

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 21st March, 2002

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Mr. Oloo-Aringo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notices of the following Motions:-

LEAVE TO INTRODUCE PARLIAMENT BUDGET OFFICE BILL

THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill for an Act of Parliament entitled the Parliament Budget Office Bill to establish Parliament Budget Office in the National Assembly to provide Members of Parliament with budget information, to facilitate the participation of Members in the making of the Budget and in the monitoring, re-evaluation and implementation of public expenditure and programmes; and to strengthen the role of Parliament in the Budget process and for matters connected therein and incidental thereto.

JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REPORT ON TRIBAL CLASHES

THAT, this House urges the Government to make public the complete original Report of Justice Akilano Akiwumi Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Tribal Clashes in Kenya in order to prevent the resurgence of political violence before and during the forthcoming general election and to promote the culture of tolerance, peace and justice and to enhance national unity and reconciliation in Kenya.

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR IMPEACHMENT OF THE PRESIDENT

THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill for an Act of Parliament entitled the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill 2001 to amend Section 14 of the Constitution to provide for the impeachment of the President by Parliament for treason, violation of the Constitution and abuse of office and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

(Applause)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

CANCELLATION OF KCSE RESULTS IN KITUTU MASABA

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, 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. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) 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 countrywide is given on this list which I am laying on the Table. It involves 1,208 candidates in 71 centres scattered throughout the whole Republic in 35 districts. In Nyamira, five schools with a total candidature of 248 candidates were involved. In Gucha, six schools with 122 candidates were involved. In Kisii, two schools with two students were involved.

(b) Some of the irregularities involved were bringing into the examination room smuggled materials. This is where candidates were taking in pieces of paper with some information written on them. There was also collusion. This is one of the major problems that we have in examinations. This took place in one school in Nyamira, Rigona Secondary School, where 190 students were affected. Collusion involves invigilators, teachers and so forth. This is the biggest problem that we have in irregularities because it involves a third party performing the task of the candidate. It also involves copying from each other or from other sources, or smuggling questions out of the examination rooms for other people to work out the answers and then circulate them among the candidates. It involves candidates exposing their work intentionally or unintentionally, with the resultant effect of other candidates copying from one another. There is also the swapping of scripts. These irregularities are occasioned by candidates, invigilators, supervisors and even school administrators.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to report that investigations have been carried out, although we do not close the chapter on investigations. We have identified teachers, supervisors and invigilators as some of the culprits, and currently, they have been interdicted. This means that they are on half-salary, and further action is being taken following the Code of Regulations of the Teachers Service Commission. This is a very serious offence. Last year, after the massive irregularities involving 2,808 candidates, we did carry out a thorough investigation in which we explored the various methods we can use to prevent this from happening in future. This year, although we instituted some of the measures, we still have these 1,208 candidates who were involved in irregularities. We hope that we can eliminate this vice in our examination system.

(Mr. Kosgey laid the document on the Table)

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the information the Minister has provided on the ground, or reasons for which the examination results were cancelled, you will notice that there was one case of impersonation, which is reasonable. Then, you will notice that there were 34 cases of smuggled materials to the examination room. One wonders whether when the candidates were getting into the examination rooms, there was no form of screening or whether there was collusion between the candidates, teachers, invigilators and everybody else.

You will also notice that there were 36 cases of collusion. The Minister has tried to define what collusion is, but I would like him to answer this question: In the case of Rigoma; the school is Rigoma and not Rigona. In fact, I wanted to correct the spellings of Nyambaria, Rigoma and Nyanturago. The names are wrongly spelled. But be that as it may, in an examination centre, like Rigoma, which had 190 candidates, and I believe it covered three to four halls; how could such a thing happen? In the case of Kalawa Secondary School in Makueni, 168 candidates were involved. Again, these were several streams. In the case of Mukumu Girls, 162 candidates were involved. Could the Minister explain clearly and unambiguously and unequivocally, how does collusion take place in a hall involving everybody and nobody is aware that this is going on?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Anyona, put your question now. You have been on that point for quite some time.

Mr. Anyona: I was citing to him the cases because I wanted him to deal with specific cases which are

provided in the examination. How did that happen, Mr. Minister?

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am aware of the cases which have already been tabulated here. It is true that in the case of Rigoma, Mukumu and Kalawa Secondary Schools, there was massive collusion particularly in the Chemistry Paper. This usually arises out of weak invigilation and supervision. We are taking this matter very seriously. As I said last year when I was replying to a similar Question, I wish the law could allow us to go beyond that. This is because after we have finished with the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) Code of Conduct and Regulations, we would like to hand over these cases to the police so that they can be dealt with under separate laws. But it is true that there was massive collusion, particularly in Rigoma, Mukumu and Kalawa Secondary Schools. This involved almost all the candidates.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister is talking as if he is not aware of the plight of Kenyan parents. I would like to point out that some parents have to even sell their land and all the property they have to educate their children. There are cases where you find that some students may not have been involved in cheating, but others in the same class did and they are all punished. Why can the Ministry not identify those students who are responsible and then penalise them instead of penalising the whole school? Could the Minister take the necessary action and make sure that only the culprits are penalised and not the entire school?

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is not the entire school that is penalised, but the students who are involved in cheating. In the case of Rigoma Secondary School, 190 students were involved in cheating, while six students were not involved. I do not know how the six students escaped, but cheating was rampant in that school. I would like to point out that almost all the students cheated in the Chemistry Paper. The examination regulations state that a student has to be 100 per cent perfect in order to be graded.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for a student to have his results, he or she must satisfy the Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC) that he has done a subject in each of the groups. So, the language subjects, such as English and Kiswahili, are compulsory. Mathematics is also compulsory. The student should also do a science and a humanity subject. If a candidate has offered nine subjects, satisfied all those groups and in only one surplus subject, for example, Chemistry, he has had an irregularity, why should the KNEC deny that student his or her certificate? Could the Minister consider cancelling that particular subject where the irregularity was detected and then award the student the results for the balance of the subjects, especially if all the groups have been satisfied? This is because that punishment appears excessive.

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know this Question was raised yesterday. If a student has done well in eight subjects or has not cheated in six or seven subjects, but cheated in the eighth subject, why should he or she be punished, or why should his or her results be cancelled? I had an argument with the KNEC this morning and they are very adamant that all the results should be cancelled because they have the regulations which have been circulated. But I have taken note of this. Although we did not conclude our argument, the penalty for irregularity for any candidate who commits an offence or an examination irregularity in any paper is to have the results for all the subjects cancelled. Such a candidate will not be entitled to results for the subjects. If there is evidence of widespread irregularity in any centre, then all the examination results for the centre will be cancelled. Reference is made to Section 15 of the KNEC Act, which states:

"Any person who gains access to examination material and knowingly reveals the contents whether orally or written, wilfully, maliciously and so forth presents all this---"

Those are the fines. If a person falls sick during the last paper he can be graded, but the person who cheats in the last paper will have his results cancelled. I might not call this being unfair but it is assumed that the student who has cheated, even if he has done his last paper is not an honest person. There is a case of some innocent people being victimised at the moment.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I raise my last question, the Minister has said that the KNEC is arguing, and yet he is the Minister for Education and is responsible to this Parliament. This House is saying that it is grossly quite unfair--- Imagine somebody who is charged with eight offences and is found guilty of one offence; he is obviously not convicted for the rest of the offences. That is what he is doing. He is convicting children where they did not commit offence. We would like to appeal to the Minister to take up the matter. But I would like to raise this question. The Minister has said that investigations have been carried out. Could he provide to this House a list of the names of the officers who have been involved in this matter and the action he has taken? Could he also confirm that these officers will be handed over to the police for prosecution?

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, to answer his question, I will provide the list and show the action taken. After we have finished with the TSC Code of Regulations, these officers will be handed over to the police. We have the rules which are under the KNEC Act of 1980, which was passed in this House. Until that is changed, they have to follow the current law. As much as I sympathise with one or two candidates who may be punished at the moment, the current law should be followed. If I may indulge in another aspect because we are dealing with examinations, the registration for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Examination (KCSE) for this year, which usually becomes a big problem, ends on 31st March. In Gusiiland - Kisii, Gucha and Nyamira Districts - we have a perpetual problem of candidates not being registered, and we discover this in November. I would like to be assisted by making it public to each and every candidate in Gusiiland to register for the examination now.

IMPLEMENTATION OF COFFEE ACT, 2001

(Mr. Murungi) to ask the Minister for Agriculture:-

- (a) What steps has the Minister taken to prepare for the implementation of the Coffee Act, 2001?
- (b) When will the elections of the new Coffee Board and the Coffee Development Fund Trustees be held?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Is Mr. Murungi not here? We will come back to this Question.

Let us go to Mr. Kiunjuri's Question.

PAYMENT OF DUES TO EX-WORKERS OF KBS

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Labour the following Question by private notice.

- (a) Is the Minister aware that Kenya Bus Services (Stage Coach) has not paid terminal dues for 1,000 workers whose services were terminated last year?
- (b) What immediate action is the Minister taking to ensure that these people are paid their dues?

The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Ngutu): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that M/s Kenya Bus Service (KBS) terminated the services of 491 employees, and not the services of 1,000 employees, on account of early retirement. The KBS has paid part of the agreed total terminal benefits amounting to Kshs4,104,882 to 118 former employees. Through my initiative, 64 employees were recalled for duty.

(b) The outstanding terminal benefits due to the remaining 309 former employees is Kshs14,173,246. My Ministry has already taken action to ensure that the claimants are paid their dues. Through negotiations spearheaded by my officers, the Kenya Transport and Allied Workers Union (TAWU) and the KBS entered into an agreement on 21st November, 2001. They agreed that the terminal dues of the employees be paid between January and June, 2002.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be noted that the families of the affected former employees are suffering. The former employees have spouses and children to feed, and school fees to pay. The KBS terminated the services of these people but has not paid them for the last one year. It should be noted that justice is being done for the rich and not the poor. The Labour Office is already compromised. Money has changed hands. The affected former employees of the KBS cannot be given any hearing by the Ministry. The police have also been compromised. These people have been harassed and taken to court because of demanding their dues from KBS.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kiunjuri, could you ask your supplementary question? You are making a speech!

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the answer given is not satisfactory. The Minister said that 491 former employees of KBS were retired, and only Kshs4 million was paid to them, while Kshs14 million is pending. The KBS is already wound up and its buses taken over by M/s Bustrack. Could the Minister tell us why KBS decided to retire these people early?

Mr. Ngutu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, KBS decided to terminate the services of these people because other transport companies had interfered with the monopoly KBS used to enjoy previously. As a result, KBS lost business. That is why it was necessary for KBS to terminate the services of some of its employees.

Mr. Katuku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been told that the outstanding amount is about Kshs14 million. For the last one year, KBS has paid the retirees only Kshs4 million. Is the Minister convinced that the amount due to these former employees will be paid by June, 2002? If the amount is not paid by June, what action does he intend to take?

Mr. Ngutu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am convinced that this money will be paid because there is an agreement which was signed by the parties involved. I am satisfied with the agreement; the KBS will raise the outstanding amount and clear the balance between January, 2002 and June, 2002.

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is nice to hear that the Minister for Labour can occasionally invoke Section 29 of the Trade Disputes Act to intervene in matters of this nature. Could he now explain to this House why he has not invoked the same law to intervene in the matter between the Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) and the Republic of Kenya, concerning the implementation of the remaining phases of the teachers' salary award? He has moved with speed to force KBS to pay its former employees their terminal dues, as per the agreement between the two parties. However, he has not moved with the same speed to ensure that the agreement entered between the Government and the KNUT is honoured.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Dr. Kulundu, what is your question?

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Minister confirm to this House that he is going to invoke Section 29 of the Trade Disputes Act to intervene in the matter between the KNUT and the Republic of Kenya?

Mr. Ngutu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is not part of the Question; it is a completely different question. However, if I may comment on the matter, the information I have is that the employer of the teachers has not been able to raise the necessary funds to implement the remaining phases of the salary award.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Could you ask the last question, Mr. Kiunjuri?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the KBS decided to terminate the services of its former employees, it sold its fleet of buses and bought more than 100 minibuses, which cost about Kshs7 million each. If the KBS sells two of its shuttles, it can raise Kshs14 million and pay these people their dues. You can see that the KBS is not willing to pay its former employees their dues. This is a case of the poor being sat on by the rich. So, why can the KBS not sell some of its shuttles and pay these people immediately? They also need to pay school fees for their children.

Mr. Ngutu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as the KBS is concerned, it has not been able to make enough money to fulfil its commitment. I am sure that KBS will pay these people as soon as it raises the required funds.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Very well. Let us proceed to Dr. Kulundu's Question.

APPOINTMENT OF CENTRAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Public Health the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Why has the Ministry been operating without the Central Board of Health as provided for in the Public Health Act?

(b) When will the Board be constituted?

The Assistant Minister for Medical Services (Mr. Mukangu): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) It is true that the Central Board of Health has not been active to date, but arrangements are being made to revive it.

(b) The Board will be constituted in the next financial year.

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me congratulate the Assistant Minister for being candid, but I wish the Attorney-General was here to listen to that answer. The Ministry has been running its services illegally. It has been operating in gross contravention of the Public Health Act. But now that the Assistant

Minister has been candid, maybe, we should forgive them. But just for the sake of reassuring this House, could the Assistant Minister tell us how many sanitary engineers are in the employment of the Ministry of Health? In the sanitary engineering section, there is a process which must be supervised by these engineers. How many sanitary engineers does the Ministry have?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot tell that off head. But I would like to assure the House that the current regime has sat down and agreed that we must factor into the next Estimates some money for this purpose. So, we will ensure that the Central Board of Health is active in the next financial year.

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is deliberately avoiding a very legitimate question. If he has evidence that the Ministry has provided one sanitary engineer, let him tell us.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Dr. Kulundu! Let us be fair to the Assistant Minister. You are asking him how many sanitary engineers he has. He may have some; he may not have. But he may not know their number because he did not anticipate that question.

Dr. Kulundu: No, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Public Health Act talks about the composition of the Board, which will include sanitary engineers. That is why I am telling the Assistant Minister that these officers must be serious.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! I agree with what you are saying, but the Assistant Minister may not know how many staff are there to compose---

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could I rephrase the question?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Could you rephrase it or I move on to the next Question?

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will rephrase the question. Does the Ministry have any sanitary engineer?

Mr. Mukangu: Yes, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We have those kind of officials, but I have said that I do not have the number right now.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister explain why - Cap 242 was last revised in 1986; 16 years ago - they have not found it necessary to keep this Board in place? Why should we trust that this Government will do that in this financial year? What proof do we have?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I should also blame previous Ministers because I do not know why they did not find it worth to have this thing in place. But I said very clearly that we have sat down and agreed that it was a sort of oversight. We are ready to correct that, so that the Board could be operational.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister explain who has been executing the duties that were supposed to be executed by this Board?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said that it was a sort of oversight. I cannot say that nothing has been happening. Things have been moving on well.

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, maybe, we should ask this Assistant Minister to go back and come up with a proper answer, because in part (a) of his answer he says that there is a Board that is inactive, which means that the Board has been constituted. Then, part (b) of his answer says that the Board will be constituted next year. Is he not misleading this House?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! To be fair to the Assistant Minister, I think he has been very candid. He has said that it does not exist and it will be constituted next financial year.

Last question, Dr. Kulundu.

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister then announce to the nation that he has been running the Ministry illegally?

Mr. Mukangu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not think I will do that.

Hon. Members: Why!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! For the second time, Question by Private Notice, Mr. Murungi! He is not here? So, the Question is dropped.

IMPLEMENTATION OF COFFEE ACT, 2001

(Mr. Murungi) to ask the Minister for Agriculture:-

- (a) What steps has the Minister taken to prepare for the implementation of the Coffee Act, 2001?
 (b) When will the elections of the new Coffee Board and the Coffee Development Fund Trustees be held?

(Question dropped)

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING PROGRAMME

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. May I, on behalf of the Leader of Government Business---

Hon. Members: Where is he?

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is simply not in the House. I must clarify that I am doing this in my capacity as a Member of the House Business Committee, and Mr. N. Nyagah knows that very well. So, somebody had to do this.

I wish to bring to the attention of hon. Members the proposed Parliamentary Sitting Calendar for the Sixth Session of the Eighth Parliament. The House Business Committee, during its sitting on Tuesday, 19th March, 2002, approved the proposed sitting programme and directed that it be circulated to all hon. Members for information. The calendar is primarily intended to indicate the legislative programme and to assist hon. Members in planning their activities. Thank you.

(Mr. Musyoka laid the programme on the Table)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Next Order!

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)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Who was on the Floor? Yes, Mr. Sumbeiywo.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Speech. I would like to start with the question of unity. The unity in this country depends on honesty and integrity of leaders who are committed in bringing Kenyans of different ethnic groups together. Also, to a large extent, this unity will depend on reciprocation by the communities concerned.

In this country, we have about 42 tribes or ethnic groups. If all these people could come together, unite and forget about their personal interests and tribal backgrounds, this country would be united. Kenya has a lot of untapped resources, and once Kenyans become united and accept to become united, these resources which have not been exploited yet, will be exploited for the benefit of our people. Unfortunately, we have some top civil servants in this country who are corrupt. They are the ones who have caused a lot of havoc in this country. Some of them - not all of them, but in majority of cases - are the people who are the AIE holders, who look after the money that

has been voted by this Parliament for the development of this country in various sectors. These are the people who we should get rid of, and I am sure that once we do that, this country can forge ahead and we can resuscitate our economy.

We embraced the question of liberalisation without serious consideration. Now, our coffee, tea, maize and wheat farmers have a lot of problems in marketing their produce. Maybe, in the area of wheat and maize farming, there was an agreement which was reached between the millers, the farmers and the NCPB. The agreement was that the millers would buy all the wheat, grain and maize that would be produced by the farmers in this country before they embarked on importation of more grains. Farmers have had a lot of problems because they cannot dispose of their grains. A bag of maize, for example, goes for Kshs400. To produce one bag of maize, you have to spend Kshs1,000. We need to revisit this issue because our farmers are really suffering.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. In contributing to the Presidential Address, the practice normally is for the Opposition to pick the weaknesses in the Speech, and Ministers to plug in these things. Here is an Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development complaining to the House about an agreement with regard to the selling and buying of grains. He should be explaining to us why that agreement is not working. He should not be complaining!

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

Mr. Anyona: Is it in order for an Assistant Minister of the Government to complain to the House about a matter of policy which he is in charge of?

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have high respect for my good friend, Mr. Anyona. But let him wait for his time so that he can contribute. I have the right to speak on behalf of my people and the people of Kenya. In fact, I was not complaining. I just wanted to demonstrate that the millers ignored an agreement that was made between the Ministry, Millers and the National Cereals and Produce Board. Although we are trying to address these problems, the absence of proper legal provisions makes it difficult for us to deal with the issue. The marketing of grains will have to be rectified in the future.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Government for having initiated a water project in Keiyo District. Since Independence, there has never been piped water in Iten, the headquarters of Keiyo District. I am happy because we now have running tap water in Iten. We are now starting to experience marks of civilisation!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the funds which we were promised for combating HIV/AIDS are not forthcoming. The donors changed their minds. We were told to set up HIV/AIDS committees in our constituencies, but those committees are now dormant. They are not operating because there are no funds. I would like to appeal to the international organisations operating in this country and the World Bank to come to our aid because, the HIV/AIDS scourge is eliminating our younger generation in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, security is of great concern to all of us. This is because we have not improved the communication equipment of our security forces. They still use the old equipment which is not in tandem with the realities of the present world. I would like to make one suggestion which I have always made in this House, and also outside this House. We would like to bring our police officers under one umbrella; that is, the Administration Police officers (APs) and the regular police. We would like to bring them together so that there is one chain of command. As things stand today, we have got APs who hold the same ranks with the regular police. If we can bring the two branches of the Police Force together, it is going to be easy to manage, control and deploy them. By so doing, there will be no conflict of interest.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the number of street children, both girls and boys in Nairobi has risen within a very short time. This is a time-bomb and we have to be very careful about it. We have got to find a way of rehabilitating these people so that they can lead normal lives. We should take them to schools where they can learn without being punished. By so doing, they will be part and parcel of our community. In the evening, if you happen to pass near the General Post Office, the twilight girls will cause a lot of problems to you. This does not augur well for our tourism industry. It can even collapse because nobody loves being molested by these street girls and boys. We should, therefore, look for a way of rehabilitating these people so that they can lead normal lives. I want to emphasise that if all Kenyans come together and work as a united group, this country will prosper.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, whenever the National Budget is prepared by Ministry officials,

Ministers and Assistant Ministers should participate in its preparation. But we have left all this to the civil servants. The Chair knows, since he was once a civil servant like I was, that the Budget is always prepared by civil servants.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Michuki: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the so-called policy Statement by His Excellency, the President.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to address a few aspects of this written Speech which has been read widely, not only here in Kenya, but also in many other countries, and particularly, those countries represented here in Nairobi. To that extent, that is the only importance of the Speech. It is not what it contains or the way it is written. I would like to address myself to how this Speech is written.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, In my opinion, as short as it is, the President's Address has quite a number of contradictions. As the President addressed the economic problems, he talked about the need to eradicate poverty by putting certain measures in place. He said that the aim of the Government, or its immediate priority, is to increase economic productivity. He said that this is crucial to its efforts. Immediately after that, the President stated that in order to achieve that goal, his Government will ensure that there is a tight monetary policy. Monetary policy as tight as he recommended is contradictory to the objective of increase in productivity. You will have to use resources to increase productivity. If you have a tight monetary policy, you are actually withdrawing resources from production. That is the first contradiction. The second contradiction follows immediately after that. The President said that, that tight monetary policy is aimed at--- Listen carefully.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not know whether it is in order for Mr. Michuki to ask the Chair to listen carefully when it is already listening very carefully.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): He was addressing the Chair. Continue, Mr. Michuki!

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I restrained myself from interrupting the hon. Member when he was on the Floor and I think he should do the same.

I was saying that immediately after the first contradiction, the President's Address stated that the monetary policy is also aimed at minimising the growth of fiscal deficits. Fiscal deficits have nothing to do with monetary policy. The monetary policy deals with interest rates and the amount of money in circulation, while fiscal policy deals with taxation. Therefore, you cannot control fiscal deficits through a monetary policy. That is a big contradiction.

The third contradiction is in page nine of the President's Address. He said that the Government remains engaged in the need for restoration of foreign donor relations. In other words, the President expects that more money will flow into the country from the donors. Immediately after that, he told us to desist from relying on outsiders to develop this country. That is another big contradiction. At the same time, at the middle of that page, where he talked about the East African Co-operation and the COMESA agreements, he said that we will not only depend on foreigners, but also on an international agreement on coffee. So, I am saying that those who prepare speeches for the President must co-ordinate their contents. This Address will be read all over the world and it is a shame that it contains such glaring contradictions.

However, having gone that far, the subject matter of the President's Address was all right. He touched on economics, agriculture, security and matters that concern our co-operation within the continent and trade agreements which we have entered into. He also talked about institutions such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). If you look at the President's Address in relation to the so-called Development Plan for the period between 2002 to 2008, you will find that there is some relationship, but also those contradictions continue to appear. That Development Plan talks about wishes. It is like a kid who is accompanied by his parents to the market with a wish list, wishing if he could buy sweets, bananas and other fruits, but where is the money? Why does the Development Plan not contain a chapter showing us how we will implement the principles that we want to develop for creating wealth in this country, other inputs, and the amount of money that will be used to realise the objective?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is time that this Government started acting. We have heard too much said. The President has said too much in all these years, but where are the actions? We continue to go to the market with the same wish list. We are still playing that joker card while talking to our hearts like a joker.

So, let us, for once, see actions supporting words. For example, one of the ways through which we could eradicate poverty is by restoring the activities of the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC). Money was collected from farmers all over the country two years ago by the so-called KCC Holdings 2000, but farmers are still waiting for their milk to be collected. The farmers' money was collected by the KCC Holdings 2000, and nobody has issued a statement about its whereabouts. We have not even had a statement from the Minister for Agriculture or the Office of the President. The "Office of the offices" does not even talk about those other offices. So, I want to request the Minister for Agriculture to make a statement as to whether there is KCC Holdings 2000, and if it is there, when it will begin operating.

I want to join my colleagues in this House who have expressed concern about the salaries and the terms and conditions of service for teachers. The Government, through a Gazette Notice, cheated itself. It cheated itself by issuing a Gazette Notice stating how it would improve the terms and conditions of service for teachers.

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for my friend, Mr. Michuki, to use unparliamentary language? He has said that this Government cheated its way through a Gazette Notice. I want to seek the Chair's intervention and protection on this issue.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, maybe that was a slip of the tongue.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): So, will you withdraw that word?

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reserve my position.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Michuki! You are a gentleman. You used the word "cheat", which is unparliamentary. It still needs to be withdrawn before you sit down.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thought I withdrew the word by saying that it was a slip of the tongue.

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to add my voice to the voices of those who have congratulated His Excellency the President for the Address that he delivered before this august House. Perhaps, before I add my input, I would want to refer to the remarks by Mr. Michuki. He thinks that there are serious contradictions in the President's Address.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is Mr. Musyoka contributing as a leader of the Government or---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, Mr. Angwenyi! Mr. Musyoka was given an opportunity to contribute! That is a frivolous point of order!

Proceed, Mr. Musyoka!

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for that protection. Indeed, it gives me an opportunity to congratulate His Excellency the President, who, since he made this elaborate exposition of Government policy, has been elected the National Chairman of my party. I hope hon. Members on the other side would support His Excellency the President in that capacity, in an energised winning party!

Having said that, I thought there was absolutely no contradiction when His Excellency the President referred to the need for us to remain engaged with our development partners. He did not make some contradiction when he said that we should also work hard. Which country on earth would like to remain dependent on the so-called donor support for ever? So, the donor syndrome has been the undoing of so many countries of the Third World.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I recall that there was emphasis on the Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs), which have been found to be wanting. I just wanted to pick out that example and defend those who wrote this wonderful Speech on behalf of the President. Indeed, I find absolutely no contradiction in the Speech.

When the President speaks about the need for security for our people during this election year, it is for all of us Members of this august House, at least, to be sensitive to our utterances.

Mr. Michuki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Minister to mislead this House about what I said, when, in fact, it is not me who said it? I just quoted from the Speech! Could the Minister quote where I misquoted the President in that Speech?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Michuki, that is not a point of order; it is a point of argument! You had your opportunity to contribute. Let the Minister say what he wants to say!

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I actually do not have a problem with Mr. John Michuki. I think he should take what I have just said, because he did refer to three serious contradictions in the Presidential Address, and I have just tried to disprove one of them. I wish I had time to go on and demolish the other two, because there is absolutely no discrepancy in the Presidential Address. I am trying not to misrepresent him.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think all of us do recognise the need to have peace and security in an election year because the President was very clear about this. He said that this is an election year and he announced it to the whole world. Being an election year, it is important for us to recognise that this country has not been able to receive foreign investors. I am sure Mr. Michuki would agree with me on this point. We have not been receiving foreign exchange inflows into this economy. The reason for this is because no investors would want to put in their money in a country that receives attention through the world media. If you look at Cable News Network (CNN)--- In fact, I must say that the worst thing I saw, as Minister for Tourism and Information, in the last one month, was when I watched the CNN news and I saw some reference being made to gang violence in Nairobi. I immediately knew that, that was going to be followed by cancellation by tour operators of the visitors whom we were going to receive in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think it is important to recognise that violence affects our investments. That is why I want to congratulate the Government to which I belong, for the action that they took in trying to disband these so-called vigilante groups; the *King'oles* of this world, the *Mungikis* and the rest of those groups. The police force is there and the police officers are properly empowered.

(Mr. Michuki stood up in his place)

If I can have my peace, I think I need protection from Mr. Michuki, the Member of Parliament for Kangema. The hon. Member keeps on reminding himself about *Mungiki*, I do not know whether he believes in *Mungiki*. So, whatever those vigilante groups are, we have to congratulate the Government and the Police Commissioner in particular, for the very swift action that he took after the violence at Kariobangi.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need peace during our time and during the time of our children and our children's time, and we have to work for it. It has got to begin with us.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we had our friends from the Westminster Foundation, I very proudly signed the declaration on behalf of our side. When there was need to sign a declaration, that we shall keep the peace in place, and my colleagues on the other side joined me at that hotel and we signed the declaration. I think this is the way forward because then, we knew that in the month of September, we will host the Kenya Tourism Week. The message which we want to send to the whole world is that, this is a country that is peaceful, regardless of whether it is going to have elections or not. I want to appeal to my hon. colleagues to support His Excellency the President in his call for all of us to act in a manner that is befitting the leadership of this country. I cannot over-emphasize that point.

I want to thank those hon. Members who have been talking about street children and street families. These are children, yes, but when it reaches 7.00 p.m., you can hardly walk through the streets of Nairobi. We do know that the primary cause of many children in the streets is poverty. We are talking about poverty levels, and majority of our people in this country do live below poverty line. We are talking about poverty levels being 54 per cent. We know that the situation is worse in our neighbouring countries, but we are struggling with it. We are basically calling a spoon a spoon, as a Government, and we are working towards that. I would like to urge our friends on the opposite side to support poverty alleviation measures that the Government has put in place, instead of just talking about poverty eradication and reduction.

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

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): I do not think I need that information from my good friend. I think what I need from him is for him to agree with me that we need to get street families out of our streets.

An hon. Member: By force?

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Not by force! There is need for us to work towards getting them out of the streets because it is clear that it is not an attractive thing. A lot of visitors who come to this country are advised not to spend a night in Nairobi; they just fly straight to the Maasai Mara, Samburu, *et cetera*. By the way, some wonderful thing has happened in this country; we had the lioness and the "lamb" sitting together. It happened twice in Samburu when the oryx; the famous Valentine Oryx walked together with the lioness. I would want to urge hon. Members to visit the Animal Orphanage to be able to see for themselves. If animals can do that, how about hon. Members of this august House? We should be able to keep the peace so that we can invite visitors to this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to suggest that all of us recognise the challenges before us as a country. As I said, we are holding the bull by the horns, and I think that is what His Excellency the President has done. We need to support the President in his effort to bring peace and stability in our region. We know that he is positively engaged in trying to find a solution to the long-lasting conflict in Somalia. As a Member of Parliament, I get affected by instability in Somalia. So, it is important that we support the President when he tries to look for peaceful solutions to the conflicts in Somalia. He has been properly engaged, and I know Dr. Kituyi is a Member of the Departmental Committee on Foreign Relations. I am sure he knows what the President has been trying to do to bring peace to the Sudan. We need to encourage him because it is a recognition that when our neighbours are in conflict to that extent, we must consider ourselves not at peace. I think this is basic because if we have that basic thing; peace-- Kenyans need peace in order to get their acts together.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Minister to mislead this House that the President of Kenya has been trying to bring peace to Sudan when, at a time he is chairing the IGAD initiative, he has started the process of importing "blood petroleum" from Sudan which is negating the cause of peace in Sudan?

The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think Dr. Kituyi knows that Sudan is a member of COMESA and we do have this regional trading arrangement. We, as a Government, are very clear that our President is positively engaged in bringing peace to Sudan. I think Dr. Kituyi knows that. I do not know what he means by "blood petroleum". Does he know the colour of it?

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

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will not make it my duty to congratulate the President for performing his ceremonial constitutional duty to this House. There have been observations and criticisms, maybe from our side, about what and what not the Presidential Speech should have contained. If we are being serious, we would realise that over the years, since Independence, the Presidential Address has basically been the same. I do not think you can pick any one and say this was necessarily out of the ordinary.

On that day, the President - these are some of the subtleties of our system - is performing a function of the Head of State. He is stating the policy programme. This is the programme of the Parliament. He is acting like the Queen of England. I think if there is any weakness in this Speech, it may well lie in the system we are operating upon. If our system was similar to the American one, which is a Presidential system, what we would expect would be a State of The Union Speech. However, the Presidential Address is not a State of The Union Speech. If there are weaknesses, it is not because of the Speech as such, but it is a weakness caused by a misapplication of that system. But then, we follow the Westminster type of system. In fact, the Speech as read here is exactly the same as the one Queen Elizabeth reads. So, I would not find too much fault with that particular aspect of the Speech. When we say, for instance, that the President has for the last time addressed Parliament, that is not true.

Yesterday, I heard Mr. Murungi who is a lawyer saying that the President has disappeared into the "mist of history". That is a misrepresentation. Our Standing Orders provide that the President can address Parliament any time. He can come back tomorrow and do so. In fact, some of us would wish that he addresses Parliament more often. But because of the state of hostility between, maybe, the President and ourselves, it does not happen often enough. In the end, when the President eventually decides to go and rest, then I expect there will be a grand occasion when he will come and address this Parliament about the past, the present and the future.

I would like to congratulate the President for one thing that he did during the State opening of Parliament, and in recent weeks and months. There has been a lot of anxiety here whether or not the President is serious about retiring. In fact, it became the main platform of our politics. Some were querying and others were defending. I want to congratulate the President for coming out clearly and saying that he would like to rest. I noted

the words he used. He said: "I want to hand over the instruments of power." The President has indicated his intention to relinquish the instruments of power. It is not handing over. The handing over will be done by the people. When the people of this country elect a new team, then the President will hand over ceremonially to the new team.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not believe that constitutionally we can bar the President from standing for another term, if he so wishes. Therefore, we should be grateful to the President. We should be happy that this divisive issue has been resolved in a very amicable and gentlemanly way. We should encourage him to set up that kind of pace. The only thing I would like to say with regard to the Kasarani line-up is that it is part of the mechanism. The New KANU, as a political party, has every right to come up with their own line-up. The only thing we would like to request them, as the ruling party, and now with the addition and contribution of my brother here, Mr. Raila, who has been in this struggle for a long time, is to conduct elections more democratically than they did. Surely, if there are more than three contestants, then there must be an election. You do not call out four names and you stop there. It is too obvious for everybody to see---

Mr. Ngure: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to comment about another party's mode of election?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am actually commending them. I am appealing to KANU as the ruling party to set the pace for the country. We would like some of these things to be done right. It would be a great help to the country if the Kasarani line-up created more cohesion, harmony and reconciliation. It is not very good to have those two seats there avoided like the plague. That is the seat of the Government.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Odoyo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Chairman of Kenya Social Congress party, who has not held elections for the last seven years, in order to comment on elections of a party of which he is not a member? May I take this opportunity to welcome him to the New KANU.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Odoyo, that was not a point of order. Proceed, Mr. Anyona.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I, therefore, think it is fitting for this country to congratulate the President for the work he has done over the years, though there may have been some mistakes. We should congratulate him even more for giving clear signals that he wants to hand over the instruments of power of this country peacefully.

Having said that, I think we, as a Parliament and a country, have some kind of duty to congratulate President Mugabe. Why? Because Zimbabwe, like Kenya, fought for its independence. What was the major issue in its independence struggle? It was mainly land. Here we were short-changed. We were told that we could buy whitemen's farms and settle Africans there. Fair enough. But in Zimbabwe, the land issue has not been resolved. So, how does the rest of the world gang up against Zimbabwe to keep the land of Zimbabwe people in the hands of a few white settlers? The issue in Zimbabwe is not democracy or freedom; the issue is land. It is very shameful that three countries, including two Africa countries, should gang up, sit together and purport to expel Zimbabwe. We, as a country, will not condone any acts which betray democracy.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Anyona in order to say that KANU did not hold free and fair elections and then commend President Mugabe of Zimbabwe who did not hold free and fair elections?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether the elections were free or not free--- And I do not know where they are free. Even in America, they rigged the elections, pants down. What I am saying is that we have a moral obligation as Africans to support the people of Zimbabwe until they are able to redistribute land, so that their struggle for independence is justified.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally the Constitutional Review Process is one thing that this Parliament has worked very hard for. Unfortunately, the process seems to have gone off the track. We insisted that it was necessary to have civic education as the starting point of the review process. So far, there has been no civic education. What we have are seminars and workshops involving people who already know. So, instead of educating those who did not know about the Constitution, there is some kind of incest. The educated, the intelligentsia and the academicians are meeting from this hotel to the other hotel to exchange information.

I beg to support.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the President's exposition of public policy during the opening of this last Session of this Parliament.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President told us what he has achieved over the years. I personally agree that he has done a lot for this country in politics. I wish the President devoted more of his time on the economy of this country. The President said that in 1963, when we attained Independence, we vowed to tackle poverty, ignorance and disease. What have we done with respect to those three issues? How have we tackled poverty, disease and ignorance in this country? Over the years, our level of poverty has increased so much so that, today, 63 per cent of Kenyans live below the poverty line. In fact, in 1963, when we attained Independence, less than 30 per cent of the population lived below the poverty line. In 1978, when the President took over, less than 40 per cent of the Kenyan population lived below the poverty line, but now it is 83 per cent. I would have liked to hear the President say exactly how he is going to reduce the level of poverty to the level when he took over as the President of this Republic.

Nowadays, there is no employment. If you walked out there, you would meet educated people during working hours simply because there are no jobs for our youths who are graduating from schools and colleges. I would have liked the Government to come up with a deliberate policy of creating employment to our youth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I

[Mr. Angwenyi]

would have liked the President to say clearly how he is going to turn around the economy of this country by improving agricultural production. I would have liked to hear the President give a farewell Speech during the State Opening. He should have also said how he was going to turn around the dairy, beef, sugar and cereals industries which have all gone haywire. We cannot turn round the economy of this country unless we address each of those sub-sectors of our economy, particularly, the agricultural sub-sector. The Minister for Tourism and Information has just said that potential tourists have cancelled their bookings.

Mr. Parpai: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is Mr. Angwenyi in order to say that he thought the President was performing his last opening Speech in this House? Is he anticipating him extending this Parliament to next year?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if Mr. Parpai wanted to thank the President for having snubbed the Vice-President who is his potential opponent in Kajiado, he should do it in another way, not by raising such a point of order.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we cannot turn the economy of this country round unless we address the issues pertaining to agriculture. We must tell our people when we are going to revive or create more abattoirs for the beef industry. We must also tell our people when we are going to revive KCC or its equivalent. We must tell our people where they are going to sell their cereals, when the Government is going to repair roads leading to tourist attractions, and when we are going to reduce the interest rates to the level Parliament wanted them to be, so that people can access credit and do business. Those are the issues we must devote our time to.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the President is a genius in politics. If he applied a tenth of the acumen he applies in politics to the economy, this country would industrialise over a period of two to three years. But he is pre-occupied with politics so much that he does not feel bad to embarrass the Vice-President of the Republic of Kenya. This country must uphold the rule of law.

The Government agreed with the KNUT that they were going to increase the teachers' pay. It signed a contract with KNUT. The Government must follow the rule of law and honour the contract it signed. The President would have alluded to the period when the teachers are going to get their pay increase. Our health sector is in shambles. We are asking our people to cost-share in health care, and yet we know that 53 per cent of our people live below the poverty line. They cannot even afford to live, let alone cost share in health care. The Government should bring a policy paper on how we shall address health care. In fact, we should revert back to the situation where our people get primary health care for free.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are supposed to tackle ignorance. In the current statistics, enrolment in schools is declining very fast because parents cannot afford to take their children to schools. So, ignorance is increasing. The Government should come up with a policy paper to address the issue of education. We must provide free education from Standard One to Form Four. I thought the President would have addressed himself to this issue.

This country is respected throughout the world because it has maintained peace, and people from the African continent look up to it as a country that can give leadership. But when we are the first people to congratulate a despot who has rigged himself to the Presidency of Zimbabwe, it is baffling. It surprises everybody in the world, whether this is a country that they can look upon for leadership of Africa. I was very surprised to hear one hon. Member who was detained for more than ten years for fighting for democracy, claiming that he does not care whether there are free and fair elections. Saying that he does not care when he sees his people being shot and beaten up because they are not allowed to vote---

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. When you hear Mr. Anyona starting to defend the absence of democracy, you should count him as a casualty of the fight for democracy! It is that war which has perverted him!

Mr. Angwenyi: Thank you for that information. I knew that Mr. Anyona has deviated, but I did not know that he has reached that far! But, today, it was confirmed to me. He happens to be my brother from Kitutu, and I did not know he has deviated that far. But when we go back home, we will talk to him and he will come back to do what is right.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I am saying is this: Unless the Government of Kenya and this House concentrate their efforts on the economy of this country, we may not have a country next year, where we will run for parliamentary seats.

With those few remarks, I beg to be neutral!

An hon. Member: There is nothing like that!

Mr. Shitanda: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to comment on the Presidential Speech. First and foremost, I would like to agree with Mr. Kalonzo Musyoka that very strange things are happening in this country, and quicken to add that you do not need to go to the animal orphanage to see some of those strange things. Some of them are happening right here in this House, where a "lioness" called Moi has adopted an "oryx" in the name of Raila.

(Laughter)

We do hope that when the lioness goes out hunting, the other lions will not devour the oryx.

Having said that, I would like to talk about security. That is a matter that has been said in this House over and over again. While we are talking about security, we have heard quite a number of Members of Parliament denouncing organised gangs. Some of those gangs are owned by people in this House and Ministers in the Government. While denouncing those gangs, the Government should move beyond that and take action against Members of Parliament and private members who form gangs to terrorise innocent people. The genesis of some of those gangs are the street families that we are creating in this country. We cannot talk about addressing the issue of insecurity, without addressing the problem of street families and street children. What we are calling street families today were the street children five or six years ago. I do not know what we are going to refer to them as, when they grow old.

It would appear that there is a deliberate move by some people to frustrate Government efforts in addressing the issue of security, especially in this City. For instance, why would a group of 300 people meet in a house or an estate, arm themselves, hire matatus and go into an estate and target one ethnic group without the knowledge of the security apparatus? Is it laxity on the part of the Government, or the police are part of that scheme? What happened in Kariobangi should be investigated beyond what the Government is trying to do. Transferring the affected policemen is not enough. We could be transferring a problem to another area. It must be addressed exhaustively, to find out the real motive of those people, and who was behind that massacre.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we talk about security, we should also talk about how security officers are recruited in this country, how they are remunerated and how they are promoted. A long time ago, there was a system of recruiting people into the forces. It would appear that we have abandoned that system and all that is happening now is that once you have somebody in the police force; or if you can afford some money to buy a chance in the police force, army and other forces, you are recruited into the force, without anybody caring to address the issue of background. You will agree with me that there are some people who have backgrounds that should not allow them to join security forces. There should be a vetting system. The vetting system that existed

before and immediately after Independence should be re-introduced, so that those people who are joining the forces are thoroughly vetted. We have so many incidences where robberies and pickpocketing are committed by members of the armed forces.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of promotion is making our security forces become lax in their duties. When you see junior officers promoted--- When you see promotions being given out not on the basis of merit, but on the basis of tribe, friendship and bribery--- That is what has culminated in the problems that we are facing today.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have always talked about the economy of this country. We talk about tourism, which is trying to come back on its knees. We hope that the people who own such organised gangs will not unleash them, given that this is an election year, to kill the industry again. We would like the Government to use everything at its disposal to make sure that the little gains that are beginning to appear on the horizons in the tourism industry are sustained.

We also talk about the economy and unemployment. Right now, we are the beneficiaries of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The Government should quickly think of ways and means of financing the Export Processing Zones (EPZs), so that they could go into a crash programme of training tailors and machinists, who are lacking in the EPZs. We have about 1,500 jobs begging because we do not have people who can take up those jobs. If there was a way the EPZs could be empowered to go into a crash programme of training, we could take the full advantages of the AGOA.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, every year, for the last five years, we have been talking about the Teachers Service Commission (TSC), Kenya National Union of Teachers' (KNUT) and the teachers' salaries. Now, added on the list are paramedics. Maybe, tomorrow and the day after, we will have another group joining them in demanding for better terms of service. We would like the Government to address those problems with the seriousness that they deserve, so that teachers and paramedics are paid like other paramedics and teachers in this region. We are all talking about being players in regional activities. We should be players in regional activities in all aspects, including the remuneration to our employees.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to thank Mr. Aringo for introducing a Bill on the establishment of a Budget Office. The Budget Office will go a long way towards addressing the issue of corruption in this country. The budgets of Ministries will be scrutinised by this Parliament. The expenditures of Ministries will be scrutinised by this Parliament. There will be questions, and I want to think that, that is a move in the right direction. Maybe, if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank had insisted on the creation of a Budget Office before going into other areas of our legislation that relate to corruption, anti-corruption and whatever the names they give them, we would have made a positive step in the direction of trying to address the issue of corruption in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, corruption in this country is not a one-man affair. We all have to join hands to fight corruption. It exists everywhere, but we would like the Ministry of Local Government to address the problems that are afflicting the LATF funds in the county councils. They have to find ways and means of curbing the misuse of those funds. There are some local authorities which are utilising those funds to pay travelling allowances to their councillors to make trips outside their local authorities, instead of using them for the stipulated purposes. I would like the Ministry to devise a way of preventing elected leaders from directly handling the funds allocated under the LATF. Finally, I would like the Government to address the issue of maize and sugar-cane farmers. The Ministry of Agriculture has been misleading the millers about its ability to stop the operation of the Sugar Act.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the opportunity to contribute to this Motion. Let me begin by thanking my friends who have congratulated me on my election as the Secretary-General of New KANU. I want to thank my friend, Paul Muite, for offering me some unsolicited words of caution. I want him to know that I will take them very much home. Many people have made some remarks about the elections that were held on Monday. I had occasion to discuss them with my friend Dr. Kituyi. These were very special circumstances because we brought together 6,000 delegates belonging to two different parties. All the same, we have managed to design a system of voting that enables members to express their will.

Having said that, I always believe that those who live in glass houses should not throw stones. Therefore, I do not think that, with the exception of the DP, the other political parties sitting on that side have any lesson to teach us. For example, when were the elections for FORD(K) last held? They went to Thika and it was a fiasco. The following day, they went back there when the delegates had already gone back home, hand-picked a few *manambas* in Thika and purported to have held an election. Thereafter, they have just been replacing the members of the party. My friend, Mr. James Orengo, resigned from the party a long time ago. The other day, they just hand-picked Mr. Joe Donde to fill in because they---

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is Mr. Raila in order to mislead this House that our first National Vice-Chairman, Mr. Donde, was hand-picked, when he was properly elected by the General Council which Mr. Raila helped to form as an institution when he was the Director of Elections in FORD(K), before he ran away to the New KANU?

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the constitution of FORD(K) provides for the election of national officials by delegates and not the general council. That is basically hand-picking. The other day, when Mr. Imanyara resigned, they picked my friend, Dr. Kituyi, to replace him. So, you have a situation where the chairman and the secretary-general of one political party are first cousins. Mr. Anyona who spoke earlier here is still an interim chairman of the Kenya Social Congress. Ever since he sent his returns to the registrar of societies as an interim official, he has never held any elections that anybody knows about.

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

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): I have enough information.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): The information is not wanted!

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, SAFINA party also suffers from the same problem. We know that Mr. Muite and his fellow interim officials have never held any elections. Since we introduced multi-partyism in this country, our multi-party system has now come of age; It is now 12 years old and yet some of us are still stuck at the beginning where we started. First of all, it is very important for us to develop a democratic culture of tolerance. There must be constructive engagement and dialogue between political parties, even across the divide. Even if you are in the Opposition, you should not just oppose for the sake of it. You should oppose constructively by offering alternative proposals as to how things should be done. If somebody thinks that the Presidential Speech was not constructive, he should say what he thinks should have been in that Speech. This issue of polarisation of relationships in the society is not healthy for efficient functioning of a multi-party democracy.

A lot has been said about the importation of oil from Sudan. My friend was recently in Rumbek, in the Southern Sudan. The Government of Kenya does not import oil and has no intention of getting involved in the business of importing oil. Since oil marketing was liberalised, the business has been completely left to the independent dealers and multinationals. I want the hon. Member to know---

Mr. Muite: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Minister for Energy to mislead the House that because oil trade has been liberalised in this country, oil companies can import oil from wherever they want, when he knows that in the leading liberalised country, America, they impose regulations stopping their companies from trading or selling products to other countries? Why can your Government not do that?

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is not a point of order. In as far as we know, there are no sanctions from either the African Union (AU) or the United Nations imposed on the Sudan. We, as a country, are genuinely committed to finding a solution to the Sudanese conflict which had continued for probably 50 years. That conflict has been going on before oil was discovered in the Sudan. The Sudanese Government has been able to procure arms to continue manning that war without oil. Therefore, we should not be accused of trying in any way to compromise the security and safety of our people in Southern Sudan.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, transition of governments has become a problem in Africa. Right now, we have got three elections being contested; the results of the elections in Zambia and Zimbabwe have been petitioned, while in Madagascar, the winner declared himself president. These are not healthy signs for a maturing multi-party democracy in Africa. I want to disagree with my friend, hon. Anyona, with regard to Zimbabwe. President Robert Mugabe, as we know him, has been a complete let-down to the Zimbabwean Revolution.

(Applause)

If Mr. Robert Mugabe really believed in empowering his people, he should have introduced comprehensive land reforms immediately he took power in Zimbabwe. Over 20 years down the road, Mr. Mugabe is now coming out and saying that he wants to give the people the land. He is doing what he should have done, but he is trying to do it for wrong reasons.

Mr. Orengo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It would be quite unfortunate if these remarks are not clarified because I do not know whether my friend is speaking as the Member of Parliament for Langata or for the Kenya Government. However, the first congratulations which were sent to Mr. Mugabe came from the Kenya Government; saying how fair the elections were. So, is he speaking for President Moi or for himself?

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the official Government position has been stated. However, the hon. Member ought to know that our President attended the recent Commonwealth Heads of States meeting in Australia, where three Heads of Government were appointed to go on a fact-finding mission to Zimbabwe. So, President Olusegun Obasanjo, President Thabo Mbeki and the Australian Prime Minister have been to Zimbabwe and have since reported to the Commonwealth secretariat about the position there. As a result of that, certain actions have been taken by the Commonwealth. I believe very strongly that we should try to empower our people and Mr. Mugabe had very good reasons, but he is doing it right now for wrong reasons. He is doing it merely because he wants to cling to power because he saw that the people were going to reject him.

Dr. Kituyi: Do you know anybody else who is trying to cling to power?

(Laughter)

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Raila): I do not know anybody else who is trying to cling to power. I only know that President Moi wants a smooth transition in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of civic education has been taken beyond proportion by some people who want to delay the constitutional review process.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Kamanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me time to say something about this Presidential Speech.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will start with the insecurity situation in Nairobi. I want to alert this House that we have a big problem in Nairobi and we want to know, from the Government, why it has been unable to provide Nairobians with security for a long time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a lot of problems with the Nairobi police and more so with the Divisional Commanders in Nairobi. These officers are unable to discharge their duties because of interference from their boss, who is the Provincial Police Officer (PPO). I have on several occasions had an audience with some Officers Commanding Police Divisions (OCPDs) in Nairobi and they complain that officers who have been appointed as Officers Commanding Stations (OCSs) in Nairobi must be friends or relatives of the PPO in charge of Nairobi. These OCSs have turned police stations into banks where people deposit money every morning and it is taken somewhere in the evening. That is why the police are unable to provide security in this City. An example is the recent Kariobangi massacre whereby a junior officer of the rank of an OCPD was transferred although the man behind the insecurity in Nairobi is the PPO himself. Why transfer a junior officer and leave the man in charge who is making the work of OCPDs so difficult that they cannot even run their divisions?

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Karauri): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to seek your guidance. Do you not think, when we are debating an important Motion like this one, officers from the Office of the President are supposed to be here to take notes? This is because hon. Members are discussing the Presidential Speech and they are talking about insecurity and other important things, but there is no officer here to take notes at all. How will this problem be solved?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Karauri, it is desirable, but there are no rules that

they must be here. Obviously, I hope the Leader of Government Business has taken note of that.

Proceed, hon. Kamanda.

Mr. Kamanda: Hon. Karauri, thank you for that input. However, I am explaining about the insecurity situation of Nairobi. When we talk about insecurity, it also goes hand in hand with corruption. We cannot be able to provide security if we do not fight corruption. Is this Government serious in fighting corruption? During every State Opening of Parliament, the President always talks about fighting corruption. However, for all the four years I have been in Parliament, there has not been any change. Why? One example is the just KANU concluded selection of candidates because it was not an election. In this case, one candidate who was proposed for a seat in the New KANU party was rejected by the delegates. Why was he rejected by people who were not genuine delegates because they had just been selected? It is an obvious thing. It is because that particular candidate who is the Minister for Water Development was in court at one time and although---

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to discuss an hon. Member of this House without bringing a Substantive Motion?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Certainly it is not in order! In any case, yesterday, Mr. Speaker cautioned hon. Members, especially from the Opposition side, against involving themselves in KANU matters. We are debating the Presidential Speech! So, could you first address yourself to the Presidential Speech? Secondly, if you wish to discuss the Minister for Water Development, bring a Substantive Motion here.

Mr. Kamanda: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. But I think I am talking about corruption---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Kamanda! The Standing Orders are very clear. If you want to talk about corruption, continue, but if you want to talk about a particular person who is a Member of this House, you will have to bring a Substantive Motion.

Mr. Kamanda: Okay, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. But I have given an example of one candidate who was rejected purely because---

The Minister for Vocal Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Ruto, the Member on the Floor has said nothing to warrant a point of order. I am listening!

Proceed, Mr. Kamanda!

Mr. Kamanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just want to say that there was a candidate who was rejected by the delegates for an obvious reason. The candidate is known to be very corrupt. That is why the delegates even rejected him, but he was protected. Who protected him?

The Minister for Vocal Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I know that the Member on the Floor admires KANU and that is why he is wasting a lot of his time discussing a conference which he was not party to. Is he in order to bring to the Floor of the House matters which are not within the confines of the business at hand?

Mr. Kamanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, protect me from the hon. Member. The hon. Member should know that I am the host, because Parliament is located within my constituency.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kamanda, you would do yourself a great favour if you continued and confined yourself to the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Kamanda: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about corruption. I am saying that although that particular person was rejected, he was protected. Who protected him? He was protected by the President. What does that show? It shows that we have a very big problem in this country because we cannot fight corruption. If corrupt people are being protected by the highest authority in this land and then we keep on pretending that we are fighting corruption, are we telling Kenyans the truth? We are cheating Kenyans! If we want to fight corruption, let us start from the top to the bottom.

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Member in order to continue talking about somebody without naming him? Who is this person? Could he substantiate that?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! Mr. Mutahi, I have already ruled against introducing the name of any person unless there is a Substantive Motion.

Mr. Kamanda, you will now refrain from referring to that matter.

Mr. Kamanda: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Secondly, they gave the four posts of Vice-Chairmen to Ministers and these Ministers are too busy. They have no time even to attend Parliament. Could the Government consider revoking their appointment apart from that of Mr. Raila? I do not think they will be able to do anything because they are busy with the succession issue. They are holding very key positions in the Government and if the trend continues, they are going to waste a lot of taxpayers' money. They will be using that money to campaign.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Kamanda! Time up!

Dr. Omamo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to deal with what I call some preliminary remarks based on what my colleagues have already said. My colleague, Mr. Muite, said quite a bit about peace, love and unity as a philosophy of *Nyayo*. I wanted to comment on this, based on my own interpretation of His Excellency's philosophy of *Nyayo* involving peace, love and unity. In my opinion, this is a vision of His Excellency the President, of what he would like to see practised in Kenya. In my opinion, unity here is unity of purpose, that Kenyans should have unity of purpose as they go about building the nation. Unity of purpose can be demonstrated at the national level. I will give one example of unity of purpose having been demonstrated. Let me use the example which is still hot; this is unity of purpose between the now defunct National Development Party (NDP) and KANU. These two parties had a unity of purpose. They moved towards each other, trying to co-operate, form an alliance and partnership. They had a unity of purpose.

There was a time when I went public saying that those two parties were close enough for all practical purposes. I did say that at one time. Now, the unity of purpose gave rise to the merger. We are all happy about that kind of unity of purpose. In my opinion, if we work for peace and love, and we have unity of purpose, that is a good vision of an individual of what he would like to see in a nation. But if one has a better vision, he can put it forward for discussion. But I see nothing wrong with a vision for a nation to be in peace, love and have unity of purpose.

The substantive part of His Excellency the President's Speech reminded the House of the original vices that the First Parliament wanted to tackle which included poverty, ignorance and disease. In my opinion, this country has made commendable progress in the fight against ignorance and the records speak for themselves. We have also tried to deal with diseases. We have not managed to cure every disease, but the health services provided in Kenya are commendable. I am not saying that they have been 100 per cent. It is in the area of poverty reduction that we have found development elusive. We have a long way to deal with poverty.

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

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Capt. Ntwiga) took the Chair]*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to give an example in agriculture. Instead of our agriculture being the backbone of the economy, and tackling poverty at its very foundation, our agricultural production has tended to be a bit weak, particularly in recent years, so that when you pick the major crops, you find that they are in trouble. I would like to give the example of the sugar industry. We have had many problems in this industry. The Government tried, and I would like to thank it for saving Muhoroni Sugar Company from total collapse. I hope that the Government will continue to support Miwani Sugar Company so that it does not collapse. These two sugar companies were going to the dogs, but the Government came to their rescue. But still the sugar industry has many problems.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I stand here now, there is no sign from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development that the Sugar Act of 2001 will be implemented on 1st April, 2002 as it was intended. What is the Government doing? What is the Ministry doing to implement the Act, which has been given the green light by the Head of State? There is nothing which is being done. The farmers are worried about implementation of the Sugar Act.

The other point I would like to say that time has come for our country to fight poverty through irrigated agriculture. Let us go in for irrigation; let us irrigate sugar-cane farms; let us irrigate cotton farms and the major

crops because irrigation does wonders, particularly with sugar-cane. Sugar from Sudan which is being dumped in this country grows in that country because they practise irrigation. They irrigate their farms using water from Kenya. Sometimes sugar comes from Egypt, which also irrigates the crop. These two countries irrigate their sugar-cane farms from water obtained from River Nile, and yet we are the source of this river. I would really like to urge the Government to come up with a deliberate irrigated agriculture policy to support agricultural production. If this is done, it will help reduce poverty.

I would like to congratulate the Government for coming up with the Bills that the President mentioned. During the state opening of Parliament, the President mentioned a number of Bills which will be brought before this House. The Water Policy Bill, which I saw yesterday, dated 15th March, is very good. I hope that when it will come before the House, something good will be done because we cannot be satisfied with plenty of water but which is not utilised properly. We have rivers which flow into Lake Victoria but there are international regulations which hinder us from making good use of the water. This cannot be permitted, and I am pleased that the Government has come up with a Bill to let water policy become a reality for the good of the nation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with these few remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

Mr. Orenge: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to this debate. It has been some time since I spoke from the Floor of this House. I have tried to read the Speech by the President very carefully and compare it with the previous speeches which were made in this House at the beginning of the Sessions of previous sittings of Parliament, and I do not find anything distinctive about it. The Speech is the same; cries and has the same lamentation, but there is nothing that can show the country the way forward so that Kenya can become a better country for its citizens. There are some things that we should not run away from; we should speak things truthfully and factually. If we go by the records, when President Moi took over power in 1978, only 15 per cent of the Kenyan population lived below the poverty line. By their statistics, more than 65 per cent of the people in this country live below the poverty line now. There was a time I said, on the Floor of this House, that the Kenya Government is asleep from 7.00 p.m. until 6.00 a.m. Between this time, if you meet a police officer in uniform or not in uniform, he is no longer part of the Kenya Government. That is why we saw the massacre that took place in Kariobangi despite the hon. Member of Parliament of that area taking steps to warn this Government of what was to happen. I was in Kariobangi for a meeting and it did not take the anti-riot police ten minutes to be there in full gear.

Really, these are the things that I would like to say on the Floor of this House. First, if there was going to be an exposition of public policy at this time when we are going for elections, some remarks about the constitution making process should have been made. He should have told us where it has reached and what the Government's vision about constitution making process is and not just to tell us what Professor Ghai is saying. Professor Ghai is talking but the Government does not give his Commission money. Within five years, when Mr. Mandela came out of prison in South Africa, they were able to come up with a new constitution of a new democratic South Africa. We are not serious about constitution making. Indeed, if you look at the conduct of this Government in the area of law and order and constitutionalism, you will find that, despite what my friend, Mr. Raila said here, the friends that we have in Africa and the rest of world are the Mugabes and Bashirs of this world. We have not come of age as a democracy and countries like Namibia and South Africa are overtaking us in areas of democracy. That is something that we cannot run away from.

I was waiting for the President to say that, as he was addressing this Parliament for the last time, he was pleading for unity, peace and constitutionalism. Those words did not come from the President's mouth, and I think this was deliberate. This is because before every election, we have had problems in this country. I am saying that the friends of this Government are the Mugabes because in a few months or weeks, the International Criminal Court may be established. This court will ensure that no leader will escape his conduct. In fact, there are some leaders in the world who do not like to travel because people can effect their arrest in the United Kingdom (UK) and Brussels. This Government has failed to sign the Lome document on the establishment of the International Criminal Court. That document requires every Government that is signatory to it to do away with impunity in its constitution. It states that there is nobody who can be above the law. Section 14 of the Constitution of this country allows certain people, particularly the President, to be above the law; the President cannot be prosecuted or taken into account in terms of misconduct or wrong-doing. These are the things that when we sit down in two or three years and take full stock of what this Government has been to Kenyans, it will be poverty, inflation, corruption and

poor governance.

We make a lot of noise when people are killed in wars like the one in Afghanistan, but the clashes which happen here, like what happened in Kariobangi where more than 20 people died overnight, nobody talks about it. In the whole war in Afghanistan, the United States of America (USA) has not lost more than eight soldiers. This is the case and yet we are sitting tight and nobody is taking responsibility. In fact, the police tend to arrest innocent people and leave those who are behind the crime.

There was a time I said on the Floor of this House, and I would like the hon. Members of Parliament and those of public who are here to take my word--- I told Prof. Saitoti, from where I am speaking today, in 1994, and it in the HANSARD, that he is the heir presumptive and Mr. Biwott is the heir apparent. I am sure last week, Prof. Saitoti must have remembered the words that I said here. Despite the fact that he was being shown around as the person next to the President, he was taking his time and at the right time when the hawk lands, he will be gotten rid of as if he was a piece of garbage. The late Dr. Karanja went through similar experiences. I am worried that, if Kenyans do not tread carefully, there may not be a transition. The man who has taken over KANU has been in charge of the Kenya Government. I said on the Floor of this House previously that President Moi is held hostage; he is a prisoner in State House. The man who is holding him hostage---

The Minister for Heritage and Sports (Mr. Nyenze): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is Mr. Orenge in order to say that President Moi is held hostage when he is the President of this country? Could he withdraw those remarks and apologise?

Mr. Orenge: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that I did say on the Floor of this House previously that President Moi is held hostage. If Mr. Nyenze is a good Member of Parliament, he should know when somebody is talking about history and when he is talking about current issues. I said that, at that time, I said in front of many people, including the Leader of Government Business, the President was being held hostage in State House. I want to say again that the person who has taken over KANU is the same person whom I said is holding the President hostage in State House.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Capt. Ntwiga) left the Chair]*

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

So, my friends who have joined KANU should be very careful. They may think that the merger is a new dispensation but they are swimming with sharks and dancing with wolves. If you dance with wolves and swim with sharks, the day you will go, you will never know. I am saying this because, if you go to the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission (CKRC), you will find that the Commissioners are in very low spirits. We cannot have a new constitution before the next election because this Government does not believe in democracy or a new constitutional order. If you have any doubt about what I am saying, you should ask Prof. Saitoti and Mr. Kamotho, who were KANU's First Vice-Chairman and Secretary-General respectively; do not ask me. Ask them to tell you what they experienced at Kasarani. For them, it was more of *kisirani* than Kasarani.

(Laughter)

So, as for those who are hoping that there will be a transition, let me tell them that there will be no transition. It will be the same guys who have been behind the inequities in this country, and have put the economy of this country in intensive care unit. When Mr. Nyachae talked about this as a fact of life, that the economy was in intensive care unit, what did you see in response? Instead of trying to solve the problem, the Government started bringing in other things which were irrelevant. Those in this Government are going to become irrelevant whether they like it or not. The people of this country are going to make judgement. These people now swim in what they think is victory. Even if they swim in what they think is victory, the last word will come from the people of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a known fact that, in many parts of this country today, in many

neighbourhoods, there is no peace. When people see the police, they run away because they think that the police would not be able to resolve their problems. When KANU had a "fair" election at Kasarani, Mr. Kamotho could not go to Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC). For the first time and, for the first time, you realise that KICC belongs to the people of Kenya. KANU has stolen KICC. The KANU Government says that it can be talking about good governance when it has grabbed public property for its own use. We have said this many times in this House, but nobody is listening to us.

So, we should remember that the world has changed. There are many ways of changing a government. I want to say from the Floor of this House that everything is not all about elections. Ask President Mugabe what is happening to him now; it is not all about elections. Ask Milosevic; it was not all about elections. Justice without peace can never be justice, and peace without justice can never be peace. So, if KANU is serious about bringing a new constitutional order in this country, it should believe that other people also have a right to rule this country instead of these mafia from Elgeyo Marakwet and Baringo Districts. These people believe that there are only two communities in this country, namely the Keiyo and the Tugen. You will begin to realise that the people of this country are more than these two communities. I can tell you that even if you use a puppet from Kikuyuland---

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

Mr. Orengo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I oppose the Motion.

The Minister for Heritage and Sports (Mr. Nyenze): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Motion on the Presidential Address.

I want to deal with just two issues. One, the Address was very impressive. It gave some direction on how to eradicate poverty. This country's economy is based on agriculture. That is why most of the hon. Members who spoke before me emphasised the need to develop irrigation programmes. Rather than depend entirely on rain-fed agriculture, as many hon. Members have suggested, it is high time we developed irrigation programmes for arid and semi-arid land (ASAL) areas since several permanent and semi-permanent rivers flow across those areas. Besides developing irrigation programmes in those areas, all the land that is lying idle should be put under agriculture. We should not let good land lie idle when we have so many unemployed people who can work on such land. They should be helped to grow crops, so that we can improve this country's economy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, because agriculture is the backbone of this country's economy, instead of exporting our farm products raw, let us try to process them to finished or semi-finished goods. For example, we should be roasting, grinding and packaging our coffee and then exporting it instead of letting multinational corporations and other big companies process it. The same thing should apply to our other farm produce. Apart from the agro-based industry, which should be used to address the poverty problem in the country, we can also venture into both heavy and light industries. We have the required technology. We have the best universities in this region.

This country has produced the best scholars in this region. Some of them are serving in other countries. We had started producing the *Nyayo* Pioneer Car and many other projects. It is high time we revived these projects, so that we can be proud of our car, among other things that we can produce locally. Nowadays, any country can borrow from another country a whole line of technology. All that is required is to buy the assembly line and start manufacturing. We must also venture into information technology; that is where most countries worldwide are heading to. These are areas which can help to eradicate poverty.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it seems as if the Opposition is very much scared by the merger of KANU with the former National Development Party. From the contributions of a few hon. Members on the Opposition side, I can tell that they are panicking.

QUORUM

Mr. Mutahi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Do you notice that there is no quorum?

An hon. Member: Aah!

Mr. Mutahi: He is introducing some bad business when the House does not have a quorum.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, it is true that there is no quorum. So, I direct that the Division Bell be rung.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! There is a quorum now.

Proceed, Mr. Nyenze.

The Minister for Heritage and Sports (Mr. Nyenze): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am surprised that hon. Members from the Opposition side have disappeared. I started by saying that, just because of the recent merger between KANU and NDP which has made KANU strong, the Opposition is going back to the drawing board. This is because they are scared stiff, and we hope the remaining political parties will join KANU.

But, anyway, I wanted to say that this country has been without foreign aid for several years and this has come as a result of some leaders' utterances, especially the Opposition. They criticize the Government even when the Government is doing its best. The Kenyan economy, like most economies of other countries in the world, both developed and developing, is growing slowly. The economy is growing at a slow rate. That does not mean that we are worse off. In fact, if you looked at the East and Central Africa, the Kenyan economy as it is, whether growing or not growing, is still the biggest economy in the region. There comes a time when the economy does not grow, or has a negative growth or posts some positive growth. So, at this time, the economy has started picking up, and we should not always blame the Government as to why the economy was not growing fast. This is because issues of globalisation and free markets have inconvenienced our farmers; because of opening up of our markets. When the Kenyan economy was liberalised, life for the farmers became very difficult. But we do not want people to start blaming the Government because these are issues that are international and the Government has no control over them. This is because of their international nature. But all the same, in terms of development, if you compare Kenya with all these other countries around, you will find that because of His Excellency's good leadership, we have achieved substantial development. I think, instead of trying to pretend and talk about other things, let us appreciate that we have enjoyed peace in this country since Independence. Tell me which other country around us has not gone to war or has no internal wars? We are living in peace. What is bigger or greater than living in peace; to do our own things the way we are doing or moving freely? Some hon. Members can stand here and criticise the Government, and no action is taken against them because of democracy that we are enjoying. We should never take this for granted. It is only allowed because of the good leadership of His Excellency the President. I think, instead, we should try to see how best we can have his term extended because he has led us very well.

I would still say that the donor community should start giving aid to this country because we have now met most of the conditions, and we are a very strategic development partner. We are strategically placed. There are investments from those European countries, and it is high time now, because we have tried so hard to reduce poverty, that the Bretton institutions resumed lending to Kenya so that we carry on and improve the lives of most people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about insecurity. If there is insecurity in a country, there would not be investments and tourists. I am urging hon. Members to see to it that their utterances do not create animosity between communities and they do not form gangs. It is on record that most of these groups of hooligans; those banned organisations like *Jeshi la Mzee, et cetera* belong to hon. Members from the Opposition. It is not good when they go on terrorising people. We should refrain from inciting our people to violence. We should be responsible in our utterances and lead by example.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we had good telecommunications infrastructure, we would have prospered a great deal. The other issue is that, if we had a dual-carriageway from Mombasa to Malaba, the movement of our goods would be easier and this would improve our economy. We are depending on a single carriageway and that is not healthy for our economy. We experience heavy traffic jams in Nairobi because most of our roads are single carriageways. We should built dual carriageways for faster movement of vehicles in Nairobi.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Karume: Ahsante sana Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipa nafasi hii, ili niseme machache kuhusu Hotuba ya Rais.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, baada ya kusoma Hotuba hii, nimegundua ya kwamba inafanana na ile ya mwaka uliopita. Mambo yaliyoko ndani ya Hotuba hii ni ya maana lakini Serikali haitekelezi! Rais akitoa Hotuba

yake, watumishi wa Serikali hawafanyi chochote! Katika nchi hii, kila kitu kimeanguka na hatuna cha kujivunia. Tukiangalia kilimo, tunaona ya kwamba sekta za kahawa, maziwa, pamba na miwa zimeanguka. Katika Bonde la Ufa na pahali pengine, watu wamelima mahindi, lakini hawawezi kuendelea kulima kwa sababu bei ya mahindi ni ya chini sana. Watu wanalazimishwa kupanga laini usiku na mchana, ili waweze kuuza mahindi yao. Ni lazima Serikali ifikirie mambo ya wananchi wa Kenya. Wananchi wanalia katika sehemu zote za Jamhuri yetu. Hii si shida ya wilaya moja au kabila mmoja. Watu wa Kenya wanataabika sana na viongozi wa Serikali wanafikiria jinsi ya kuendelea kuwatawala.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, viongozi katika Serikali hii wanajishugulisha na mambo ya kumrithi Rais Moi. Zile pesa kidogo katika Serikali zinatumiwa kwa mambo yasiyo na maana. Watoto wengi hawasomi na Serikali haishughuliki! Vijana wanakufa na tunawazika kila siku kwa sababu ya Ukimwi. Wazee ndio wanaotakiwa kuzikwa na vijana. Lakini leo, kazi kubwa ya wazee ni kuwazika vijana. Hii ni hasara kubwa kwa nchi yetu. Vijana wetu wanasoma mpaka wanapata vyeti vya vyuo vikuu lakini hawawezi kuajiriwa kwa sababu kazi hazipo. Vijana wanarudi nyumbani kukaa na wazazi wao na hali wameuza ng'ombe na kuku kuwasomesha! Hawa vijana ndio wanaoeneza maovu katika nchi hii. Wakianza kunywa *chang'aa*, wanapoteza fahamu. Hii ndio sababu Ukimwi unaenea sana katika nchi hii. Ni lazima Serikali iangalie mambo haya. Ni uchungu sana kuona taifa letu likikwisha hivi. Ni lazima Mawaziri wa Serikali wafikirie jinsi nchi itakavyoendelea. Wasijishugulishe na mambo ya kumrithi Rais Moi tu! Hicho kiti kitakaliwa na mtu mmoja, na tunataka mwenye kuchaguliwa kumrithi Rais Moi awe mtu wa kufikiria mahitaji ya Kenya nzima.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, Serikali ilikubali kuwapatia waalimu nyongeza ya mishahra mwaka wa 1997, ya shilingi bilioni tatu. Ni kwa nini Serikali haijatekeleza ahadi yake kwa waalimu? Waalimu wametoa onyo kwamba watagoma mwezi wa sita. Sisi tutawaunga mkono. Walimu wakigoma na wale watoto wachache wanaosoma wanarudi nyumbani, Kenya hii itakuwa na faida gani? Tunataka Serikali inayofanya kazi. Jambo la usalama limekuwa kama wimbo. Kila Mbunge hapa amelia kuhusu mambo ya usalama. Uko Ting'ang'a, katika sehemu ya Kiambaa, kuna chifu mmoja ambaye kazi yake ni kunywa pombe tu. kila Jumamosi, anaenda kuchukua Kshs3,000 kutoka kwa wale wanaouza *chang'aa*, na kuwaambia waendelea kuuza *chang'aa*. Yeye husema analindwa na kiongozi mmoja wa KANU. Anashinda akiwaambia hawa watu ya kwamba hata mimi kama Mbunge we sehemu hiyo, siwezi kumfanya chochote kwa sababu siwezi kufika pale yeye anaweza kufika. Kwa hivyo, anachochea watu ili waendeleo kunywa *chang'aa* bila wasiwasi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kama Naibu wa Mkuu wa Polisi anaweza kupigwa risasi na kuuawa, wananchi wa kawaida watafanya nini? Utalii umekwisha katika nchi hii kwa sababu hoteli katika sehemu ya Pwani zimefungwa. Watu wetu pia wamefutwa kazi na hoteli hizo kuuzwa na benki kwa sababu ya kutolipa mikopo. Ingefaa Serikali iwasaidie wafanya biashara wa kigeni kwa kuweka mali yao hapa Kenya. Tunataka watu wa kutujengea viwanda na si wale wa kuchukua pesa zetu na kuzipeleka kwenye nchi zao, kama Wahindi walioko hapa sasa. Biashara zote zimo mikononi mwa Wahindi. Sisi hatukupigania Uhuru ili watoto wa Wahindi wafaidike. Tunataka watoto wetu wafaidike! Hata sasa kuna wahindi hapa Kenya wanaofanya biashara na hali hawajui kuzungumza Kiswahili ama Kiingereza, na watoto wetu hawaajiriwi! Ni lazima Serikali iangalie hayo maneno kwa sababu kuna taabu nyingi sana katika nchi hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tukiwa na maji katika kila sehemu ya nchi hii, tutapunguza mambo ya umaskini, kwa sababu watu watalima mboga na kuwaajiri watoto wao na hata watu wengine. Hakuna maji katika sehemu ya Kiambaa na kuna bwawa moja la maji lilionunuliwa na Serikali miaka 25 iliyopita kutoka kwa Wazungu. Bwawa hilo halisaidii watu wetu kwa sababu halijarekebishwa.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ukulima wa miwa umeanguka kwa sababu Serikali imekubalia wafanya biashara kuleta sukari kutoka nchi za nje bila kulipa ushuru. Hii ni kwa sababu watumishi wa Serikali wanapata hongo kutoka kwao.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, hakuna haja ya kuleta Wazungu hapa nchini kuchunguza ufisadi. Mtu ambaye amelala katika nyumba ndiye ajuaye vile hiyo nyumba ilivyo. Hakuna njia nyingine ya kukomesha ufisadi ila tu kuwashtaki watu ambao wamepokea au wametoa hongo. Lakini kama hawa watu wanalindwa na Serikali, hatutaweza kukomesha ufisadi. Hakuna haja ya kuwaleta wageni hapa nchini ili watuonyeshe vile tutakavyokomesha ufisadi. Wafisadi katika nchi hii wanajulikana. Kwa mfano, hata ukienda Narok kwa Mhe. ole Ntimama, na uwaulize Wamaasai wanaochunga ng'ombe ni akina nani ambao ni wafisadi katika nchi hii, watakwambia mara moja. Kwa hivyo, ni vizuri Serikali iache kujifanya eti haijui jambo lo lote kuhusu ufisadi.

Watu wameanza kupendekeza Bunge hili liongezwe muda wa mwaka mmoja au miaka miwili. Wananchi walituchagua tuwatumikie kwa muda wa miaka mitano. Tumeshindwa kuongeza mishahara ya waalimu lakini tumeongeza ya Wabunge, na pia maofisa wakuu wa Serikali wameongezewa mishahara kwa kiwango cha asilimia 600. Waalimu ndio wanaofanya kazi nzuri kuliko watu wengine wote. Huwezi kuwa Rais wa nchi yo yote, Waziri au Mbunge, kama hujapitia kwa mwalimu. Kwa hivyo, ni vizuri tuangalie maslahi ya waalimu. Kama muda wa Bunge hili utaongezwa kwa mwaka mmoja au miaka miwili, nchi hii itaharibika. Ningemuomba Rais wa nchi hii alivunje Bunge hili muda wake ukiisha kwa maana mkataba wetu na wananchi utakuwa umekwisha. Watu wengi hawajali maslahi ya wananchi. Wanazungumza tu lakini hawataki kujua vile wananchi wanavyoishi. Bunge hili linaweza kujiongeza muda wa kukaa bila kujali agano letu na wananchi; la kuwatumikia kwa muda wa miaka mitano.

Ni vizuri Serikali ya Kenya ianze kufikiria mambo mengine na iache kufikiria mambo kama vile ni nani atakayemrithi Rais Moi. Ni vizuri tufikirie mambo ambayo yanawahusu wananchi na vijana wetu. Vijana ambao hawana kazi wamejaa kila mahali. Ni vizuri tuangalie usalama wa watu wetu.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaomba kuunga mkono.

Mr. Kimeto: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

What the hon. Member has already said about the teachers' salary increment is a very important issue which the Government should think about. Teachers are people like any other people in this country and they should be paid well like teachers in other countries. Our teachers were promised that their salaries would be increased way back in 1997. It appears as if this promise was made to lure teachers to vote for KANU in 1997. Teachers have families like everybody else and should be given that salary increment immediately. We should not be talking in this Parliament about this salary increment. We should have implemented the increment a long time ago.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the President could have said something about the teachers' salary increment. When congratulating His Excellency the President, we should also think about the many unemployed Kenyans. We should have a think-tank in this society, which should think about how to create job opportunities. We have a lot of human resources in this country. Why can this House not pass legislations that will enable this country to create job opportunities? If you compare Kenya to, for example, China, which has a population of 1.2 billion people, you will find that the majority of the people of China are employed. Kenya has a population of only 30 million people. If you compare Kenya to Israel, a country with a population of six million people, you will find that Israel has very few unemployed people while in Kenya, the majority of our people are not employed. Why can we not find ways and means of creating job opportunities?

We should create job opportunities in farming. We should encourage our unemployed youths to do farming. We should sink boreholes in dry areas, such as the North Eastern Province, and initiate irrigation schemes for our people. The Suez Canal in Egypt, which was dug about 300 years ago, has provided water for irrigation to the Egyptians and is also used as a means of transport from the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea. Why can we not initiate irrigation schemes in the arid and semi-arid areas and start farming projects for our people? We can even use water from Lake Victoria for irrigation. Our Government has failed to create job opportunities for our people. Whom do we expect to come and initiate irrigation schemes for us, to make us self-reliant in food production?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at the President's Address, you will find that it did not offer any solutions to food insecurity in the country. The rains are approaching and we will have a lot of water running through our land into big water masses. Why can we not initiate projects to store rain water in this country? Why was this not contained in the President's Address? We should harness the rain water so that during drought we can use it to irrigate our farms. Why do we import food into this country while we could produce our own food?

If you look at our roads today, you will find that there are so many imported vehicles. Why can we not industrialise our country and have the manufacturers of these vehicles manufacture them here? This will create employment opportunities. We should not import vehicles into this country, but we should only import raw materials. Many countries do not allow the importation of vehicles. They ask the manufacturers to manufacture vehicles in those countries. This creates job opportunities for the citizens of those countries. If we import fully assembled vehicles, our people will never even know how to assemble them. If we asked manufacturers to come

and manufacture vehicles in our country, our people would get jobs and the technical know-how. But if we continue importing vehicles, our country will never develop.

The other issue I want to talk about is insecurity. I was recently in Israel and Egypt and I found that security is very tight there. We need to recruit more police officers so as to have many of them on our streets. Tourism will be greatly affected by insecurity. Tourists will not come to our country because of insecurity. In Egypt, people walk about safely during the day and at night because the crime rate is very low. After every 100 metres, you can get a policeman. Why do we not emulate that example and have policemen in the same way, so that we know the number of policemen that should be employed?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a requirement that police officers are supposed to be employed at the district level. But if you go there, you will find that those who are employed are brothers and sisters of those who have already been employed! Why do we not allow freedom of employment; where one person from a sub-location is recruited into the police force? If you check the list of those police recruits who are now under training, you would find that they are brothers and sisters of So-and-so, who are already employed in the police force! When will other communities get a chance of having their sons and daughters employed in the police force?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the exercise of selecting students to Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC) is about to be done. Selection of those who are to be trained in KMTC should cover a wide area. We should employ doctors in this country in order to combat diseases which are affecting 30 million people in this country. We cannot compare the number of doctors, nurses and medical officers, with the population of 30 million people in this country. The doctor-patient ratio in this country might be one doctor for one million people. Why do we not employ more doctors to cater for the increasing number of patients in this country? Why do we not train more nurses so that every village is able to combat diseases? How are we going to combat diseases if we do not have nurses in hospitals and even at the village level? How are we going to combat diseases if we are not employing more doctors to treat people affected by diseases?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are courses which have been advertised for KMTC and the applicants are required to pay Kshs500 each. Let me request this Parliament to stop that practice forthwith because students have no money. This Government has suffered so much financially that it is now trying to get money from school leavers who have got no money!

With those remarks, I beg to support.

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

Right from the beginning, as the President stated in his Speech, the country has been fighting illiteracy, poverty and disease. I must agree that the President has been in the forefront in promoting our education. We have so many institutions, universities, teachers' colleges, secondary and primary schools. We have very many graduates coming out of those institutions but, unfortunately, they seem to come out to an unsound economy! We have so many university graduates tarmacking in the streets and we have so many secondary school leavers who cannot join institutions of higher learning.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, such a situation leads to unemployment and, therefore, other evils can creep in, for example, insecurity and so on. If it was possible to co-ordinate education so that people are absorbed into the economy, we would not be having the problem of insecurity as it is now. People have to keep themselves busy. If you keep educated minds idle, definitely, they would find channels for their energy. Some of the undesirable social activities which the unemployed people are getting involved in are, for example, partaking in illicit drinks found all over in the countryside. We may have to blame these people for taking such illicit drinks but, unfortunately, they have nothing better to go for. The effect of taking those illicit drinks is committing of crimes. Our education system seems to have gotten in the right direction up to a certain point. But now we have started educating people without proper planning.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, some parents are not motivated. They fear that once their children perform very well and are admitted to national, provincial and districts schools, they will still lack school fees. So, it is their wish that their children do not perform as well as they would be expected, so, that they do not get embarrassed because they are poor and, therefore, they are unable to support them by paying their school fees. They would wish their children to reach a certain academic level and join them in farming activities.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, teachers have been frustrated since 1997. They have been trying to get the package agreed between them and the Government at that time, but only one phase was implemented. Following that failure to implement the rest of the phases, we have seen teachers demonstrating in the streets; and we have given them support in this Parliament. But, unfortunately, the Government always says that there is no money! According to the Government, yes, possibly there is no money. But we get Budgets being read in this House every year where we would have expected the teachers' remuneration to be catered for. Where do remunerations for other civil servants and Government officers come from? Every expenditure has to be budgeted for! I would like to request this Government, now that they are working on the Budget for 2002/2003, to slot in that little amount required by teachers. If they have been able to review salaries for senior civil servants, surely, they should also get money for the teachers! Teachers are spread out all over the country, especially in the rural areas. Money paid to teachers who are in those areas is spent there and, therefore, it would help boost the growth of the economy. When teachers spend such monies in the rural areas they help to promote small businessmen who are having small kiosks in the villages. Even farmers in the rural areas benefit by having people who buy their farm produce.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to farming, our economy has been ruined! The agricultural sector is no longer performing the way it used to perform! In my own area where we grow coffee, people have changed from growing coffee to other activities. Coffee is being neglected because the Government does not take care of farmers in the marketing of coffee by ensuring that they get their coffee dues.

Farmers in my area also practise dairy farming and, right now, milk is being wasted through hawking and farmers are not getting good returns from dairy farming. Some powder milk has been imported into this country because of poor planning! If we knew what was expected, by looking at our weather conditions and realised that we were not undergoing dry spells, then we should not have allowed importation of powdered milk.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my main concern is that, whereas we raise very important issues here and, even in our DDC meetings, they are never implemented! For example, we passed a Bill here intended to rectify a certain situation; like the Coffee Bill, which was recently passed and is supposed to be enacted during this Session. If it is properly implemented in the right spirit, then we have a chance of reviving the coffee sector.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one area where we have seen the Government trying to implement an Act passed by this Parliament is the District Roads Committee. We have received money to improve roads in our constituencies and our people have really appreciated the effort by this Government. If each constituency received Kshs10 million as agreed, there would have been a lot of improvement on our roads. Unfortunately, this implementation was not done as quickly as expected. So far, each constituency has received not more than Kshs6 million. This money is available because it is supposed to be collected from the Petroleum Levy. I would urge the Minister to release this money before the end of this financial year, so that we can spend it to improve infrastructure in our constituencies. In the same spirit, if all these Bills highlighted in this Speech are enacted into law, then we will definitely see change in our economy.

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

Capt. Ntwiga: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Speech by His Excellency the President. This Speech was well-intended unlike the sentiments expressed by hon. Members on the other side of the House. When the President addresses the House the purpose is for the Front Bench to listen to hon. Members as they contribute to the Speech, so that they can take note. They can also take action by way of implementing and expounding the policies contained in the Presidential Speech.

QUORUM

However, when I look at the Front Bench, I can see it is completely empty. Since you know I am a man of action, and I believe in the implementation of Government policies, I will be wasting my time talking to an empty House. Even the Opposition side is equally empty. I am worried about what we are doing in this House because there is no quorum.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Yes, indeed, there is no quorum. I order that the Division Bell be rung.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): There is a quorum now.
Proceed, Capt. Ntwiga!

Capt. Ntwiga: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very happy that at least there is quorum. I was worried that there were no Ministers on the Front Bench, but now I can see there are some Ministers who can listen to us, so that they can take action. I do not believe in talking to an empty House, because then, there will be no implementation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, most hon. Members have talked about the merger between KANU and NDP. I would like to say that, that merger has made KANU very strong, and we expect the new team to give us better foresight than before, so that this country can flourish in various aspects in the next Parliament. We cannot not avoid politicking because the general elections are about to take place, but I expect that when most of us from the new KANU come back to this House after the general elections, we will concentrate on development matters. It is a well known fact that since multipartyism, we have been politicking all through.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Do you realise that this House is turning into a *busaa* baraza? Everybody is talking!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! You are one of them, Mr. Angwenyi! Sit down!

Capt. Ntwiga: Thank you Mr. Angwenyi.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, since we are approaching the general elections, we cannot avoid politicking because we came here to politick. But as soon as we come back here, and I believe most of us will come back, I would wish that hon. Members stop politicking too much. We should think about developing our country. We should stop wasting time. We have already wasted ten years.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member is supposed to be talking about the Presidential Address during the State opening of the Sixth Session of the Eighth Parliament. Is he in order to begin advising the Ninth Parliament, which is yet to be elected, about how it should conduct its job?

Capt. Ntwiga: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, maybe Mr. Munyasia is worried because he might not come back. But I am a man of foresight and confidence. For that matter, that is why I am addressing the development aspects to be tackled in the next Parliament, because we have wasted a lot of time politicking. For the last ten years, since multipartyism started, we have wasted a lot of resources. There is a lot of unemployment in the countryside, because of politicking day in, day out. We should address issues which can help our people in the rural areas. I believe that the backbone of our economy is in the rural areas and not here. I am aware that I am addressing the Eighth Parliament, but it is important that we look into that aspect. As I have said, I do not want to just do the talking. I hope the Minister in charge of internal security - because two officers were killed the other day - will look into the security aspects of this country. Maybe he has got a lot of work, but he should be attentive and do something about the insecurity in this country as we approach the general elections.

I beg to support.

Mr. O.K. Mwangi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the President's Speech to the House on 12th March. The Speech - as far as I am concerned - seems to be very contradictory and has not set out a specific policy for the way forward, particularly when there is a lot of poverty in the country. Instead of the President highlighting the policies that are going to help this country improve its economy, he contradicted himself. On the one hand he said that we should not depend on our foreign development partners, and that development should be based on Kenyans' efforts, and on the other hand he again said that we should have agreements and improvement of relations with our development partners. This becomes very contradictory.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I decry the stage which was set by the merger elections at Kasarani. I decry it because it looks like the stage is set for rigging of the next general elections. If the Vice-President and the former Secretary-General of KANU could be rigged out of office in daylight, and yet those who rigged the

elections were the ones we expect to guide the next general elections, I fear there will be rigging. I would like to call upon fellow Kenyans to brace themselves, take courage and be watchful, in order for the Opposition to take over the Government at the end of this year, after the general elections, so that we can put this country back on line for prosperity and better governance in the years to come.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are very many omissions in the Presidential Speech which ought to have outlined public policy for this country, particularly during this transition period. This is an election year, and I remember the President saying so. Thank God, it looked like he is prepared to go home, so that he can leave us to set the country alive for prosperity and development. I would like to highlight the fact that the President omitted the question of constitutional review process. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission (CKRC) for the work that they are doing. We expect them to come up with a Constitution that is right for this country. But there is one thing that I fear. When I look at Section 27 of the Constitution of Kenya Review Act, I am worried because the stage has been set where the minority are going to shape the Constitution of this country, and leave out the majority of Kenyans. That section talks about the National Constitutional Conference, which will be the end fora for making the new Constitution. The membership of the National Constitutional Conference emanates from the 70 districts. It is based on the districts which are, themselves, not equal in terms of the population. That means that some districts which have got 50,000 people are required to send three delegates to the National Constitutional Conference, whereas other districts like Nyeri, with more than one million people, will also be required to send three delegates. I wonder what type of democracy is that! We pretend that we are developing democracy when, as we witnessed on Monday, we are a dictatorship! I believe the CKRC will look into that. In fact, that section should be amended, so that the number of delegates should depend on the population, rather than the districts. The districts are not equal and some of them were created for political reasons. I hope that the CKRC will look into that. I am also calling upon Parliament to look into that matter, so that, that section could be amended.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also call upon the Government to look into the teachers salaries. It is ridiculous when we give our children, the backbone of this country, to teachers, and then neglect them and say: "We are not going to pay!" We are hiking salaries for other departments like the Judiciary, Permanent Secretaries, Civil Service and even Parliament, and we are leaving the teachers outside claiming that it is because of the economy! The economy cannot be cited only in the case of teachers. If the economy is bad, we should even think about slashing salaries for Members of Parliament, civil servants and Permanent Secretaries.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about education. This House passed a law in the last Session, stipulating that there should be free and mandatory primary education, as outlined in the Children Bill. The Minister stood up in this House and promised that he would look for finances to fund primary education. When it came to January, I heard the same Minister - unfortunately the House was on recess - say that parents should meet at their schools and decide on how they would finance their schools. The Act did not even talk about the parents meeting anywhere to decide on how to finance education. Even up to now, the Minister is still dilly-dallying about providing free education, when we have said that Kenyan children should have free and compulsory primary education. Today, many children cannot go to school. Even when the parents take them to school and the teachers do not send them home, they stay in schools but they are not taught because there is no chalk, papers and pens. What is the teacher expected to do? On the other hand, we are saying that we are not going to pay them their salaries. So, it is very ridiculous that this House can pass a law and the Minister for Education decides that he is not going to effect that law, when he is a Member of this House! He promised this House that he will look for finances. We requested him to bring in a supplementary request to this House, so that we could allow him to get some money from the Consolidated Fund. What are we doing? That means the Minister is not serious with this House and does not respect the law passed by this house. Therefore---

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

Mr. O.K. Mwangi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Achola: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to say one or two things. I did not intend to speak this afternoon because I have lost my voice, but judging from the number of people who want to talk this afternoon, I think I am not going to miss this opportunity. Therefore I will try, as much as possible, to say one or two things.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I talked about the Presidential Speech last year, I tried to give

the definition of the word "exposition". We are complaining here that the President did not expose anything and there is no exposition as such. I tried to quote the Oxford English Dictionary's definition of exposition. It says: "To expose means to show something that is normally hidden". For example, when you take a skirt up, you can expose something that is normally hidden! Taken to its logical conclusion, the wording of the President's Speech is correct. It meant that he should have gone into great details in trying to explain the Government policy. But I do not think that is what is really meant by the Presidential Speech. It is not supposed to go into the details. He is not supposed to come here and expound everything that the Government has been doing. It is enough for the President to come and mention certain issues that ought to be touched in the ensuing Session.

Nevertheless, let me start my contribution by commending the President for the part that he has played in the establishment of the various universities in this country.

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! Only a few minutes ago you complained! Now, could you, please, consult quietly!

Proceed, Mr. Achola!

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently, the Committee on Education, Research and Technology made an extensive tour of Central Rift, Western and Nyanza regions to inspect all the institutions of higher learning. When we visited Egerton University, what we found there is that, that university is in an appalling state. The university is supposed to accommodate only 4,000 students. But we found out that the university was actually accommodating over 8,000 students. They had no proper accommodation. We found students cooking in their halls of residence; in very tiny rooms. I think we have done well in education and we now have six universities, but they are not quality universities. I would really like to ask the Minister for Education to bring into this House, legislation that will request for finances that will enable the universities to be run properly. For example, if you look at the infrastructure at the Egerton University, there are buildings which were started and some of them are 80 per cent complete, but nothing is happening. Thousands and thousands of shillings had been spent in trying to put up that infrastructure. But the Government abandoned them at that stage. So, for this Government to claim that it has done well on education, is almost begging the question!

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we went further and visited Moi University in Eldoret. Moi University in Eldoret was properly planned. For us, it is the only university which was planned. It was meant to be a proper university. The layout is perfect but again, I think during the 1990/91 madness of trying to get 10 per cent from corrupt practices, they started a massive project, whose cost was going to be in the region of Kshs2.5 billion. But after whoever was involved got his 10 per cent, he forgot about completing the project. If you go in there, you will cry for this country; that a project of that magnitude has been left just to rot. So, really, I would like to appeal to the Minister to seek funds, so that, that project, that is half-done, can actually be completed, so that we do not continue to subject our students to untold difficulties arising from the non-performance of Government contracts. By contrast, when we visited the only private university, that is Baraton University, we saw what proper administration does. It is a wonderful place. In fact, if I had any children that still required to go to university, I would have taken them to Baraton University which is very well managed. That is the kind of institution we need in this country.

On the constitutional review process, let me also talk about the problem of civic education. I would agree with Mr. Anyona, who said here this afternoon that civic education is non-existent and yet so much money has been allocated so that people can be taught about the Constitution on a common syllabus. At the moment, we have not seen anything of that nature. Personally, I do not know why the Commission is going round asking people for views. What views are they asking for when they have not told the people what the constitution is all about? I think Members of Parliament should reject the idea of the Commission going around seeking views because what views will they get from the people when they do not even know what a Constitution is? I speak for my constituents when I say that the people who were appointed to carry out civic education in my constituency are

themselves illiterate. This is a very serious matter. Mr. Kihara Mwangi also said the same thing, that we will just get the views of a few hand-picked people who will talk to the Commission on what was a pre-conceived idea of what the Constitution ought to be. This is not what Kenyans are looking for. We are looking for a home-made Constitution which will arise from the views of the ordinary Kenyans. That is not forthcoming because civic education is not being carried out.

I also want to talk about the performance of our Minister for Agriculture. If the Deputy Leader of Government Business is here he could take up the matter with the Minister for Agriculture. Last year we passed a very important Bill here on Sugar. We talk about poverty eradication. The main economic activity in Western and Nyanza Provinces is sugar cane farming and it is such an important agricultural product for us. We passed here what we thought was a reasonable Act in this House. The Act was supposed to become effective on 1st April and that is a week from now. We have now heard that the Minister wants to renege on that particular Act. I can say with certainty that the people of Western Kenya will put their foot down and the Minister will not get away with it. It is very unfortunate that the Minister tends to listen to the sugar millers, forgetting that it is the farmers who toil on their land to produce the sugar cane.

On agriculture, Mr. Biwott was talking here about the AGOA and cotton growing. What has the Ministry of Agriculture done to assist Kenyans grow quality cotton? Instead, farmers are being issued with fake cotton seeds. When you plant those seeds you just see a plant as tall as this building growing and that is not genuine cotton. In some countries like India, they use their technology to improve their cotton production. This is what they should be telling us now. We should be growing what they call beauty cotton. This will ensure that we get a very efficient way of producing cotton that will assist us in exporting our products to the world market, and to America in particular, so that we can take advantage of the AGOA trade.

It is also true that, if we are not prepared by next year, then Kenyans will not benefit from AGOA. This is one thing that Mr. Biwott has not talked about in here. I wish he was here because---

An hon. Member: He is here!

Mr. Achola: Mr. Biwott, next year as you well know, the AGOA trade is coming to an end. Therefore, if we do not tell our people to start taking advantage of it now, we will not be---

The Minister for Trade and Industry (Mr. Biwott): Tell them for me because I am saying it and I would like to---

Mr. Achola: Mr. Biwott has heard, but I think that---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Achola, could you address the Chair and not Mr. Biwott?

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on pending Bills, I would like to appeal to this House to pass the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Bill in whatever form that it is brought here. Wherever you go, even in Washington you will hear them say: "We hear your country is very corrupt." This country can be a great country. I think we should put our foot down and do something about corruption.

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

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish I could continue. If there are no people who wish to contribute, could I continue?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Achola!

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

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to thank the President for the Speech he made in this House during the State Opening of the Sixth Session of the Eighth Parliament. I would also like to thank him for giving us the lead and showing us the way. He has shown us that he is a visionary leader who is able to lead us even beyond his two presidential terms as stipulated in the Constitution. I want to appreciate what he mentioned in his Speech on poverty levels in this country which will bring a lot of problems in terms of security and the way we live. Right now our teachers are really pressurising this Parliament so that they can be paid their salary increment. At the moment we are carrying out Harambees for civil servants who earn meagre salaries so that they can educate their children. The poverty level in this country has become high.

On the agricultural sector, I really sympathise with the farmers of this country. Farmers, especially the dairy, maize and wheat farmers, are so discouraged by the fact that the production cost is higher than the cost of

purchase by the National Cereals and Produce Board. This is discouraging the farmers and we will soon have famine because our farmers will not produce any crops. The importation of maize into this country should actually be banned. If this is done, we will be able to use the maize that we grow locally in the flour mills and sustain the livelihoods of most Kenyans. I think the dairy sector was liberalised before the farmers were prepared. We have a lot of dairies which are exploiting the farmers. When you are told not to milk your cow on Sunday, because the dairies do not work on that particular day, you really wonder what you will do with that milk.

We are now being controlled by Asians who have gone into the dairy industry and have destroyed the farmer. In fact, we do not say any more that we are progressing in the dairy industry. What we really need is to bring back our KCC which has served us well. We can do this as long as we keep off the looters who have mismanaged the KCC. In fact, they should have been charged in a court of law. Some of them were managers and they are even Members of this House. It is a big shame! The farmers are suffering because of a few greedy individuals in this country. We really need to charge them in a court of law so that they can account for the lost funds of the farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President highlighted the need for unity in this country and he has demonstrated that. His demonstration of unity is the revamping of KANU with new leadership and blood. I want to borrow a phrase which was used yesterday by my colleague, hon. Shidiye, that there are some tired leaders in this country. We really want to have visionary leaders even on the Opposition side. We want to have leaders of parties who are young; like hon. Ndicho. However, if we are still going to be led by some other people who---

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Sirma, do you want to be informed?

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to be informed!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Munyasia, your point of information is rejected. Proceed, hon. Sirma!

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope these leaders will rejuvenate their parties because KANU is now a rejuvenated party and it is able to serve the interests of the young in this country.

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Assistant Minister to talk about new leadership when he knows that President Moi can provide brilliant leadership even at the age of 80 years?

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think hon. Gatabaki did not get my point. However, I think he is worried because he saw Mr. Magugu on television and he is worried about this. So, I sympathise with you because you are worried about your seat.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the formidable force which we have in the New KANU party---

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Assistant Minister in order to say that the former Member of Parliament for Githunguri, Mr. Magugu, is a KANU member when, in fact, he is the Chairman of the Labour Party of Kenya?

(Applause)

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Magugu is a KANU delegate. He was in Kasarani, voted with us, and has rejuvenated KANU.

(Applause)

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, hon. Munyasia! Let us be serious. If you are coming up with a point of order, let it be a point of order.

Proceed, hon. Munyasia!

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Member in order to talk of KANU as a new party when we know it is still the same racist party, because it is the only party in this country that is for

Africans only since it excludes others? The other parties are FORD(K), DP *et cetera*, but KANU is for Africans only. What is new about this racist party?

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think hon. Munyasia does not understand that he is also an African because KANU is a party for Africa and Kenya in particular. So long as you are inside Kenya, you are part of KANU.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, turning to the registration of voters exercise, I would like to urge the Office of the President to hasten the production of national identity cards. It has taken too long for the youth to have identity cards. Some of my potential voters were registered for identity cards in October last year but they have not received them to date. I would like to urge the Office of the President and the Registrar of Persons to expedite that issue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to join my colleagues who have talked about the constitutional review process. In my constituency, civic education has not been carried out. I do not even know when they will set a date for this exercise to be carried out in my constituency.

(Applause)

There is need for them to look for other ways of carrying out civic education. We are not satisfied at all with the present method of carrying out civic education in my constituency.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the President for giving a foresight of the Bills which will come before this House. There is the Water Bill which we shall discuss. It talks about water provision to the Kenyan population. The Ministry in charge of Water Development should be addressing the supply of water to hospitals. You will find a spanner boy turning off the water taps leading to a hospital denying services to the sick in that hospital. This is so sad because you are punishing somebody because of the laxity of an individual who has not paid a water bill. We want free water supplied to the district hospitals and the like.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in conclusion, I would like to ask hon. Members of this House to be united as we draw closer to the end of the Eighth Parliament, and we need one another, so that we may push this country far much ahead.

I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Kitur): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Speech. Before I continue, I would like to thank His Excellency the President for having appointed me as an Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is really hurting when we talk of poverty in this country particularly to the rural folk. Our people are really suffering and the only way we can cut down this poverty is to provide some of our people with rural electrification programmes so that our *Jua Kali* personnel can be able to do some business in their enterprises.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, turning to the tea industry, you will find that nearly all the roads in our constituencies are in bad shape particularly those in tea growing areas. Our tea does not reach the factories. The same thing happens to our milk because KCC has collapsed. This is why the KCC has not been able to pay the farmers to date. Something should be done to revive it so that our farmers can be paid.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, turning to the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB), you will find that maize farmers have not been paid for their produce. The Kshs200 million that was recently received is not enough to pay the farmers and they will continue to suffer as a result of this shortage of funds. If my friends from the Opposition could have supported us---

I beg to support.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, hon. Members! Hon. Kitur will continue next week. Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business this afternoon. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 26th March, 2002 at 2.30 p.m. The House rose at 6.30 p.m.