

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 11th July, 2001

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

The following Papers were laid on the Table:-

Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Veterinary Vaccine Production Institute for the year ended 30th June, 2000, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

Annual Report and Accounts of Ewaso Ngiro South Development Authority for the year ended 30th June, 1999, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

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

Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service for the year ended 30th June, 1999, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Agricultural Research Institute for the year ended 30th June, 1998, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations)

Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Agricultural Research Institute for the year ended 30th June, 1999, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

2001/2002 District Allocation Budget (Vote R10 and D10) of the Government of Kenya for the year ending 30th June, 2002.

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

Annual Report and Accounts of Pharmacy and Poisons Board for the year ended 30th June, 1994, and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

Annual Report and Accounts of Kenya Medical Research Institute for the year ended 30th June, 1999,

and the Certificate thereon by the Auditor-General (Corporations).

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

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.197

DESTRUCTION OF KIOSKS

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

(a) whether he is aware that in the year 2000, several retail kiosk markets in Diani, Kawangware, Gikomba, Eastleigh and Freemark were all burned and razed to the ground; and,

(b) how many suspects have been arrested in connection with the fires so far.

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

(a) I am aware that in the year 2000, several retail kiosk markets in various parts of the country were razed to the ground by fire.

(b) Five suspects have been arrested in connection with the fire that razed down Kangemi Market on 5th August, 2000. However, due to lack of sufficient evidence, no arrests have been made so far, in connection with the other incidences.

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there were fires in Diani, Kawangware, Gikomba, Eastleigh and Freemark markets. They have only arrested suspects with regard to the Kangemi Market fire. Apparently, all these markets were run by indigenous Africans. What was the motive behind these fires? What did the investigations reveal to have been the motive of these fires? Gikomba Market has been in existence for over 40 years. Why was it razed down by fire from nowhere all of a sudden?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, various incidences of fire have occurred because of various reasons. The Diani Market incident was caused by faulty in electric cables running along the Diani Beach Road. This fire occurred on 20th August, 2000. As for the fire at Kangemi, squabbling among rival groups over irregular allocation of stalls is suspected to have been the cause of the fire. This is where we have arrested five persons, namely: Messrs. Fred Kago, Joseph Kagotho, Gabriel Maina, Francis Kiluta and Mr. Julius Muthuri. We have not been able to establish clearly what the motives of the fires were in the other incidences. However, we are following up with the investigations to find out who may have been behind these fires and what the motives may have been.

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the issue of Freemark Market, could the Assistant Minister tell this House who owned the land where the Freemark Market was situated? Could he also inform this House whether there were any wrangles over that plot and whether that caused the fire incident? We are aware that the Kenya Railways plot, where the Freemark Market was situated, had been given to two people who were wrangling over its ownership.? Has the Assistant Minister investigated and found out whether the wrangling was the cause of the fire?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have any specific leads to what the hon. Member is saying. However, this fire occurred on 28th August, 2000, at 6.30 p.m., whereby a watchman noticed that there was fire from stall No.F26 belonging to a company by the name Uwanja Boutique. The fire spread to other stalls before it was put out.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to our investigations, the cause of the fire was a faulty electrical circuit. However, the case is still being investigated, and I cannot rule out the possibilities the hon. Member is raising.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was one of the hon. Members of Parliament who visited Gikomba Market the day after the inferno that destroyed that important investment, and every person we talked to explained two things: The first one, that there were some people with hoods who were whipping people near the market before petrol bombs were thrown from the top into the market.

The second one was that there had been friction between the African retailers in those centres and Asian business persons. Whether this is correct or not, it has fouled the environment of business; a perception that unscrupulous Asian businessmen are destroying retail markets of the Africans. It is in the interest of the Government and the whole country, that any such suspicions are laid to rest. What specific measures has the Assistant Minister undertaken to establish that there is no evil activity by unscrupulous Asian businessmen who are trying to destroy African competition, and what are you doing to return a rapprochement between the African and Asian retailers?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that the issue of Gikomba, where close to Kshs530 million worth of second-hand clothes, shoes, vegetables and other wares were lost, is a very serious case indeed. As a result of the seriousness of this issue, the District Security Committee, Nairobi Area, chaired by the Nairobi PC, Mr. Cyrus Maina, has established a committee to work in hand with the investigating officer of this particular case, so that both the criminal issues are looked into, as well as creating and allaying fears of what suspicions there might be between the different categories of businessmen around that area.

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Africans who sell or who were selling at Diani, Freemark and Gikomba markets were selling their goods at prices much lower than those offered by their Asian counterparts. Even in Eastleigh, particularly for the electronic goods, the prices were also lower. Has the Assistant Minister investigated the fact that competition between the African traders in those centres and the Asian traders is the real cause behind the burning of those markets? We know Asian traders are facing a very uncertain future in this country.

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the issue of Eastleigh, which occurred on 14th and 15th

December, last year, about 500 stalls were razed down, and property valued at close to Kshs2.5 billion was destroyed. This case still being under investigation, we are not ruling out any causal issues, including those raised by the hon. Member. Due diligence is being paid to make sure that the exact cause and remedial measures are taken so that these incidents do not recur.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question!

Question No.295

CONSTRUCTION OF MALINDI
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Mr. Badawy, on behalf of **Mr. Kombe**, asked the Minister of State, Office of the President, when the Government will construct the Malindi District Headquarters.

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

The Government will construct the Malindi District Headquarters through Harambee basis as resolved by the Malindi District Development Committee.

Dr. Kulundu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is Harambee part of the Government effort to do anything in this country?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Samoei, when did Harambee become part of Government effort?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government is the Government of the people and by the people. Kenyans are welcome to be partakers with the Government especially in a noble issue like the building of a district headquarters.

Mr. Badawy: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the Assistant Minister is aware that, currently, and for quite some time, the Provincial Administration in Malindi has been occupying a historical building which is comfortably housing the District Commissioner and strategic departments. What is the wisdom in having that building gazetted prior to it being condemned, before the Government set aside some money for the construction of the district headquarters?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do agree that the building where currently the district headquarters is based, was gazetted as a national monument on 31st July, 1991, for use by the National Museums of Kenya. This being a very prestigious building by virtue of its historical value, did not mean that it became out of bounds. However, on 12th March, 1997, the local leaders, including Mr. Badawy, unanimously resolved that they should make concerted efforts to construct a district headquarters on Harambee basis. We are supporting that initiative, and already a plot has been set aside by the Government, and it has been planned. A PDP No.MLD of 1999 has already been drawn and approved by the Director of Physical Planning. The Government will be joining efforts with the people to ensure that this project comes to fruition.

Mr. Murungi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is not answering the Question which was put to him. The Questioner asked him when the Government will construct the district headquarters. All the stories the Assistant Minister is giving about the Harambee relate to how. Could the Assistant Minister answer, when?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the district headquarters will be built as and when the money is available to do so. What I have explained is the means of getting the money so that we can get started.

Mr. Omingo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, considering that the Attorney-General came and told us that some 28 districts were created illegally, and that the Government did not plan for the construction of the headquarters, could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that this could be one of the districts created for political expediency?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, districts were created when the Government realised that it needed to provide services closer to the people. Considerations were also made on the basis of requests made by people from different parts of the country for the creation of such districts. If that serves political reasons, I do not think there is any problem.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mbela, the last one question!

Mr. Mbela: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Malindi is a very important economic centre that collects most of the money earned from tourism, and I would have thought that the Government would have gone out of its way to make sure that the centre was given serious consideration, particularly to tap the tourist market. In view of this, why does the Government think that the poor people of Malindi, who rely on the cashewnut industry and various other industries that have been destroyed, should be taxed to build a district headquarters?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member knows very well that Harambee is not a tax. I did not say that anybody is going to be taxed for the district headquarters to be built. However, I still think that it is an insult for the hon. Member to refer to the people of Malindi as poor.

An hon. Member: They are! It is not an insult!

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Sungu!

Question No.377

DISBURSEMENT OF *EL NINO* FUNDS

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

- (a) how much money was allocated to Nyanza Province from the *El Nino* Emergency Fund;
- (b) how much of that money has been spent to date and on which projects; and,
- (c) if he could provide a list of projects, their completion status and the cost thereof.

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

(a) The amount of money allocated to Nyanza Province from the *El Nino* Emergency Fund is Kshs768,400,000.

(b) The money has been spent as follows:

(i) Rural Roads, Kshs245,271,220.90, and it is on the following projects: Tinga Rabuor-Ahero-Ombaka Road D290/D293; Kisumu Urban Roads, Homa Bay District Rural Roads, D211, D213 and D293. Migori District Rural Roads; Roads D211 and E104; Masara-Karungu Road D210; Suba District Rural Roads, E118 and D210; Rachuonyo District Rural Roads, Roads E215, C194 and D217, and Kisumu Urban Roads, Kshs130,980,185.70.

(ii) On health facilities, Kshs27,134,496.80 was allocated on the following projects:-

Kisumu District Hospital, Makindu Dispensary, Nyang'oma Dispensary, and Kibigori Dispensary, Nyagende Dispensary, Bondo Health Centre, Rachuonyo District Hospital, Miiro Health Centre, Opele Dispensary, Kabondo Dispensary, Amayo Dispensary, Kendu Bay Health Centre, Sindo Health Centre and Obanga Dispensary; Mbita Health Centre, Suba District Hospital.

(iii) Water Supply and Sanitation facilities; Kshs54,999,652.00 on the following projects: Nyahera, Koni-Ngala, Kisumu, Community, Karungu, Migori, Kuja, Oyugis, Kendu, Kanyango, Homa Bay and Mbita Water Supplies.

Mr. Speaker: How long is your list, Mr. Assistant Minister?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Kochalle): The list is so long. I will table it.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, you should have done that a long time ago.

(Mr. Kochalle laid the list on the Table)

Mr. Sungu: I want to thank the Assistant Minister for the exhaustive answer given. I note that a total of Kshs768 million was allocated to Nyanza Province for *El Nino* projects. I want to know from the Assistant Minister what criteria they used to choose the roads they chose and the projects they chose because there are quite a number of projects which were destroyed by the *El Nino* phenomenon, which have not been looked into in this category.

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these projects were selected on the basis of the DDC approval.

Mr. Omamba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Migori, there was a road in Uriri, E101, which, on the basis of the information we received from the DDC, was under the *El Nino* projects rehabilitation programme. However, up to now, that road has not been mentioned anywhere. What is the Government plan on this road since it was earmarked under the *El Nino* project rehabilitation programme and yet it is not in the plan?

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked a different question, but if the DDC had approved it, then it will be looked into.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire House and Kenyans have heard that over Kshs700 million was used in Nyanza and there is not a single project in Kisiland. This demonstrates that if this Government had power to stop rain falling in Kisii, it would stop it. Could the Assistant Minister tell us why they have not allocated funds from *El Nino* Emergency Fund for Kisii, where there was a lot of destruction on our roads and infrastructures during the *El Nino* induced rains?

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, those allegations are false. The documents are here, the hon. Member can go through them and see what is there for Kisii.

Mr. Sambu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead this House? The criteria they used was the amount of rainfall received in an area. Kisii and Nandi Districts had a lot of rainfall during the *El Nino* phenomenon and yet they were not included in the list of the *El Nino* Projects. What was the criteria used?

Mr. Speaker: Nandi is not in Nyanza!

Mr. Sambu: It is in Kenya, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Achola: Could the Assistant Minister explain to the House why the construction of Road D211, in Migori District, which was supposed to cost Kshs11 million, was eventually upgraded to cost Kshs39 million without going to tender? The *El Nino* projects are implemented through very corrupt ways.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Assistant Minister to explain to the House why only two roads in Migori District are being covered by the *El Nino* projects, whereas the original list was for six roads to be covered by the Kshs75 million.

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we did not get as much money as we had estimated and that is why we allocated that amount of money for that road.

Mr. Achola: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This gentleman is my friend, but he has not answered my question. Perhaps, he did not hear what I was saying or he did not understand it. Originally, Road D211 was supposed to cost only Kshs11 million. Instead they revalued it to cost Kshs39 and the additional money is just being added on the original amount without going to tender. This is being done corruptly and that is why the money is not enough to cover the six other roads that were supposed to be constructed. However, they are not going to be constructed because money is not enough.

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as I know, the road was so badly damaged and that is why the contract price has been increased to Kshs39 million.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, I want to reflect on what some of my colleagues have said. They [Mr. Sungu] have said that the entire *El Nino* project funding was done in a very corrupt manner. In fact, this fund should have been handled by the Ministry of Roads and Public Works, who have the technical expertise and not the Office of the President. Road D290 is not known as Chiga-Labworo; it is Kiboti-Chiga-Labworo-Ndulu and was allocated only Kshs12 million. It is only 10 per cent that has been completed yet in the records that I have seen in the district headquarters, it is listed as having been completed. What steps is the Assistant Minister going to take to make sure that the entire road from Kiboti-Chiga-Labworo up to Ndulu is completed under this programme?

An hon. Member: Make your complaint officially!

Mr. Kochalle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as we know, the money was paid. I know that the road has been tarmacked, and it is 10 per cent complete.

Question No.424

BARRING OF MEMBERS FROM
SEEING DETAINED COLLEAGUE

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Munyao's Question is deferred to Tuesday next week.

(Question deferred)

Question No.268

STOPPAGE OF MR. MBUGUA'S SALARY

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kihara's Question is deferred to next week.

(Question deferred)

Question No.292

LEASING OF KITINDA DAIRY

Mr. Wamunyinyi asked the Minister for Agriculture:-

- (a) whether he could explain the terms of lease of the Kitinda Dairy in Bungoma District;
- (b) whether he could further state the names of the lessee(s) and what method was used in identifying him/them; and,
- (c) when the farmers will be paid for milk delivered before the lessee took over the management

of the society.

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

The following were the terms of lease of the Kitinda Dairy Farmers Co-operative Society Limited in Bungoma District:

(a) One of the terms was that the lease agreement is for a period of ten years, that is, with effect from 5th of March, 1999. The lessee to pay a monthly rental fee of Kshs400,000; during the first eight months of lease agreement, the lessee to pay an enhanced monthly rent of Kshs600,000 and thereafter revert back to Kshs400,000 per month; the lessee to enjoy a 60-day grace period from the date of signing the lease agreement, that is 1st of March, 1999; the first rent income to be paid within the following two weeks before the plant starts operations; the rent income to be due every 5th day of the month; the rent income payable to Kitinda Dairy Farmers Co-operative Society should be paid to a current account in the Co-operative Bank at Bungoma.

(b) The name of the lessee is M/S Phatta, who was identified by the management committee of the society through an open tender.

(c) Farmers who delivered their milk before the lessee took over the management of the plant will be paid as soon as M/S Phatta meets his obligations of paying the monthly rental income, which currently forms the only source of income to Kitinda Dairy processing plant. M/S Phatta has to date managed to pay only Kshs1.8 million, leaving a balance of Kshs8.6 million. Due to the delay in rental payments, the management committee filed a civil suit case No.51/2001 on 31st January, 2001, in Bungoma, on rent distress. The case is still pending in court, awaiting to be heard and determined.

Mr. Wamunyinyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when one M/S Phatta was awarded that tender to run Kitinda Dairy Farmers Co-operative Society, there was no management committee at that time. There was a Government appointed commission, which had been appointed by the Ministry to manage the affairs of Kitinda Dairy. Even what the Assistant Minister is referring to as an open tender was never in place. There was no advertisement, as far as I know, and M/S Phatta was appointed in the District Commissioner's boardroom. The Assistant Minister should now tell the House what he is doing to revive Kitinda Dairy since it is now not operational. He should also tell the House what he is doing to recover the money. The farmers have supplied milk to Kitinda Dairy as far back as 1990, and to date, they have not been paid. Could the Assistant Minister come out categorically, to state what action he will take to ensure that Kitinda Dairy is revived and farmers are paid?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to enlighten Mr. Wamunyinyi that there was an advertisement for the tender which was placed in the *Daily Nation* of 19th January, 1999. It is wrong for the hon. Member to allude that this was done in the DC's office. The tender was opened on 28th January, and awarded on the 5th of February, and the open tender attracted five applicants, namely; M/S Western Creameries Limited, M/S Phatta, M/S Shariff Supermarket, M/S Afro Fancy Stores and M/S Mahesh Shah Patel. M/S Phatta won the tender and a lease agreement was signed on the 5th March, 1999. On the question of the farmers co-operative committee members not being there, it is not true because there was a special delegates meeting which was held on 12th November, 1998, and their minutes, No.4 of that year, ratified the management committee's resolutions of leasing out the milk plant.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kitinda Dairy Farmers Co-operative Society is the only enterprise in Bungoma District which employs more than 50 people, and which has been constructed during the entire period of President Moi's tenure at State House. Since President Moi became President of Kenya, there is no other enterprise with more than 50 people. That enterprise was not created by President Moi's Government. It was a grant by the Finnish Government, handed over to the local community after completion. When it was working, it was put under a commission chaired by one Changole, who was the then DC, Bungoma. The only thing that Bungoma people remember him about is that he carried away the milk machinery from the factory and he has never brought them back up to now. That same factory advertised for a new management and it is the Ministry which had to assess the technical competence of the people bidding. Asian businessmen, who have nothing to do with the dairy industry, bid and took it--

Mr. Speaker: Order, Dr. Kituyi! You are now debating.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell us what assistance the Ministry, or the Government for that matter, gave to the people of Bungoma to tell them that a businessman was buying their factory, who had no competence in running the dairy industry? What assistance did he give us when only one-quarter of the money due to the co-operative society was given? What assistance is he giving us to make sure that the machinery is not being pilfered by businessmen who have no knowledge of running dairy industry and have done nothing whatsoever, apart from overseeing the burial of the dairy industry?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you are all aware, the role of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, including other Ministries, in regard to co-operative societies, is to give assistance and advice. The criteria used in awarding the tender to M/S Phatta as the lessee of Kitinda Dairy in Bungoma District was that

M/S Phatta was a local business enterprise in Bungoma and they had previous dealings with Kitinda Dairy. Also, in their tender of application, they had indicated that they would inject a figure of Kshs70 million into the new business. On the other hand, Western Creameries who were the highest bidders, were not known to Kitinda Dairy Co-operative society. Presently, the Government is reviewing the activities of this co-operative society and if it finds that the society has problems in any way, it will definitely come to its assistance.

Mr. Wamunyinyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has informed the House that the Government is reviewing the position while he is aware that this dairy has not been operational for the last one year. The Mr. Phatta referred to who was awarded this tender is nowhere in Kitinda Dairy. He has also informed the House that a case has been filed in court seeking the payment of the balance of Kshs8.6 million to the farmers. Could he tell the House when this case will come up for hearing?

Hon. Member: And also the case number!

Mr. Sumbeiywo: The civil suit number is 51/2001 which was filed on 31st January, and is still pending in court. As for the assistance that the Government is likely to offer the co-operative society, we are all aware that the market has been liberalised. So, the Government has no obligation to help the co-operative society. It can only come in as an advisor.

Mr. Achola: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It would appear that the air conditioning is not working in this Chamber. Is there anything that could be done to assist Members?

Mr. Speaker: Is it too hot or too cold?

Mr. Achola: It is too hot.

Hon. Members: No! It is too cold!

Mr. Speaker: Order! As you know human requirements are very difficult to satisfy. I have heard representations from a cross-section of the Membership of this House that the cold in here as a result of air-conditioning, literally drives Members out of the Chamber. Since I want company, I have decided not to drive you out.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked the Assistant Minister a Question which he has not answered. I said: The Ministry is supposed to give technical assistance to farmers and not to tell them what it intends to do. During these years of abuse of the factory in the form of irregular awarding of tenders, what assistance did the Government give to those poor farmers? In his answer the Assistant Minister said: "A local businessman who sells mattresses was given a creamery to run, but they could not give it to Western Creameries because it was not known to the local people." The Assistant Minister was supposed to assist these farmers so that they do not make such a silly mistake. Is this the technical assistance that the Assistant Minister gave the farmers; that because Phatta is known to the local people, although he only sells mattresses, he was better than Western Creameries because it was not known to the local people? Is this the assistance the Ministry gave them regarding the award of the contract?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not say that the Government awarded Phatta the contract because he was helping the farmers. The other bidder was not known, so it was the committee which decided on who to award the tender. Due to competitiveness after the liberalisation of the sector, the Ministry has got nothing to do with that co-operative society for the time being.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Time is against us and, therefore, I will defer the remaining ordinary Questions. Mr. Githiomi, what day of the week can I put your Question because I want to move on to Questions by Private Notice?

Mr. Githiomi: You can schedule it for tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know whether the Order Paper is out. If it does allow, then I will slot it for tomorrow; if not then it will be scheduled for Tuesday.

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

Question No.385

TELEPHONE BOOTH FOR MAWINGO SHOPPING CENTRE

(Question deferred)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Murungi, are you comfortable with your Question being deferred to Tuesday?

Mr. Murungi: You can put it for tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, I will try to accommodate all of you. It is not your fault. Mr. Murungi, I will put your Question for tomorrow.

Question No. 056

COMMISSIONS ON UNEMPLOYMENT

*(Question deferred)***Mr. Speaker:** Dr. Kituyi, which day do you want your Question deferred to?**Dr. Kituyi:** To Wednesday, next week.**Mr. Speaker:** Very well.*Question No.020*

REHABILITATION OF NZOIA WATER SUPPLY

*(Question deferred)***Mr. Speaker:** Dr. Kulundu, what about your Question?**Dr. Kulundu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, since my Question was deferred yesterday, could you just allow us three minutes of exchange?**Mr. Speaker:** Three minutes will be granted. Ask your Question.*Question No.417*

MEASURES TO CURB ROAD ACCIDENTS

Dr. Kulundu asked the Minister for Roads and Public Works:-

(a) if he is aware that there have been numerous fatal accidents between Shibuli and Shianda markets along Road C40 in the last three years; and,

(b) what urgent steps the Ministry plans to take to contain these accidents.

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

(a) I am aware that there have been numerous accidents between Shibuli and Shianda markets along Road C40 in the last three years.

(b) The Ministry is in the process of replacing the necessary road signs, mark a zebra crossing and continue educating pedestrians and cyclists at Kakamega Children Traffic Pass on safe usage of the road.

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know if the word "childish" is parliamentary. That is a very childish answer.*(Laughter)***Mr. Speaker:** Order, Dr. Kulundu! I am sure that as a doctor, in the course of your profession, you have helped courts to decide who is an adult and who is a child. You know that anybody above 18 years does not meet that criteria. Above all, I do not think any Member can ever be a child. So, you are totally out of order. Will you now withdraw that remark and apologise to the whole House?**Dr. Kulundu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked whether the term "childish" is parliamentary. I wish to withdraw that remark. However, in my practice as a medical doctor, I have seen adults who behave childishly.

This is a serious question about road carnage on Kenyan roads. In the last three years 137 lives have been lost on this particular section of the road and mostly, when President Moi visits Western Province. Apart from the usual bumps and rumble strips, what is the Ministry doing to ensure that public service vehicles are installed with speed governors? You will agree that educating cyclists and putting a zebra crossing does not show seriousness on the part of this Ministry. Can you not put bumps or rumble strips? In addition to that, what is your Ministry's policy with regard to installing speed governors in all public service vehicles?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to tell the hon. Member that the answer I gave is part of the measures we are taking and they are correct measures. The Ministry has also instructed the police that unroadworthy vehicles should not be allowed on the road. According to the list of the accidents that I have here, some of them were caused by defective vehicles, pedestrians themselves and even animals. The Ministry is taking numerous measures and cannot mention all of them here.**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. The three minutes are up. Let us move to Questions by Private Notice.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

HARASSMENT OF MALAVA RESIDENTS

Mr. Shitanda: 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 policemen from Malava Police Station are harassing wananchi in Malava Constituency on the pretext that they are hunting for chang'aa?

(b) Is he further aware that the police arrested two students of St. Anthony, Kakoi, namely, Margaret Shipenzi and Hellen Ndoshi, and a church priest, one Mr. Samson Kutondo, on 10th April, 2001, and 6th May, 2001 respectively, and planted jerricans of chang'aa on them?

(c) What measures is he taking to stop this harassment of innocent wananchi?

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

(a) I am aware that efforts to eradicate brewing and consumption of illicit brews including chang'aa, have been intensified in Malava Constituency. This does not amount to harassment of innocent wananchi as alleged.

(b) I am aware also that one student from St. Anthony, Kakoi, namely, Ms Margaret Shipenzi, was arrested during a chang'aa raid at her neighbour's compound. She was in possession of two litres of chang'aa. Ms Hellen Ayub, and not Ndoshi, was arrested on 6th May, 2001, for being in possession of five litres of the same brew. She pleaded guilty. I am not aware of the arrest of the priest.

(c) Arising from my two answers above, part "c", therefore, does not arise.

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not an answer to the Question I asked. All the facts which have been supplied to the Assistant Minister are not correct. There is a lot of insecurity around Malava Town where we have this police station. Most of the police officers posted to this station only go out hunting for people who take illicit brews. Sometimes I wonder whether policemen posted to this particular station are only trained in hunting for illicit brew takers.

In this particular incident, these policemen went and picked these students from somebody's home, where they were doing their school preparation work. The Assistant Minister has said that one of the students was arrested with two litres of chang'aa. He has not told us what action the policemen took against that particular student. With regard to the other student, the Assistant Minister claims that she was in possession of five litres of chang'aa.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Shitanda, you are now debating. Why do you not ask your question? What is your question?

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell us what happened to the student whom he has alleged was found in possession of two litres of chang'aa? What also happened to this other student who was found in possession of five litres of chang'aa? The Assistant Minister has not told us whether these students were taken to court or not. He has just that the student who was found in possession of five litres of chang'aa pleaded guilty.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Shitanda! At that rate, time for this Question will run out without the Assistant Minister responding to whatever you are saying. Now, would you like the Assistant Minister to respond?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Malava Constituency, indeed, borders my constituency. So, this is an area I know very well. I share a common boundary with the hon. Member. I know very well that, that is an area where brewing of this particular drink is very serious. Indeed, in my constituency, there is this kind of problem. We are dealing with the problem and I will be very firm on this particular issue. If you come to this area, you will find that a lot of school children have dropped out of school. I am talking from a position of knowledge. Mr. Shitanda should be with me in being genuinely concerned about solving the problem of illicit brews in our constituencies.

Indeed, in this particular incident, a student was asked to transport chang'aa by her parent while in school uniform. When this student was arrested, the parent actually went to see the Officer Commanding Station (OCS) and after a very stern warning, this student was released from the police station.

Dr. Kulundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to agree with Mr. Shitanda's sentiments. Policemen have a habit of going on the rampage, arresting everybody in sight. Could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that on this particular day, a pastor of the Friends Church was arrested and was only released after paying Kshs2,000 to the police officers?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said in my answer that I am not aware of the arrest of the priest. However, I want to still state that after discussions between me and Mr. Shitanda, I have had to dismiss from service two constables as a result of this chang'aa business. I reported to this House that I did that because we want to deal with this problem once and for all.

Mrs. Mugo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that the Police Force is pre-occupied with hunting for chang'aa? All offences are wrong, but there are some which are very serious and others are a bit lighter. The policemen spend more time hunting for chang'aa, and when they cannot

get it, they plant it on suspects, contrary to their code of ethics, in order to get "kitu kidogo". They also spend more time in breaking up lawful political meetings and beating up Opposition politicians and activists than in hunting for the criminals who are killing Kenyans and stealing from them. What are the priorities for this Government?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also want to admit that there are policemen who have made it their priority to deal with issues which are not part of what they are employed to do. Fortunately, this category of policemen is in the minority. As and when we have discovered them, we have taken appropriate action against them as I stated in connection with the issues raised by Mr. Shitanda.

Mr. Shitanda: Mr. Speaker, Sir, much as I want to agree with my brother, the Assistant Minister, that we should work together to try and minimise the brewing and consumption of the illicit brews, I want to inform him that this particular police station has a new OCS who is taking bribes from people who have been arrested, either on framed-up charges or after being found in possession of illicit brews.

Could the Assistant Minister help us minimise the chang'aa drinking by making sure that those who are arrested in possession of the illicit brew are charged in court and are not asked to pay Kshs2,000 to this OCS?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I sincerely thank Mr. Shitanda for agreeing to join hands with me to deal with this issue. I want to give an undertaking to him that I will investigate the conduct of the OCS and, if need be, will transfer and discipline him. Indeed, the report I have confirms to a small extent what the hon. Member has said.

Mr. Speaker: The Questions by Mr. Leshore and Mr. Maitha are deferred to tomorrow and they will rank high on the Order Paper.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN ECO-TOURISM

(Mr. Leshore) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Information:-

- (a) What steps is the Minister taking to develop and sustain the participation of the communities neighbouring tourist resorts within the new perspective of Eco-Tourism?
- (b) What assistance is he planning to give to the communities to ensure their full participation?

(Question deferred)

PANDYA HOSPITAL STAFF LAY-OFFS

(Mr. Maitha) to ask the Minister for Labour:-

- (a) Is the Minister aware that Pandya Memorial Hospital has of late been laying off its staff without following the laid-down regulations?
- (b) Is he further aware that about 241 employees from the same hospital are about to be laid off?
- (c) What urgent measures has he taken to arrest the situation?

(Question deferred)

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural

Development

(The Minister for Agriculture on 10.7.2001)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 10.7.2001)

Mr. Speaker: Who was on the Floor?

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Last year, you set a precedent when we were in the Committee of Supply and were running into this problem of Questions having to be deferred. You started dealing with Questions by Private Notice first. Maybe, you want to consider that again.

Mr. Speaker: That is a very good suggestion, and I will do that.

Who was on the Floor? Dr. Wekesa, you have five minutes remaining.

Dr. Wekesa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. As I was saying yesterday, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development should make sure that the Department of Planning is strengthened, so that priorities are put in place. The Department of Planning is important and should work together with the Research Department. I know that research has been relegated to Jua Kali level. All the research land that was used to carry out very useful work has been grabbed or given to politically-correct people. In Trans Nzoia, we know that research land is no longer there. All the work that used to go on at those stations has stopped. Research is very important in agriculture and all scientific areas like medicine, veterinary and other sectors. One cannot plan without research.

Research findings must be used by extension officers. There is not enough money for research and extension work. Therefore, all the priorities, like crop, beef and dairy production have ground to a standstill.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, maize production is very expensive nowadays. A 50-kilogramme bag of CAN or DAP fertiliser costs Kshs1,500! Maize is a staple food for Kenya. Three-quarters of Kenyans depend on that commodity. While farmers try to produce the crop, they are sabotaged by the Government policy and unscrupulous businessmen. Every time we are ready to harvest maize in Trans Nzoia, the Government and the businessmen collude to import maize. The result is that the price of maize goes down. So, there is no incentive for farmers to produce more. Very soon, this country will become a net-importer of grains. We should be exporting maize and wheat but, instead, we are importing the same commodities that we can produce very easily. I want the Minister to come up with tangible plans to make sure that the farmers are not exploited.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Seed Company, which oversees the quality of seeds, is making enough profits. But I am sorry to say that, not enough attention is being paid to the quality. There is so much fake seed in the country. The Kenya Seed Company should have a proper security system to make sure that fake seeds do not reach the farmers. Once the fake seeds reach the farmers, the production goes down. They make enough money and they should make sure that they have a security system in place, so that Kenya Seed Company bags are not sold out and bought by unscrupulous businessmen who sell uncertified seeds.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the dairy industry is no longer there. We used to export beef. It is really a shame that a small country like Botswana is able to export beef and make a lot of money, and yet we have more livestock!

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Dr. Omamo) took the Chair]*

Mr. Parpai: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this very important Vote. Yesterday, I listened to the Minister for Agriculture moving the Vote of his Ministry. At the end of his speech, I was left with very many unanswered questions. I could not get answers to whatever he talked about! I heard the Minister admitting that livestock farmers and pastoralists lost their animals. The Minister did not give us a solution to that. He did not tell us how he intends to restock the animals that were lost. The Minister has left us wondering what other steps he will take to assist the pastoralists.

A lot has been said about the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), holding grounds and drought which wipes out our animals. When will the Government revive the KMC and other abattoirs in this country? The highest Office in the country also talked about the KMC. Kenyans have been assured that the KMC will be revived. Yesterday, I heard the Assistant Minister in the same Ministry talking of selling shares to Kenyans. Which Kenyans? How many shares? What is the value of the shares? Why are we not being told who will buy the shares? When are you going to sell the shares and to who? We need to be told all that!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying that because just three or four months ago, Kenyans were told to buy shares from the Kenya Co-operative Creameries 2000. The KCC is a farmers' organisation. Just because "2000" was added at the end, Kenyans were told to buy what is their own! Is that what we are being told today, as far as the KMC is concerned? Even if the KMC and other abattoirs will be made operational, and the holdings grounds have been grabbed by the politically-correct individuals in this country, where are we going to hold our animals?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our forefathers thought and decided to set aside holdings grounds for purposes of holding animals, and checking diseases in them, so that they could not spread the diseases across the routes as they were being driven to different destinations. Now that there are no holding grounds, where are we going to carry out the clinical services? I come from Loitokitok and I cannot imagine that we used to have a holding ground there. There was another one at Emali and another one at Athi River. What am I being told as a farmer from Loitokitok? Am I being told to fly my cows from Loitokitok to Dagoretti, now that the holdings

grounds have gone? What is the fate of the farmers along the route that I am going to use to drive the animals? That is what, we as pastoralists, expected the Minister to address.

We also need the Minister to tell us how he is going to restock these animals that we have lost. We do not want to remain net famine relief receivers in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister also talked about distribution of seeds for purposes of assisting farmers to plant, now that they have lost a lot. In the area that I come from, seeds just came in January while our planting season is October. What is the Minister thinking about? How did he arrive at bringing us seeds in January when our planting season was October? In fact, those seeds are in our stores. What emergency are these seeds going to assist?

A hon. Member: Mle!

(Laughter)

Mr. Parpai: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what kind of officers does this Minister have on the ground? It is high time you knew when to assist whatever region you are supposed to. Otherwise, you are giving seeds when they are not required.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I looked at the Printed Estimates, and, as a member of the PIC, I expected to see some parastatals that fall under this Ministry being assisted. However, what I saw left a lot to be desired. I saw the kind of money that they want to give to the National Irrigation Board (NIB), Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC), but these institutions are technically broke; they are surviving on the mercy of creditors. For instance, the Government gave NIB Kshs36 million last year and two months ago, employees of that organisation went on strike because this money was not even enough to pay them salaries. This year round, they have estimated to give them Kshs32 million which is less by Kshs6 million, and yet this is a corporation that is technically broke.

The Government has to come up with a clear policy on what they intend to do with these corporations. These corporations are nothing other than just organisations that are put there for rewarding the politically correct. In general, these corporations are broke. I attest to this. These corporations need either to be scrapped or the Government needs to inject more money into them so that they do what is expected of them, otherwise they are not doing anything which is of any use to this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on horticulture, I heard the Minister say that they have built a storage facility at Sagana, Mwea, Nyeri and so on, and yet we in Loitokitok produce a lot of horticultural crops. The distance between Loitokitok and Nairobi, which is the destination of these crops, is about 300 kilometres and much of that road is impassable. Why did the Government not find it fit to build a cold storage facility for horticultural crops in Loitokitok? How do they pick their priorities? In the financial year 2000/2001, they had allocated some money to build some facility in Loitokitok. What has the Ministry done now that they have not built that facility and the funds have not been allocated to assist the farmers there? Between Sagana and some place in Kirinyaga, two of these facilities, which are 50 kilometres apart, are in one district. How can you, for heaven's sake, forget a 300-kilometre distance? That is unforgivable!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the same token, we, in Loitokitok, are disadvantaged by the way the Ministry treats farmers there. This is in the sense that whenever we harvest our maize, there must always be a statement from the same Ministry saying that we have a shortage of maize and, therefore, some importation is required; or there will be an increase of prices when harvesting is being done, and their harvest is always based on the North Rift. What are you doing to farmers in the lower region? We also demand that we be treated like any other Kenyan in this country.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, put on your glasses so that you can see Members properly!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Omamo): I do not need glasses. Hon. Too!

(Laughter)

Mr. Too: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute to this Vote of this important Ministry. First, we are asking the Minister to request for more funds because I think what was allocated by the Treasury is very little. This is especially so for extension officers who are to be given about Kshs500 million for fuel, salaries and other needs. I think it is too small.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing that I would like to ask the Ministry is to come out very clearly on the question of marketing of our produce because this is a real problem. At the moment, we have got a lot of maize in our shambas. There was famine relief maize and very soon, because there was a big delay, imported maize is going to come into the country when we are harvesting and flood the maize market and the

Kenyan farmer is going to suffer a lot. We are, therefore, asking the Ministry to put the priorities of the Kenyan farmer first. When there is famine and no rain, they should import maize. However, for them to import the maize when we are almost about to harvest, it is going to be a disaster to the farmers, especially now when they are not getting any support from the Government in as far as they are paying for the inputs. Interest rates have gone up and, at the end of the day, the farmer cannot get any return because to produce one bag of maize costs about Kshs1,200. However, at the moment, farmers are selling their maize at almost Kshs400, which is a big problem to the farmer. We depend on agriculture and if we are talking about economic growth in this country, we should support the agriculture industry in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing that I want to mention is that Kenya Seed Company (KSC) has been doing a very good job. However, we need the Government to see to it that since KSC has the monopoly of producing seeds, they subsidise their prices into reasonable prices. This is because at the moment, it is very expensive to buy even grass seed compared to what you are going to get when you plant. So, since they have the monopoly and it is a Government parastatal, let the Government also see a way of subsidising seed prices for the farmers by reducing their prices.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing which was mentioned the other day was the question of field days. We really need field days in this country, whereby the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development officials can help the farmers. This is because, at the moment, the farmers have been left alone. It is only during the agricultural shows that they will come to your place, see your beautiful animals and ask you to take them to the shows and there is no input from them. There is nothing at all!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing is the question of Kenya Veterinary Vaccines Production Institute (KEVEVAPI). KEVEVAPI produces animal vaccines. Following the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease, a farmer goes to get a vaccine from them to inject his cows. Once you inject your cows with this vaccine, all your animals will be infected with Foot and Mouth disease. So, there is need for you people to check on these vaccines because I think they are selling the wrong vaccines to the farmers. It is not effective at all and our people have suffered a lot.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other area I would like to touch on is the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). I would like to inform this House that the holding ground of the KMC has been allocated to some individuals. It is high time the Minister and the Permanent Secretary looked into this issue, and ensured that those people were allocated land elsewhere. This is because if the KMC in Athi River is revived today, there is no ground where livestock can be accommodated. Even the holding ground, where animals could be kept when others were being slaughtered has been grabbed by a few people. So, we should really look into the KMC matter, because it is a national asset, and if we have to revive it, let us do so when it is intact. We should not allow a few people to demarcate the land, and if money is made available tomorrow to revive the KMC, we find that there is no holding ground, and yet the machines are there.

I would also like to inform the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development that the extension officers have not been visiting the farmers. The farmers have been faced with the problem of soil erosion. I would like to say that we have some extension officers who are stationed at the district, but they do nothing, and yet they draw salaries from the Government. I would like to give an example. In Eldoret Town, there is an officer who is attached to the Soil Conservation Department but runs three shops. The other day, when he was transferred to Nyahururu, he came to Nairobi, met somebody and his transfer was revoked. I would like to inform this House that this officer is busy running shops everywhere, although he is a civil servant and draws salary from the Government. So, the issue of relying on godfathers should be done away with. The Ministry, through the Permanent Secretary, should ensure that the officials go to the field to find out what their officers are doing, because this is a big problem.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have many veterinary officers in our districts. If you go there now, you will find that they do not have anything. Even if you were to buy medicine for the **[Mr. Too]** animals, these officers will not provide you with syringes, but instead they will demand money from you to buy the items. So, I would like to urge the Minister to request the Treasury to allocate it more money, if we want to support agriculture. This is because, as I said earlier on, economic growth depends only on this sector.

The other area I would like to touch on is the sugar industry. I would like to say that no money was allocated to our sugar factories to revive some of them. For example, Mumias Sugar Company (MSC) is selling one of their mills, and Miwani Sugar Company---

An hon. Member: How do you know that?

Mr. Too: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know this because I was, at one time, the Chairman of the Kenya Sugar Authority (KSA). The MSC is selling one of its mills, and it is high time the Government allocated money to Miwani Sugar Company so that it can purchase it.

(Applause)

Even if it was not 100 per cent, still it was on the Government.

I would like to talk about the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) loans. There is no way farmers will pay these loans because they have accrued interest since 1972. I would like to say that a Kenyan farmer has a lot of problems. We would like the Minister for Agriculture to ensure that they write off some of these loans. The National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) should also--- I know that at the end of the day, people will say that if these loans are written off, the books of the Treasury will not be balanced. But what is the point of having figures at the Treasury which they cannot use? There is no way a farmer will pay these loans. It is high time those people who are negotiating with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) pursued the writing-off of these loans. This is because there is no way a farmer will afford paying the loan. If it is the question of balancing books at the Treasury, at the end of the day, you will embark on something which you will not get. This is one issue that we would like to be attended to.

Sometime back it was compulsory to vaccinate animals against the Foot and Mouth disease. The Government could vaccinate all the animals in the country, but nowadays, it is not the case. I would like to inform this House that anything can happen to our livestock because nobody takes care of them. It is high time the Ministry looked into this issue because a disease can strike and wipe out all the animals in the country. We used to have animals which were being brought into the country from Tanzania through Kehancha. I would like to point out that people used to smuggle these animals to Nairobi. Last year or early this year, many farmers lost their livestock as a result of diseases got from those animals.

I would also like to touch on co-operative societies. At the moment, we are talking about increasing cotton production. This is so because people have been talking about AGOA. At the end of the day, the ginneries play a crucial role in the production of cotton. At the moment, the Government is privatising these ginneries, some of which owe the Government some money. If the Government was to increase cotton production, it should write off some of these debts owed by co-operative societies. If you go to South Nyanza, you will find that there are areas which require, maybe, Kshs5 million so that the factory can survive. If there is a way, the Government should chip in and revive some of the cotton factories in order to produce a lot of cotton.

The other area I would like to talk about is on the Lake Basin Development Authority and Kerio Valley Development Authority. These Authorities could have played a crucial role in the country if they could have been allocated enough money.

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

Mr. Ndwiga: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to respond to this Motion. At the outset, I would like to observe that some of us have no faith in the Budget of this year, like we did not have faith in last year's Budget. This is because very soon, we will see the Minister for Finance wanting to reduce whatever he has allocated to other Ministries. It is really ridiculous. Kenya is the only country in the world that draws a Budget which is factored on money it does not have.

This Budget, like last year's, is factored on donor funding. The Minister told this House and the nation that he expects to get some money from the donor community by August this year, although we know that, that will not happen. Those of us who mingle in the right circles know that this will not happen. So, the Minister should get ready to start reducing even what is already in the Printed Estimates because there will be no money forthcoming.

Having said that, let me now go to the nitty-gritty of what I am talking about. Year in, year out, we have listened to the Minister for Agriculture tell this House that this sector has been affected by drought. It is a big shame that so many years after Independence, we are talking about drought.

Look at Egypt; this country does not get enough rain. This country is a desert. What do we do in this country? We import agricultural products from Egypt. What a shame! Our priorities are upside **[Mr. Ndwiga]** down! It is high time the Ministry got its priorities right. We have no contract with God, that He will give us rain when we ask Him to do so. I would like to point out that God has given us rivers. We have so many rivers in this country. It is high time this Ministry got its priorities right.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Israel has not had rain for the last ten years and yet, they are competing with us in the world market in all areas, including horticulture. They have no rain. So, the Minister for Agriculture should not tell this House that we are going to go hungry, or that our agricultural sector has been affected by drought. No, it has been affected by bad governance, lack of planning and foresight. That is what affects agriculture in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot has been said about research. In his speech, the Minister has not quite emphasized the role of research in agriculture. We have several institutes and I would be the first one to plead with this House to increase the budget of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Right from the outset, I support what he is asking for, and it is not even enough. It is ridiculous that we do not have enough funds to support research. But all the research that we have done in this country in the past is in the books. It has

not reached the persons for whom it was intended because there is no link between the farmers and the research stations. We require a very deliberate link between the research extension services and the user. That is what happens in industries. When you are researching, at the same time you have set up mechanisms to reach the user of whatever product you are researching on. First, you establish the need, and then, you put your research machinery into gear. That must be done. As a Committee of Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources, when we visited the sugarcane belt, we were convinced that something needs to be done in research to boost the production of sugar.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, having talked about sugar and all these other commodities, the key issue is payment to the farmers. All other issues are extraneous. If we pay farmers, they will produce. But if we do not pay them, it does not matter what else we do; they will not produce. We will have to address ourselves to the issue of payment to the farmers.

Having said that, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the sugar sector, the problem is that our locally produced sugar is so expensive once it hits the market, because Excise Duty on sugar is between 10 and 25 per cent. That is too high. Then, we have other levies, like that of the Kenya Sugar Authority, such that by the time our sugar gets to the shelves, it is so expensive. You even wonder how come sugar from Brazil and Sudan is much cheaper than our own. I am seeing a real danger in sugar production in this country. This Government has signed the COMESA Agreement which has zeroed the tariffs in the COMESA area. That means that we can now get sugar from Sudan or within COMESA at zero rates. That, therefore, means that unless we move urgently to address the issue of these levies, our sugar industry is going to die. We already have problems in Muhoroni and Miwani. Which businessman today, in his right sense, would want to put his money in Muhoroni and Miwani when he can access cheaper sugar from Sudan and elsewhere, and deliver it straight to the market? They do not have to go into the hassles of labour and so forth. There is real danger here. I do not think this problem concerns the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development only, but I think the Government too. Unless the Government addresses this question of zero-rate tariffs in COMESA and the levies that are levied on the sugar sector, we are in real trouble. The sugar sector will never be able to revive.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, still on the sugar sector, we need to ask ourselves questions: Why is it that the production cost of sugar in Sudan is much lower than ours? I will go back to where I started; it is because they are not waiting for God to bring in rain. They are using irrigation to produce their cane. We have so many rivers in the sugarcane belt but we are not making use of them. I am saying that this Government must now begin to focus on these issues. That is what a Democratic Party of Kenya Government (DP) would do. It would use irrigation to revive the sugar industry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot has been said about the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA); that we want to capture the American business. I have talked to a number of cotton farmers in Mbeere but the question which arises is still the same one, that we are not paying farmers. There is no mechanism that guarantees cotton farmers that once they produce, they will be paid. I am happy, personally, that the Government has seen it fit to go the private-sector way. That is the only way that will assist cotton. But still, we do not have enough ginneries. The farmers are still recalling the old days when they would produce cotton, deliver it to the ginneries and they would not be paid. We have not deliberately moved out and that, again, is because of lack of extension services and lack of use of chiefs' barazas and so forth, to assure farmers that this time round, the Government could be serious. Of course, the Government cannot be serious, and not this one. But the farmers need to be reassured that this time round, they will be paid for what they produce.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister, in his speech, did say that we are now happy that the tea sector is performing. Yes, it is performing, but is it performing the way it should? We need to ask ourselves certain questions. I am posing this question, and I posed it last year: Why is it that the largest producers of tea in the world do not export their tea? The largest producer being India does not export any, first, because of their population. They consume most of their tea domestically and even import. The other big producers; Sri Lanka or Ceylon who produce more tea than we do are not the biggest exporters or consumers. What do they do? They have to get more value from their tea because they add value at home. This is an area that must be embarked on. It is true that we have to liberalise the sector. The Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) is the marketing or management agent, but the tea factory companies, that is where the Government ought to be today, to advise those tea factory boards to add value to their tea here. Obviously, there is a lot of value added in this country. If you go to the supermarkets, you will find several brands of tea, but does the added value get to the farmers? No, that belongs to the merchants or business people. We need to get deliberately to the tea factory companies and show them how to add value to their products, so that they can earn much more from tea.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other sector I want to visit is the coffee sector. We are disappointed that the Minister wants to bring a Bill to Parliament to regulate the coffee sector before we have agreed on policy. The Ministry and this House's Committee on Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources have discussed the policy regarding the coffee sector for a long time. In fact, I would like to thank the Minister for

sparing some time to visit coffee farmers and listen to their views.

The then Minister promised that once we compile the views of all stakeholders, we would produce a document which the farmers would discuss and use to guide the Ministry on the way forward. But what has happened? We have now seen a Sessional Paper which has not been discussed in this House or debated by farmers. Now a Bill to regulate the coffee sector is ready for introduction to this House for debate and enactment into law. What is that Bill based on? The Bill ought to be based on a policy that is agreed upon by all the stakeholders. So, I urge the Minister to withdraw that Bill until we discuss and agree on the Sessional Paper, so that the Bill can be based on an agreed policy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, every week, coffee prices tumble. Coffee prices are currently very low. I do not know how coffee farmers are going to survive. We can, however, solve this problem if the Government is serious. The Committee on Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources visited the speciality coffee roasters in Europe and the United States of America (USA). The management of those facilities told us that they would buy our coffee at US\$7 per kilogramme if we supplied them with a certain quantity and quality of coffee. So, we should have tried to improve on the quality and quantity of our coffee production.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we deliberately visited those markets to sell this product. During my marketing training, I was taught that commodities are not bought but sold. We have to go out there and sell what we produce. Unless we do that, coffee traders will attend coffee auctions and pay us what they think we are worth. If we go out there, we will negotiate for better prices for certain grades of our coffee. I am not saying that all the coffee that we produce can fetch good prices from those markets, but we can negotiate better prices for certain grades of our coffee. That is what countries such as Costa Rica are doing.

How come farmers in Costa Rica do not earn less than US\$1 per kilogramme of cherry despite the fact that their coffee is of poorer quality than ours? How much do our farmers earn from the sale of coffee, and what is the Minister doing to improve the situation? He says: "You fellows, go and fight out there." We will not do that. I know that the Ministry has a serious team; I have a lot of respect for that team. What I am saying is that it is now time for the Ministry to wake up, go out there and deliver; it is not time to theorise. This country would be better off if we were action-oriented.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, despite the sorry state of affairs in the coffee sector, the Minister has not said anything about the STABEX funds. The President went to Kiambu and said: "*Hii pesa itakuja kesho.*" We have waited for those funds to be released in vain. What is happening? This Government is very confused. I say so because I know that I am right. The Ministers for Agriculture and Planning do not know what is happening about the STABEX funds. Even if you ask the Minister for Finance, he will not tell you what is happening because he does not know. Nobody in the Government knows what is happening about those funds. The problem with the STABEX money is that there is no---

The Assistant Minister for Finance and Planning (Mr. Lomada): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member on the Floor is making a very serious allegation against Ministers who have been planning this Budget. He says that even the Minister for Finance does not know what is happening. Is he in order to claim so?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Omamo): Mr. Assistant Minister, that is not a point of order. It is an argument. You can raise it when you contribute to this debate.

Mr. Ndwigwa: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Previously, I have said that we need to take some of these hon. Members to a tuition on the Standing Orders of this House. It is not their fault.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, nobody seems to know what is happening with the STABEX funds. That is why I said that the Government is confused. If my friend can open his ears, I will explain why this Government is a mess. The work of the Ministry of Finance and Planning is to source money for the Government. As soon as they source that money, they are supposed to release it to the relevant Ministries so that they can plan and use it. But what is happening now? Here is some money that is meant for the Ministry of Agriculture, but the Ministry of Finance and Planning is dictating the areas in which this money should be spent, and some people here want to tell me that this is a Government.

I am, therefore, urging the Minister for Agriculture to play his role fully and stand up to his colleagues. He should not let other people run his Ministry. Money that is meant for his Ministry should go to his Ministry so that when he meets us in the Committee on Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources, we can agree on the way forward and then move on. Kenyans want the Minister for Agriculture to tell them what is happening to the STABEX funds.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said that the world is waiting for quality coffee but coffee farmers cannot resume operations because they have no resources. The Ministry and the Committee have prepared a very good programme but nothing is happening because somebody is sitting on the STABEX funds. We have talked to the European Union (EU). They have told us that they have no problem releasing the money. So, the Minister for Finance should stop introducing new issues regarding those funds since an agreement on how the

funds should be used is already in place.

Mr. Temporary Deputy, Speaker, Sir, the Minister should also address the problems facing the co-operative sector. We cannot reform the coffee sector without looking at the co-operative movement sector. That is where most of the mess really is. I hear that there is a draft Bill to that effect. We do hope that the Ministry will bring it to the relevant Committee of the House so that we can have a look at it, and agree. We will give you all the support you need when it lands in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Coffee Research Station at Ruiru is not getting enough funds. We need to allocate more funds to that station. Most of the seedlings which they produced last year were not enough. They did not meet the demand of the coffee farmers.

Mr. Michuki: They were taken by an individual!

Mr. Ndwiga: I am told that they were taken by an individual. But there is a lot of demand on Ruiru 11 in Nandi. We need to produce robusta coffee for Western Kenya. We also need to research further on Ruiru 11. Those in the marketing of coffee advise that Ruiru 11 should be researched on further because the taste must be improved to be like Grade AA of the other varieties which do not taste the same. So, further research needs to be done on Ruiru 11.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya is the largest producer of pyrethrum and we should be proud of that. But we ought to produce more than we are doing now. What is required to be done is that the Ministry should encourage private sector participation in the pyrethrum sector. Let us get private investors build the factories to process pyrethrum in different areas in the Rift Valley, for instance, Molo and those other areas in Eastern Province. In Embu, we used to plant pyrethrum a long time ago, but now we do not. But if the Ministry went out deliberately and got the assistance of the private sector, we would be able to improve the production of pyrethrum.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members who spoke before me addressed the issue of livestock. Kenya has the potential to be the biggest livestock exporter only if we focus in that direction. People are talking about re-opening the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), but we have heard that the holding grounds have been allocated to private individuals. If I was the Minister for Agriculture, I would move in a different direction. I would go in the direction of putting up plants where the raw material is. A Democratic Party of Kenya (DP) Government would put a plant in Wajir or Mandera. It is crazy to ask farmers from Wajir to walk their animals - just picture that - 4,000 kilometres to Athi River. It is crazy! It is mad! What we need is to put up a plant in Wajir. We have an international-size airport in Wajir. What we want to move from there is not livestock but meat. I do hope that the Minister will take these sentiments seriously because that is the way to revive the livestock sector. Let us not just talk about Athi River. Let us talk about other smaller abattoirs down in Kajiado, Mwingi or wherever, and leave KMC to handle what comes from Machakos and its neighbourhood. That is what a focused Government would do. But this Government would not do that because we know what it is.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, just like the other farmers, livestock farmers want to be paid for their products. Last year, Kenyans were saddened by the drought which struck this country. Cows were dying all over, not only in Nairobi but throughout the country. That would mean that these farmers were not being paid. The farmers never got anything for their produce, just like the tea farmers, coffee farmers and everybody else. Let us take these plants where the raw material is and our farmers will get paid. They will produce more and we will be the biggest livestock exporter in Africa, South of the Sahara and North of the Limpopo.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to comment on the area of marketing of all these commodities. All these commodities must be sold. I have had the privilege to talk to some of our commercial attaches in our Embassies and High Commissions. Some of them are very knowledgeable. Some of them know what they are doing, wherever they are, others do not know what they are doing. A serious Government would demand a quarterly report on what those fellows are selling out there. I agree with Dr. Kituyi that what we need are not agricultural attaches all over the world because we are producing on the ground. What we need are salesmen to sell what we are producing. Even as we go to the web and the internet, we need actual people on the ground to sell and market our produce. This is one area where the Minister for Agriculture, who has been the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, would know what I am talking about. This is one area where inter-ministerial co-operation is required, whether it is horticulture, coffee, tea, bee wax, honey *et cetera*. We have a lot of it here, but we are not doing our marketing like a serious Government. A Government must be run like a business. Agriculture is the backbone of this nation. Therefore, we would like to ask the Minister for Agriculture to work very closely with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, to reconsider the role of those commercial attaches out there, so that they can answer to the needs of Kenyans.

(Several hon. Members stood up)

in their places)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Omamo): What is the problem?

Mr. Ndwiga: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, please, tell them to have some manners! When I am contributing, they should sit down!

With those remarks, I support the Motion.

Mr. Musila: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute on this Motion. Let me first start by congratulating Dr. Godana for being appointed the Minister for Agriculture.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, all too often, we are reminded that agriculture is the backbone of our economy. Indeed, this has been right until recently. I say this because virtually all agricultural institutions have collapsed or are in the process of collapsing.

Many hon. Members have pointed out which sectors of the agricultural sector have collapsed. I would like to add my voice to this sad state of affairs in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Dairy Industry, and in particular, KCC, has collapsed. Today, if it were not for the private dairy firms that are operating in this country, we would be importing milk. As you said yesterday, "the sugar industry is going to the dogs". A lot has been said about the coffee industry, which is very sad. Coffee used to be the largest contributor of foreign exchange in this country, but today, we cannot say so. The cotton industry which was thriving in the area I come from, Ukambani, is no more.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the new Minister will have to put his efforts into the livestock industry which is no more. We used to have the Livestock Marketing Division (LMD) within the Ministry, but it is no longer there. We used to have the Soil Conservation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, which used to conserve soil in this country. We even used to have a mechanised section stationed in Ruiru. It is no longer there. It is dead.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we used to have the AFC, and I know I will be told that AFC is in existence. But if AFC exists, it exists on paper. The AFC used to spearhead credit to farmers. Through the GMR, which stood for Guaranteed Minimum Return, farmers knew what they would fetch from their crops before they planted them. They were financed by the AFC through GMR. This died many years ago. Then came the Seasonal Credit Scheme which was also administered by the AFC. It also died. Most of all, we used to have farmers training centres where farmers were trained on how to farm and produce food for this country. Today, they are "finished", to quote Mr. Michuki. So, anything agricultural is not there. If institutions like the Kenya Farmers Association are not dead, they are dying. The sad part about all these issues is that, although we are reminded more often that agriculture is the backbone of our economy, nothing is done to match that statement with resources.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was looking at the Printed Estimates, and I noted that the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has been allocated Kshs5.3 billion. That is the allocation we are discussing. How can we allocate Kshs5.3 billion to an industry that is so vital to the survival of this nation? How can we allocate Kshs5.9 billion to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, when agriculture is the backbone of our economy? How can we allocate Kshs5.9 billion to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, when all the sectors and institutions of agriculture have collapsed? I would not like to make comparisons, but the Ministry of Finance stands blamed for neglecting this vital sector of our economy. I was looking at the allocations of the Ministry of Finance and Planning, which has allocated itself Kshs9.5 billion. If they cannot allocate enough resources to the Ministry that is the backbone of our economy, something is seriously wrong and I think our planners or economists are not having their priorities right. It is high time something was done to correct this mistake.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the last four years, we have been talking about irrigation in this House. There is no way we are going to grow food in this country, wholly dependant on rain. Often, the Minister laments of drought and it is obvious that we have drought all the time. I would like to call upon the Ministry of Finance to assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to put measures in place to irrigate this country, so that we can produce food. We are buying wheat from Egypt which is a product of irrigation from River Nile, which originates from Kenya. We used to have irrigation schemes which thrived very well, for example, Hola Irrigation Scheme, where I used to be a District Commissioner many years ago. It used to grow the best cotton in Africa. It was started in 1952, and when the expatriates finally left in 1978, it is no more. Bura Irrigation Scheme was constructed just above Hola Irrigation Scheme, but collapsed. The Perkera and Ahero Irrigation Schemes have all collapsed. Before we can talk of starting new schemes, I would like to appeal to the Government to revive these important schemes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one wonders the relevance of the National Irrigation Board because

it used to look after these irrigation schemes which are no more. These are very disturbing questions, and I would like to appeal to the Ministry--- This time round, we are not appealing to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, because we know it is existent and able to perform, but I think the problem is with the Ministry of Finance which is not providing adequate resources. It were better that we even stopped allocations to other projects and allocated enough resources to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. We have a problem with the development of cash crops, particularly in arid and semi-arid areas.

If we are to eradicate poverty as we have decided to do, or if we are to reduce poverty, because I think it is too ambitious to talk about eradication, we must ensure that all areas of this country do some form of cash crop farming. We used to grow cotton, particularly in arid and semi-arid areas, sunflower seed and sisal. I was casually looking at this allocation, and there is an item in the Printed Estimates called "Horticultural and Traditional Crops Development". Some districts have been allocated only Kshs200,000. How can a district develop these crops with Kshs200,000 in a year? I am glad Mwingi District was not allocated any money, because it would just be misappropriated. There is no way Kshs200,000 would be used by the District Agricultural Officer to develop anything.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, with regard to extension services, the Head of State directed that Agricultural Extension Officers wear uniform for easy identification. But have you noticed that the only time we see an Agricultural Extension Officer wearing a uniform is at agricultural shows when they are taking the President around? Where are the people we used to see serving farmers with uniforms inscribed with "AD"? We only see them at the agricultural shows. It is high time we educated farmers on soil conservation, good farming methods and provided them with adequate seeds if we intend to continue considering agriculture the backbone of our economy.

With these remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Haji): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving this opportunity to contribute to this very important debate.

From the outset, I would like to support the Vote. Secondly, I want to congratulate the Minister and the Permanent Secretary for their appointments. I would also like to tell them that Kenyans have very high hopes that before we go to the General Elections in the year 2002, they would have delivered the task on their shoulder to serve Kenyans.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Ministry is very, very important because it touches on the lives of all Kenyans, including other living things like insects, although they may be a menace sometimes. The time has come when this country should be very serious and strategize its functions in order to serve Kenyans well. I think, for example, we have too many Ministries and the little resources that are available to the country are being dished out to Ministries that are not sometimes functional. I believe the time has come when this country should concentrate on very few and vital Ministries in the coming five or so years, and in particular, the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development, Education, Health, Roads and Public Works and Defence. These are the most important Ministries as far as I am concerned, and as far as many Kenyans are concerned, because they touch on their lives. If we really want to develop our country, there is no way we can do so when funds allocated to these Ministries are meagre and cannot meet the demands of every Kenyan.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Dr. Omamo) left the Chair]*

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to see a situation where all sectors of this Ministry are activated. Sometimes it is saddening to note that even our colleagues in the Opposition and even in the Front Bench, when they are contributing to an important Ministry like this one, start with coffee, tea and other sectors and then end up with livestock. The Shadow Minister responsible for agriculture, for example, was almost leaving out the livestock sector when he was contributing because he touched on it as the last point. Persistent drought and drought-related diseases have wiped most of our livestock and particularly in the northern part of this country where people depend on livestock for their livelihood.

Similarly, there is a ravage of tsetse flies, particularly in Ijara District, where I come from, because of its proximity to the Coast where we have the Boni Forest. Surprisingly, since the *El Nino*-induced rains--- While people are crying about deforestation in the rest of the country, there is a lot of bush that has come up attracting tsetse flies as well as ticks. I would want to appeal to the Ministry of Agriculture to collaborate with the Office of

the President because this was done in Bondo when I was District Officer there in 1967. So many National Youth Service recruits were taken to clear the bushes there because of sleeping sickness which was affecting people in that area then. We have the same problem in Ijara District, which produces more than 70 per cent of livestock in that province. Surprisingly enough, all laboratory tests have to be done in Nairobi. We do not have even a single laboratory for livestock in Ijara District, which is a very young district and as I had said, it is the only district which can supply this country with meat. It is so close to Lamu and Mombasa in the Coast Province.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, even when I was a young man, we had a ship which used to take livestock from the Bothaye Holding Grounds and driven to Lamu for export. We would like to see the old grounds revived. The Bothaye Holding Ground is still there, all the buildings are dilapidated and unless something is done, it will go to ruins very soon.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our people have lost their livestock and they are now learning how to do crop farming without proper guidelines and without technical expertise. I came from there yesterday and I was amazed to see how good the maize and millet are doing in Ijara District. You cannot even compare Ijara with Nakuru. But, unfortunately, some strange insects are eating up the maize and the farmers are unlikely to realise any harvest. We have district agricultural officers, but, unfortunately, we do not have extension staff. I would like to appeal to the Minister to do something about that because if people are taking initiatives to do crop farming---

We used to despise crop farming, but because we have no alternative today, we have turned to crop farming and we are likely to be discouraged if we are not supported. I would like the Ministry of Agriculture to send a team of officers to Ijara to see what is happening and find ways of helping the farmers there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking about industrialization. The Kenya Industrial Estates was the only Government organisation that tried to assist our people to industrialize. Many people are talking about the failure to revive the Kenya Meat Commission. I would not like to blame the Minister nor the Permanent Secretary for that. It is unfortunate that whatever effort the Government is putting in is not being appreciated by the donor countries. Therefore, we would like to change our strategy by being provided with abattoirs in areas like Ijara.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I was travelling to the Coast yesterday, it took me one-and-half hours to reach Malindi.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Do you want to be informed?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Haji): I do not mind.

Mr. Keynan: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform hon. Haji that it is not the donor countries who are not in favour of the revival of the KMC; it is the elites, people at the Ministry Headquarters who are not in favour of the revival of the KMC.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Haji): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, maybe, because they are too new in that Ministry, I do not want to blame them.

I was talking about industrialization. Why can we not revive the KMC?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Would I be in order to have Mr. Keynan to table the document.

(Applause)

Mr. Keynan: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I shall table it on Tuesday. I have a document from the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, and I shall table it on Tuesday.

Hon. Members: No! Order! Out of order!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Order! Order, Mr. Keynan! You stood up to inform the Assistant Minister and you said you have the document, please, table it. It has been demanded.

Mr. Keynan: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can bring it on Tuesday. I will table it on Tuesday.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Haji): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that we should revive the Kenya Industrial Estates (KIE) because the current *Jua Kali* industry which we have and which is employing a lot of Kenyans is the by-product of the KIE. I believe it was given enough resources and it should be able to give us loans so that we can also give our people loans to build abattoirs at the source, where the livestock are obtainable.

Secondly, there is also need for us to do something about other related sectors of the Ministry. I am saying this because many people think that all parts of North Eastern Province are the same. I want to say here today that there is a district called Ijara which can provide enough food for the whole of this country so long as research is done on what crops can grow in that area. Right now, many areas in this country are facing drought

and yet in that area, people are about to harvest maize and millet. There are also other crops that can do very well in that area, but because the people there are not farmers by nature, they need to be guided as to what crops they can grow. That is one way of alleviating poverty in that part of the country.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mrs. Mugo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the debate on the Floor. The Minister for Finance started by telling us that the PRSP forms the basis of the Budget. This PRSP had identified the priority of this nation during the consultations which went on with the Ministry of Finance. He said that high on the agenda is the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Minister for Finance said that we have to invest more resources in the rural areas and implement specific measures to increase crop and livestock production in agriculture and to support infrastructure.

It is very well said. You will recall that most hon. Members of this House were not convinced that the consultations that went on to identify the areas of poverty and the huge amount of money that was spent, was a genuine move by the Government. We opposed that rightly so because we felt that it was just a public relations exercise to show the donors that something is happening and they are fulfilling the conditionalities for donor funding. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is the lifeline of this nation and has the answer to poverty alleviation and yet it has been allocated Kshs2.8 billion for the Development Vote which is even lower than the amount allocated last year which was Kshs4.2 billion. I do not know what kind of development can be carried out in the agricultural sector with that small amount of money. For the sake of comparison, the Office of the President did not come anywhere near as a priority and yet it was allocated 28 per cent of the taxes whereas this Ministry was allocated less than 10 per cent.

We would like to know the seriousness of this Government in poverty alleviation. There is no point in continuing to sing a song which is really like a gimmick. I do not know for whose sake these statements are made if the Government does not mean what it says. Fifty per cent of the money which is supposed to be used in development projects is earmarked to come from donors. We all know that the donor money is not forthcoming. Even last year, it did not come. I do not know why all of a sudden the Minister thinks that the money will come. If the donor money does not come, we would like to know what will be used to fill in the gap. It is a very serious problem and I think most of it---

(Mr. Karume consulted loudly)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Order, Mr. Karume! The lady behind you is speaking. She must be heard. You must talk in lower tones.

Mrs. Mugo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for restoring some order.

I would like to bring to the attention of this House the fact that Kenyans are dying in large numbers of hunger. This country is capable of feeding its citizens if money was allocated to the appropriate sectors. I would like to urge the Ministry of Finance to reduce some of the money earmarked for the Office of the President because apart from the police harassing Opposition Members of Parliament, there is not much security that we are provided with as citizens of this country. The money should instead be re-allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture so that we can feed this nation.

The small-scale farmer is the woman. Most of the food is produced by that small-scale farmer. There is no provision in the Budget to support this small farmer. I think it is much cheaper to support that small-scale farmer than to import maize. We have been importing maize for the last two years and the price has now increased five times more. There is a limit to this. We cannot play with the staple food of the people of Kenya. I want to challenge this Ministry to give more attention to the woman farmer who is a small-scale farmer. They should give her incentive and the means to produce food; that is, by removing taxes from fertilizer and farm implements. It is also possible to provide credit facilities to that small-scale farmer. If this Government is really serious, they can implement some policies that will ensure self-sufficiency in food production in this country. We will even have surplus to export.

There was a time in this country when we exported dairy and beef products even to conservative markets like Switzerland. What has happened to this nation? When I look at the Civil Service Bench, I see that we have very qualified technocrats. I cannot say that we are lacking in that area. The only thing we lack is the political will. There is nothing our planners can do if there is no political will to ensure that public money which is supposed to be used for production in this country, is not embezzled. The Government is very excited about the AGOA facility. How will we cash in on this opportunity if we cannot inject money into the cotton industry?

Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, everything that is being done is like just public relations work for somebody whom we do not understand. If we are serious, we must revive, as many other hon. Members have said,

the agricultural sector. We must revive the cotton sub-sector so that we can revive our textile industry for our businessmen to seize opportunity as provided for in the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): It is now time for the Minister to respond. Mr. Minister, I understand you are giving somebody some of your time.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given three minutes of my time to Mr. Keah.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to thank the Minister for giving me three minutes of his time.

I will only concentrate on one point. I want to concentrate on an observation that in this Budget, we do not seem to have anything to revive the cashewnut industry. We do not seem to have anything to revive the Ramisi Sugar Industry. But more importantly, we do not have any allocation in this Budget for the coconut industry. This has totally been ignored. I am calling for, for record and action, the repeal of the Coconut Industry Act, Cap.331, which the Ministry and the Attorney-General should work on. The Attorney-General should introduce a Bill that will promote the farming, industrialisation and commercialisation of the coconut tree.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, all I am asking the Ministry to do is to create a special board called the "Coconut Industry Board", so that it can more intensively look after the affairs of the coconut tree. The coconut tree has over 100 products, and if we cannot put money into these over 100 products, we will certainly not throw poverty overboard at the Coast. I am earnestly and honestly appealing to the Minister, the Permanent Secretary and the entire Ministry's team to look into this particular industry in isolation from other oil crops.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Let me take this opportunity to thank all hon. Members who have expressed their opinions on the debate over the last two days, and who have supported the proposal for the allocation of the sum of Kshs6.79 billion to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. I want to thank them for their comments, which were supportive and critical for positive results.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said yesterday, and I think hon. Members expressed sympathy with my view, the Ministry's allocation has been reduced even below last year's level. We would have wished to get much more than what we have already got, but we have to do with what we have been allocated. Even so, the Ministry remains committed to the promotion of agriculture, livestock and fisheries development in the country. We will continue to maximise our efforts so as to reap the maximum benefits we can, out of the meagre resources that we have been allocated.

I want just to bring out one major shortcoming in the Ministry's Budget, which arose because the Minister for Finance failed to respond to our request. The Ministry has been unable to clear pending bills amounting to Kshs585 million in respect of subscriptions that were meant to be paid to international organisations over the years. These are international organisations which are involved in activities that support agricultural development, and to which Kenya is a member. These are organisations such as Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Fund on Agricultural Activities (IFAD), the Common Fund for Commodities, the Desert Locust Control Organisation of East Africa and the International Locust Control Organisation of Central and Southern Africa. We are consulting with the Ministry of Finance, and I have requested the Ministry officials to see what they can do, because if we lose respect within those organisations, it will be harmful to us diplomatically, and also in terms of prejudicing beneficial technical co-operation that we have had with some of these institutions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to respond to each and every one of the comments from hon. Members, particularly those which sought clarifications or which were critical of my Ministry. I will not necessarily respond to them in the order in which hon. Members spoke here and raised those comments.

Throughout the Drought Recovery Programme, as I said yesterday, the Ministry managed to distribute seeds to 41 districts. We have now got complaints that some districts did not get their seeds in time or, indeed, did not get the seeds at all. I want to assure hon. Members that we regret those cases where, perhaps, due to some failure on the part of some officials, seeds were not supplied in time, and we will try to avoid a repeat of this kind of situation.

As regards seed quality control, I want to assure the House that the Kenya Plants Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), which is a very internationally respected professional service, will be strengthened so that it can test seeds for certification, and also make impromptu visits to seeds distributors to ensure that only certified seeds are available to farmers.

A large number of hon. Members talked about the wanting situation as regards the supply of fertilizers.

The Government is tied to the Commodity Aid Agreement with the Government of Japan, which clearly states that fertilizers donated under the agreement will be sold at the prevailing market prices, and the funds so realised utilised as counterpart funds on Japanese-funded development projects. The minimum price for fertilizers received under the agreement is set by the Treasury, which determines what are considered to be reasonable market prices. The agreement obliges the Government to raise two-thirds of the total grants that include Chemicals for Emergency Pests Control and Fertilizers Act. The Government only receives between 15,000 and 20,000 metric tonnes of fertilizers under this agreement, which is just about 10 per cent of the total fertilizer requirements in the country.

As regards the lack of proper credit facilities for farmers, I concur that there is a serious problem here, but it is a problem to which the Ministry is addressing its mind. Credit remains the major constraint to agricultural development. We believe the co-operative movement is, in principle, a promising source of credit facility to farmers. So far, the rural saccos have in some cases implemented credit programmes in such areas as Murang'a, Kisii and Mumias, for coffee and tea, and are giving affordable credit to some of their members.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, contract farming, on which the Minister for Finance was quite generous in his Budget, and micro-credit schemes, which are also beginning to develop in this country, will also be encouraged to provide alternative credit facilities to farmers and fishermen. The Government is, in the meantime, working on restructuring the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) so as to convert it into an effective countrywide agricultural credit bank.

A number of hon. Members made inquiries about the STABEX funds, particularly with regard to their comments on coffee. The shadow Minister for Agriculture, who unfortunately is not here now, made a very strong plea in this direction. I can only say at this stage that the Ministry of Finance is handling the issue of the release of the STABEX funds. I can also add that, to the best of my knowledge, the text of the financing agreement between the Government, through the Ministry of Finance, and the European Union, has been agreed upon. I am told the draft agreement is in the Attorney-General's Chambers for his legal expert to clear. We are hoping that in the very near future, this agreement will be signed and we will be in a position to have the funds released.

But I have to warn that we all have to bear our responsibilities. It does not help very much when we, in political rallies, pass out the message to peasant farmers who, indeed, have been cornered by the unfortunate down-turn in the coffee market internationally; and some of whom, I understand, have ended up believing that the STABEX funds constitute a fund out of which they can expect cheques--- We do not intend to do that.

Mr. Wamae: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Minister to castigate hon. Members of Parliament who speak in public rallies about the STABEX funds? He knows very well that it is the President of Kenya who is always referring to the STABEX funds in public rallies.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know why the hon. Member has been overheated. I did not castigate hon. Members. I only said that all of us must bear our responsibilities fully, and be on guard against misleading peasant farmers about what the STABEX funds hold for them! I have heard presentations and comments that have led people to believe that, indeed, coffee farmers can expect cheques out of the STABEX funds as individual members of the farming fraternity, which is not going to be the case! So, I am just saying that we all should contribute to avoid the embarrassment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on sugar, our country produces 430,000 metric tonnes of sugar per year, against a national demand of 700,000 metric tonnes. Obviously, there will always be room for importation of sugar; that is, unless we increase phenomenally the capacity for sugar production, which may not be that easy. The Ministry's policy objective is to promote efficient sugar production, with the aim of narrowing the gap between production and consumption, and also with the aim of making our sugar production competitive, vis-a-vis new competitors, in particular within the COMESA market. While striving to urge sugar-cane farmers to apply production technologies that will lower production costs, measures will be taken to discourage the dumping of sugar on the local market. The Ministry has finalised preparation of a national sugar policy and it is in the process of working on a Sugar Draft Bill, which we hope will be tabled before the House in the course of the year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the specific issue that was raised yesterday by one Member regarding the Nzoia Sugar Company, with an allegation that the Kenya Sugar Authority (KSA) gave, in return for sugar sold to the European Union (EU) market, cheques which bounced, I would like to put the record straight. Under the EU/ACP arrangement for export of sugar to the European markets, it is the national apex sugar authority - in our case the KSA - which has the responsibility for exporting sugar on behalf of producers. So, the KSA was actually exporting sugar on behalf of Nzoia Sugar Company. Normally, payment is made at the end of the sale, once the sugar has been supplied. But Nzoia Sugar Company needed to be paid in advance because of its own compromising financial position. So, the KSA, in effect, advanced some money to Nzoia Sugar Company, and all the cheques were paid on time, except one cheque which had inadvertently been sent unstamped by Nzoia

Sugar Company's own bank in Bungoma. Through the clearing process, it had to go back. The KSA had nothing to do with that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to cotton and the distribution of the seeds, as I said before, it is clear from some of the contributions yesterday that part of the problem that we still have is that farmers who had suffered in the past are finding it difficult to believe that the situation of cotton has changed, and want to ask questions in advance, as to where they are going to sell and so on. What I want to assure the House, and I would like to appeal to hon. Members to help us in conveying this message, is that cotton is seriously in short supply in the world! In our own economy, we know we will not be able to meet in the near future the demand of the local ginneries and, in particular, of the factories which have already begun to mushroom to exploit the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). It is clear that we are already importing cotton from Uganda. Indeed, in the Budget, the Minister eliminated all taxes on cotton imports. In that kind of situation, there is no way our cotton producers will miss a place to sell their cotton. So, I want hon. Members to be helpful in conveying the message that they cannot be wrong.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the livestock sub-sector, the demand for breeding stock is extremely high and cannot be met by the private sector alone. So, the Government will continue to supply the required stocks to small-scale farmers at an affordable cost. For instance, last year, nine sheep and goat stations and five animal production farms supplied a total of 168 Ndomba rams, 141 Gala goats and 463 dairy animals. As regards the complaint of loss of holding grounds, particularly around the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), what has been lost has been lost! We will secure what we can! I can only say that the Ministry will provide information to pastoralists on livestock market information through extension services, with regard to both live animals and livestock products.

Mr. Murathe: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Minister not to give us specific figures? When addressing the issue of the holding grounds, he has said that he will secure what they can! He should give us a concrete answer by saying: "We shall secure so many acres around the KMC." He should give us something specific!

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that some land is still left at the old holding grounds around the KMC factory in Athi River. All I am saying is that of what is there, you can rest assured that we will secure it. I know that the issue of the KMC is a very burning one. I know there are many colleagues, especially on this side of the House, whose constituencies are near my own constituency, and who thought that when I was appointed the Minister for Agriculture, I should go in and turn on the key. I am afraid that it is not going to be that simple, but I would like to state that the Ministry, in the forward Budget, will ask for some Kshs120 million to start the process of reviving the KMC. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Finance and Planning did not put us on the priority list, and the Budget as we have it today, has nothing on that. Nonetheless, we are working on a Sessional Paper, which I am hoping to introduce before the House very soon, with the aim of the Government assuming the debts, and putting the KMC factory at Athi River clearly on course for privatisation and commercialisation, after, hopefully, giving it some revolving funds to start production.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the dairy sub-sector, plans to revive the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) are well under way, through injections of more funds generated from the sale of shares. I am happy to announce that hon. Members can look at their daily newspapers tomorrow. They will carry announcements of an extension of time for a period of one month, or up to the end of the first week of August, for farmers to collect the forms and continue to buy the shares of the KCC, notwithstanding the expiry of the first outer limit.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a number of Members talked about the Kitinda Co-operative Society, which started experiencing financial problems in 1991, and became completely inoperational in 1996. In March, 1999, members resolved to lease out the dairy plant to Mr. M.S.K. Phatta of P. O. Box 4 Bungoma, at a monthly rent of Kshs400,000. The move was to enable the society to offset its liabilities that stood at Kshs28.1 million then. The lessee has not been able to pay his dues promptly, and the plant has not been in operation since June, 2000. The way forward is for the original members to inject some additional capital into the plant for it to be operational once again, maybe, along the lines that we are dealing with the KCC as a major company itself.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do wish to inform the Minister that Kitinda Co-operative Society was working. It started collapsing when it was put under a Government-appointed commission, led by the then DC, Bungoma, Mr. Changole; who, among other things, took away all the milk pails belonging to the farmers and took them to an Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) farm that he had been given in Trans Nzoia. He has never brought back our pails and he has never paid for them.

Mr. Minister, it was said before you arrived here that Mr. Phatta was known to the people who were contracting out the Kitinda Dairy because he was a mattress trader in Bungoma Town. He had never gotten any competence to run a dairy industry. Could you tell us how you will assist the impoverished farmers as you continue contributing?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Order, Dr. Kituyi! When you are informing, you do not ask questions!

Dr. Kituyi: He has allowed me to inform him! Now that I have informed you, could you tell us how you will assist us, as we continue?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to assure the hon. Member that if we are to revisit some of all these old misdeeds which occasioned the problem, we will, and we will be prepared to work with him. I cannot, of course, say here now that I am going to get Mr. Phatta out, but I think I would need to study the facts much more closely. My office is open to all stakeholders, including the hon. Members.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to turn to the question of fisheries on which Dr. Kituyi, as the very first person who contributed to the debate after me yesterday, commented. With regard to the issue of funds asked for under Head 548 on deep sea fisheries activities, as spelt out in the Development Estimates, I wish to respond as follows: The Indian Ocean has three categories of waters for us. There is the shallow coastal waters within the territorial sea, the continental shelf which abuts beyond the territorial sea, and the deep sea, part of which falls, of course, within our exclusive economic zone. Artisan fisheries activities take place in the shallow waters, where as trawlers fish for prawns and other fish generally on the continental shelf. The deep sea, which is also known as the exclusive economic zone and extends for us exclusively; that is, in terms of exclusive rights to us for 200 nautical miles out in the sea, is where the foreign fishing vessels look for the highly valuable but often migratory tuna fish.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the funds we are asking for under Head 548 are to be used for the patrol and inspection of foreign fishing vessels operating in that part of the Indian Ocean without our authorisation. Currently, we do not have big patrol vessels, but we do patrol in conjunction with the Kenya Navy and the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA). The funds asked for, therefore, under, for instance, Item 110, which is Travelling and Accommodation - Kshs100,000, for the whole year, are designed to be used for night-outs for our officers who will spend some nights at sea during patrol exercises; and under the next item, it is for their upkeep (food). When the hon. Member is in the air flying to Europe on parliamentary business, I am sure as a night-out, he gets his *per diem*. This is a principle that is accepted within Government accounting.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to distinguish between sport fishing which is purely a recreational activity done by the shores, and deep sea fishing. The former is a private activity for which the department only issues licences to sport fishermen, but this is purely for the promotion of fish tourism. A deep-sea fishery has to do with the collection of Appropriations-In-Aid by the Government and the management of fisheries resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and this requires substantial amount of financial resources, which is the responsibility of the Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as regards the allegations that funds for the improvement of landing sites, mainly around Lake Victoria, have not been properly utilised, I wish to state as follows: In order to comply with the EU standards, following upon the ban on standards on fish quality and products, fish landing sites must be kept in top hygienic conditions. To achieve this, we have to meet certain specific things, like to construct modern fish banda, fence off the beach, put up a jetty at the beach, supply electricity to the landing site, provide sanitary facilities like toilets and so on; paving of the ground between the fish banda and the jetty and putting up a cold storage facility. The cost of improving one landing site, excluding the cost of providing electricity, is in the region of Kshs12 million. Only Kshs10.5 million was allocated for the improvement of landing sites in the country last year. Besides, at the end of the year, only half of the total amount was disbursed. Whatever was made available was used to improve the sites to the minimum. Currently, we are asking for more funds to be able to complete the remaining tasks before another European Union inspection team arrives, for we run a risk if they come and say your standards are still below par.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I heard complaints regarding the extension service. Definitely, it is wanting and I said it. Unfortunately, the funds are not enough, but I want to assure you that we will try to bring in new techniques. We will try to move the service forward. We will want the co-operation of leaders and, in particular, parliamentarians. It may be necessary to have pre-announced weekly, monthly or seasonal field days and so on. Definitely, I will want to work with the Committee on Agriculture on this on how best we can make the extension service, both in livestock and agricultural sectors, much more robust. As for extension staff who have not been using uniforms, I want to assure you that word is going out that they have to justify why they have to get

their allowances for uniforms, so that wananchi can know when they are in or not in the field.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, people have talked about agricultural attaches. There are not many. There is one each in Rome, London and South Africa. In Rome, I do not think we can replace him because he is the technical person accredited to IFAD and to Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The rest of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation staff cannot do that. The attache in London, for now, has the responsibility of working on the marketing of Kenyan agricultural produce in Western Europe, which is still an important destination for our horticulture and so on. For the agricultural attache in South Africa, we think there is still potential. For some of our agricultural produce to go that way, South Africa will give us a level-playing field in business. It is amazing. I see somebody is shaking his head, but I knew from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation what were the products here which were on demand, but which the tax regime and administrative trade barriers, very cunningly put in place, had put us out of that market. If the job cannot justify paying an agricultural attache there, we will, of course, not hesitate to recall one.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on agricultural mechanisation, I know some have alleged that this is a facility which exists to support elite politicians and civil servants. I do not think that is very fair. I wish to report to the House, for instance, that although last year it was projected that this facility will raise some Kshs30.6 million from tractor and plant hire, they managed to raise Kshs33.8 million during the financial year. This is what I have. Well, I stand to be corrected, if it is not.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of use of funds budgeted on tractor repairs for subsequent use by senior civil servants cannot be tolerated. That is not the purpose for which the facility was put in place, and I will be prepared, as the Minister, to take any steps which will be necessary to correct the situation.

One or two Members talked about the lack of proper recognition of the role of women in the co-operative movement and in farming. I think it is true when we talk of peasants or farmers in this continent. I regret if that is the case. I will definitely follow this up very seriously, if it often happens that when we talk of farmers, we think of men, but I fully agree with the Members who said that, in reality, most of the producers and real peasant workers on the land are women, and I think it is important that their role is fully recognised. It happens that, for instance, women farm-producers are not the members of the co-operative societies, but it is their husbands who become members of the co-operative societies. I think it behoves on all of us to try and pass the message that women have as much right as their spouses to join the co-operative movements, farming organisations and to demand a recognition of their place.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker Sir, finally, on food security, in addition to what I said yesterday, I know there is still some Vote under the Office of the President for the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) to buy maize towards the National Food Strategic Reserve. Our responsibility, as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, will be to monitor the food situation in the country and give an early warning within good time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope I have managed to respond, within that short period, to all the major, if not all, issues on which hon. Members wanted my response or further clarification.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

IN THE COMMITTEE

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

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:- THAT, a sum not exceeding Kshs3,399,310,155 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2002 in respect of:-

Vote 10 - The Ministry of Agriculture
and Rural Development

(Question proposed)

VOTE R10 - RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

Head 190 - Headquarters Administrative and Technical Services

Dr Anangwe: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we have been told time and again that the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper will be the basis upon which the Government's sectoral activities and budgeting will be based. I am aware that the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development provided some inputs in respect of these sectoral activities. May I just make reference to a copy of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. This is what the Ministry proposed on this particular matter---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Dr. Anangwe, we are now dealing with Head 190.

Dr. Anangwe: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that is the Head I am alluding to. In this particular Paper, they said that they would increase the percentage of non-personal reflected cost, Items 100 and above, out of the total cost in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Recurrent Budget, by 5 per cent points between 2000/2001 Budget and 2001 and 2002 Budget. May I be informed whether that particular provision has been adhered to?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Minister, there is a general question relating to the items.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is really a general question, not relating to the items specifically. Obviously, it has been difficult to adhere to that ideal position which had been preferred at the state of the consultations on Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. This is because, as you know, Ministries submitted their budget proposals to the Ministry of Finance and Planning where bidding was done. Obviously, you could not eliminate or reduce without the Heading for General Administration, including emoluments and so on. Therefore, that meant that where the amount of money expected could not be realised, the casualties had to be new development projects.

Mr. Khamasi: Thank you very, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I have got two issues to raise on Head 190, Items 067 and 250. You can see that Item 067 - Fees, Commissions and Honoraria is rising from Kshs10 million to Kshs20 million. This is a substantial increase, when in actual fact, we should reduce that figure. Perhaps, the Minister will be kind enough to let us know why he requires an additional Kshs10 million for that Item. Secondly, on Item 250 - Maintenance of Plant, Machinery and Equipment, the experience we have had in other Ministries, even in Kakamega District, is that where plant and equipment is being repaired, a lot of money goes into that particular exercise, but none of those plants actually work.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister tell us exactly how this money will be used, and whether the machinery which actually has broken down in Kakamega District will be repaired with this money so that it can be used?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as regards Item 067, we are all familiar with the "monster" of pending bills in the Government. The reason why this Item has shot up is that there have been many pending bills in terms of staff allowances and so on. This figure shot up from Kshs10 million to Kshs20 million because of our desire to clear those bills. As regards the request, both general and specific by the hon. Member on Item 250, the amount allocated for maintenance of plant, machinery and equipment in the whole country is Kshs1,770,000. I do not think, by any state of imagination that, that figure could be said to be an excessive amount of money for the whole country. In fact, I would have wished that the hon. Member and other hon. Members, could have said that this amount of money is peanuts and, therefore, the Ministry of Finance and Planning should find a way of allocating us more funds.

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Is the Minister in order to evade answering the question?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): I had not finished answering the question!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Minister! Mr. Wanjala, what is your point of order?

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The hon. Member has said machines at the districts have been repaired but they do not work. So, he was wondering why they are being repaired, if they do not work. The Minister is evading to answer the question.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Wanjala! You stood on a point of order, but I have listened and I have not got your point of order. Could we allow the Minister to proceed?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman,

Sir. When the hon. Member rose on a point of order, I thought that there was a serious point of order, but I can see it was a serious query. I was not evading to answer the question. I was about to answer that part of the question.

The amount of money allocated to this Item is not colossal by any stretch of imagination. Indeed, Item 250 relates to Headquarters. You will realise that we are increasingly computerizing and we have a lot of work to be photocopied. I would like to say that photocopying machines, computers and other equipment are there. As regards the specific request on equipment in Kakamega District, it is covered under Heads 638 and 639 - District Extension Services.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): What is your question on Training Expenses?

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on Item 068 - Training Expenses; the amount has shot up from Kshs1 million to Kshs20 million. I am wondering what sort of training would justify that kind of increase.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): The question is: The allocation for Item 068 has increased from Kshs1 million to Kshs20 million. Mr. Murathe wants to know the nature of training that would justify that sort of money.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): It is training which has been carried out in the past and was funded through the Directorate of Personnel Management (DPM). The Government has decided that it should be left to individual Ministries. So, it is money which is already equivalent to what was already being spent on the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, but under non-Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development budget.

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I asked about the nature of training. I did not ask about the money.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): In principle, all forms of agricultural training; that is, short courses and seminars.

Head 191 - Agricultural Attaches' Offices

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): There is a notice which was given by Dr. Kituyi.

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No.142 Sections 2 and 3, I have already given notice of the following Motion. I beg to move:-

THAT, the Vote for the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Recurrent Expenditure be reduced by the sum of Kshs20; and that the said reduction be made on the provisions of Sub-Vote 100, Head 191; Agricultural Attaches' Offices; Item 070 - Foreign Service Allowance.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the good Minister just gave us the reasons for keeping three Agricultural Attaches, about London as an important agricultural export destination and South Africa as a potential market except that it is messed up by tariffs. He also mentioned about Rome because of this being also the ambassador to the FAO and IFAD. Rome is justified, because he is our ambassador to critical international organisations. On South Africa, the reasons given by the Minister to justify a Trade Attache or a negotiator on tariffs; it is the tariff barriers that are keeping it away from reach as a market for us. That cannot justify an agricultural attache. If horticulture is the justification for Europe, we should take the attache to Rotterdam which is the landing ground of three-quarters of Kenyan horticultural produce. If it is anything other than a horticultural produce, you take it to Germany which is the most important agricultural export **[Dr. Kituyi]** destination for Kenya in Europe. On England, Kenya is retaining 100 per cent all the time, Patrick Orle as an attache and an all-round-do-gooder, who is a busybody being paid to market Kenya and find openings for Kenyan produce. There can be no justification why we are retaining the services of Patrick Orle in London without London being an important export destination of our agricultural produce to keep the Agricultural Attache there.

With those few remarks, I do beg to move that we reduce the money as an expression of outrage about those two positions; South African Attache and London Attache.

(Question of the reduction proposed)

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I must commend my friend, Dr. Kituyi, for being very alert when we are dealing with the Votes of the various Ministries. He dutifully pays very close attention to every Vote. But I would want to oppose the Motion he has proposed. I would want to appeal for understanding. The particular officers were not posted yesterday. The offices have been there

and from time to time, the Government does review its policies as regards postings of particular attaches to foreign missions. Indeed, I can say, as a former Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, that we have been downsizing most of those missions. I know the Agricultural Attache in South Africa; indeed, he is not just an Agricultural Attache, he doubles up. Very often, these officers double for several departments particularly after we reduce the staff. It would be unfair for us to reduce even symbolically the emoluments of our Kenyans serving outside in the diplomatic service on the grounds that we do not need their service and not on the grounds of their particular failure. I think it would be better that the hon. Member just registers with us the feeling that we need to re-examine the need for an Agricultural Attache rather than propose that we reduce emoluments. I want to appeal also for his understanding.

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think Dr. Kituyi has got a very valid point. But for a change, I want to support the Minister that we do agree to give him the money he is requesting for. But, specifically, I request that we place the personnel in the right place where they are supposed to be. It is a luxury to put people where they are not supposed to be. I support Dr. Kituyi although I would request him that we allow the Minister to have the money.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Dr. Kituyi has raised a very valid point that we must deploy our manpower where they make the highest return to this country. I was in South Africa two months ago and I found that our attache is basically approving imports of South African agricultural products into this country, including eggs and oranges.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Angwenyi, be brief! This is not a debate!

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, just to conclude, we know that this Ministry is a very important one for our economy and we would like to support them so long as they undertake to make the necessary improvement in their future demands.

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Murathe! Just catch the Temporary Deputy Chairman's eye and not the ear!

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the real reason why we are not competing effectively externally is precisely because of under-representation in Europe, eastern Europe and the emerging markets including China. I had occasion to have a chat with our attache in London when our Committee did a coffee trip. The amount allocated is not even enough for the London Office, because he handles all the portfolio and all the market information and statistics necessary to make this country competitive.

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, we have one hour and there is no debate. Dr. Kituyi, you have moved the Motion and you have heard from the Minister.

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

(Head 191 agreed to)

Head 193 - Development Planning Services

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on Head 193 - Development Planning Services; could the Minister explain to the House what development plans and services they are providing to Kenyans considering the fact that Development Vote is only 20 per cent of the Recurrent Expenditure?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): I did not get him, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Could he, please, repeat his question?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Just to assist the Chair or the Minister, mention the Head and the item.

Mr. Achola: That is what I did precisely. It is Head 193 and all the items under it. I just want a general explanation as to why we have development planning services spending Kshs15 million and yet, the Development Vote is only 20 per cent of the Recurrent Expenditure. What are these people being paid to do?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the fact that the recent financial difficulties have compromised our ability to provide for development expenditure does not mean that we should down-grade or close down development planning services. We hope to get out of the current financial difficulties very soon and have a much healthier development budget. We have to keep development planning services competent.

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this year's Budget was pegged on the (PRSP), subject to availability of funds. Could the Minister explain whether what he is now talking about actually came from the grassroots level? The PRSP was discussed from the grassroots level, and budgetary proposals given to the Ministry.

The Minister is now talking as an authority. We did not discuss some of the things the Minister is talking about. For example, at the Coast, where I come from, we never discussed what he is talking about.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Maitha! Just ask your question then the Minister will answer.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member must, definitely, have been part of the discussion on what ought to be provided at the Coast. What ought to be done can only be properly done if it is properly planned.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, in response to Mr. Achola's question, the Minister told us that he has idle staff for development purposes, who are being retained while waiting for the economic situation to get better. In other Government Departments such staff are being retrenched. What right does the Minister for Agriculture have to retain idle staff hoping that one day he will turn round the corner and start utilising them?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I neither said nor meant to say that we have idle staff; that is far from the truth. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, through the PRSP process, came tops in the whole country. Virtually in every district people wanted water, better extension services and support for fisheries services, among others. Even if the people gave their complaints, you cannot deal with them unless you have experts who can sit down, sort out the desires of the people, get the necessary data and plan properly for the short-term, medium-term and long-term. We need the staff, and this Item deserves this amount of money. Under this Head, the Planning Department in the Ministry needs Kshs16 million, and I do not think that this amount is so colossal as to provoke the wrath of the House. I want to appeal for better understanding.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think the Minister owes this House---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Michuki, we still have so much to dispose of. Therefore, be precise and to the point so that we can make progress.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I could have finished what I wanted to say by now.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Proceed!

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, according to the economic survey, agriculture slumped by 2.4 per cent in terms of production and planning. Could the Minister give three or four instances of where planning has been done in order to help of revamp agriculture? Could he give two or three examples?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not justifying last year's budget. I am justifying the budget that I am asking for. But even so, the hon. Member will surely agree that, despite the overall down-turn for many reasons, some of which were acts of God that were beyond our control, some sectors registered positive growth. Those, too, had been planned.

(Heads 190, 193 and 195 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 100 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 101 - REGULATORY MANAGEMENT OF INPUTS AND OUTPUTS IN AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

Head 229 - Agricultural Machinery Testing and Development Centres

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have complied with the provisions of Standing Order No.142. I wish to move a reduction of Kshs20 from Head 229, Item 220, Purchase of Plant and Equipment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you listened to the Minister while he was replying, trying to justify why we are retaining something called "Agricultural Machinery Testing and Development Centres." He talked about returns from these services. He even assumed that those centres were not doing too badly, and that they were raising Kshs33 million annually. The Printed Estimates indicate that these centres raise Kshs3 million through sales and fees for services rendered. We are providing money for the maintenance of tractors and the hiring of drivers. If those tractors are leased out commercially, how can they bring us Kshs3 million in a year?

If any of those development centres was working we would, at least, have something akin to the Nyayo Pioneer Car, when the Government pretended to have made a breakthrough. Have you seen any Nyayo show

where they have paraded an ox plough made from these centres? There is absolutely no justification for the continued existence of this Item. This Item just exists because the Ministry has civil servants it does not want to retrench. So, as expression of our wish that the Ministry should wind down this Department, let us reduce the budget and help the Minister see the urgency of doing what we want.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move.

(Question of the reduction proposed)

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, again, I want to plead for better understanding. I stand to oppose the Motion moved by the hon. Member. To be fair, some of the agricultural machinery testing and development centres have produced useful implements. Part of the problem in our extension services is that, what has been produced at some of these centres has, due to failure in the Civil Service, not filtered down fast enough to farmers. That is the challenge we are taking up as a Ministry. I would wish that we do not reduce the allocation for this particular Item by the amount proposed. I promise that, by next year, the hon. Members will get much juicier news.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support Dr. Kituyi's proposal. We have no use for testing machinery. We always buy machinery that is complete. So, I do not see where testing machinery is applied. So, this Item must be reduced by Kshs20.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the proposal made by Dr. Kituyi. Having conceded that there has been failure within the Ministry, the Minister may not take for granted that Parliament is there to maintain the *status quo*. We ought to show our displeasure at wanton spending without any returns to Kenyans by taking away the proposed amount from the Item.

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

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it would only be reasonable to ask the Minister to name just one implement they have improved, so that we can give him the money he is asking for. Otherwise, we cannot justify having spent all this money over the years.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Minister, could you name one implement that you have improved?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think hon. Members also need to go and seek extension services. We have workshops in Nakuru, Mtwapa, Siaya, Homa Bay, Bukura, Ruiru, Mbeere *et cetera*, fairly close to hon. Members. For instance, I can cite two of the equipment which I saw, because they were well displayed at the Nakuru Agricultural Show; one simple bucket based drip irrigation system. This is something which every farmer, even in dry lands should actually acquire, with clearly tangible results for himself. Now, these are ones which were developed there. We have ox ploughs which are lighter and more functional, locally made using funds from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). That is why I said that the problem in the country is not having appropriate innovation, but with having that innovation down to the farmer who needs it on the ground.

This is the challenge I am taking up; in terms of revamping the extension services.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, hon. Members! You will still get an opportunity as we proceed.

Mr. Maitha, seems to have something burning!

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister justify his claims? I have a document here and, as we have said, this is a PRSP Budget, the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) is funding the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development through the project of National Agriculture and Livestock Extension Programme. Let the Minister tell us, if the Ministry is getting this money from the international donor, why he is insisting on these inputs while we are still on PRSP?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, there are always counterfeit funds for most of these projects.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Yes, what is it, Dr. Kituyi?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the only thing the Minister has succeeded in telling this House is that it is important to improve on machinery and nobody is disputing that. But the improvement is

being done by *Jua Kali* and technical training institutes, not by the personnel in his Ministry. Why does he want us to distort the reality of the marketplace by sending money to where the work is not being done?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, what Dr. Kituyi should know is that the personnel in the Ministry, and particularly in various Ministry workshops and research stations, are actually interacting very closely with people in *Jua Kali* and very often they design and pass on the technology for formulation to the *Jua Kali* sector. That is why it is happening!

(Question, that the question of the reduction be now put, put and agreed to)

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

Ms. Karua: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I do not think there is a procedure where the Chair can reverse the ruling; unless there is a Division to reverse your pronouncement that the "Ayes have it" because we clearly heard it. There is no procedure like the one you are following!

Hon. Members: We heard it!

Ms. Karua: The reversal is irregular, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Ms. Karua, for the sake of record, it must be clear that when the vote was taken, just as I pronounced "Ayes have---", I said "I beg your pardon". I never finished the sentence. In any case, if you wanted to challenge that, you should have stood up and I would have given you a Division. You did not do that!

Hon. Members: No! No!

(Head 229 agreed to)

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Let us proceed to Head 240!

Head 240 - Kenya Health Inspectorate Services

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Standing Order 142, Sub-section (2) and (3), I propose that the sum of Kshs20 million be reduced from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and that he said the reduction to be made on the provisions of Sub-Vote 101, Head 240, Item 306. This is with regard to the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS). The Chair heard that this very honest Minister did admit that there is adulteration of seed and that this has gone on for a long time without this particular inspectorate changing anything. He told us earlier when he was giving another answer this afternoon, that if there is personal failure on the part of anyone, then that Head can suffer a reduction. I am hoping that the Minister will agree that this particular inspectorate has failed the people of Kenya and that our poor agricultural production is due to the poor seed, especially with regard to maize and that the Head in respect of the inspectorate services should suffer that reduction.

(Question of the reduction proposed)

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): I stand to oppose the Motion moved by Mr. Munyasia. The Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) is a very reputable and valuable institution in this country. The quality of its services is reputed not just in the country, but internationally. Whereas it is true, as I did say here that one of the problems we faced is that of adulteration of seeds, this has not occurred in circumstances where we can put the blame on KEPHIS or its staff. When dishonest individuals walk into any shop, say on Biashara Street, buy a bag of maize, take it to their backyard, package it and take it to the remote rural stations, all that KEPHIS can do, once it finds out, is to test whether the seed is proper or not. It cannot act as a policeman to actually go round each village. In any case, the Government is only contributing Kshs60 million to their services. They are expected to collect up to Kshs100 million in Appropriations-in-Aid. They have actually complained that one of the reasons why conmen are doing this and getting away with it is because the law, in terms of sanctions, is lenient and the courts have treated culprits very leniently.

That is why, in my main submission yesterday, I said that I hope we will get the support of the House when we bring amendments to the law in the very near future to seek very severe penalties which could be

crippling to those who want to venture into that kind of risky business. I, therefore, want to appeal for Members' understanding and I wish Mr. Munyasia would actually withdraw the Motion. The KEPHIS should not be punished for no fault or failure of their own.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I stand to oppose that Motion. I do realise that we have got a lot of advice to give to the Minister. In cases where we feel there has been some failure, we should give him constructive advice. That advice should not be a way of ventilating our anger by reducing the budget by Kshs20. I think that is really not in the interest of a budget which is already short. That budget is not enough and if we reduce it further it will not serve its purpose.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to oppose.

Mr. Kamolleh: Ahsante sana Bw. Naibu Mwenyekiti wa Muda. Sisi hapa ndio tunatengeneza sheria. Waziri ametueleza na tumeona kwamba haya mambo ni sawa. Kuna wale walanguzi wanaochukua mbegu za mahindi ambazo zimetengenezwa sawa sawa na kwenda kuzibadilisha, halafu wanaziua huko. Badala ya sisi kutunga sheria ili tuwashike wale walanguzi, tunataka kupunguza pesa zilizotengewa hii Wizara. Ninafikiri kwamba, hapo, hatutakuwa tumefanya sawa sawa.

Mimi ninapinga Hoja hii kabisa.

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

(Resumption of Debate on Head 240)

Mr. Achola: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. We have just disposed of that Motion, but we have yet to deal with the two votes.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Yes, we have just disposed of the proposed amendment. Any other thing on that Item?

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain to us why he has been asking for Kshs100 million under this Item every year for the last three years? Is he serious about this issue or not? Surely, it cannot be the same figure for the next five years! That is why someone is suggesting that this amount is really there for nothing.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are serious. We would be happier if, indeed, we are pleasantly surprised and the sum actually increased. We are not tied down to a maximum ceiling of Kshs100 million. But I think it is better to be conservative and be pleasantly surprised than over-provide and then be disappointed. This could have budgetary implications. We are very serious.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) is a very important institution. In other countries, such institutions play a very important role by protecting the country from diseases being spread and providing proper agricultural inputs. I would suggest that the Minister keeps on enhancing the vote for KEPHIS by removing the fire power men from those votes he wanted to reduce earlier.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am sorry I did not get him. Could he please repeat his point?

(Head 240 agreed to)

Head 266 - Livestock Improvement Stations

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I move that the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Rural Development, Recurrent Expenditure, be reduced by Kshs20 in Head 266, Item 340. In the Minister's response to our concerns this afternoon, he totally failed to justify before this House why, at a time when livestock breeding stations have collapsed, and important improvements are being done by private commercial breeders, when there is no grant that can justifiably be coming from the Government as an incentive to commercial producers to breed for breed improvement, we should continue having livestock improvement stations.

Secondly, he has even provided for grants to private breeders, when we know that private breeders are breeding for commercial purposes and they are not depending on the Government. Is this not just another conduit through which money is being given to the favoured few without any justification as to the returns to the farmers?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I stand to oppose

the Motion. We, as the Ministry, would want to encourage private breeders, so that the Government---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Dr. Godana! For purposes of procedure, I must first propose the Question.

(Question of the reduction proposed)

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I stand to oppose the Motion moved by Dr. Kituyi. This is not a conduit for enriching commercial breeders. This is designed for assisting non-profit making private breeding organisations. For example, the Dairy Goat Association of Kenya and something called the Kenya Stud Group. Those are people who are professionally committed to the enhancement of the quality of the breeds, but who are not there for the purpose of making profit. We want to encourage the development of private breeding capacity. That is why we are giving token assistance to the organisations.

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

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): The Minister has not accepted the information!

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of Order---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Dr. Kituyi! You had a point of information and the person to accept is the Minister! But he has not accepted---

Dr. Kituyi: It was not a point of information!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Dr. Kituyi! You know very well that you stood on a point of information!

Dr. Kituyi: That is different now! I am standing on another point of order!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): No! I will put the Question now!

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

(Resumption of Debate on Head 266)

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I seek guidance from the Chair! Are we indulging in a ritual or are we seriously scrutinising Estimate proposals and giving the Minister a chance to justify requests of money from this House? I am raising concern about the conduct of the Chair! There is no time for voting!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Dr. Kituyi! I think I have been very fair. I am not rushing and the Minister was given an opportunity to respond. But you wanted to inform the Minister about something, but he rejected the information. Then, you turned round and said that you wanted to contribute. Obviously, the Chair ruled against that. So, now, do we have any person wishing to contribute anything else on the same Head?

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 266, Item 154 - Purchase of Drugs *et cetera*, we are reducing that allocation from Kshs800,000 to Kshs300,000. It is on purchase of drugs *et cetera* for livestock improvement stations. Why has the Minister seen it necessary to reduce that money, when it is very important that we actually must improve the quality of our livestock stations?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Very well. I will ask the Minister to take note of that question before another Member asks him another question. Mr. Achola!

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain to us Item 651 of Head 266, that is Sale of Livestock and Dairy Products. Everybody knows that these stations---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Which item is that?

Mr. Achola: It is Item 651; that is Appropriations-in-Aid (AIA), Sale of Livestock and Dairy Products. It is on page 351. Could the Minister explain whether he is satisfied that this is a part of A-in-A that would accrue from these stations? This is because we are well aware that most of these stations actually sell the livestock and just pocket the money.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Now, just one more question from Mr. Michuki and then the Minister can respond.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I mean the whole of this reduction, which is being proposed, appears to be a contest between two sides which is not. If you remember, when you spoke on this Vote, I listened very carefully and everything that you said was in support of any proposal indicating displeasure.

The purpose of reduction is displeasure with the policies; and, if you listened also to what hon. Ndwiga was saying, it was the same vein---

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Are you satisfied? Is he in order to say that "when you were contributing?" You are the Chair and I do not think you contributed as the Chair.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Michuki, by the way, we are now not discussing any reduction because that was disposed off. So, could you ask whatever you want to ask the Minister because---

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I thought the Motion by Dr. Kituyi was still on.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): No, it is not! We finished with it!

Mr. Minister, could you respond now?

Mr. Sungu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Sungu!

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want to respond to the two queries which have been raised, the first one being Item 154. The hon. Member wanted to know why the allocation for drugs, serum and vaccines has been reduced from Kshs800,000 to Kshs300,000. That is because for certain parts of the country, particularly in the ASAL areas, funds are now provided through the Drought Recovery Programme which is going on.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as regards Item 651, the reason for the reduction is that some of the centres did actually lose the goats during the drought. The numbers of the animals are [**The Minister for Agriculture**] much lower and so the expected harvest of resources will be less.

(Head 266 agreed to)

Head 324 - Holding Grounds Services

Dr. Kituyi: Hon. Members, I invite you to listen to the argument and then you will vote. Let me have my say and you will have your way.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that the Vote for the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development be reduced by Kshs20 by reducing the provision for Head 324, Item 185, in line with the provisions of Standing Order No.142.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have been very specific in my earlier intervention, that we cannot find any justification whatsoever why the Ministry should avail monies for holding grounds services which were constructed when they had an abattoir. Now that they do not have an abattoir, they cannot justify having holding grounds. What are they using the holding grounds for when they are not marketing livestock? The Minister for Agriculture comes from a pastoral area. What is the need of paying people to be busybodies around holding grounds when they do not hold any animals, and have no destination for any animals held?

Secondly, the reason why I chose the particular Item is that, since the sale of the holding ground of the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), the real holding grounds we are talking about are in North Eastern Kenya, for example, Isiolo and some parts of this Province. Those places do not have electricity and offices. Why do they ask for an Item called "computer services"? What computers do they need in the desert to hold goats in preparation to transport them to Nairobi?

(Laughter)

The Minister has not told us anything about that Item. He should not take this House for granted.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, with those remarks, I beg to move.

(Question of the reduction proposed)

Mr. Kajwang: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been talking about holding grounds for a long time. First of all, they have been grabbed and they are not there. Now, we can see some people being paid personal emoluments, house allowance and hardship allowance. I do not know where the hardship is.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Kajwang! We are dealing with this

particular proposal for reduction of Kshs20 in Item 185.

Mr. Kajwang: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am in support of the reduction by Kshs20 in this Item.

(Applause)

I am not only talking about computer expenses. All those expenses, or the entire Head, should, be done away with. Where are those animals which we are holding, and why do we allocate money on a ground which holds nothing? Why do we employ people to idle around when we have destroyed our economy, especially on livestock?

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

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I wanted to say that the debate on this Vote, which is going on in this House--- If the consensus of the House is to be a guide in supporting or rejecting what Dr. Kituyi has proposed, there is displeasure with the policies of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. I need not go into the reasons because they have been stated here. We are not seeking for a reduction in this Item in order to stop the Ministry from operating, but we are seeking for this reduction to show that a lot should be done to improve the policy. The Minister may not be responsible for this, but he should accept that the Ministry has not operated well, particularly when we are to be fed by foreigners in an agricultural country.

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

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion which has been moved. Again, I plead for better understanding. The fact that the main abattoirs of the KMC do not work does not mean that we do not intend to rehabilitate them. Hon. Members know that there is pressure to do the same. If we have to re-open the KMC, we must have holding grounds so that animals can be properly inspected for disease before they move, particularly in certain parts of this country.

Hon. Members: Where are the holding grounds!

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, after all, the meat produced from those abattoirs cannot find market outside unless we get disease-free certification. So, we need to rehabilitate those holding grounds, which are in places like Lamu and Isiolo. These areas have power, telephone and are within the circuit of computers. These things are reaching every place. I would have wished that hon. Members asked for more in this area rather tell the people from the Arid and Semi-Arid Land (ASAL) to hold back even the little we have allocated to this Item.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, hon. Members! Order, Dr. Kituyi! I have given you time and you have already spoken. So, could you sit down, Dr. Kituyi, please?

Order! Hon. Members, would you be seated?

(Several Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Mbela: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not rising on a point of order. I am merely saying that the Minister has heard the sentiments of the House. Since Independence, we have relied on 20 per cent of the land. It is about time, maybe we should give ourselves five years to turn the clock round when we should move flat out to make sure that 80 per cent of the rest of the country produces. It does not help trying to take away that money.

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, I have given this particular issue enough time.

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

(Resumption of Debate on Head 324)

Hon. Members, the Head is still open for debate. We just disposed of the issue of the reduction.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in view of the fact that retrenchment was carried out last year, and is going on this year, if you look at Item 000 on Personal Emoluments, you will see that the money voted for this particular Item last year has been even increased a bit. With regard to the fact that we are reducing the holding grounds, why is the Minister not reducing staff in this particular field?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I request that the Minister takes notes.

Mr. Too: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 324 - Holding Grounds Services, Items 250, 260 and 270 on Maintenance of Plant, Machinery and Equipment; Maintenance of Buildings and Stations and Maintenance of Water Supplies and Sewerage respectively, could the Minister explain to us what the money is for? Could he also explain to us if the holding grounds are still there?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister allow us to take advantage of his knowledge as a homegrown Gabra from a pastoral community and tell us whether he is justifying development of holding grounds for an abattoir that has not yet been developed or he develops an abattoir before he develops holding grounds?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, if I may start with the last question, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not justifying the development of a new holding ground now. We are dealing with existing holding grounds that we do not want to close down. We want to restart the process of meat production and, very soon, the holding grounds will hold livestock when we revive the KMC.

As regards the query by Mr. Too on Items 250, 260 and 270, the money is exactly for what they say. There are buildings and machineries there. Maybe some people have no idea about what these holding grounds are doing in northern Kenya. The ones in Marsabit and Jaldesa have enabled the people who live around Marsabit Mountain and other pastoralists from the eastern side of the district to survive through the last drought because of the facilities they have. They have drilled boreholes and animal vaccination facilities. We are going on with something which already exists.

As for personal emoluments, this is due to natural annual increment of salaries. I am surprised that hon. Members want us to retrench staff. I thought retrenchment has been very unpopular with Members. I wonder if he would say so if he was in Bungoma!

Hon. Members: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! I will give a chance to Mr. Kariuki, who has not commented on this issue.

Mr. Kariuki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman. In respect of the holding ground at Athi River, why is the Minister putting the cart before the horse? The Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) is under receivership for some money it owes banks. There is a receiver on site, who spends Kshs3 million every month. Before the receivership of the KMC is lifted, the Government will have to honour its commitment to the banks. So, the holding ground has no purpose at the moment.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kariuki, this is not debating time. Just ask your question!

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

Mr. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. So, the Minister cannot interrupt me.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, is the hon. Member on a point of order or is he debating?

Mr. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not know why the Minister is becoming jittery about the issue I am raising.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kariuki, you know, we have finished debate on this issue. We are now scrutinising the Vote, Item by Item. So, please, be precise and ask your question.

Mr. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, with due respect, I was going to put a question to the Minister when he interrupted me. He is becoming jittery for no apparent reason. I would rather he contains his temper.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Please, just ask your question, Mr. Kariuki!

Mr. Kariuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, why is the Minister putting the cart before the horse? Why is he giving the holding grounds priority before honouring his pledges to the banks? Has he provided for the bank debts totalling about Kshs1 billion?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, when I was replying to debate earlier on, I did say what we are doing. I explained how far we have gone with the preparation of the Sessional Paper, which I look forward to presenting to the House in the very near future. The Paper will deal with the question of what we will do with the bank overdraft, among other issues. We are not putting the cart before the horse. If anything, the holding grounds constitute the horse. You cannot have the KMC, to which you will supply livestock from arid and semi-arid areas, with the problem of disease control, unless you have holding grounds which you can use for carrying out veterinary checks and vetting which animals to go ahead of the others.

If we have to abandon the holding grounds, with their millions of shillings worth of equipment and buildings, it will be a terrible loss. It will cost us much more later to bring them back on line when we are ready with the KMC.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, I will now put the question.

Hon. Members: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! Hon. Members, you will have an opportunity to contribute to other Items since we are continuing.

(Head 324 agreed to)

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Here, we are approving a budget for the people of Kenya---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Angwenyi, please, be orderly.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I will be orderly. May I rise on a point of order?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): No more points of order on this issue.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Sorry; I am not taking a point of order from you now because you have already raised many of them. I will take more points of orders from you when I find them justified.

Mr. Sungu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, Mr. Sungu! Let us have Mr. Khamasi first.

Head 445 - Meat Inspectorate

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on Head 445, Item 000, page 353, we are increasing Personal Emoluments by over Kshs30 million for the Meat Inspectorate Department. I would like the Minister to tell us how many employees he is expecting to recruit this year to justify this big increase.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): All right. Let us have another point. Mr. Minister, please take note of Mr. Khamasi's point. Let us hear from Mr. Sungu.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to seek clarification from the Minister with regard to Head 445, and this is to do with Meat Inspectorate Service. We have had problems with the meat industry and especially with the sale of donkey meat to consumers. I want the Minister to clarify whether corruption exists in that department of his Ministry.

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain to the House what is done in the Unit of Hides and Skins Improvement? They spend about Kshs30 million for what?

Head 407 - Animal Production Farms

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you have noticed that they are intending to spend Kshs9 million under Head 407, page 352, but the Appropriations-in-Aid amounts only to Kshs310,000 instead of---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Which Head are you referring to, Mr. Angwenyi?

Mr. Angwenyi: Why are we spending so much only to get so little!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Minister, Mr. Angwenyi is asking you why you are spending so much when you are getting less.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not know what he means by "so much", because the figure reflected there is only Kshs9 million.

Mr. Angwenyi: Let me repeat it so that he can answer me properly. We are spending Kshs9 million but we are getting Kshs500,000 as Appropriations-in-Aid.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): But we have Appropriations-in-Aid! This is a service!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Could you answer the rest of the questions?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Meat Inspectorate is, of course, a very important service for our national health. The hon. Member asked me to indicate the level of corruption in that department because the residents of Nairobi ate donkey meat and so on, last time. I

think ass meat is not necessarily prohibited, although people ought to know what they are buying when they buy it. All I can say is that we will strengthen the service and ensure that the would-be culprits, who would compromise the professional standards required are dealt with accordingly. The Meat Inspection Department will be strengthened, supervision and surveillance will be increased and that will, definitely, by way of allowances and so on cater for the increased expenditure. I think that justifies the increased expenditure.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The Minister has not answered my question about spending Kshs9.5 million only to realise Kshs510,000. Why is it so?

Ms. Karua: On page 355, under Item 481, Head 184, could the Minister tell us what the contracted professional services are and why the same cannot be provided by the Ministry's employees?

Mr. Khamasi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

Ms. Karua: No, let him answer!

Mr. Khamasi: I did raise a query which has not been addressed and there seems to be some confusion with everybody running around. Could the Minister sit down and behave?

Ms. Karua: Let him answer. I will not ask that query again.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Minister, did you get Ms. Karua's question?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Yes, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The increase is not because of employment of new staff but because of rationalisation and liberalisation which is going on in the entire Government. As a result, some staff have been moved from being paid under some other Heads, and they are now being paid under this Head. The overall Ministerial Budget will not change, but certain staff have been redeployed for the purpose of being paid under this Head. That is why we have the increase. No new staff will be employed.

I would be glad if Ms. Karua would repeat her question.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could you give some guidance on this issue? Is the Minister supposed to be wandering about the House, thereby, making Members repeat their questions? For this conduct, could the Chair give guidance on the appropriate sanction against the Minister even after I repeat my question?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): There will be no sanctions, but I think the Minister has taken your point. Could you repeat your question?

Ms. Karua: I will do so, and I hope that the Minister will pay attention to avoid wasting time next time. On page 355, under Item 481, Head 184, could the Minister tell us what the contracted professional services that are referred to there are, and why the same cannot be provided by the Ministry staff?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this refers to the testing of samples where we have no capacity in certain remote areas. In such circumstances, we contract private consulting services. These are people who are prepared to go out there and who have the necessary equipment. Here, we are dealing with institutions such as KEPHIS and various international organisations like the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) which we sometimes have to ask to assist us in carrying out certain tests.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Appropriations-in-Aid is Kshs500,000 which is in fact, less than the total expenditure.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Minister, the question is on page 352, under Head 407. Mr. Angwenyi is asking why the total expenditure is Kshs9.069 million and the A-in-A is Kshs510,000?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): I do not understand what his problem is. Above that column, the gross expenditure is Kshs9,579,806. Out of that we expect, by way of Appropriations-In-Aid, Kshs510,000 which leaves Kshs9,060,000.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Angwenyi, I really do not get your question.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you cannot invest Kshs9.5 million in a year and expect to make no returns.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): No! Mr. Angwenyi, I think you are not right.

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Information (Dr. Wamukoya): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the hon. Members are misunderstanding the role of the Ministry or the Department on which they are asking questions. This Department is not in business. It is giving a service. The money that has been given is for use in serving wananchi. What we ask for is not equal to the amount of money that you give. The collection of Appropriations-in-Aid (AIA) is dependent on what you can expect to get from a service. It is a token amount of money that you can expect to get from a service that you have given.

*(Heads 407, 445, 446, 478, 481
and 549 agreed to)*

(Sub-vote 101 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 102 - PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

THAT, the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development be reduced by the sum of Kshs20 because under Head 537, Item 280---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Maitha! That is not the notice I have. What I have is different!

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I had two notices.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Then we are now on Head 534. So, that is where you should be now.

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Item you have referred to is on Mokowe and the one I am referring to is about ferries and roads. You are confusing the notices.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): No! Order, Mr. Maitha! I am not confusing the notices. It is you who is confusing them!

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not confusing them.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Maitha!

Mr. Kamolleh: He does not have a notice!

Mr. Maitha: What do you know, Mr. Kamolleh?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Maitha!

Head 537 - Fisheries, Research and Hatchery Stations

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

THAT, the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development be reduced by Kshs20, and that the said reduction be made on the provisions of Sub-Vote 102, Head 537, Item 280.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on the promotion of agriculture, I wonder what the Minister is saying about the ferries and roads. At the Coast Province, the Minister has not said that the Ministry will buy ferries or maintain roads. What is the promotion that the Minister is talking about? That is what I wanted to bring forward for the Minister to enlighten us.

(Question of the reduction proposed)

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member, coming from the Coast, must surely understand that you do not carry out fisheries and fish hatcheries, except on rivers and ponds of water. Within those stations, we have small roads, pathways and small ferries to cross the river or to move from one hatchery or marine berth to another.

Mr. Kajwang: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you can see on Item 670 under that Head, there are some Miscellaneous Receipts amounting to Kshs500,000. I have noticed that those Miscellaneous Receipts include some licences for fisheries. Now, what I would like the Minister to respond to is why our poor fishermen are bothered by fishing licences on their nets, when---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): You know, Mr. Kajwang, I do appreciate what you are saying. But you know, we have a Motion that was moved by Mr. Maitha, and I would like to put the Question to dispose of it.

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

(Head 537 agreed to)

Mr. Kajwang: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I just want a response from the Minister as to why it is necessary for the Ministry to continue to levy licences on nets and boats of fishermen, so as to earn some

miscellaneous receipts, when we should be encouraging fishermen to continue fishing. That is the only industry in agriculture where the participants are licensed. People do gardening and farming but they are never taxed for their hoes. Why should the fishermen be taxed for their nets and boats? That has continued ever since--- I really do not know the justification for it. The revenue is not so much. It is only Kshs16 million as indicated in Head 534. So, why is that necessary?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as the founding Father of this nation said in the 60s, "cha bure chawa!" People are being charged very token sums for us to be able to realise only Kshs500,000. Surely, much as we would want to encourage our farmers and fishermen, we do not want to tell them that there are free things. Every service has to be paid for, only that the sums are token. So, I hope the hon. Member will not encourage them to expect free things.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The issue raised by hon. Kajwang is: Why tax these fishermen for their nets when we do not tax---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Angwenyi, with all due respect, that is not a point of order.

(Head 537 agreed to)

POINT OF ORDER

EXTENSION OF TIME

The Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Mudavadi): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I just wish to draw the House to Standing Order No.142, because this is the second allotted day and it would appear that we have not yet finished the Vote on the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. So, I would like to move that the House extends its sitting so that we can complete this Vote in accordance with the Standing Orders.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, as you are aware, not more than two allotted days shall be spent on any one Vote and, therefore, it means that we have to finish this Vote today being the second allotted day. So, under Standing Order 17(2), the Chair has a discretion and, therefore, I concur with the proposal by the Deputy Leader of Government Business and we will proceed and dispose of this Vote.

(Time extended)

Head 539 - Fisheries Regional Centres

Mr. Nguere: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on Head 539, we have got Items 280 and 282. Could the Minister enlighten me on where, particularly, around Lake Victoria landing beaches, we have roads maintained, ferries and jetties; and where particularly we have these boating yards?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I will get one more question from hon. Sungu.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I only want one clarification from the Minister. We have a lot of trawling in Lake Victoria and I wonder what these fisheries regional centres are for if they do not enforce the trawling laws that we have in this country. The fisheries officers in these areas do not take particular concern of what they are supposed to do because they happen to come from elsewhere, out of the country, and they have no interest in the matter and I want a clarification from the Minister.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Minister, you can now respond to those questions. Ms. Karua, do you want to ask something about fish?

Ms. Karua: No!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): So, Minister could you respond now.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): She does not come from the fish country.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like him to respond together with that. The miscellaneous receipts he has indicated, is it also from fishing or which A-in-A is this?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Obwocha, which item is that?

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are still on Head 539, Item 670, page 365. You are answering both of the questions. Is that not so?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Yes. As regards Item 280, somebody asked where exactly

around Lake Victoria and they are in Homa Bay and Mbita.

Mr. Kajwang: Which road is that?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): I do not know which road but these facilities exist.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Let the Minister finish!

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): That is Homa Bay and Mbita Roads and Port Victoria Roads. The miscellaneous receipts are for licensing and testing of samples, among other uses.

Mr. Kajwang: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Is the Minister not misleading the House by saying that the Homa Bay-Mbita Road, which is maintained by the Ministry of Roads and Public Works is actually maintained by the Department of Fisheries? Will the Kshs700,000 be used to maintain that road? Which jetty and ferry is in Mbita?

Mr. Sungu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Sungu, you cannot raise a point of order on top of another one. Let the Minister respond to that first.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member says that they are already well provided for, he should be very thankful that he has this other Head. He should perhaps utilise what he has from the other Head to improve the roads in his area. He should thank us for the generosity!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): What about the question which has been asked by Mr. Ngure on Item 282 - Maintenance of Boat Yards?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is boat yards in Homa Bay and Mbita.

Mr. Ngure: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. Is the Minister in order to say that we have ferries and jetties around Lake Victoria when he knows very well that there are no such items?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, roads---

Mr. Ngure: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not talking about roads! Which ferries and jetties in Lake Victoria is he maintaining?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Ngure is insisting that there are no jetties. Mr. Minister, could you say something on this?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am really surprised. How do they land their fish? We are developing the landing beaches, and they must have ferries and jetties. In fact, this is what the Europeans will come to inspect again. Is he saying that there are no landing beaches which we have developed? How have they been getting fish out of the place? Surely, the hon. Member should be serious.

Mr. Maitha: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The Minister is misleading this House by talking about ferries and jetties when he knows that the same maintenance is carried out by another Ministry. That is why every hon. Member is worried about this Item.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is a very important issue because Dunga Road, which serves Dunga Landing Beach, has never been repaired. In fact, we had to go and request the Lake Victoria Environmental Programme to help us although the Fisheries Department is there. It is allocated money for this purpose, and yet nothing is being done.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that is why we have provided him with money. This time round he should also follow it, and we will assist him to ensure that he gets part of it. The hon. Member should be thankful.

(Head 539 agreed to)

Head 548 - Deep Sea Fishing

Dr. Kituyi: Bw. Naibu Mwenyekiti wa Muda, nilikuwa nimetoa ilani ya nia yangu kuuliza---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Dr. Kituyi! I have your notice here in English. As much as I would like you to contribute in Kiswahili---

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, although I had given notice under the relevant Standing Order--- Because I was satisfied by the statement made by the Minister on the reason why he is asking for this amount of money on Deep Sea Fishing, I wish to withdraw my notice and all subsequent notices.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Very well. The notice is now withdrawn.

(Head 548 agreed to)

Head 996 - Bura Irrigation Scheme

Mr. Angwenyi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Both the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Agriculture have said that this country wants to embark on reviving the agricultural sector. I thought that, in order to revive this sector, we should allocate more funds for irrigation, especially to Bura Irrigation Scheme. Why is the Ministry only allocating a paltry Kshs31 million to Bura Irrigation Scheme, which is very important?

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am seeking clarification from the Minister. I can see there are grants to the National Irrigation Board (NIB) and Bura Irrigation Scheme, but there is no mention whatsoever of Ahero Irrigation Scheme, West Kano Irrigation Scheme and also the scheme in Busia. Could he clarify why he has not included this in the Budget?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have not quite got the first question. Will the hon. Member repeat it, please?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): He asked why Bura Irrigation Scheme has been allocated very little money while it is an important irrigation scheme. Am I getting you right, Mr. Angwenyi?

Mr. Angwenyi: Yes!

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Well, the amount of money a particular Head gets is a function of the total kitty that we have. We would have wished to get much more but this is what we got after we had made our Forward Budget proposals. Bura Irrigation Scheme is working. Ahero Irrigation Scheme stopped working and we are trying to work on ways of dealing with the past debts. It is not functioning right now. That is the reason why it is not provided for.

Mr. Ngure: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): If I may add, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Ahero is under the NIB and not directly under the Ministry.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Are you satisfied, Mr. Ngure?

Mr. Ngure: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not satisfied. Is it in order for the Minister to tell this House that when a project has stalled, it cannot be revived and no money can be allocated to it? How is he going to do it?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): I stand corrected. Ahero Irrigation Scheme is under the National Irrigation Board. So, it is catered for under that Head.

(Heads 305, 306, 425, 462, 463, 465, 466, 532, 537, 539, 548, 996 and 996 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 102 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 103 - FACILITATION AND SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES AND EXTENSION RESEARCH

(Heads 202, 224, 232, 235, 236, 238, 255, 260, 265, 280, 286, 291, 408, 477, 513, 543, 634, 635, 638, 639, 660, 661 and 669 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 103 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 104 - INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SECTOR

(Heads 198, 257, 258, 259, 261, 467, 468, 471, 472, 473, 474, 636, 637, 642, 645, 759, 502 and 503 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 - MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF FOOD SECURITY

*(Head 503 agreed to)**(Sub-vote 105 agreed to)*

SUB-VOTE 106 - CROP AND LIVESTOCK DISEASES AND PEST CONTROL

Head 290 - Artificial Insemination Services

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I hope that the expenditure we are approving with particular reference to Head 290, Artificial Insemination Services, will eventually extend to Kisumu District. Artificial insemination services are non-existent in that district although money is allocated for the services.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the point is noted. We will strive to extend the services to that district.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Minister says that Mr. Sungu's point is noted. Where are artificial insemination services offered in the country? I come from an area where we used to have artificial insemination services for our dairy cattle.

However, those services were discontinued about five years ago. In which part of country does the Government provide artificial insemination services?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, definitely, even in Mr. Angwenyi's area, artificial insemination services are still being provided.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Could the Minister be specific and tell us exactly where those services are being provided?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Angwenyi, I am not sure whether what the Minister said is true, but he said that the services are even being offered in your constituency.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, those services are no longer being provided in my constituency. If that is the case, I will challenge this Head. Artificial insemination services are not being provided in my constituency or district. I do not think the services are being provided anywhere in my province.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member should realise that we have just started the new financial year. We have realised that privatisation of artificial insemination services has created certain lacunae, and we have decided to provide for this supplementary service, and his constituency is part of the area going to benefit.

Mr. Angwenyi: That is not true, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! The Minister says that provision of that supplementary service is starting this financial year. Is that not what you said Mr. Minister?

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. If you look at the Printed Estimates, you will realise that we spent Kshs42 million under this Head last year. So, provision of artificial insemination services by the Ministry is not starting this year. We voted money for it last year. Could he explain how he spent that money?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Minister, the hon. Member is not satisfied with your explanation.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, artificial insemination services were privatised. As I said, because of the outcry from the country, that some farmers were not getting these services, the Ministry felt that we should chip in. So, we are coming back to provide those services again. Indeed, his area is a beneficiary. In Nyanza Province, we have artificial insemination stations covering the areas surrounding Maseno, Rongo, Migori, Kisii, Nyamira, Oyugis and Kisumu.

(Heads 290, 230, 233, 420, 431, 432, 437, 447, 448, 490, 551, 552 and 553 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 106 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 107 - PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCE BASE FOR AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

Mr. Angwenyi: This is a Tick Control Programme and I do not know in any part of Kenya where tick is being controlled. We used to have a preservative facility in Nyanza and Rift Valley, but that was discontinued when they said that all these services must be provided by private practitioners.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this expenditure should be transferred to Bura, Ahero, Busia and Mwea Irrigation Schemes because we do not have this service.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Which item are you referring to?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is Head 426, page 398, Tick Control Programme. We do not have such service and I would like the Minister to tell me where it is found.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Angwenyi, we finished those Heads a long time ago.

Mr. Angwenyi: I have just got it now!

Mr. Sungu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I would have liked to raise an issue on Foot, Mouth and things like Mad Cow diseases, but I do not know whether I am in order to do it. I would like the Chair to guide me on that.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): What Item?

Mr. Sungu: Head 551, on page 420.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, Mr. Sungu, we are on Sub-Vote 107. So, we passed that a long time ago. I request hon. Members to be alert so that we do not repeat.

*(Heads 228, 246, 247, 250, 254,
449, 451, 452 and 461 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 107 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 108 - REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*Head 445 - Kerio Valley Development Authority**Head - 944 Arid and Semi-Arid Lands*

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, once again I have a very small comment to make. Under Head 944, on page 410, ASAL, that is Arid and Semi-Arid Lands--- Most parts of Nyanza Province should actually be classified as semi-arid. I would like to make sure that he increases funds for these areas in his Budget.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): The point well noted.

Mr. Too: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on the same Head 944, Item 197, ASAL programme, for instance, in Laikipia, the fertilizers meant for the region were being sold. I do not know whether the Minister is aware of that.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Which Item are you talking about, Mr. Too?

Mr. Too: Item 194!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Under what Head?

Mr. Too: Under that Head where you see the names, "ASAL Lands."

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): On which page?

Mr. Too: On page 944, Item 197.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): On Research Expenses, ASAL, Laikipia? So, what is the question?

Mr. Too: The question is that there were some fertilizers which were meant for that area and some of them were donated through the donor community. People in Laikipia are trading on these. I do not know whether the Ministry is aware of this. Could the Minister explain this? Even last year, people were selling through Laikipia; they have formed their own company. I do not know whether the Ministry is aware of this.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): I am not aware of this, but the point is well noted. I will definitely pursue the issue to find out the exact facts and take the necessary action.

*(Heads 455, 573, 707, 944, 945,
989, 992, 993 and 994 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 108 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 109 - DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRAR OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Head 705 - Planning and Feasibility Studies

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the coffee industry in Kenya is dead simply because our department of co-operatives is dead. I do not know why we should give them any money because these are the people who collude with the management of societies to loot and destroy our coffee industry. Why should we spend Kshs4 billion on feasibility studies?

I would also like to ask about audit services. These people do not know anything about auditing. They do not even know that all the co-operative societies in the constituencies are dead. What do we need feasibility studies for? Also, under Head 711, Co-operative Education and Training Programme, funds have not been allocated for the programme this year. Does this mean that we do not want to train our people? This is a department that the Minister should look into seriously and revive it.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Whereas the Items have not been provided for, funds have been provided overall for that Head. As regards the comments he made on the co-operative sector, the co-operative movement is very much alive. It is true that there have been serious problems and I did make it clear, both in my original contribution when I moved the Motion as well as in my reply, that these are problems which we are beginning to deal with. We are already envisaging bringing before the House an amendment to the Co-operative Societies Act with a view to eliminating those problems which have made co-operative societies less effective than they ought to be. We need to strengthen co-operative societies and not to do away with them.

*(Heads 705, 711, 587, 589, 705, 706, 708,
709, 710 and 711 agreed to)*

(Sub-vote 109 agreed to)

(Vote R10 agreed to)

VOTE D10 - DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 190, 192 and 193 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 100 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 101 - REGULATORY MANAGEMENT OF INPUTS AND OUTPUTS IN AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

(Heads 407, 481 and 490 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 101 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 102 - PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Head 238 - Headquarters Horticultural Crop Production Services

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the western Kenya region is again ignored because most of the horticultural production areas are in this side of the country. I would like the Minister to explain what measures he will take to ensure that horticultural production is encouraged in western Kenya.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Ministry, as I said in my contribution, is determined to expand the horticultural production to reach the lake basin region.

Mr. Muihia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 237, Item 305, there is a figure of grants to Coffee Research Foundation Tissue Culture - Kshs70 million, while I know that the Tissue Culture Laboratory as approved by the European Union should have a figure of Kshs135 million.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain why it is Kshs70 million and not Kshs135 million?

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I suppose that, if the hon. Member had gone through the whole of that Head to the bottom, he would have seen a provision for direct payment from the European Development Fund/European Economic Community (EDF/EEC). I wonder whether he will still raise his question. The Kshs70 million is the amount of money they are prepared to release this year.

Mr. Too: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 238, Item 520 - Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC)--- The amount on this Item has been reduced from Kshs210 million to Kshs600,000. Why? This is the area which supports the farmer.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the reason for this reduction is because the project under the AFC stalled, partly as a result of the problems the AFC is facing, which hon. Too is very familiar with.

(Heads 237, 238, 463, 465, 532, 533, 534, 537, 932, 995 and 996 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 102 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 103 - FACILITATION AND SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES AND EXTENSION RESEARCH

(Heads 241, 260, 271, 408 and 424,

Sub-vote 103 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 104 - INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SECTOR

Head 759 - Kenya Agricultural Research Institute

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, with respect to Head 759, Item 306 on Drip Irrigation, I can see that there is an increase of about Kshs600,000. I wonder what that money is for, because I do not know of any existing drip irrigation system in Kenya!

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am surprised the hon. Member does not know of any drip irrigation system existing in Kenya! I said earlier during my reply this afternoon that, among the innovations that research institutions have carried out, is the invention of a simple drip irrigation system by Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI).

The KARI is now carrying out drip irrigation schemes in Kibwezi and other places. They are in the process of adding their demonstration fields.

(Heads 259, 261, 467, 468, 471, 472, 473, 642, 645, 759, 760, 761, 763, 764 and 765 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 - MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF FOOD SECURITY

(Heads 491 and 508 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 105 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 106 - CROP AND LIVESTOCK DISEASES AND PEST CONTROL

(Heads 447 and 448 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 106 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 107 - PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCE BASE FOR AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

(Heads 246, 250, 451 and 455 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 107 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 108 - REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*(Heads 455, 707, 944, 945, 989, 992,
993 and 994 agreed to)*

(Sub-vote 108 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 109 - DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRAR OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(Heads 708, 709 and 711 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 109 agreed to)

(Vote D10 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without amendment)

(The House Resumed)

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

REPORTVote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture
and Rural Development

Mr. Musila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am directed to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding Kshs3,399,310,155 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2002 in respect of Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and has approved the same without amendment.

The Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Godana): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution.

The Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Mudavadi) seconded.

(Question proposed)

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that we are just about to approve this entire Ministry's budget, we need to look for a mechanism, a modality or ways and means of how we can effectively supervise their spending of Kshs3.3 billion. This is really my earnest request.

Secondly, I hope the Permanent Secretary as well as the Minister, within that budget, will find some

funding for the revitalisation of the coconut industry.

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

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that we have approved Kshs6 billion for this Ministry, I hope they will take this Ministry seriously and look into the problems that affect the agricultural sector much more carefully and diligently. We want our people to begin serious production of food so that we will not run short of food or import it when our land is capable of producing enough food for this country.

Irrigation in western Kenya is of immense importance. I hope the Ministry officials are listening very carefully. If we want to help our people we must focus on irrigation because we do not get enough rain in Western Kenya.

Mr. Muhiha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in supporting the Vote for the Ministry, I wish to request the Ministry to take stock of its activities. It is high time they reported back to this House that the money we have given to them has been spent for the purpose it was intended.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one major problem we have with coffee revitalisation is that this Ministry has come up with a good proposal for spending the money from the European Union. I hope, with the passing of the Vote, they will start spending that money on the coffee revitalisation.

Mr. Too: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank hon. Members for supporting the Minister and his team on this Vote. I support the Ministry on their move on Artificial Insemination (AI) services. I hope they will implement it to the letter.

At the moment, we are importing a lot of genetics from America and Europe. This is costing us a fortune because a single dosage costs about Kshs4,500.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope the Minister and his officers will come up with ways and means of reducing the cost of AI services to our farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue I would like to talk about is strategic food reserves in this country. I would urge the Government to buy enough food from farmers, so that we do not have problems with our food reserves. I do not know how much money the Ministry has allocated to the NCPB for the purchase of food during this financial year.

I beg to support.

(Question put and agreed)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Imanyara): Hon. Members, that concludes the business on the Order Paper. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Thursday 12th, July 2001, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 7.45 p.m.