

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 20th March, 2002

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

The following papers were laid on the Table:-

- (i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya for the year ended 30th June, 1999, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).
- (ii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya for the year ended 30th June, 2000, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).
- (iii) Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Agricultural Research Institute for the year ended 30th June, 2000, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).
- (iv) Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute for the year ended 30th June, 1999, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

(By the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo) on behalf of the Minister for Agriculture)

- (v) Annual Report and Accounts of the University of Nairobi Enterprises and Services Limited for the year ended 30th June, 1999, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).
- (vi) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation for the year ended 30th June, 2000, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

(By the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo) on behalf of the Minister for Education)

- (vii) Annual Report and Accounts of National Oil Corporation of Kenya for the year ended 30th June, 1998, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

(By the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo) on behalf of the Minister for Energy)

- (viii) Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya National Trading Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 2000, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

(By the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo) on behalf of the Minister for Trade and Industry)

- (ix) Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Medical Training College for the year ended 30th June, 1997, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

(By the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo) on behalf of the Minister for Public Health)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notices of the following Motions:-

LEAVE TO INTRODUCE RENT CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL

THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill for an Act of Parliament entitled Rent Control (Amendment) Bill to standardise, control and regulate all residential, business premises and structures and the establishment of Rent and Business Tribunal in all provincial and district headquarters.

DIRECT ELECTION OF PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICERS

THAT, in view of the fact that the administrative officers from the Provincial Commissioners to the Assistant Chiefs exercise a lot of powers and responsibility upon the subjects of their jurisdiction, this House urges the Government to amend the necessary laws to ensure that these officers are elected directly by the subjects of their jurisdiction after every General Elections, and further that the said officers be excluded from Internal Security Committees within their areas of jurisdiction.

LEAVE TO INTRODUCE EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill for an Act of Parliament entitled the Education (Amendment) Bill to control, standardise and regulate school fees.

LEAVE TO INTRODUCE CHIEF'S AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL

THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill for an Act of Parliament entitled the Chief's Authority (Amendment) Bill to amend Section 7 in order to ensure that persons engaged by chiefs or their assistants are paid an allowance or salary by the Government.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

APPOINTMENT OF DO/CHIEFS IN IMENTI SOUTH

Mr. Murungi: 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 the following locations in South Imenti have had no chiefs for the last three years:

- (i) Igoki Location;
- (ii) Uruku Location; and
- (iii) Abogeta Location?

(b) Is he further aware that Abogeta Division, South Imenti, has no District Officer?

(c) What urgent steps is he taking to post a DO to the division and appoint chiefs for the three locations?

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

(a) Yes, I am aware that Igoki, Uruku and Abogeta locations of Imenti South have not had chiefs since May, 2001.

(b) I am also aware that Abogeta Division of South Imenti has also not had a District Officer since May, 2001.

(c) However, a District Officer will be posted to Abogeta Division when additional District Officers are posted to Eastern Province. Interviews to fill the post of chief for the locations that I have mentioned were conducted in February this year, and I promise that in a month's time, the chiefs will have received their appointment letters.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no DO has lasted, in Abogeta Division of South Imenti, for three months since

it was established way back in 1998, and there are strong rumours on the ground that as a matter of fact, the Government intends to abolish this division. Could the Assistant Minister confirm that as a matter of fact, Abogeta Division of South Imenti is not going to be abolished, and that a DO will also be sent there within a month like you are sending the chiefs?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Abogeta Division was created by the Government in response to requests by the local people, and we will not go back and abolish that division. As I said, a District Officer will be posted there shortly.

Mr. Kihoro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have had the same problem in my constituency about chiefs and sub-chiefs not being appointed on time, sometimes for a period of two years. Could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that there is a long standing policy on the part of the Government, partly executed by the former Head of the Civil Service, Dr. Leakey, to abolish all the chiefs and sub-chiefs in the country, to ensure that these colonial institutions are brought to a hasty end?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do deny that there is any intention on the part of the Government to abolish the offices of the chiefs and assistant chiefs. The Government has committed itself to be as close as possible to the citizens of this country. This is one such attempt and we shall keep it in place.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are happy that the Assistant Minister is going to appoint a chief for Igoki Location within a month. But in the same location, there is a sub-location called Kothiine, which has not had any assistant chief for the last five years. The assistant chief who was there was interdicted five years ago and the case is still pending. Could the Assistant Minister explain to this House why making a simple decision as to whether to dismiss or reinstate an assistant chief should take five years, if this Government is really working?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not privy to the information the hon. Member has. However, I do admit that there has been a backlog on decisions to be made, especially on members of the Provincial Administration, and particularly chiefs and assistant chiefs. However, we have speeded up that process and some of the time, our decision-making process is hampered by court injunctions and issues like those, which are beyond our scope of authority. However, I do promise that I will look into it.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! Next Question, Mr. Anyona!

CANCELLATION OF KCSE RESULTS IN KITUTU MASABA

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not received the written reply. Nevertheless, I beg to ask the Minister for Education the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister lay on the Table the names of schools and students affected by the cancellation of the 2001 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) Examination in Nyamira, Kisii, Gucha and other districts in the country?

(b) What were the causes and reasons for the cancellation of the results of each school and student?

(c) Could he institute independent and thorough investigations into the alleged irregularities of cheating and impersonation in order to verify the situation and take disciplinary and legal measures against the officers involved in the invigilation, marking and supervision of the examination exercise?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kosgey): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will provide the written reply later. However, I beg to reply.

(a) The list of schools and students is attached here. In Nyamira, there were five schools; in Gucha, six schools, and in Kisii, two schools. The rest are, as per the list here, involving 71 schools with 1,208 students.

(b) The irregularities reported involved collusion, smuggling of materials and impersonation. In some cases, it also involved invigilators. Action has been taken on the teachers and invigilators involved. Those who are serving with the Teachers Service Commission are under interdiction. These irregularities are not alleged; they are true. Investigations have been done by independent DEOs, the KNEC Security Committee and the police. This was done before the release of the examination. However, while we continue making preparations to prosecute the culprits; the invigilators and the headteachers who may have been involved in this collusion, we are open to any further information that may arise. We will take appropriate action. We regard this as a very serious crime.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House and I are definitely incapacitated in being able to respond to the Minister's reply because I have not seen the reply. I have not seen the names of schools, students and the reasons given. I do not know whether the right course of action, in view of the gravity of the matter, would be for the House and I to be given time to look at this information that has been laid on the Table.

Mr. Speaker: That is a fair request. What would you like, Mr. Anyona?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request that the matter comes up next week on Tuesday, or even tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I am prepared to give you all the time.

Mr. Anyona: Well, even tomorrow afternoon, Mr. Speaker, Sir, then I can look at the information given.

Mr. Speaker: Would that be okay with you, Mr. Kosgey?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kosgey): Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! The Question is deferred to tomorrow afternoon. Mr. Kosgey, that document is now my property!

(Mr. Kosgey passed the document to Mr. Anyona)

(Question deferred)

Next Question, Mr. Sungu!

Mr. Sungu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Dr. Kulundu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You have skipped Question No.3 by Private Notice.

Mr. Speaker: There is no problem. Even if I skipped it, I will still come back to it in due course, but I can notice you straightaway.

Next Question, Dr. Kulundu!

SHORTAGE OF DRUGS IN KAKAMEGA DISTRICT

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Medical Services the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that the last consignment of drugs was sent to Kakamega District in September, 2001?

(b) What reason does the Ministry have for this situation?

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

(b) I am aware that Kakamega District Hospital receives regular supply of drugs, the last consignment having been delivered on 10th January, 2002.

(b) In view of part "a" above, part "b" does not arise.

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very misleading answer from the Assistant Minister. Health centres and dispensaries in Kakamega District have gone without drugs for more than eight months. The only drugs available in all these institutions, and my colleagues from Kakamega or any other part of our country are here to confirm, are sexually transmitted infection drugs (STI). They are expiring this month. In preparation for this Question, I telephoned the MOH, Kakamega, this morning and she confirmed that they have not received any drugs to date. Is the Assistant Minister sure that these drugs were, indeed, delivered to Kakamega District? Could he lay on the Table any evidence that he may have in terms of delivery notes?

Mr. Mukangu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Dr. Kulundu is one of the doctors that I respect in this country. I do not know where he got that evidence that he is trying to raise here because I have got the evidence of our regular supplies at the Ministry level. I do hereby table it.

(Mr. Mukangu laid the document on the Table)

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the situation in Kakamega is prevailing in Nandi. I was only in Kapsabet last week, speaking with the MOH on why health centres and dispensaries are not receiving their medical kit, which they are supposed to receive on a quarterly basis. Health centres and dispensaries in Nandi have not received their medical kit since June last year. Displaying a piece of paper purporting it to be evidence that delivery of medicine was done is not enough. Could the Assistant Minister confirm whether tenders were issued to purchase medicine for the health centres and dispensaries all over the Republic? If they have not been delivered, where are they going to?

Mr. Mukangu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am not aware of what is happening in Nandi, but I promise to carry out investigations on the issue.

Mr. Gatabaki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for recognising me. I think time has come for the Ministry to tell Kenyans that it does not have enough money to buy essential medicine. Could the Assistant Minister be honest enough and tell the House that they do not have sufficient amount of money to buy medicine, or the KANU

Government is broke, and the new KANU that has come in may be even more broke and they will provide for more of the budgetary provision in the next Budget?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell Mr. Gatabaki that we are doing everything possible to ensure that no Kenyan will die because of shortage of drugs.

Mr. Omingo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Two weeks ago, I had a chance to go round my constituency with the Minister for Public Health, Prof. Onger. He witnessed the pathetic situation in the pharmacy in Nduru Health Centre. Why should the Ministry fail to supply drugs when the other day, the Departmental Committee on Health, Housing, Labour and Social Welfare went to the Central Medical Stores and found many expired drugs?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to remind Mr. Omingo that the Departmental Committee on Health, Housing, Labour and Social Welfare had a very successful meeting with the Ministry officials. Some of the cases which were cited at the KEMSA were in court, while the others were just LPO cases with no materials supplied.

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The main problem in Western Province is the outbreak of malaria. Could the Assistant Minister tell us, from the alleged consignment of 10th January, 2002, the drugs that were supplied for treating malaria?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not be specific on the type of drugs which have been supplied, but I would like to assure the hon. Member that the kit for malaria is there.

Dr. Kulundu: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Sambu asked a very legitimate question. It is one thing having a delivery note there, and another one ensuring that these drugs reach their destination. I am a Member of Parliament for Lurambi, where Kakamega General Hospital is situated. I have told the Assistant Minister that there were no drugs in that hospital last week. Could he ensure that he is not misled by paper work, which is very usual in Government institutions, including KEMSA? Could he undertake to ensure that the information which is contained in that paper, which I have not looked at, is the reality on the ground?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the last supply was made on 10th January, this year. If the hon. Member is talking about yesterday, I may not tell the House whether what he is saying is true or not. But we shall carry out investigations.

ALLOCATION OF MIWANI LAND TO ASIAN TYCOON

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Lands and Settlement the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that land belonging to Miwani Sugar Factory, now under receivership, is about to be allocated to an Asian tycoon?

(b) What is the total acreage of the farm?

(c) What urgent measures is the Minister taking to stop this action?

(d) Could he allocate this land to people of Kano and Kajulu, who are the original owners?

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Tarar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that the land belonging to Miwani Sugar Factory, now under receivership, is about to be allocated to an Asian tycoon.

(b) The farm measures 9,288 acres.

(c) Since the answer to part "a" above is negative, I am not contemplating taking any urgent measures to intervene in this matter.

(d) The land is privately owned. I, therefore, have no powers to allocate it to the people of Kano and Kajulu. If they are interested in this particular land, they should just go and negotiate with the owner on a willing-buyer-willing-seller basis.

Mr. Sambu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House? This parcel of land was advertised in the newspapers for auction. Is he in order to mislead the House?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Sambu, the Question is not that the land is being sold, but that it is being allocated to an Asian tycoon. Proceed, Mr. Sungu!

Mr. Sungu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The matter may have arisen in the course of drafting the Question because I actually said "grab" and not "allocated". But I am really shocked by what the Assistant Minister has said. This land was forcibly taken from the people of Kajulu and Kano, who are the original residents of the land, in 1901 when the Indian coolies arrived in Kisumu. The 99-year lease awarded by the then colonial government has since expired and, therefore, the land belongs to the people of Kisumu. I would like to point out that one Asian called Surji Singh is taking this land through the back door, and the Assistant Minister has told us that he is not

aware of that fact. I am very surprised. What action will the Assistant Minister take to ensure that the people get their rightful ownership of this land or we ask them to invade it?

Mr. Tarar: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the land in question was allocated to M/S Miwani Sugar Mills Kenya Limited on 14th September, 1949, with an annual rate of Kshs27,549. So, I do not believe that this lease period has already expired.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Assistant Minister says that this piece of land was allocated, whose land was it before it was allocated? Was it trust or Government land? This is because if it was trust land, then the procedure of allocation should be explained to the House.

Mr. Tarar: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Member is conversant with the laws of this country. Once somebody has been issued with a title deed to a piece of land, that land ceases to be Government land.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I asked the Assistant Minister a very simple question on the nature of the title deed. Was it trust or Government land? This is because the processes which are involved in allocating land now are different.

Mr. Speaker: Does the title deed show the origin of the land? It does not!

Dr. Omamo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The piece of land in question falls within my constituency. So, I am concerned and I should really declare my interest. Apart from the ordinary business transaction, this land has caused insecurity in Muhoroni Constituency. The other day, the 9,000 plus acres under sugar-cane were on fire, which was caused by arsonists. The arsonists were angered because they heard that the land was being taken by an Asian. The Assistant Minister should be honest to this House and tell it that the Government should know everything about this transaction because it has 49 per cent interest in this company. This is a very significant percentage in mathematics. May I, through the Chair, tell the Assistant Minister that the transfer of this piece of land, if it is done at all, and not to the local wananchi for settlement, will cause insecurity and may even result in bloodletting. Could the Assistant Minister assure the House that he will tread on this matter cautiously?

Mr. Tarar: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this land parcel, Land Reference Number 7545/3, is already charged to the Bank of Baroda (Kenya) Limited for Kshs480 million. So, its ownership cannot be transferred until this loan is repaid.

Mr. Sambu: Who is going to repay the loan?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Assistant Minister, your docket simply deals with land ownership. Hon. Omamo and hon. Sungu have raised the question of the investment by the Government through Miwani Sugar Company. They want to know the Government's position towards the company and the land. Why do you not liaise with your colleague in the relevant Ministry and come back on Tuesday, when you have all the facts? I will defer the Question till then. It is important that we get the Government's position on this issue.

Mr. Tarar: That is all right, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

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

Mr. Wamae: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Would I be in order to ask the Assistant Minister, through you, to further find out whether the Government cannot assist the local people to acquire this land for settlement?

Mr. Speaker: Well, that is part of my direction. Mr. Assistant Minister, go and find out whether it is possible. Talk to your colleagues in the relevant Ministry.

(Question deferred)

Let us proceed to the next Order.

POINT OF ORDER

MEMBERS OF DISSOLVED PARTY
CAN REMAIN PARTYLESS

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to seek your guidance on a procedural matter raised yesterday. This relates to the procedure that applies under Section 40 of the Constitution of Kenya. I think the matter arose here yesterday during debate. Maybe, the Chair should guide the House on this matter.

Mr. Speaker: What matter are you referring to?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Section 40 of the Constitution of Kenya, particularly paragraph (b), talks about dissolution of a parliamentary party and the fate of hon. Members who belong to such a party.

Mr. Speaker: Who raised the matter?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at one time, an hon. Member said that he was technically in the Opposition; he

said something about a constitutional provision.

Mr. Speaker: Was that raised in this House?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether the matter arose or not, I think it is important for you to guide the House on this matter. I was going to ask you to give the House your considered opinion on this matter, so that as the issue develops---

Mr. Speaker: What is it that you want me to guide the House on?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that under Section 40(b) of the Constitution, if a parliamentary party is dissolved - in this case I am referring to the former National Development Party of Kenya (NDP) - the hon. Members who belonged to that party prior to its dissolution can choose to join any of the remaining parliamentary parties. However, the Constitution and the Standing Orders do not contain any procedure which says how that can happen. According to your record, hon. Members have been elected as Members of certain parties. If upon the dissolution of one's party, one chooses to join another party, there is no correlation which indicates to you that this has happened. So, I am wondering whether there is any record to show that the hon. Members who dissolved their party and joined KANU have done so, and whether those who declined to cross over to KANU have joined any other parties. Surely, there ought to be a record which shows how that process took place. I think this is an important issue, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. That matter did not arise here yesterday. What arose here yesterday was a totally different matter. I do not think that any hon. Member sought any guidance from the Chair about the fate of hon. Members whose party was dissolved. I think you stated correctly that, at least, they do not lose their seats; they can join parties of their choice. What you should have gone further and said, which I will say for you, is that they can also remain partyless for the balance of the term; that is, until such a time when this Parliament is dissolved, when they can go and seek other parties. So, the hon. Members of the former NDP who have not joined any party can remain partyless. In my view, that is the correct position. But, as you know, this is not a considered ruling. I am just responding after you, in your usual fashion, ambushed the Chair. In future, if you have a matter of grave moment, please, consult the Chair, so that you can, in due course, get a considered ruling. It is good for you; it is good for the House; it is good for the country.

Thank you.

MOTION

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

THAT, the thanks of this House be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address from the Chair on Tuesday 12th March, 2002.

*(The Vice-President and Minister for
Home Affairs on 13.3.2002)*

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted on
20.3.2002, Morning Sitting)*

Mr. Speaker: Was anybody on the Floor when the House rose last time?

Hon. Members: Mr. Shidiye was on the Floor!

Mr. Speaker: Where is he?

An hon. Member: He is at large!

Mr. Speaker: Him not being present, he is deemed to have lost his time.

Mr. Murungi, you may take the Floor.

Mr. Murungi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Motion on the Presidential Address.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the greatest weakness in the Presidential Address this Session is not so much in what he said, but rather more in what he did not say. There has been great disappointment amongs hon. Members, especially those in the Opposition, because the President did not rise to the occasion. This was the last time President Moi was addressing this House as the President of this country. That was an occasion of great moment. We thought that the President should not have just disappeared into the mist of history. We expected an Address which would

make Kenyans weep about the achievements that the President has attained for this country. We expected an Address for which the President could be remembered by generations to come. But the Presidential Address was so flat; it was as if nothing was happening.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, President Moi has served this country as a Member of Parliament for more than 40 years. We thought that, that was the day when he would recount his 40 years plus as a Member of Parliament, and tell Kenyans what he has done for them as a Member of Parliament for 40 years.

Mr. Speaker: Then he should have written his memoirs and put them on the Table.

Mr. Murungi: Yes, he should have given us a summary of what he should be remembered for, but there is nothing like that in his Address.

President Moi is also known all over the world for the Nyayo Philosophy of peace, love and unity. He should have taken some time to expound on this philosophy, so that our children can remember him for it. Maybe, there was a reason as to why the President did not find it necessary to refer to this great philosophy of his. I think there is a bit of irony because over the years, the philosophy of peace, love and unity has become ironical. It has become meaningless. As far as Kenyans know, where there is love, KANU has sown nothing, but hatred. Kenyans know that where there is peace, KANU has sown nothing, but hatred and tribal clashes. Where there is unity, KANU has sown nothing but disunity, discord and suspicion. That is what the Nyayo philosophy means today. If you ask the people of Mombasa what peace they have been enjoying when Mr. Nassir was there destroying their kiosks, they will tell you. Ask the victims of the tribal clashes in Rift Valley what love was demonstrated in their deaths, and you will get the answer. We can go further. Where there was joy, KANU has sown sadness. Where there was prosperity, KANU has sown poverty.

We saw Mr. Kamotho on television on Monday. What joy was there on his face after working for all these years for *Baba na Mama*?

(Laughter)

What about Prof. Saitoti's face? It was like in a funeral! What does peace, love and unity mean for these two gentlemen; the faithful disciples of that philosophy over the years? I do not want to talk about Prof. Onger. I did not say anything about him. As you know, he is my cousin.

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Onger): On a point of order Mr. Speaker, Sir. Did I hear him mentioning my name? I shall reply.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Prof. Onger! What is so disorderly in mentioning the name of Prof. Onger? Why are you complaining?

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not need to be informed by---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wanjala! The Chair is well informed!

Proceed, Mr. Murungi.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are saying that Kenyans cannot be fooled by KANU. Kenyans cannot be fooled by the Nyayo philosophy of peace, love and unity because it is empty and nothing. Similarly, the people of Kenya are not impressed by new names, like new KANU, because they know that a decorated donkey is always a donkey. Whether it is called KANU or new KANU, we know that it is the same KANU which has ruined this economy---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Murungi, was it part of the Presidential Speech?

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is Mr. Murungi's comments on the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Speaker: Are they relevant to the Speech?

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you know, during this debate, hon. Members have also some leeway to expound on what the President should have said, even if he did not say so.

Mr. Speaker: All right. I will give you a little leeway, but not going too far away from the Speech.

Proceed.

Mr. Murungi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We know that Mr. Raila is a great fighter. We have been with him in this struggle for many years, and he bears the marks of that struggle. If you look at his face, there is a big scar which came about when he was clobbered at Ngong in the company of Mrs. Wambui Otieno, when they had gone to open a FORD(K) office there in 1994.

(Laughter)

Mr. Raila has been to all the prisons in this country, and Kenyans are wondering: Was all this struggle merely meant to take over Mr. Kamotho's job? Or was there a broader agenda? This is because, at that time, we were thinking of how we were going to radically transform this country.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Murungi! Again, I will call you to order. How do you take it when tomorrow, Mr. Raila, in response to what you are saying, takes on you? I heard Mr. Kihara is now celebrating. In the morning, when Mr. Shidiye was talking about your Chairman, you would not let him utter a word. Now, would you keep all the names of individuals out of the Presidential Speech?

Proceed.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let us look into the future. I think we have had enough of the past. We do know that this country is going through a long and difficult transition, but we are seeing some bright days ahead. As you know, we, in the Opposition, have formed the National Alliance for Change. We have told Kenyans that it is now or never. We hope that we are going to have decent campaigns, with the new KANU, for all of us. Whether Mr. Murungi is here today or not, whether Prof. Ongeru who is my cousin is here today or not, this country will continue to be there. I have been saying that Australia was founded by criminals, but today it is one of the great countries on this Earth. Even Kenya, many years to come from this day, will be a great country, and all those characters on stage now will be six feet down. The ants will eat them and the crops will grow on them, which will feed those Kenyans who will come. So, let us have a broad view of history, and let us support Prof. Ghai. He is the only hope for this country.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Awori): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for also giving me an opportunity to join my colleagues in commenting on the Presidential Speech. You know that it is the practice of our friends from the other side of the House to demonise KANU and the President. It gives them a great deal of satisfaction. But having been demonised, so that we are, as they believe, devils, wananchi cannot be deceived because they will continue to say "better the devil you know than the one you do not know." Since they believe that, I can assure my very good friend who has just finished speaking, that they will accept to remain that way, and the devil they know will continue to govern this country for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the question of why the President missed this opportunity to talk about himself, I would like to say that it is a question of forgetting the kind of character that the President is. He is not a braggart. He is not a self-conceited person. He is a very self-effacing man.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the philosophy of love, peace and unity has served this country well. If we look around the Continent of Africa, with all our weaknesses, we will agree that, that philosophy has helped us a great deal. Today, one can travel from Mombasa to Kisumu, and from Mandera to Isebania without any worry at all. This is something that does not happen in very many countries, not only in Africa but in Europe as well.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, looking at the Presidential Speech, the President mentioned salient features of the matters that were of great concern to us. He still has Madaraka Day and Kenyatta Day celebrations where he can expound more about his retirement. He did not need to talk about his life here in Parliament. He did put a lot of emphasis on the reduction of poverty. At Independence, there were three major problems that we fought against, and we agreed to continue fighting against. These included lack of education, increased medical care and the reduction of poverty. I want to assure this House that, for quite sometime, we succeeded in combating all these vices, but personal greed amongst Government officials promoted pilferage, brought about corruption and incompetence. This is what started to erode the economy of this country. You cannot put blame at the door of the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we talk about Government officers, it comprises of supporters of both the ruling party and the Opposition parties. The other side is full of people who were directing the services of this Government. But just like my colleagues have said, it is better for us to focus on the future rather than looking backwards. We have had many papers written on poverty reduction, seminars and workshops have been held but the most unfortunate thing is that most of these are carried out in big hotels and other comfortable areas. We know what to do in order to reduce poverty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, for a long time, tourism was one of the biggest earners of foreign exchange. There is no reason why tourism cannot continue doing the same. There are certain things which we need to do in order to ensure that tourism booms again. We need to improve on our security and infrastructure so that when tourists come here, they can communicate with their people back home without any difficulties. They must have sufficient water in the hotels and good roads on which to travel. These are some of the ingredients that will bring about the growth of tourism.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have always been an agricultural economy. We produce crops that are required everywhere in the world, such as coffee, tea, pyrethrum and flowers. If any of these crops fail, why does one have to put the blame at the door of the Government? Agriculture was liberalised sometime ago. In Western Province, we grow

cotton. Instead of so many seminars and many papers being written, we should revive cotton growing in Western Province. We cannot revive the growing of cotton by simply giving the farmer free seed. We have to start from establishing the number of farmers that are interested in growing cotton. We must give them the means of clearing the bush. We must also give them the means of storing and transporting their cotton to the ginneries. We must, therefore, rehabilitate the ginneries.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the moment, the only people who are benefitting from the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) are foreigners. We have got the Sri Lankans who have come to manufacture the fabrics that are required in America, and no Kenyan is benefitting from it except the worker who is hardly better paid. It is necessary that we should help, so that we own the means of implementing AGOA. In order to do that, we need to improve the infrastructure in cotton growing areas so that we have everything in our hands. The cotton ginneries must be under the control of our local people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, there is a road called road C30. This road can go a long way in improving the fishing industry and cotton growing. This road should be tarmacked from Mumias to Port Victoria and the other areas around Lake Victoria. We have the means and all we need is the political good-will from both sides. It is not a good thing to heap blame on the Government because it is not going to make any difference. It will not put any food on the table or increase the *sufurias* that we have.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, HIV/AIDS is of great concern and it behoves all of us to bring our efforts to ensure that the HIV pandemic which is killing the most productive segment of our population is eradicated. This morning, there was an hon. Member who had a plea for the disabled. In her plea, there was---

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Dr. Wekesa: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to contribute to the Presidential Speech. With your permission, I would like to congratulate the four pretenders to the throne who were elected by KANU the other day. Most people in Western Province are wondering whether Mr. Jirongo would have been one of the Vice-chairmen from Western Province.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kiangoi): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to refer to the people who were elected recently during the KANU elections as "pretenders to the throne"?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I thought we were talking about the President's Address. Why do you bother about a KANU election? What is in it for you?

Dr. Wekesa, proceed and just talk about what is before the House!

Dr. Wekesa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to congratulate the four KANU Vice-Chairmen who were elected the other day. People in western Kenya are wondering what the results of the KANU elections would have been, if the delegates were given the opportunity to vote individually for their respective candidates. They are wondering whether Mr. Jirongo would have received the treatment he received on that day. However, we believe in democratic processes. I decamped from KANU because it had a tendency of not following democratic principles. So, three years ago, I defected from KANU, and I have been wondering whether there has been any improvement.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to engage in irrelevancies? Could he restrict himself to the President's Address?

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Wekesa, you are not in KANU now. Proceed!

Dr. Wekesa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was only saying that I was in KANU and now I am in the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Dr. Wekesa, you left KANU a long time ago. So, leave KANU matters to KANU hon. Members and now talk about the President's Address.

Dr. Wekesa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I leave that issue, I want to plead to all Kenyans, who would have had a chance to elect their officials within KANU. I am inviting them to join the National Alliance for Change (NAC), where we will elect our future Government through a democratic process. So, I will go and see my old friends in KANU--- There are quite a number of them and I can see some of them here, for example, Mr. Haji, with whom I worked very well. I want to congratulate Mr. Haji personally, for being elected to the post of the Treasurer. I know that he will work as diligently as he has always done. However, I will still go to Mr. Haji and try to convince him to join the National Alliance for Change, where we will follow democratic principles.

I want to comment on the President's Address. I realise that the country is going through a very difficult economic recession. The HIV/AIDS scourge is a national disaster. Some time last year, we formed the Constituency Aids Control Committees (CACCS). At that time, we hoped that money would be available to assist the HIV/AIDS patients. We have committees in all the constituencies, but they are not working. This is a national disaster and we must do something about it because we are losing a lot of Kenyans to it. The same case applies to roads. When we

formed the roads committees, we had very good ideas, and we wanted hon. Members of Parliament to check on the use of the national funds that are set aside for roads maintenance. There were those of us who opposed this idea and now we, as hon. Members of Parliament, are watching while the money is being misused as it has always been.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to urge the Government again to review the use of funds on road maintenance. I want to commend the Government for the effort it has put into roads in my constituency. The Endebbes/Suam Road has been completed, although the contractor used very poor murrum and the road has developed a lot of corrugations which make driving very dangerous. The Government recently commenced the construction of the road from Kitale through Namanjalala, Kwanza to Kolongolo, which is a security road. I am hoping that the contractors will use better murrum than they used on the Endebbes/Suam Road. I urge the Government again to continue assisting the establishment of roads in Kwanza Constituency and, indeed, in all the constituencies in this country. Rains are about to come and we will hear a lot of complaints from all over the country about the poor state of roads. This is an area that we, as hon. Members of Parliament, would want to get satisfaction from this Government. We realise that the Government is broke and hon. Members are spending a lot of time discussing the succession issue. I would urge Ministers to concentrate on real governance and not waste so much time chasing the presidency.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, maize marketing is a problem to farmers in western Kenya. It is a big industry. Right now, maize farmers have not been paid for the maize they delivered to the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB), and the rains are approaching. We should not just talk about insecurity when we think of people going around with guns. The ability to feed the people of this country is of national concern and can cause a worse insecurity situation than the other insecurity situations that everybody seems to think about. Right now, the farmers in Trans Nzoia District, Kisii and right across to Kapenguria, have not sold their maize. Lorries are still on the queue. Maize that has been delivered to the NCPB has not been paid for. I am urging the Minister for Agriculture to tour that area and see the plight of the farmers there. I also urge the Government to try to raise money through whichever means - it is known to raise money even through printing it - to pay the farmers. If the Government will not pay the farmers, the National Alliance for Change will use this issue as a weapon to get all the votes from the maize growing areas. These farmers will not vote for this Government. I am assisting the Government by saying this. The Minister for Agriculture should ensure that farmers are paid for the maize they have delivered to the NCPB. We do not want maize to be imported into this country when we have maize rotting in our farms. The World Food Programme (WFP) should buy maize from Kenya.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Mokku): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Motion on the Presidential Address.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Speech was so detailed and relevant to the occasion and it is worthy for hon. Members to borrow a leaf from it. Contrary to what has been said on the Floor of the House, the President asked Kenyans to be united. Unity is paramount to any country's prosperity and, therefore, it is something that we need to aim at.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Presidential Address, His Excellency the President asked us to ensure that security prevailed in this country. It is the responsibility of all of us, leaders, and every Kenyan to see that security prevails in this country. The Speech as read by His Excellency the President was so relevant to the occasion, contrary to some of the hon. Members who have said that the President did not give his programme here. If there is need for that, somebody can demand it and it shall be availed. I am asking my colleagues here to stress on peace and unity in this country, which is needed more than anything else, this time round, when we are facing a transitional period in this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate all those who were elected during the KANU/NDP National Delegates Conference at Kasarani last Monday; the four Vice-Chairmen and the rest. I would like to ask hon. Members to leave KANU alone. KANU is a political party with its own agendas and policy. KANU does not meddle with matters of other parties. We would like other parties to give it peace. Once again, I congratulate KANU and NDP for merging and becoming a new party which is very strong now. I think it is scaring our friends on the opposite side.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say the following issues, especially on the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), which was launched the other day. We are all Kenyans, but we come from different backgrounds. Some Kenyans are lucky that they have rain throughout the year. There are areas which are referred to as Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL). During the colonial period and even after Independence, those ASAL areas were left behind in terms of development. When it rains, most of those areas are inaccessible because there are no roads and, therefore, places like divisional headquarters cannot be accessed. Such regions were neglected during the colonial period and after Independence. It is high time the PRSP Paper gave top priority to those areas. If those areas are not given priority, I think we would be left behind 100 kilometres away from other Kenyans, in terms of

development, infrastructure *et cetera*. My appeal to the Ministry of Finance and Planning is that, those ASAL areas should be given priority in the PRSP.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my colleagues have talked about maize and the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB), which is not buying maize from farmers. There are areas like where the Speaker comes from and where I come from, which have special products that Kenyans cannot do without for a day, and that is meat. The bulk of the meat consumed in this country comes from those areas. There is no market for meat and its products. I have not heard hon. Members talking about that product very seriously. There is no hon. Member in this House who can go without the meat component in his lunch or dinner. Kenya has no market for meat and its products!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development should ensure that, at least, a small abattoir is put up in the Northern Eastern region. One abattoir should be set up, say, in Turkana, Samburu, Isiolo, Moyale and Maasai areas. I think the KMC is very close here where we have no livestock. Until and unless we look at the critical needs of the pastoralist and livestock farmers, the next generation would ask so many questions on what our leaders were doing about the development of the livestock sector.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I speak here now, Botswana relies very much on livestock products which are marketed and planned for, the same way we do it for coffee, tea and pyrethrum in this country. We have the Kenya Planters Co-operative Union, the Kenya Tea Development Agency and the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya. We do not have a livestock development authority here in Kenya today, yet livestock covers 80 per cent of the land in this country. I am appealing strongly that, the Government creates a livestock development authority in this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to take this opportunity to appeal to the Ministry of Health. Kenya and other countries in the world have declared HIV/AIDS a disaster. There is a disease which has not been declared a disaster, but I think it is more or less a disaster like HIV/AIDS; malaria. People are dying from malaria in malaria-prone areas; typhoid, amoebiasis and such diseases. People in those areas cannot even afford medicine to cure those diseases! I would like the Minister for Public Health, who is here, to see to it that, affordable medicine is made available to the common mwananchi in those areas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you were diagnosed and found suffering from typhoid, nothing less than Kshs2,000 can actually give you a single dose treatment. How many Kenyans can afford to raise such an amount of money for medicine? Malaria, typhoid and amoebiasis have become killer diseases, more or less like HIV/AIDS. The Ministry of Health should give a lot of seriousness that these diseases deserve, especially in those ASAL areas where there are no alternative forms of treatment like chemists and private clinics; there are only Government hospitals. If those Government hospitals, dispensaries and health centres are not equipped with medicine, then you can guess what happens. People there are dying at high rates! I would like to urge the Ministry of Health to give that area more attention because the situation is actually worrying and those diseases are killing people!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, lastly, I would like to appeal to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. Where we have no markets for our products and health services, which I have mentioned, the Ministry should consider giving more bursaries to those ASAL areas. Currently, the Ministry's policy is the number of pupils in a class. Even if a pupil comes from a maize, coffee or tea producing areas, he or she is given the same bursary like the pupil from Mandera, where they do not see a single natural green leaf for three quarters of the year---

(A Mobile phone rang in the Chamber)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Members! Who is that?

Mr. O.K. Mwangi: It is me, Mr. Speaker, Sir! I apologise for that.

Mr. Speaker: I gave a warning yesterday and the whole of today! Just go out!

(Mr. O.K. Mwangi withdrew from the Chamber)

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Mokku): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say this: In terms of bursary allocation, let the ASAL areas be considered according to their needs and poverty levels, not the number of pupils per class. If you look at the number of pupils per class, most areas in the ASAL region would get very little bursary or even none. That is my strong appeal to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

Lastly, there is this appeal which has been made by all hon. Members with regard to Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT). Teachers have appealed to us from all our respective areas. I am appealing to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to consider implementing the agreement on teachers' salaries. Even if the Government cannot implement the whole agreement at once, let something be done about the agreement bit by bit, because a teacher is a very important person in society. As I speak here now, there is no promotion for primary school teachers. The promotion of primary teachers was banned hardly six to seven years ago, when there was a

strike or demand for higher salaries for teachers. Where there is no hope in life, where you do not expect to be promoted and you do not get salary increments, we cannot expect to get good results from those teachers. So, I think to entice them to do a better job, let the Director of Education or the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, think of lifting the ban on the teachers' promotion, especially the primary school teachers, who are now feeling to have been neglected by the Government. Somebody must have hope in life! You have to have hope to be a rich man tomorrow! Teachers should have hope of being promoted from P1 to S1 tomorrow, *et cetera*. If there is that general ban on promotion of teachers for five, six to seven years, we will have disastrous results in this country. So, I appeal to the Minister for Education to lift the ban on the teachers' promotions.

Mr. Ngure: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Speech. At the moment, I know it is not strange for many fellows who do not make history to comment on the actions of people who make history. Like they did on the formation of the NDP, most newspapers and Opposition Members are talking about actions taken by NDP members on 18th, March, 2002. People are not the same. There are those people who make history---

Mr. Munyasia: Talk of former NDP!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Munyasia, you are not known for that kind of behaviour. I did not expect that from you. Proceed Mr. Ngure.

Mr. Ngure: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not strange that many hon. Members will talk about the progressive politics and the change of political history in this country. You form a party to chart your own way to power. If you form a party to just sit down there, call yourselves names and say you are an opposition party, that is not enough. You are in the Opposition because of circumstances of political dispensation in this country. Elections are held and if you lose, you remain in Opposition although that was not your wish.

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to teach the Opposition side the politics of betrayal?

Mr. Ngure: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whenever you are on your path to political leadership, you will be called a betrayer. It happened in the Old Chamber when the late Jaramogi Oginga Odinga rose and said: "In many hearts of Kenyans, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, as a fellow detainee and as a true leader of this country, you have betrayed me." He went out and campaigned and the wish of the people prevailed. Yet, again, it prevailed on 18th March, 2002. We even had some hon. Members who were products of *mlolongo* election and they left KANU. We will introduce *mlolongo* election and they might come back.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the President's Speech was inspiring. In his wisdom, the President knew there was to be a great event in the country. He wanted Kenyans and newspapers to comment on the event that took place in Kasarani. We will have chances to teach people. I know it is difficult to tame a lion, but it is absolutely impossible to make a wild cat out of a domestic cat. So, the National Alliance for Change is in for big trouble. The only known formula in forming any alliance is that the party with the majority seats takes the leadership. That is a formula over which we should not go for tea. But all other Members and leaders of other parties cannot go back to their areas and say their single Presidential candidate will be Mr. Kibaki. They fear doing that. If they do so in their areas---

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Are you satisfied that Mr. Ngure is being relevant to the Presidential Address? I thought you had advised him earlier on to address himself to the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, Mr. Munyasia. I think the Opposition side now agrees that I was right.

Mr. Ngure, could you talk about the Presidential Address?

Mr. Ngure: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I knew you were coming to that. The President talked about poverty eradication. Poverty is a big problem in the country. We must seriously tackle it. We can achieve this by embarking massively on irrigation projects. I come from an agricultural area. If it does not rain, poverty persists. However, there are rivers which can be used to enhance irrigation projects. If we harness the waters of these rivers and put them to use, those areas will be the granary of this country.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) set up a pilot scheme on food security in Bondo District. There were seminars. People were taught on how to irrigate their farms, but up to now, nothing has been done on the ground. I am urging those officers who are responsible for poverty eradication to see to it that programmes funded by FAO in the whole of Africa, particularly in Rarieda Constituency and the rest of Bondo District, are implemented. In our areas we have noticed flight of capital. Our people earn merely Kshs2 billion from the sale of fish, but they spend Kshs1.8 billion to buy maize. It is not because the land is not fertile, but because there is scarce rainfall. When it rains, people have a bumper harvest. But this rain is not enough to sustain our agricultural activities. If we want to reduce poverty in this country, we must involve ourselves in labour-intensive projects like irrigation so that we occupy our youth.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Speech by His Excellency the President highlighted insecurity as a major problem bedeviling this country. We are talking of insecurity and some "gangs" funded by politicians. We should not lose sight of what is happening around us. When we analyse those who are meting out insecurity to our people, you will notice that they are from a single province. Why? Because the leaders in those areas have not sat down to teach their people that we belong to a civilised Kenya, where members of all 42 tribes must be given a chance to become leaders. This is a country where everybody has his or her say. We do not want to be called tribalists, but I would like to urge leaders from some of these areas where insecurity is meted out to other people to preach peace. It is a serious thing to have members of a community being beheaded or killed and going to Heaven prematurely. Some of them went to Heaven after being circumcised by people who are not from their community, against their wishes. It is a serious issue and we must just face it. If it is a community, we should talk about it seriously and bear the blame.

The teachers' pay had been negotiated and the mode of payment agreed upon. The Government should take it seriously and find funds from wherever it can find, and implement the agreements that had been reached, because a strike by teachers does not affect only Ministers of the Government; it affects the people who pay fees because they want their children to be better Kenyans.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Gatabaki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Address - whatever it means.

I would have been delighted on that day to listen to the last words of President Moi, but his court in Kibera detained me up to about 4.00 p.m., for publishing one of my magazines, and subsequently I have been accused of incitement and bringing hatred to the person of the President by law provided. I took time to study the Presidential Speech, and I saw it summarising the democratic ideals and credentials that he believes in. This democracy has come about because of tolerance of every person's ideas no matter how objectionable they are. I would like to ask the President why his courts are persecuting me for my views and opinions. He should tell the House, and the nation for history purposes, that he believes in democracy that tolerates everybody's ideas no matter how objectionable they are, if indeed, he respects everybody's ideas as stated in his Speech. The last part of his Speech says it in black and white, that he believes in democracy, and that is the tolerance of everybody's ideas no matter how objectionable. He should start by withdrawing that case against me for voicing the statement that: "President Moi ordered the Molo massacre".

Mr. Speaker, Sir, having said that---

Mr. Shidiye: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member, who has gone out of his mind, in order to say that President Moi was behind the Molo massacre, and yet we know that he needs a psychiatrist to check his mind?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! That is the kind of debate I loathe. And when I tell hon. Members to use civil language, you understand why; it is because it is anti-debate. It only induces hostility. I will deal with Mr. Gatabaki, and later on, Mr. Shidiye, because two wrongs never correct a mistake. It is my business as Mr. Speaker to deal with the hon. Member who has breached the Standing Orders, and no hon. Member is allowed, as a consequence of another breaching Standing Orders, to go one higher by being even worse. I will deal with Mr. Shidiye later on, but in the meantime, shall I ask Mr. Gatabaki to withdraw and apologise that offensive language against the President, and then he can proceed.

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you go thoroughly through the HANSARD report, I said that I have been charged in a Kibera Court for publishing an alarming statement that "Moi ordered the Molo massacre". That is the charge at the Kibera Court. I am not adding any extra words. As for him, I always forgive the fragile minds of some hon. Members here. We all did not have the benefit of formal schooling.

Mr. Speaker: Order! If that is what you said, I will check in the HANSARD. But I heard Mr. Shidiye state that hon. Gatabaki requires a psychiatrist. To the best of my knowledge, the ordinary meaning of that statement is that he is mad, and to the best of my ability, he does not look mad. So, will you withdraw that statement and apologise?

Mr. Shidiye: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to state very clearly that Mr. Gatabaki is totally mad. He is not even mad, but totally mad, and I will not withdraw that statement.

Mr. Speaker: Order! You are aggravating the matter. In fact, Mr. Shidiye, you are becoming contemptuous of the Chair. I have ordered you, and I so order, for the last time, to withdraw and apologise. Failure to that, you will be in trouble.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, he must comply first. Will you sit down? No business will be transacted [**Mr. Speaker**] until I have dealt with Mr. Shidiye.

Mr. Shidiye: Mr. Speaker, Sir, because I am the Deputy Chief Whip, for the sake of this House and for the sake of Kenyans, I withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: You must apologise as well.

Mr. Shidiye: I apologise, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! Mr. Achola, what was your problem?

Mr. Achola: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that he has apologised, then my point of order is not valid. I was just wondering whether he was in a position to prove that Mr. Gatabaki is mad, because, he could have proved it, then there was no point to withdraw. But since he has already---

Mr. Speaker: Have you been overtaken by events?

Mr. Achola: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kiangoi): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You were not sure what Mr. Gatabaki said. If what he repeated to you is what he said, is he in order to bring matters that are pending before court to Parliament and campaign for the withdrawal of his case that is pending before a Kibera Court?

Mr. Speaker: Indeed, you are right. No hon. Member charged with any criminal offence or even sued for a civil debt has the business to come to plead to Parliament, either to have the case withdrawn against himself or herself, or to have it terminated either way. We must respect the business of the courts to adjudicate on matters between individuals and individuals, and individuals and the State. So, Mr. Gatabaki, will you please keep your court matters out of here?

Proceed!

Hon. Members: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Gatabaki, will you comply and proceed? We are taking the time of Mr. Gatabaki no more!

Mr. Keynan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I do not know whether you heard Mr. Gatabaki referring to Mr. Shidiye as a person with a fragile mind! Could we get guidance from the Chair to understand what that means? Is it in order to ask him to withdraw that because he imputed an improper motive on another Member?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Let me get it right! If he did say that, he will have to eat his words!

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hope I will get an extra minute for the---

Mr. Speaker: Order! I did not hear it and I want to get a confirmation from the Member. Did you, Mr. Gatabaki, refer to Mr. Shidiye as a person with a fragile mind? Answer yes or no!

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did say that he is a man of a fragile mind for which I apologise!

Mr. Speaker: Very well! Proceed now!

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the wastage of my time by hon. Members, could I get an extra minute? In view of what has happened, I hope I will get an extra minute.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in contributing to the Presidential Speech, we must ask ourselves: What was that Presidential Address about? Has anybody gone through a Presidential Statement by statesmen of this world? Has anybody read Nelson Mandela's farewell Statement in the Parliament of South Africa? Has somebody read Bill Clinton's Statement in the Joint Session of Congress? Has anybody read a statement by Winston Churchill? President Moi had the golden opportunity, in his half-century political life, to enumerate a legacy. It should have been a Presidential Statement that could be read and quoted by generations. I wonder whether Mr. Shidiye will consider that as a statement from a mad person!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Gatabaki, I am not convinced and there is no record to suggest that you are mad! I ordered the hon. Member to withdraw that reference---

(A mobile phone rang in the Public Galleries)

Order! Who is that?

An hon. Member: It is from the galleries!

Mr. Speaker: Who is it?

An hon. Member: You cannot see him!

Mr. Speaker: Can we get rid of whoever it is?

(A person ran out of the Galleries)

Order now! Mr. Gatabaki, that matter was settled. Do not revisit it. So, will you please give justice to the time

allocated to you? You always cause trouble!

An hon. Member: Give him some more time!

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry, I will not!

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, presidential statements are not for normal occasions and particularly so---

(Applause as Mr. Kamotho entered the Chamber)

Presidential statements are not for normal occasions, particularly when they are intended to give a farewell message. They should not be four pages! I am requesting those who prepare presidential statements to do a worthwhile job for a man who served with distinction. I am not always very critical of the President. The impoverishment of this country---

Mr. Speaker: Your time is up! Proceed, Mr. Sungu.

Mr. Sungu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. After such a speech from Mr. Gatabaki, it is a bit difficult to impress.

But let me start by a statement of self congratulation, first to NDP and KANU, and now to the New KANU for merging. That is one of the ways in which this country can possibly go together. That was a negotiated settlement and all over the world, everybody is negotiating. In the Middle East, they are negotiating although they are fighting. People are talking everywhere, so that they can find a common future for their country. That is the way forward for this country, and that is what we should adopt in this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, having said that, let me thank the President for making such a wonderful Speech in this House and conducting the State Opening. He touched on various issues of major importance in this country. One of them is poverty. Let us not reduce the question of poverty to a mere statistic. Mr. Benjamin Disraeli, a well known statesman in the United Kingdom said that there are lies, damned lies and then there are statistics. That is because statistics often lie. We talk about the Gross National Product (GNP), rate of growth and so on. We should go back to the basics in this country and find solutions that can help our people, rather than statistics. To reduce the problem of poverty, we need to seek and take active steps. One of those is to increase food production.

Many people in this country are going hungry. In my constituency, there are more than 70 per cent of families who cannot afford one square meal a day. I am sure that is the truth in most constituencies in this country. We need to find ways and means of increasing employment. That is a major issue which has been ignored in this country. We educate our children, take them to the universities, colleges and elsewhere! Parents are ready and willing to even sell their land and the last bit of property that they have, but, at the end of the day, those children do not have a chance to get a job in this country. That is an issue that we must look into seriously, and as a country, look into it together, both in the Government and the Opposition. That is because if we stand together, we can do great things. But if we are divided, we will never find any solutions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, poverty is the cause of many problems that we have, including insecurity. Only the other day, I had occasion to go to Kariobangi and witness the carnage and inhuman loss of life. What happened in Kariobangi is despicable and should never happen in this country again! I was reduced to tears, as was a councillor who was in that area, when we saw what had happened in Kariobangi. There comes a time in the world when men and women must come together and condemn what is wrong. We want to say this: In this country, we must condemn such acts and take appropriate measures, so that, that kind of thing cannot be repeated, not just in Kariobangi, but anywhere else, whether it is Kisumu, Molo, Laikipia or other areas. It is dastardly to lose human life in such manner as we saw in Kariobangi.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a hungry man is an angry man! The most important thing that we must do is to put dinner on the plates of the families. That brings me to a very crucial point. Mr. Clinton, the former President of the United States of America (USA), during his second term in office, made one single statement; that he will focus on the economy like a laser beam. That is what we need here. We need to focus on the economy of this country like a laser beam, if we are worthy to be called leaders of this country, so that we can help our people.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

Agriculture has been viewed as the mainstay of our economy. In agriculture, we know that 40 per cent of Kenya's land is arable. The rest is dry, arid or semi-arid. I would like to appeal to the Government from the bottom of my heart, to focus seriously on the question of irrigation, particularly in those areas where we have a lot of water.

For example, the Lake Victoria Basin has been ignored for a long time. Now that we are in the Government, we hope that, that matter will be taken seriously. We have the Nile Valley Treaty which allows Egypt to use water originating from Kenya, Uganda, Congo and Tanzania and yet, we, ourselves, are not able to use that water. That treaty should be revoked for the sake of Kenyans. Right now, we know that the Egyptians are able to pump water using the Suez Canal up to Sinai. They are now able, and actually doing what is called the policy of effective occupation. In other words, they are constructing settlements and irrigation schemes everywhere, so that when we question that matter, they will say: "These people must have water." We know and accept the fact that the riparian rights belong to everybody, but there must be fairness and justice. This injustice will cause a problem in this country. Our people are going hungry because of a treaty which was signed between the British Colonial Government which was ruling Kenya then, and Egypt. This treaty is not in our interest. We will be able to feed, not just the people of Nyanza, but the rest of this country and the whole of Africa if we are able to utilise the waters of Lake Victoria and those rivers that flow through Kenya. I would like to appeal to the Minister for Agriculture that this Nile River Initiative which is being funded by the World Bank be implemented in Kenya. Right now, we have not seen any action whatsoever from this Government on these funds which were made available by the World Bank, but which are not utilised.

Let me turn my attention to the question of health. When you have a good thing going, it should never be changed. This Parliament, and the country's Head of State, one day sat in Mombasa and declared HIV/AIDS a national disaster. In so doing, they put HIV/AIDS as an issue at the top of the nation's agenda. In our Departmental Committee on Health, Housing, Labour and Social Welfare, we said that the focus of the fight against HIV/AIDS would be in the constituencies. I am sorry to say that, as we talk now, the Constituency HIV/AIDS Control Committees are dead as a dodo because they are not funded. There was one man called Dr. Okeyo Mboya who actually carried out this work very well. He was among those who gave us ideas and supported us. I do not know why they made changes because right now these Committees are not meeting. What do we want to do in this country? Do we want to spend money, waste it, stop there and then go backwards again? I want to appeal to this Government to ensure that the Constituency AIDS Control Committees are well-funded so that they can continue with the noble job of fighting and combating the HIV/AIDS menace. These Constituency AIDS Control Committees are an example of a good idea which came to us but we did not use it and it has now gone awry.

Let me now turn my attention to the issue of infrastructure in this country. There was a time when we agreed that constituencies would receive funds directly from the Treasury. I believe these funds have been allocated to most constituencies and they are doing a good job. For that, I want to congratulate all MPs and the Government. This is the right way to go because the focus of development should be at the constituency level rather than the district level. I would like to urge that we extend this to the water sector because water is important. I believe that each constituency should have its own allocation for water resources development. Each constituency should have its allocation directly from Parliament to the agricultural sector. I believe this should also be the case in the education sector because most of our schools lack infrastructure. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would have said much but let me turn to an issue that has become very close to my heart. Recently, I was among a group of hon. Members of this House who visited the Sudan. As our President retires I want to appeal to him that he should now look at the region that is called the East, Central and the Horn of Africa, particularly the Sudan. He should now take a more regional role in looking and shaping the future of this area. The situation in the Sudan is pathetic. There is slavery, forced Arabisation and Islamisation and bombing of civilian targets, including hospitals. I would like to appeal to the Government of Kenya to take positive steps to make sure that the situation in the Sudan is changed for the better. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

Ms. Karua: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to comment on the Presidential Speech. Ranking high in that Speech was the issue of poverty. Taken at face value, though short, the Speech was alright. This is a Government that is famous for its rhetoric which is not matched by concrete action. The Government cannot be serious on the issue of poverty when it is an agent of creating poverty. In the last few months, we have seen the Government, through its agents, go out on a campaign to destroy the informal sector and impoverish the already impoverished Kenyans. In December, we witnessed kiosk demolitions in Mombasa led by a Cabinet Minister. We did not hear any comments from the Ministry of Local Government. It is as though the Minister was on leave. We did not hear any comment from any Government official. It is as though the Executive of this country was in a slumber. It is clear, that if the Government did not expressly authorise, then they countenanced the criminal actions of destroying peoples' property. The Constitution of Kenya enshrines the right to property of every Kenyan. It does not matter whether that property is of very big or small value. Each person is entitled to what they own. Most of the kiosk owners, in Nairobi, Mombasa and elsewhere operate with licences granted by the respective municipal and city councils. These licences were un-expired. No notices are given to the kiosk owners when the Government, through its agents and the provincial administration, goes on the rampage to destroy the

property of the kiosk owners, therefore destroying the lives of many families. This also disables so many children from attending school and expecting the next meal. No wonder we have such a high number of street children and child sex commercial workers. It is the Government that is causing this situation. Instead of eradicating poverty, this Government is creating it.

In order to understand statements, the Presidential Speech and the actions of this Government, one has to read them in reverse. When a statement is made claiming that the Government is for poverty eradication, we must read that the Government will consistently create poverty or further impoverish Kenyans. Otherwise, the statements that have been made, those contained in the Speech and the actions the Government has countenanced would not make sense. If it is orderliness that the Government wishes to create in urban centres, we would expect reasonable notice to be given to those in the informal sector so that they are able to remove their wares. They should also be shown alternative sites where they can carry on their business. How else are they supposed to alleviate poverty if they cannot carry on business in the informal sector which is the one that is sustaining many Kenyans after the retrenchment exercise? It is actually not just irresponsible and reckless, but also criminal for the Government to perpetuate these kinds of acts against its own people. We saw through the media, hired thugs destroying and looting property in Mombasa and the police were watching as though they were in a theatre watching a movie. This is a clear indication that the Government was party to those very disturbing activities which are of a criminal nature and go against the human and constitutional rights of its citizens. We are not a poor nation. We may be ranked among the poorest but the only reason why our people are living in poverty is that we are not utilising our natural resources properly. The Government does not appear to know that we are not a poor nation. So, it is forever waiting for the donor community to fill the budgetary deficit. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we always boast of the earnings from tourism, but who is earning that money? Is it coming to the pockets of Kenyans? The answer is, no. Maybe 80 per cent of the earnings from the tourist industry are being exported to developed nations. You will find that most of the lodges in our game reserves are owned by companies not based in this country. You will also find game farms in the Mount Kenya area where foreigners are charging for viewing of animals which are the God-given birthright of Kenyans. So, our wildlife, which is famous, is being exploited by foreigners and not by us. It is as though there is no Government. The Government has a duty to ensure that the laws provide for, at least, over 50 per cent of the earnings from our natural resources including the wildlife, to go to Kenyans and if we have partnership with other people, they take not more than 49 per cent. However, this Government has failed to put in place protective measures. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have minerals like the titanium which was discovered in Kilifi. In spite of the outcry by the residents, the Government is ready to sell the birthright of Kenyans to foreigners. These are minerals that can transform this country from a situation of poverty to a developed nation yet this Government is using all avenues to block the protests of the locals and Members of Parliament and selling our birthright, maybe for 30 pieces of silver, because I believe, there is a Judas in the Government who has received 30 pieces of silver. In other words, the level of the irresponsibility of this Government is such that Kenyans will be condemned to perpetual poverty. Since our mandate as elected leaders is coming to an end, it is high time Kenyans evaluated all these happenings and agreed with those of us on this side that this Government is tired and devoid of any fresh ideas and we need to renew them. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Speech alluded that the priority of the Government was to remove Kenyans from ignorance, poverty and disease. We cannot move away from poverty with the kind of happenings I have enumerated. We cannot move away from disease when we are cost-sharing for the basic and essential health services. The developed nations never introduced cost-sharing until their countries were developed and until there were viable alternative insurance policies covering everybody, thereby ensuring that nobody lacked basic and essential health services. Why is this Government following blindly things that are being introduced? In an effort to get donor money, this Government is implementing policies that are not suitable to us. We do not need to borrow donor money. If we can curb the waste of our own resources and put in place safety nets to ensure that we actually exploit the natural resources of this country to the benefit of Kenyans, then we would not need to be forced by donors to follow policies that are not suitable for us. Since it is obvious that the Government is unlikely to wake up, we on this side are ready to carry out this task on behalf of Kenyans when the time comes. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the insecurity that is going on I want, once again, to say that this Government has been countenancing crime. Why would it take two hours when there is mayhem and a marauding gang that is causing murder and destruction within the reach of police officers for them to appear? Why is it that after such a horrible incident no arrests are made and no prosecutions are instituted? It is because somebody somewhere is protecting the gangs. It is becoming obvious that the Government is countenancing crime in the hope of introducing anarchy before the elections the way Zimbabwe did it or in a worse way as a prelude to rigging the general elections.

(Applause)

The Government should be on notice that Kenyans are watching and we too will put in place measures to counter any such anarchy if introduced. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Speech also did refer to the international treaties.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Ms. Karua, your time is up and it is time for hon. Prof. Ongeru to contribute.

Ms. Karua: I have no comment as to whether thanks should be given.

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Ongeru): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to support the exposition of public policy by His Excellency the President. Indeed, he touched on very fundamental issues. I think the theatrical messages we are getting from our opposition colleagues are those of frustration because they cannot put into effect any cohesive policy. They cannot be able to make any palpable contribution to a very fundamental Speech which was made before this House by His Excellency the President hence the cry. This is because part of the problems that we are going through are as a result of their own actions.

QUORUM

Mr. Ndwiga: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think this House is tired of sycophantic utterances from this Minister! In any case, there is no quorum.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Yes, we do not have a quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): We now have a quorum. Proceed, Prof. Ongeru!

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Ongeru): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I was interrupted, I was saying that this Speech did touch on some very basic fundamental issues. One, it touched on poverty. There is a symbiotic relationship between poverty and disease. Unless the twin problems are tackled effectively, it does not matter how much effort we put; without addressing the core issues of those problems, it will be very difficult to deal with that kind of situation. The Speech also touched on ignorance. The cost of educating Kenyans and getting them to be in gainful employment are fundamental issues that, put together with the burden of disease, do make situations very difficult and sometimes impossible to operate. What are the issues that we must contend with? It is only too recently, in 1998, that we had the *El Nino* phenomenon. If we cared, as serious Members of Parliament, to look at the cost implications of the *El Nino*, there was a loss equivalent to Kshs180 billion. To the best of my knowledge, in 1998, the Kenyan overall Budget was slightly below Kshs198 billion. For anybody who is serious-minded to come up here and pontificate that this Government has failed, he is totally misleading the public. He should be fully aware that one of the reasons why there was sluggishness in the growth of the economy was because of the dire destruction of our infrastructure by the *El Nino* phenomenon. I think that is a point that we all must appreciate and accept as an issue that was beyond the confines of the Government and Kenyans. Therefore, a collective responsibility is required from both sides of the House rather than apportioning blame to anybody else. Secondly, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we had the *La Nina* phenomenon in 1999, the loss to the economy was to the tune of Kshs150 billion. Put together, we are talking of a net loss of more than Kshs400 billion. The current Budget of the Kenya Government is about Kshs285 billion and for anybody to expect a country to recover so quickly from these two phenomena, he would be expecting too much. It will be an impossibility and, therefore, we should be serious enough, sit down and look at it and see how best we can handle this situation. As if that is not enough, let us look at the burden of disease itself, like malaria. Hon. Members have referred to malaria as one of the burden diseases and, indeed, I want to agree with them. Today, 30 per cent of the outpatient attendance is as a result of malaria. Those who are admitted into our wards because of malaria form 20 per cent. This is a preventive condition where you and me can take part. It does not discriminate whether you are in the Opposition or in the Government. It is not the business of the Government, it is the business of everybody else. It is a business of us all when we can take simple preventive measures by spraying the thickets around our houses and clear stagnant waters. It does not require the skills of the Government. It requires the skills of every able Kenyan to deal with the problem decisively and, hence, it does not have to occupy our beds in hospitals. Indeed, the Government has put forward a malaria strategy. We have put forward reduction in VAT to render the insecticide treated net cost-effective. Whereas they were retailing between Kshs700 and Kshs900 a piece, they are now retailing between Kshs250 and Kshs400 a piece. That is a positive action from the

Government. Because of the twin problem of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, we are now having emerging cases of tuberculosis every year; 80,000 new cases of tuberculosis as a result of HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS is not a peculiar problem of Kenya, it is a global problem. It is a problem of Africa. So, why should you blame the Government for HIV/AIDS? We should be talking of ways and means of dealing with the problem of HIV/AIDS with its concomitant relationship with tuberculosis. Many patients suffering from tuberculosis are occupying beds in hospitals. What has the Government done? All the patients are being provided with treatment free of charge. That is a very high cost. Therefore, you cannot stand here and start blaming the Government for not doing anything. Indeed, we are doing something about it and we are now treating our tuberculosis cases free of charge. In fact, Kenya is rated as one of the best countries in the world where the resistance rate is less than 5 per cent. Therefore, that can only mean a very effective management strategy in the management of tuberculosis because we have adopted what we call the direct-observe treatment with tuberculosis.

On the question of HIV/AIDS, yes, we sat together as Members of Parliament and established the National AIDS Control Council and the Constituencies AIDS Control Committees (CACCs). But instead of going there to do simple information dissemination to the public, you are crying foul and looking for money. We do not need money. At some stage, we may need money for certain basic requirements for orphaned children. But you can effectively transmit the message about HIV/AIDS at any rate---

Mr. Ndwiga: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I hate to interrupt my colleague, but could he tell us since the CACCs were launched, which one of them has ever been trained? What happened to the money that was set aside for the CACCs?

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Ongeru): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you would appreciate that, that is a question rather than a point of order. I am not in the question-answer session on the contribution to the Presidential Speech. But, at any rate, it may please the hon. Member to know that if he really wants to be serious with the issue of HIV/AIDS in his constituency; he should now go there because there was a glut at the World Bank level where we required a No Objection letter. I am happy to tell him today that the Vice-President of the World Bank, when he was here last week, did issue a No-Objection letter. Why was that so? It is because the Opposition has persistently insisted to the Bretton Woods Institutions to withhold help when it is critical. Such help is in the area of HIV/AIDS. Even now they are interrupting the Speech because it is punching them very hard.

An hon. Member: Punching what?

(Laughter)

Mr. Parpai: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to imply here that we could not move with our "cut" because they did not get a "No Objection" letter from the World Bank? Are we being run by the World Bank?

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Ongeru): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not get any money in my constituency, but if you go there, you will find that everybody is singing about HIV/AIDS and its prevention. But you prefer to chase the money rather than the noble ideas of helping wananchi.

Mr. Ndwiga: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is Mr. Parpai in order to keep on insinuating that the Minister actually took 50 bicycles to his own constituency, and then come here and boast that he is working and other people are not working? He took all the resources. Is he in order to do that?

Mrs. Ngilu: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make my contribution to the Presidential Speech that he made here last week. In his presentation, the President talked about the aspirations of Kenyans and the Government since we gained Independence in 1963. Indeed, the President talked about some of the successes and achievements that this country has made. But he did not mention what he has achieved since he took over power in 1978. He said that, in 1963, the three major issues that the Government decided to deal with were poverty, health and education. Between 1963 and 1978, when he took over from the late President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, everything was running very smoothly. I would like to point out that children who were in this country got education nearly for free and there was no child who was sent home from school due to lack of school fees. This is not the case today. I would like to state that the current President took over a country from the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta when Kenyans had already identified the programmes that they wanted to put in place so that they could get out of poverty. Kenyans had already started shaping their destiny. I would like to say that President Moi took over the Government when the health sector was running properly. The President is supposed to leave office this year, but he did not mention the things that he has made better than he found them. In his Speech, he did not even indicate that he is leaving office. This shows that President Moi tends

to believe and feel that he can be given more time to see whether he can make good the bad things that he has done for this country. I liken President Moi to a young man who has been left with a lot of wealth by his father; one who has been left in a homestead with his wife, children and wealth. But due to lack of knowledge on how that wealth was acquired, he squanders everything. The President is not ready to leave office and he is wondering how he will leave it. President Moi is leaving this country worse than he found it. I believe that, if President Moi was sensitive to this country, he should actually have apologised to Kenyans for what he has done to them.

The President talked about the Government dealing with drugs. We know that today, Kenya has become a haven of drug traffickers. We also know that this Government, and in particular the President himself, knows who is a drug trafficker in this country. He also knows who grows it, where it is processed, sold and where the money is banked. He should deal with this vice.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kiangoi): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Opposition Benches to remain completely empty except for Mr. Kibaki? Does it mean that he has no followers any more?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Continue, Mrs. Ngilu! That is not a point of order!

Mrs. Ngilu: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. This country has been destroyed by drugs. As much as drugs are spoiling our children, the money obtained from the sale is used by Government officials and their friends.

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Chanzu): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member on the Floor to allege that money from drugs is used by Government officials? Could she substantiate that allegation?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will continue.

The Assistant Minister for Labour, Human Resource Development (Mr. Chanzu): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could she, first of all, substantiate her allegations?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): She does not have to substantiate. It is not anything that requires substantiation! Continue, Mrs. Ngilu!

Mrs. Ngilu: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister can deal with that from his office.

Two days ago, we witnessed power peddlers in this country do what Kenyans have always expected to see happen. The merging of KANU and NDP and accepting to work together makes the situation in this country worse. Whereas I do believe that NDP and Mr. Raila may have the interest of this country at heart and thus gave up his position and tried to reconcile with his past, Kenyans are wondering whether the people he is dealing with are sincere. They are wondering whether they will give room for proper management and running of the Government so that things can be changed in this country. If this is achieved, I really wish Mr. Raila all the best. There is power in forgiving and that is what we saw Mr. Raila trying to do. If he has truly forgiven those people who jailed him for many years, mistreated him, his community and father, time will tell. We hope that, that can be achieved.

Insecurity has become everybody's concern in this country. When we---

Mr. Achola: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me hear his piece of information.

Mr. Achola: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I just wanted to inform the hon. Member that Mr. Nelson Mandela was jailed by De Klerk. When De Klerk released Mr. Mandela---

Mr. Munyasia: Your history is wrong!

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mr. Mandela forgave him and he became the Vice-President. So, Mr. Raila is not doing something that is strange.

Mrs. Ngilu: I thank you very much for that information. I hope that, that was the case. However, the people Mr. Raila is dealing with can hardly be trusted.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will now talk about security. Every Kenyan is concerned about what is happening in this country. Nobody knows whether the deteriorating security situation in this country is genuine or it is politically engineered. Personally, I do not understand how senior police officers can be gunned down by thugs at will, without the murderers being apprehended. I do not understand why hon. Members must fall victims of unabated crime. We currently have an hon. Member of this House who was attacked near his home; he was nearly killed. The Government should take security concerns much more seriously than it has so far been doing.

It is not enough to employ more police officers and buy more guns and vehicles for them. We should find out the motives and reasons for the escalation of crime in the country. One of the obvious reasons for this is lack of

employment. Today, Kenya has more unemployed people than in the past few years. The retrenchment of civil servants exercise that we witnessed two years ago added a number of highly educated persons to the lot of unemployed people in the country. As long as these people remain jobless, and without food to put on their tables, they will find something else to do. For these people, killing somebody in the process of robbing him of his little money to buy food for their families is not a big deal. So, the Government should find ways and means of containing insecurity in this country.

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 giving me this opportunity to also contribute to the Motion on the Presidential Address.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the President has clearly underscored this country's requirements at this time of the year, especially from political leaders, both sitting Members of Parliament and aspirants for seats in this House as well sitting councillors and aspirants for seats in local authorities. Kenya has sustained itself as the most peaceful country in this region because of its good leadership.

The leaders of this country have always acted very responsibly. Every time we have held an election, we have had a government in place. In the last two general elections, there has always been the Government and the Opposition. It is because of the virtues our leaders have always believed in that Kenya has remained intact as a state and a country. There is too much power struggle in this continent. That is why Kenya is referred to as "an island of peace in a sea of turmoil".

On that note, I would like to appeal to our leaders to ensure that, during this period as we move towards the general election, they put the interests of Kenya first, and their own second. Only God knows who is going to be the next President of this country, and the people who are going to be here in the next Parliament. All that we need to do is to act maturely and put Kenya before anything else, so that we continue to be a proud nation. I say so because many times leaders have made very careless mistakes. The moment you make a careless mistake, you emotionalise your supporters, and instead of achieving good results, we end up destroying what we had achieved over the previous few years.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another aspect contained in the Presidential Address, which I think is worth mentioning, is our Government's involvement in peace initiatives within the region, particularly in Sudan and Somalia. Somalia is an important neighbour. Over the last few years, because there has not been a strong central administration in Somalia, we in Kenya have borne the brunt of what has happened there. So, as a country, both the Government and the Opposition have the responsibility of encouraging the warring functions in Somalia to reason together and settle their differences. Peace in this region is peace for Kenya.

I would, therefore, like to congratulate the President for his efforts to have a stable government in place in Somalia. We are going to organise a conference for Somali leaders in April, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency the President. I hope that this time round, the warring groups in Somalia will see sense. What has befallen that country is enough. They have destroyed their country and killed many people. It is high time they sat down and spoke as countrymen for the benefit of their own country and that of the entire region.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to comment on the issue of the constitutional review process. We have invested a lot in the review process. As a country, we are very eager to have a new constitutional order, hopefully, before the general election. Even if the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission (CKRC) will not be able to give Kenyans a comprehensive review statement, we would like it to submit to Parliament interim proposals. We have six or seven months before we hold the general election. We need to have in place a new constitutional order and new election rules. So, the CKRC should double its efforts, so that we can conduct the general election under an interim document.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I support the Motion on the Presidential Address.

Mr. Waithaka: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for affording me this opportunity to also contribute to the Motion on the Presidential Address.

In his Address, the President talked at length about the status of our economy. He attributed the decline of our economy partly to the call for liberalisation of certain sectors of our economy. However, he did not attempt to give any solution to this serious problem affecting most sectors of our economy. The Government seems to have opened up and liberalised some sectors which a Government like ours ought not to have agreed to liberalise. I am particularly concerned about the liberalisation of the dairy industry. During the rainy season, when we have a lot of milk, farmers pour down their milk. Even now, milk is being poured down in parts of Nyandarua District because of the importation of powder milk from countries such as Australia, as was stated by the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are pouring down our milk when we have a powder milk processing factory rotting at Kiganjo. At the same time, we have a President who has

issued a policy statement which does not say what his Government is doing to avert this situation. We have a powder milk processing factory at Kiganjo, which is not operational. The factory was put up using public funds through the former Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC). We are now pouring down our milk when Kenyans are using powder milk from Australia. So, what policy statement are we talking about in the Presidential Address? With due respect to the President, I do not find any policy statement in his Address since he has not addressed himself to the specific issues afflicting our economy.

The President's lamentation that the economy is doing badly is comparable to a father's cry that there is no food for his children. What would such children do to their father? It would be up to him to tell his children where to find food. So, the President should not just have told us that the country's economy is doing very badly, without telling us what we can do to reverse the situation. We are worried about this scenario of having to pour down our milk everyday when there is a powder milk processing factory which the Government can operationalise. The Government can, for example, finance the KCC Holdings 2000 to purchase excess milk from farmers and process it into powder, and then release it into the market during the dry spell, when milk production is very minimal. That is what would be called a policy statement. That could be called a policy statement, but not just saying that the economy is bad because of liberalisation and pressure from attending partners. We are worried about that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a problem in this country, not only in leadership, but even in the appointment of people to certain institutions, be they schools, parastatals or other institutions. You will find that principals of secondary schools appoint very weak deputy principals, leaving out those very able deputies. As time goes by, maybe, those weak deputy principals mature and become principals; by evolution of time. Therefore, they turn out to be very weak principals. This is a problem that has occurred in this country. It, first of all, started with the founding father of this nation. The late Mzee Kenyatta dropped his very able Vice-President and appointed a very weak Vice-President who, by evolution of time, became the President of this country and has brought us to where we are now. The current President of this country is doing the same. He dropped his very able Vice-Presidents in the names of Messrs. Mwai Kibaki and Josephat Karanja, and he is now about to drop his very able Vice-President in the name of Prof. Saitoti. He wants to replace him with one of the four very weak Vice-Chairmen who were elected on Monday at the Kasarani KANU elections. By evolution of time, one of them may become the President of this country and, therefore, he will be a very weak President who cannot run the affairs of this country. It is high time people ceased fearing their deputies. One should appoint a deputy who can challenge him or her, but not a deputy who is a "yes man" because one is not running a personal affair. Running a public school is not the same as running a private school. You can only fear your deputy if he or she is running your private school. But if it is a public school, you do not need to fear your deputy principals. Also, the same applies to the affairs of the country. You do not need to fear who your Vice-President is. If the Vice-President is able, let it be so because it is the affairs of the country that you are running; it is not your private business.

I would also want to talk about corruption. We have a very serious problem in this country where those people who are rated to be the most corrupt people are the ones who are being rewarded by being appointed to senior Government positions. People see corruption as a virtue. These days professionals - be they engineers, lawyers and doctors - are not rated by their professional prowess; their success is rated by the amount of money they have made through corrupt deals. It is high time people were rewarded - if it is promotion - by the kind of work they have done or the service that they have given. They should be rewarded in terms of their professional prowess, and not by the kind of money that they have made. They should not be rewarded because of their ability to contribute generously to Harambees when some of those in Government are going for Harambees.

Currently, as I talk, Road C68 is under construction; from a place called Magumo to Njabini. It is 24 kilometres long and is projected that it will cost the Government Kshs23 million to rehabilitate one kilometre. Eleven kilometres of the road have been rehabilitated, which is almost half-way. The contractors have now decided to change the design of that road because the Minister for Roads and Public Works, the Permanent Secretary and the Chief Engineer are all new faces. The former occupants of those offices "ate" and those who replaced them must also "eat." So, the design of the road must change to facilitate the "eating" of those who have also taken offices in the Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have tried to ask why that should happen. I saw the Minister entering the Chamber. We have asked the Ministry: Why should a design of a road change midway when it is only 11 kilometres? You cannot get an answer even when you write to the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry. Could the Minister explain to the people of Kinangop, this being the only road that is being rehabilitated in the whole of Nyandarua District, and it is part of C69, which we have always been crying that it should be tarmacked, why that should be so? This road assists the people of Nyandarua to ferry their farm produce, which is perishable, to Nairobi. By the way, do you know that we feed Nairobi with those perishable foodstuffs; potatoes, cabbages and milk every day, and that is the only road that has been allocated money through the Fuel Levy Fund? The Ministry

is in a lot of mess because the road was started when Eng. Kiptoon was the Minister for Roads and Public Works. Now, there is another Minister. There was Permanent Secretary, Mr. Mwangera, and now there is another Permanent Secretary. There is a new Chief Engineer. You hear those rumours that the design must change because they must take care of the new office bearers in the Ministry. Those are the officers who are being promoted because of their corrupt practices. We are calling upon those running these institutions, and the Government, to make sure that those officers they are appointing in positions of leadership are those who have shown that they can excel in their own professions and not---

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kiangoi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute to this Motion. I wish to begin by thanking His Excellency the President for the exposition of public policy that is contained in his Speech to this House. The President did touch on very pertinent and fundamental issues, such as education. We now appreciate that Kenyans are now more educated than in 1978. It is only those who do not want to see, and know that fact, who would fail to agree.

Agreed that there is a problem of unemployment, but it is better to have an informed and educated society because the educated lot; the young people who have been educated through the efforts of this Government will find jobs some time even in the future or in other countries.

The President did also touch on poverty reduction. A lot has been said about poverty reduction. We do know that a lot of effort is being put in place. It is not that we are lamenting over the level of poverty that exists amongst us, but a lot of effort is being put to see to it that the level of poverty is reduced. It requires the efforts of everybody in this nation to ensure that, that objective is realised. If we keep wrangling amongst ourselves; if we keep criticising for the sake of criticising and not giving constructive criticisms, we will not get anywhere.

The issue of insecurity was also included in the Presidential Speech, and we know that it is a concern for all of us. That is an issue that needs to be addressed and, again, we should participate in efforts to ensure that there is security.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is another issue concerning non-violence. In this regard, let me talk about the many political parties that have been formed in this country. Some of them are avenues through which violence is meted out against our people. They are tribal groupings! How can we have 45 political parties in a small country like ours? Everybody is eying the Presidency and their focus is always on the Presidency! It is high time that the Constitution was changed, so that the number of political parties is limited to a given number. It could be better if the Constitution was changed so that those who seek Presidential positions do not run as Members of Parliament. We can now see people of questionable credentials wanting to be President. They want to use their failures to whip up the emotions of their communities in order to be elected. Their aim is to be elected to Parliament but they are being dishonest to their people! They actually want to be elected as Members of Parliament but they only use the Presidency as a conduit to arrive there. I hope the new Constitution will provide that those who want to contest the Presidency should not contest to be elected as Members of Parliament. By so doing, we shall have only serious contenders who know that if they lose the election for the Presidency, they will go home and talk from there and not from this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the Christmas recess, I noticed that many politicians, including those in this House, used funerals to expound their policies and campaign for their parties. Although the Constitution allows the freedom of expression and association, there are limitations to those freedoms. They are subject to the freedoms of others. It is immoral for Parliamentarians to go to where people are mourning and talk politics. During such times, the bereaved family is supposed to be consoled. I appeal to hon. Members of Parliament to avoid using such occasions to champion their own political desires.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Speech calls upon leaders to be responsible in their utterances. Our utterances as leaders may be contributing to the escalation of poverty. We are being negative in our statements! We seem not to be contributing ideas that will foster economic growth because we are pre-occupied with criticism.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I conclude, I would like to say something about the electoral process. Normally, there are election observers during election time. But I think we should also have election investigators who can investigate the electoral process right from the voter registration exercise to the elections proper. I am saying this because I suffered once from a flawed electoral process. The just concluded registration of voters was marked with a lot of irregularities. In some places, registration clerks had to walk for about ten kilometres to registration centres when there are young people living near those centres who could have been employed. That is favouritism! If the Electoral Commission of Kenya is independent, then it must show by word and deed, that it is independent and that it does not favour some people. The appointment of election supervisors should be done fairly. Relatives of Electoral Commission of Kenya Commissioners should not be appointed! We should do away with the criteria where Commissioners are chosen because of their support for certain political parties. We must

have independent and neutral people who can do their work without any favour.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Dr. Anangwe: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to make my contribution to the Motion before the House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have heard all sorts of comments about this Speech. Some hon. Members have said that the President ought to have detailed out his achievements during the *Nyayo* Era. Others have claimed that it is not a public policy statement. We need to be very clear and specific on what public policy is. A public policy is not about everything. When one makes a statement of this nature, one has to highlight themes that are topical and relevant at that particular time. Public policy is about the future but not the past. So, when one says that the President ought to have given an exposition on his achievements since 1978, that would mean asking about the history of the *Nyayo* Era or the President writing his autobiography. That might come another day. But at this particular moment, we are talking about public policy which has got a specific meaning - a set of interrelated decisions concerning the selection of goals and means by the State, and the means of achieving them. It is not about everything. If the President were to accept that his Speech ought to have contained what my colleagues are suggesting, I think he would need to come here with a document bigger than an encyclopedia, that details out all that has been requested by my colleagues.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think this Speech has raised pertinent issues of everyday concern to Kenyans. These are issues about poverty, ignorance, disease, unemployment, globalisation and insecurity in the country. These are issues that concern all of us. There is no doubt that they are relevant and pertinent. As we address these issues, let us not look at them as concerns of the Government alone. They should be the concern of everybody, including those in the Opposition. I know that, for now, we are pre-occupied about the roles of personalities. But let me assure you that 50 years from now, the future generations will judge us adversely if we are not able to create a firm foundation for them. When they will be passing that judgement, it will not be about personalities. It will be about epochs. The roles of individuals are incidental. So, let us remember that the future generation will not remember that it was a Government Minister who did ABCD. It will not remember that it was the Leader of the Official Opposition, or a particular hon. Member of Parliament, who did ABCD, but it will be about events of relevance to the generation. These will be events of an era. It will not be about individuals. The individual becomes only relevant in so far as he helps to clarify that particular event. But after a period of time, as we move to the distant future, individuals become footnotes in the record of events. So, let us emphasise what this particular generation is able to do regardless of party affiliations and political persuasions, and join hands so that we can create an enabling future for posterity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President's Address has stated very lucidly about what the Government has achieved and the degree of success invariably in various areas. I am sure that the Government is realistic enough and cannot claim to have achieved all its goals 100 per cent. There are certain areas where there have been shortcomings as one would expect. May I attribute many of the failures, not to lack of ideas to be implemented, but largely to failure to implement plans, programmes and projects. The missing link in the Government is not so much about what it plans to do, but, indeed, its shelves and drawers are littered with huge documents which contain very beautiful ideas. The missing link is the failure to implement its plans, programmes, policies and projects. That is one area which the Government really needs to emphasise to ensure that in future, as it designs policies, programmes and projects, emphasis is placed on implementation. I would rather the Government generates a few ideas and implements them 100 per cent, instead of generating very many beautiful policies and plans which are never implemented; to make a difference in our people's lives.

The implementation rate of public policies and programmes by the Government is very low. If you take a sector, for example, the agricultural sector, you will be lucky to register 30 per cent implementation of the programmes that were planned during that plan period. If you take another sector, for example, the water sector, the same case will apply. Therefore, it is very imperative that we should move a step further and realise what we have planned to do. Some of the ideas we generate cost a lot of money. We pay consultants and civil servants hold workshops all over the country, but these ideas are never implemented. For instance, we spent a lot of time debating the water policy in this House, but I can readily tell you that the time lines have already been overtaken by events. I can readily say that a few years from now, the poverty reduction strategy will be one of the documents occupying Government's shelves and if an assessment is done three years from now, it will be an utter disappointment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the missing link and the shortfall within the Government system is, of course, the role of public servants. A Minister formulates a policy with good intentions, bearing in mind the political demands of the community and the political constituent in this country. It is the responsibility of civil servants to implement these policies, but they do not. Most of the time, civil servants are anti-change. They are *status quo*-oriented and want to maintain it. They are not development conscious. They are not oriented towards

change and that is why it is imperative that we inject in new management processes from the private sector. We should support issues, such as privatisation and commercialisation. We should also contract out some Government services. We should tie the career of a civil servant to performance. I would rather we, for instance, review an arrangement where a civil servant has a tenure of office and tie his existence in the Civil Service to his performance and the life of a programme. If he performs well, then his contract can be renewed. But when you assure a civil servant who is employed at the age of 25 years that he will go on until the age of 55 years, he will only mark-time, and whether he performs or not, he is assured that he is permanent and pensionable. We should review this arrangement and tie the continued service of a civil servant to performance. That can only be realised if we become programme-oriented and focused on what needs to be achieved, so that once the programme is over, the civil servant is sent away until the Government comes up with a new programme. In that, civil servants will be more motivated to perform better.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, issues have been raised about poverty. Indeed, it is true that Kenyans are increasingly becoming poorer because of various reasons. Some of these reasons have to do with the international environment. But may I highlight here the plight of sugar-cane farmers in many parts of Kenya. One of their hopes is the implementation of the Sugar Bill. We look forward to this Bill being implemented from 1st April, 2002. Let us have no procrastination over this matter. The matter was debated here exhaustively. We do not foresee any situation where a civil servant will suggest that we will have to review or bring in amendments to this Bill. The Bill was well looked at and I am sure the problem is not with the Minister for Agriculture, but it may be with the Kenya Sugar Authority because there is a Board that enjoys the *status quo*, in the sense that it would like to continue in office. With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning (Mr. Lomada): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to join other hon. Members in also saying something about the President's Address, which was wonderful and great. It provoked a lot of thought and gave us the direction about which issues we should discuss and talk about in this House.

The President's Address was timely and we really needed it in order to discuss issues that we need to be tackled in this country. It touched on every sector of our human lives and development. If you look at the diseases that the President's Address touched on, you will find that we have a lot of diseases in this country that have made life very difficult for quite a number of our people. We have lost so many lives to various types of diseases. If you look at the HIV/AIDS scourge, you will find that it has tormented many lives in this country. We have lost so many people to this scourge, and this means that we have also lost manpower that would have supported the economy of this country. We know very well that economic development and riches come from the people. So, if we lose people, we would lose both economic development and riches in this country. That is my own belief and I think it is true. I would like to suggest that our Government looks into ways and means of curbing diseases, especially malaria, which is a killer disease in this country and, particularly, in the North Rift. There are quite a number of areas, for example, West Pokot, where malaria has tormented people. I would like to urge the Government to come to Kerio Valley, especially to my constituency, where we have started an anti-malaria hospital. The Government should come up and provide us with financial support to enable us complete this community-initiated project. People in Kerio Valley are trying to complete the project, but they do not have the financial ability.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our people are languishing in poverty! It is good that our Government has decided to come up with a Paper to address the issue of poverty eradication and reduction. I would like the issue of poverty to be addressed and taken seriously by everyone, especially we elected leaders. We should address this particular phenomenon with a lot of keenness, so that we can try and make sure that our people come out of poverty. Our people have suffered for many years! If we can realise that poverty has been tormenting our people, then we need to come up and address it properly and make sure that we deal with it, once and for all. I know it is not possible to get rid of poverty completely, but we can reduce it. We can address this particular issue by improving agriculture in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, quite a number of people have, at least, a few pieces of land here and there. That is what our people own in this country, though not all people. If our people were given some financial help, they would prepare their farms because that is what they are able to do. So, if *mwananchi* in this area is helped, he should be able to have something to eat, sell and pay school fees for his children, meet hospital bills and so many other needs. Let us look at this matter and try to find a way of reducing poverty instead of leaving it to increase.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I tend to believe that education is like living in a world. If you have education and you do not have land, you can still use your brains and what you acquired in school to earn a living. You can get a job or practise self-employment. You can come up with anything, using what you have acquired in school and that becomes your work. So, I believe education provides one with a vast world, not necessarily acquiring land, especially today when the population is increasing day by day in our country. We need to take our

children to school and make sure that they receive quality education, at least, beyond Form Four level. They should go to universities and colleges so that they may acquire education that is required today.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been talk that councillors should be Form Four leavers. We do not know what the Parliamentarians may be required to be, maybe, they would be expected to be university graduates. So, I would like to urge that the education of our children be keenly looked at.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, security is paramount in this country and it is of great importance. We should sit down and find ways and means of reducing the killings being carried out by thugs and highway robbers or any kind of persons that take away human life. I am so much concerned about what is happening every night in Nairobi! I read in one of the newspapers today that, Mr. Wamunyinyi was attacked by thugs! This is very serious! If things have gone to that extent, where hon. Members are not secure, what are we talking about? We need to ensure that there is proper security for everyone in this country. I think it is high time the Government took measures, especially in areas where this kind of behaviour is taking place. For example, when a Deputy Commissioner of Police was killed the other day, the police should have gone there very fast, cordoned off the area and carried out an operation; five kilometres square. If that could have been done, definitely, those culprits would have been nabbed. We should address security matters in this country with a lot of concern.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I want to raise an issue about cattle rustling in this country. Cattle rustling is an old practice that should not continue in this country! We need to deal with it once and for all. If you looked at what cattle rustling has done to people in areas where it takes place, you would find that education is nothing to people there. Children do not go to school in those areas! There is no peace and there is no security to enable them go to school and learn. Some of the schools have been abandoned! This is something the Government should sit down decide, once and for all, using the Provincial Administration officials who are everywhere. If chiefs can make follow-ups to where stolen animals are kept, the culprits will not practise that vice again, they would instead stop it. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been a lot of talk about corruption in this country. I would like to suggest that we should look at corruption and try to eradicate it out of our people so that we can be taken seriously by everybody.

I would also like to urge our Ministries that, when vehicles have been declared unroadworthy, they should be disposed of quickly, instead of leaving them to rot in parking yards.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

The Minister for Trade and Industry (Mr. Biwott): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support and commend the Presidential Address.

In so doing, I would like to pay special attention to one word; "productivity", which appeared earlier in the Speech. Hon. Members should use every available time to be productive so as to build this nation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as it was pointed out in the Speech, poverty, disease and ignorance were identified as enemies of development by our founding fathers of the nation. Indeed, this is a policy statement which articulated the three enemies of our nation in the first African socialism and its application. Today, we are still plagued with the same problems. It is, therefore, urgent that we use every available moment to look into ways and means of overcoming these problems. We have now embarked on Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme (PRSP) which envisages investments in order to counter these problems through growth of our economy. In the world today, it is very difficult to get other people to invest their savings because of intense competition in the world. Therefore, it is incumbent upon Kenyans to ensure that we do our utmost to create a climate which will attract that investment. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, ignorance, which was identified as one of the enemies of this country at Independence, has been partially fought. Today, we have many educated people without jobs. Lack of employment opportunities has aggravated poverty in this country. This problem can only be tackled through investment which will create employment opportunities to our young educated youth. Furthermore, we have also tried to overcome diseases through massive investment of resources in the health sector. We have extension health services spread throughout the country. However, these services have now been crippled by the advent of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Last year, we enacted the Industrial Property Bill in this House. This law has enabled us access cheap and affordable medicine for HIV/AIDS victims. The HIV/AIDS scourge is not only taking away a large number of our people, but it is also taking away their productive capacity. This is a problem over which we need to spend every moment of our life and work together for the common good of our country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I can now address myself to trade, which falls under my docket; the President quite explicitly identified the problems plaguing us today. Among them, the deterioration in terms of trade of our primary commodities in the international markets. There has been a continued decline in the consumption of locally manufactured items because of the high cost of production. There is no hope of us generating enough foreign exchange earnings to be able to assist in the development progress of this country. In addition, there is a problem of globalisation which has introduced an element of competition so much so that

unless a country plans carefully and chooses the kind of products which have a niche market, it will be very difficult to compete. People are not only looking for quality, but they are also looking for safe items. For example, in the case of food, they are looking for its security. They want to make sure that they do not get food poisoning because of consuming unsafe foods. They have introduced stringent sanitary conditions which make it impossible for us to export freely. This is something we are fighting for in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the European Union (EU). In addition, there is the problem of subsidy which reduces the prices of agricultural products from the developed world. It makes it impossible for our agricultural products to compete freely in the international markets. We have argued against this problem with WTO in Doha. We have managed to make the EU to move towards reduction and elimination of subsidies. In theory, we will help our agricultural products, especially foodstuffs, access the international markets. But this process is long and tedious and it requires us to work hard. This situation is aggravated by the bad weather conditions which make the production of goods and services rather precarious. It is very difficult to predict what will happen with our weather.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, although we have enough potential, it is important that we really work very hard in collaboration with the rest of the world because we are part of the globalisation. I hasten to say that, as of now, all countries are working towards a programme which will assist Africa through the new African Partnership Initiative (API). I hope this will materialise.

Globalisation involves regrouping. One of the groupings which we now belong to is the East African Community. Kenya continues to benefit through export of our items. At the same time, we are also losing because some of our industries are relocating to other countries mainly due to availability of resources. The scarcity of water resources has contributed to our industries being relocated to other countries. Today, we have learned that our two partner countries have got enormous water resources which we do not have. The scarcity of water resources is an issue which we must address urgently.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the COMESA region provides a free trade area for our people. We excel in this region because we export more. Other than Egypt, we are the largest investor and exporter. Sometimes our goods have been subjected to rigorous and unfair competition which forced us to introduce countervailing measures. We have introduced countervailing measures on wheat flour so that our millers can continue to produce using the excess capacity in order to assist our farmers. We have also done the same with the importation of powdered milk in order to protect the dairy farmers. However, these are temporary measures. Ultimately, Kenyans will have to produce competitively and match the rest of the world. The mirror of hope is seen from the opening up of the American market to our people through the AGOA. Our people are now exporting garments to that market. However, this market is not only limited to garments, but there are more than 2,000 items which can be exported to that market. This number will be increased in accordance with the AGOA agreement to include leather goods, among other items. We also benefit by exporting high value products such as flowers and vegetables. If we will benefit from this market, it is necessary for us to grow cotton. When farmers grow cotton, ginners should immediately buy it from them. Ginners should also sell their linens to spinners. The spinners should then sell their finished **[The Minister for Trade and Industry]**

products to weavers who will make garments for export to the American market. This circle must be completed. It is very necessary to do so.

I am also pleased to state that we are very successful in the WTO. We have got almost what we wanted. Now, we will concentrate more on capacity-building of supply. There is no point in getting a market without goods to supply to it. We will also strive to get more resources to increase the capacity of our own people. But above all, we need security in the country and in the region. We also need security for the investors to be able to contribute to the growth of our economy.

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

Mr. Kibaki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am pleased to contribute to this Motion. The Presidential Speech was quite remarkable. We listened to it very carefully and have re-read it. One remarkable issue is that, if it is a statement on national policy, then it is missing the beginning, because there is no statement there on how the farmer in the Republic of Kenya is going to be assisted. We have listened to all the talks about the revival of the economy of Kenya, but if we are not helping the farmer, we have not begun to revive the economy. You and I know that right now farmers have been preparing their fields waiting for replanting. Many of them do not have the seeds, because many of them who bought seeds last time were swindled. They were sold seeds which were fake and could not germinate. Those seeds were packaged in bags of the same seed producing company.

We have not heard of any action being taken by Government to pursue those who sold such seeds to the farmer. You and I know that, that is a criminal act; for a farmer to be sold seeds which are not going to germinate and yet nothing was done. More and more terrible is that, if the farmers today - some of us are farmers - want to borrow a little money to buy fertilisers and seeds or to prepare the soil, there are no institutions any more where they can

borrow money to assist them in those activities. Right now, there are no surviving institutions. They have all broken down.

If there was a little statement here on what we are going to do to bring back a channel for our farmers to be able to borrow, in order to buy these essentials so as to be able to plant and produce the food, then you would have said there was politics. But that whole sector is blank. It is not mentioned. There is no mention of agriculture. So, it is a frustrating thing to debate the general policy and ignore the main sector of the whole country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, right now, those of us who produce milk have been invaded by the fellows who are importing milk powder. I appreciate that the Government is pursuing a policy of liberalization. But there is no part of the world where it was agreed that liberalization means killing your own producers. No government does that. We keep quoting America and European countries. Today, Europe is very advanced, but their farmers' production is still protected. Hata leo! They tell us about liberalization, but you cannot export your milk powder freely into the European common market and yet in Kenya we have yielded to some folly economics about liberalization. How can you adopt it? How can you allow the farmer to be without a market inside his own territory? How can the farmer who is now in dairy industry be expected to survive when he will not be able to sell his own produce because of imported cheap powder milk? It is not a policy and it should not be allowed. We have learned something from what has happened to the sugar industry. I hope we will not let it spread to the milk sector, though it could have actually spread to this sector.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, equally, the farmer has experienced an incredible situation where our maize has been sold at a throw-away price. Some of it is not sold, and funny enough, we are still expecting that farmer who sold his maize for a price which cannot give him a return, to adequately be able to compensate himself for the money he spent, and we are hoping that he will go on producing maize. Is that right? It is wrong! An ordinary farmer will obviously not be able to do it. There is no way. There is corruption that has been going on there. There are traders who have been going round and pretending that they have some links with the National Cereals and Produce Board, and that if you sell to him at a cheaper price, they can sell the maize to the same Board which claims not to have money. In any case, why does it not have money? It must have money. Otherwise, what did they do with the money? We have more than enough silos in this country to hold two seasons stocks of maize. So, it is not a question of where to store the maize; it is a question of being able to have a National Cereals and Produce Board, which can sell maize, keep the money and buy the next crop. But that does not happen. Where does the money go? The National Cereals and Produce Board was not meant to be a trading institution. It was meant to help in stabilising the stocks. It was meant to help in buying the strategic reserves so that we could keep storing. So, these are things which are very original, important and close to the hearts of the ordinary people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, farmers who produce livestock could sell it. There used to be a time when regular auctions used to be organised in all the regions, like North Eastern and Eastern Provinces where there is livestock for beef. But at the moment, there is no such organization. How can a farmer move his stock from where he is to transport it to other places? Where he is at the moment, he is selling his livestock at a very nominal price and left destitute because he has no other source. That is his only livelihood, and yet we keep being misled, that soon, the Kenya Meat Commission Factory in Athi River will be re-opened. You and I know that, that is a lie. It is not likely to be reopened. Above all, why do we not use some of the monies we borrow to build smaller, more efficient abattoirs where the livestock is, so that the livestock owner can, in fact, sell his livestock within a close enough distance to his home? As it is now, how is a farmer who has his stock in Wajir, Garissa or Mandera, expected to bring it to Athi River? By what means? There are no means. You can neither walk your livestock from there to Athi River nor transport them by lorries, because it is too expensive. How is the farmer supposed to behave in economic sense, and yet that is his means of survival? That is the only source from which he can have an income. These are the policies we are looking for. Why do we not build relevant abattoirs right where the stocks are and let the farmer sell near there and then transport the meat by air, road or whichever means. It is now quite possible to have very beautiful vans to transport the meat as it is done around the world. For example, in Botswana, they are doing it and, therefore, there is a chance to go and see what is happening.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Speech mentioned nothing about education, and yet that is what parents were waiting for. This is because there was an effort to announce something about education, and then it seemed something not well thought of. We were first told that there was going to be free education, then there was not going to be, then things are as usual, and right up to where we are now, if we are asked in the constituencies what the Government said about education, we would not be able to answer.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is true in your constituency, the Minister's and mine. Parents do not know what the Government wants to do with education. Why was there no statement? If, in fact, there is no change, remove all doubt and say: "Yes, there is no change and parents have to look for school fees". Then you will know that you are not confusing your citizens. This is very important, because this is a cost we can well afford

if we were spending money well. Free primary education is quite feasible within Kenya and we can do it if the Kshs230 billion that the Government will collect this year is properly used. You could do that extremely well.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, we passed a law here on roads and created the Kenya Roads Board. Hon. Members were involved, but in practice, the Government is not distributing the money. The proportion that was to be sent to the districts is not being sent. Why did we create those institutions? What is the role that the Kenya Roads Board is playing now since it has no money? Why is the money not reaching the districts and yet, the tax is collected very efficiently at the source? It is paid by all the people who use motor cars. They pay the tax at source. The petrol, before it leaves the depots of oil companies, the tax is collected. So, the Kshs10 billion that was expected to be collected is being collected. Where is it going now? We have gone more than a year and half. Where has that money gone to? When shall we begin to make use of it, to build and repair roads. If we do not repair roads and we are pretending that we want to revive the economy--- How can you do so if you do not repair the roads? It is not possible and yet, there is money, laws and institutions created and there are no results! Why? It is because the money must be siphoned away somewhere. Otherwise, the Minister should stand up here and tell us where that money goes. What was the use of creating those institutions and collecting that tax? Why was that tax not specifically meant to be for building roads, so that the money is not mixed with any other money?

Why can we not get a reply to that question? Why is everybody so silent? Even those who know must be silent! Why? They should not be silent. That is taxpayers' money and the taxpayer is asking: "Where is my money which was meant for roads? It was collected and gone into the account! Who has taken it out of the account? Who has stolen it?" That is because something has been stolen. It cannot be there. It cannot be money lying idle such that now, after a year and half, it has not been spent. We are not seeing it. It is not even being distributed to the district institutions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we wanted some policy to be included about forestry. When our forests are being destroyed by the Government agents--- That is because they are the ones who are destroying the forests and nobody else. They are the ones who have allowed the destruction of the Aberdares Forest, Mau Narok Forest, Mt. Kenya Forest and everywhere. Now, in the next season, when all the rivers have dried, what are we going to do? Why can there not be a policy that deters the stealing, looting and destruction of the forests? Why was that not included in the Policy Statement, that those who are destroying the forests are stopped from now on? If there was no such a statement, it means that the destruction of forests will continue. It is still continuing! How can we create a sense of hope in people who are seeing their forests being finished? We have seen those forests being there all the years! The rivers will begin to dry up. It is very disturbing and we expect some of those aspects in a statement of policy. Otherwise, the omission is very loud. When it is that loud, it is telling us something! Nothing is going to change and the forests will continue to be destroyed. The Government will keep on telling us that it has a Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, but nothing is done about it. What is the whole point about having a Government which destroys the natural resources of the nation? Our main inheritance from our forefathers is in the form of those particular things.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am interested in what he said about the improvement in our industrialisation. That must go on and it is going on in a smart way and it is alright. But we do need to protect our industries a little bit. It is very depressing to see the closure of viable industries. Could we revive some of our textile industries? That is where the future will lie for this nation.

I would like to make a point regarding security. The whole country is very disturbed, not because the insecurity has increased, but more terrible, is how often you have people who are associated with the institution which controls security being found to be involved in killings and the whole action of destroying life. It is very disturbing. We think that the Government should take it seriously enough to re-train the police and investigate some of them who have joined--- Let them be re-trained. Let us not ignore that because it is only growing and it is going to increase insecurity. Above all, quite a number of policemen lease out their guns. Definitely, in the rural areas, it is going on all the time. There is no point in pretending. Also, it is remarkable that so many of them go on leave which is not recorded. It is not known where they go for two days leave, and they come back and rejoin the others and go on as usual. They have been up to some mischief and nobody has asked about that. Yet, that is a disciplined force. Such things should not happen. It is not a joke that senior police officers are being attacked. Is it an inside job? Is it that the crooked fellows are getting smarter? Somebody should speak! Do not leave people with some sense that the Government is doing something about security. There is need for guidance there. Somebody in the Government should speak up and say what is being done to take care of that. Otherwise, people only hear what they have learnt in their neighbourhoods. You cannot generalise it. We should not be left with generalised information. We should be told what is being done because that problem is growing. As a historical example, when that problem grew very high in Italy, they found out that some top organisers were inside the system itself. I am not saying that, that is what it is now. But there is some suspicion.

There are some suspicious cases which have been in court. That is something that should be investigated more seriously than it has been done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, during this term, we are expecting, from the Attorney-General, a genuine law to revive the Anti-Corruption Act. A genuine law means a law that establishes an anti-corruption institution capable of prosecuting without any interference. Then, we shall know that the Government is genuine about fighting corruption. Otherwise, if we are only going to have one police unit set, another funny thing set up and another name for something else even more funny set up, eventually, nobody believes that there is a genuine willingness to fight corruption. That is not surprising because many of those who are caught are in the Government. Therefore, maybe, they will never be serious about fighting corruption. Maybe, it is only when they go that we can fight corruption. With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Poghismo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to enjoin myself with all those who have spoken in support of the Presidential Address. I would also like to thank His Excellency the President for a well-balanced Speech which, in my view, is a good Statement on the state of this nation. We do not expect the President's Speech to cover everything that comes to the mind of every one of us here. I think we have what would guide us in discussing this Speech. So, we can cover as much ground as we would like, depending on whether you really want to see what is contained in the Speech or not. I think it is a very well-balanced Statement that gives a good background of the past, draws us into the current situation and even gives direction into the future.

The merger between KANU and the NDP, which led to the creation of the New KANU, is a pacesetter in the arena of political parties and for generations to come. I would like to congratulate all those involved in bringing about this great development in KANU and in a new way, leading and guiding us into the future. I really pray that some day, all the other political parties in this country will see this as a pacesetter, draw together and move in a direction of leadership. What I am saying in effect is that we should reduce all these political parties. There are so many political parties. Some of them are simply briefcase political parties while others exist only on paper. Let us instead have a few serious or strong existing political parties that will be known by everyone in this country. There are many parties in existence whose names we do not even know. You will only see on record some names that---

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is Mr. Poghismo not misleading the House by claiming that a new political party called "New KANU" has been formed when we know that it is only the NDP which was dissolved and that KANU still stands as it was? Is he not misleading this House?

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Poghismo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we cannot think of a more frivolous point of order than that one. I am talking about the registration of more than 40 political parties. That baffles me, because some of them are not known to exist. Even their addresses are not known and yet they are listing themselves as political parties. Why do we not work towards a reduction of these parties? This is happening all over the world. Great democracies have only two or three political parties that are really known to be working. We should do that so that we do not confuse our people. Today somebody just buys a political party and runs it. As soon as people join that political party, you will find a circus going on. The New KANU is leading in this aspect. It is showing the way so that other political parties may realise what a formidable force this new and more vibrant party is.

I would like to congratulate all my colleagues, friends and all those in the party who were elected to lead. I only have one piece of advice for these new leaders who have been elected to lead KANU. There has been a growing attitude of elitism in this country. You will find that civil servants, like District Commissioners, District Officers and others who are allowed to lead us, have developed an attitude of wanting to be only in cities, towns and district headquarters. They do not want to spread to the rural areas. That is what bothers me. My constituency is one of the most rural areas. If we want to make a difference, especially young leaders, we must desist from the elitist attitude and move into those rural areas.

Let us go and show the rural youth, elders and women that here we come and we are ready to serve this country for many years to come. This is not just affecting us, it is affecting most people today. You will find that when DCs are stationed in a district, they will leave that district without even visiting all the locations. This is a very bad attitude that we need to change. Our DCs should travel to all parts of their districts. These days districts are smaller than they used to be before. Why can they not cover these districts, find out what the problems are and address them? We have problems in those areas. I want to address myself to the area of the Constitution. The Constitution of Kenya Review Commission has told us that they are now going round collecting views. May I ask that if they really need to collect views, people have to be educated. The civic education aspect of this process needs to be enhanced in certain areas. I will give an example of my own rural constituency of Kacheliba. The people of Kacheliba need to be told what this Constitution will entail and what they are expected to contribute towards it. You should call them one day and say: "Let us come together. We want to get your views." We were

told that there is money for civic education and now they are going to collect views before the civic education is done. Does this mean that the money will come later and civic education will be done after the collection of views or what? Why are we not seeing civic education organisations going on the ground and educating our people so that when it is time to collect views they will be ready? Let us not just rush for the sake of it and say that we are collecting views and refuse to follow our own process as laid down.

Let me also address the area of unity in this country. This is always something that comes up in an election year. I would like to ask that, as leaders, we bring together our people rather than split and divide them. My hope this year is that our people will go into this election process with the knowledge that they are Kenyans. Usually, political parties have to go round to remind people of who they are in terms of what tribe they belong to. At this point, we would like to see more unity and involvement in terms of bringing our people together rather than dividing them. Let us take advantage of the openness in campaigning and reaching out to bring our people together. I do really pray that our people learn from the example set by His Excellency the President because of his many years of experience in politics. He said that the ideal situation was to bring Kenyans together. He has set a very good example for us young leaders, and leaders of tomorrow, in that he practices this attitude that I am talking of, one of humility. He has been reaching out to rural areas, to the common man, shaking his hand, buying from them and speaking and addressing them on the roadsides. That is the kind of situation that I would like to see us develop into so that Kenyans know that they belong to one country.

There is one aspect of our economy that is normally ignored and that is pastoralism. Pastoralism is an economic system. It is a way of life. It is actually the day-to-day aspect of life for most of us. Some of us who come from pastoralist areas know that this has been neglected. In other words, the people who practise pastoralism as a way of life have been marginalised. May I ask that leaders in this Parliament turn to this group of people called pastoralists and begin to understand them. They should give incentives to them. May I also ask that these people be given a special Vote in terms of money in this country just to bring them out of where they are into the mainstream economy. We want them to have schools for example. Let us make a deliberate efforts to build schools for these people. Let us give them bursaries so that they can go to school. This will ensure that when people are called to universities at the end of the year, there will be pastoralists among them. Right now they are not there! What are we saying to them? Are we saying to them: "Hard luck! If you cannot catch up with us, you should remain where you are." When will we turn to this kind of economy?

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi): Hon. Members, it is time to interrupt the business of the day. The House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 21st March, 2002, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.