

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 20th June, 2000

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.210

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE ON PRIVATE CAMPAIGN MEETINGS

Col. Kiluta asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) if he is aware that Government vehicles and armed policemen are used to escort political party leaders in Masinga during campaign rallies; and

(b) if he could justify public expenditure on private campaign meetings.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Question was deferred to today because the hon. Member was not satisfied with the answer given at the time. But I believe, now that the officers in question have been transferred, he is quite happy.

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the Minister that appropriate action was taken. Therefore, there is no need for further questioning.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is the larger Question, as to whether policemen should be doing this kind of thing? I think the Minister should be able to answer that and make it loud and clear that this will not happen again.

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in fact, it was not a question of all policemen, but particular policemen.

Mr. Musila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has said that the officers have been transferred. I am wondering whether that is the manner in which Government punishes its officers instead of taking action. Does the Minister now believe that the officers are not going to commit the same offence they committed in Masinga?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have been advised correctly.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question!

Question No.211

SALE OF WOODLEY ESTATE HOUSES

Mr. Muchiri asked the Minister for Local Government:-

(a) if he is aware that Nairobi City Council sold Woodley Estate houses between 1992 and 1998 and that recently, the Council revoked the said sale;

(b) if he could table the list of the buyers, valuation of each house and amount paid to Nairobi City Council per house by both previous buyers and the current ones; and

(c) who authorised the sale.

Mr. Speaker: Where is the Minister for Local Government? Next Question!

Question No.291

PAYMENT OF LAND RATES BY
DEL MONTE (K) LTD

Mr. Ndicho not in? Next Question!

Question No.050

Completion of Survey Works
in Ikalaasa

Mr. Katuku asked the Minister for Lands and Settlement:-

- (a) if he could inform the House what has delayed survey works in Ikalaasa Location in Yathui Division and when the said works will be completed; and
(b) when he will appoint a land board for Yathui Division in Mwala Constituency.

Mr. Speaker: Where is the Minister for Lands and Settlement?

Mr. Katuku: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. There is no quorum.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Katuku, we are on matters other than business. We do not need a quorum.
Next Question!

Question No.173

CONSTRUCTION OF KALAWA/MAKUENI BRIDGE

Bw. Kalulu alimuuliza Waziri wa Barabara na Ujenzi kama ametenga kiasi gani cha fedha kujenga daraja la mto Thwake kuunganisha tarafa za Kalawa na Makueni.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Mwakalu): Bw. Spika, naomba kujibu. Kwa wakati huu Wizra haina mpango kabambe wa kujenga daraja la Thwake.

Mr. Kalulu: Bw. Spika, nafikiri jibu la Waziri Msaidizi haliridhishi Bunge hili, kwa sababu swali hilo lililetwa Bungeni mwaka wa 1974 na jibu lilikuwa kwamba, mwaka utakaofuata, makadirio ya daraja hiyo yangepangwa.

Je, Waziri Msaidizi anaropokwa maneno tu ama anajibu Swali barabara kuridhisha Bunge?

Mr. Mwakalu: Bw. Spika, mhe. Kalulu aliuliza Swali kwamba: Wizara ya Ujenzi wa Barabara imetenga kiasi gani cha fedha ili kujenga daraja hiyo. Nimesema kwamba Wizara yangu haijatenga pesa zozote kwa ujenzi wa daraja hiyo. Sababu ni kwamba katika makadirio na maakisio ya Kamati ya Maendeleo ya Wilaya ya Makueni haijaorodhesha daraja hiyo katika mipango yake ya ujenzi. Ukweli ni kwamba hiyo si daraja hasa; ni kivuko cha mto ambao mara kwa mara umekauka, lakini magari hupitia njia hiyo.

Mr. Kalulu: Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Spika. Mto wa Thwake ni mto mkubwa unaunganisha tarafa tano; Mbiyune, Wamunyu, Kibauni na Kalawa. Ninjia ya maana kwa sababu imewekwa katika orodha ya njia kuu. Lakini haipitiki wakati wa mafuriko kwa sababu ule mto hufurika bila kifukio. Inafaa Waziri Msaidizi afahamu kwamba Kamati ya Maendeleo ya Wilaya ya Makueni imetuma maombi mara mbili mwaka wa---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Kalulu. Those are very good arguments, but you stood on a point of order. What is the disorder the Assistant Minister has created?

Mr. Kalulu: Bw. Spika, je, Waziri Msaidizi ana mipango gani kuiunda daraja hiyo?

Mr. Speaker: That is not a point of order.

Mr. Katuku: Bw. Spika, Waziri Msaidizi amepotosha Bunge hili kwa kusema kwamba huo ni mto mdogo kwa hivyo hakuna haja ya kuujengea daraja. Kwa sababu huo ni mto mkubwa na hauwezi kuvukika wakati wa mvua. Hiyo ni daraja inayounganisha mahali ninakowakilisha Bungeni na kule kwa mhe. Kalulu. Nilikuwa na Waziri na akatuahidi kwamba, daraja itajengwa kwa mto huo. Ninashindwa ni kwa nini Waziri Msaidizi anakanusha yale tuli yokubaliana na Waziri. Sijui ni nani anayesema ukweli?

Mr. Mwakalu: Bw. Spika, hakuna sababu, nia wala lengo la kumtatanisha Waziri na naibu wake. Ukweli wa mambo ni kwamba kuanzia makisio ya fedha ya Julai mwezi ujao, kila Mbunge atapewa Kshs5milioni za barabara.

Ningependa kumshauri mhe. Kalulu kwamba, atakapopata pesa hizo ahakikishe kwamba miongoni mwa shughuli zingine za ujenzi wa barabara katika sehemu yake, pesa hizo zitumike katika kujenga daraja hiyo.

Mr. Kalulu: Bw. Spika, Kshs5 milioni ambazo zimetengewa kwa kila sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni si za kujenga daraja. Hizo ni pesa za urekebishaji wa barabara. Waziri Msaidizi ana mipango gani ya kujenga daraja katika mto wa Thwaka?

Mr. Mwakalu: Mheshimiwa Mbunge, mwenye haja ndiye huenda chooni!

Bw. Spika, kila sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni itapewa Kshs5 milioni kwa shughuli za kurekebisha daraja na barabara zinazohusika katika maeneo mbali mbali ya uwakilishi Bungeni. Sijui ni kwa nini hawawezi kutumia baadhi ya pesa hizo kujenga daraja.

Mr. Katuku: Bw. Spika, Waziri Msaidizi anapotosha hili Bunge. Hiyo barabara ni aina ya kiwango cha "C" na aina hiyo ya barabara haihusiki katika Kshs5 milioni zinazotengewa kila sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni. Ni haki kwa huyu wa Waziri Msaidizi kupotosha Bunge hili?

Mr. Mwakalu: Bw. Spika, hiyo barabara ni kiwango cha "E710".

Mr. Speaker: For the second time, Question No.211!

Question No.211

SALE OF WOODLEY ESTATE HOUSES

Mr. Muchiri asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) if he is aware that Nairobi City Council sold Woodley Estate houses between 1992 and 1998 and that recently, the Council revoked the said sale;
- (b) if he could table the list of the buyers, valuation of each house and amount paid to Nairobi City Council per house by both previous buyers and the current ones; and
- (c) who authorised the sale.

Mr. Speaker: Anybody from the Ministry of Local Government? Sorry, Mr. Muchiri, there is nobody, I will defer your Question.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could you defer it to tomorrow morning?

Mr. Speaker: No, I will defer it to Thursday or next week. Mr. Ndicho for the second time!

(Question deferred)

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for coming late.

Question No.291

PAYMENT OF LAND RATES BY DEL MONTE (K) LTD

Mr. Ndicho asked the Minister for Lands and Settlement:-

- (a) if he is aware that Del Monte (K) Limited pays a paltry Kshs1.50 per acre, per year, as land rates to the Kenya Government;
- (b) if he is further aware that Socfinaf and Kakuzi Limited who own over 70,000 acres do not pay any rates, rents or premiums to the Government; and,
- (c) when the leases of these companies will lapse.

Mr. Speaker: Where is the Minister for Lands and Settlement?

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Opolo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister is not around at the moment, but he was the one supposed to answer that Question.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I know the Ministry is "running" away from this Question because of the weight it carries. He is the Assistant Minister and yet he is telling us that it is the Minister who is supposed to answer this Question. I already have a written reply, and I could give it to him to read, so that we proceed.

Mr. Speaker: No, I do not think that would be correct. I will be fair to you and defer the Question for lack of

anything better to do.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This Question has been standing deferred since last week.

Mr. Speaker: What do I do now, since I cannot answer it?

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you should reprimand this Assistant Minister so that he ensures that his Minister answers the Question. Otherwise, these Ministers are taking us for a ride. I think we better invoke Standing Order No.88 and "name" them.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Opore, will you ensure that this Question is answered by your Minister when it comes?

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Opore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will do that.

Mr. Shill: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the Assistant Minister tell us where the Minister is? You are asking him to ensure the Minister comes to the House to answer the Question and yet he does not know where he is. Is that fair?

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Opore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there could be many factors that have hindered his coming early. He could be stuck in the jam.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in fact, I remember the answers which the Assistant Minister gave last week. He said that the Minister was indisposed and was in his home upcountry. But the following day, I found the Minister at the Budget Party and he did not look sick at all! So, the Chair should help this House in that regard!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ndicho, I wish every Member of Parliament, yourself included, could help! **Mr.**

Muchiri: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has said that the Minister himself is supposed to come and answer this Question and yet, he is an Assistant Minister in that Ministry. Is he being fair to this House?

Mr. Speaker: Anyway, I think I will defer the Question because we are not getting anywhere. I do not think hon. Members expect the Chair to do clerical services as well!

(Question deferred)

Question No.050

COMPLETION OF SURVEY WORKS IN IKALAASA

Mr. Katuku asked the Minister for Lands and Settlement:-

(a) whether he could inform the House as to what has delayed survey works in Ikaalasa Location, Yathui Division and when the said works will be completed; and,

(b) when he will appoint a land board for Yathui Division in Mwala Constituency.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Opore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologize for coming late. However, I beg to reply.

(a) The Ministry has not delayed survey work in Ikaalasa Location, Yathui Division as they are hearing objections to cases but demarcation and surveying are proceeding according to schedule. The work will be completed when the above are finalised and the adjudication map prepared.

(b) The Ministry will consider establishing a land control board for Yathui Division in Mwala Constituency once a request to that effect is made through the local district development committee.

Mr. Katuku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer given by the Assistant Minister is very interesting because he says survey work has not been delayed. This work started when I was a Standard One pupil in 1974. How long is this work going to take?

Mr. Opore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, where there are cases to be resolved, the exercise cannot be completed until they are sorted out.

Mr. Katuku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, part "b" of the answer given by the Assistant Minister deals with the land board. The Assistant Minister has said that we will have the land board in Yathui Division once the District Development Committee (DDC) makes a request. Our DDC has written to the Ministry of Lands and Settlement because this issue has already been discussed. If I give the Assistant Minister the Minutes of the DDC meeting, is he going to implement and appoint a land board for Yathui Division?

Mr. Opore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Ministry, I undertake to have that executed as soon as we get Minutes from the hon. Member.

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that survey work started way back in 1970s. That area was part of the larger Kibaoni Location. Ikaalasa Location was created just the other day. Could the Assistant Minister admit that the fault is

not with the resident but the Ministry of Lands and Settlement? The people who are supposed to do that job are never paid any allowances. Could he move his officers to the ground and do the job because the residents of that area are ready?

Mr. Opore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if there are no disputes, we will send our officers there.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very great shame for Members of Parliament to come here everyday and ask the Government to carry out land adjudication in their constituencies. Everyday, there is hue and cry about land. This Question shows that the people of Yathui Division are living as squatters in their own land. What is the Government's policy in so far as land adjudication is concerned in places where land adjudication has not been done for the last 37 years? This does not fall on the types of land that we are about to invade! This is land owned by Africans! When is he going to sub-divide all the land in this country?

Mr. Opore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of policy in this particular Question is not appropriate because it is a wider area and the hon. Member was here when we were spelling out policies during the Budget Speech.

Mr. Maore: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Have you noted that we are on the process of legitimizing mediocrity by a Member of this House, who is threatening that he is going to invade some land belonging to other people? This House and the Constitution are very clear about other people's right to property.

Mr. Speaker: Who did that?

Mr. Maore: It is hon. Ndicho, Sir!

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I protest in the strongest terms possible the reference made by hon. Maore to the effect that my contribution is mediocre. I know that the issue of land bothers most hon. Members here.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ndicho! Did you or did you not, as complained by hon. Maore advocate, for a breach of the Constitution which you swore before me to uphold, defend and protect?

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think he heard what I said. I think there are some Members of Parliament here who are very scared because of the amount of land which they own and I suspect that he is one of them. What I said is that this land in Ikalaasa Location is not one of the areas which might fall victim of invasion. Where did I breach the Constitution?

The Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we heard him very clearly say that this might be one of the farms that they are likely to invade soon.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! This was brought to my attention by hon. Maore as it is his right to do so. Every Member in this House has an obligation to bring to the attention of the Chair any breach of either the Standing Orders or any breach of the provisions of the Constitution. It is, in fact, the duty of each one of you to bring to the attention of the Chair such occurrences. But since hon. Ndicho denied ever saying what has been alleged, I think we will let that matter rest there. So, I believe that he knows what he is doing by denying it.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. That is very well, but what if the HANSARD will bear out that those words were actually uttered by the hon. Member?

Mr. Speaker: I did not want to follow it that far. But hon. Members must understand that when we come to Parliament and we are called hon. Members, then we owe it to our honour to speak the truth in this House. If you do not do that, naturally, it follows like day follows night, that when an hon. Member has said something and denies that he said so, then this House may remove the title "honourable" from that Member and then that Member will be called by all and sundry "Mister" instead of "honourable".

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know why the hon. Members did not hear what I said earlier on. For their benefit, I would like to repeat what I said. I said this is not part of the land which we will invade. I know that some hon. Members here are in the payroll of the *Mzungu*.

Mr. Katuku: Could the Assistant Minister consider sending a special team to check on what is happening on the ground?

Mr. Opore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if there are disputes on the ground, then they have to be cleared first before we can send a special team.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

ABDUCTION OF NTORONI RESIDENTS

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that the following people, namely; Ikuura Mukembu, Mark Kathare, Njeru Kamwara, Mrs. Jane Njeru and Modesto Njuki, disappeared on 9th January, 2000 after they were abducted by Administration Police Officers from their farms in Ntoroni Location of Tharaka District?

(b) Could the Minister inform the House the whereabouts of the above named people?

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

(a) I am aware of the people who have been named by the hon. Member as missing but I am not aware that they were abducted by the Administration Police Officers.

(b) Since they are missing, we do not know their whereabouts.

Mr. Mwenda: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear that these five people were actually abducted by the Administration Police Officers from their farms. Subsequently, two Administration Police Officers were arrested and released without any charges. To cover up the matter, a civilian, Mr. Joseph Musili was arraigned in court in Maua, charged with abduction. Why is the Minister trying to protect criminals?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not trying to protect any criminals. In fact, it is the first time I am hearing about the name of the person who was arraigned in court. Obviously, it means that I have not been given the correct information and I would request that I be allowed to follow it up.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, I think, I will give you time to get that information. So, the Question will be deferred to Thursday.

(Question deferred)

REGISTRATION OF TELKOM KENYA
AS A SERVICE PROVIDER

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Information, Transport and Communications, the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that Telkom Kenya Limited has applied to the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) to be registered as an Internet Service Provider as per *Gazette Notice* No.2166 of 3rd March, 2000?

(b) On what grounds does the Government seek to extend Telkoms monopoly of phone services within Nairobi from three to five years as earlier approved by Parliament and why does the Government intend to increase shares being availed to a strategic partner in the privatization of Telkom from 26 per cent to 49 per cent?

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

(a) The Minister is aware that Telkom Kenya Limited has applied to the Communications Commission of Kenya to be registered as an Internet Service Provider as per *Gazette Notice* No.2166 of 7th April, 2000. This followed an application to CCK for ISP license on 17th March, 2000.

(b) The Post and Telecommunications sector policy statement published in April, 1999 states that Telkom Kenya's monopoly in Nairobi will be for five years from 1st July, 1999 to 30th June, 2004 and not for three years as indicated in the Question. At the moment, the Government has no plans whatsoever to extend this period. Further, in order to attract investors operating some of the most successful international telecommunications network, it was found necessary by the Government to increase the shares being offered to the strategic partner in the privatization of Telkom Kenya from 26 per cent to 49 per cent. In addition, the proceeds from the sale would make a major contribution towards reducing the budget deficit.

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Ministry was negotiating the Telkom Bill with the Departmental Committee on Energy, Communications and Public Works, it was very clear that Telkom Kenya was going to have only three years exclusivity period to provide telephone services in Nairobi. Now that the Assistant Minister is claiming that it was five years, could he tell this House why, in his opinion, given the inefficiency that still continues in Telkom Kenya, it was necessary to give them even the five-year exclusivity period?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier on, the five years were given by the Government to Telkom Kenya Limited at the outset in order to give it a fair duration to trade and make money.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a problem when Telkom Kenya has a monopoly over telephone services provision in Nairobi, to be provided a licence as an internet service provider; to compete with people who applied for dedicated lines as service providers. It is a contradiction in a health liberal market competition. Be that as it may, a more fundamental question is: Telkom Kenya is not responsible for the fact that this Government is living beyond its means. So, the fact that you need more money to offset domestic debts is not good justification for increasing the shares of Telkom Kenya that have been sold off to private entrepreneurs. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House why, instead of improving the management, they politicise the management of Telkom Kenya as a measure to attract a strategic partner, the Government found the easier option of expanding the shares from 26 to 49 per cent equity available for the strategic partners, if it is not just intimidation by Vivendi, who were requesting to be registered?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the provision of finances to the Treasury was just by the way, and I thought it was useful information. However, what has been done here is in keeping with what happens elsewhere within the communication world.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My question runs the risk of being wrongly answered because of wrong premises. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House that the practice in telecommunication elsewhere is to give a large percentage of public operations to private entrepreneurs when the reality is that elsewhere, you create a parallel line and streamline the management of a public line? Telkom Kenya will not be sold off, if you were to establish a parallel competitor with the Government ones.

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I clearly said that in the transition period, that is for the first five years, Telkom Kenya will be given this exclusivity. This is contained in the licence given to Telkom Kenya, and this was agreed upon. This fact may be nasty to some people, but during the transition period of five years, Telkom Kenya will be given exclusivity. Thereafter, the market will be totally liberalised and open to everybody else.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important Question and I am glad you are giving it the time it deserves. But that notwithstanding, could the Assistant Minister explain to the House how his Ministry is trying to run through this transition period of five years, giving monopoly to Telkom Kenya, when the Act we passed in this House, if I remember very well, stated very clearly in Article 5:

"At no time should a service provider be given monopoly in operating any service under the new Act of Parliament."

How is the Assistant Minister ensuring that Telkom Kenya Limited is given monopoly for five years inspite of an Act of Parliament that was passed in this House?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of any specific clause in the Act which does provide for three years instead of five years exclusivity period. However, I am aware of a five year exclusivity period contained in the licence granted to Telkom Kenya during this transition period. But as an internet service provider, I would like to say that the application of Telkom Kenya in any case is before the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) who are studying it. I would like to say that they have received representations from all the parties concerned. I would also like to say here that I cannot pre-empt what the CCK will decide.

Eng. Muriuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, referring the Assistant Minister to the last part of this Question, could he revisit it and explain to this House the rationale of giving such a large percentage of Kenyan assets to foreigners? I have in mind that in this country, we are almost carelessly giving out Kenyan assets, like now, we already have a problem with land which was dishd out to foreigners just anyhow. Could the Assistant Minister explain to this House, if he gives such a large part of our national corporation to foreigners when we eventually want to give it back to Kenyans, the arrangements the Government has in place so that we can get it back? Already, we cannot get back the land which was given to foreigners along time ago for settling our dear Kenyans.

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, initially, the idea was to give only 26 per cent of the shares to foreigners, but in the process of receiving the bids, it was quite clear that it was not attractive enough to any of the non-international telecommunication company and, therefore, as a Government policy, it was decided to increase the shares from 26 per cent to 49 per cent in order to attract the strategic partners. That is the way it was done.

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the Assistant Minister is telling this House is not true. The Government has got a tendency, especially in the telecommunication sector of doing things under the table. We know the story with the mobile telephone; when negotiations were done, a licence was given for no fee at all. The so called "strategic partner" came later on and even insisted that the new company had to be exempted from the State

Corporations Act as a way of arm-twisting the Government. It seems that there is money that is changing hands under the table. Could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that they called for tenders and they did not have companies that would go for 26 per cent shares alone?

Could he further tell this House that they would not have mobilised this amount of money from Kenyans rather than looking for international partners?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is aware that this went to public tender. I want to confirm here that I am not aware whatsoever of any of the insinuations and innuendoes that Dr. Ochuodho is making. However, I would like to say that there was no international tender communications operator who was willing to come in with the 26 per cent shares and, therefore, it became necessary to increase them to 49 per cent in order to attract them.

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister in order to use the term "innuendo" when I made claims that he knows can be verified? Is he in order to say whatever I said was an innuendo?

Mr. Speaker: What would he otherwise say?

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is he denying that the licence was given initially for no fee by this Government? Is that the innuendo? What is an "innuendo"?

Mr. Keah: I am not aware, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, liberalisation was introduced because of inefficiencies occasioned by monopoly which has been enjoyed by the Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (KPTC) for over 100 years. KPTC was running alone for 100 years and now we are being told that they have been given another five years to create a bigger chance with their computer. Is it right for this Government to continue to grant the KPTC monopoly when we are talking about liberalisation?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought I answered very succinctly that it is the Government policy. We agreed they would be given that monopoly for five years to run the telecommunication services for this transition period. Thereafter, the telecommunication services will be totally liberalised. Indeed, certain segments have already been liberalised to the fullest extent. We are only talking about telephone services and telecommunications which are only certain segments. That is the Government policy.

PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO
MWINGI LAND OWNERS

Mr. Musila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Information, Transport and Communications, the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that the former Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (now Telkom) built the Mbondoni Repeater Station on private land owned by Samuel Kang'aatu, Muingo Kali, Mwangangi Mwendwa and Mwatoo Mwangangi?

(b) Is he further aware that owners of the land where the repeater station stands have not been compensated to date?

(c) When will Telkom Kenya pay compensation to these people?

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

(a) I am aware that the former Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporations built the Mbondoni Repeater Station on private land.

(b) The valuation of the land and the crops has, in fact, been submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and we are in the process of examining and verifying the same with a view to paying the compensation within the next three months. At this juncture, I would like to acknowledge the contribution that the hon. Questioner has made towards this Question and in ensuring that the payments are made.

Mr. Musila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for his reply. I always get concerned that it takes so long for the Government to pay the small people compensation that is due to them. This repeater station was built in 1976 which is 24 years ago. The valuation and ID cards were submitted to the management of Telkom in August last year. The Assistant Minister now says that he needs three months which will amount to over a year to verify. Could he confirm to this House that it will not be more than three months, now that he is committing himself to three months?

Mr. Keah: I appreciate the concern of hon. Musila as indeed, I also do appreciate the concern of those four

people involved. I would like to give him my assurance that Messrs Samuel Kang'aatu, Muingo Kali, Joseph Mwangangi and Andrew Mwatoo Mwangangi will be paid the amounts as soon as we have verified that they are indeed the *bonafide* payees. This process is going on. If in fact, we can pay sooner than three months, we will do so, but I gave my word for the three months.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister said that they are waiting to know who the beneficiaries are. Can he tell us how much money they have set aside for each one of these affected people?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will gladly tell him the amounts we have received. I wonder whether I should give those figures for the individuals because this is really private.

Mr. Speaker: It is not necessary.

Mr. Wambua: They are four!

Mr. Keah: These amounts belong to the four people. The lumpsum is Kshs203,448. I am scared in case one of them is mugged because of this amount of money.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to refuse to answer that Question? Maybe, he fears that the amount of the compensation money will be too little for the farms that have been taken.

Mr. Speaker: I thought he has now said the amount.

Mr. Ndicho: He gave the total amount of Kshs203,448 for four people, which amounts to Kshs50,000 for every individual. That is peanuts!

Hon. Member: Name the amounts!

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no problem with that. We have been given the amounts that have been supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and they are the ones we will verify. We will carry out a little audit to ensure that those are the real payees. I was merely protecting the four payees in case they are mugged. The amounts are known; that is all!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this House wants me to mention those figures and if they are mugged, I should not be blamed, but I have the figures here. It is up to you.

Mr. Musila: I have looked at the figures. In view of the fact that these people have been deprived of their money for 24 years and Telkom have been occupying their land for this period of time, would he now confirm that they will be paid this money with interest at the prevailing bank rates?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the values are current valuations. There is, therefore---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Keah! I think Mr. Musila has raised a valid point. These Kenyans have been deprived of their right to be compensated promptly for 24 years. The Constitution says that if an individual's property is to be taken away for the public good, then prompt and adequate compensation must be done. In my view, 24 years is not prompt. That question is legitimate.

Mr. Keah: I appreciate that is a legitimate question. The figures I have here do not include the interest element. I have taken due notice of the matter. It will be part and parcel of the process. However, let me add that the negotiations of the interest could protract the matter and it could delay beyond the three months. I have taken note of that concern and we will duly make the necessary considerations.

Mr. Wamalwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad you mentioned the word: "adequate compensation". Is the valuation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development according to market rates or to the usual rather low rates of the Government?

Mr. Keah: I beg your pardon. Could hon. Wamalwa please repeat the question?

Mr. Wamalwa: When the Speaker made an intervention on behalf of the owners of this land who have not used it for the last 24 years, he said the practice is that prompt and adequate compensation ought to be paid. The Assistant Minister says that they have received valuation from the Ministry of Agriculture. Is this valuation according to market rates which we would consider adequate or is it according to the usual Government rates which are a little lower than market rates?

Mr. Keah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the moment, these calculations for compensation are based on assessment and measurements done on the basis of sound management guidelines of 1996 for Mwingi District.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. That is the end of Question Time. Mr. Michuki, very quickly.

POINT OF ORDER

INCREMENT OF DEPOSIT FOR POWER SUPPLY

Mr. Michuki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for affording me the opportunity to stand here and seek a Ministerial Statement from the Minister for Renewable Energy Development on what appears to be a wholesale demand by the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC), where every consumer is now required to ensure that the deposit for their power consumption is two-and-a-half times their normal monthly consumption, and unless that is done within one month, they will all be disconnected.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter at a time when we do not even have adequate power to go round in the country, and even if the monthly consumption is to be taken into account, it is no longer applicable, and consumers have to establish what would be a normal monthly charge under the current situation. Would the Minister, therefore, as a matter of urgency, give the Ministerial Statement in view of the colossal amount of resources involved, which consumers should be using to buy extra generators rather than paying the KPLC?

Mr. Speaker: Very well, Mr. Michuki. Mr. F.P. Lotodo, are you ready to respond to it, or will you respond some other time?

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P. Lotodo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will give the Ministerial Statement this week, on Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Next Motion by the Leader of the Government Business!

PROCEDURAL MOTIONLIMITATION OF DEBATE
ON THE ANNUAL ESTIMATES

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Leader of Government Business, I beg to move the following Procedural Motion:-

THAT, the following limitations shall be applied to the business of the Annual Estimates:-

(i) Each speech in the debate on the Financial Statement on the Annual Estimates shall be limited to ten minutes, excluding the Mover's Speech and reply which shall not be limited; and the Official Leader of the Opposition, or designated official spokesman, who shall be limited to thirty minutes.

(ii) On the Motion "That, Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" to enable Ministers to initiate debate on policy, the Mover be limited to a total of one hour; half an hour for moving and half an hour for replying to the debate; thirty minutes for the Leader of the Official Opposition or designated official spokesman; and that all other Members speaking be limited to ten minutes, provided that one hour before the Question of the Vote is put, the House shall go into Committee and the Chairman shall put every question necessary to dispose of the vote.

(iii) Each speech in Committee of Ways and Means and Committee of Supply shall be limited to ten minutes.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is purely a procedural Motion which is an important Motion, and we want to make sure that we limit debate so that as many Members as possible get time to contribute to this Motion.

I beg to move the Motion.

Mr. Speaker: Do you need somebody to second it?

(Mr. Ngala stood in his place)

Very well, Mr. Ngala.

The Minister for Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports (Mr. Ngala): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to second this Motion. The purpose of this Motion is to give as many Members as possible an opportunity to be able to articulate and participate in the debate. It will also create some order in the way the debate will be conducted, and I believe that this House is for orderliness, and it is for Members to be able to contribute in the best way possible.

So, being a Procedural Motion, I beg to second.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order!

(Question proposed)

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make some brief contribution. Under the provisions of the Standing Order No.142, we have 20 supply days, and each Vote is normally allotted two days. That means that the House can only debate 10 ministries. Now, two issues arise from there; one, as far as I can remember ever since I came to this Parliament, it has been the same Ministries that have been debated, and the rest have been relegated to the *guillotine* process. Therefore, that means the House never had an opportunity to deal with policy issues and other matters that affect those Ministries. I would like to make a request - maybe to the House Business Committee - that in this year's Budget proceedings, we should look at Ministries that have never been debated before this Parliament and ensure that we have a mixture of both, of some of the most important Ministries and the others.

Secondly---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Anyona! You have to be brief because I have to put this Question before half-past-three. Maybe, you should be kind to one other Member.

Mr. Anyona: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will shorten my contribution. I was making my last point, which is: That under the same Standing Order, we are enjoined to ensure that the 20 supply days are mandatory. Well, we had cases in the past where the 20 days have not been exhausted, and we would like the House Business Committee to ensure that we comply with the rules of the House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support the Motion.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what hon. Anyona has raised is an important matter, but I do not think that it is entirely correct. I was a Member of the House Business Committee between 1993-1997, and every year, Members of the Opposition in the Committee were the ones who chose the priority Ministries in order to be allotted discussion in that Committee. So, Mr. Anyona, the right group to mobilise is the Members of the Opposition in the Committee in order for them to decide, on priority, the Ministries you want to be scrutinised by the House.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, I will now put the Question.

(Loud consultations).

Order, hon. Members! You see, I am now lost, because of your interruptions.

(Laughter)

Hon. Members: Put the Question again!

Mr. Speaker: I will do the whole thing again, and anybody who will interrupt now---

(Applause)

(Loud consultations)

Order, hon. Members! You cannot stay still for two minutes!

(Question put and agreed to)

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS

(Order for Committee read)

MOTION

THAT, MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

(The Minister for Finance on 15.06.2000)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 15.06.2000)

(First Day of the Budget Debate)

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand to seek guidance from the Chair on the Motion which was moved that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair. My request for guidance from you derives from two Standing Orders.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Ndicho: What is wrong with KANU hon. Members?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I cannot follow the proceedings of the House!

An. Member: KANU hon. Members are tired.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Standing Order No.40(3) provides that if Mr. Speaker is of the opinion that any proposed Motion is contrary to the Constitution, without expressly providing appropriate amendment of the Constitution; or is too long; or some other reasons, he cannot allow that Motion to be moved.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I say this also in relation to Standing Order No.137(1), which states:

"Unless the House otherwise orders, the debate on the financial statement on the annual Estimates shall take precedence over all other business---".

I want to request that this House order that, that precedence does not occur because of the breach of the Constitution. The Constitution of Kenya Amendment (3) of 1999, sets out that the Budget of Parliament shall be a direct charge on the Exchequer. If you look at the printed Estimates and the whole framework of the current financial statement, that provision in our Constitution is breached.

(Applause)

This is because the Budget of Parliament is purported to be included as it has been in the past before the relevant Constitutional amendment, and the listed schedule of direct charges to the Exchequer, excluded the Budget of Parliament. I think it might be in Mr. Speaker's wisdom relevant to ask whether the Government will amend the Constitution or it will amend the anomaly before the financial statement is discussed before this House.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order! If we must go by the very rules you yourself have quoted, then I must go by them. This is because the Motion before the House now is that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair. There is nothing unconstitutional about Mr. Speaker leaving the Chair. So, the Motion on the face of it is perfectly legitimate and constitutional. The other issue that you have addressed to me now---

*(Mr. Mkalla consulted with Members
of the Front Bench)*

Order! I really do not understand what is going on, on the Government side. Mr. Mkalla, will you go back to your seat? And by the way, as the Chief Whip, you should set a very good example. I am getting a little upset about constant interruption of the Chair.

An. Hon. Member: Send him out!

Mr. Speaker: Order, I will send you out to begin with. So, on the face of the Motion, there is really nothing

wrong about it. The other issue that Dr. Kituyi has raised is about whether or not the Vote of Parliament shall be either as it was, or must be a charge on the Consolidated Fund. That is a totally different issue. If the Constitution states that it shall be, then the Minister must follow the Constitution. If it does say that certain aspects of the Parliament Vote cannot be direct charges on the Consolidated Fund, for example, on any Development issue, probably, that will be a regular statement. But that is a valid point, Dr. Kituyi. It was brought to my notice this morning by some of your colleagues and I have communicated to the Minister that he must make that remedy before we begin the actual Votes. I have, on the authority of the Minister, that he will re-table his statements that will take into account that constitutional arrangement. So, your worries are being taken care of and we will proceed. He will be here with us and if he does not comply, you will meet him. I will be here and I have already told you that I fully support the constitutional arrangement as it is.

So, we will continue with the Motion that is before the House, which really has got nothing to do with the individual Votes and the casting of money. It has got everything to do with the economic management of the country. We are talking about policy issues now. When we go to Committee of Supply, then we will be talking about the query that you have raised. I will be very alive to your concern and to the concern of the House in the event that the Minister will not be alive to it. So, anybody wishing now to speak on the Motion can proceed!

Mr. Michuki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think it is quite right that on the face of it, what is now in the Estimates wrongly may appear not to be covered by the Motion, yet, the substance of the Motion includes that wider discussion, where, in fact, the proposal here has stated that a Vote can be concluded during the process. It seems to me, therefore, that what has been appropriated by the Constitution, cannot be part and parcel of what is to be voted by this House. This is because we would be acting against the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker: I have already agreed with you there. I have communicated that to the Minister, so let us wait and see.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is the way forward now? Do we continue within that confusion and discuss Estimates when some of them should not be there?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I do not think that there is confusion now. I am absolutely clear in my mind, and I agreed totally with the sentiments expressed by hon. Dr. Kituyi, that what the Constitution says must be followed. I have communicated that to the Minister. What we are dealing with now is not how we will use the money, but the methods used to get it. Are they right or wrong methods? In the intervening periods, I can put it to this House that I have an undertaking by the Minister for Finance given to Mr. Speaker, as a result of the sentiments expressed by certain hon. Members to Mr. Speaker and I passed them to him, that he will accordingly make a rectification and bring a re-cast set of annual Estimates to show the facts that certain amounts of money due to Parliament will be a direct charge to the Consolidated Fund. Then, let us wait on that. Shall we? I will take care of you. By the way, the Motion was proposed after the Vice-President formally seconded it. So, it is open for debate by anybody. And obviously because normally the first shot is the response from the Official Opposition---

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

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ndicho, you must now leave.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of procedure. I am seeking guidance from the Chair.

Mr. Speaker: What is it?

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to seek your guidance. This is a very important Motion and we are trying to solve these hurdles that are coming up. I am seeking your guidance whether you could not order the Minister for Finance or his Assistant Ministers to be here?

Mr. Speaker: By that statement I made, I am sure they will be here in due course even of today. Proceed, and I am sure the Minister or his assistants are listening and they should make the earliest communication in that regard. Proceed!

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to---

Mr. Ndicho: They are not there!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Can I just say this? It is not frivolous what Mr. Ndicho is raising by the way, although in a disorderly manner. Mr. Ndicho is raising a very salient point in a disorderly manner, sitting there and saying: "They are not there". Indeed, that is a right concern for Members of this House that when we are discussing the Budget, the Minister himself must be here - particularly his Assistant Ministers and his civil servants must be here so that they can hear what Members of Parliament think about their policies. Proceed!

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to comment on the---

Mr. Maundu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This is a very important Motion for the country. However, the Minister, his Assistant Ministers and his resource persons, that is, the civil servants are not here. Would it then not be appropriate to adjourn or suspend this Motion for the time being until they come?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Members! There are a lot of things that are devastated without seeing them. I am told also that two wrongs do not make aright. The fact that the Minister, his technocrats and his assistants are absent does not also justify our refusal to discharge our duties to the Kenyan society and yet be paid for the day.

A hon. Member: They are being summoned!

Mr. Speaker: Anyway, I am told they are being called, but I honestly hope that it would not be necessary for us ever to send emissaries to call a Minister or civil servants to come and discharge their duties. Proceed, Mr. Mwiraria!

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I settle to--- **The Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning** (Mr. Lomada): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Lomada, you created this and now you want to come and again stop the business of the House. Mr. Lomada, if you were present and your Minister and all the other officers were also present here when we begun, this House would have been by now in very serious business. You should stand there and prostrate on the ground and apologise to the House. Proceed!

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I appeal to the House to let me comment on the Minister's Statement?

Mr. Speaker: Order! We heard the Minister in silence for a long, long time. He gave his side of the story for close to two hours. It is now the time for this House to hear a contrary view from the Official Opposition and you are all duty bound to give him a hearing. If you are not so inclined, I will ensure that it happens. Proceed!

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for the third time. I stand here to comment on the Ministers Budget Speech whose theme according to the Minister was: "*Poverty Reduction through Sustainable Economic Growth*". I must admit that the Minister's statement was dealing with an extremely difficult economic situation because the Kenyan economy today can only be likened to a human being suffering from HIV/AIDS, that is UKIMWI in Kiswahili.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Karume. Order, all of you! Mr. Mwiraria will be heard.

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am comparing the state of the Kenyan economy today to that of a patient suffering from HIV/AIDS for several reasons. Good as the Minister's effort was, it will not bear fruit. This is because, first and foremost, our economy is suffering from what I may call "Acquired Income Deficiency Syndrome". It is suffering from "Acquired Energy Deficiency Syndrome".

Mr. Maundu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My hon. colleague on the Floor has made a very serious allegation, and the Ministers are sitting here and hearing about it, that the Kenyan economy is like a patient suffering from HIV/AIDS. Could he substantiate that? It is terrible! I find it abhorrent!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Maundu, I think I will give you the opportunity, but Mr. Mwiraria, you have been challenged. How does a country suffer from AIDS?

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was just about to substantiate. I said one of the reasons why the Minister's Budget is going to fall a cropper is because the country is suffering from "Acquired Income Deficiency Syndrome." It is suffering from "Acquired Energy Deficiency Syndrome." It is suffering from "Acquired Security Deficiency Syndrome"; it is also suffering from "Acquired Infrastructural Deficiency Syndrome." What more proof does he require?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister attempted to produce a balanced Budget but, unfortunately, he only tackled two

sectors with some hope of success. These are the energy and manufacturing sectors. But the Budget fails once again at, perhaps, the most important sector, which deals with the majority of Kenyans, who live below the poverty line. Those are the people for whom poverty reduction is being sought. Let me elaborate a little further.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the moment, the country has no rainfall. The poor farmer has no food, water, power, income and medicine. To say the least, the Budget Speech will leave the poor in Kenya much poorer. It will make him much more miserable. As an illustration, let us take the agricultural sector. This is the sector, which in 1999, produced 54.4 per cent of all the export earnings from Kenya, from only three commodities. We exported tea, coffee and horticulture. It is the sector that employs 80 per cent of all the employed people in Kenya. Yet, in the Economic Statement by the Minister, there is very little regarding what help will be given to agriculture, other than his mention of the proposed tinkering with the tea and coffee elections and, perhaps, strengthening the co-operatives, which have been systematically destroyed by the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has provided Kshs1.5 billion for food assistance. But, as the Government makes this provision, we are aware that there are silos, which were constructed at enormous cost to the Government several years ago, which are now empty. No strategic food reserve has been saved. I think it just requires common sense that, a Government that cares for its people, would buy food stocks and store them when the prices are cheap. It would buy the food and store it not under duress, or in panic as it is doing now. One wonders why, under the MTEF, the Minister has not made any provision at all, for keeping those stores filled with food. The Government should provide water to arid and semi-arid areas where the nomads of this nation live. If the amount of money we are spending annually on food aid was to be voted for water each year, we would be constructing dams, drilling boreholes and damming rivers to provide water for irrigation. We would also be copying more developed economies like that of Israel, in introducing drip-irrigation so that we can make this country self-sustaining in food production.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have made many mistakes in our agricultural development. For instance, we did develop the Bura Irrigation Scheme which had very many settlers. But we provided the wrong source of energy for pumping water. We appear to have forgotten the Bura Irrigation Scheme. I was wondering whether, in this kind of statement, the Minister should not be making arrangements to revive the Bura Irrigation Scheme, but under gravity.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we sit in this House, we have thousands and thousands of bags of rice in Mwea, waiting to be processed. At Mwea, we have a rice mill, which is 45 per cent owned by the Mwea Rice Farmers Union, but which is lying idle, purely because the National Irrigation Board (NIB) led by the Government of Kenya, cannot reach an agreement with the farmers, on how to utilise that facility, and charge the farmers for the use. When one is going through a crisis, one looks at all methods of getting the best out of it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would urge the Government to consider allowing Mwea Rice Farmers to use the rice mill in Mwea for a price. Let the farmers pay for it. But for the NIB to ask the farmers to go back and give them the rice to mill and then get everything taken over by the NIB is unrealistic. The farmers were earning between Kshs15 and Kshs16 a kilo of raw rice before the co-operative took over. They are now earning up to Kshs33 a kilo, which is more than double. They would certainly not be willing to move back.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is encouraging to see that the Minister wants to protect the sugar industry. But in fairness to the farmers in Western Kenya, who grow sugar cane, he should ban sugar imports, charge suspended duty whenever sugar is imported into the country, and subsidise imports of all agricultural products in the country. Just as the Minister is allowing importation of electric generators duty-free, he should consider allowing importation of farm implements, machinery and inputs into the country duty-free and Value Added Tax (VAT) exempt. If there is a sector that really needs Government support, it is the agricultural sector.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally, I want, in all seriousness, to suggest to our Minister that the time is overdue for the Government to introduce an agricultural bank. At the moment no farmer can survive by borrowing funds from the commercial banks in the Republic of Kenya. We all know that, at 32 per cent plus the rate of interest which may have come down to 30 per cent at moment, there are very few businesses and, definitely, not in farming, which can make profits and survive. In short, in the Minister's Budget Speech, there is almost nothing to offer to the Kenyan farmers. In my view, the agriculturalists and the nomads should come first. We should mind about the welfare of these people before we worry about the few foreign and Kenyan investors.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the existing Banking Act, there is an arrangement whereby the commercial banks are supposed to lend 17 per cent of their total lending to the agricultural sector. I wonder whether the Minister could tell the House if any of the banks get anywhere near the 17 per cent lending level, to the farming community, or whether it

is just a figure to be looked at in the books of the Government.

The second group that I want to refer to is the Jua Kali Sector. This is a sector which has clearly demonstrated that Kenyans are very ingenious, very hardworking and extremely resourceful. They have, in fact, employed a lot of people through this informal sector. I think, in the last count, about 64.5 per cent of all the employees came from the informal sector, if you take normal employment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Jua Kali artisans continue being plagued by poor marketing, excessive regulation and interference by some Government officials, poor access to economic services, such as water and electricity and more importantly, due to lack of credit facilities from any source. Apart from mentioning that the Government will be working with development partners to support micro-financing institutions, the Budget Speech is once again very silent on what the Government proposes to do to beef up and strengthen the Jua Kali Sector.

At the moment, there is a possibility that, some of the good and strong Jua Kali people will benefit from the importation of generators, duty-free. But those will be very, very few; only the wealthy few. The majority will continue suffering without water, electricity and without credit facility from any source, and yet we have a Government which prides itself of being mindful of other people's welfare. A Government which prides itself of introducing poverty reduction measures without thinking about the main areas of thrust. If you look at the nomadic communities in some of the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL), their biggest problem is lack of security. Today, most of the pastoralists are armed, but some are better armed than others. They are equipped, but have used equipment better than the others and people are always killing each other. There was a story in today's newspapers about those people in Isiolo who were killed during the last weekend.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we must take the issue of security seriously because everywhere in the country, there is no adequate security. What makes matters worse, is the fact that, today, if you go to Isiolo, you will find people carrying illegal arms openly during the day in various locations of the town. I believe this has been brought about by necessity because people feel insecure without being armed. My plea to the Government is that, security needs to be beefed up and that, the security being given here has to do with the financing of the police force, which is really far from being adequate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the issue of security, I think today in Kenya, we employ more security personnel than, perhaps, the personnel to do any other job. If you look around in Nairobi, security firms are mushrooming; it is, perhaps, good for the few who get employed. But will it not be much, much more productive if all the money we are spending to provide inadequate security to ourselves, was spent for productive development? Take the sad case of the poor who have been neglected.

In the Government Budget Statement, there is provision that, in this coming Financial Year, which starts in the month of July, 2000, 33,560 employees from the Civil Service, the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), the Catering Levy Trustees *etcetera*, will be retired.

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

The Government is going to spend Kshs7.6 billion to retire 33,560 civil servants. They will get Kshs250,000 each and the exercise is expected to save about Kshs3 billion per annum. However, in the same vein, the Minister is providing another Kshs6.8 billion to meet additional payments to civil servants, under the recommendations of the Kipkulei Commission. Although, I do not remember seeing the approval for the Kipkulei Commission recommendations, one hopes that they will not be similar to those of the teachers, who were promised increases and were never paid. The present Policy Paper is not going to bring about any economic development that can in any way, alleviate poverty. If anything, this Paper and the Budget proposals are going to make the poor, even poorer. They are going to make the haves, perhaps, have a little more and the have-nots, have nothing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I talked about the industrial sector and I said that, for the first time, I see that the Minister is making bold moves to strengthen this sector. Quite honestly, we needed a little bit of protection for our industrial sector, by lowering the tariffs on imported raw materials. This is a bold step. The next one is the fact that the Minister has already gazetted anti-dumping and countervailing duty regulations---

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Order! Hon. Members, I think the consultations are getting really higher and drowning the Member on the Floor. Like all Members, I think he has a right to be heard. So, those consulting, can consult in low tones and those who would like to withdraw from the Chamber, do so quietly.

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the only plea I would like to make to the Minister is that, at the moment, he should remove bottlenecks and encourage our industrialists to utilise the capacity more fully. At the moment, perhaps, Kenya is the only country in the world where only 40 per cent of the installed capacity is utilised. With the collapse of the energy sector, one wonders what capacity those people would be able to use. Let me quickly turn to the budgetary proposals themselves. The Minister is certainly gambling because he is budgeting for a deficit of Kshs14 billion although he has increased his revenue by Kshs19 billion, in a year when we know that industrial production is going down and therefore, profits are coming down. Therefore, taxes would also go down. If his hopes are pinned on the fact that there is a 3 per cent increase in the VAT, then I am afraid he is likely to get a big shock. Last year's budget fell short and I believe this year, by a Budget deficit of Kshs14 billion and an estimated increase of Kshs19 billion, is likely to fall even shorter.

Regarding the energy sector, although there is plenty said in the Budget Speech about emergency measures; I think we ought to go back to long-term planning. We ought to be talking about what would be done with the geothermal sector and thermal generation. More importantly, I think we should avoid being exploited by those people who are coming here to generate energy and then sell it to Kenyans at exorbitant cost, like Westmont, who are using a very unavailable gas for generation of energy. This is what they call gas condensation

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Nyachae: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I know my time is very limited; 10 minutes is very short. But I would like to say that, we are not standing in this House to complain about the Policy Statement made by the Minister. I think under the circumstances in which we find ourselves in this country, one would see the dilemma in which the Minister found himself. However, I think there are certain things the Minister still has room to look into.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the Policy Statement, the Minister did nothing really, to encourage the farmers. There is no indication at all, that the Government through that Statement, is encouraging farmers to produce food. Here we are as a nation, appealing to the international community to give us more than Kshs11 billion in the form of food aid or money to buy food for our people. According to my calculation based on the current prices, when you exclude duty; we are talking of an appeal for more than nine million bags of maize. When you look at the Budget proposals, the money allocated - Kshs1.5 billion - and when you take into account the distribution cost, we are talking of the Government making available, only one million bags of maize. So, here we are faced with a shortfall of eight million bags. Quite clearly, the outside world is not going to give the nine million bags. What are we doing to encourage our farmers to make their own contribution in feeding Kenyans? I think, this is a very important point that we must not ignore as we debate this matter and I would strongly recommend that, the Minister reviews his position regarding this particular matter. We have to feed Kenyans and the international community is not going to give all that we need for our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while talking about food shortage, I am also very surprised to note that the Government is slowly abandoning the food distribution exercise and handing it over to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). I do not see how the NGOs with all their goodwill, can have the machinery on the ground to distribute food effectively throughout the country. We have never been faced with this kind of situation before. This time round, the famine is much greater than what we faced in 1965 and 1984. I would like to suggest that the Government goes back to the distribution scheme which was developed in 1984. The files are there. It was a very effective system because we involved the private sector and the Media to give us the information they had and in fact, we even purchased a Nissan vehicle for the Media to go round and report what they saw in terms of food problems in

the country. It requires the co-operation of everybody. I am, therefore, not saying that NGOs should not be involved. I am saying that the Government must take the lead in relief food distribution. People who steal relief food should be locked up in custody. We cannot stop taking responsibility in the relief food distribution exercise just because a few fellows have messed up with the exercise before.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other point that I would like to raise is this: I do not know how the Minister for Finance arrived at the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 2.6 per cent. It is, simply, not believable that this country's GDP stands at this level currently. You can, in fact, not convince anybody who understands the current state of this country's economy that its GDP stands at 2.6 per cent. We should forget the 2.6 per cent GDP that the Minister talked about you cannot convince any Kenyan, who understands the state of this country's economy that we can, actually, even have a GDP of 2 per cent. The highest GDP figure this country's economic experts have managed to give is 1.2 per cent. Which data did the Minister use to come up with a growth rate of 2.6 per cent on the GDP? I think this is just not quite possible.

The other point that I would like to raise is the question of the actual Budget proposals on income and expenditure. I have very strong fear that, with all the effort the Minister has made, he will run into cash flow problems, because he is relying very heavily on financial support from the donors. The donors have not even said what their conditions for the resumption of budgetary support are. So, how much time are we going to spend negotiating these conditions before the money reaches us, and yet the year is running on? We will run into cash flow problems in case the donors come up with conditions that we cannot fulfil immediately. So, we are in this situation, which could easily cause problems. We are relying very heavily on money that is not within this country. At the same time, the Minister is expecting a lot of revenue to come in, which will not be there. Some of us are farmers and business people. We know how much we are losing. So, the Minister should expect a third or half of the money that he expects to be collected from us.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country was not seriously affected by drought last year; we did not have power problems. The drought situation in the country then was not as serious as it is now, yet we expect to collect more revenue this year than we collected last year. Last year, the Minister for Finance over-estimated the income. Finally, it went down by more than 10 per cent. So, where is the expected high income to come from?

I think it is very important that we help the Minister. The only way we can help the Minister is for him to come out and accept the fact that the problems facing this country are so serious that they do not need only the Government to tackle them. The Government should, actually, open the door for proposals on how to solve these problems to come from every Kenyan, so that we can contribute. This is not a situation that one can say the Government can tackle on its own. The Government cannot do so. We are already in a serious dilemma. That is why if you look at the Budget that was presented by the Minister and consider the views being raised by the public about it - be they members of the business community, industrialists, farmers and others because they are concerned about the Government's policy statement that was made through the Budget. We are not fully convinced that we have found a way forward through the Budget, to recover from the crisis in which we have found ourselves. The sooner we accept that this country is in an economic crisis, the better.

Above all, the fact that this country is a signatory to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreement and many other international agreements, including the refusal to give subsidy to certain industries such as that of tanning, this is the time when the farmer must be given subsidy. This is also the time the Government should, at least, go out of its way to give farmers a soft credit, so that they can produce food under an emergency programme.

(Applause)

This is the time when the military should be utilised to dig all sorts of dams all over the country, so that when the rain comes, we can tap some of that water, so that our people can get something to eat.

I would have said more, but as you can see, my time has run out.

Thank you.

Dr. Wekesa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion.

My sympathy is to the Minister for Finance. He has found himself in a very difficult situation in trying to convince Kenyans that his policy Statement was the best that he could offer this country. He should have gone further

to recognise that this country is faced with a major drought for the first time since 1984, which is causing Kenyans a lot of problems.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in his Financial Statement, the Minister ignored the fact that Kenya is an agricultural country; that presently, the country is faced with famine; that, for many years now, the country has been grappling with the insecurity problem; and, that, currently, the Government is dealing with poverty reduction strategies. Therefore, in his Financial Statement, the Minister should have dealt with these issues. He should have addressed the drought that is ravaging the poor Kenyan, who cannot feed himself today.

I would like to support hon. Nyachae in his statement about farmers. For many years, we have been made to believe that Kenya is an agricultural country, but over the years, we have abandoned agriculture all together.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the famine that we are experiencing today in this country is not due to drought alone, but a culmination of various issues. The drought is just a part of the major problems. Insecurity is the major problem and in the last nine years, insecurity has caused many deaths and displaced many Kenyans from their farms. This Government has not taken the issue of insecurity seriously in this country. When we talk about insecurity, we should not forget the fact that a hungry man is very insecure. You can talk about all guns and other things that can kill human population, but famine is a very big insecurity factor. So, for many years, we have gone around cutting down all the trees. We do not have big forests remaining and yet, we are all talking about drought in the country. I am not the only scientist here, but all hon. Members know that once you decimate the forests in any country, you are inviting droughts. So, we should not cry out loud about drought now because for about nine years, we have decimated all forests. For example, Karura forest, Mount Elgon and Kakamega among other forests have gone. We have done a great damage to this country.

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I was a student in England many years ago, Englishmen would ask me proudly whether I came from Kenya where Kipchoge Keino came from. They used to think of Kenya as a country of sportsmen and sportswomen. Secondly, they would ask me whether I came from that agricultural country which produced good coffee and tea. It is a shame that nobody can say that of Kenya today. If you go to London, New York or Japan among other countries, you will be referred to as a drug peddler or a person from a corrupt country. I am ashamed to call myself a Kenya outside this country because of the damage we have done to this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in a small country like Japan; every time they make sure that they have got a five year food reserve strategy. You can do anything to the Government of Japan, but they will feed each individual for five years without any famine at all.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have so many "white elephant" projects all over the country. We have one in Kitale -the big silos which were supposed to be storage for foods. Since they were built, I do not know how many years ago, maybe, 12 or 15 years, those facilities have been lying there, but they have never been used. You can see how our money has been squandered over the years. Those structures in Kitale were supposed to keep our maize for two or three years. It is a pity that no maize has been stored in those structures. They have gobbled all our income. It is because of poor planning by this Government that we are sending our President outside this country to beg for food. I hope the next President will not beg for food, but other things. We will not allow the next President from this side of the House, to go round begging for food when we live in Kenya. It is a tragedy. I have been a farmer all my life.

The Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) was established by an Act of Parliament many years ago when I was a student and that it was a noble idea. The ADC was supposed to produce food for this country. They did so for a number of years, but the ADC is no more? Those beautiful animals we used to see in agricultural shows, like Ayrshire and other grades are no more. The ADC does not produce food. The Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) used to give farmers credit facilities, but we do not know what they are doing now. We only see beautiful buildings all over the country. The farmers have no credit facilities. What the Minister would have done is to try to ease the problem of the farmers. He would have given them incentives by reducing by a few cents, the diesel price. What does he do? He gives a boost to the manufacturing sector. That is the biggest area.

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

Mr. Mokku: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Due to the time factor, I will have to be very brief. I want to say that the Budget was fair, despite the VAT increase which will affect all Kenyans. My appeal to the Minister that he should try and avoid mini-budgets. Kenyans are worried of mini-budgets. They have expressed their support for the Budget because it was fair.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to the current drought situation in the country, it is also good that the Minister looked into the infrastructure in the light of the current drought in the country. Some of us come from semi-arid and arid areas of this country. The people of Eastern Province depend on seasonal rivers. I have in mind the Uaso Nyiro River. It passes through many districts and it is a lifeline to so many Kenyans in Nyandarua to Habaswein in Wajir. It also passes through Samburu, Isiolo and Wajir among other districts. However, that river has dried up as a result of agricultural activities by people upstream. They do not care what happens to people downstream, who depend on that river for other purposes like livestock, human beings, wild animals and even plants. As I am talking now, that river has dried up.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why you see many Kenyans who rely on that river moving upstream to Central Kenya. This is a signal to those Kenyans who live in those parts of this country that if they continue to divert that river, as they are doing right now, for big irrigation schemes and horticultural farming at the expense of other Kenyans, who have no other source of water, it might not be safe for them. Although I do not advocate land invasion or somebody's farm to be invaded, we should be mindful of the people, who live downstream. As I am speaking here now, 80 per cent of the people, who live in areas like Isiolo District are starving as a result of the severe drought. Those people do not only lack food, but also water. I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to the donors not only to give food, but also to think of water and medicine because there are some people who are starving downstream, who are also Kenyans. Although I have advised our Kenyans who live upstream to desist from using that river forgetting that there are some people who live downstream---

I would also like to inform the Government that there are some students in primary and secondary schools, who are out of school due to non-payment of school fees. It is illogical for the headmaster or the headmistress to ask the students to pay school fees when their parents are being fed as a result of food shortage in those regions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to appeal to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to waive school fees for children from Isiolo District, alongside 18 other districts, which are severely affected by this drought. This is because unless the Government thinks of doing that, the education standards of Kenyans in those regions will be affected severely. While the Government is looking into ways and means of waiving the fees, it is also my appeal that school feeding programmes should be introduced in those primary and secondary schools.

As I am speaking here, primary schools in those areas have a school feeding programme. I would like to appeal to the Government to extend the facility to secondary schools in the area because it is the same parents who have children in primary schools who have children in secondary schools. So, it is my appeal that school feeding programmes should be extended to secondary schools in all those regions, including the 18 other districts which are equally affected like Isiolo District.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I was talking about Ewaso Nyiro River, I should have said that there is a board which is called "Ewaso Nyiro North River Catchment Board," although it was supposed to regulate the usage of water from the river. This Board has its headquarters in Nanyuki Town. The people who depend on that river do not see the effectiveness of that Board, which was established many years ago. We do not know whether it exists. It is my appeal that, that organisation, which I assume is under the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, was allocated funds so that it can be effective. As of now it is a toothless organisation. I would like to appeal that either the Treasury funds the organisation or disbands it because it is there by name. That is why you can see that the river has dried up. The Government should also look for a long term solution to the people, who depend on that river. I would like to inform this House that if the same trend continues as it is the case now---

I would like to say something about the National Famine Relief Committee, which was launched the other day. I think it is quite a noble idea and commend the Head of State for forming it, but one should look at the officials who run it. There are regions, for example, Samburu, Moyale, Marsabit, Isiolo and Tana River which have no representatives there and yet those are the most needy regions. There is a trend in sharing the national cake especially, in Eastern Province that when our giant tribes like the Kamba, Meru, Embu and Mbeeres are considered for any position, which is actually supposed to cater for that region, it is assumed that Isiolo, Marsabit, Moyale or Tana River District are always catered for, which is not so. I do not think that it is fair when those regions which are actually more

needy than where we have members are left out of the Committee. It is my appeal that a consideration should be done so that we can have a member from that region in that Committee so that the needs of the people, who live in that region, can also be articulated at that level.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have talked about drought. I would like to inform this House that 85 per cent of Isiolo District is affected by drought. I would like to say that drought coupled with insecurity as a result of illegal grazers from North Eastern Province, has made life so difficult for the residents of that place. I would like to appeal to the Government to address the insecurity problem in Isiolo District. There was an hon. Member on the Floor who talked about Isiolo--- Sometimes it is good for hon. Members to talk about what they know and not just for the sake of talking. The problem of Isiolo District which is actually becoming a national issue is not an "Isiolo problem", but it is a problem which is caused by the people from the other regions. I would like to say that leaders have made their appeal, which should be listened by the concerned authority otherwise things will go out of hand.

Lastly, there was a news bulletin aired by the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) at 1.00 p.m. which said that there are refugees at Moyale, who are purported to have moved to Ethiopia from Wajir and Isiolo Districts. May I take this opportunity once again to say that Isiolo district has no refugee anywhere in the world. As leaders, we made appeals when there was an allegation by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that there were refugees at the Kenya border - and the Minister for Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports who is here now is listening to me - and said that there were no refugees from Wajir and Isiolo Districts at Moyale border. May I once again, on behalf of the leaders of Isiolo District say that we have no refugees anywhere in the world. So, if the UNHCR, as it was announced today in 1.00 p.m. KBC news bulletin says that they intend to bring those people by August this year either to Wajir or Isiolo District, may I inform the Minister that, that is one way of causing further insecurity in Isiolo. I do not know of Wajir District because it was said that in 1992, during the time of multi-partism, there were some people who ran away. This did not happen in Isiolo District. The other day, the Provincial Administration through the Ministry of Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports, said that arrangements were made for leaders to go and vet refugees at the borders, but the elders came back and told us that there was nobody from Isiolo at the border and, yet, today, it was clearly announced that there are some people at the border who intend to be brought to Isiolo District by August this year. Could the Minister once again know that we have none.

I would like to inform this House that at the beginning, we were told that there were 700 families, but when the leaders went there, they could not see even a single family. I think that report is very well known to the Government. I do not know somebody wants to push the people whom we do not know to us, while we already have so many problems over insecurity. I also do not know why the Government or the UNHCR wants to push some people to Isiolo under the cover that they are refugees and yet we have no refugees from that place.

The Minister for Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports (Mr. Ngala): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not understand where the hon. Member got the information he is speaking about, but I am aware that the exercise has been well conducted. If there was nobody from Isiolo, nobody who will go there. Why is he pre-emptying the situation? I think the situation has been taken care of properly.

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that it was announced in today's 1.00 p.m. KBC news bulletin.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

(Mr. Mbitiru moved to the Dispatch Box)

Mr. Mbitiru: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Are you sure you can speak from there?

Mr. Mbitiru: Yes. I am very sure.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): In what capacity?

Mr. Mbitiru: I am the "shadow Minister" for Lands and Settlement and I am, therefore, capable of speaking from this position.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): You can proceed.

Mr. Mbitiru: Thank you. I support this Motion because in my opinion it was well thought. There are several shortcomings that emanate from that statement from the Minister. First and foremost, I would like us to reflect back on the direct implications of VAT. There was a lot of relief that was given to the industrialists. However, instead of

passing that benefit to the common mwananchi, he has been instead burdened with three per cent over and above the current taxation. If you look at the broad spectrum of what the VAT covers in this country, it cannot be acceptable by Kenyans outside there.

At this time of the year when famine and drought have made almost 85 per cent of Kenyans poorer than they were some two years back, we cannot afford to put more pressure on their meagre resources of income. It is time that the multiplying effect of VAT was reflected in the mind of the Government. However, much they will lose in terms of the waivers given to industrialists, they cannot create an avenue for making more revenue by taxing Kenyans more heavily than before. If you look at the fuel industry today, you will see that diesel oil is the one used by farmers to plough their land and to transport their produce to the market. What will Kenyans do after you have increased the cost of producing those crops, although in fact, we do not have enough rain to make their land productive to the maximum capacity or the utilisation expected from those small pieces of land.

Similarly, we do not have energy in this country, in terms of power generation. We have added VAT on kerosene. What will happen to the common mwananchi? He has to rely on Kerosene. The poor planning of this Government has taken us 25 years back when we used to use the *korobois*. It is not acceptable at this point in life where---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): What have you said?

Mr. Mbitiru: I said that 25 years back, we used to use tin lamps in our rural areas. These lamps are what Kenyans, at this time in its development, have been forced to go back to. Despite forcing us to use *korobois* we are now being asked to pay more in terms of kerosene which is the only form of fuel available today. Since they have added VAT to those products, what is expected from the common man who cannot afford even a small generator? We have few millionaires in this country who can afford two generators everywhere including Nairobi, the rural areas and other places after grabbing all the money in this country. Due to their poor planning, these are the same people who are benefiting from the economy of this country. They are the same people who are importing that fuel today, and selling it here locally at exorbitant prices.

When you look at the multiplying effect on the manufactured products after the introduction of the new VAT, it becomes almost impossible to even have a cup of tea, leave alone having three meals in a day. The farmers out there cannot afford tea leaves because of this increase and yet there was no increase on the price of their produce. There is no increment on the price of coffee. There is no incentive given to the farmers producing these crops yet the Government wants the poor Kenyans to cough out more into its coffers so that they can continue misusing the money and taking it to other areas that are not beneficial to this economy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, peace is the most important thing in this country. Without peace we cannot produce or even move about. That is why our economy has stagnated. When you look at the insecurity in this country you see that, about 1000 cases are reported almost everyday across the country when thugs attack families in buses, matatus, private cars and yet we sent our security personnel to maintain peace in other countries. Why are we providing security to other people when we cannot even provide it to our people here? Why can the Government not address the issue of security as the first priority? What is the Government doing, especially now? If we can take the case of Laikipia where people cannot sleep peacefully because there are three or four attacks everyday. I do not want to make an allegation, but I know all those people do that while in uniform. It is up to the Government to tell us whether it has approved this. That is what is happening in Laikipia. This insecurity makes our farmers run away from the land that they have developed and lived on for years and they cannot produce anything for this country. They cannot provide for their families because of insecurity. What is the Government doing about it? We cannot just come here and read a very good Budget Speech and yet there is no effect. Nothing is felt out there. People are just making noise in this august House because the managers of those departments are incapable of managing them. This is where the Government comes in. Its credibility can only be seen in the ability to manage the resources provided for by Kenyans. If they cannot manage them, they have no business being in the leadership of this country.

The other day, the Head of State said after he appointed the Commission on education that the Koech Report cannot be implemented. What was the purpose of appointing that Commission in the first place? Why did Kenyans lose all that money? Why was all the money that was put into that Commission wasted? It should have been put into other uses like buying food, rather than the President appointing a Commission and after it has completed its work, he says its recommendations cannot be adopted. This is an abuse of the powers that he has. He must be told loud and clear that we want a Commission that has been appointed to give results of the work it was appointed to do. In any case, we should have been given reasons why their recommendations cannot be implemented. This is why to date, most of the

schools are being closed due to insecurity and the famine that is affecting this country. We have said over ten times here that Kenyans out there cannot even afford to have a meal a day. Why are you then sending children home? Let those children continue with their education. If possible, the Government should introduce feeding programmes in schools that are affected by famine so that at least you can offer some hope to Kenyans. After these poor planners are out of office, those children will become better trained planners to run this country. Some of these issues are very important and central to our thinking in this country. We would want the Government to take its position seriously. Otherwise, incompetence is being depicted by those vested with power to control and manage our resources in this country. They cannot perform. Their performance is wanting. This country has both the natural and human resources which if properly utilised and managed, regardless of whoever is the President, could be used over three years to turn the economy round. Yet, 21 years down the line, this country is nose-diving; the economy is going down to the dogs every day, and yet, we have both the human and natural resources. We have people who can be used to turn our country's economy round. Even if that move was initiated, and Mr. Mbitiru is given that responsibility, I do not need five years; I would require two-and-a-half or three years to turn round the economy of this country. Yet, this Government has been in power for the last 21 years, and nothing has come out of it. This Government should be condemned with the strongest words possible---

Hon. Members: No! No!

Mr. Mbitiru: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you can even hear the heckling of the Ministers; it is the manifestation of the poor quality of management that they possess.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Koskei): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me time to contribute to the Budget Speech. I would want to start by saying that in as much as I would want to congratulate the Minister for Finance for the kind of Budget that he has presented, I think---

*(Mr. Mkalla crossed from the Opposition side
without bowing to the Bar)*

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Koskei! Mr. Mkalla, will you please go back and do it right? If you are crossing from one side of the House to the other, you need to bow to the Bar.

*(Mr. Mkalla went back to the Opposition side
and bowed to the Bar)*

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Koskei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as much as I would want to join my colleagues to congratulate the Minister for Finance for the kind of Budget Speech he presented here, there are one or two things that had he addressed in a better way I think we would be congratulating him even more. One thing he did is that he gave some tax-breaks to those people who will bring in power generators into the country, but on the other hand, I think the power industry has actually been experiencing problems. The other day when I was sitting in this House and the issue of the power that is being rationed in the country was brought up, I was left wondering because when we talk of power liberalisation--- When you just split the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and the Kenya Generating Company (KenGen)---

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Government should have gone a step further, because when you look at the KPLC, you will see that it is the company that has been mandated and charged with the responsibility of distributing power in the country. But you cannot give somebody the monopoly of determining what prices he or she will charge you in order to supply you with power. I think what has happened here is that the KPLC has been given the monopoly to set its own prices. There is nobody who regulates power in this country. As a result, the Rural Electrification Programme (REP) Fund has been totally misused. I live in a constituency which covers a division, and I happen to live there and I know that the money meant to have served the people of that division, in terms of the REP, only serves two individuals in the whole division, simply because, they are friendly to the Managing Director of the KPLC. So, in essence, I am saying that people who are supposed to be served were not supplied with power, and yet money was actually purported to have been used for the REP. That is why I am saying that there is need as we talk about liberalisation here, to look into the issue of power distribution by the KPLC because you cannot let the KPLC do

set standards alone. I think we need to allow competitors to enter the market because at the end of the day they would charge you---

Mr. Ojode: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member has categorically stated that there are two friends of the Managing Director of the KPLC and they got power supply as a result of that. Who are those people who have got power supply for being friendly to the Managing Director? Could he mention their names?

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Koskei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that in case the Government allows the KPLC to import the power transformers into the country, and they are being charged at very exorbitant prices, people should be allowed to import them so they are not sold at exorbitant prices?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding the issue of construction of the power lines, it should actually be liberalised so that people can get value for their money. There is no need of giving the KPLC the monopoly to import, construct the power lines and charge. That is why I did go a step further and say saying that if we do that, we will assist a lot of people, and I think the misuse of the REP fund will not take place. When the KPLC realises that people have come to know what they have been doing, they are telling wananchi back at home that despite the fact that for over 20 years they have been getting 10 per cent of people's money, and earning interest--- In fact, this time they are telling people to go back to the Ministry of Energy, and yet before, they were the ones who had the sole responsibility of receiving the 10 per cent and supplying power.

That is why I am saying that the REP was actually in one man's hand, and I think something needs to be done so that there is fairness and transparency in power distribution in this country so that those deserving areas which are productive enough should be given power instead of one person determining who gets the power in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the Minister was presenting his Budget Speech, I listened very keenly, when he said that some money has been spent to pay off those workers who are willing to take golden handshake. The Government is restricting those beneficiaries of the golden hand-shake, and I think the Ministries were disadvantaged in the whole exercise, because going by the example of those civil servants who had left the Public Service, and were given this money, they ended up being miserable. The money that they collected did not help them, and I think it would be prudent and worthwhile if the Government prepared those retirees by giving them some kind of knowledge in seminars so that when they leave the Public Service and get their money, they should use the money in a proper way so that it becomes beneficial to them. I also think that it is time the Government not only targeted the people in the lower job groups; that is workers from Job Group A to Job Group G as it has been in the past, because at the end of the day, those workers have never been productive in the economy of this country. So, I think when the Government retrenches its workers, it should do so across the board, so that those who are in the higher job groups should be able to leave the Public Service. If these retirees went out in the job market and market themselves, they should be able to generate employment for others and use their money in a better way, rather than restricting the retrenchment exercise to the lower cadre. This is because these people have always been known not to use their money in the right way, and you will find that they end being miserable as they have not added anything to the economy in as much as that money was supposed to have done. I would also want to say that the implications of the increases on the VAT are yet to be felt, and I think the Minister for Finance really made a wrong decision in increasing the VAT from 15 per cent to 18 per cent. This is because in as much he was claiming that he was giving people tax-breaks in order to cushion them from the increase of VAT, you will agree with me that there will be a general increase across the board on consumer products, and hence, the tax break that he has claimed to have given as a tax relief will not be beneficial at all.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking of making the Budget to address the issue of poverty alleviation, but you cannot be talking about poverty alleviation, and yet you are making the cost of service to these people expensive. In that case, you will find that you will not end up reducing poverty, but instead, you will put a lot of more people down the poverty-line, and hence this Budget will not serve the purpose that it was meant to have served.

When the Minister was giving his Budget Speech here, I think he addressed the issue of independent petrol dealers. I would like to say that there is the National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK) which is a very moribund parastatal, and it is actually supposed to be buying and remitting revenue? Since the market is liberalised, the NOCK is supposed to act like a regulator in the market, but you will find that it is not able to move large volumes of fuel to cushion the country from the once-in-a-while increases of the prices of petroleum products. This is because these foreign-owned companies tend to import petroleum products into this country and fixing their prices and, yet, this

organisation here was supposed to caution these independent petroleum products dealers. In my view, a way should be found whereby, the National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK) should be used to help out these independent petroleum dealers because when these people got into the market, the prices of the petroleum products came down. This was because they increased competition in the market, hence the need for NOCK to help these people so that Kenyans should be able to get petroleum products at a cheaper price.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

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

I would like first of all, to take this opportunity to welcome Kenyans to the perpetual problems experienced by the people of North Eastern Province. These include the famine crisis, insecurity, HIV/AIDS pandemic, constitutional reform stalemate crisis and the power rationing crisis. Except for the HIV/AIDS pandemic crisis, all the other crises have existed since Independence. Therefore, Kenyans should know that this is the time, actually that we tried to resolve whatever has happened in different parts of the country.

The issue of famine is a tragic one. I am on record, for the first time as having taken journalists, both from the electronic and the print media, to North Eastern Province. Those were the first journalists, ever to have visited North Eastern Province other than those who normally accompany His Excellency the President on his routine national tours. From their findings and from all the early indicators, they reported that there was famine in North Eastern Province. It is unfortunate that inept, inefficient and people of fiddle minds should be entrusted with the running of very important and vital Ministries. The only answer that we got from hon. Shariff Nassir was that there was no famine. Three weeks later, the whole country was appealing for assistance. Is this not sheer intellectual deception? These are individuals who have let this down this nation. These are individuals who have let down the President because the only thing that they believe in is concoction and lies. This is because they must be seen to be talking.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Mr. Keynan, I think you need to watch your language. Stick to the use of Parliamentary language.

Mr. Keynan: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the President has been blamed so many times because of the sins of a few individuals. These individuals must be made to carry their own cross. I am referring to this particular famine crisis because when our journalists reported---

Mr. Sambu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You have just directed the hon. Member on the Floor not to use unparliamentary language part of which, maybe, is the word "lies". One Minister here, and I can produce the HANSARD to that effect, last week or the other week used the word "lies". The Speaker himself was sitting on that Chair and he did not direct him to withdraw it. That was hon. Biwott. Is the rule against the use of unparliamentary language limited to Back-benchers only?

Mr. Keynan: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was saying that individuals who deliberately mislead Kenyans and the President---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Hon. Sambu, that does not make the situation right. Parliamentary language is Parliamentary language and unparliamentary language will not become Parliamentary language just because someone else has used it. So, Mr. Keynan, the ruling is that you should use parliamentary language.

Mr. Keynan: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was trying to emphasise the point that we should be conscience-driven. We should not mislead the nation just because we want to appease or please somebody.

There is also history. That is why I am a bit surprised because if somebody had denied that there was famine in Kenya two days earlier, and just because somebody else has given the indication that now we can talk about it, then you just suddenly say that there is famine, is that not intellectual dishonesty? That is the situation that I am referring to. Those very Kenyans who had heard from none other than the hon. Member of Parliament when there was hunger have got it right. They heard from their Government that there was no hunger. The international community has just decided to forget about it just because the Kenyan Government has denied it. These are issues that eventually affect the image of the Government. These very individuals who are famous for these things should be weeded out. That should be part of the reform.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on insecurity, again we have individuals in the system who have become professional inciters. They bribe and incite communities against one another. Certain individuals should be put behind bars. In Isiolo, an hon. Member of Parliament is on record as having incited his community to kill all the other

communities living there. That hon. Member should have been put behind the bar because these are the individuals who are spoiling the good image of the President of this country. We know that, of course, they have contributed to the loss of innocent lives. Laws are not meant for the poor people only, but are meant for all of us. Therefore, if the issue of insecurity in northern Kenya has to be addressed, the Government should move fast and apprehend some of these known inciters and charge them in court. That is the only way we can have the rule of law and respect these institutions, otherwise, other individuals will follow suit. I believe that as far as our constitutional guarantees are concerned, every Kenyan has a right to live anywhere in the country. Some of the hon. Members today should have been behind bars serving jail terms of not less than five years if, really, there was rule of law.

There is the power rationing crisis. In North Eastern Province, we are not very much affected because we have never had power. But I sympathise with other Kenyans who were so much used to this luxurious life of having power that today, it is as if they have lost everything. I sympathise with them because this is the situation that we, in North Eastern Province, have been in for the last 36 years. So, we have not yet seen the fruits of Independence. The individuals who have put us into this national crisis should be arrested for economic sabotage. We cannot be paying for the sins of a few individuals. This country is bleeding. It is time that, that should put these people behind the bar. Each one of us should carry his own cross. We are fed up! With the power rationing crisis, insecurity, famine, HIV/AIDS pandemic and the constitutional review stalemate, have we not caught up in a social revolution? Is it not taking too long for us to address this situation? This has been caused by only a few individuals. All this blame is now being heaped on the President, but it is not the President's fault. The only part that the President has played is to allow these individuals to continue holding offices when they should have been put behind the bar.

The problems that we are experiencing today are man-made problems. The power crisis is man-made. This is just because it is meant to benefit a few corruption-driven individuals so that they can continue getting rich. It is too late and we either act now or never. I remember that there was a Somali song in 1989---

Mr. Kihoro: Sing it!

Mr. Keynan: It is only that most of you will not get the meaning, otherwise I would have sang it. It is relevant to the Kenyan situation today. In 1988, a famous Somali singer said: "When we were appealing for yellow maize, a few corrupt individuals in the security system imported big land cruisers. We had no infrastructure, no water and no electricity". Was this not a similar situation to today's situation? Kenyans down there have nothing to eat and have nothing to be proud of, yet, we continue to see a number of victims. Even we hon. Members of Parliament, will be held responsible if anything like that happens to the poor Kenyans on the ground. It is high time that we stood up and spoke in one voice for the sake of this country. It is not just enough to apportion the blame to the President. Even if today there was a change of Government, our problems would not just be over. Let us address these institutional weaknesses created by a few individuals, for the sake of this country. I believe that we can even solve the constitutional reform stalemate. We can come together, discuss and find a way out of it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the President has said that more than 25 million people today need food. In the hierarchy of needs, we have those who are self-actualised which is the highest level of needs. There are also those of us who are crawling and who need basic requirements, for example, food, shelter and water, that is in itself a luxury. So, we are in different worlds. That is why I started with a prelude that most Kenyans are now finding themselves in a state where the residents of North Eastern Province have been for the last 37 years. Therefore, once again, we are in one country and let us address our problems. All of us are now in the same predicament whether one is from North Eastern Province, Nyeri or Kisumu.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if there is going to be a social revolution, none of us is going to be safe. With the power crisis, we are talking of redundancies because most industries are not working. Can we do something to correct the situation? The Budget Speech is nothing more than a sheer document. Even what is contained in the Budget is not money. It is anticipation from the World Bank and IMF. How about if they say "No"? This issue of retrenching people should be suspended because, how are you going to retrench when another 40,000 people are going to be without jobs in the next few weeks? This issue should be suspended until the economy recovers, and the famine situation and security also improve.

The Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning (Mr. Lomada): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Keynan: Mr. Lomada, I am just finishing.

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

*(The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Poghisio) left the Chair)*

*(The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Muihia) took the Chair)*

The Assistant Minister for Health (Dr. Wako): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion. First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Ministry of Finance for the work they have done. This is because, given the situation we are in, with all the famine, insecurity and energy problems, I think the Ministry has drawn up a good Budget for the country. However, may I also take this opportunity to also thank His Excellency the President for the appeal he has made on the drought. This is because in most areas of this country, especially in pastoral areas, the extent of drought is so much that it has actually started claiming lives and livestock, and children are the most affected today as we are talking. I would like to say that in my own constituency, there are a lot of problems. People do not have water. The animals are dying. About 500 children are actually facing malnutrition and other health problems. Therefore, we actually appeal to the donors to take up this challenge and help the country in this crucial time when we really need help.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the insecurity issue, I would like to say that this is one big problem which the country is facing. This is because if Kenya has to improve the economy and come out of this crisis, then the first priority for this country is to deal with insecurity. It looks like even within institutions and individuals, Kenyans are getting more violent day by day. We are changing our culture from that of very cool Kenyans to one of violence. There is violence in schools, universities and on the streets which is actually affecting this country. We have to change.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. So, it is you!

(Laughter)

The Assistant Minister for Health (Dr. Wako): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, because there is no point of order, I will continue. I think one actual problem which Kenya needs to look at as far as insecurity is concerned is the relation with our neighbours. Because of the weak governments in our neighbouring countries, there are a lot of guns which are coming into this country. If the Government has to curb insecurity, this has to be taken into account. This is because the number of guns which flock into the country and which are terrorising this country, is actually the biggest problem. We need to look into this problem very seriously and see how we can police our borders to ensure that insecurity can be curbed. They are the same guns from our neighbouring countries which are affecting most of the pastoral areas and Nairobi. Insecurity in Nairobi has become very bad because of the imported guns. We need to take this opportunity and actually thank the Minister for Finance for taking this into account and allocating the Department of Defence a lot of money this time. This is to make sure that they can have equipment, communication facilities and enough resources to mobilise themselves. This will be very important to this country because no investor will come to this country if we have this crisis of insecurity. No investment will be carried out, and unless we have investments, we cannot have factories working and employment opportunities. The more unemployment levels we have, the more the increase in the problem of insecurity. Therefore, we take this opportunity to thank the Ministry of Finance for allocating money to the Department of Defence, and the police for the provision of communication lines, vehicles and other important equipment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also take this opportunity to answer my colleague, hon. Keynan, who was accusing a Member of Parliament from Isiolo. I do not know which Member of Parliament he is talking about, but we equally are actually accusing the Members of Parliament from Northern Kenya for the crisis in Isiolo. This is because the problem which we are experiencing is from illegal grazers who have come in from Northern Kenya, and who are ready to move out but have not done so due to incitement from the Members of Parliament from Northern Kenya. This has created the problem in Isiolo. If there are any people who are actually suffering from the insecurity problem, it is the Isiolo people. Isiolo District has been earning up to Kshs20 million from tourism.

Today, as I am talking, Isiolo County Council is not even able to pay salaries to its workers. Isiolo County Council, which used to give Kshs10 million as bursary to students from Isiolo District, today, cannot pay its own

workers. It is thinking of retrenching some of the workers, thus creating a further burden for the people of Isiolo. All this has been created by the illegal grazers from North Eastern Province who have refused to leave. After three years, we asked them to go away and instead of doing so, they are now claiming Isiolo. They are claiming that it is cosmopolitan. It does not have any owner and it does not belong to any people. I think one important issue which the Government has to consider is to go back to the colonial grazing boundaries for the pastoralists. Unless this is done, it is going to create a lot of problems, and it is going to mess up pastoralism. It is going to mess up the people in the pastoral areas.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on hydro-electric power, the problem which are facing now is that of planning. For a long time Kenya has actually depended on hydro-electricity, and to make it worse, it generates it from only one region. I think this is a bigger problem. When Uganda, Sudan and Egypt are self-sufficient in power, since they use the River Nile, why has Kenya not made use of Lake Victoria?

(Applause)

This does not make sense. It gives us a lot of problems. If the Ministry is serious about poverty eradication, with people getting one meal a day, it should make use of all the rivers and lakes that we have. Lake Victoria is one of them. It is the largest lake in Africa. It can generate enough food for the country. As we are talking now, Kenya is importing maize. It is the staple food for Kenyans. Maize can be grown very easily. In North Eastern Province, for example, we can make use of Tana and Nyambene Rivers for irrigation. Isiolo District, for example, can be self-sufficient. But the only problem that we have is that the planners do not consider that arid and semi-arid areas can produce food under irrigation. I think this aspect should be re-looked into by the Ministry of Agriculture, to ensure that all parts of Kenya which can produce food are irrigated.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to say that, if we have to produce enough for this country from the manufacturing sector, the incentives that the Minister has given in the Budget are not enough! The Minister has favoured foreign investors more than the local investors. Today, drugs which are produced outside are cheaper than drugs which are produced in this country. I do not think that makes any sense. We must ensure that the Dumping Act which was put in place takes effect in this country. The local manufacturers should be considered first, if we have to depend on Kenyans to produce such items.

QUORUM

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is there a quorum in the House?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muihia): No, we do not have a quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Muihia): Order! We have a quorum now. You may proceed, hon. Raila.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Motion with a bit of reservation because everybody has talked gloomily about the Budget. It is true that we are going through some very difficult circumstances in this country at the moment, but we need to look back at history, to realise where things went wrong. There is a saying in Luo, which, literary translated, means: "A dice is compared with its pair."

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to compare our development with that of the Republic of Korea. I chose Korea deliberately because Korea and Kenya happen to have been almost at comparable levels of development at the time that we attained Independence in 1963. The economic indicators and socio-economic factors were almost comparable. But then, Korea and Kenya went their different ways. It happened to be a time when the international donor agencies were very generous with developing economies. So, a lot of money was easily accessible to both countries. Kenya borrowed heavily, as Korea did, but then, the difference is how that borrowed money was spent. I think there, lies the problem that we have today. Whereas Korea invested the money that it borrowed on production, growth and development, we went the other way.

It has become very fashionable for people to quote figures of different rates of growth in the 60s, 70s, 80s,

and 90s, to show how things have changed, but I would like to say that things did not just change in the 80s and 90s. Whereas Kenya's economy was growing at the rate of 5 and 6 per cent in the late 60s and early 70s, Korea's economy was growing at 12 to 14 per cent at that time.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(M. Muihia) left the Chair]*

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Poghio) resumed the Chair]*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, even at that time, the figures that people quoted to glorify the rates of growth, were misguided. So, they were misguided because at that time, we were actually benefiting a lot from the money that was being borrowed from outside. Now, this economy is reeling from the burden of debt servicing. In the current Budget, the Minister has provided for Kshs21.5 billion to service the domestic debt. At the same time, the Minister has provided Kshs9.1 billion to service the foreign debt. Most of this debt is what has accumulated from the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and so on, when some of the people who are now throwing stones at the Government on that side were signing those agreements and getting that money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the late 1990s, when our Gross National Product (GNP) was US\$283, we had a debt per person of US\$217. The ratio of debt to GNP was 77 per cent, and domestic debt at that time reached Kshs140 billion or 20 per cent of the GDP. It meant that, at our birth rate, every child born in Kenya automatically inherited a debt of Kshs18,000 at birth. Out of this amount, Kshs15,000 is owed to external agencies. So, we should address this question of debts write-off as one of the ways of trying to ease off the burden on this economy. I agree with what has been said by other speakers; that, this time round, the Minister has not taken sufficient time to talk about agricultural policy, whereas this country depends, to a very large extent, on agriculture. One would have expected the Minister to go almost crop by crop, to tell us the *status quo*, the problems that exist in the agricultural sector, and what the Government intends to do to revive agriculture. This has not been done! We are also not doing enough about our industrialization because the engine of industrialization is energy. At the moment, we are having a lot of problems with the energy sector and these are no short-term problems because we know that, even with the rains, the hydro-electric power plants we have on the Tana River are not going to meet our requirements because we have destroyed the catchment areas there, and that the heavy erosion, which translates into silting, is filling the dams, and that the dams' carrying capacity is not going to be improved even with quarrying and dredging. So, we have to look at the alternatives, and unless we look at one of the alternatives--- I want to plead with this House to be understanding.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, nuclear energy is something that has been criminalised by some agencies in the world, yet, in the developed economies in world, nuclear power generation is one of the largest developed sectors. If you go to Germany, the United States of America and to Japan, they have nuclear power plants. It is only the developing countries that are being discouraged from trying this other alternative. The countries which are already nuclear powers do not want India and Pakistan to become nuclear powers because they do not want them to enter into that exclusive club. Using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is not something that should be criminalised. I would like to plead with this Government to set up a nuclear energy commission to look at this other alternative.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am certain that we are no longer talking about employment when we are talking about the Budget. We are very happy to be talking about retrenching people from the Public Service. People seem to think that employment in the Civil Service is a natural evil that we must live with, and that we can have a Government without staff; and that if we can put all the computers to work for us, we will be happy. The Government is a Government of the people! That is why I feel so sad when we say that 33,000 civil servants are going to be retrenched and be made jobless.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we seem to think that the private sector will solve all our problems. We think that by bringing people from the private sector into the public sector, we will be able to solve the problems that we have created over the years. I disagree! I do not think that bringing people from the private sector into the public sector is a panacea to our problems. Here we have the so-called "Dream Team." You pick up six people from the private sector and you think that, they are going to solve your problems. Civil Service is a career which people choose when they graduate. These people undergo very expensive training to become civil servants. When somebody else has

chosen to go to the private sector, you go and pluck him from there and he comes in here and you do not even put him as an Assistant Secretary or a Deputy Secretary; you make him a Permanent Secretary and you think that he can solve the problems which graduates who have worked in the Government for so many years have not been able to solve. I think this is misguided!

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you find the "Dream Team" is also going to witch-hunt! We are prepared to pay these people millions of shillings. Next time we will want the Minister to table the salaries of these people. One of them is earning Kshs2 million, another one Kshs1.5 million and another one Kshs1.2 million. Why should we be prepared to pay these people that amount of money when we are not prepared to pay people who have spent all their life time working for the Government?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have now created the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority (KACA), and we have taken a High Court Judge to head it. He was earning Kshs50,000, and we are now paying him Kshs467,000--

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member claims that there are Permanent Secretaries earning Kshs2 million or Kshs1.2 million. Could he substantiate his claims?

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not need to substantiate the obvious. The hon. Member is from the ruling party; if he wants to get the figures, he can go to the Ministry of Finance and get them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are paying the former High Court Judge Kshs467,000, as a Director of KACA. He is a former High Court Judge and the Chief Justice is only earning Kshs80,000. So, with this kind of distortion, we are discouraging and disempowering our people.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

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

I thought Budget time was time to reflect on what has been said by His Excellency the President in the last three weeks, and has been said too loudly and clearly by the instruments of State on the matter of poverty. Only three weeks ago, the President told this country that 23 million Kenyans are affected by drought and famine. I thought Budget time was the time for providing food! There is no food for these people when famine has been declared a national disaster! So many people are famished because of hunger and you find that there is no sufficient allocation to cater for famine.

Seven months ago, we went to Mombasa for a Seminar on HIV/AIDS. It is good because I can see that something is coming from this Government to alleviate the spread of the HIV/AIDS scourge, but we have lived with HIV/AIDS for 16 years in this country since 1984. It is only science that was behind us.

If we went to the earlier days in 1981 and 1982, there were cases that were not reported about HIV/AIDS. This country did not know about HIV/AIDS then, but people died of HIV/AIDS. Sixteen years later, we have held a seminar in Mombasa about HIV/AIDS and we still find that the Government is very slow in taking the necessary action. After all the lavished party in Mombasa, it is only last week that we went to Mbagathi and we continued talking, when our hospitals are not careful about HIV/AIDS. The prisons are not doing anything about it; our prison institutions are still areas where HIV/AIDS is spreading more rapidly than anywhere else in the country. I also thought Budget time was a time to think about smoking in this country. The cost of smoking in this country is too high. Instead of using the necessary financial mechanisms to discourage smoking in this country, where people are dying of smoking, that does not come up in the Budget. The wrong people are being taxed. Those people who smoke should have been taken head on by the Budget, but that again is not being done. I think, the tobacco moguls, who own the tobacco industry in this country, are the ones who continue prevailing on the Government not to levy the necessary taxes, even though they cost this country a lot of expense to treat those people who are suffering from respiratory problems. I can see Professor is here. It is not only the money you spend immediately, but also the socio-hospital cost that this country is running. I thought the Budget time was a time to take up an issue like that one and clearly demonstrate this Government's dissatisfaction with that tobacco.

(Mr. Ndicho consulted loudly)

with other Members)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Ndicho, and your company!

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Onger): On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform my colleague that the No Smoking Bill is coming to Parliament and, therefore, he should feel comfortable about it.

Mr. Kihoro: Thank you. The Bill will come up and I think indicators could well have been there on the Budget. I think we would still be late. The rest of the world is very much ahead of us. In America, if somebody smokes in a room where you are in you can institute proceedings against that individual, and that should be happening here. The cost of taking people with respiratory diseases to our hospitals is something to be taken on by BAT and the "Horseman" cigarettes. They continue advertising them on our radios the way they should not be doing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, all the big cigarette companies are moving to the Third World. In this country, they have targeted so many of our young people who are going to become smokers and have copied one Englishman who went to America in the 16th Century, in the name of exploration. Sir Walter Raleigh who took the bad behaviour to Britain and spread it across the world. Today, Americans have stopped smoking, but it is with us in the Third World. So, it is something to be taken on by this Budget and the next one.

Another aspect is the question of Civil Service Reform. It is very important. I can see that the Government, by retrenching 23,000 civil servants out of 220,000; is again going to contribute to the question of poverty in this country. Times are difficult. It is true we are going to retrench, but I think it is also important to think about where those people are going to go. Eventually, what is the responsibility of the Government? It cannot employ; it cannot provide a full service in hospital, it cannot provide a full service in our educational system, and it cannot provide a fully tarmacked road. Then, what is being left about Government; is it just levying taxes and, eventually, spending them in a way that you cannot see what exactly is being done? The question of retrenchment has got to be handled more carefully. If we are going to reduce the Civil Service by 23,000 Kenyans, who is going to do the work they were doing? Is the Government thinking about retraining those civil servants who are going to be left? What is going to be the criteria of the retrenchment? I would expect that the deadwoods; the old ones; the ones that cannot perform would be the ones that would go. But I suspect that, that might not happen. Some of the better endowed, the ones that are younger and who can be retrained, are the ones that might go because they have got a future out there. They can go and work in the private sector or in the Jua Kali sector. Are the 23,000 who are going to go the ones who can do a good job? Are they the ones that will go? I do not trust the Government on this one. I think it is important to involve the Opposition on that question, to make sure that those who are being left are the better ones who can be retrained, and whom the Government can invest in. That is very important because, if we have the bad ones being left, we would still have the problem of bad service delivery in the Civil Service. That is very important.

Each one of them is going to receive Kshs240,000, which is very little money. I do understand some civil servants are actually earning Kshs2.4 million per month, while others are given Kshs240,000 as pension. That is too little money. This process has got to be sorted out. I do agree there are some people in the Civil Service who do not deserve to be there, but let us ensure that the retrenchment is going to target the deadwoods; the untrainable; those who actually have been infiltrated into the Civil Service without qualifications. The people who do not have the qualities of being good civil servants are the ones who should go. Maybe, the good ones might not bribe and they might be the ones to go. It would be very demoralising to find that the good ones go and the bad ones are left, and the people will continue to suffer under the strain of a bad Civil Service.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the question of reciprocal reduction in tariffs that have come up in the Budget proposals, the Minister has proposed that Kenya can only reduce tariffs for certain countries if those countries also have reduced tariffs for Kenyan exports. That is a good principle, but when I looked at the Budget proposals, I found that the countries where we might have very little to sell are the ones which have reduced tariffs.

*(Mr. Nassir consulted loudly
with other Members)*

An hon. Member: He is a whole Minister!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Order!

Mr. Kihoro: We ought to name Mr. Nassir, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I find that in the countries where there has been reduction in tariffs in favour of Kenyan exports, like Egypt and South Africa, under the principle that is being proposed---. You have 90 per cent reduction on South African and Egyptian exports to Kenya, and then Kenya has also got to take a reciprocal measure. You might find that we have very little to export to South Africa and Egypt, but Egypt takes advantage of that reciprocal reduction in tariffs in a way that is going to end up being unfair to Kenya. The two countries are at a different stage in their development. They are more industrialised countries and so when you have that reciprocal reduction in tariffs, eventually, it ends up working against Kenyan industries and Kenyan produce. I am proposing that suggestion needs to be reviewed by the Minister. We have spoken about the question of debt in this country for a long time. The amount of money that is being spent every year to service the domestic and external debts---

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

Mr. Wamae: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion, which I support with reservations.

It is true that times are difficult. There is hunger, lack of power, diseases, unemployment, and everything else that is bad. If people had a place to run to, they would do so. Because we do not have a place to run to, we have to accept and make the best use of this country's economy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have the question of the energy crisis. Without electricity, everything comes to a standstill. Although we are taking some measures here and there, we are doing so too late. Many people have already said that those people are responsible for energy in this country must be made to pay for the suffering that Kenyans are going through now. They must account for their carelessness, or for lack of foresight, that a situation like the one we are in would arise. Everybody should have known that if there was drought, there would not be enough water in River Tana, or for any other hydro-electric system.

Drought comes in cyclically; we experience drought every 10 years. So, what plans did those responsible for electric power in this country have? Did those people even consider the question of recycling the water from the dams? Why did they not go to the last hydro-electric station down the River Tana and pump its water back to Masinga Dam and let it flow back again? Why did they not think about this option? It would have been a cheaper alternative. If we can pump petroleum products all the way from Mombasa to Kisumu and Kampala, we can recycle the water around the Seven Forks Dams. I am glad that my friend, the Minister, supports that idea.

Why did he not think of recycling that water? Everybody is recycling even waste products in the city. Why did the Minister for Energy not recycle the water from the last of the Seven Forks Dams at Kambura Dam, by pumping it back to Masinga and let it circulate in a cycle? That way, we would be producing electric power without interruption. The cost of doing that would not be as much as we are now going to incur. However, those responsible for the generation of electric power did not think about the possibility of recycling the water being used at the hydro-electric plants for further production of electricity. Instead, the Minister for Energy and officials of the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KP&LC), were too busy attending political rallies. I think this is a matter which I think will go down in history; that some Kenyans failed. The Minister for Energy and all other people who have been running the KP&LC are responsible for the mess in which this country is now. The cost of these people's error of omission to Kenyans will be too much for us to bear. We are going to have unemployment; production levels will dwindle, and the food security situation will be worsened. We are not even going to pump water to our City, towns and rural areas. So, I hope that heads will roll, so that others who will come after will have a lesson to learn from those before them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue I would like to talk about is that of insecurity. The security situation in this country is not good. Why should we have people dying in Isiolo District a week after another when our soldiers are in Sierra Leone? What are those soldiers doing in Sierra Leone when we have insecurity in our own country? They should be in Isiolo District maintaining peace between the Boran and the Somali people, to ensure that those two communities do not fight.

Last week, more people died in that district. More people had died three or four weeks ago. A month ago, more people died. Why do we have to allow this to happen?

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Hon. Wamae, would you like to have the information from the Minister?

Mr. Wamae: Yes, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Wamae is my good friend, but I would like to remind him about something he already knows. The peace between the people of Isiolo District is, really, the work of the police. The soldiers in Sierra Leone are doing their job. The police force is also doing its job.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that information is not useful to me. I already knew what he has told me, but the police have failed to do their job. If people in Isiolo District die month after another, can we say that the police are doing their work?

An. hon. Member: No!

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, can anybody agree that the police have done their work in Isiolo District? If the police have done their work, why are people still dying there? If the number of police officers is not sufficient, let the army step in to ensure that more Kenyans do not die there. The situation is the same in the North Rift Valley. People there have even stopped farming because of insecurity. Can the Minister not ensure that people in those areas live in peace? It is for this reason that I support more resources being provided to the police to enable them do more in maintaining security in this country. I hope that the Office of the President will not buy Mahindra vehicles this time round simply because we have allocated the internal security docket money for the purchase of vehicles. Mahindra vehicles were a disaster; it was a corrupt deal. Some people made money by buying Mahindra vehicles for the Police Department. The Mahindra vehicles were not moving; bicycles could move faster than the Mahindra vehicles. All those vehicles are now dumped somewhere. So, I hope that the same mistake will not be repeated.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few words about the Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). I think the AIDS scourge is the biggest problem this country is facing today. I am surprised that the Minister for Health has just walked out. There is a scheme which many countries are now applying in managing this scourge. That is the parallel importation of drugs from those countries which make drugs at cheaper prices than the prices of patented drugs. Those countries are India, Thailand, and others. AIDS management drugs from those countries should be imported to this country, so that Kenyans can buy them cheaply. There is a system of compulsory licensing, and they can license our own manufactures to make those drugs in this country cheaply. The drugs are not expensive; what is expensive is the price those manufactures are selling them at. They want to make more money to recover their cost of research on the drugs. Because we have declared AIDS a national disaster, all efforts should be made to make AIDS management drugs cheaply available to Kenyans. I have been told by some doctors that some AIDS patients who have been using the vitriolic medicine have lived longer. The problem is that those drugs are too expensive for Kenyans to afford them; they cost between Kshs60,000 and Kshs80,000 a month per patient. Kenyans cannot afford those drugs. However, if we import those drugs from Thailand, India and other countries, those drugs will cost 10 per cent of that price. What is the Ministry doing about this?

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Onger): On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will accept that information from hon. Onger. He is a good friend of mine; we were together in India sometime back.

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Onger): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think one must appreciate the difficulty we have within the law regarding intellectual property rights. I hope that when the Intellectual Property Rights Bill comes to this House, we should be put in it safety guards such as the parallel importation of drugs and how to overcome problems related to the generic formulations that would be cheaper, as the hon. Member is referring to.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is good that the Minister for Public Health has spoken. He seems to be ignorant of facts, which I will let him know now. The President of the United States of America (USA) signed a Presidential Executive Order, stating that, African countries South of the Sahara, can carry out parallel imports and compulsory licensing without having to fear that the USA Government would retaliate on patent rights.

The Minister for Public Health (Prof. Onger): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member aware that trade related to Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPR) puts a constraint on any country, including Kenya, on what he has said? So, we are not able to do what he has just suggested.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I still challenge the Minister to go and read properly the existing regulations relating to what I have said. Kenya can now do that. South Africa and other countries are now

doing so. Since the USA President signed the Presidential Executive Order, countries within the region described in that Order can now import drugs parallel and do compulsory licensing without having to fear breaching patented rights. The USA Presidential Executive Order covers only AIDS management drugs; I did not say it covers all the drugs. There has been special dispensation on these drugs. It is very interesting that the Minister for Public Health is not aware of these facts.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Wamae in order to tell the Minister to close the loopholes through which they make money, by undertaking parallel importation of AIDS management drugs?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghismo): Order! I think that is a frivolous point of order. Proceed, Mr. Wamae.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with you. That was not a point of order. I hope that the Minister for Public Health will look into this as a matter of urgency. I know there is a lot of money being used by certain stakeholders, to make sure that African countries do not get cheap drugs. So, anybody who is involved will be paid to make sure that this country does not bring in that cheap medicine. I hope that our country is not going to be part of that, and that we are going to bring cheap medicine for our people to save many Kenyans who are now dying when there are drugs which can prolong their lives. However, our people cannot afford them because of high prices.

With few those remarks, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Between the Minister and hon. Wamae, someone must be misleading this House. Mr. Wamae says that there is an executive order issued by the USA Government, but the Minister for Public Health is denying it. Who is misleading the House? Would I be in order to ask hon. Wamae to give us the number of such executive orders?

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, since I have been challenged, I am prepared to substantiate.

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

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, asante sana kwa kunipa nafasi hii ili nizungumze juu ya maji. Maji ni muhimu sana katika nchi yetu na ulimwengu kwa jumla. Nchi nyingi ulimwenguni huwa jangwa; hazina maji wala mito. Serikali nyingi hutumia pesa nyingi kwa minajili ya kugharamia miradi ya maji. Hapa nchini tumshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu kwa sababu tuna maji mengi kutoka milima ya Kilimanjaro na Kenya. Karibu kila pembe ya nchi hii huwa na maji mengi. Hata hivyo, maji mengi hutiririka baharini. Kila mhe. Mbunge anastahili kufikiria jinsi ya kujenga mabwawa na kuchimba visima ili tupate maji ya kutosha hapa nchini. Ni haki kwa kila mhe. Mbunge kuuliza swali kuhusu hali ya maji nchini, lakini kutumia uongo wake ili kupata kura na haanzishi miradi yoyote ya maendeleo katika sehemu yake ndio wajibu wake nambari moja.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghismo): Order! Mr. Nassir, even if you are speaking in the Kiswahili Language, you know parliamentary language applies too. What is that you are talking about "uongo"?

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nilikuwa nikiwaomba waheshimiwa Wabunge wafikirie juu ya miradi ya maji katika sehemu zao za uakilishi Bungeni.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghismo): Order! It has nothing to do with that.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Karauri): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Nassir stood up to talk about water. I think the Motion is not about water. He could talk about it by relating it to the Motion before the House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghismo): If I may remind him about the Motion before the House, it is: "That Mr. Speaker Do now Leave the Chair."

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, hata tukipata pesa kutoka kwa mataifa wafadhili na tuwe na bajeti nyingi, itakuwa bure ikiwa hatutaanzisha miradi ya maendeleo itakayowafaidi wananchi wetu. Waniasia wote ni lazima wafikirie juu ya shida zinazokabili nchi hii. Ningependa tuwe na mipango mahususi tunapotumia pesa zetu katika nchi hii. Hata kama tutapata pesa kutoka kwa mataifa wafadhili, hatuwezi kuridhika ikiwa viongozi wetu hawatafikiria juu ya shida za wananchi wetu. Serikali yetu hugawa pesa kupitia Bajeti hii lakini watu wetu hawatumii pesa hizo sawa sawa. Jambo hili hufanya umaskini kuendelea kuenea katika pembe zote za taifa letu. Nitawaomba viongozi wezangu wote kufanya bidii ili kuinua hali ya maisha ya wananchi wetu. Haifai kudumisha siasa duni ambazo haziwezi kuwasaidia wananchi wetu. Ni lazima mipango yetu ya kimaendeleo izingatiwe kikamilifu. Haifai viongozi wengi kushutumiana, huku wakisema watawapiga wenzao.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa mambo ya maji yafikiriwe kwa makini. Ni lazima Wakenya wote waishi kwa umoja ili tuwasaidie wananchi wetu kutatua shida zinazowakabili kila siku. Ni furaha kuona ya kuwa matajiri ambao sasa ni wanasiasa wana imani kwa maskini wao. Haifai kusema kuwa viongozi fulani wataua au watawapiga wanasiasa fulani kwa sababu ya maoni yao. Bunge hili na Mwenyezi Mungu ni mashuhunda wangu kuwa ninataka amani katika nchi hii. Wanasiasa wengine wanataka kuwa viongozi wa nchi hii kwa mabavu. Hii ndio taabu kubwa hapa nchini.

Pesa zitakazopatikana katika Bajeti ya mwaka huu ni lazima ziwafaidi wananchi wetu kwa jumla kwa sababu Kenya si Nairobi tu, bali sehemu zote za nchi hii. Wananchi wetu wote wanataka miradi ya kimaendeleo, amani na mapenzi. Ukali mwingi haufai katika uongozi wa nchi hii. Tunataka kiongozi mpenda amani. Tungeomba Waziri wa Maji kuhakikisha kuwa wananchi wetu wamepata maji ya kutosha. Ni lazima Serikali yetu ianzishe miradi maalum ya maji, ili wananchi wetu wapate maji ya kutoshelez shughuli zao za kila siku. Itakuwa heri kama viongozi wote watafanya Harambee ya maji, shule na pia ya kuwasaidia wananchi wetu kwa kila njia.

Maji ni muhimu sana katika maisha ya wanadamu. Wakati huu, nchi yetu imekumbwa na ukame. Nchi nyingine barani Afrika ni jangwa. Hata hivyo, wana miradi ya kunyunyizia maji mimea yao na wana chakula cha kutosha. Ni aibu kuona ya kwamba Kenya kuna maji mengi lakini hatuanzishi miradi maalum ya ukulima. Ni lazima viongozi wote kufanya bidii ili kuinua hali ya wananchi wetu. Viongozi wa Nyanza wamejua kuwa wanaweza kusuluhisha shida za wananchi wao ikiwa wataungana na Serikali.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghosio): Order! Mr. Nassir, address the Chair.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nilikuwa nikizungumza juu ya amani nchini. Mambo haya yote hayawezi kupatikana ikiwa Wakenya hawana amani. Mungu huleta amani kwa watu wapendanao. Wananchi wa mataifa mengine huuana kwa sababu ya ukosefu wa amani. Ni lazima tuwasaidie wananchi wetu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo machache ninaunga mkono.

Mr. Mwakiringo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. First of all, I would like to thank the Kenyan technocrats who prepared this Budget. This Budget was well balanced and as we know, there must be a cost for anything which you do. I know it was balanced but, again, the common wananchi, including ourselves, are complaining that the 3 per cent increase on the Value Added Tax (VAT) was too excessive.

I would like to inform this House that the Government must make money to provide services, but that will not go unchallenged.

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Consult in very low tones.

Mr. Mwakiringo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that the good job they did will not go unchallenged. Poverty eradication is what we should all, as Kenyans, be focusing on. Surprisingly, much attention and money was not allocated to the Ministry of Water Development to carry out water harvesting in our rivers and drill boreholes in the semi-arid and arid areas. I feel so bitter---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Mwakiringo! We are on the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Mwakiringo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am contributing to the Budget.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Go on, but I just want you to remember that we are actually on the Financial Statement.

*(Mr. Kamotho consulted with
Messrs. Nassir and Karauri)*

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. In view of the importance of the subject and the contribution by the hon. Member, which is excellent, is it in order for hon. Kamotho and hon. Nassir to continue the war against hon. Kibaki on the Floor of the House?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Continue, Mr. Mwakiringo.

Mr. Mwakiringo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is very interesting.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Karauri): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member is misleading the House because these two hon. Members are seated near me and I am not hon. Kibaki.

(Laughter)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Order! Proceed, Mr. Mwakiringo.

Mr. Mwakiringo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are taking my time. I was saying that we would like to see more money being pumped into the Ministry of Water Development for water harvesting. I feel so bitter when a lot of water from Mzima Springs is being wasted. This is because only 22,000 litres of water are being harvested per minute from these springs to be used in Mombasa, leaving behind 289,000 litres of water per minute going to waste. If harvesting of that water was properly done, we would not be having this artificial power shortage in this country because we could have created artificial rivers and water falls to generate electricity for this country. As much as the technocrats are doing a good job, the implementers and political interference are messing up the economy of this country. I would like to see, in future Budgets, recommendations on retrenchment of the Cabinet, especially of those Ministers whose Ministries were merged with the major ones in this country. In this way, we will save some money.

(Applause)

We would like to see retrenchment affecting the Cabinet in the next Budget. We have had a lot of insecurity in this country, but, again, instead of more money being allocated to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) to combat crime, it was allocated to the National Security Intelligence Service (NSIS), which is doing more harm to this country than good. One, it is more associated with the drug barons of this country than saving the country in terms of insecurity. The CID should be given more money because they are combatting crime in this country. Why should the NSIS be given Kshs600 million in this Budget and the CID is not given more? We would want to see more money allocated to the CID rather than the NSIS. There is a lot of insecurity.

Poverty eradication must also go with the health of the people with more population in this country. Road carnage is taking toll of our people. I believe that there is devil worship in this country. Buses do not have one colour; they are multi-coloured. I see some of them with spiders and snakes drawn on them. You cannot understand this! That is part of devil worship and they are causing accidents. I think the Registrar of Motor Vehicles should be strict on the registration of these buses. Before they are registered, they should have one uniform colour like any other buses in this country. We need our people. Hon. Ng'eny and I need voters in 2002, and we do not want to lose them in the road carnage. We would like to see the police doing their good job, especially the traffic police on the roads.

Apart from the police trying to arrest their colleagues to combat crime, it should be a collective responsibility to us. When we find an overloaded matatu, or a policeman being bribed, we should stand up and say: "No, this is the kind of thing we do not want in this country". Overloading of buses is causing a lot of carnage. We are losing brains and the people who will vote for us in 2002. It is second to HIV/AIDS. We want to see proper registration of these buses and motor vehicles, and the police, especially the traffic police, doing their job properly.

We need the independence of the trade union movement and the Maendeleo ya Wanawake movement. I do not know what has become of Kenyans. Why should institutions like COTU and Maendeleo ya Wanawake be affiliated to a political party in this country? They will not be doing justice to those they represent. They should divorce themselves from any political affiliations. COTU is part of KANU. It is now operating like KANU. It cannot criticise the Government or defend its people. It must go with the direction of a political party. If we have to give confidence to our workers and make them feel that they are fully represented, then these organisations should be independent, including Maendeleo ya Wanawake. They should divorce themselves from political affiliations.

I was one of the best KANU activists during my political young age and I know the KANU Manifesto more than some of my colleagues here on the opposite side, especially Ministers and some who are new. KANU was fighting for only three issues when we were fighting for independence: Eradication of poverty and illiteracy, and provision of health services for all Kenyans. Do we ask ourselves as Kenyans, leave alone party affiliations, if we have achieved those objectives 36 years since independence? If we have not, where have we gone wrong? It is very

unfortunate that 36 years down the line, we have not achieved what we fought for during our struggle for independence.

Twenty years ago, I was told: "Mwakiringo, do not stand for a parliamentary seat. You are a leader of tomorrow." Twenty-five years later, I am still being called a leader of tomorrow. When shall we be leaders? If anything, we will bring a Motion here that anybody above the age of 50 years should never stand for a parliamentary seat. We need people between the age bracket of 40 and 50 years to serve for ten years, and then go on retirement. Your family needs you at the age of 50 years and you need to stay with them. If you are above 50 years and you retired from the Civil Service or any corporation, it means that organisation found you useless, and that is why you were retired. If you were useful, they would not have retrenched you. How do we, as the electorate, find you better now to serve us better in Parliament? It is impossible! That is why we are now doing this manipulation by the technocrats and we are not achieving what we want to do.

Hon. Member: Then you are worried!

Mr. Mwakiringo: No, they should not be worried because they are already in parliament. I am more worried because of the hospitals, and especially because of Moi Hospital in Voi. It is on the main road between---

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Order! Hon. Members, it is time to interrupt the business of the House. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 21st June, at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.