

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## OFFICIAL REPORT

**Tuesday, 6th August, 2002**

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

*[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]*

## PRAYERS

## PAPER LAID

The following Paper was laid on the Table:-

Annual Report and Accounts of the Kenya Dairy Board for the Year ended 30th June, 2000 and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

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

## NOTICE OF MOTION

### ADOPTION OF FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT ON TOUR OF RUSSIA

**Mr. Musila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-  
THAT, this House adopts the report of the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations, on the visit to Russia, laid on the Table of the House, on Tuesday, 6th August, 2002.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, Mr. Musila! Have you laid any Paper on the Table?

**Mr. Musila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I assumed that the Paper had been laid. But I have the Paper with me here.

**Mr. Speaker:** But you cannot give notice of Motion without laying the Paper on the Table! So, try again tomorrow! Everything you have said so far, has been nullified!

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*Question No.458*

### WILDLIFE MENACE IN KIBWEZI

**Mr. Mboko** asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) whether he is aware that wild animals have killed and injured people in Kibwezi Constituency without intervention by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS);

(b) whether he is also aware that domestic animals have also been killed while food crops have been destroyed; and,

(c) what urgent measures he is taking to safeguard the people and their property.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware.

(b) I am aware that only two livestock death cases have been reported to KWS.

(c) Patrols by rangers have been stepped up in the area.

**Mr. Mboko:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish this Question was being answered by another person. The Minister who is answering my Question does not take matters seriously when he comes to this House. This is a matter of concern when a Minister in the Office of the President stands up here and says "I am not aware." This matter has been

reported and recorded in the police Occurrence Book!

**Mr. Speaker:** Are you turning it into a Motion now?

**Mr. Mboko:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently, three members of one family were killed by an elephant. As late as June this year, a village elder who served in the Office of the President was killed by a wild animal. Is he not aware of all those happenings?

**Mr. Nassir:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is doing his job very well by asking this Question. By so doing, his people will appreciate that he is doing something for them. But the best way to do this thing is to give the names of the people who died, the number of cows that have died and where they died. But the best method is to report to our KWS offices. That would serve him and his people well.

**Mr. Mwalulu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, last month, a boy was trampled upon by a rogue elephant in Taveta and was admitted in hospital. Yesterday, a case was reported in Voi, where a boy was killed by a rogue elephant.

Is the Minister aware that elephants have become a menace and, therefore, public enemy number one? What is he doing about that?

**Mr. Nassir:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have game rangers all over the place. If anything has happened in his area, he should report to the local KWS offices. But if nothing has been done, he should report it to me. If I have the names and the number of those people who have died, then I will address that problem straightaway!

**Mr. Angwenyi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Minister confirm whether the amounts we raised as compensation for deaths and injuries to people have been effected as from 1st July, 2001?

**Mr. Nassir:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that.

**Mr. Mboko:** If the Minister is not aware, I want to inform him that a Mrs. Kitavu of Kikumbulyu Location, with her two grandchildren, were killed in February. At the same time, a village elder at Kithasyu Village, in Utithi Location of Kibwezi Division and the late Mr. Mwanzia, were killed by an elephant. Those people were very important to their families and yet, no action has been taken by the Government to compensate those people fully, and to curb the wildlife menace in that area.

**Mr. Nassir:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the duty of any Member of Parliament to ask Questions and also to get replies.

**Mr. Mboko:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You heard what the Minister said. He has said that it is the duty of Members of Parliament to ask Questions. Is it not our duty to ask Ministers Questions and for them to answer those Questions?

**Mr. Nassir:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my duty is to reply to Questions. Wardens from Tsavo National Park have been deployed to carry out patrols at Mtito-Andei, Kaskani, Darajani, Ngutwa, Kibwezi, Malindi, Mbui Nzau and Kiboko areas, and any animal threatening human life will be shot.

#### *Question No. 447*

#### INSTALLATION OF STD FACILITIES IN MUTITO

**Mr. Kitonga** asked the Minister for Transport and Communications:-

(a) when he will install a Subscriber Trunk Dialling (STD) facility at Mutito, Sombe and Endau Locations of Mutito Constituency; and,

(b) when he will provide telephone facilities in Mwitika Division of Voo Location of Mutito Constituency.

**The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications** (Mr. Keah) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Telkom Kenya Limited has no immediate plans to install a STD facility in Mutito, Sombe and Endau Locations of Mutito Constituency because the demand, compared to the cost of such installations is not high enough. However, Telkom Kenya Limited will review this situation as soon as demand and revenue turnover from the three stations improve.

(b) Mwitika Division and Voo Location have no telephone services due to lack of demand. However, Telkom Kenya Limited is continuously considering the provision of the services and equipment to be installed in the area as long as demand improves.

**Mr. Kitonga:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a pity that Telkom Kenyan Limited does not intend to provide telephone facilities in Mutito Constituency, considering that it is a bandit-prone area. Furthermore, I am surprised that the Assistant Minister says that there is no demand for telephones facilities. I thought, as the elected Member for Mutito Constituency, I was demanding that facility on behalf of my 50,000 constituents. What kind of demand does the Assistant Minister require?

**Mr. Keah:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am talking about economic demand where the returns justify the investment. I am not talking about the hon. Member demanding the installation of telephone facilities regardless of commercial viability.

**Mr. Mboko:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is common knowledge that some parts of Ukambani, especially Kitui District, have completely been ignored with regard to the provision of telephone services. Even where there are a lot of applicants, we have been ignored, maybe, because of our political stand! What action is the Assistant Minister taking to ensure that those areas, which have been neglected, are provided with telephone services?

**Mr. Keah:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of the many applications the hon. Member is talking about. I can give him the statistics that I have here. For example, Mutito has an exchange capacity of 70 lines; nine of those lines have been connected, 12 are in the process of being connected and the present demand, therefore, is 21 lines compared to a capacity of 70 lines.

Sombe has a capacity of 70 lines and only four have been taken; Endau has an uninstalled capacity of 70 lines, and only two lines have been taken up. What more can Telkom Kenya Limited do in such circumstances?

**Mr. Gitonga:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister not aware that people are not interested in those lines where they have to go through operators? This is because, if one books a call, it takes more than one hour to go through. People have no time to waste waiting for such bookings! People are interested in STD services, and not telephone services where they have to go through the operator. That is the reason why they have not taken the lines which are available.

**Mr. Keah:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that, but you cannot run before you are able to walk. We have to instal lines at low costs! At the moment, we have an installation worth Kshs61 million, but the revenue per annum is only Kshs288,000; it is not just worth it!

**Mr. Kitonga:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Assistant Minister to let this House know whether Mwitika Town, being a divisional headquarters where there is a district officer; an education officer, and so many schools, does not deserve to be provided with telephone services? Why can he not provide telephone services to Mwitika Division, if he is not ready to provide STD services to Mutito?

**Mr. Keah:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought I answered that question by saying that, as soon as we receive adequate applications from Voo Location, we will certainly review the situation and instal telephone lines to the divisional headquarters, education office *et cetera*. But it cannot just be two consumers to be served; it has got to be a number of consumers. I would like to suggest that the hon. Member actually collect, if he can, those names and I will facilitate the process, through the Managing Director, Telkom Kenya Limited. If he can prove that there is that demand, through those applications, I will work with him to ensure that the Managing Director and the Corporation do all they can in order to provide those services.

**Mr. Kitonga:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I do not understand what the Assistant Minister is saying! Is he in order to tell me to go and collect the applications? Does he want me to abandon my work as a Member of Parliament, and then become a post office officer to go and collect the forms? Be serious, Mr. Keah!

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Keah:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am as serious as I can be. He is the one who asked the Question. I did not tell him to ask the Question! I am only offering a service to him, and it is up to him to mobilize his people so that they can apply for the services. That is all I am suggesting! If he is not interested in those services, he can as well just sit back and enjoy himself!

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. The following two Questions have been deferred.

*Question No.443*

PROVISION OF ELECTRICITY TO MUTITO

*(Question deferred)*

*Question No.435*

RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR MR. ABDI

*(Question deferred)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Wamunyinyi's Question!

*Question No.438*

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS TO

## FORMER KCC EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Speaker:** Is Mr. Wamunyinyi not here?

**An hon. Member:** He is not here!

**Mr. Speaker:** Next Question, Capt. Ntwiga!

*Question No.433*

## UPGRADING OF ROADS IN MERU SOUTH

**Capt. Ntwiga** asked the Minister for Roads and Public Works:-

(a) whether he is aware that Meru South District has only twenty (20) kilometres of Class C Road (C92);

(b) whether he could consider upgrading roads D471, D472, D473 and D474 which link the neighbouring districts; and,

(c) what happened to the 24 per cent Fuel Levy funds meant for class C Road and for those listed in part "b" above.

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

(a) I am only aware that Meru South District has a 13-kilometre stretch of Class C Road, which is part of the (90)-kilometre Ena-Nkubu Road, C92.

(b) The Ministry is currently undertaking a national roads inventory and re-classification exercise, and the upgrading of roads; D471, D472, D473, and D474 will be considered along with others, which will meet Class C requirements.

(c) The 24 per cent Fuel Levy Fund - set aside for periodic maintenance of Classes D and E, special purpose roads in districts - was spent by the Ministry in gravelling the Kibugua-Itugururu-Ishiara Bridge Road (D471/E752), in Meru South District, in the 2001/2002 financial year.

**Capt. Ntwiga:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reason for asking this Question is that my constituency is hilly, with many permanent rivers. You have heard the Assistant Minister say that Road C92, in my constituency, is only 13 kilometres long, and not 20 kilometres long as I have claimed in this Question. Be that as it may, my request to him is to consider upgrading the "D" class roads in the constituency, so that they can also benefit from the funding of class "C" roads. How long is the inventory-taking and road re-classification exercise going to take, so that the assistance I have asked for can be given to my constituency?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the road in question is 13 kilometres long, and not 20 kilometres. I agree with the hon. Member that roads in that area need to be re-classified. I would like to assure him that the inventory-taking and road re-classification exercise will be complete by the end of September, 2002.

**Mr. Kombe:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell the House when the 24 per cent of the Fuel Levy Fund will reach the districts?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, last week, you directed me to bring to this House a report on the 24 per cent of the Fuel Levy Fund by tomorrow. So, I will bring the information tomorrow.

**Mr. Khamasi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, for a very long time, class "D" roads in this country have not been graded. So, could the Assistant Minister tell us what programme his Ministry has in place to ensure that class "D" roads are graded on a regular basis?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure the House that my Ministry has plans to carry out maintenance on these roads on a regular basis.

**Mr. Speaker:** Could you ask the last question, Capt. Ntwiga?

**Capt. Ntwiga:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part (c) of the Question, I expected the Assistant Minister to tell the House what he is doing to ensure that the 24 per cent of the Fuel Levy Fund, for the previous and the current financial year reaches every district countrywide for the purpose of maintaining roads, as passed by this House.

So, could he tell us what happened to the 24 per cent the Fuel Levy Fund for the last financial year? Did he use the funds to clear some pending bills?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has not been listening. I said that I will table the details regarding the Fuel Levy Fund tomorrow, as directed by you last week.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. Next Question!

*Question No.308*

## COMPENSATION FOR LAND ACQUIRED BY KR

**Mr. P.K. Mwangi** asked the Minister for Lands and Settlement:-

- (a) whether he could explain how Kenya Railways Corporation acquired Title Deed No. LOC.17 Saba Saba/1357, measuring 18.6 acres, reserved for construction of Saba Saba Railway Station; and,  
 (b) when the Government will compensate the people whose land was taken away for the project in "a" above.

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

(a) Plot L.R. LOC.17 Saba-Saba/1357, measuring 18.6 acres, is registered in favour of Trust Lands Board, Murang'a County Council, which is a public body. This was the first registration after an adjudication process. So, the said land could not have been taken away from anybody.

(b) Arising from the reply to "a" above, the issue of compensation does not arise.

**Mr. P.K. Mwangi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this land was taken away from its owners after Independence, following a land adjudication process. The owners were ordered to quit and promised that they would be compensated for the displacement. Since the said land was initially registered under Murang'a County Council Trust Lands Board, could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that it had been reserved for the construction of Saba Saba Railway Station?

**Mr. Sudi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have clarified that the land in question was, as of 1st June, 1961 registered in favour of Murang'a County Council Trust Lands Board. I further explained that this was the first registration after an adjudication process. The land was set aside by a committee during the adjudication process. It is, therefore, inconceivable that the said land was taken away from the people, the same having been reserved for a public project. So, the issue of compensating people who were allegedly ordered to quit the land does not arise. The land is not registered in the name of the Kenya Railways Corporation. However, there is an agreement for a right of way registered in favour of the Corporation.

**Mr. Muchiri:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, before Independence, the land in question belonged to freedom fighters. It was taken away by the colonial government merely because its owners were *Mau Mau* fighters. So, since the land is registered in favour of Murang'a County Council, could it be returned to its original owners, who were *Mau Mau* freedom fighters?

**Mr. Sudi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, Murang'a County Council belongs to the people of Murang'a District. So, the question of the said land being returned to its owners does not arise.

**Mr. Speaker:** The last question, Mr. P.K. Mwangi!

**Mr. P.K. Mwangi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that the said land is registered in the name of Murang'a County Council, and given that the Council is owned by the people of Murang'a District, could the Assistant Minister undertake to return the land to the people of Murang'a for the purpose of settling squatters? Since the Kenya Railways Corporation is insolvent - it is even renting out its premises, including those in Nairobi - could the Assistant Minister consider re-allocating the said land to the people of Murang'a District?

**Mr. Sudi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I sympathise with my colleague. Since the land belongs to Murang'a County Council, I would advise the hon. Member to approach the Council and discuss his idea with it. The land in question is not under my Ministry's jurisdiction. So, unless the request to re-allocate the land to the people comes from the Council, there is nothing my Ministry can do.

#### *Question No.302*

#### DETERMINATION OF COMB BOOKS/ICDC CASE

**Mr. Munyao** asked the Attorney-General:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Case No.HCC 4041 of 1990, Nairobi, Comb Books Limited versus Industrial and Commercial Development Corporation (ICDC), has been in court for the last 24 years and has not been determined to date; and,

(b) whether he could investigate and direct that the matter be heard without further delay.

**The Attorney-General** (Mr. Wako): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Civil Case No.HCC 4041 of 1990, Comb Books Limited versus ICDC, has been pending in court for the last 12 years, and not 24 years as suggested in the Question.

(b) The delay in determining the case has been caused by advocates of both parties, and not by the court.

**Mr. Munyao:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am aware that Mathematics is not a mandatory subject for lawyers and it may be a problem for the Attorney-General to do a simple calculation. This case was filed in court in 1978, and from 1978 to 2002 is a period of exactly 24 years. However, could the Attorney-General tell the House why this case was

taken back to court? This case was heard by Justice Shields on 14th November, 1990 and I will read out part of the judgement that was delivered:-

"The assets and the undertaking of the company which, according to uncontradicted effort of the defendant, amounted to over Kshs21 million--- The receivers took possession of these assets".

If Justice Shields cleared M/s Comb Books Ltd. and said that it was not a debtor at all, why was the case taken back to court?

**Mr. Wako:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the case, the subject matter of this Question, was filed in court in 1990. Therefore, it has taken 12 years. Mr. Munyao has referred to a previous case between the parties, Civil Case No.2016/1981. But in that case, the Industrial and Commercial Development Corporation (ICDC) was the claimant and Justice Shields dismissed the claim. That is why the current plaintiff was properly advised that, if he had any claim against the ICDC, then he should file a suit. If he had been properly advised at that time, he ought to have filed a counter-claim in the first case. But he never filed a counter-claim. He was properly advised to file a case in 1990. It is the case that was filed in 1990 which is the plaintiff's claim that has not been heard due to the conduct of the advocates for both parties.

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you know, Prof. Ghai has been subjected to a lot of criticism for terming our Judiciary "lethargic". Twelve years is a long time. The Attorney-General has admitted that the case has taken 12 years in court. So, I am saying that even 12 years is a long time for the courts not to dispose of a case. We appointed the Commissioner of Assize to deal with the backlog of cases.

Could the Attorney-General explain to the House why this case has taken 12 years? What immediate steps are being taken to ensure that the matter is speedily disposed of?

**Mr. Wako:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Member knows - he is a lawyer and the Shadow Attorney-General of the Democratic Party of Kenya - this is a civil case and parties in civil cases are supposed to prosecute their cases diligently.

First of all, we are all aware that there are delays in courts, but I can assure this House that the Judiciary, headed by the Chief Justice, is addressing squarely issues of delays in the hearing of civil cases. But as far as this particular case is concerned, the delay is purely attributed to the advocates of both parties. I have a schedule here showing who asked for adjournments. On some occasions, both advocates were absent when the case came up for hearing. On other occasions, the defendant's advocate was absent and on other occasions, the plaintiff's advocate was absent. It is a long schedule. So, in this particular case, the delay is squarely attributable, not to the courts, but to the advocates of both parties.

**Mr. Ndicho:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, justice delayed is justice denied. The occurrence of cases being delayed in courts all over the country has become common. Kenyans are really suffering because their cases go to courts, take ten, 15 or 20 years without being determined.

What action is the Attorney-General considering to take to ensure that cases are determined within the shortest period possible to ensure that justice is not delayed? Many people die without their cases having been determined. This is a general thing all over the country. The Attorney-General should not hide behind the issue of private prosecution. What will he do to reduce the backlog of cases?

**Mr. Wako:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as regards the general issue of delay in the hearing of cases, the Judiciary is taking many actions. First, Parliament increased the establishment of the number of Judges by 20. Extra Judges are being appointed and some have already been appointed.

Secondly, the Judicial Service Commission has increased the establishment of magistrates by over 100. Thirdly, various divisions of the High Court have been established. We now have the Commercial Court, which specialises in hearing commercial cases, the Family Division which specialises in the hearing of family cases and the Criminal Division which specialises in the hearing criminal cases. We also have a committee, namely, the Expeditious Disposal of Cases Committee, chaired by a member of the Judiciary, to which the Law Society of Kenya is a member and is well represented on the committee.

We also have the Legal Sector Reform Committee, chaired by Justice Omolo, which is now trying to source for funding to computerise the entire Judiciary, and introduce the recording of proceedings in courts because taking of longhand notes by Judges also causes delays. But delays can also be caused by the conduct of the advocates, both for the plaintiff and the defendant. If the advocates are not ready to proceed expeditiously and diligently with the hearing of the cases, the courts' hands are tied in the hearing of those cases.

Delays are caused by many reasons, but I would like to appeal to the advocates, in particular, to ensure that their cases are heard expeditiously and diligently, particularly if they act for the plaintiff.

**Mr. Munyao:** Mr. Speaker, the Attorney-General has gone round in circles. He has confused and misled the House. The question here is very explicit: When will this case be determined? The Attorney-General has put the blame on advocates for both parties. So many people have been requested to intervene in this case, including the Head of

State. The advocates have even gone to see the Attorney-General.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, Mr. Munyao! Are you by any chance, implying that matters before court must be influenced by other persons and Parliament?

**Mr. Munyao:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will pardon me because I am not a lawyer. I have not tried to imply that matters before court must be influenced by other persons. The Attorney-General is aware of the efforts made by Dr. Mailu to recover the money he lost through M/s Comb Books Ltd. He lost Kshs21 million, which is a lot of money. We need intellectuals to write books and export intelligence. Could the Attorney-General intervene so that this case may be determined?

**Mr. Wako:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true, indeed, that hon. Musyoka, who is seated here, when he was the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, came to see me on this case. I explained to him and he fully appreciated that the Attorney-General has no powers whatsoever to intervene in civil cases between private parties.

But what is not in dispute is that after I advised that the plaintiff's advocates should diligently prosecute this case in 1995, the matter was fixed for hearing on 22nd and 23rd February, 1996. But on those two dates, the advocates for both parties were absent and, therefore, the case could not proceed to hearing. Then the case was fixed again for hearing on 28th and 29th March, 2000. Again, it could not proceed to hearing because the plaintiff's advocate was absent. So, the case has been fixed twice for hearing since 1995 and, on one occasion, both advocates were not present and on the other occasion, the plaintiff's advocate was not present. Therefore, the case could not go on.

I am, therefore, taking this opportunity to appeal to both advocates to be ready so that the case can proceed for hearing on 14th and 15th October, 2002.

**Mr. Katuku:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I do not know whether you heard what hon. Munyao said. Mr. Munyao said that this case has been interfered with by the Head of State. Could he substantiate or withdraw that remark?

**Mr. Speaker:** Did he do that?

**Hon. Members:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Munyao:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that several appeals have been made to the Attorney-General and even to the President. These appeals have been made in writing, by seeing them physically, over tea, on several occasions. I just mentioned that. I asked the Attorney-General to say why he cannot complete this case. I thank him for fixing the hearing dates on 14th and 15th October, 2002.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! I think I must put this issue in its correct perspective so that you do not bog the House down with matters which can be sorted out elsewhere. Matters of civil litigation, ordinarily, must be dealt with by the parties themselves or the aggrieved party; particularly the defendant. If a plaintiff does not prosecute the case, the defendant may go ahead and call for its dismissal. If the defendant does not turn up, the plaintiff can proceed *ex parte*. So, in matters where advocates are concerned, and they have these matters in their charge and they are paid for it, then it is their business to prosecute the cases in accordance with the wishes of their clients. So, can we minimise this turning of this House into an advocate of one party or the other? I will be very reluctant to allow this!

Next Question by Mr. Wamunyinyi for the second time! Mr. Wamunyinyi is not here? Question dropped!

**Hon. Members:** Here he is!

**Mr. Wamunyinyi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for coming late---

**Mr. Speaker:** What are you saying?

**Mr. Wamunyinyi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for coming late.

**Mr. Speaker:** So, what do I do with the Question that I have just dropped?

**Mr. Wamunyinyi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you cannot drop it when I am here!

**Mr. Speaker:** Okay, Mr. Wamunyinyi. Now that you are on your feet, proceed!

*(Several Members pointed at Mr. Wamunyinyi)*

Order, Members! Mr. Wamunyinyi, why are your friends pointing fingers at you? What have you done?

**Mr. Wamunyinyi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I came late and---

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Okay! Go ahead!

*Question No.438*

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS TO  
FORMER KCC EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Wamunyinyi** asked the Minister for Labour:-

- (a) whether he is aware that former employees of the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) have not been paid their terminal benefits although they were forcibly retrenched in August, 1999; and,
- (b) what urgent measures he is taking to ensure that their dues are paid.

**The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development** (Mr. Chanzu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware.

(b) I am unable to take any action at this stage since the joint receivers have not completed the sale of the company's assets.

**Mr. Wamunyinyi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government has a responsibility to ensure that the welfare of Kenyans, who were working for KCC, is looked into. We have prominent personalities who are alleged to have stolen a lot of money from KCC and this has been confirmed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister pursue these prominent personalities and recover monies which should be paid to the former employees of KCC?

**Mr. Chanzu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever is going on is within the law. We are waiting for the report of the receiver managers so that we can take further action.

**Mr. Kamolleh:** Bw. Spika, kwa vile ambavyo mhe. Wamunyinyi amesema kwamba kuna watu mashuhuri ambao wanadaiwa pesa na KCC na wana pesa nyingi ambazo zinaweza kufukuliwa na zikatumiwa kuwalipa hawa watu ambao wamefanya kazi siku nyingi na hawajalipwa, Waziri Msaidizi anaweza kuwafuata na atuambie ni akina nani ili waweze kuaibika na walipe hawa watu ambao hawana nguvu kama zao?

**Mr. Chanzu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will do that through the joint receiver managers.

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, since we know that a firm that takes over the assets of another firm that is being wound up should either take the former employees on board or pay them, could the Assistant Minister tell us how many employees we are talking about here and what is the amount involved?

**Mr. Chanzu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have the full list of the employees who are affected by this issue. However, all I know is that the joint receiver managers retrenched all the former KCC employees on 20th August, 1999 and each of the affected employees was paid as follows: Kshs4,000 as provided by the Company Act; one month's salary in lieu of notice and then leave and travelling allowance.

**Mr. Wamunyinyi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, since I understand that the KCC was bought by some new owners and some of the assets belonging to the old KCC were inherited by the new KCC, could the Assistant Minister consider involving those new owners and the old owners to ensure that funds are raised to pay those employees who worked for the old KCC because I understand that some prominent people are involved in the new KCC?

**Mr. Chanzu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to once again assure the House that we will consider that request once the receiver managers complete their report.

**Mr. Angwenyi:** KCC is killing our people!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! If you wish to proceed with the issue, look at Standing Order No.17.

### QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

#### RECRUITMENT OF MILITARY OFFICERS FROM BURA

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that military recruitment officers did not recruit young men and women from Bura Constituency on 26th June, 2002?

(b) Is he further aware that, for the last ten years, no officers from the area have been recruited into the disciplined forces?

(c) What urgent measures is he taking to rectify this anomaly including revoking of the exercise of 26th June, 2002, and conducting fresh recruitment in Tana River District?

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did undertake to give the names of the nine persons, and more details, with regard to this recruitment exercise. This information is not yet



available to me and I could avail it tomorrow.

*(Loud consultations)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, hon. Members! Allow me to follow what the Assistant Minister is saying!

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did undertake to make some information available; names and the number of the people who were recruited from various places. That information is being worked on and it will be ready by tomorrow.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well! Mr. M.A. Galgalo, can we have it tomorrow?

**Mr. M.A. Galgalo:** It is okay, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Question is deferred to tomorrow.

*(Question deferred)*

Next Question, Mr. Murungi!

#### MEASURES TO STREAMLINE COFFEE MARKETING

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that farmers in Meru District have refused to release their coffee for sale because they are waiting for registration of Mukema Limited, as a coffee marketing agency?

(b) When will he publish the Coffee (General) Rules to enable the Coffee Board of Kenya to register new marketing agents?

(c) What steps has he taken to establish the Coffee Development Fund, to stabilise prices in the country?

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

(a) I am aware that permanent coffee marketing agents shall soon be registered according to law. Now that the Coffee (General) Rules are published, Mukema Limited will be considered accordingly.

(b) The procedures for registering and licensing coffee marketing agents are spelt out clearly in the Coffee Act, 2001, and the Coffee (General) Rules 2002, already published and gazetted.

(c) The Coffee Board of Kenya (CBK), the parent Ministry and other interested parties, will work out the modalities of how to raise the required funds and how they will be administered.

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an urgent matter. As you know, coffee farmers in Meru are living in abject poverty because of the destruction of the coffee industry. We are very lucky that coffee production has increased three times this year. Unfortunately, farmers have refused to release this coffee to the market, because most of the coffee released in the past has been stolen. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House when they are going to register Mukema Marketing Agency, which is controlled by the Meru and Embu people?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmers have said they are not going to release their coffee to any person other than their marketing agency, which is Mukema Limited. How soon is it going to be registered so that this coffee can be released to the market?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said in part "b", that the reasons why members of Mukema Coffee Co-operative Society refused to deliver their coffee was because they were waiting for the Coffee (General) Rules to be published. They have already been published and gazetted. They are at liberty to register that co-operative society any time.

**Mr. Murungi:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has not understood the question because he is talking about Mukema Co-operative Society while Mukema Limited is a marketing agency. When will this marketing agency be registered so that it can receive and sell the coffee from Meru? It is not a co-operative society.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the Minister who registers coffee marketers?

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the new Coffee Act, Section 13, the Minister has the power to issue general directions and directives to be obeyed by the Coffee Board of Kenya. What steps is he making to ensure that this marketing agency is registered because that coffee needs to be brought to the market?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have heard that the role of the Assistant Minister is to give directives

and instructions for a marketing agency to be registered. They have not asked the Assistant Minister to give those directions. If they have asked or applied and they have been refused, then the Minister will come in.

**Mr. Mwiraria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, under part "c", the Assistant Minister was asked specifically: "What steps has he taken to establish the Coffee Development Fund?" When we were discussing the Bill, we made it very clear that most of the coffee farmers throughout the country are very poor. They have neglected their coffee. We needed a fund so that they can be helped to rehabilitate the coffee and improve coffee growing. What steps has the Assistant Minister taken?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Ministry, which is the parent Ministry for co-operative societies, and the Coffee Board of Kenya, currently together with all interested parties and stakeholders are working out modalities of how to raise the funds and how they will be utilised.

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a matter of fact, the Coffee Development Fund is established by the Coffee Act, but the Assistant Minister has not published the rules for which elections to the Fund can take place. Could he tell the House when the rules governing the elections of the trustees of the Fund are going to be published so that farmers can elect those trustees?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as soon as the modalities have been worked out, and I would like to promise that it will be soon---

**Mr. Michuki:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead this House when he has already instructed the Coffee Board of Kenya not to register more than three marketing agents?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that fact.

*(Several hon. Members stood up  
in their places)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order, hon. Members! Time up! Mr. Raila, I will give you half a minute!

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS TO CKRC

**The Minister for Energy** (Mr. Raila): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to issue the following Statement. In accordance with Section 15(5-7) of the Constitution of Kenya Review (Amendment) Act, 2000, the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Constitution Review has nominated the following two candidates to replace the late Dr. Ooki Ooko Ombaka:-

- (i) Dr. Adronico Adede
- (ii) Prof. Joseph Nyasani.

The names will be forwarded to His Excellency the President to appoint one of them as a commissioner.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well!

Next Order!

## COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

## MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 46 - Ministry of Tourism and Information

**The Minister for Tourism and Information** (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. Speaker, do now leave the Chair.

I want to initiate debate on Vote 46 for the Ministry of Tourism and Information. As the hon. Minister for Finance pointed out in his Budget Speech for the fiscal year 2002/2003, the theme of this year's Budget is Efficient Resource Mobilisation and Utilisation for Accelerated Economic Recovery. In line with the theme, the Minister highlighted some of the serious challenges to overcome in revamping the economy and these do include the following:

1. Restoring the physical infrastructure to lower the cost of doing business and enable economic activity to pick up.
2. Restoring security, the rule of law and prompt delivery of justice.
3. Promotion and restoration of the image of Kenya as the premier and safe tourist destination.
4. Rebuilding the tourism infrastructure to reclaim the high-yielding upscale tourists.

As the hon. Members will agree, achievement of the above objectives will also pave way for growth in both the tourism and information sectors. In turn, this growth will contribute substantially in accelerating recovery of the economy. It is particularly worth noting that while the economic growth rose from a rate of -0.2 per cent in 2000 to register 1.2 per cent growth last year, tourism receipts alone grew by 26 per cent in returns from Kshs19 billion to Kshs24 billion over the same period. This pushed tourism to the second position in terms of foreign exchange earnings.

*[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]*

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in addition, whereas the national economy is estimated to grow at the rate of 2 per cent in 2002, growth in the tourism industry is expected to rise at the rate of 29 per cent. My Ministry is committed to ensuring that this high percentage growth in tourism is realised. To this end, the Department of Tourism, the Kenya Tourist Board, the Kenya Tourism Development Corporation, the Kenya Utalii College, the Catering Training and Tourism Development Levy Trustees, Bomas of Kenya, alongside other stakeholders in this industry have re-dedicated themselves towards making the country a premier holiday destination.

These specialised units of the industry have embarked on a concise course programme of developing, promoting and marketing Kenya locally and internationally as a safe destination of choice. In the same vein, the Ministry has taken measures to further diversify tourist products and circuits and identify roads and airstrips that require urgent rehabilitation. At the same time, we are working jointly with all stakeholders to improve security in tourist resorts. Also being facilitated is improvement of furniture fixtures and equipment required to refurbish and upgrade tourist facilities.

The tourism industry on the global scene has become so competitive that respective destinations must work extremely hard to attract visitors. It follows therefore, that Kenya must be aggressively marketed or else we lose business to competing destinations. A key component of a diversified tourist package is improvement on the quality and yield of visitors. It eventually eliminates the perception of Kenya as a mass tourist destination. A diversified product will further serve to distribute the tourism wealth right across the board by creating job and business opportunities in all parts of our country. This will enhance overall economic development with the multiplier effect on the industry stimulating growth in other sectors of the economy. In this manner, tourism will facilitate faster reduction, if not eradication of poverty as a prime objective of this Government.

Apart from the beaches and wildlife safaris, which the country is reputed for internationally, Kenya is also endowed with many other tourist products that only need to be developed and exposed to further enrich visitor experience. Hence, the product diversification initiatives I have alluded to. To this end, it was only recently that the Ministry formally launched the Western Kenya Tourist Circuit. You should have been there to see it. This is a wonderful circuit. It is home to many attractions yet to be fully exploit which include Lake Victoria, diverse culture, geographical features like the famous Kit Mikayi, traditional sports like the bull fight of Western Province. I think these do rival what we have actually seen in Spain. There is also the serene Natural Kakamega Forest and its rich biodiversity.

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

*[Mr. Speaker took the Chair]*

Plans are underway to formally launch yet another circuit this coming week, that is the North Rift Valley Tourist Circuit. The circuit encompasses Uasin Gishu, Trans Nzoia, Mt. Elgon area, West Pokot, Baringo and Turkana. Also being promoted are additional packages like cultural festivals, adventures, sports such as the Safari Rally, golfing, diving and athletics for which Kenya is also acknowledged internationally. This is not to mention bird watching, historical and archaeological attractions that abound in our country. I can assure the hon. Members that these niche products are high yielding and likely to enhance revenue generation per visitor. We are also encouraging

the concept of homestays to enable visitors interact with host communities and experience the Kenyan culture and hospitality first hand.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tourism industry is highly sensitive and that requires high standards of professionalism especially in our hotels and restaurants. This is critical if the country is to remain competitive in the tourist source markets. To this end, my Ministry has embarked on a countrywide hotel and restaurants reclassification exercise to ensure that requisite standards are maintained to international expectations. The vulnerability and sensitivity of the tourism industry was recently laid bare after the September 11th, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States of America. Many tourists shied away from travel, resulting in serious decline in hotel bed occupancy rates in most holiday resorts. Even under normal circumstances, most tourist class hotels and restaurants in the country are under-utilised during the traditional low tourism season.

To reverse this situation, my Ministry has embarked on a sustained promotion of domestic tourism to encourage the local population to enjoy the facilities the country has to offer. The stakeholders are also being sensitised to offer competitive packages and concessionary pricing so that Kenyans are encouraged to take holidays. This should in turn help, not only to eliminate seasonality in the industry, but also allow for domestic tourism to play its rightful role as a critical tool for cementing ethnic cohesion and national unity which this country badly needs.

The projected arrivals of international tourists in 2001 was slightly over 1.3 million with commensurate earnings of Kshs23.45 billion in revenue for the year 2002. It is projected that arrivals should stand at over Kshs1.6 million with commensurate earnings rising to above Kshs30 billion in tax revenue. This shows that the country stands to gain considerably from a rigorous, sustained and focused promotion, as well as marketing internationally. To this end, the Kenya Tourist Board, with the support of the European Union has, over the past two years, initiated measures to reposition Kenya as an exotic destination. This strategy is aimed at turning around performance in such key source markets like Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Italy and Switzerland. The strategy also seeks to develop new high-yielding markets such as the United States of America, Japan, Australia, United Arab Emirates, India and Asia, to mention just but a few. I want to quickly add that we are also looking at the possibility of China. It is estimated that by 2020, China will be the world's biggest generating market for tourism purposes. I see Mr. Michuki listening very carefully to that. This is because this means a lot in terms of golfing, particularly, for the Japanese.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the strategy has been supported by Kenya's participation in annual world travel market held in London and the International Tourism Bus (ITB) Exhibition held annually in Berlin. As I mentioned, the Kenya's stand at the World Travel Market in London last year and in Berlin early this year was rated the best among African exhibitors. Furthermore, the Kenya Tourist Board (KTB) has developed a website - [www.magicalkenya.com](http://www.magicalkenya.com) - which is now playing a key role in our destination marketing. This website is comprehensive and also interactive. I am sure that those of you who are computer literate would want to understand what it means; that, an interactive website is the most desired. It is designed in such a way as to provide virtual tours and linkage with other relevant websites. It also contains photo images reflecting the diverse attractions available in Kenya.

My Ministry intends to further host several tourism promotion activities tailored to further market the country locally and internationally. Among these activities is the Kenya Tourism Week now rescheduled for next year. It had been our hope that this could have been possible in the month of October. This being an election year, the purpose of the Kenya Tourism Week would have been to send a very strong signal that, elections or no elections, this is a safe tourist destination. However, arrangements are still underway to have this held early next year. It is planned that the various world tourism bodies, world celebrities and VIPs will participate and help promote Kenya as a safe and secure tourist destination.

Also in the pipeline is a national tourism workshop due to be held in the course of this year whereby stakeholders will deliberate over pertinent issues that affect the sector. Such issues of concern include appalling price undercutting, culminating in low yield clientele and the declining in quality of service. Similarly, following intensive consultations, stakeholders have resolved that a Destination Management Organisation (DMO) be formed. It is anticipated that this organisation will address on routine basis problems that the multi-billion dollar industry has experienced hitherto and propose the best manner in which to overcome some of these problems.

The Miss Tourism Kenya Beauty Pageant has also become an annual event which has served to further promote the country. Indeed, the Miss Tourism Kenya has for the last two years running been crowned Miss Tourism Africa, thus earning the destination extra promotion of mileage. All these activities are expected to complement the efforts of the KTB to reposition the country as a viable tourist travel destination as well as sensitizing the Kenyan population to the crucial need to promote tourism even locally.

My Ministry, through the Kenya Utalii College, trains manpower for the tourism industry. This institution has already been declared a Centre of Excellence for the East African community and the COMESA region. The Ministry intends to expand the institution in order to be able to cope with the additional responsibility of providing tourism training for this region. This entails the establishment of another campus at the Coast where some land has already

been allocated. Many tourism training institutions have mushroomed in the country with some of them offering substandard training. Through the Catering Training and Tourism Developing Levy Trustees, the Ministry proposes to harmonise training for the industry. We propose to ensure that the various institutions offer standard curriculum examinable by the Kenya National Examinations Council. This entails the requirement that these institutions be registered and monitored to maintain high standards of professionalism at all levels. However, the uncertainty surrounding the collection of the 2 per cent training and tourism development levy from hotels and restaurants which has persisted for some time between the trustees and the Kenya Revenue Authority needs to be sorted out. The transfer has caused confusion with the fear of loss of employment adversely affecting staff morale to the detriment of service delivery. Furthermore, the 2 per cent rate of collection of a levy which has been in operation for a long period cannot generate enough revenues to fund the operations of the beneficiaries. There is, therefore, need to either increase the rate of collection or broaden its base in order to generate sufficient funds to cater for the envisaged high growth of both the KTB and the Kenya Utalii College.

Apart from earning foreign exchange through tourism, the Ministry intends to exploit the rich and beautiful scenery for film production. The Department of Film Production which co-ordinates all matters pertaining to film production in our country serves as one stop-shop for, first, issuing film permits and, secondly, providing information and advice on film location and logistical support and, thirdly, ensuring that all film for screening to the public conform to our national aspirations, culture and morality in line with the stipulation of Chapter 222 of the Laws of Kenya. This department has produced films, features and documentaries of critical importance to the well-being of our people and this country at large. Besides tourism promotion and documentaries, films like *Dunia Mbaya*, have brought vagaries of the HIV/AIDS scourge to the attention of most Kenyans. This is just but one in a series of in-house productions that are helping not only to influence positive behaviour change in the war against the spread of HIV/AIDS pandemic, but also to inform and educate the masses for constructive development.

The fact that the film industry holds massive potential - not only needs to be tapped for the good of this nation - cannot be overemphasized. We should, therefore, provide the necessary incentives to facilitate rapid growth of industry. To this end, my Ministry is reviewing the film policy in order to allow for the establishment of a film commission to regulate the growth of this very important industry. This body will also promote and advertise Kenya as a filming location of choice.

Hon. Members, you will recall that the country has already featured in several major film projects including the Survivor Series shot recently in the Shaba Game Reserve which is also a home to the famous *kamuniak*, the oryx-adopting lioness. Also, a film on location in Nyeri area is nowhere in Africa, which has since become a hit in Germany. Screening of such film internationally further inspires desire for viewers to visit the actual filming location and, thereby, also boosting tourism.

The information sector in the country has witnessed massive improvement over the years. As hon. Members are aware, the Department of Information continues to maintain a strong media presence in every part of the country. Being non-profit motivated, the department is involved mainly in highlighting developmental and educational information, otherwise, deemed as not sensational enough to attract substantial commercial media attention. The department manned by professionals trained from the Kenya Institute of Mass Communications (KIMC) provides round the clock coverage of events taking place countrywide. This not only keeps Kenyans informed, but also educated on issues that may influence positive change and development. The Department has a mobile cinema unit that further helps to inform, educate and entertain communities through the screening of films and documentaries, including those from sister department of Film Production.

The Ministry has also established close working relations with other stakeholders in the sector as we join to spearhead evolution of a dynamic media for the benefit of Kenyans. In this regard, as we prepare for the General Elections, the country will look forward to balance information about the unfolding developments in the political arena. The media is expected to play a leading role in disseminating this information in a responsible and professional manner.

Having highlighted the importance of a tourism and information sectors in national development, I now wish to present the Ministry's Recurrent and Development Budget for the financial year 2002/2003. Under the Recurrent Expenditure, the funds allocated under this Vote amounting to Kshs775,976,740 will be utilised under the following Subvotes. Subvote 460, General Administration Planning, which requires Kshs151,013,999, the provision caters for the following services: Salaries for the Headquarters administration staff, operations and maintenance services that include production of official Government calendars for distribution to the offices and our foreign missions, dissemination of information on HIV/AIDS awareness to seminars and workshops and production and screening of feature films for the same purpose. The mobile cinemas, which I believe many of the hon. Members have encountered in some parts of their constituencies, are funded from this Sub-Vote. Due to inadequacy of funds, the Ministry may not be able to reach all the parts of the country to screen a production such as the *Dunia Mbaya*, which I remember

launching in Kisumu a while ago; a production that greatly exposes the devastation by AIDS on the rural communities in our country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to Sub-Vote 461 - Tourism Services, we have an allocation of Kshs319,459,470, that will be used to fund the following services: Pay salaries and emoluments for the professional staff whose portfolio falls under tourism services, cater for licensing and hotel classification exercises, promotion of cultural eco-tourism services, cater for expenses to the Kenya Tourism Week, provide grants to Bomas of Kenya, Kenya Utalii College and Kenya Tourist Board. Since its establishment, KTB has consistently been under-funded in relation to the functions it is expected to perform. I was able to explain this matter before my colleague, the Minister for Finance, and the entire team at the Ministry of Finance and Planning. The budgetary allocation to the Board during this Financial Year is Kshs188,680,000. This is far short of the amount requested for, of Kshs519,648,000. This decline in funding comes at a time when the organization, through its restructuring process, has contracted four companies based in the United Kingdom, the USA, Canada and Germany to provide marketing services for a two-year period. The next stage is to appoint additional market-developing representatives in other emerging world markets to strengthen Kenya's presence in its efforts to share in the world tourism.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that with adequate funding, tourism can easily reclaim its number one position as a foreign exchange earner for our country. Similarly, the grants to Kenya Utalii College are grossly inadequate to cater for quality training and, at the same time, take on the additional student population within and out of the country.

Sub-Vote 462, on Information and News Services, which requires Kshs186,748,552 caters for provision and expenditure for information and news services, which falls under the Department of Information. This is to facilitate dissemination of information and news gathering through the nationwide network of district and regional information offices of the Kenya News Agency. It is also supposed to cover all district and provincial administrative services, publications, photography and Kenya News Agency, as well as mobile cinema and library services, including rural Press and central media services and Travelling and Accommodation expenses as well, considering that this is an election year, the department will highly involved in news gathering from all corners of the country. Purchase of Plant machinery and equipment for information offices, maintenance of buildings and stations---

Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Sub-Vote 463 - Training, we will require some Kshs66,730,786. Under Sub-Vote 465 - Film Production Department, I alluded to the fact that we need to reposition ourselves as the number one film destination, and we will require some Kshs52,023,933.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Development Expenditure, I wish to now highlight areas of development expenditure in my Ministry. The funds allocated under this Vote amount to Kshs55,104,700. Under Sub-Vote 460 - Headquarters General Administrative Services, the funds under this Sub-vote will be utilised for minor operations and maintenance works at the Ministry's Headquarters, monitoring and evaluation, construction of a parameter fence at the Bomas of Kenya, construction and rehabilitation of information offices. Under Sub-Vote 461 - Tourism Services, we will require Kshs19 million. Under Sub-Vote 456 - Information and News Services, we will require Kshs7,235,930. Under Sub-Vote 463 - Kenya Institute of Mass Communication, we are asking for Kshs11,413,412.

In conclusion, I wish to assure hon. Members that I will do my best to ensure that the funds allocated to my Ministry will be utilised with a high degree of accountability and transparency. I wish to assure hon. Members that our efforts to build a tourism industry of international repute have not gone unnoticed elsewhere in the world. Let me take this opportunity to remind hon. Members that, in 1994, the International Tour and Travel Agency voted Kenya the best destination in Africa. The position was reasserted in 2000 when Kenya scooped the top World Travel Award as the best destination in Africa, beating South Africa and Egypt to second and third positions respectively. Although in terms of tourism arrivals, these two destinations are ahead of Kenya, I see no reason why we cannot reverse this trend.

With these remarks, I beg to move.

**The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Information** (Dr. Wamukoya): seconded.

*(Question proposed)*

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Mr. ole Ntimama): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The fact that you have mentioned me, is so important that I must contribute even if I was not ready.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was listening to the hon. Minister when he was presenting this Vote, and I am particularly happy, and I support the Minister for all that he has been doing. I think I support him as a person. The few months he has been leading the Ministry of Tourism and Information, we have seen a lot of development, light and initiative. We have seen that he is a person who would like to help to bring tourists into this country, so that the tourism industry still remains the number one foreign exchange earner. We in Kenya are very lucky that we have got a commodity called wildlife which is in demand by all the people of the world who, unfortunately, had completely annihilated all their wildlife, not only in Africa but in Europe, Asia and all other places. The most important and most spectacular kind of

wildlife movement that the people from all over the world come to see is the wildebeest migration which I think is taking place about now. It usually takes place in July, June and August. It is true that in America, the Americans had the buffalo migration which was just as spectacular as the wildebeest migration is in this country. But they killed all their water buffaloes, and it does not matter how many billions of dollars they can use, they can never bring that migration back to America.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is important that we preserve wildlife in this country, because it has made this country so important. We have got a lot of revenue coming from outside this country which we are using as our foreign exchange. It could be better than coffee and tea because you do not have to sell anything.

But we need to do a few things to maintain that industry. First and foremost, we have to make sure that the wildlife is safe and fully protected. It is also important to realise that the only way you can protect wildlife is by making sure that you integrate wildlife with the people who live there, so that they can benefit from revenue generated by the tourists who come to watch our spectacular animals.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two things that we must look after. It is the Maa community who have given up their grazing land, both in Kenya and Tanzania, for the benefit of the two nations. We have lost our savannah, grazing lands, water sources and salt lick areas, so that the people from the outside world can come to watch the panorama, so that the people of Kenya can benefit. It is true that game parks like Samburu, Maasai Mara, Amboseli--- If you cross the border into Tanzania, apparently, the wildlife and the Maasai have no borders as such, you will come to the Serengeti, Ilmanyara, Etana Ngare and parts of the Saluu. Those are areas that we have given out to the two nations, so that the people can benefit.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we did not give out that land for other people to come and grab for their own benefit. We did not give that land and wildlife, so that a few people could benefit by poaching elephants, lions and other animals. If that is the case, I imagine the land there falls under trustland. Trustland cannot be dished out by the Government or local authorities. I am not a lawyer, but I know such an issue must go back to the local people. We are saying that there are certain areas of the Mara today which, through fraudulent and fake allocations, have been allocated to individuals. The Mara is being chopped out to be allocated to a few individuals in this country and outside, so that they can benefit individually. We do not have any bursaries being paid by the Narok County Council because some people have gone in and chopped up parcels of land from the Mara. We will not agree to that. If the local authorities, or the Government, do not want that land, we will go back there and settle on it. It is trustland and it belongs to us. Nobody has the authority to dish out that land to anybody.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are a very prominent lawyer. Thank God you came here to look after us and make sure that there is peace in this Chamber! But you know very well that there are certain sections of the law which do not allow trustland to be dished out by anybody, unless it goes back to the local people. Those are the people who own that land! Those are the people who hold the destiny to everything. I am telling the Minister that everybody has kept quiet. There are murmurs that the Ministry of Lands and Settlement is issuing fake and fraudulent title deeds in its headquarters in Nairobi and Narok to allocate the Mara. That allocation must stop! We are telling everybody that legally, we will move in there because the land is ours. But if they still want to protect the wildlife and the land itself for the benefit of this country, our neighbours and the international community, we will be with them. We will support them. We have now lost a lot as far as the local people are concerned. We used to get benefits from the Mara because the Narok County Council used to collect money and

pay bursaries for our children both locally and overseas. You know very well that the 20th Century was not ours. We are trying to pray to the Almighty God that the 21st Century becomes ours, so that we can get a little bit of education and healthcare. We are the people who have been pushed to the periphery! That is true. If only 25 per cent of our people are literate, then definitely, the resources have not been fairly distributed in this country in terms of teachers, textbooks and everything else. There are no efforts to bring out those people. Nobody has gone out there to reach out to them. We know the bursaries are not there because a few people have been protected by some Ministries, including the Ministry of Local Government, and given the leeway to loot every little penny that comes out of the Mara. It is very unfortunate!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Minister, who is my friend, to make sure that he protects the land in Mara. Otherwise, and I am saying it here, on the Floor of this august House, we will support the protection of wildlife and land; failure to which we will move in and settle there because the land belonged to our forefathers. It was taken away fraudulently and by force. We are not going to have a few individuals profiteering on that land. Thank you very much.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

*(Messrs. Ndicho and Parpai stood  
up in their places)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Proceed, Mr. Ndicho! Sorry, Mr. Parpai! I was informed that you wanted to debate later but, in any case, how can I have the two of you immediately following one another? "But never the same", I will come to you later!

**Mr. Ndicho:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to support the Vote of this Ministry because it is not a service Ministry. It generates foreign exchange in this country. We are told that, last year, tourism brought to this country about Kshs21 billion. I believe that if tourism is well looked after by the Government, we could earn more, even going to around Kshs100 billion. But let the Minister understand and note the factors that make the tourism industry not to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of them is infrastructure. The Ministry of Tourism and Information should work hand in hand with the Ministry of Roads and Public Works, so that the roads that lead to such important sites like the Maasai Mara and other tourist attraction sites are maintained properly, so that many tourists can visit those sites and make this country earn a lot of money. The roads need to be improved and I do not know why the Kshs21 billion cannot make the Mombasa-Nairobi Road a dual carriageway, so that we do not have tourists being killed on that road as it happened a few days ago, due to traffic congestion. Let the Ministry not just ask for this money; because they generate a lot of money, and then take it to other areas, rather than developing the tourism industry.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, insecurity is another problem that has made tourism unpopular in this country, especially among the Europeans, Americans and other people. We are calling for the establishment of a special police unit to deal with only tourists in this country. Tourists will know that there is a special unit that protects them; right from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport or Moi International Airport in Mombasa. We have the Port Police, Airport Police and even this Parliament has a police post. Why do we not have a tourist police unit, so that their security is enhanced?

The Ministry should create more tourism attraction sites. The Ministry has only relied on what God gave us; that is the Coast beaches, Mara and wildlife. There is nothing that they have made for themselves except; "*kukaa namna hii!*" *Ni kile Mungu aliweka tu! Tengenezeni yenu!* If that is done, there will be more tourist attraction sites. For example, I suggest that we should open the Jomo Kenyatta Mausoleum here and make it a tourist attraction site. We should charge the foreigners Kshs1,000 and Kshs100 or Kshs200 for the local people, so that the Ministry could get more money. There is a tree in Thika called "*Mugumo wa Chege wa Kibiru!*" That is the place where the old Kikuyu seer, who foresaw what would happen in the future for the Kikuyu, stayed. It is a very important attraction site. It is there. It was almost grabbed three years ago but I intervened. It is now gazetted as one of those national monuments. It should be made an attraction site for tourists. We should write its history, so that people can come, look at it and see what it is all about. It is believed that the Kikuyu community came from *Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga* in Kiharu Constituency. We should all know where they came from.

**Hon. Members:** What for?

**Mr. Ndicho:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Kikuyu people came from *Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga* in Murang'a District. That is a very important tourist attraction site. I think that is why even the County Council of Murang'a reserved it as a trust land. That site was not even allocated to individuals during the land demarcation exercise in Murang'a District. The Government should set up a tourists attraction site in Nyeri where Mr. Dedan Kimathi was arrested.

The arrest of Mr. Kimathi was a very important event in our history. His arrest gave morale to people who were fighting for the Independence of this country. We should preserve those sites because they can be used to promote local tourism in this country.

What made the Kenya Government give land, in Malindi and Lamu, to Italians? It is sad that our land was given to Italians. They own large chunks of land and they have built magnificent hotels. A time will come when we shall demand that those Italians surrender our land so that it will be owned by Kenyans themselves. The Minister says that the Government earns Kshs21 billion from tourism every year. However, we know majority of tourists go to Malindi and Lamu. They bring in a lot of money. However, not all of this money is remitted to the State coffers. It goes to the pockets of those Italians who own hotels in the coast region. Those Italians even organise private tours for their friends in Europe. They come here and pay a lot of money to those Italians who remit very little money to the Treasury. What is the Government doing about this? This land belongs to our people and they should get it back from those Italians. We would not like to hear the Minister say that the tourism industry earns Kshs21 billion as foreign exchange for this country. That is not good news to some of us. We will be happy to hear that they are realising over Kshs100 billion. You will make Kenyans proud if this is the case! How do those Italians, who own big chunks of land in the entire Coast Province, compensate Kenyans? Those hotels should be owned by local people because the land belongs to them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the local people, who live around tourist sites like Maasai Mara Game Reserve and the Mt.



Kenya region, should benefit from this industry. If you ask Mr. ole Ntimama about the plight of the Maasai who live around Maasai Mara, he will tell you the Maasai of today are the same as those of the 1960s who were looking after sheep and goats around that game reserve. Nothing much has changed. Yet, the Minister tells us that they earn Kshs21 billion from the tourism industry. The Government does not even build schools for those Maasais. I have seen one road that has been constructed with money from the fuel levy. Similarly, the Government should build schools and hospitals around that game reserve. They should use money generated from the tourism industry to build such institutions. We should not let the Maasais live in deplorable conditions and yet we know that game reserves are the best tourism attractions in the world. The Maasai people do not understand what we talk about here in Nairobi. So, this Government should do something about the local people living around tourist sites. Even the Tugens who live around Lake Bogoria, where there are hot springs, do not benefit from the tourism industry. Tourists go there in thousands, but the local people do not realise the importance of their lake. They just see foreigners driving big Land Rovers and they are told those tourists bring a lot of money to this country. Sometimes they ask where all this money goes to. They are told to ask the Minister and his friends. They wonder why they "eat" all the money without ploughing back something to them. Please, plough back something little to the local people so that they can enjoy the benefits of the tourism industry. We should encourage more tourists to come so that the local people benefit more. I think tourism is something that was given to us by God, free of charge, and it should benefit the entire population. It is a pity that only very few people benefit from this money. I agree with the Minister about trust land. It is true the law talks about trust land. That land belonged to the local community but it was taken away from them for commercial use like tourism. The county council, or the Government, held that land in trust for the local people. But when you start giving such land to other characters it is, indeed, very bad.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, last weekend, I went to Kapenguria and was able to see Jomo Kenyatta's cell. The Minister talked about a Website. We should advertise such sites through the website so that many tourists can come and see where the heroes and heroines of this country were locked up.

With regard to information, this House has passed a law about the Gutter Press. Despite that law being in place, the Gutter Press is still tarnishing people's names. One wonders why we pass laws in this House and yet they are not respected. We thought, by this time, those people would be paying Kshs1 million bond or fine. I know they are not paying and yet they are still publishing those funny stories.

Why do we not open the entire country for both the television and radio stations? It is only one station that reaches the whole country. We have liberalised this industry. Why does this Government not allow other television and radio stations to open up in other parts of the country? Why should we only allow Nairobi people to enjoy these facilities? The Government should buy every Kenyan a radio worth Kshs1,000. What do you do with Kshs21 billion? The Ministry should buy a television set for every beer drinking pub in this country so that local people can see what is happening in this country. It is a shame that only 5 per cent of Kenyans receive print news, 55 per cent have access to radio news and only 20 per cent have access to television news in this country.

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

**Mr. Musila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, once upon a time I used to work in this Ministry as the Director of Tourism. Therefore, it is my pleasure to support the Motion. In doing so, I would like to commend the Ministry for the good work that has continued to be done in the field of tourism. Indeed, we know that the importance of this Ministry cannot be overemphasised. It is a Ministry that is responsible for the creation of employment. We know that this is one Ministry that plays a major role in the economic development of this country. We know that so many Kenyans are employed directly by this industry. When the industry is thriving, we know farmers have the opportunity to sell their produce to hotels. Even taxi drivers, curio dealers and many other people enjoy good business. So, this is a very important industry which must be supported.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the industry has been stagnant for quite sometime. Arrivals and receipts of tourists in Kenya have not significantly improved compared to other competitors. You will recall, perhaps, 15 to 20 years ago, there was this talk of one million tourists coming to our country in every year. However, this target has been elusive for a very long time. I think there are certain factors which have contributed to the stagnation of tourism in this country, one of which is insecurity. No matter how much we do to promote tourism in our country, when the tourists' security is not assured, we will not go very far.

Another issue is infrastructure. We have got very bad roads in this country. Tourists leave their good highways and when they come here, they drive on potholes. Therefore, they are subjected to serious accidents. One very important road which my friend, Mr. ole Ntimama, has alluded to is Maasai Mara. Maasai Mara Game Reserve is a very important tourist destination. I know that the road from Mai Mahiu to Narok is impassable. It is terrible. I drove along that road last Sunday. It is a shame that such a road is not maintained when tourists are plying through it. I saw a number of mini-buses literally veering off the road to avoid potholes and they were carrying tourists. How can we expect our tourism industry to grow when we cannot develop our infrastructure?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our environment is also of major concern. I am saying this because I discuss this aspect with potential travellers when I am overseas. This is the case, particularly when we, on the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations, go out. These people tell us that our country is good but our cities are dirty. They say that the City of Nairobi is the dirtiest city in the world. I have no reason to doubt them because we all know that this City is dirty. How do we expect to encourage tourists to come to Nairobi when its streets are littered with garbage? This is impossible. What about our environment? How do we expect tourism industry to grow in this country when we have these youngsters who snatch the bags of tourists? This is impossible. The Government should look into these issues seriously, if we want to promote tourism.

The Government should address insecurity, infrastructure, environment, and, to some extent, control diseases. This is because whenever tourists hear of an outbreak of cholera in a particular city, or *Ebola* in West Africa, they become very sensitive, and any person would be. Therefore, disease control is also very important if we have to enhance tourism in this country. I believe that these are some of the major factors which have made it impossible for our tourism to grow, and yet we know that the growth of this industry is very important for the rapid economic development of our country.

The other aspect I would like to touch on is tourism promotion. I know that the Ministry has been doing everything possible to promote tourism. However, one serious blunder that I believe the Ministry made was to close down the national tourist offices in various cities of the world, and substitute them with some public relations fellows who are *Wazungu* and who sit in their offices promoting many other countries. I believe that someone, and we know who he was, the former Permanent Secretary, Secretary to the Cabinet and Head of the Public Service - came up with this idea deliberately to create employment for his people by removing our people who manned those offices very effectively. I would like to say that it is time that the Minister looked into this issue. Let us not be dictated by the European Community because they give us money; saying that we should use it in public relations firms, most of which are run by Europeans. This is a mistake which the Ministry ought not to make.

Conference tourism is also very important. Many countries are now thriving on conference tourism. Where are our conference facilities? These facilities do not exist. Everyday, we hear about a conference being held in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town in South Africa. Why are these conferences not held in Nairobi? This is because South Africa has now taken over, and yet that is one of the most important tourism components. This is because, once conferences are held in your country, you get an inflow of journalists and participants. You also get money. So, we should look at conference tourism and cruise tourism, which are very important.

One of the issues which has continued to hamper the growth of tourism in Kenya and Africa is the expensive air-fare to our destination. From London to New York, which is almost the same distance as London to Nairobi, the fare is low, but to get to Nairobi from London, it is extremely expensive and only rich people can afford it. Perhaps, the Ministry of Tourism and Information should get in touch with the Ministry of Transport and Communications and see how fares to Kenya and other African destinations can be reduced.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to talk about the Kenya Utalii College. Kenyans should be very proud of this institution. This college continues to play a major role in the development of tourism. Indeed, it is a centre of excellence in the tourism colleges in the world. I do not know whether Kenyans know this. Kenyans should be proud of this institution. The best way to do this is by ensuring that sufficient funds are allocated to this college to enable it complete its programmes. The Kenya Utalii College can now produce graduates who can work in many hotels around the world.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in future, we should allocate this institution more funds to support it.

I would now like to move on to information. Mr. Ndicho has touched on the issue of freeing the airwaves in this country.

**Mr. Ndicho:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the Chair remind hon. Musila that I am not "Mr. Ndicho".

**Mr. Speaker:** Who are you?

**Mr. Ndicho:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am "hon. Ndicho"!

**Mr. Musila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am amazed that "Mr. Ndicho" does not want to be referred to by that name. I think he is "Mr. Ndicho". He is also "hon. Ndicho". I think "Mr. Ndicho" is not misplaced.

I wanted to talk about the freeing of airwaves in this country because Kenyans are starved of information, particularly news. This matter has been discussed in this House before, and the wish of the House is that the Ministry of Tourism and Information should free the airwaves so that people can tune to whichever radio station they want to listen to. This is because out there, people think that news only come from the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) radio. It is time we freed our airwaves so that we can get news from various radio stations. On that aspect, the Minister said:-

"This being an election year, the KBC requires more money."

I hope that the KBC will be fair in covering all candidates who will stand in the general election. But what is happening today even to the KANU candidates is obvious and if this is anything to go by, we will not get fair coverage.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion.

**Mr. Parpai:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to this very important Motion. I would like to start my contribution by thanking the Minister for what they did in the 2001/2002 Financial Year. They tried a lot to collect some money.

Tourism can only improve in this country if a few things are rectified. One of these things is security, which is cardinal. There is no way you can convince tourists from whichever country to come to this country when they know very well that our country is insecure. Security has to be given the first priority.

Infrastructure is another aspect which has to be looked into. It is a shame that some of the very important national parks in this country, which tourists visit when they come to this country, are inaccessible. You have heard hon. Members say how bad the roads in Maasai Mara Game Reserve are. If you went to Amboseli National Park, you would find that the roads there are in the same state as those in Maasai Mara Game Reserve. One wonders why the money collected from those national parks should not be used, at least, to improve the roads which lead into those parks.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an election year, and the Minister should talk to his colleagues in the Cabinet, so that we do not experience the Likoni-type of clashes again in this country. We know that the downward trend in the tourism sector was brought about by the Likoni clashes. The Likoni clashes were instigated by those who are in positions of leadership in this country. So, this is an issue that should be looked into very critically. Kenyans are watching very keenly, to see whether the Government will create other clashes during this year. Clashes do not only displace people, but also harm our economy. So, as the Shadow Minister for that Ministry, I would like to ask the Minister to take up this matter with the relevant organs of the Government to avoid a repeat of what happened in Likoni. If they did not achieve what they wanted in 1992 and 1997, they should allow Kenyans to go to the General Elections freely, and peacefully. They should also create a conducive atmosphere for the tourism sector to flourish.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Ministry used to be known as the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife. For some strange reasons, the department of wildlife has been taken to the Office of the President. Why did they do that?

**Mr. Munyao:** It is because everything with money goes to the Office of the President!

**Mr. Parpai:** You have heard my colleagues offering some information to me. Indeed, it is going to be very difficult for the Minister to control this Ministry if one arm is in the Office of the President, while the other arm is in the Ministry of Tourism and Information. When the new Constitution will be brought to this House, we should make it mandatory that Ministries are approved both in content and name by this House. That is the only way we can sideline those "sharks"--- I am sorry to use that terminology. I mean, those people who are eager to get whatever department or institution with foreign funding under Office of the President. We know that KWS has very many donors supporting it. I think that is the reason why the Office of the President decided to have KWS under it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we brought a Motion to this House on the compensation of lives, lost due to the conflict between human beings and wildlife. In that Motion, we recommended that Kshs1 million should be paid to those who lose their next of kin through attacks by wild animals. That has not been implemented. The Kshs30,000 being paid by the Government as compensation for lives lost is peanuts! It is not even enough for you, being a pastoralist, to go to a medium-sized farm and buy a breeding bull! A breeding bull costs about Kshs100,000. Surely, the life of a human being is more precious than that of a bull! Is this Government serious? If the Government feels that Kshs1 million is on the higher side, then they should come up with a proposal so that we look at it and compensate our people adequately. We should not only compensate people for loss of lives but also for the destruction of crops and vegetation. Wild animals are roaming all over our farms! They kill our animals, destroy our vegetation, and no compensation is paid to farmers at all! We need compensation on this. Unless that is done, those communities who have been co-operating in preserving wildlife might turn against the wild animals.

*[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]*

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also important that communities living around the national parks and tourist hotels should be given incentives. I have in mind a situation where the KWS employed game rangers. One does not have to have a degree, or to have completed Form Four to be employed as a game ranger. It, therefore, goes without saying that those communities who have co-existed with wild animals, despite the fact that they are not

compensated adequately, their children should be employed in those national parks as game rangers. I have no quarrel if those people got skilled labour from elsewhere. But I cannot imagine a situation where a game ranger goes all the way from Meru and gets employed in Loitokitok. That is ridiculous! We need to have that situation corrected, so that people get incentives. If we do that, they will continue to co-exist with those wild animals. We would also like to see a situation where some money is ploughed back in terms of building schools and hospitals. By so doing, such communities will appreciate the existence of those wild animals in their neighbourhoods.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have got several parastatals under this Ministry. I have in mind the Catering Levy Trustee (CLT). Year in, year out, successive Ministers for Finance have come to this House and proposed the scrapping of the CLT through the Finance Bill. When the Minister comes to reply, he should tell us what he hates in the CLT. If he does not think that the CLT should exist, he should bring a Bill to this House for us to discuss. If we agree with him, then we will scrap it, instead of sneaking the scrapping of the CLT through the Finance Bill. That is ridiculous! The CLT was created by an Act of Parliament and can only be scrapped through an Act of Parliament. We are getting a lot of money from there as a country. They are assisting the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) to collect revenue. But the statistics that were brought to this House during the last financial year indicated that we were collecting more money when the parastatal was in place, as opposed to when we transferred those functions to the KRA. I urge the Minister to tell this country why they have been thinking of scrapping that parastatal every year. Why do we want to create more unemployment in this country, when we have thousands of unemployed youths out there? We know that the CLT is a viable parastatal! Let us not retrench Kenyans for the sake of doing it!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to talk about the Kenya Utalii College. The Kenya Utalii College is the pride of this country, but there is no money or grants being given to that parastatal! Fortunately, today, I saw that there is some little money that has been voted for that parastatal. But during the last financial year, it was a mess! The Ministry had even forced the college to increase fees. What does increasing fees by an institution mean to Kenyans? It means that only the rich will have access to that institution. Is that the idea of building that institution? I thought our institutions are meant for all people! If that is what it means, or that is the idea of building that institution, then the fees must be as low as possible for all Kenyans to access it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is terrifying to know that education has become a preserve for the rich these days. Today, whether or not your child gets an "E", you are assured of taking that child to the university. All you need to do is to enrol that child for a parallel programme and that child will go to university. Maybe, Mr. Parpai is a bit poor, his child gets a "B"; the child gets admitted, but because he does not have the money to pay fees - knowing how "opaque" the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) is - his child goes back to herd his few cows, if he has any. So, we do not want the Kenya Utalii College to get to that stage because the pride which the Minister talked about will be washed away. So, for heaven's sake, we are requesting the Minister to vote more money to that institution, not only to reduce the cost of learning, but also to enable it get equipment for teaching purposes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to talk about Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC). The KBC requires a lot of money. But there is a lot of money which is uncollected by that Corporation. I am privy to that information because I happened to be a Member of the Public Investments Committee (PIC) for three years. Therefore, I know the goings-on in that Corporation. The biggest debtor of KBC is KANU. If, today, KANU decided to pay KBC, I think we shall not have been--- I am not saying that KBC's problems will be solved if KANU paid its debts; but, somehow, it will be able to pay a few debts.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, can the Vice-Chairman of KANU, who is also the Minister for Information and Tourism, bail out this parastatal called KBC? I am saying this because KBC has problems due to its inability to collect debts, and their biggest debtor is KANU! So, all I am requesting the Minister, who also happens to be the Vice-Chairman of KANU, and a Presidential candidate for this country is to assist the parastatal recover money from KANU. That way, he will assist that parastatal. We do not want him to only recover money from KANU, but also from all other debtors.

**The Minister for Tourism and Information** (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I hate to interrupt Mr. Parpai, but would I be in order to ask him to give particulars of this indebtedness by KANU to KBC, because this Minister is not aware of that?

**Mr. Parpai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very bad that a Minister who is supposed to listen to contributions and later give a response to such contributions, is coming back to ask for clarification. I said that I am privy to this information because I was a Member of PIC---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, Mr. Parpai! The question is: Could you give details or substantiate? That is the Minister's point of order!

**Mr. Parpai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the Minister cares to look at the Report of Public Investments Committee, he will get that information. The PIC Report is a public document. Besides that, the Minister is a Member of this House! It is also unfortunate because for the last ten years, I have never listened to KBC because of

the way they relay their information. So, I would like to request the Minister that, we not only want the KBC this time round, being an election year, to have equal airtime for all political parties, but also to be objective. We do not want to be portrayed as if--- or what Mr. Parpai says, in whatever rally he addresses, to look as if he is putting Kenya into fire. The KBC is funded by taxpayers' money and, therefore, there is nothing wrong in it being opposed! So, let us be given a fair reporting and fair airtime. Give Kenyans what they want to hear; they have heard KBC since 1963, and now, they want to hear what other people are saying.

I know you will agree with me because this is what is happening around the country now. Wherever you go, you get booed because Kenyans have heard you for a long time, and they now want to listen to other people. So, please, KBC is our property; its employees are ours, and they are paid by our taxes. Let us have equal airtime and fair reporting throughout the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to give my views on Kenya News Agency (KNA). It is known very well that the employees of KNA are civil servants. The KNA is the only Government agency that sends people to rural and uneconomical areas to gather information. In Loitokitok, where I come from, we used to have a KNA office, but not offices for other media houses. For the last two years, the KNA office has been closed, and they have even taken away the public address (PA) system. During public holidays, we go to churches to look for public address systems! I do not understand what this Ministry is up to. I am requesting the Minister that, if the Ministry has a little money to run some of these offices, let it buy the PA system and let the DO keep it. Although we are going to scrap the office of the DOs when the new Constitution will be in place, the chiefs' offices will remain, to keep the PA. Therefore, what we are saying is that, it is ridiculous for a DO to go to a church to ask for a PA system to address Kenyans during public holidays. It is terrible! Let us have Government instruments around those places to be used for addressing the public. If that can be done, although I know the Ministry has no money, and nobody can tell where the money has gone to--- If the Ministry can open those offices, we will have no problem and we shall be happy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have said many times in this House that we want freedom of airwaves. Let there be as many broadcasting stations as possible all over the country. We want competition to be allowed and we do not see the reason why the Government should be fearing competition. Unless there is something that the Government is fearing, I do not see the reason why the Government does not want to allow people to open radio and TV stations all over the country. Now and again, we have requested the Government to allow people to open up radio and TV stations all over the country, and we have been assured that it is going to be done, yet nothing is happening. The Government should say what is in its heart, so that we can tell our people down there that the Government has feared to allow KTN or Nation and the rest of the stations to be heard in Garissa, Wajir or wherever, because it does not want them to know that other Kenyans look like them. When some of us in the Opposition go to certain areas of this country to address public rallies, people out there look at us as if we are a different type of animals from Heaven, just because of the way the Ministry of Tourism and Information has been portraying us. When people out there hear of Mr. Parpai, they think that Mr. Parpai is a person with two heads, or something like that. We would, therefore, like the Government to open up the State media. In any case, only five months are remaining before we can take over the running of this country's affairs from the current Government. If we proceed and do to KANU the things it is doing to us now, it will be very bad.

**The Minister for Tourism and Information** (Mr. Musyoka): Assuming that you are going to form the next Government!

**Mr. Parpai:** Of course, yes! If you do not have any hope while on earth, then you had better die.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! Mr. Parpai, what did you say?

**Mr. Parpai:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not say anything serious. You can even see my colleague, Mr. Musyoka, smiling.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Could you withdraw the bad statement you made?

**Mr. Parpai:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I withdraw and apologise.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans want to own and enjoy the sceneries in this country. Sometimes I become a bit unhappy when I go to Mombasa. Big tourist hotels which used to register a 100 per cent bed occupancy nowadays register below 10 per cent bed occupancy. What explanation does the Minister have for not only the owners of those hotels, but also for Kenyans generally? The slump in this country's tourism sector has been due to the clashes that the Government started, and the insecurity it has failed to control. The current scenario is as a result of those tribal clashes, which were started by the Government. The clashes were not an act of God or a natural occurrence. So, the Government should take responsibility.

**The Minister for Tourism and Information** (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could the hon. Member substantiate his allegation that the Government was responsible for the tribal clashes that led to the slump in the tourism industry in this country? To say the least, that is preposterous. Could he substantiate?

**Mr. Parpai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to engage myself in an argument with the Minister. Had the Government released to the public the Report of the Akiwumi Commission of Inquiry into Tribal Clashes in Kenya, everybody would have known the truth. I am sure that the Minister has read the Report. So, he knows its contents.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government should chip in and assist investors in the hotel industry. You know, as I do, that investors in the Coast Province are having problems currently. Their hotels are being auctioned because they can no longer afford to service the banks loans they had acquired to invest in the sector. Who should bail out these investors? Should they sell off their hard-earned assets because of the man-made problems that have led to the slump in the tourism industry? Really, it is upon the Government to come up with a way of assisting these investors. We will need those hotels in future, when things improve.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**Mr. Mkalla:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion.

On the onset, I would like to declare my support for the Minister. In fact, the amount he is asking for is peanuts. He should have asked for more money, so that this country's tourism industry could be resuscitated. We have held discussions with the Minister for Finance during which we requested him to allocate sufficient funds to the Ministry of Tourism and Information for the purpose of reviving the tourism industry, considering the fact that the sector used to bring into this country a substantial amount of foreign exchange earnings.

Currently, the poverty levels in Coast and Nyanza Provinces stand at 62 per cent and 60 per cent respectively. Had we improved the tourism industry, today, we would be talking of a poverty level of between 10 per cent and 20 per cent. So, there is need for the Government---

**Mr. Kihoro:---**(inaudible)

**Mr. Mkalla:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could I be protected from Mr. Kihoro?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! Mr. Kihoro, could you apologise for interrupting the business of this House?

**Mr. Kihoro:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I apologise.

**Mr. Mkalla:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I was interrupted, I was saying that the poverty levels in Coast and Nyanza Provinces are currently very high, at 62 per cent and 60 per cent respectively, and that if we had improved the country's tourism industry, we would be talking of a poverty level of between 10 per cent and 20 per cent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are ways and means by which we could easily improve the tourism industry. Whenever we have travelled abroad as the Departmental Committee on Finance, Planning and Trade, we have found out that would-be tourists to this country complained of the high costs of air transport, insecurity and poor infrastructure. These are three basic aspects which need to be addressed by the Government, so that we can encourage tourists to come into this country. Previously, we used to have direct flights from France and other countries to Mombasa. That is no longer the case today. This is one of the things that have discouraged many tourists who would have liked to visit this country's coastal region.

The country's road network is very poor. In fact, if we could build a road all the way from Lunga Lunga to Kiunga, along the coastal line, we would encourage tourists to visit the coastal line, which is dotted with good beaches. Probably, some houses could also be constructed along the coastal line for the purpose of accommodating tourists who visit that area. This way, the numbers of tourists into that region would increase. Consequently, the country's foreign exchange earnings would increase significantly.

There is also the problem of availability of fresh water in the coastal region, particularly in Mombasa. The problem is even discouraging the cruise ship sector. You find that quite often, Mombasa is hit by a shortage of clean water, which has made tourists avoid our country. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that the Government looks into ways and means of improving the water facilities not only in Mombasa, but in the whole country, in order to encourage more tourists to visit the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the very high electricity tariffs in this country have turned tourism into a very expensive venture. Kenya's electricity is more expensive than that of South Africa and Egypt. The high cost of electricity translates into expensive services to our hotel guests. So, you find that tourists opt to visit countries such as Egypt and South Africa rather than Kenya. As a country, we need to enhance our tourism marketing strategies and sign contracts with countries such as China, Japan and Korea, so that their nationals can visit Kenya in large numbers. It is strange that these countries have entered into contracts with Egypt and South Africa, but not with Kenya. If only 10 per cent of Chinese tourists visited Kenya annually, we would generate more revenue from them than our current total annual revenue. That would, definitely, improve this country's development. It is, therefore, important for the Ministry of Tourism and Information to enter into contracts with countries which can bring into this country many tourists, so

that we can earn a lot of foreign exchange.

There are areas in this country where houses have mushroomed, particularly in Lamu and Malindi. The Government does not collect tax in respect of tourists who stay in such houses since there are no levies which have been imposed on them. So, I would like the Ministry of Tourism and Information, in collaboration with the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), to investigate this state of affairs. Some individuals have put up houses in which tourists stay after paying for them while overseas. Consequently, the Government loses collectable tax money, which would be used to improve the welfare of Kenyans.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we also need to look for ways and means of attracting tourists. This country has a lot of natural resources, but they are not being developed. If, for example, you go to Lake Bogoria, you will find natural hot water streams. Why have we not developed the hot water springs in Lake Bogoria in order to attract tourists? If you look at the Rift Valley Province, all the way from the escarpment, you will find that a lot of natural resources have not been tapped. If a tram system was put to operate from Nakuru up to the other side of the hills, people would be travelling across the area, looking down and enjoying the facility. You will find similar facilities in China, Korea and Japan. What has stopped us from doing that? We must provide certain basic facilities to attract tourists in order to earn foreign exchange.

There are many natural caves in the coast region, for example, in Shimoni and Mtwapa. If these caves were improved, tourists would be attracted to come and see them. But we are doing nothing. We should provide more funds to the Ministry of Tourism and Information, so that it can tap these natural resources and attract many tourists into our country. We should put up more facilities, similar to the Bomas of Kenya in Nairobi, all over the country. Such facilities would be tourist attraction sites, which would attract tourists from wherever they go and we would earn a lot of foreign exchange.

I would also like to talk about tourism fora and conferences outside Kenya. Other countries invite us to go and see what happens in their tourism industry. I do not think that we take advantage of those invitations. We should try as much as possible to send as many Kenyans as possible from the Ministries and even the private sector to these conferences, so that we can learn more from our colleagues outside Kenya, and enable us earn foreign exchange.

The Minister for Tourism and Information alleged that he has given money to all districts for the provision of information services. But I am surprised that in the Estimates, there is no provision for Kwale District. Is Kwale not a district? I would like the Minister, when he comes to reply to debate on this Motion, to tell us whether Kwale is not a district. I have not seen any provision for Kwale District anywhere in this document. If there is any provision for Kwale District, the Minister should show it to me because, maybe, I have not been able to locate it in this particular document.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need also to improve our security situation in this country. I know that security has improved, but I would like to talk to the newsmen. Our newspapers are fond of writing inflammatory remarks, which discourage tourists from coming into our country. If a small incident occurs in Great Britain, Germany or the United States of America (USA), it is not blown out of proportion by the Press the way it is done here in Kenya. Are we demarketing our country or what are we doing? What is the intention of writing alarming reports in the media? These statements demarket our country. The newsmen should also become more patriotic than they are at present, so that we can attract more tourists into the country.

I want talk about the issue of marketing our tourism potential. The Ministry of Tourism and Information has not marketed our country well enough. The other day, I was in China and the people of the Republic of Chinese told me: "We have been going to Tanzania because there is a very good mountain called "Kilimanjaro". We understand that Mount Kilimanjaro is near South Africa".

You were with me when we were told this. You will be surprised to hear that the people of the Republic of China do not know where Kenya is situated in Africa. Mount Kilimanjaro borders Kenya. The Ministry of Tourism and Information should tell the people of the Republic of China that if they come to Mount Kilimanjaro, they will also be able to visit other facilities in Kenya. The Ministry has not done its job well and we would expect it to improve its marketing strategies and make use of the warmth of the Kenyan people, so that we can attract more tourists.

People in the Maasai Mara are lucky because they earn some revenue from hotels in the area. In Coast Province, and particularly in Kwale District, we have the highest number of hotels in this country, but we do not earn anything from them. Why can we not impose a small levy, for example, 2 per cent, on each beach hotel, and utilise that money to provide roads, water and hospitals? In this way, we will improve the roads, water system and hospitals in that area, and encourage more tourists to visit it. I want to urge the Ministry of Tourism and Information, in collaboration with other relevant Ministries, to look into this issue, so that Kwale County Council can earn money from the hotel industry according to the level of bed occupancy. I would also want the hotel industry in the Coast region to contribute certain levies to the areas where they are built, so that they can assist to develop them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need to improve Malindi Airport today. This airport can be

improved, not necessarily with Government funding, but through the build, operate and transfer system (BOT). This way, any private investor who comes into this country can contribute to the improvement of the airport. This would encourage more tourists into the country and bring us more foreign exchange earnings. Through the same system, we can ask people to build the Dongokundu by-pass, which runs all the way from Miritini up to Ng'ombeni. This would also improve the transport system, and instead of using the Likoni Ferry, tourists would move fast between the South Coast and Mombasa Island. This would encourage a lot of tourists into our country.

With those few remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

### QUORUM

**Mr. Angwenyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want hon. Members to hear what is being said here, but there is no quorum in this House.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Yes, there is no quorum in the House. Ring the Division Bell.

*(The Division Bell was rung)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Order, Hon. Members! The House should come to order since we now have a quorum.

Proceed, hon. Khamasi!

**Mr. Khamasi:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute on this Vote. In support of this Motion, I have a few things which I would like to say. Any wise person would want to invest his money where he is going to get more. When you look at this Vote, you will find that this Ministry, which was once the highest foreign exchange earner, is only being allocated about Kshs700 million. This money, compared to that allocated to various departments in other Ministries, for example, the Department of Defence (DOD), is very little. The DOD has been allocated Kshs14 billion to look after *askaris* who have never even fought a war. When you look at the National Security Intelligence Service (NSIS), you will notice that it has been allocated a whopping Kshs3 billion. That shows that this Government does not know how to invest. They should put their money where they should be able to raise more money to run other services of the Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to blame this Minister for not getting enough money because he needs to come to this House and we will vote money for this Ministry, because it is an important Ministry which can produce money to provide services in other areas in this country. You have got a Departmental Committee which is an oversight body on your Ministry, and if you look at our Standing Orders, this Minister is supposed to come to that Committee and discuss his estimates with it so that it can support him when he is looking for funds to run the Ministry. The Minister has not done that and that is why he is being allocated very little money for a very important Ministry. So, it is necessary, next time round, that you see the relevant Departmental Committee early enough for it to assist you to raise funds.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, apart from that, I want to commend the Minister because he has got a vision for this Ministry. I remember he did come to the so-called "Western Tourism Circuit" a few months ago in Western Province, with his officers, and they saw what is available. We need only to tap and exploit it, and we shall have a lot of tourists going to the western tourist circuit to be able to see what is available there. We have got wonderful sites in Western Province. One of the outstanding sites is the Kakamega tropical rainforest which, unfortunately, is under threat from loggers, and that is being done with the complete knowledge of the officers who have been given the mandate to look after it. We would like to see a situation where there will be a memorandum of understanding between Ministries. I know the Ministry of Tourism and Information is not in charge of the forests, but this forest, with its biodiversity, is a very rich forest. I would like to see situation where the Ministry of Tourism and Information and the Ministry of Environment are talking to protect this particular forest. It is important that this is done because unless it is done Kakamega Forest will be no more.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, where there is no security, no people of any type will go there whether tourists or otherwise. Security is something that is very important for the tourism industry and we would like to see an end to what we have seen in this country, whether tribal clashes or name it. These tribal clashes have been encouraged by funny groups; in fact, hired gangs in this country, which are well known to the Government. Recently, there was a Motion here where we wanted a Select Committee set up to look into how these gangs are organised; who funds them, and what they stand for. Indeed, it was the Government side that was actually opposing that particular Motion. It was a shame! We need to put these things to an end. Tribal clashes should be a thing of the past. If we continue saying that we want to scare people from certain regions because they are not going to vote for KANU, then we must stop thinking



about tourism. It is ridiculous. We should fight this vice because it is not in the interest of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to touch on film censorship in this country. You and I belong to a different generation. We are not the "dot.com" generation, and these days when you watch KBC, KTN and Citizen Televisions during the early evening hours, what you see is terrible. I think the Ministry is not doing enough. We should be able to have a proper censorship body of films that are being shown to our children. Films meant for adults are being shown in the very early hours of the day, and by that we are actually eroding the morals of our children. So, it is necessary that we look at that particular aspect and correct it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleagues have said something about the radio and television, particularly KBC, and I want to add my voice to it. This morning, hon. Raila Amolo Odinga said: "KBC is favouring Uhuru Kenyatta". We have been telling them that KBC is only serving certain individuals in this country. It is only serving KANU, and now hon. Raila has realised that it is not serving the entire KANU.

**An hon. Member:** Hon. Raila is no longer in KANU!

**Mr. Angwenyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to allege that KBC serves KANU when, in fact, it serves one or two people only in KANU? I am a KANU member and it has never covered me.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila):** Continue, Mr. Khamasi!

**Mr. Khamasi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, indeed, even in KANU itself, the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation is not serving the entire KANU. It is serving a faction of KANU. So, we want it to be well spread out. We want this Corporation to serve even the Minister, so that it is not only skewed in favour of a few people. It is good that they are tasting what we have been complaining about.

On mobile cinemas, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know which criteria is used to decide which areas should have them because they are only in a few places.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you heard Mr. Ntimama here cry very loudly about the grabbing of the Mara Game Reserve; a man who once said he wants everybody to lie low like an envelope! We heard him cry here like a baby who is completely helpless.

**The Minister for Tourism and Information (Mr. Musyoka):** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was here and I did not hear Mr. Ntimama cry. Is it in order for the hon. Member to mislead this House?

**Mr. Khamasi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it depends---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila):** Order, Mr. Khamasi! Certainly, you could have a better word because I too never heard Mr. Ntimama cry.

**Mr. Khamasi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he was lamenting that he was completely helpless.

**An hon. Member:** Time up!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila):** Mr. Khamasi, continue. Do not be distracted.

**Mr. Khamasi:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am being interrupted. I was just saying that this was a very powerful Minister in this Government and a man who shook everybody at one stage. Now, he is lamenting that he can do nothing to stop the Mara Game Reserve from being grabbed. What can he do about it? I can only tell Mr. Ntimama to arm all Maasais and make sure that all the people who are being allocated the Mara Game Reserve illegally are thrown out. He should not spare them.

This is a Government that you will tell anything and they will never listen. We have been talking about freeing airwaves for so many years and nobody wants to listen.

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

**The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah):** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Vote of the Ministry of Tourism and Information. On the outset, I would like to say that I support this Motion so that they can provide the services they are supposed to provide.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is good to know that the Ministry reaped Kshs21 billion in revenue. I know that tourism contributes quite a substantial amount in this figure. I am aware of the fact that the Coast Province produces over 60 per cent of the money that is got from tourism. If only 1 per cent of this were to be earmarked for the Coast Province, it would amount to over Kshs130 million or thereabouts. If we were under the majimbo government, we would demand that this money be allocated to improve the local infrastructure. Currently, it is difficult, but I would like the Ministry to be thinking in terms of ploughing back and investing in the areas where that revenue comes from. How much of this money has been ploughed back to the Coast Province? How much of the Kshs21 billion that has arisen through the facilities and the available resources at the Coast can be ploughed back to benefit the people at the Coast? I am not selfish. I am not saying that others should not benefit from this, but I would like to appeal that a mechanism be found so that you do not just milk the cow that gives you milk, but you have got to feed it as well. In

this regard, I would like a mechanism to be found to ensure that part of this revenue goes directly to help the poor rural schools and roads in the Coast Province where this revenues emanates from.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country is very rich in natural resources. These range from the Indian Ocean, right to the game parks, the mountains, the rivers and the lakes. I was looking at the document which shows what the Minister has requested in terms of Development Expenditure and Recurrent Expenditure. You will find that Kshs55 million has been set aside for Development Expenditure, and Kshs747 million for Recurrent Expenditure respectively. The expenditure patterns in this country have got to change, where we have less than 10 per cent going to Development Expenditure and more than 90 per cent going to Recurrent Expenditure. How do we develop if everything goes to Recurrent Expenditure? In my view, this ratio is improper and a methodology ought to be found to ensure that we have the right proportion, so that the Ministry itself can boast of developing tourist resources. I know we have got constraints in the Budget and this is where I support my colleague who said that we should develop the major tourist infrastructure through, build, operate and transfer basis. I have said this time and again, and the Minister and his staff should look into ways and means of ensuring that tourist attractions, all the way from Vanga right up to Kiunga, are maintained. The road that runs from Vanga to Kiunga, can be build section by section on a build, operate and transfer basis.

For the last ten years, we have been waiting for the World Bank to give us a loan to construct the Second Mzima Spring so as to address the problem of water shortage in Mombasa. It has not happened to date, and we will wait until the cows come home and there will not be sufficient water in Mombasa. The brains are there. What is stopping us from constructing the Second Mzima Spring so that there is adequate water in these tourist resorts in Mombasa, building it on a build, operate and transfer basis? What is stopping us from constructing the road to South Coast, the by-pass by the airport, to open up that side right across to Dongo Kuu and all the way to Vanga on a build, operate and transfer basis? We are just spending time waiting for the World Bank when we could do this, and in 15 to 20 years' time, we would have an asset that belongs to our children and grandchildren. I am appealing to the Minister to bring up a Cabinet Paper so that the principle of build, operate and transfer can be utilized here.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to urge that we develop local tourism. We are very much dependent on international tourism. That is fine, but it is important that local tourism is given its fair share of attention. So many Kenyans do not know what is---

*(Mr. Keah coughed)*

It is very cold in here and I am coughing. Could the air conditioner be turned down a little bit?

**Mr. Munyao:** (Inaudible)

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Mr. Keah, can you continue coughing and speaking?

**The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications** (Mr. Keah): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is complaining and yet he is wearing a sweater, which means he---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Musila): Mr. Keah can you concentrate on the debate?

**The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications** (Mr. Keah): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me add my voice to the aspect of the development of local tourism. We should encourage it. Let us have a programme so that people at the Coast can see what goes on in the Western and Lake regions, and vice versa on. Let us have a programme that will be affordable to Kenyans so that they can traverse this very rich country and see the wonders that abound in our country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, conference tourism is another area. Cairo thrives on conference tourism despite the fact that it is a desert. Our country is better off than the desert countries out there and I do not see why we cannot attract more tourists. Let us do a lot of advertising. Let us see more films being made about tourism in Kenya. Let us have more documentaries about Kenyan tourism being shown by the Kenya Airways, British Airways, Air France and others. This is an expenditure that will certainly sell our tourism.

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

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

I want to comment on the information I read about the introduction of a degree programme at the Kenya Utalii College. This is long overdue and I would urge that this degree programme starts as soon as is practicably possible. Rea Vipingo Estates at the Coast have given out 60 acres for the expansion of Utalii College. I do not know

what is happening. There ought to be an extra college which can train people to be self-employed.

With those remarks, I beg to support this Vote.

**Mr. Munyao:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this important Vote. The Minister has spent more time in foreign service than in this Ministry of Tourism and Information. I believe that the Minister has seen a lot of other tourist resorts in the world and we can benefit from his experience. It is unfortunate that he has got only three months to put that experience into practice. Since this Government is going out, we will take advantage of that and implement what it has not done. I would like to tell the Minister that while he is here, he should contribute more towards what he would like us to do when we will be in power.

The Kenya Government can create policies to improve tourism. So far, very little is being done towards this end. The Government has got to initiate policies which will interest tourists from all over the world to come here since most of them come from more developed countries. Kenya has got the ability to create tourism centres. I think tourism should not be centred at the Coast alone; it should be expanded to other areas. I believe it is through this wisdom that the Government felt the need to enjoin the Ministry of Tourism with the Ministry of Information. This is because the Minister will require information to explore other potential tourist centres. The Minister should use one department of his Ministry to improve the other department. Using the information network throughout the country, the Minister would be informed of the existence of other potential tourist centres apart from Coast Province.

I have in mind his own area of Kitui where we have got a stone called Zambani. According to legend, if you go round to the left side of this stone, you will become a lady. If you go round to the right side, you will become a man. This would prove to be a major tourist attraction because I know there are some countries with more men and others with more ladies. With proper marketing, countries which require to balance their distribution of gender will now come all the way to Kenya to see the Zambani Stone. This is a very interesting tourist attraction and it should be looked into. The Minister knows this stone and he would not dare go round it. Even when he goes home, he makes sure that he passes on the right side. He never passes on the left side. We fear this stone. If you pass on the right side---

**Mr. Obwocha:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Considering that Mr. Munyao is a Kamba, is he in order to bring this kind of story in here?

**Mr. Munyao:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am in order because this information is relevant for tourism. The Minister himself knows about this Zambani Stone and he would not challenge the issue. When we are going home, those of us who do not want to change immediately, fear travelling on the left side of the stone. We prefer to travel on the right side. It is important to explore other potential tourist sites.

The other day I was happy when I saw the Minister visiting Western Kenya. We watched on television, different types of stones and other tourist attractions. We would like to encourage the Minister to continue in that spirit. We should encourage our own people to invest in the hotel industry. Local investors have been discouraged by the fact that at the moment, even the Coast hotels are hardly 30 per cent full. That is not enough to promote investor confidence. I am happy that the Minister has tried to encourage local tourism by giving different rates for the domestic and international tourists. This is not enough. Could the Minister try and do much more so that we are able to travel to Turkana, Garissa and other areas that are not accessible? We need to encourage domestic tourism.

The Minister has been in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. In most of the areas that he has travelled, he has met tourism attaches. Most of them are doing very little in terms of promoting tourism. Could we have properly trained tourism attaches to market Kenya? We would expect our tourism attaches to be properly equipped with brochures and information so that they can effectively market Kenya as a favourite tourist destination.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding hotel beaches, I would like the Minister to liaise with the Minister for Local Government because a policy has to be initiated. In most areas, we have public beaches. You will find buildings which are near the sea; or beaches, or even roads traverse through the beaches. But these beaches are owned by persons; the roads are behind the beaches. How do you sell spaces near the beaches? I know it is now impossible because all the areas are completely occupied. But the right idea would have been to leave out areas next to the beaches; roads reserve should not be allocated to anybody, so that they can be used to access the oceans. I am sure he has seen that. It is something which can be done.

Regarding the information sector, I am a sad man. I am still thinking of moving a reduction of £1 during the Committee Stage on the Vote of the Department of Information. I want to separate the Department of Tourism from the Department of Information. In fact, this Ministry should be called the "Ministry of Tourism and Mis-information." The information sector in Kenya is very poor. I am told that, in Kiswahili, the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) - I know the Minister did languages and he knows Kiswahili although lawyers have not done a lot of Kiswahili - is known as "Kenya Bila Chakula." That must change because KBC is funded by us; the taxpayers. The KBC is biased in its coverage of news in this country. It is even biased in its coverage of proceedings in this House. We sit daily in this

House for four hours---

**Mr. Kathangu:** Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Sijui kama sikio langu lina shida, kwani nimesikia mhe. Munyao akisema KBC inamaanisha "Kenya Bila Chakula." Je, maana yake ni nini, ama amesema vipi?

**Mr. Munyao:** Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwetu tunasema hivyo. Mr. Kathangu, in your area, you may say it differently.

I was saying that the Department of Information is funded by Kenyans. In fact, severally, I have thought of raising funds and going to court to petition against KBC because it usually misinforms. We are entitled to information through the KBC, but we are not getting any information at all.

**Mr. M. A. Galgallo:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for Mr. Munyao to get away with the insinuation that the KBC is not Kenya Broadcasting Corporation but "Kenya Bila Chakula?" Could he withdraw that remark?

**Mr. Munyao:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we sit in this House daily for four hours, but when you listen to news about the deliberations in this House, which takes four hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays, it is only given in five minutes. On Wednesdays, we sit for eight hours, and it is only given coverage of between five and ten minutes. Is this the kind of information that we need? This is because if you cannot inform Kenyans about their own Parliament, what else can you ever inform them about? Earlier on, it used to take about half-an-hour. We have even passed a Motion calling on the Government to initiate live coverage in this House. What has happened? Would the Minister tell us something about this when he comes to reply?

One could watch keenly KBC TV in the evening during news hour but he or she would find that there was nothing at all. They know whom to cover or not. Even Mr. Musyoka's presidential campaign is not covered by the KBC.

**Mr. M.A. Galgallo:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for affording me this opportunity. I want to add my voice to this debate. We made a very big mistake by separating the Department of Tourism from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). I still want to say that tourism is about oceans, beaches and wildlife. Unless tourism and wildlife services go hand-in-hand, it would become very difficult for this Ministry to function effectively.

I, therefore, suggest that the KWS returns to its former Ministry, the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife. The reason is that Kenya used to attract a lot of tourists in the past, but the element of insecurity in the national parks, and even in towns and cities like Nairobi and Mombasa - somebody snatching a bag or a watch from a tourist - has destroyed our image. I would like to suggest that the KWS comes under this Ministry. I am sure Mr. Musyoka can manage it, so that the KWS staff are effectively monitored by the Ministry, rather than having KWS in the Office of the President.

You heard this afternoon Mr. Nassir trying to answer a Question on marauding elephants. He could not even answer the Question because he knows nothing about wildlife. To effect good security in the parks and even in towns, we need to give the Minister additional powers and bring the KWS under control.

Recently, we were on a visit to China, and one of our hon. Members said that Kenya is a nice country; she has good attraction sites and we have even police in the national parks. Then our host asked us: "What business do police have in the national parks?" Our host told us that, that is supposed to be a sanctuary for wildlife. You see, I do not understand why we should have police there. Let us ensure that there is security in our national parks through game rangers; let our police be effective on the streets. Every time, there is a special poaching which threatens also the security of tourists. I think we need to ensure that there is enough security both in parks and even in towns for tourists to come and enjoy this nation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Ministry does not have enough money for publicity. In China and Japan, literally there is nothing. I think this Ministry needs to invest more and open up; seize markets in some of these Asian countries. We were told that China sends between 22 and 24 million people every year as tourists. Most of these tourists go to Europe and Western America, and the rest go to Egypt and South Africa. The reason being that there is need for the Ministry - these are the conditions - to write to the Chinese for a protocol office so that Chinese tourists come to Kenya. They have signed with Egypt and South Africa. But there is reluctance on the side of the Kenya Government to sign a protocol with China.

I would like the Minister, when he is replying to this Motion, to tell us why it has taken them so long, and yet we are on goodfriendly terms with the Chinese. We are giving them all the contracts on roads construction in the country. If we cannot sign a protocol so that their tourists come here, then, that shows there is a trade imbalance, which is a very serious issue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let this Ministry be funded in order to develop infrastructure. Our road network, including the highways and other roads, even in the national parks, is very poor. Unless we develop our infrastructure and have a good road network, we cannot promote tourism in this country. It was also very attractive to

see that in all Chinese cities, they have developed tourist villages. It is just like expanding Bomas of Kenya and having other centres in Mombasa, Mt. Kenya and in Kisumu, so that we not only encourage foreign tourism, but also local tourism, because most of us do not even know our country. I would not just like to go to Nakuru and sleep in a lodging, but I would also want to see something that is entertaining. We should think faster and try to develop this model so that when people travel, they can see something touristic and attractive in those cities. That is why I am suggesting that we should expand the Bomas of Kenya. We should not just have it in Nairobi only, but also in Mombasa, which is a very big city, and Malindi, so that our people can enjoy traditional dances.

I also want to urge the Ministry to develop tourism in the Northern region of Kenya and stop tourists travelling by bus to Lamu. Let us attract tourists and expand the tourism facilities. Lamu is very potential for tourism and so is Kurawa. When people fly from Malindi to Lamu or from Nairobi to Lamu and Pate Island, there is no big benefit going to the tourism sector, but when you start, for example, a place where people can enjoy Bajuni cultures and traditional dances, even Kenyans themselves would want to go there. A situation where we have Pate Island deep in the sea with a very expensive hotel, we are not encouraging domestic tourism. I would like to appeal to the Minister, because they have the manpower to encourage domestic tourism. This is what I saw in China and Korea where domestic tourists are three times more than the foreign tourists.

With those few remarks, I would like to support the Motion.

**Mr. Omingo:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Vote of the Ministry of Tourism and Information. I would like to first echo the sentiments expressed by my colleagues in terms of the amount of money voted for this Ministry. This is a reflection of a tiny department in the Office of the President. We have technocrats sitting on the Civil Servants bench who would have done a better job than this. We know how important this Ministry was, until somebody barbaric took up arms and shot people in Likoni, and tourism was brought to its knees. This was simply because somebody somewhere thought that the upcountry people were going to vote in a particular way and they had to be dispersed. They even scared tourists from Europe and America. We were driven by personal primitive sentiments to achieve our personal goals at the expense of a national issue. Unfortunately, I have not seen any policy measures the Ministry has taken to bring back the confidence into the tourism sector. A long time ago, this was the second best foreign exchange earner after agriculture and you dare allocate it just below Kshs800 million both in Recurrent and Development Expenditures. Something should be done to remedy the situation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, some very basic decisions should be made, for example, moving the KWS from the Office of the President. It is the monster in the Office of the President, that whenever they smell foreign funding, it must be put under the Office of the President. For example, the *El Nino* Fund and the HIV/AIDS fund in the are in the Office of the President, where there are people who do not even know how to diagnose an individual for a flu. Is this not ironical? Could some of us - including the President-to-be, Mr. Musyoka - take some courage like that fly which takes its breakfast on the nose of a lion, and pull this department out of the Office of the President?

**Mr. Kihoro:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the speaker on the Floor in order to make a serious allegation that the Minister for Information and Tourism could be the president of this country in future?

**Mr. Omingo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is an aspiring candidate, and we would like him to prove that he is worth being the President of this country by making such kinds of crucial decisions to enable him deliver in that Ministry, so that we can assess him in terms of delivering services on the national level. Mr. Musyoka should understand that this department was actually taken to the Office of the President when the former Head of Civil Service, Dr. Leakey, moved to that office. The Minister should realize that he is no longer there, and will not follow him wherever he is. He should pull it out today, and we shall be able to count on him as one of the serious people who can lead this nation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, why can we not promote local tourism? The only person who moves all over this country is the Chief Executive and Chairman of a particular party, using helicopters of the police force to tour the country, which he has toured many times. Those facilities should also be availed or made cheap for Kenyans, in order to also move around. A European travels all the way from London to come and take Kenyans around the Kisii soapstone area where we have a unique stone that is not found anywhere, in the world. This is a unique stone that people use to carve some statues and ornaments that are sold worldwide. Also, a European travels all the way from Europe to hold a Kenyan's hand and take him to the Tabaka soapstone area, whereas Kenyans do not know where Tabaka is, what is found there, and the value of that stone, and yet that is our national heritage.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have some cultural dances and groups in Kisii, for example, the *Chinkororo* and *Amachuma*, which could be seen by the tourists. They should travel to Kisii so that they can add more value our cultural heritage in terms of managing our security matters.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi):** Mr. Omingo, are you talking about some stone in Kisii?

**Mr. Omingo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about the Kisii soapstone.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi):** Mr. Munyao seems to have dealt a lot on some other stone.

**Mr. Omingo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a unique stone found in Kisii. I wish not to be drawn back to an area where I may reverse my anatomy. I would like to concentrate on the Kisii soapstone.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muturi):** Then deal with the stone alone.

**Mr. Omingo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the only coverage we receive from KBC is that slot on the programme, "Today in Parliament." I would like to commend the pressmen who make it possible. That is the only programme that mentions Mr. Omingo or Mr. Obwocha. But most of the time, coverage is only about His Excellency the President, the Chairman and the Vice Chairman of the ruling party. For heavens sake, the KBC should be commercialised. They should not advertise or broadcast cost-free, for example, the merger of NDP and KANU. This is primitive, and it does not add value to the station. They are congratulating themselves for a new vision where there is no vision. I would not be foolish enough to take an advertisement to the KBC when I know that what supersedes or precedes my advertisement is the coverage of the KANU and NDP merger. The Corporation that is advertising is Kenya Railways, which cannot afford to pay salaries for four months, but it can afford to advertise and commend the KANU/NDP co-operation free of charge. Do you think you want to be a commercial enterprise? I am sorry, you cannot! I wish you live to realise how we can manage the economy when we take over this Government. I would request the Minister to subsidise entrepreneurs who have suffered losses due to insecurity in our parks, which has made the tourists not come. If they can be given some subsidies like tax-free status in terms of acquiring beds and televisions to furnish the rooms, that would be a mileage to entrepreneurs who are almost giving up. At least, you give them a boost by providing tax exemptions in terms of supplying and buying equipment to furnish the hotels. You should also reduce visa charges.

The Minister knows our road network, but he has only provided Kshs55 million to develop the tourism sector. What can you do with Kshs55 million when we do not even have roads? The only vehicles which go to our tourism attraction areas are 4WDs. The cost of driving tourists there is also prohibitive. That is why they are relocating to South Africa. Can you realise that, Mr. Minister, and use your technocrats to advise the Government. They are relocating to South Africa because of the high cost of managing transport to and from the parks. Why do we not improve the roads? You can, at least, remove duty and tax on the vehicles that transport tourists to attraction centres, and that will oil that almost clogging industry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Utalii College intake has refused to be transparent, just like the Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC). They had a reputation and I know the Minister is professional enough and has a vision for that Ministry. Please, enable the college to be transparent. Let it not follow the KMTC route of admission through back doors or preferred admissions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I talked about the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). It is important that we separate the KWS from wherever it is. Indeed, it is a disservice to Kenyans. It is even a misplacement of personnel. For instance, when you bring a Minister who has been a soldier to come and talk about tourism, you are joking, unless, he was a game warden before he became a Minister. Please, do what you can to revert the KWS to where it was, and also improve the road network if you can, because the Kshs55 million is not worth it. If you can, bring some Supplementary Estimates and we can do something. We look at this Ministry sympathetically. But again, we cannot give to people who have not asked for it. That is where we require some courage. Some people have got that euphoria and fantasy and fear some imaginary powers that are non-existent. Even when the powers have gone, they even fear the shadow of those powers. Could you wake up, Mr. Minister? Let us make decisions and make them now! That is because it will add mileage your campaign.

We are talking about insecurity. A tourist will not come to lose a purse, pouch or necklace. A case in point is that of Julie Ward. It has not been resolved to date. That was as a result of insecurity. Tourists cannot come from a haven of peace where they can walk almost naked and nobody rapes them, and come to walk on streets where people are striped naked and raped. It is very unfortunate that insecurity is a matter of concern. I wish the Minister could liaise with the Minister in charge of internal security and have something moving to provide security, so that we can expect tourists.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**Mr. Kimeto:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to say a few words. Our tourism areas can bring a lot of money to this Republic, if we could look after their heritage. We are facing a situation where the Kenyan heritage is diminishing because no people have been employed to look after our culture. Tourism is there by name because there are no employees who look after the visitors that come to this country. If we could employ many people to look after the tourists who visit this country, they could bring a lot of money to this Republic. They just come, tour the wildlife areas and look at the animals without taking anything or giving them any food! If we could look after those tourists well, especially those from the Arab world where there are

no animals like leopards, giraffes and lions, we could get a lot of money because we have those animals in plenty. That money could go to the Exchequer to enable the Government to offer services to the people. We should implement that because the Minister is here. Let the Minister do that now, and look after the tourists and animals in the game parks by providing askaris. The number of lions is diminishing because they are being killed and not looked after. We should put electric barbed wire around the game reserves, so that the animals could be kept safe in order to live longer.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at the security of the people who come into this country, it is very discouraging. It would make other clients and tourists go back to their countries where they can live peacefully, rather than come to Kenya where there is a lot of insecurity. I am the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Administration, National Security and Local Authorities, and I have always said that the security of the people must be paramount. But, unfortunately, the Executive arm of the Government is not looking into that. We shall be very poor people in this country if security will not be taken seriously.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was in Egypt and you can go everywhere, even during the night, without any intimidation. You are looked after by an askari. When you are a tourist in that country, you are looked after by an askari because they know that you are paying in their hotels. But why do we not look after the visitors who come into this country straight from the airport? The visitors who come into our country can be looked after by an askari. Our human resources are there but, unfortunately, there are no people to look after the tourists to enable them feel secure and safe in Kenya.

Unfortunately, our people do not understand! The Ministers are there, not necessarily to think of what should be done. They are there to be the sycophants of the Head of State! They do not give their own ideas to enable this country live. The Ministers, with their sycophancy, can never think of ways to enable Kenya to move forward and assist this country to live. I am not saying that they are not there! They are there but their productivity is very low! They cannot think or produce anything that would better the standards of living of the Kenyan people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our schools in this country do not know where our tourism attractions are. There is no law to encourage them to tour, at least, some parts of this country. Even the teachers are the same. There is no law in this country which enables the teachers to tour this country. The Minister is here, but he has never thought of bringing a law to encourage those who are employed to tour their own country when they retire. There is no law to encourage them. The Minister should bring a law to this Parliament to encourage all workers to visit their own country. The Kenyan people are foreigners in their own country. They do not know---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Muturi): Sorry, Mr. Kimeto! Are you suggesting that a law should be put in place to compel people to tour their country, or what are you talking about?

**Mr. Kimeto:** Yes, they should tour their own country! In Britain, there is a law that makes it possible for people to be deducted some money, so that when they retire, they can go to other countries. The same law is in Israel. Why do we not have the same law here in this country? We are people living like those in other countries. Even our tourist resort areas like Mombasa and forested areas are not looked after. They are being destroyed! You know that half of Kenya is evergreen and people from Egypt who do not have forests can visit such areas. But now, our forests are dying and nobody knows that they could be good resort areas in future.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the number of officers who promote the tourism industry outside this country are very few. We can promote the tourism industry through the internet. We could tell them about our wildlife and how they co-exist with us. In this country we have different species of animals that are not found anywhere else in the world. It is a pity that our officers in foreign countries are not aggressive enough when it comes to marketing our country. They should encourage many tourists to come to this country by marketing our good and attractive tourist sites. Some of them do not want to market our country because of the prevailing insecurity. It is a shame that tourists in Nairobi are always attacked by street boys. The Government should come up with ways of dealing with the street urchins and beach boys menace so that tourists can walk around freely without the fear of being attacked. Most of us cannot walk around the streets of Nairobi, especially during the night because we fear being attacked by the urchins. Tourists who come to Nairobi do not enjoy their stay here because of the insecurity. Even Nairobian themselves are so scared of walking around the streets of Nairobi because of insecurity. The Government has enough resources to ensure that there is enough security in this country. Why are they reluctant to do so?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would urge the Minister for Tourism and Information and the Minister of State in charge of internal security to work together and see what can be done to improve the security situation in this country. For example, they could employ security men to look after the welfare of tourists in this country. By so doing, many tourists will come to this country. We will earn a lot of foreign exchange from them. The Minister should come up with ideas that will promote the tourism industry in this country. We would like many tourists to come to our country. Currently, many tourists are going to other destinations where there is enough security. We would like tourists to come to this country without fearing for their lives. We should encourage them to come in large

numbers to see our animals.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the National Museum of Kenya is the only one of its kind. It was built by the colonial Government. Why does this Government not set up a museum in every district of this country so that the local communities can preserve their culture and artifacts? It is a sad affair that this Government has continued to maintain the only national museum which was built by the colonial Government.

Successive Ministers for Tourism seem to be helpless. They do not think of what can be done to promote tourism in this country. They should come out of their cocoon and come up with ways of promoting local and international tourism. When I will be given a chance to serve this country as the Minister for Tourism and Information, I will make sure that Kenya will be a better country to live in.

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

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Vote on this very important Ministry.

However, when I look at the budgetary allocations of the different Ministries, I do not understand the wisdom of this Government. For example, the Office of the President has been allocated Kshs19 billion. The Ministry of Health has been allocated Kshs14 billion, while the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has only been given Kshs54 billion. But a Ministry that earns revenue to the tune of Kshs23 billion in a year has only been allocated Kshs309 million. What are we talking about? We are talking about this Parliament not putting its priorities right. I believe that the core problem is the issue of how we do our Budgets in this country. Parliament must address the issue of budgeting in this country so that the goose that lays the golden egg is given its rightful share.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to start with the tourism sector. I notice that the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB) has been allocated Kshs153 million. If we really want money to run this Government, then we must invest heavily in the KTB. I know this Government does not have enough revenue and that is why we are getting our budget squeezed in a manner that we are not able to cover all the required expenditure. In the Budget of this Ministry, the Head on advertising and publicity has been given Kshs28 million, up from Kshs248,000 in the previous year. Previously, we had tourism offices in our various embassies, but they were scrapped. Could the Minister tell us who are these lobby groups that have been given this Kshs28 million to promote the tourism industry in this country? I believe Kenyans can do a better job than these fellows who are being given this money. These fellows are in business and they do not have the interest of this country at heart.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was a Member of the PAC. At one stage, when we were looking at the accounts of the Bommas of Kenya, we realised it had almost collapsed. I expected the Minister to ask for more money to promote the Bommas of Kenya because the activities there were not generating enough revenue. The Bommas of Kenya should be given more money to promote tourism in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Kenya Institute of Mass Communication (KIMC). I do not know who is the current principal. This is the only institute that has fair recruitment exercise. They admit one student per district. Therefore, they assure Kenyans that anybody who qualifies has a fair chance to join this institute. This is unlike the KMTC which admits people from one locality. When we do that, what example are we showing this country? Therefore, I want to congratulate the KIMC management for their fairness in recruitment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like the Minister to tell this House why he has requested for only Kshs20 million in the Directorate of Information to buy telecommunication equipment. We know that telecommunication equipment is very expensive. Is Kshs20 million enough? How many cameras will they buy? I understand a good camera costs between Kshs5 million to Kshs10 million. What is 20 million shillings, when this year we have a general election? We want everybody covered in all districts.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is one area which everybody has touched on, and this is the media. I am one of those people you can count who has been defending the media, whether it is the print or electronic media, irrespective of what they have done. But there is one thing we would like to ask the media to do. If it does want Parliament to emancipate it, it should come up with its own regulations. The media should regulate itself. What we are seeing is that Parliament is poking its nose in the media because it does not come forward to regulate its activities.

Many people have talked about the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC). I would like to appeal to the management of this Corporation--- The only two programmes they report well is "Today in Parliament", and we are ready to give them credit for this. The other one is on funeral announcements. If you take a funeral announcement there, they announce it correctly. But I do not know who directs them to cover news on the ground. I am really happy that the KANU MPs have now realised that they require fair coverage. They are complaining now because they have not been fairly covered by the KBC. If the Minister will be the Presidential candidate for KANU, he will require to be covered by the KBC. So, he had better streamline its activities before he is elected a candidate. The other day, I saw Mr. Uhuru being covered by the Presidential Press Service (PPS). Is the PPS not the "Presidential Press Service"? When did Mr. Uhuru become the President? I saw the PPS covering him in Eastlands. We are saying



that we require fair coverage. There is no problem even if they give him coverage, but they should cover everybody fairly. In the IPPG meeting, we said that the KBC should give everybody fair coverage, and that is what we are requesting them to do. Let them do their job properly.

Finally, on that issue, we would like the Minister to be categorical on the policy of KBC coverage. Let the Minister tell us the way forward.

I do not want to belabour on insecurity in our national parks. We require security in our national parks so that tourists can give us money when they come to see wildlife. Like the other Members who have contributed have said, let the Office of the President not be greedy. Let it not transfer all the departments which have a lot of money under it. The Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) was transferred from the Ministry of Tourism and Information to the Office of the President. Let the Office of the President take this department back to the Ministry of Tourism and Information, where it belongs.

I would like to comment on an issue I raised last year about the existence of the Catering Levy Trustee (CLT). I would like to ask the Minister this question: What is his policy on the CLT? For two consecutive years, the Minister for Finance has tried to take part of the revenue it generates to the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA). What is his position? Does he want the CLT to fall under his Ministry or not? If the Minister wants it to fall under that Ministry, let him harmonise the law. We do not want this issue to be raised here, year in, year out.

Finally, the Ministry of Tourism and Information is important. We know that the current Minister in this Ministry is fairly experienced and we would like him to address these issues. The issue of unfair coverage will affect this country. This is a time-bomb. The Minister has heard hon. Members from the KANU side raise it, and I am sure that it will be more explosive as we approach the general election. This is a very important year.

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

**Eng. Toro:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Vote of the Ministry of Tourism and Information is very sensitive. First, as you are aware, over five years ago, tourism was the single most important foreign exchange earner in this country. Today, we cannot say so. The Minister knows the reason why his Ministry does not perform well in attracting tourists to come to Kenya.

Over the years, we have not heard the Minister make a commitment on how he will attract tourists to come to Kenya. Our neighbouring countries have become tourist destinations when we are still lagging behind. If you go to the Coast, and I am sure that you have been to this area many times, you will find that many hotels are either closed or work below 30 per cent capacity. This is the case, and yet the beaches which used to be there ten years ago, the hotels and their management are still the same. So, the Minister has been unable to address, and even bring a Sessional Paper to Parliament on the revival of the tourism industry. Unless he does that, we will continue guessing the reason why tourism is not picking up.

Since the Minister is one of the candidates who will vie for the Presidency on the KANU ticket, he should, at least, tell Kenyans what he hopes to do to revive the tourism industry. This is because we cannot continue to borrow money from the Bretton Woods institutions when we have failed to make money here in Kenya. This industry which generates billions of shillings can sustain most of the infrastructure in the country, including the national parks. I would like to point out that infrastructure in our parks is still very poor. According to the Kenya Roads Board Act, we still rely on the fuel levy to have good infrastructure in our parks. If the Ministry of Tourism and Information generates enough revenue, the Minister can demand from the Minister for Finance to be allocated enough money to revive the tourism industry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, insecurity has been one of the issues which has made the tourism industry suffer. Whereas the regular police have been doing their best to combat crime, it would be prudent if the Minister for Tourism and Information would come up with a proposal to have tourist police. There are some countries in the world with police who specifically cater for tourists. Every tourist who arrives is met by a tourist police and security is guaranteed in tourist lodges and hotels. There is tourist police everywhere to take care of the tourists. I do not see the reason why we cannot do this here in Kenya. We have many policemen on our roads who can be redeployed to do some useful work, instead of harassing motorists and *matatus*. These policemen can be redeployed and re-trained to take care of the tourists who come to Kenya. Unless tourists are guaranteed safety in this country---

Again, there is adverse reporting of any tourist who has been harassed or dies in Kenya. When one tourist is killed, it causes ripples worldwide. The Minister should make sure that proper information is designated to the various embassies as to the cause of death of the tourist. This is because the manner in which this is reported abroad does not augur very well for our industry.

The KBC has been a very big---

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Muturi): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Wednesday, 7th August, at 9.00 a.m. Eng. Toro, you will have a balance of five minutes tomorrow in the afternoon.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.