothing and weeded their cane. They harvested the same and supplied that to the factory. The factory crushed the cane and converted it into sugar, sold it, but they have not seen their money to date. If you look at the queue of people who come to my home to look for school fees, it is agonizing. So, the Speech that the Minister for Finance gave regarding the state of the economy is not accurate. The state of the economy is bad.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, right now there is an attempt in that part of the country which I represent to introduce tea. There is an attempt by both the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and individuals there to introduce tea as a cash crop. But it is sad that there is no money put aside by the Government to help those farmers. Tea is grown in many parts of this country. In those other parts where tea is doing well, this Government set aside a lot of money and helped those farmers to grow tea. Why is it that my people are being told to grow tea and they are willing to do it, but there is no money set aside to help them, and there are no tea seedlings given to them? In fact, in their miserable state, they are being asked to contribute some money to buy seedlings from as far as Kericho. We would be very happy as a people if the Government had set aside a lot of money to buy tea seedlings so that these people could grow tea.

The Government collects taxes from people and uses them as revenue. For the Government to realise its projected revenue target, it must invest in these very people. So, it is incumbent upon the Government to set aside money for growing tea and other cash crops, so that when these people are doing well, then the Government is able to effectively tax them and, therefore, enhance its revenue.

Another thing that the Minister for Finance talked about was the expected re-introduction of the Economics Crimes Bill and the re-instatement or re-establishment of the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority (KACA). Even without reintroduction of the Bill that establishes KACA, or without the enactment of the Economics Crimes Bill, look at what we do with white collar criminals; I do not want to give names. A lot of them have been rewarded with ministerial appointments. A lot of them have been reappointed to key positions in the public sector. Do we really need a Bill if we are not making use of the statutes that exist to punish those who plunder public resources? These Bills will come and as usual, this House will pass them with the best of intentions. But when it comes to implementation, you will find reluctance on the part of the Government to appoint the right people to run key corporations that we have. We will find reluctance on the part of the Government to punish those who have plundered and brought down key public institutions.

In as much as there was hope, and there is hope on the promise by the Minister for Finance that Bills that relate to governance will be brought, it is still unclear as to what will happen when those Bills are brought and when they are being applied.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also very unclear, from the Statement that the Minister for Finance made, how he expected the issue of fuel prices to be handled. Right now, if you purchased fuel at around lunch break today, you will discover that the price of fuel is up by Kshs3. It was very wrong for the Minister to suggest that Kshs2 be added to fuel and the same be passed to the producers or the dealers without putting in place a mechanism of supervising this. In fact, there was a very good Bill introduced by the current Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology that is yet to be debated. Before taxes are introduced into the petroleum sector, there is need to put supervisory mechanism so that any---

Mr. Kajwang: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just wanted to inform the hon. Member for Rongo that although the increase was on petrol, these dealers and oil owners increased the price of diesel and kerosene also, overnight. These people are thieves.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: The Minister for Finance ought to have put a mechanism in place to ascertain that from our sick state of the economy, nobody is placed in a position to arm-twist us. So, the proposal that Kshs2 be put on petrol was ill-timed and it is one that is currently being abused by petroleum dealers.

Lastly, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at the current estimates, and particularly what has been set aside for sugar-cane farmers, we know that, Miwani and Muhoroni Sugar Companies are under receivership. We also know that by our joining COMESA and, therefore, inviting further competition in the sugar subsector, our factories are likely to face very serious adversity. So, when the Minister for Finance was making his Speech, he did not specify what measures he had taken to protect the sugar industry. He did not specify what amount of money he had set aside to re-invest in the sugar industry.

The sugar, coffee and tea industries are the only sectors that largely employ people in the rural areas. This is a country where a good part of its population is located in the rural areas. I would, therefore, like to state that the Minister's Budget Speech did not make any promises. In fact, among the Budget speeches that were presented by the last three Ministers for Finance, this year's Budget Speech is the most inaccurate.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Your time is up, Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko.

Could you proceed, Mr. Kimeto?

Mr. Kimeto: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Year's Budget does not address the plight of this country's pastoral farmers. Pastoralists make up half the population of this country. Unfortunately, the livestock industry, on which pastoralists depend, has not been addressed by the Budget. Some funds ought to have been set aside for the revival of the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). How are pastoralists expected to earn their living if they cannot have a ready market for their livestock? Pastoralists move around with their herds of livestock because they do not benefit much from the sale of their animals. I would, therefore, have liked the Budget to also have addressed the interests of pastoralists.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, unfortunately, many times, this country's Budget has not reflected the needs of our people, especially those at the grassroot level. Every district ought to have been given a chance to give its needs to be addressed in the Budget. Every year, the Minister prepares this country's Budget with the assistance of only a few people. For how long are we going to wait for the Minister to address the interests of people in the rural areas? For instance, although we are now planting maize, this year's Budget does not say anything about the fertilizers to be used on that crop. The Minister should have reduced duty on fertilizers and subsidized the cost of growing maize. Why should we import maize from elsewhere? We import maize whose

production is subsidized in those country. Whenever we import maize from other countries, we become salesmen for those countries' producers. Why can we not grow and sell our own produce?

(Applause)

This country produces nothing for export to other countries. Instead, the entire country has become a "salesman" for every commodity from other countries. We import and sell for other countries motor vehicles, maize, beans, sugar, and everything else. Why are we acting as salesmen for other countries? Why do we not address the plight of farmers? If the interests of farmers were addressed, production would increase many folds since we have adequate manpower. We have very many unemployed people in this country. Why do we not have some people to vet the Budget before the Minister presents it here?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, no matter how long the Minister took to present his Budget before this House, he failed to address many issues. The Minister increased tax on the Fuel Levy Fund by Kshs2, thus increasing the cost of goods and services in every sector. This country does not produce fuel; we import it. So, raising the price of fuel only renders us salesmen for the oil-producing countries. The Minister could have assisted this country had he reduced the price of petroleum products by a similar amount of Kshs2. Had the Budget been prepared keenly, the Minister could have cut fuel costs to enable farmers produce cheaply and make transport expenses much less. People can no longer afford matatu fares or fuel for their personal cars because the price of petrol has been increased.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister for Finance has allocated Kshs600 million to the Secondary School Bursary Fund. How is this money going to be distributed to the individual schools? I would like this money divided equally among all the constituencies; that works out to about Kshs3 million per constituency. In the past, a few people in the Ministry of Education allocated so much money to their constituencies at the expense of other constituencies. Why can this money not be distributed equally to all constituencies?

Some parents strain to pay fees for their children who attend the parallel degree programme in universities, while they struggle to provide for their up-keep. The Government should chip in and assist those students after their third year of study. After all, those students are going to serve this very country on completion of their studies. So, why does the Minister for Education also not consider those students for assistance to a certain extent, instead of using the entire amount of Kshs600 million to pay fees for secondary school students? Out of that amount, some districts are going to be given Kshs1 million only. If the Kshs600 million were to be divided equally amongst the districts, each district would get Kshs10 million.

So, I would like the Minister for Education to repent his sins and give each district Kshs10 million, so that every district can adequately assist its bright students whose parents are unable to raise fees.

I would like to thank the Minister for Finance for waiving duty on bicycles. That waiver will enable more poor Kenyans to acquire bicycles and move easily. He should also have waived duty on hoes, jembes, pangas, manure, fertilizer, and everything else that is used by farmers.

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

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this debate.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Mr. Keah, are you responding to this debate?

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): No, I am not, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Very well. I just wanted to be clear about that; you may continue.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Budget. From the outset, I support it. I want to observe that the theme of the Budget is: Effective Resource Allocation for Growth and Poverty Reduction. In this connection, I observe that the Budget is well-balanced. In terms of policy and economic programmes, they have been well articulated in the Budget statement. I want to support the PRSP process in the formulation of the Budget within the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF).

I must make a couple of reservations on the goals that have been set out in this Budget. I want to emphasise that it is imperative and absolutely necessary that there is strict discipline in the implementation of this Budget. In fact, I would suggest that there ought to be some seminars after the presentation of the Budget on how it will be implemented, and on how the targets will be achieved. This is because without those seminars to those who are executing these measures that have been so well articulated, in my view, we will drag on. I am afraid to

say that even the projected growth rate of 2 per cent may not be achieved. Looking arithmetically at the figures, in the last financial year 2000/2001, we had a total of Kshs327 billion in the Budget and we had a target growth rate of 2.6 per cent. However, we only recorded a decline of negative 0.3 per cent growth rate. This year the Budget's figure has gone down. Last year's Budget was made up of a Development expenditure of Kshs57.3 billion and a Recurrent Expenditure of Kshs270.1 billion. This year's development expenditure has gone down to Kshs41.6 billion and the Recurrent Expenditure has gone down to Kshs264.9 billion, making a total of Kshs306.5 billion. Last year, with higher figures, we could not achieve a growth rate of 2.6 per cent. Instead, we recorded a decline of negative 0.3 per cent growth rate. How can we achieve a 2 per cent growth this year with a lower figure of Kshs306 billion? That is arithmetics, but I would like it checked because I feel somewhere along the line, the mathematics is not working out correctly.

An hon. Member: You are right!

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have admired the analytical way the economic programmes have been set up. Every sector has been touched. In this regard, the Budget is, indeed, commendable. I want to support the idea of giving the manufacturing sector a shot in the arm. This is most welcome. But I would like to suggest that we could do more than just this. This morning, an hon. Member did point out that the biggest input in our manufacturing industry is power. Very little has been done by way of reducing the power cost in the manufacturing industry. This way, we will not be competitive. We should strive to give the manufacturers more incentives. We should provide them with a good environment, whether through a tariff structure or power sector support, to make them more competitive with our friends within the COMESA region. If we do not do this, I am afraid, we will not take off.

Furthermore, in each year's Budget, I would like to see a component that explains how we intend to achieve the goal of industrialisation by the year 2020. I do not see anything addressing that in this Budget. I think we are running short of time as far as this goal is concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, investing in agriculture is important. We have provided money for the purchase of food. But what we ought to be doing is to make more funds available for agricultural production. We should make more credit available to the agricultural sector. Our economic strategy should be to encourage productivity in agriculture rather than in the purchase of food. In this regard, I would have liked to see fertilisers and tractors made available in the rural areas. This is very important.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the move to make the macro-finance sector more viable. In this regard, I am yet to see the mechanism and machinery in which the Ministry intends to support the macro-finance industry. But it is an important industry, and I whole-heartedly support it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the agricultural sector we have asked for the revitalisation of the coconut industry. I have perused through the development expenditure books, but I have not seen any line item provided for the development of the coconut industry. During the debate on the Ministry of Agriculture, I intend to raise that issue because I made a specific request that the coconut industry be given a shot in the arm. It should be revitalised by giving development funding in this 2001/2002 Budget.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, without a sound infrastructure, I am afraid our development activities will be retarded. The Minister has very well articulated what he intends to do. I support this intention. But I have yet to see in practical terms what actions will be undertaken for purposes of revitalising our infrastructure.

I support the moves the Minister has made and the provision of the sums for health. But I would like to appeal to him that he should have a review of the mission hospitals which provide 40 per cent of the health services in this country. Talking about mission hospitals, I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Health and the Treasury to the plight of St. Lukes Hospital, Kaloleni, in my constituency, which is in the process of collapsing, and it needs support from the Government. We have made representation to the Government. This hospital should not be allowed to collapse because Kaloleni people require medical services, just like anybody else. The fact that it is a mission hospital is neither here nor there. If it collapses, then it means the Government will have to put up an entirely new hospital, which will be a more costly affair.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to touch on education. I would like to emphasise the importance of computer knowledge. Computer studies should be made compulsory right from primary school to university level. Currently, the world is a global village. Without knowledge of computers, right from primary to university levels, we will be left behind in the world, which has become a real global village.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I do support this Budget speech with those few remarks.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Mwakalu): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Motion on the Budget Speech.

Sir, you will recall that not long time ago - about a decade ago - foreign aid was a key concept in revamping the economy of this country. It was followed by foreign investments since there were no sufficient funds to have balanced Budgets. As at now, we have come to a stage of liberalisation, which means freeing the economy to the private sector enterprise initiatives. With little or no controls to the economy, with no leverage and the commanding eyes of the economy, we will allow the private sector enterprises, mainly foreign-funded, to run our economic affairs. This is the path we have taken over the years in trying to reconstruct an economy that was not built primarily for our benefit.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before we go to the first economic mechanism, which requires us to surrender everything you have for the rich and the powerful, we are struggling to understand what liberalisation means; who is being liberalised and for what reason. Foreign aid and foreign investments have now been liberalised. Some of us can see the general economic crisis which the country is going through. Before we can run, we have to crawl and then walk. It looks like we have been caught up in the very middle stage and in some places we are unable to crawl; in other places we are trying to walk and to sprint in others places, all in the same direction of the so-called economic development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, whereas we had the opportunities from the very beginning to redress the imbalances that existed in our rural and urban areas, between the rich and the poor, between income and expenditure, between internal and external debts, we embarked on a trend of economic reconstruction that worsened inter-ethnic relations in our own country that led to a downward income returns, reversed waste distribution, lack of job market, rising unemployment, real income declines, limited expenditures, bad housing and poor electrification programmes. All these put together act as indicators of economic performance, pointing to the negative side of things. To date, you cannot stand up in this country and ask what has happened to the basic land question. Is it for the better or for the worse?

Indeed, we have not done well on the land question in Kenya, just like we did not do well during the colonial era. But then, we had the excuse that the colonialists did not do it on our behalf. Today, we have not done anything to the land question to improve incomes and food on the table for the majority of our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the other hand of the economic spectrum, we have the pastoralists. What have we done for the pastoralist? Kenya has got the potential for the pastoral industry that is equal to none in Africa. But what has happened to the pastoral industry is a disaster in the making. Leaving aside the pastoralists and the sugar industry, we have a crop of capitalists going around us, right in the island of poverty. This crop of capitalists is extremely greedy and have the knowhow in education and other skills to manipulate and polarise the society between those who have and those who have nothing. If that situation continues, we will only have ourselves to blame, because those we should punish will be among the first ones to run away from this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, these trends are worsening. Inter-ethnic relationships are not that good at all. What we see today are downward income returns and reversed wealth re-distribution. There is rising unemployment, poor medical services, school fees becoming exorbitant, food self-sufficiency is not there, and we must rely on donated food, and regional imbalances inherited from colonial days are more or less getting worse. A question which we may want to ask is whether there will come a time when we will find a way out to solve the agrarian question, sort out the pastoral question, bring about industrial, economic and manufacturing development for the benefit of the people of Kenya. As it is now, we can exist as subordinates in our own country in terms of economic performance, industrialisation and what-have-you.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have abstained from setting out the necessary transitional stages and building the bridges to overcome backwardness in our own territory. We are becoming dependent on foreigners more and more and also on what the conditionalities can do for us. We are at a stage where we are discussing poverty as if it arose yesterday. Poverty has been with us and it has been worsening and it will require that we find a solution and, in the final analysis, it may be very, very difficult. The longer we stay and delay, the greater the agrarian problem, the pastoral problem and the problem of industrialisation. Amidst these economic problems, we have a youthful national community of tender age which has to consume what we cannot produce and, therefore, in order to advance we must produce more.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we do have problems that may require surgical approaches in terms of land and job opportunities. We are busy here expanding facilities for education without having an idea as to what we are going to do with the excess productivity that we gather from the educational system. Here we are producing people we do not need or we cannot use, and those whom we have managed to train, we are retrenching before they arrive at their destination to retire from employment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a transitional country with a transitional government and transitional economy requires people to sit down, and despite speed, consider what necessary steps must be taken

in what order and priority, in order to sort them out. As we are now, we have such a vast resource in the Ocean at the Coast, in mangroves and in cotton, which we have neglected or badly misused. We have a further resource in the Kerio and Lambwe Valleys, in the Athi River plains and the Tana River Basin, that could be harnessed and exploited for the fast improvement of agriculture and industry in this country and in producing raw materials necessary for the manufacturing sector. We have tended to forget the primary factors that indicate the direct link for development in the country, namely, the harnessing and exploitation of natural resources for the advancement of agriculture and industry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have not as yet reached forty years after Independence, been able to arrive at a consensus on the mineral potential of this country. To date, only 1 per cent of our minerals have come to be known to exist. Where they do, like in titanium producing areas at the Coast, we have no idea or direction as to how useful those minerals can be for the nation, and instead, we allow vampires to try and encroach into profiteering in that particular industry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya has reached an age where we cannot any longer blame foreigners for malpractices. We do have in this country all skills that require to carry out properly, an intermediate economy for the transition from pastoralism to industrialisation; from agriculture to manufacturing. We have the manpower in this country to deploy sensibly for the welfare and benefit of the Kenyan people. But as it stands now, the gap between the rich and the poor is widening; life expectancy is declining. Kenyans have a long way to go and it will take Kenyans time to redress the problems that they have created for themselves.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Affey): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for also giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Motion. The Minister has submitted what, in my view, I regard as a very honest Budget Speech. The Minister was very frank because he very clearly indicated what the economy is suffering from. He indicated that we have the problems of insecurity and corruption, and this, in my view, has been one of the most frank statements that has come from the Minister for Finance.

But having said that, I want just to inform the House that a week ago, there has been an outbreak of cholera in my constituency, which has so far claimed four lives. I would like to alert the Minister for Medical Services, and I am glad to see Dr. Wako here, about this outbreak. It has not happened in the constituency before, and if he can send a team to Habaswein Sub-district, where we have so far lost three lives, it would be better. I would be very glad if the Assistant Minister can, from tomorrow, send a team to find out where the problem is and give medical backup to the officers in Wajir.

Coming back to the Budget Speech, the Minister, for the first time, used the word "pastoralists." It was music to some of us because for the last three years, in the three Budget Speeches I have listened to in this House, there has not been any reference to the word "pastoralists." This time, we are very happy because, at least, the Minister has sat down with his technocrats in the Treasury and they have very much thought about the word "pastoralists." About 75 per cent of this country comprises of the pastoral economy. All the time we have heard about cotton, coffee, tea and fish, and maize in Western Province, but that sector has been ignored in the past. This time round, I am happy that the Minister has, indeed, in his statement, recognised the meaning and functions of the pastoral economy [**The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation**] in this country. We are also happy that this time round, we have a Minister in charge of the Ministry of Agriculture who is a pastoralist, and we want to thank His Excellency the President, at least, for appointing him to that Ministry. What all this means, therefore, is that he is giving hope to the pastoral farmers in this country and, for the first time, issues pertaining to the pastoral sector will be looked into.

We are looking forward to the revival of the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). The Minister has indicated that there are sufficient funds. I think he said that they have set aside over Kshs1.4 billion in this year's Budget for the pastoral economy. We think that this time round, with a Minister in charge of agriculture having a big concern in the pastoral economy; who comes from that background and knows that we need support, something will be done towards the revival of the KMC. We have spoken about it before - in the last several statements that have been submitted before this House - and this time round, we are very hopeful that, that very important sector is going to be addressed.

Just last year alone, in NEP, we lost between 300,000 or 400,000 head of cattle. If that is translated into money, it would be millions of shillings. If we had the KMC in place, we would have translated it immediately into monetary value, and the farmers in the NEP would have used the same money to buy cattle when we have rains, and then it would have the multiplier effect. But we have families who have become destitute because all that they had has been lost through drought. If we had a number of abattoirs or slaughterhouses, which we do lack very seriously in NEP, I am sure, we would be able to save the economy of the pastoral people, especially the ones

in the NEP and part of the Rift Valley and Eastern provinces.

The Minister also emphasised that security is very critical for the economic development of this country. It comes from the NEP, a region which has not seen sufficient security over the last few years, especially as the result of the proliferation of small arms that come from the border countries. The fact that the Minister has recognised that the Provincial Administration is doing a good job, I just want to confirm that the Provincial Administration in the NEP has sufficiently tackled the security problem. But they need to be supported. We need to give them sufficient funds, which this House is discussing today. We know that in the last few months, we have realised sufficient security; that, the security apparatus in the NEP has come to full gear for one reason.

The main reason, and I would also want to highlight and inform the House, is that His Excellency the President had appointed, for the first time, a PC coming from the NEP. We saw what that could do in Nyanza Province. Mr. Peter Raburu, who comes from Nyanza, knows where the security system has been lacking in Nyanza Province. In the NEP, we have a local who is in charge of the security network, and the co-ordination of Government activities in the NEP, and we want to congratulate His Excellency the President, because he has realised that where you take the local to be in charge of administration, most times, services are provided as they are required. In the last three or four months, hundreds of illegal guns have been surrendered by the local communities in the NEP, and that has greatly contributed towards the success of security networks. The Minister having recognised the importance of the Provincial Administration, I have to thank him and request him to add a little more money, so that that particular department is fully funded and the security forces are given enough vehicles and telecommunications gadgets, so that when there is an attack, they can be able to be mobilised quickly.

Regarding the state of roads, which the Minister has referred to, for the last two years, we requested the Minister for finance that we, in North Eastern Province, require, and we are not asking for too much, one road network to be fully tarmacked; the road from Nairobi to Mandera. The effect of that is that the economy of the people in that area is going to considerably pick up because for the last 38 years since this country acquired Independence, we have been able to get the road network between Garissa and Nairobi tarmacked. Today, you take only three hours to travel from Nairobi to Garissa. But if the Government tarmacked the road from Nairobi to Mandera, you could only require six hours to travel from Nairobi to Mandera. When residents from Mandera travel all the way to Nairobi, they take three days to reach a destination in the City. Therefore, I would like to plead with the Minister that even though funds may not be available at the moment, he should use his good office to contact donors on our behalf because there are quite a number who are really interested in funding that road. I am very glad now that I have heard for the first time that the word "pastoralism" has been recognised. We want to know whether the Minister can find some funds to the tune of Kshs500 million, before the end of the next Budget, to do that roadwork from Mandera to Garissa since the Garissa-Nairobi Road is already done. If he does that, he will have opened up that region for investment, which is what this country requires today.

There is no way that we can leave out one section of this country under-developed. North Eastern Province and a huge part of Eastern Province have got enormous resources, but we have not found time to discover what we have. We can contribute effectively to the economic development of this country if we invest. The only way to invest is if we open up that specific region so that people from other parts of the country can go there to farm and do irrigation. We have enough water for irrigation and it is just 50 metres underground.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Dr. Wako): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for recognising me. First and foremost, I want to congratulate the Minister for Finance for the Budget Speech which I think was quite fair. Although the economy has deteriorated, it can actually be improved. The Minister has told us the way and means of improving this economy. It is very unfortunate that while we claim to be nationalists it becomes very difficult when everybody expects the Government alone to revive the economy. It would be helpful if each and every Kenyan was determined to revive the economy.

Corruption is a vice which is found everywhere in the world, but we should be in a position to stamp it out of this country because it is an evil that has destroyed our economy. It is not always done by one person. You will find that there are two or more people involved, or a gang of people who can make decisions. In most cases, it is done between the civil servants and the Asian community who then invest this money in other countries. It is the responsibility of all of us to combat this vice within our community. Unless we invest in good security, then we will experience problems in reviving this economy. When combating insecurity, people must, first and foremost, volunteer information to the police. The police hotlines have proved to be useful but still, Kenyans are not ready to volunteer information. There is always someone somewhere who knows about most of the security problems that we have. Unless this person reports this particular issue, then it becomes a big problem for the Government alone to combat insecurity.

In northern Kenya where insecurity has been a big problem, we recently started employing traditional means of combatting criminals. We have empowered the elders to take charge and ensure that the animals which are stolen are recovered, and this method has been working very well. A good example is in Isiolo where we have employed this method since January, and the recoveries that have been made since then are tremendous. More than 500 to 600 cows, 170 camels and 1,000 sheep and goat have been recovered through the efforts of the elders alone. This is one way we can use traditions to actually combat insecurity because it is the underlying issue for everybody, everywhere.

I would like to thank His Excellency the President for appointing a PC for North Eastern Province who comes from the same area. Since the new PC was appointed, it is now a thing of the past for people to travel in convoys or for vehicles to be escorted by the regular police and Administration Police because he knows where the problem is. He knows that it is the local people who are responsible for this insecurity. If he can use the chiefs and sub-chiefs effectively, then there is no need to use a large number of Administration Police to provide security. This has actually worked. It tells us that the Provincial Administration can utilise the chiefs and sub-chiefs in their areas to combat insecurity. This also applies to tourism, where the Ministry of Tourism has been taking a keen interest in tourist security. This has helped and it has facilitated the inflow of tourists.

Isiolo County Council, which mainly depends on tourism, is training its wardens. The whole main road, which is 40 kilometres between Isiolo and the game reserve, is patrolled day-to-day. That has improved the security in that area. For the first time, the Minister has mentioned key issues about the pastoral economy. The Minister said that Kshs1.4 million has been earmarked for building dams and boreholes. Water is the basic requirement for the livestock industry. In most of Northern Kenya, even when there is drought the grass is available, but it is the unavailability of water which worsens the drought. Therefore, if the Government can provide dams and boreholes, the pastoralists will actually benefit.

Another problem afflicting pastoralists is the lack of a viable market for their produce. Since the KMC became ineffective, pastoralists have lost most of their source of income. They are unable to pay school fees for their children. They cannot trade in their commodities which are the animals. Therefore, we call upon the Government to use the STABEX funds to revive the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). The requirement for the revival of the KMC is very low. The KMC requires about Kshs750 million for it to be revived. Out of the Kshs4 billion provided through the STABEX funds, Kshs750 million which is needed to revive the economy of 80 per cent of the land mass of this country is the most important issue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, over the weekend, we had a Pastoralists Parliamentary Group meeting in Elementaita and after the meeting, I had an opportunity to visit the Delamere Farm in Elementaita. It is very impressive that the Delamere Farm can sell the Boran Bulls at a cost of Kshs120,000 each. This is very impressive, especially for the pastoral economy. If markets are available and bulls can fetch Kshs120,000 each, this will grossly help most of the pastoralists. It is the marketing of the animals which is the problem of the pastoralists, coupled with diseases which we need to eradicate.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, most of the time, the pastoralists have been having problems because during droughts, unless they sell their animals, they get into a big problem. We do not want to depend on relief food. We are thankful to the Government for supplying relief food to us, but it is better for us to rely on ourselves by improving the livestock industry and introducing irrigation schemes in most of these places. Three-quarters of the arid and semi-arid land in this country can be irrigated. If all the rivers are used for irrigation, such as the Athi River, the Ewaso Nyiro and the Bisanadi, we can actually produce food. The notion that food cannot be produced in these areas has been a big problem. It is high time that the Government diversified farming activities and made sure that 80 per cent of our land mass, which is not under use, the semi-arid and arid land, is put into use.

The Government bursaries and the special grants should actually be used to help the pastoralists who, because of the drought, cannot pay school fees and have been having problems in taking their children to schools. A national school known as "Garbatulla High School" has been closed down because parents could not raise school fees. Therefore, it is important that the Government should give bursaries to children living below the poverty line.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. M.A. Galgalo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Budget Speech debate. To me, this Budget sounds irrational and cosmetic. Agriculture, which is the backbone of the economy of this nation, has only been allocated 4 per cent of the Budget. Out of that 4 per cent, 72 per cent goes to parastatals. This is very unrealistic.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we talk about the parastatal reform programme (PRP) without rehabilitating the Bura Irrigation Scheme or cashewnut production, the KMC and the Kenya Co-operative

Creameries (KCC), it does not make any sense. The Minister did not clearly address issues that are actually contributing to the current level of poverty in this country.

I want to plead with the Minister to leave things as they are, because there has always been mini-budgets after the main Budget. I hope this time nothing like that will happen.

Another big problem that also contributes to poverty is insecurity, which is prevalent in northern Kenya. When I talk about northern Kenya, I mean to refer to Marakwet, West Pokot, Turkana, Tana River, Lamu, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Marsabit and Moyale districts. That is northern Kenya, and part of the reason why that problem does not end is due to the absence of a government in Somalia.

I would like to plead on the Floor of this House that our Government should take appropriate measures and lead the way to restore order in the Government of Somalia.

Mr. Kajwang: How?

Mr. M.A. Galgalo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can hear people from Nyanza--- I can hear voices from the new co-operators, and the man from Ukambani!

Mr. Kajwang: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Why I raised my voice is because the hon. Member is asking us to interfere in the affairs of another sovereign country! Is he asking us to declare war on Somalia?

Mr. M.A. Galgalo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my good friend may understand these things. When you have problems in your neighbourhood, they are also your problems! If the Kenya Government could assist and restore peace and understanding among the various factions and warlords in Somalia, and call them to a round table conference and expedite the peace process, we shall have security come back to normal. In northern Kenya and Nairobi, there are too many guns in the wrong hands. Those guns come from Somalia because there is no nation or government there. Somalia is only on the map as a nation, but it does not have a Government. If we can contribute in restoring a public regime that will be friendly to Kenya, it can help; for as long as we can control the security situation, it is very important for our people. The Member who spoke earlier talked about cattle rustling. All those activities are conducted with the use of guns. When guns land in the wrong hands---

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Order! Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 21st June, 2001, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.