

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 15th April, 1998

The House met at 9.00 a.m

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

NOTICE OF MOTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF MOMBASA OLD
TOWN CONSERVATIONAL AUTHORITY

Mr. Maitha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, in view of the historical and cultural significance of the Mombasa Old Town, considering the fact that the area is a centre of tourist attraction in the Mombasa Island and bearing in mind that property developers may soon invade that area; this House calls upon the Government to immediately establish the Mombasa Old Town Conservational Authority, as a parastatal body and a specific Act of Parliament so as to make the Authority independent from the National Museums of Kenya.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

EXEMPTION OF BUSINESS FROM PROVISIONS
OF STANDING ORDER NO.33

The Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Ngala): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Procedural Motion.

THAT, this House orders that the business appearing on today's Order Paper be exempted from the provisions of Standing Order No.33, being a Wednesday Morning, a day allocated for Private Member's Motions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have stood up to move this Procedural Motion because being a Wednesday, as we know, it is a day for Private Members' Motions. But the Motions which were given by hon. Members have not matured and, therefore, when we met yesterday as the House Business Committee, we did agree that to facilitate the continuation of the debate on the Presidential Speech, we should propose this procedural Motion to get the leave of the House to continue with the debate of the Presidential Speech. So, since this is a very straightforward Motion I believe hon. Members will accept it and concur and we continue with the debate on the Motion of Presidential Address.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister for East African and Regional Co-operation (Mr. Biwott): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to second this Motion which seeks to exempt the business on the Order Paper from the provisions of Standing Order No.33. Usually, on Wednesday morning, the House debates Private Members' Motions. But, as we have heard from the Leader of Government Business in the House, there are no such Motions this morning because Ministries require time and also Motions require maturity in order to receive adequate attention for the good of those who are moving the Motions and also the nation at large. I hope that the House will understand and support this Motion, so that we can move on to the Motion we have been debating which is the Presidential Address.

With these few remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Leader of Government Business in the House is bringing this Motion before the House on what I consider to be erroneous interpretation of the Standing Orders. I do not want

to revive the debate that was here last week, but I do request that when the occasion arises for you to clarify the position of that debate, which we hope will be done soon--

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of interpretation of what amounts to interruption of the Presidential Speech and the Budget Speech, should be part of that interpretation. I say so because there appears to be a misunderstanding of the Standing Orders. I do feel that the interruption that is outlawed in the Standing Orders is when the President is on his feet, addressing this House. That is when the Standing Orders do require that there should be no interruption. It is when the Minister for Finance is on his feet and that is why in the terms of that order, we interrupted the Speech during the last Budget of the Seventh Parliament. It cannot be that it is intended to interrupt a written speech which is what we are now debating. Therefore, the precedent that must be given to the Presidential Speech and Budget Speech, is by agreement of this House because the Standing Orders refer to an entirely different situation. So, the point I am trying to make is this. Could the considered opinion of the Speaker be delivered on this issue, whether the interruption relates to the President and the Minister for Finance, when they are on their feet, or whether it refers to the Speech as written and as debated in this House?

Thank you.

The Member for Kisauni (Mr. Maitha): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Being among the new Members of Parliament, who are about 120, I am in bewilderment from what I have observed in this House recently. I have seen a trend where the old Members of Parliament, who seem to be masters of the Standing Orders, confusing the new Members of Parliament on procedures of the Standing Orders. Last week, we saw a duel here in this House on Standing Orders as the new members contributed. We did not seek any clarification or guidance from the Chair on the contentious matter. So, we fail to understand how we would follow and adopt the Standing Orders if the old members are trying to bend the rules of the House. I am also left wondering when I see some old Members of Parliament taking matters before this House, outside for debate. I read in the press recently where the Minister for Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social Services, hon. Nassir who is a Minister, commented on all that had transpired in the House last week when there was a move to adjourn debate on the Presidential Address, to condition President Moi appoint a Vice-President. How do you expect us who are new members, to strictly adopt the Standing Orders if the old members do not want to set a good example for us as a matter of guidance? We need guidance from the Chair on this matter.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Minister for Health (Mr. Kalweo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a Wednesday morning, a day slated for Private Members' Motion. But we cannot have those motions this morning as they are not ready. This Procedural Motion, which hon. Michuki is criticising, is meant to seek leave, so that the House can continue discussing the Presidential Address. There is nothing new in that move, as it happens that way.

The Member for Ntonyiri (Mr. Maore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since the House passed the same Procedural Motion last week, can you put the Question so that we can resume the debate?

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

The Member for Bobasi (Mr. Obure): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to proceed with my contribution in support of the Presidential Address to this House. The President's speech was wide-ranging and very comprehensive. It focused on the major issues afflicting our country today. The main problems like poverty, unemployment and health care are increasing. We are all aware of these factors that have contributed to these situations. They are like rapid population increase, rapid expansion of our education and the inability of our economy to grow fast enough to cope with these problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said last evening, these problems pose a major challenge to us all. They pose a challenge to the entire Kenyan leadership. They pose a challenge to every Kenyan, irrespective of party affiliation or his status in life. I believe that it is our responsibility for all of us as Kenyans to come up and join hands in seeking solutions to these problems because we have a common destiny and responsibility as leaders, to ensure that our children have a sound and peaceful country to inherit from us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the critical question is: What solutions do we propose in order to deal with these problems? What strategies do we require to put in place, to revive our economy and fight poverty and unemployment? In my opinion, the first and most important strategy is to maintain peace and stability in the

country. I believe this is fundamental and a prerequisite to any development. No amount of planning or dialogue can take place in the midst of chaos. We, therefore, have the responsibility to promote peace and stability. We must ensure that there is harmony and co-existence of Kenyans wherever they live. We must be prepared to protect the rights of Kenyans to live and work anywhere in any part of this republic.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my opinion, the second strategy will be to embark on a programme to develop the rural areas of this country. As we are all aware, approximately 80 percent of our population live in the rural areas. If we are serious about waging war against poverty and unemployment, we must be prepared to allocate more resources for the development of the rural areas, where the majority of the population live. We must be prepared to invest in improving conditions of these rural Kenyans.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the past years, we have witnessed a rapid movement of people from the rural areas to urban centres. These people come to the urban centres to look for opportunities that they cannot find in the rural areas. These opportunities include employment, recreational facilities and security. They come to look for ways to improve their lives. As a result, these people exert considerable strain on the available amenities in those towns. Many of these amenities are beginning to collapse because of the large numbers of people relying on them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I believe that in order to curb this rural-urban migration, we must improve the existing infrastructure in those areas, so that those who are engaged in the production of food crops can find the market for their produce. We should also provide health and recreational facilities in those areas, so that our youth living in the rural areas can have easy access to those facilities there instead of looking for them in the urban centres. The scenario is very similar because these youths come to major towns looking for jobs which they never get. They have become a burden to their hosts in towns and eventually become demoralized and frustrated. They feel they have become social misfits and they result to crying.

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to also make a few remarks. My starting point is the composition of this House. After the last elections, Kenyans have decided that this is the type of leadership they want. Kenyans have made some fundamental decisions which have reshaped the structure of this Parliament. Two principle changes have been made in the last elections. The first one, a substantial inter-generational transfer of elective leadership, particularly in KANU zones has had the impact of substantially expanding the intellectual base of KANU in Parliament. That side of Parliament has a capacity, at least, to listen to reason more than they did in the Seventh Parliament, if they choose to do so. Similarly, significant areas of Central Kenya have started going through the *Ituika*, an inter-generational transfer of leadership and a substantial improvement in the intellectual base of the elected leaders as we see in the House today compared to the Seventh Parliament. These matters are important because one of the critical challenges of the Eighth Parliament is to hold the turf for the role of the Legislature in the constitutional review process and in the nature of balance of power after the next constitutional changes. The second most important thing about the structure of this Parliament is that the voters have given us a hang Parliament. There is no side of this House which can boast the majority. This places a very interesting responsibility and privilege to us. The presence of a hang Parliament is an opportunity for parliamentarians to make the Legislature the most important focus of decision-making in the country. We have the opportunity to nurture power, as a Parliament. The Government has a responsibility to listen to this Parliament.

The Chair might have noticed something very interesting last week. There was a graduation at a university and within one hour of the ending of the formal speech by the President, the Minister for Education and Human Resource Development was in Parliament. That is a very rare thing indeed. Traditionally, the President would visit some place in the countryside and many Ministers would go gallivanting in those areas with him. Today, the structure of this Parliament forces them to be here and that gives us an opportunity to develop a collegial responsibility on how to use this situation to strengthen this Parliament.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a loose talk about co-operation. Some people pervert the concept of co-operation to mean individuals galavanting with some KANU operatives in dark corners and receiving little hand-outs. They call that co-operation. Some think that when the President mentions their names at the airport, they are co-operating and they feel good. Others think that when they appear to convert a national political party into a tribal labour office, for the recruitment of individuals from their ethnic group into Government office, that is co-operation. This is a perversion of language. In my view, the moment a political party declares that it has accepted the verdict in the elections and that it will acknowledge the authority of the party that won the elections, it is co-operating. I think we have a collective challenge to save the concept of co-operation from becoming dirty, ugly and opportunistic.

This is how we could proceed. One way is to say: The imminent collapse of the Kenyan economy requires a collective commitment and self application from all political leaders. One of the responsibilities of the

Government is to facilitate the coming together of mind and to create the avenues through which informal consultations could lead to a common front. Let Kenyan leaders talk to the world as Kenyan leaders, not as KANU leaders or Opposition leaders, on matters of immense national concern. One of the states leading to that is that the Government party has to facilitate such dialogue not by selectively using individuals in the Opposition to settle scores in competition for proximity to the seat of power, but by sitting together and identifying which persons are best suited in representing us at a fora of discussing how we could project a common sense of urgency on economic reforms and economic salvaging of an otherwise imminently collapsing economy.

Secondly, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government in so doing must accept to listen to the genuine concerns of the Opposition about what it is, in the way they run public affairs, that makes it so difficult for us to talk with them. Some of us want to be as much as possible, of assistance in the face of a national crisis, but we are morally burdened by the anxiety about the conduct of some of Government officers, about the failure of the Government to do something that should have been automatically done. If we are talking about putting heads together and then a senior Minister of the Government gives an ultimatum to an ethnic group, that within a short time if they do not bring a few cattle they will be raided, what exactly are we doing? After his ultimatum, a community is raided, several people are killed and herds of cattle driven away. In such a situation of the law of the jungle, we find it very difficult to say, however much we care for our country, that we want to put our heads close to Francis Polisi Lotodo and say, "We, the Kenyan leaders."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has a responsibility to led by example. That persons who are given the privilege of holding high offices in the Government, project Kenyan public image in its best form. But if the worst comes to the top, if the worst in cultural and social behaviour occupy office, they demean the positions of high office.

The Government has to demonstrate its commitment to fighting corruption not in this haphazard one-on-one-off method. Not because the President says that people are dumping petroleum products without paying duty and then we start running round looking for some people who have cheated that they are exporting petroleum. We have known that these things have been there all the time. The Government has known that some oil companies, using the Eldoret Depot, are getting tax-free petroleum without executing a bond. The ones who are being arrested execute a bond, but they bribe custom officers at the border and cheat that the fuel has gone out. But those who get it out without executing a bond do not have to prove anything. They drive from the depot and load duty-free fuel into petroleum pump stations. The Government knows this. Let the Government show by example that they can deal with these things before asking us to co-operative with them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are two things that I want to finish off with. The first one is that liberal democracy is under threat in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you have an ear for history and look at what happened like in the collapse of the Weimer Republic in Germany, one of the fundamental threats to liberal democracy is when the different components of what we call the people are not acting as if they are compatible. If components of the electorate have severed some relationship and if a Kikuyu feels that a Kalenjin in power threatens the livelihood and life of a Kikuyu or a Kalenjin in reverse feels that if a Kikuyu is in power, his livelihood and even my life is threatened, you are not creating the conditions for the survival and nurturing of liberal democracy. But that is what we are doing. We are creating conditions under which competitors are appearing as if they are enemies. The political intelligentsia is becoming too expensive for the business community to maintain, when it is so bound in its own fatal fights at a time when the economy is on the brink of collapse.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to finish off with the few words about the primary production sector. I very much appreciate and salute the leaders of the Opposition for the very fervent way that they presented the crisis in the sugar industry. The Kenyan taxpayers have been using their resources through Government grants to bail out Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC). They are on the brink of doing it for the third time and two times in the course of this week. Kenyan taxpayers have donated at concessional prices, all Government equity in 47 Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) tea factories to tea farmers. That is the way it should be. The Kenyan taxpayers are supposed to assist Kenyan primary producers, but look at the sugarcane farmer. The sugarcane farmers in this country, if you count the amount of money that they have paid as cess since the factories started working, they have donated more than the total value of Government equity in the sugar factory. How can we now say when Kenyan taxpayers can help tea farmers and dairy farmers that they cannot donate the normal Government equity in sugar factories to sugarcane farmers? Why should we now start discussing about private placement, listings and Nairobi Stock Exchange? It is only right and it is the collective duty of leaders to see that the best assistance that we can give to sugarcane farmers is the transfer of the total Government equity in the sugar factories to sugarcane farmers in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, those of us who come from sugarcane growing areas are not going to allow any

alternative to this. This is a position which must work because it is right.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Attorney-General (Mr. Wako): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to contribute to this Motion. I want first of all, to congratulate you on your election as the Deputy Speaker. I know by virtue of your history since the Alliance High School days through football, civil service, politics and business that you have the temperament and ability to hold that high office.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to welcome all the new Members to Parliament and welcome back again those old Members who managed to survive it which shows that they performed well. At least, wananchi knew that they had performed well in the last elections.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just want to make two points. The first point is the point that the President made in his Speech on the approach to national issues. We are aware that we have fundamental issues to think about. We have intractable difficulties and big challenges. We, in fact, are in a war situation : a war against poverty; ignorance; disease; hunger; unemployment and corruption. At this time when the nation is facing its biggest challenges in the economic and constitutional fields, then the national approach to these issues become very important. That is why I would agree with the previous speaker who has just made the point about the calibre of the Members of Parliament that have come into this House this time round. The level and the calibre of Members of Parliament that we have today gives me hope that, we are going to succeed if we can work collectively together.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for democracy to survive, we must not only have a responsible Government, but we must also have a responsible and mature Opposition. If we cannot have this on both sides of the House, then democracy cannot survive. I get the feeling and I hope that I will not be proved wrong that this time round, we have a responsible and mature Government. We also have a responsible and mature Opposition and that we shall take some of the lessons of the past, learn from that experience and be able to move forward during the current Session. What are some of those lessons in the past? I believe that in the Seventh Parliament, one of the major lessons that it learnt towards the very end of that session was the fact that even in a multi-party democratic state, it is possible for leaders across the political divide to sit down and discuss critical issues and reach a consensus. That is one big lesson that was learnt during the Seventh Parliament. We learnt that when we did sit down together, we discovered that there is actually more that unites us than divides us. There is, in fact an agreement on many issues and disagreements on very few issues. That lesson, which I believe takes into account our own African traditions, culture, egos and so on, is very important because it is only when you put into practice that approach that democracy will thrive and develop.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, currently as we are today, of course, democracy is fragile. Our economy as the previous speaker has said, may very well be on the brink of collapse unless drastic measures are taken to cure it. That is why one can say that there is a time for everything. Sometimes, we know that it is a democratic right to demonstrate. We also know that it is a democratic right to strike and so on. But demonstrations in themselves to bring attention, say to the problem of unemployment, is not a solution to unemployment particularly since all leaders have agreed that we have a problem of unemployment. Demonstrations to call for an overhaul of our Constitution is not a solution to bringing that about, since again and the President says so in his speech, all of us have agreed that we must have constitutional reforms.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in fact, demonstrations which degenerate into anarchy and strikes which are called without following the correct procedures under the law, can in themselves be inimical to the economic development of this country. They can in themselves, scare away the investors and, therefore, contribute to the very problem that the demonstrators are talking about, that is the problems of unemployment, poverty and so on. My plea is that whereas there is a time for demonstrations and wild-cat strikes, there is a time for that, but this is not the time for that, since we have all agreed that we can sit together across the political divide and discuss our problems as this was very well recognised in the Presidential Speech when His Excellency the President specifically stated:-

"Irrespective of our party affiliations, we must join hands in order to address these difficult economic challenges".

The President went on to say:-

"We as Members of Parliament must talk with one another across the political divide in order to find solutions to the common good of our people. We must by virtue of being Members of this House regard ourselves as elders of the communities. We must behave and take the issues facing this nation with the seriousness that they deserve".

Therefore, the type of constructive dialogue that the President called for between the ruling party and the Opposition, dialogue between the Government and the private sector, is the way forward.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will also take this opportunity to touch on what the President said about the Constitutional review process. I would like to inform this House that on 25th of March, I did write a letter to all the Chairmen and copied to all the secretary generals of Parliamentary political parties, asking them to come for informal discussion in my Chambers. I am extremely pleased that all the Parliamentary political parties did respond and that all of them came and were represented at very high levels within their political parties. And we did hold a meeting on 2nd of April and that meeting was attended by 22 Members of Parliament. We arrived at a collective decision, first of all, constituting ourselves into committees but saying we must move as quickly as we can to, meet again to decide on a date and venue for wide and extensive consultations with all interested parties concerned with the Constitutional review process.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the focus and the discussion now is not so much on the Constitutional reforms itself. In other words, what should go into the Constitution. I see so many people debating about majimbo, inter-state methods of Government. The focus now is the constitutional process, itself, to ensure that each and every Kenyan is given the opportunity to air their views in that process and to facilitate that, this committee decided that they should invite all persons, groups of persons and organisations who are interested in the constitutional review process to a meeting at Bomas of Kenya on 11th May 1998. Those people should indicate to me in writing, of their interest to participate they should also enclose a memorandum on their views on the constitutional process itself. The Committee is again meeting on 5th of May to discuss the details of that big meeting. I, therefore, take this opportunity to invite all of them to indicate their interest.

I beg to move and support.

Nominated Member: Mr. Munyao: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for having sighted me from a distance. As a procedure, although this is my third time to be in this august House, my three names are Joseph Konsolo Munyao. I am the Secretary General of a good party called the Democratic Party of Kenya and right now, I am nominated by the party after KANU ably rigged me out.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I congratulate you in person, particularly in that, we elected you to be the Deputy Speaker. I assumed that the whole House elected you but even though some Members did not, now you are the Deputy Speaker and we have all the confidence in you. I also take this chance to congratulate all elected Members and particularly those who are in Opposition to leave above the KANU rigging. I congratulate those Members who were elected fairly not using money, because many Members were using money to be elected. It is high time we stopped this practice and collectively agree, because for all those who use money today or tomorrow and all the other times it is bad culture. I am very happy that most of the Members have really cultivated this habit of using money at the time of elections. This is a bad habit and must be discouraged by all.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have gone round for the two weeks since the Presidential Speech consulting with some leaders in Ukambani and they appreciate the reconciliatory elements on the Presidential Speech. But they think that a lot more was left undone and I am now going to itemise two or three issues on which I am mandated to speak on. First, in Ukambani, particularly Makueni and Machakos, children pass very very well and it is a pity that some children with even 550 marks are still at home the main being inability to pay school fees. I am therefore mandated to request the Minister for Education and Human Resource Development that a directive be given, a Government directive, that since the parents are building schools and Government is paying school teachers, at least these children from poor families and since intelligence is not synonymous with money and those who have got money, their children have found it difficult to pass some junior exams, but the poor ones at all times excel fairly well and that is an area in the part of Ukambani that those children who have passed very well to join Form One this year, be retained in school and parents be given time to raise the school fees. It is unfair, if these children will fail to join Form One simply because of school fees and it does not make any sense if a teacher teaches a class with 15 or 40 children. Because at the end of the month he will be required to be paid his full salary. Therefore, it is a request that this be done.

The other issue is on the health services in Ukambani and this is the only area where people are dying of simple malaria because there is a lot of malaria and unknown or other undiagnosed diseases. It is our request and the Minister was here in the morning and I was happy that at least they sent drugs to fight malaria. They have been sent in plenty into these areas of Ukambani. I will still make further request because in the Kenyan hospitals and particularly private hospitals, they see patients through money. We have seen many patients who have gone to private hospitals, like MP Shah, Aga Khan etc. Many patients are refused admission before they pay certain deposit. It is a fair request to the Minister that he speaks to even the private hospitals that they do not deny services to patients simply because they cannot raise deposits. At times, people attend hospitals late hours, weekends or during holidays. People get sick all the time and not every individual who has got KShs.40,000 or 50,000 in the pocket. It causes a lot of embarrassment if one could die outside the hospital because the hospital would not admit him or her for inability to raise the amount. This is an area causing a lot of concern to everybody.

It is true that even if you call some of these private hospitals you will be asked to identify yourself, and if you do not give a proper "title" or "name", they do not even answer your call. Therefore, it is a sincere request to the Minister for Health that he gives a directive to private hospitals in Kenya, so that they do not have to insist on the deposit before they attend to a patient. At least, a patient can be taken in and be given time, a day or two to raise a deposit. They should not demand a deposit before admission because both things do not go together.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take this opportunity to congratulate the Minister for Public Works and Housing for his good work despite the fact that he does not have enough funds. During the weekend, I was asked by a primary school boy the meaning of a road licence. I told him that it is a permit to use roads. If that is the meaning of a road licence, I would like to ask the Minister for Public Works and Housing, through the Chair, that he suspends road licences in Ukambani because there are no roads at all. Two weeks ago, we went with the Minister for Public Works and Housing, Mr. Kones to Munyu-Kalawa-Makueni Road. The road has been completely cut off and vehicles could not move. Most people in Makueni did not enjoy their Easter holiday because they could not travel to Makueni town. Those who managed to walk to Makueni, I am sincere some did walk to Makueni and even the Member for Makueni, Prof. Sumbi, during election time, was using a bicycle because there are no roads. I appeal to employers not to punish their employees who might not report back to work in time after Easter holiday because roads are very bad. Even now, on the Tawa-Makueni road, the bridge has collapsed; not even the bicycles could be used. This is a pathetic situation and I request the Minister to make a little effort to repair that bridge and patch up some potholes. The Minister should also be careful because some of the contractors are deceiving the Ministry by doing a shoddy job.

Finally, I congratulate the new Minister of State, Office of President for unearthing corruption in the Immigration Department. He was shocked to learn that there are so many Asians who have been issued with work permits. The Minister for Health was also shocked when he went to a hospital and found that there were no drugs. The Minister for Local Authorities was also shocked!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I like the conciliation part in this Speech.

The Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Ng'eny): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. My name is Kipng'eno arap Ng'eny, representing Ainamoi Constituency in Kericho District.

I am very happy to stand in this august House and speak on the Presidential Speech after listening to very eloquent and constructive speeches by hon. Members. However, some speeches were not so constructive.

Before I contribute to the speech by His Excellency the President, I would like to congratulate you for being elected as the Deputy Speaker of the House. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Ainamoi Constituency for electing me as their representative.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very impressed by the quality of speeches given by hon. Members in this House. In the course of my listening, I have found that there are three or four types of thoughts. The first one is to build, reconstruct through sober discussions and reasoning. Another group, I am afraid to say, is the school of reckless driving. The third group is a group of deliberate or imposed ignorance. I term it as imposed ignorance because that is the only possible reason why a learned hon. Member can say that the Opposition is a majority in this House and the Government side is a minority. If they understood the meaning of democracy, surely, they would not have said so. All the parties went through the election individually and not collectively. We should never talk about a collective Opposition. We have individual Opposition parties, but not a collective Opposition. So, I am surprised that a learned Member could stand and say that the Opposition is the majority.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, going back to the Presidential Address, I wish to say that it was wide and deep. He talked about the kind of Kenya we would all like to live in. Some of us like Hon. Ita and Dr. Omamo will remember those old days when we were absolutely free and true Kenyans wherever we were. Whether we were in Mexico or in the Greenland, we remained true Kenyans. But nowadays you will find a Kenyan insulting his country, the head of state and everybody else. How can we become true Kenyans if we insult our own country? The head of State is a symbol of our unity. He is not a person *per se*. It would be absolutely unpatriotic for any Kenyan to insult his country. Some people have even gone as far as burning the national flag. What does the national flag have to do with a party or personalities? The flag is a symbol of our unity. I would like to feel quite free when I am in a small bar, or anywhere else, in Kirinyaga District, in the midst of wananchi. I would like to feel free and comfortable in Busia and everywhere else in Kenya.

The politics which has emerged in the country of late does not, definitely, augur well for Kenyans. That is why the President, who was very keen in delivering his Address said that Kenyans must reflect deeply on what should be done in future. Hon. Members of this august House should speak with one voice and resolve to be true Kenyans in words and deeds. Some people may not believe what I am saying but it is true. There is so much hatred, jealousy and suspicion that even in social places people speak in low tones because those from other communities might hear what they are saying. It is a pity!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would urge all Kenyans to behave as we did before. We have been derailed somewhere along the way. With the introduction of multi-party politics, Kenyans were thoroughly confused. They learned new terms like 'transparency' and 'governance'. I think they also learnt terms like 'opaque'. They learnt about 'democracy' as if it was not there before. In the process they thought democracy was equivalent to tribalism. Now we have gone into our own cocoons of tribalism. It is my earnest belief that we have problems, which we all accept that we created. They are not a creation of a certain group of people: They were created by us Kenyans. The problems can only be solved by Kenyans, and no one else. I have been impressed by speeches from a number of Hon. Members of this House, who urged Kenyans to be sober and come together to discuss issues of common interest.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir. With those words I beg to support.

The Member for Lari (Mr. Gitonga): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute on the exposition of public policy by His Excellency the President on 31st March, 1998. The President touched on a number of issues and problems that are facing this country. He talked about the economic problems that are facing this country. He talked about the education problem, the environmental and the political problems that we have in this country. The President urged all of us to find ways and means of co-operating so as to find the way forward, and so that this country can benefit from this House. When the Eighth Parliament came into being this year, Kenyans expected a lot from it. Due to the problems that we faced in the Seventh Parliament they thought that this Parliament would be an improvement. As time goes by - we are now in the 4th month - I wonder if Kenyans are feeling encouraged by the way we are treating the issues in this House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to touch on the question of forests and the garbage that is found in almost every town in this country. We have been thinking that it was only Nairobi which has this problem. I am glad that Prof. Ongeru is the Minister for Local Authorities. Since he is sitting here I would like to touch on this matter. When we talk about our infrastructure being destroyed, particularly the roads, by the El Nino rains I wonder what we should say about the garbage that is all over this country. Every where you go, you cannot even pass through certain areas because of the stench that meets you. I wonder if the Minister for Local Authorities will now do something about this problem. We hope and expect that he will put to shame those who were there before him by using his knowledge of medicine and hygiene to bring about cleanliness in our towns.

I have had an occasion in this House to talk about the destruction of forests in my own Constituency. This matter is becoming clearer everyday. As you go from Nairobi to Nakuru you pass through Lari, an area which a few years ago was completely forested. It is a water catchment area for lower Kiambu, Murang'a and even part of Nyeri District. The forests in this area have been destroyed. To make matters worse, the people who are presiding over the destruction of these forests are the Forest Officers - I am happy to see that the Minister for Environmental Conservation is here.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is happening in my own area--- and I have mentioned it here before, but the Minister who was there before did not take notice of it. I would like to ask the Ministers for Environmental Conservation and Natural Resources to take Members of the Opposition in confidence if they really want us to work together.

The Member for Samburu East (Mr. Leshore): On a point of information Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Member for Lari (Mr. Gitonga): You are my friend, but I do not want any information from you!

I would like to urge the Government to take Members of the Opposition in confidence. If we bring an issue in this House, the Ministers should take us seriously. If you went to that area, you would see forests that have been completely destroyed. When I brought this issue in this House, I was told that they were only clearing industrial forest, whereas, what is being destroyed are natural forests. After the destruction, there is no replanting. So, now you can only see a few trees planted along the road, but if you went deeper into the forest, there are no trees any more. The foresters are there supervising the loading of timber and the cutting of fencing posts from cedar trees.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government should be serious so that when we talk about corruption--- I would like to read what the President said:-

"I call on the general public as well as the private sector to close ranks with the Government in order to put an end to corrupt practices in our society".

I have said here before that these destruction is being presided over by forest officers, and yet nobody is taking us seriously. If there is any doubt, the Minister should go and see what is happening in this area. Sooner or later the people in Lower Kiambu and Murang'a will find themselves without any water, because, what is happening is serious.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to talk about land grabbing which has now become a cancer in this country, and is taking place everywhere. I am sorry to say, that perhaps what is now remaining in Lari is the

forest area of Kinale, Kamae and Kereita. This land is also being grabbed again. In Kinale, land which was reserved as marshal land; water catchment area, has been grabbed. Sometime late last year, I brought a Question in this House about school land being grabbed by an individual. I was told at that time, that, that land would revert back to the school. But up to this time, that land has not reverted back to the school. Could the Minister in charge make sure that this land has reverted back to the people of Kamae so that the school can stay undisturbed?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, all land including cemeteries have not been spared. I wonder what these grabbers are going to do when they find human bones while digging up the foundations for their buildings. They will be haunted throughout their lives by the dead.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President talked about the economic problems that we are facing. But I wonder whether this Government is serious. Instead of the Government reducing the number of Ministries, they are being increased. As you are aware, in 1997 the number of Ministries were increased. Are we doing this country any good by increasing the number of Ministries? I know other Members have raised this point and have suggested the merging of certain Ministries which have similar roles.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has gone ahead again and increased the number of districts and divisions. These are political districts. They are not really created to bring service to the people, because they are only being created in certain areas. How is the Government going to reduce the number of civil servants while increasing the number of districts and Ministries? This is only increasing the Government budget in terms of salaries for these civil servants. We would like to see something being done. In fact, the President should start by reducing the number of Ministries or merging some of them. More than half of the opposite side of the House are Government Ministers. Is there no way that we could even consider reducing the number of Assistant Ministers by half? There are about 80 Assistant Ministers. I wonder what duties they do.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot support this Motion.

The Member for Lagdera (Mr. Shidiye): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to contribute to this Motion. I think, my speech will be incomplete if I do not take this opportunity to congratulate you for being elected as the Deputy Speaker of this House. I wish also to take this opportunity to congratulate the Speaker of the National Assembly for being elected for the second time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first and foremost, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Lagdera for having elected me to this Parliament. It was a historic election and I had a landslide victory.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Speech was one of the best as it touched on so many issues. One issue that touches me most, and particularly the people of Northern Kenya is the issue of infrastructure. The infrastructure in Northern Kenya, that is, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Moyale, Marsabit and Isiolo has collapsed. As I speak today, for the last seven months, we have been unable to reach most parts of our areas. There are only a few areas which are accessible by air. But there are other constituencies which cannot be reached even by air.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the catch word today is *El Nino*. We are told that the roads are bad because of the *El Nino* rains. I hope the Minister for Public Works and Housing is around to listen to me clearly, because, this is a fundamental issue touching on us. We are told that the *El Nino* rains have destroyed the infrastructure, and yet we did not have an infrastructure in that place. In fact, we have been waiting for that rain to come. We have not heard of bridges collapsing in North Eastern Province because there were no bridges in the first place. There were earth roads with a few murrum roads here and there. Those roads are now worse-off than they were before.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is time the Minister took some action. When a bridge on the Mombasa-Nairobi Road collapses, the Minister normally rushes there. We would also like the Minister to go to North Eastern Province to assess the situation for himself.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister should have known that those roads can only be conducted through proper means. There is no single tarmac road in North Eastern Province.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, among the 4,000 tarmacked roads found in the country, we do not have one single kilometre tarmac road in North Eastern Province of Kenya, which is almost half of this country. It is so sad. Any time we raise the matter, we are told that it is the *El Nino* rains which damaged the roads in this Province. However, we feel that the *El Nino* rains buried what we had "destroyed." There are no good roads in this area; the roads are full of potholes. If the Minister for Public Works and Housing wants to be diligent in his work, let him know that the people of North Eastern Province are cut off from the rest of Kenya. If we want to be part and parcel of this country, there is no way we can be cut off from the rest of the country. For instance, I come from Modogashe and the road between this area and Garissa is cut off.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing gave about Ksh.150 million to build a murrum road between Habasweni and Modogashe, but nobody knows how that money was used. That road is now worse off than it was before. There is a construction company called Casta(?) that was building that road, and we do not know how the money was spent. In fact, the construction of the road made it even more worse off than it

was before. I wish that there had been no work done on the road.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people of North Eastern Province are wondering whether the government believes they are allergic to tarmac roads, and that they are not part and parcel of this country. You will realise that whereas other parts of this country can be reached at any particular time, you cannot do the same in North Eastern Province of Kenya. This has made us feel that these tarmac roads are found in heaven, because we cannot have these roads in Northern Kenya. If people in the opposition parties are enjoying these good roads while we in the Government do not get this privilege, then there will be a lot of question-marks in our heads. We want the Minister for Public Works and Housing to take this matter seriously. We want those roads to be levelled and tarmacked like other roads in other parts of the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, time has come for us to take stock of our situation and ask ourselves: "Are we not worse off where we are, if the government is not delivering?" That is the same question we will be asked by our people when we go home. They will ask us: "We have voted for KANU and you, but what have you delivered?" If we have not delivered, we have failed in our mission in this Government and in this party.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, having said that, I will touch on the issue of the economy of our country. The economy is in a bad state and even the President has admitted that we have economic problems. Through concerted efforts between the Ministries involved, we will find a viable way of improving our economy. About 70 per cent of Kenyans are living below the poverty line, while 80 per cent have got no jobs. If we do not take this issue seriously, we are going to have a lot of problems in future. In the Northern part of Kenya, for example, people have been depending on relief food for the last 10 years. Year in, year out, people are depending on relief food and one wonders why this should be so. This is the question we have been asking ourselves. Why are we depending on relief food? Ten years down the road, each year the Government spends money on this relief food. In this country people have been talking about violation of human rights, but the worst violation of human rights in this country is hunger. We cannot not keep on depending on relief food. We must have a policy that provides a long term solution to this problem such as irrigation to make sure that at least, these people have some semblance of a livelihood.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you can recall, we have been industrialising in the previous years, but today, when you look around, we are no longer industrialising. Kenya has become a retailer. Goods from Dubai, South Asia, Korea and other parts of the world are being dumped in this country. It is as if Kenya has become a dumping ground for all these goods. The effect of this dumping will be unemployment and a stagnant economy. If the economy will not grow, then it means that we will be worse off. Are we creating wealth for our people and are we making the lives of our people better? If we are not then we have failed. In this country, the only people who make money are the banks. For instance, banks are pumping about Ksh.400 million in treasury bills because, nowhere else in this country will you get such an interest rate. Banks are the ones which are making so much money while in other parts of the economy, nobody is making such money. If I want to take a loan from a bank I have to pay an interest of 30 per cent or 32 per cent. With that kind of punitive interest rate, you cannot make any money in any business, unless maybe, you are involved in drug trafficking, especially heroine and cocaine. Those are the grim realities and if we want to be serious about our economy, first and foremost, those interest rates charged by the banks must be lowered. We should not ask for these collateral securities, because it is only those people with title deeds and from opulent families who can produce such securities. Loans should be given on honesty, integrity and to somebody who has enterpreneurial skills. But today, loans are given to those people who have "something," while the rest of Kenyans are languishing in poverty. Kenyans are facing the worst tyranny, economically.

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

The Member for Karachuonyo (Dr. Awiti): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my name is Dr. Awiti, I am a Member of Parliament for Karachuonyo constituency. First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank and salute the Karachuonyo people for electing me inspite of the fact that I did not give them a penny or any bribe. First, before I address the issue which the President raised here last time, I would like to raise the problems which the people of Karachuonyo are experiencing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Karachuonyo being in Nyanza Province, is really suffering from under-development. The people are living in a state where roads are non-existent. There are some parts of the constituency where one cannot even travel with a bicycle. The road system in the area particularly, road C19 which connects Kendu-Bay and Homa-Bay is in a bad state. Since 1970 the Government has promised to tarmac this road, but until now that road has not been attended to. The situation is really very bad and roads in these areas need to be rehabilitated and, in some cases, reconstructed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the health conditions of the people living in this constituency are deplorable. About 80 per cent of the people living in this region, including Karachuonyo have no access to health facilities. Out of the 1,000 children who are born in these areas, over 200 children die before the age of five. This is so

because of the sanitation conditions prevailing in these areas. There is no clean water available in this area.

Cholera outbreaks are a common feature in this area. Usually, it is after so many people die, that the Government responds. The response from the Government usually comes too late, too little and does not have any impact. As I am speaking now, about ten people have died in Kanyaluo and Wanching' Locations. The health personnel who are posted there are not responding adequately. In fact, some of the drugs which have been given out are not dispensed to the patients freely. Most of these dispensaries and health centres where cholera cases are taken charge Kshs100 for water. Cholera patients need a lot of water. Most of these patients cannot afford this money. It would be very important for the Government to send out a team from the health sector to investigate this matter.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, education is also in a deplorable state. This region used to pride itself for education excellence. Believe me or not, the last time when we met at the District Education Board, the quality and standard of education in primary schools had fallen seriously. The mean average score of Standard Eight results was 48 per cent. This is so because a number of inspectors who are sent there to do the inspection hardly go to schools even for two years. Therefore, the quality of teaching is poor and whether or not the syllabus is covered is really not known. So, I would like to appeal to the Ministry concerned to look into this matter. I think it is more important for the Ministry to know that in this particular area, where 70 per cent of all the people live below the poverty line, the policy of cost-sharing cannot work. This is because nearly 99 per cent of the schools in this area have no facilities required for the 8-4-4 education system. It would be very good to have educational reforms, which would address some of these issues, particularly the provision of facilities and teachers.

Equally, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, agriculture is in a deplorable state. Name any crop which is grown in this area, whether it is maize, cotton and others, and you will find that the production is going down steadily. The rate of poverty is rising. For example, for the last ten years or so, cotton used to be the only income-earner for most of the peasant farmers in this area. But due to poor cotton prices and liberalisation which has not taken into account the national interests, the prices have gone down and they are lower than the cost of production. Therefore, farmers are not growing cotton. I think in the cotton growing countries, it is very important to protect the textile industry, instead of allowing *mitumba* clothes to come in and take the lion's share of the market.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me touch on national issues, particularly on the economy. The Speech of the President was excellent, frank and open. It opened a new chapter where both sides of the House can really find the fora to discuss together. But I think the prescriptions and solutions were not contained in the Speech. For example, if we take the issue of the economy, the fundamental problem of our economy today, is the inability by the Government to bridge the gap between expenditure and revenue collection. This gap is ever widening. The Government has even increased taxes without increasing the level of revenue. The inability of the Government to stop corruption and punish the tax evaders is one area where the problem really is. I do not think we can address the issue of unemployment, high interest rates, lack of growth and domestic borrowing without really addressing the issue of narrowing this gap. It is a fundamental economic rule that if it is not addressed, every characteristics of the economy will be highly distorted. This country will remain behind most of the regional countries.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya used to be highly rated as one of the countries with a high economic growth rate in the 60s and early 70s. What has happened that now Kenya is only being compared with the countries it used to lead? In my opinion, it is because of poor leadership and the way it is governed. Most of our social and economic problems stem from the kind of governance and leadership we have had in the last few years. We all know that during the one-party system, we had a closed system in which those who raised a different opinion were regarded---

The Minister for Co-operative Development (Dr. Anangwe): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to make my maiden speech. I would like to begin by thanking the people of Butere for seeing it fit to change the previous representation, and giving me a contract for five years to be in this august House. May I also thank His Excellency the President for seeing in me a Cabinet material.

Without further wastage of time, I would like to deliberate on the Presidential Speech. This is because within ten minutes, there is not much that you can say. The Presidential Speech was balanced, comprehensive and very candid. It raised a number of issues regarding public policy. I remember one Opposition Member of Parliament questioned whether that particular Speech contained any exposition of public policy. But he failed to explain to us what he understood as public policy. A public policy is a set of inter-related visions, concerning the selection of goals and means. This has been rendered explicit in this particular Speech. Issues regarding corruption, improvement of the economy and co-operation are goals. A public policy must encompass both goals and the means. The President in his Presidential Speech did request KANU Members to join hands with the Members of the Opposition and talk to each other rather than attacking each other. This is necessary. In the Kenyan political landscape, people have different views on politics. Politics is about distribution of power in the

society as well as the management of the human interactions, whether conflictual or co-operative. People have an erroneous understanding of what politics is about. They think that in order to be an effective politician, you must be conflictual and confrontational. I think that is an erroneous perception of what politics is all about.

Let us take this particular opportunity in the Eighth Parliament to be a Parliament with a difference so that our politics will become more collaborative. In any case, it is in the interest of our people. Our people expect us to deliver public services and distribute the resources in the most optimal manner and we cannot do this unless we have an opportunity to co-operate. Co-operation simply means being able to consult and reach a mutual understanding and develop good will. That way, we can be able to listen to one another. However, without this, you may have a very relevant agenda but then, you may not be able to be listened to.

Therefore, it is in the interest of the Opposition parties within Parliament and elsewhere, at least to develop that mutual understanding. The KANU Government was duly elected and it won the elections. It is in power and in control of resources and opportunities. It is responsible for policy formulation. Indeed, some opposition Members have rightly argued that all Kenyans pay taxes and it is, therefore, their right to receive services. This can only take place if there is some communication. We have ideas and wishes which our people have sent us here to communicate, but that must be in an environment where there is mutual understanding. After all, it is written there "Just Government of men". Men get angry or happy. When they get angry they fight you and when they get happy, they reward you. My encouragement would be, let us develop a culture where we can exchange views so that our people can benefit.

It has been said that corruption is rampant. One way of undermining the crusade against corruption is just to focus on the Government only. I wish it was that simple. If it was that simple, you would take, say, three hundred civil servants, Cabinet Ministers and the rest of the people and say; "Let the country fight". But we are forgetting that this problem is far rooted within the larger society. It is not just a Government problem or a problem within the public sector. Examine the non-State sector. Take a funeral committee comprising of people from Western and Nyanza Provinces, you contribute money but at the end of the day, you hear that somebody has eaten the resources. Consider for instance, an NGO where the donors have put funds; you will find that someone has taken off with the resources. The same thing applies to women groups and so forth. When it gets this far, it would be an understatement to call this corruption because corruption is a deviation. It is an activity that is supposed to be practised by a few. But when the rest of the Kenyans are doing the same, this is a far much serious problem. In my locality if you asked people why they are practising this, they will tell you; "You eat from where you work", meaning that this is expected to happen. This is very unfortunate. Indeed, there are sociological explanations which say that a society in which you have a larger segment of peasantry, you hardly know the difference between what is public and what is private. You put them in a place where they are supposed to be holding responsibilities, they confuse the two, so they end up taking away what is meant to be public revenue. Take it in a temporal term. Between 1963 and 1978 we had similar problems which we are accusing the present Government of. Look at the Controller and Auditor-General's reports and you will see we have celebrated heroes during those years although they did all types of malpractices. I know that within the anti-corruption crusade we are having now, there are people who are genuinely concerned about corruption as a problem. May I also say that there are few people who this particular crusade should follow.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what we are saying is that we need at least a deferent perception of the problem before we can come up with adequate measures to solve it. On economic reforms, in spite of the shortcomings that we have, we have good reasons to congratulate Kenyans for the achievements they have been able to register. One speaker did mention that Kenya had a GDP of about \$ 7.476 billion. What he forgot to say is that on the league table within the sub-saharan Africa, Kenya is third in terms of the strength of the economy. Sometimes when one picks examples of, say, Uganda and other countries, you can not compare them with us. The economic base of Kenya cannot be compared with what these other countries really have. In spite of what they may be registering, they might take another 20 years before they can be able to achieve the level of economic growth of this country. We are not saying that is quite enough. What I am simply saying is that if we see problems appearing in our economy we should be able to look further. Some of the criticisms raised about economic management in this country are really symptoms. They do not address the real issues. The issues are that over the years, the international economic environment has been getting worse. We export more and earn less. There are many barriers placed on our way so that we are not able to get enough foreign exchange within the external environment. We should be able to address these problems critically with open minds, without being localised. We are forgetting that Kenya is not an island. We operate within the larger international economic environment, but some attention should be paid to the international economic environment so that we are able to address this problem.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Mwiraria: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute on the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our country is beset by so many problems that we have to co-operate irrespective of our political party affiliations, in order to get it out of the current difficulties. It is saddening to hear some hon. Members attempting to apportion blame. We can talk about what happened during the Kenyatta era and what has been happening during the Moi era. But the question is: Will the discussion of history help us get out of the present mess? The President in his speech, highlighted the problems that are facing Kenya. Kenya is like a very sick patient. It is bleeding profusely from wounds which Kenyans have inflicted on this country. So, we have no choice but to face the reality and accept that together, we will sink or together we will uplift the economy of this country, stop insecurity and build a constitution upon which the future of Kenya will thrive.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot has been said about the three problems but I would like to address the problem of insecurity. This is one of the problems that is afflicting the people of my constituency perhaps, as much as many others even though theirs has not come to national limelight. North Imenti borders Laikipia, Kiini, Isiolo and other Meru districts. The problems of insecurity there are found in those areas bordering Laikipia and Isiolo districts. I have commented on many occasions in this House about the persistent attacks on the Meru people by raiders dressed in police uniforms. These raiders have taken away all the livestock from North Imenti. The hardest hit areas are Timau Division, Bori Division, comprising Kiirwa, Ruiri, Rwarera and other locations. After taking away all the livestock, they have now started attacking homesteads which were deserted by the occupants. Today, about 50 per cent of the inhabitants of Rwarera and Ruiri have deserted their homes and have become refugees in their own country. I am aware also of the problems which other Kenyans are facing, for example the Marakwet, the Turkana, the Pokot and the people of the Rift Valley generally.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today every community is arming itself to the teeth and this seems not to be getting Government attention. This is the main reason why we are having the fight between the Pokots and the Marakwet. The Meru people believe in being good citizens and have not armed themselves. Ironically, these people are getting butchered to the extent that at least three people are being killed every week. The worst part of these raids is that these raiders in police uniform go into peoples' houses and order old men to do some things which are completely anti-social. They even compelled an old man to sleep with his daughter but when he refused, they shot him dead. I am mentioning these things because security is our biggest problem. Unless our Government comes to grips with this problem, we will go back to the days when Kenya was made up of little nations. Before the advent of colonialism, the Meru people used to regard themselves as "a nation." I am sure that the Samburus, Luhyas, Luos, the Kisiis and the various Kalenjin groups also did regard themselves as "nations." Even the Kikuyus, being the largest tribe also did it. We are gradually drifting into a position where we are going to have inter-tribal wars. When other communities are being attacked using rifles, then the surest thing is they will arm themselves for self-defence. So, the temptation is for every Kenyan to arm himself. Time has come for the Government to disarm all the people in this Republic who have illegal arms. If we want security to prevail in this country, there is no shortcut. We have to disarm anybody who is keeping arms illegally.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have noticed that in certain communities leaders are coming together to discuss their problems. I would like to invite my colleagues in this House from the Boran and Samburu communities to come and sit down with the Merus so that we can find a solution to our common problems. I am saying this with a very heavy heart. Even the Meru people will start looking for illegal arms and this is not going to help us. Once illegal arms get into the wrong hands, they will be used for other illegal purposes and not security. So, I plead with my colleagues, hon. Leshore, hon. Dr. Wako, hon. Mokku and others. We should sit together and talk about it. We have to see what we can do to ease the problems across the border.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, liberalisation of the agricultural sector has been a demotivating factor to our farmers. The Government has failed to recognize the fact that agriculture is the backbone of the Kenyan economy. The Kenyan farmer requires protection just as much as the farmers of Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand. Unfortunately, we have thrown our farmers to unfair international competition. Today, we are importing duty free maize into this country. The amount imported has exceeded the amount allowed by the Minister for Agriculture - the 7 million bags. Last weekend, we read that about 9 million bags are at the port of Mombasa.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the President's Speech should have contained a little more policy than just mentioning one.

With those remarks, I beg to oppose.

The Assistant Minister for Education and Human Resource Development (Mr. Awori): Ahsante, Bw. Naibu wa Spika. Kwanza, ningependa kukupongeza wewe na mwenzako kuchaguliwa Naibu wa Spika na Spika wa Bunge hili. Pili, ningependa kukupongeza sana Bw. Naibu Spika, kwa ukakamavu ulioonyesha Alhamisi

iliyopita licha ya "mateso" uliyopata katika Bunge hili. Siku hiyo ulikuwa imara na ningependa kukufariji kwa yaliyokupata.

Bw. Naibu wa Spika, wengi ya Wabunge walisema kwamba Hotuba ya Rais haikuelezea kwa urefu maswala muhimu yanayoihusu nchi hii. Ningependa kusema kwamba usemi huo umetokana na kutofahamu kwao kwa umuhimu wa Hotuba ya Rais. Kwanza, Hotuba ya Rais huwa ni fikira zake, lakini umuhimu wake hasa ni kutoa mwongozo kwa viongozi, na hasa sisi Wabunge, ili kuwahamasisha juu ya yale yanayohitajika kufanywa katika jitihada za kuendeleza nchi yetu. Kwa mfano, katika Hotuba yake, Rais anatuomba sote tufanye kazi pamoja, tuwe kitu kimoja na wazalendo. Hilo ni jambo muhimu sana, kwa sababu hatutaweza kuendelea ikiwa hatutaipeleka nchi yetu.

Bw. Naibu wa Spika, tuko na jukumu kubwa la kuzingatia mahitaji ya wale waliotuchagua ili tuwakilishie katika Bunge hili. Ni lazima tujiulize kuwa tuliwaahidi nini wananchi wakati wa kampeini. Katika sehemu ya uwakilishi Bungeni ya Funyula, ambayo ninawakilisha, kuna vijana wengi wa kike na wakiume ambao hawana kazi. Ninaamini kwamba katika sehemu zote za uwakilishi Bungeni, wengi wa waliopiga kura walikuwa ni vijana. Hawa vijana walikuwa wakitusumbua sana juu ya hili jambo la ukosefu wa kazi. Rais amelizungumzia sana jambo hili katika Hotuba yake. Imekuwa shida sana kupata kazi siku hizi. Ni jukumu letu kutafuta njia zitakazotuwezesha kuona ya kwamba vijana hawa wamepata kazi. Mwaka uliopita, kulikuwa na mradi wa vijana; Youth Programme, ambao kama tutautekeleza utaweza kuwasaidia hawa vijana. Tuko na mpango wa Jua Kali. Sio watu wote ambao wanaweza kuajiriwa kazi. Ni lazima tutafute njia nyingine zitakazo wawezesha vijana kujitegemea wenyewe. Tukiuchunguza ule mpango wa vijana kwa makini, tutaona ya kwamba unaweza kuwa wa manufaa kwa vijana.

Bw. Naibu wa Spika, wale waliotuchagua yafaa tuwakilishie kwa kweli; wanataka tuwapatie elimu bora, matibabu ya hali ya juu, maji safi, na tuwasaidie kwa njia zote zitakazowawezesha kuishi maisha bora. Ukosefu wa kazi ndio ulioleta umaskini, na umaskini ni jambo ambalo Rais alilizungumzia kwa urefu katika Hotuba yake. Huu sio wakati wa kuuliza umaskini uliingiaje kwani, wengi miongoni mwetu tunafahamu jinsi umaskini ulivyoingia nchini. Sasa ni wakati wa kutafuta suluhisho la umaskini. Kwanza, ninapendekeza tupunguze harakati za kuufanya uchumi wa nchi yetu kuwa huru kwa sababu, kama walivyosema wengi ya Wabunge, hakuna faida ya kuufanya uchumi wetu kuwa huru iwapo uhuru huu utaathiri hali yetu ya maisha. Kwa wakati huu, unaweza kununua nyanya ambazo zimenunuliwa Africa Kusini na matunda yaliyonunuliwa Ulaya licha ya kwamba mazao haya yanakuzwa humu nchini. Msemaji aliyenitangulia ameeleza kwamba hata kule Ulaya, maslahi ya wakuliwa hulindwa. Kwa nini na sisi tusiyalinde maslahi ya wakulima wetu?

Rais pia alizungumza juu ya amani. Ningependa tuungane pamoja ili tuweze kuwa na amani kwa sababu mazingara ya amani huvutia shughuli ambazo huleta maendeleo. Kama hakutakuwa na amani katika nchi hii, maendeleo hayatakuwepo. Tunataka tufanye juhudi zote ili tuwe wazalendo halisi. Wengi wa Wabunge waliozungumza hapa, walisema kwamba Bunge la Saba halikuwa jema. Bunge hilo lililaaniwa, kutusiwa na kudharauliwa. Ningependa kusema kwamba Bunge hilo lilikuwa sawa. Kwa sababu, hata vitabu vya Mwenyezi Mungu vya Biblia na Koran, vinasema kwamba hata ukiwa mbaya kwa miaka mingi halafu mwisho utubu, utakwenda Mbinguni. Ni kweli kwamba mambo mengi yalitokea humu wakati wa Bunge la Saba, lakini mwishowe Wabunge kutoka pande zote tulikaa pamoja na kuzungumza. Kusema kweli, ninaweza kulinganisha shughuli za kundi la Wabunge kutoka vyama mbalimbali (IPPG) zilizotekelezwa na Wabunge wa Bunge la Saba mwaka jana na zile za Lancaster House Conference. Nchi yetu ilikuwa karibu "kuungua" kufuatia mchafuko wa kisiasa wakati ule lakini juhudi za IPPG ziliirudisha tena hali ya kawaida. Juhudi za IPPG ziliwawezesha watu kutoka upande wa Upinzani na wenzao wa upande wa Serikali kuungana, kuzungumza na kuwa kitu kimoja. Ni juhudi hizi zilizotuwezesha kufanya uchaguzi kwa njia ya amani na kutuwezesha kufika hapa tulipo hivi sasa.

Kwa hivyo, tafadhalini, tusilitusi sana Bunge la Saba. Mbele yetu kuna kazi kubwa sana. Ni lazima tuufufue uchumi wetu. Singependa kurudia mengi ambayo yameshazungumzwa na watangulizi wangu. Langu ni kutilia mkazo tu kwamba ni lazima tuufufue uchumi wetu. Infrastructure ya nchi hii imeadhirika sana, na hivyo basi, ni lazima tuanze ukarabati wa infrastructure. Barbara zetu zimeharibika; reli yetu nayo haiendelei sana; viwanja vya ndege pia viko na shida. Kwa mfano, hivi juzi tu nilikwenda katika uwanja wa ndege kusubiri mgeni wangu, lakini ndege ilipowasili katika uwanja huo haikuweza kutua kwa sababu vifaa fulani ambavyo husaidia ndege kutua vilikuwa vimeharibika, na hivyo basi ilibidi ndege hiyo ikatue Mombasa.

Bw. Naibu Spika, tunataka ukarabati wa vitu vyote ufanyike ili tuweze kuendelea. Ningependa sote tuungane tuwe kitu kimoja licha ya kuwa na vyama vingi vya kisiasa. Kuwepo na vyama vingi haimanishi kuwa hatuwezi tukawa kitu kimoja. Hasa tukiwa katika Bunge tukijadiliana, tusiwe tukiwatupia matope wenzetu wa upande ule mwingine. Natuondoeni uzembe. Kama alivyosema Rais, sote tunawajibika kupambana na uzembe, kwa sababu uzembe hauletwi na mtu mmoja. Yule anayepokea rushwa pia ni mzembe, na kufanya hivyo ni makosa. Hili ndilo jambo ambalo limefanya nchi yetu kurudi nyuma sana kimaendeleo.

Ningependa tuchunguze sana sera ya elimu yetu. Watu wengi wamesema kwamba mfumo wa elimu wa 8-4-4 umeharibu elimu yetu. Ni wajibu wetu sasa kuzingatia malalamishi haya. Nina furaha kusema kwamba kutakuwa na tume ambayo itachunguza malalamishi yote yanayohusiana na mfumo wetu wa elimu. Ninataka sisi viongozi tulizingatie sana jambo hili na tuiunge mkono tume hiyo kwa lengo la kuimarisha elimu nchini. Mhe. Dr. Leakey, alizungumza juu ya walemavu. Amesema kwamba ukarimu huanzia nyumbani. Sisi ndio tunaotunga sheria za nchi hii. Kama Dr. Leakey hawezi kuingia ndani ya Bunge hili na kiti chake cha gurudumu, inamaanisha kwamba hatutaki walemavu kuja humu. Sasa, tunataka turekebishe sheria ili iwapo Mbunge atakuwa mlemavu aweze kuingia ndani na kushiriki katika mijadala ya Bunge hili.

Mwisho, ningependa kuwaomba viongozi wote waongeze juhudi katika kuwahudumia wananchi. Imeshasemwa kwamba ili kuurekebisha uchumi, ni lazima tupunguze idadi ya wafanyakazi. Vile tunavyotaka kufanya kwa sasa ni kurudisha ile njia tuliyokuwa tukifuata zamani ya kufanya kazi kwa siku tano na nusu kwa kila juma. Tunataka tuwe tukifanya kazi hata siku ya Jumamosi. Hii ni hali ambayo ni lazima tuirudishe, kwa sababu maskini hawezi kutafuta raha. Ni lazima tufanye kazi kwa bidii. Tunataka tuzingatie hali ya ujenzi wa barabara na reli. Tuko na watu wengi ambao bado hawajaajiriwa. Mbona tusiwatumie watu hawa kama ilivyofanya Amerika miaka ya 1929/30 wakati uchumi wao ulipokuwa umezoroteka sana? Serikali hiyo ilitumia wale watu ambao hawangeajiriwa kazi kwa kutengeneza barabara na mabwawa ambayo yalisaidia wakulima.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono.

The Member for Kwanza (Mr. Kapten): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Speech. I will start by thanking the people of Kwanza for having shown confidence in me and re-elected me to the Eighth Parliament. It was a hard-fought election and we managed it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, looking at the Presidential Speech, I think this is one of the best speeches the President has given in many years. He touched on most of the important aspects of our lives, political, social and economic. One important aspect of the Presidential Speech was his willingness to talk to the Opposition. A few years ago, it was very difficult for President Moi to imagine to talk to the Opposition. But this time round, he has seen the importance of dialogue and in this Speech, he clearly stated that he is willing to discuss issues with Members of the Opposition. But talking is not enough. We want the President and the Government to put in practice what was contained in the Presidential Speech. I will expect, the President, for example, to invite the Leader of the Official Opposition to Harambee House to discuss issues affecting this country. The country is faced with numerous problems and I think we have good brains in the Opposition who can help the Government try to solve some of the problems which we have in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one aspect of the Presidential Speech talked about insecurity. We have a big problem in this country in terms of insecurity. When you sleep, you are not sure whether you will wake up alive. When you drive on our roads, you are not sure if you will get to your destination. People are being killed day and night. Members of the foreign missions are being murdered day and night. Has the Government surrendered its responsibility of looking after the lives and property of people living in this country? Our Police Force is not active. It is corrupt. In fact, I am not sure if we have a Police Force in this country that is prepared to look after the lives of the people of this country. The police waste time running after *busaa* and *chang'aa* brewers. If you report that So-and-so is brewing *chang'aa* or *busaa*, the police will run after that person. They will always find fuel to go and arrest these *busaa* drinkers. But if you tell them that a serious crime has been committed somewhere, you will be told, "Go and arrest that person, bring him to the Police Station and we will arrest him," or they would say they do not have fuel. What is the police in this country doing? Something must be done about our Police Force. I do not know if they are behaving the way they are doing because they are poorly paid. We should also look at the terms and conditions of our Police Force so that they can be able to cope with the problems which we have in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have some Members in the Cabinet who, instead of helping the Government and this country, are creating more problems. We have a member of the Kenyan Cabinet who is always talking about killing, cattle rustling; and nothing is being done about it. He is my neighbour. He comes from a neighbouring constituency and he has been responsible for the insecurity in Kwanza Constituency and the entire Trans-Nzoia District. Instead of helping his people go to school, he encourages them to buy guns to kill people.

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Lomada): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Member for Kwanza in order to say that the hon. Minister has been advising his people to buy guns instead telling them to go to school yet that is not right?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): Order! Hon. Kapten, what you will do in this matter is to follow the provision that only upon a substantive Motion shall we discuss the conduct of a Member of Parliament.

Please proceed.

The Member for Kwanza (Mr. Kapten): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not mentioned any name. I have just talked of a Minister. This gentleman must help the Government if we have to live in peace. We are going to bring a Motion of censure about this particular gentleman. If you look at today's papers, he is quoted as saying that cattle rustling is part of the economic activity---

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): On a point of order Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I thought you advised the hon. Member for Kwanza that we cannot discuss the conduct of any Member here unless he brings a Motion, yet he persists in discussing the Member. Is he in order?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): Mr. Kapten, you will now steer clear of that matter.

The Member for Kwanza (Mr. Kapten): I will do so, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. But I just want to mention one thing---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): Not on those lines any more!

The Member for Kwanza (Mr. Kapten): Just one thing, not on that matter. The President in his Speech said, and I quote:

"I see the role of a leader as one who should save and protect lives and not be party to or condone threats to life. The Government is alert and will not hesitate to take firm action against anyone who attempts to interrupt our peace and stability."

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, all I am saying is that I am urging the President to live by what he stated in the Presidential Speech and the best he can do is to sack this Minister.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming to the question for the economy, we have a big problem and we must try to solve it. The economy is not just in a recession but I think it is in a depression. The Government and the Opposition must come together to help solve the problem that the country is facing. We have too many districts which have been created and creating new districts means more people are employed, more money is needed in terms of salaries, infrastructure for the district headquarters and what-have-you. I appeal to the Government to look afresh at these new districts which have been created in the recent past. One solution is to reduce the number of districts. If we can go back to the number of districts that we had about ten years ago, the extra money that can be saved will go a long way to pay the salaries of other members of the Civil Service. Creation of districts is not a solution to economic problems. Perhaps, instead of creating more districts, I will urge the Government to sub-divide the Rift Valley Province into three Provinces and use the surplus money to give grants to local authorities and strengthen the county councils. Right now we have too many councillors in this country.

With those few remarks I beg to support.

Mr. Sambu: Ni shukrani nyingi kwako, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ili niseme machache kuhusu Hutoba ya Rais. Hotuba hii kweli yafaa kuopongezwa. Lakini, licha ya mhe. Rais kusema yote aliyoyasema, ni nani atayatekeleza mambo hayo? Kwa sasa uchumi wa nchi hii unaugua ugonjwa ambao kwa Kiingereza unaitwa "terminal disease", maanake "unaelekea mwisho wa maisha yake."

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, viini vinavyofanya uchumi wa nchi hii uugue maradhi unaogua, kama ni maradhi yanayotokana na virusi au bacteria, ni sisi wenyewe ambao tumeyasababisha hayo maradhi. Uchumi wetu kwa sasa uko katika Intensive Care Unit. Mwaka jana tulipokuwa hapa katika Bunge la Saba, uchumi wa nchi hii ulikuwa katika open ward. Sasa uchumi wetu ni mahututi kabisa. Ndiyo sababu hata kampuni ya Kenya Bus na mengine wameaongeza nauli kufikia kiwango cha Kshs50 kutoka Kshs20, wakisingizia kwamba barabara ziko na mashimo. Ni kweli lakini sasa--- Namshukuru Waziri mpya wa Serikali za Wilaya, na Bw. Meya, kwa kujaribu kukarabati barabara hizo. Lakini ile nauli waliyoweka imebakia pale pale.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kilimo na ufugaji ndio mti wa mgongo wa uchumi wetu na vimeugua vile nilivyosema. Sekta za pamba, miwa, mahindi na sukari zinaugua. Sasa watu watakwenda wapi? Kama uchumi wa nchi unaugua, hata uchumi wa familia unaugua na wezi watajitokeza. Watoto wetu tutawafanya wawe wezi na wanyang'anyi kwa sababu hatuwezi kutosheleza mahitaji yao ya vyakula, mavazi na hata malezi. Maradhi haya yameambukizwa na wale ambao wanatakiwa kutunza uchumi wa nchi hii. Ni nani mwenye viwanda vya kusaga unga katika nchi hii? Ni nani mwenye kuingiza sukari katika nchi hii?

An hon. Member: Sajjad!

Mr. Sambu: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni nani anayeangamiza kiwanda cha Rivatex kinachotumia zao la pamba? Vinu vya kuchambua pamba vimefungwa kwa sababu tunaingiza nguo katika nchi hii. Nimetaja sukari na mahindi. Wale wanaotakikiwa kutekeleza Hotuba ya Rais, na ndio wanaoketi katika ofisi kuu na ndio wanaompongeza Mzee kwa kusema: "Heko heko, Mzee wetu." Lakini wakitoka nje wao ndio wanaotoa visu na kumkata miguu kwa kuuhujumu uchumi wetu. Uchumi wa nchi hii ukizirai, itaonekana kwamba utawala wa Moi

ndio umezirai. Watu wake walioko karibu naye ndio wanaotoa visu na kuukata uchumi. Wakati huu watu hao wanaingiza mahindi katika nchi hii. Mwaka jana tulifunga barabara ya Eldoret na tutaifunga tena. Hayo malori na hata reli isithubutu kuleta hayo mahindi na sukari kutoka nje.

(Applause)

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nilimwambia Dkt. Wameyo awaambie watu wa Mumias wafunge njia za Kisumu na kwingineko. Hakufanya hivyo na ndiyo sababu hakuchaguliwa tena na watu wake. Ni heri kufunga hizo njia, si kwamba tunachukua sheria mikononi mwetu, lakini tuwaonyeshe--- Hata kule Ulaya, nimeona Wafaransa na wengine, wakifunga barabara na matrakta pamoja na ng'ombe na kukataa kuhujumiwa na wale ambao wanapenda kuhujumu uchumi. Wanaohujumu uchumi wetu tuko nao hapa. Kama wanasema kwamba Bw. Sambu ni mwongo, mmoja wao asimame hapa anilulize nithibithishe, na nitamwambia! Mbona hawasimami?

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tumesema tunataka kushirikiana lakini wengine wakasema, "Oh! Hawa wametuita masketeeres." Tunasema kwamba ushirikiano yafaa uanze na watu wote. Kama ni Wajaluo, washirikiane na Wanandi na watu wote pia. Kama ni Wanandi na Waluhya waelewane wote, si viongozi wachache tu ambao wanataka kutuamrisha. Kwa nini mnatuamrisha? Tulichaguliwa na watu. Sio?

(Applause)

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, watu walichaguliwa kuwakilisha masilahi ya watu wao. Ni masilahi ya Wanandi ambayo nitawakilisha, wapende wasipende kama vile asemavyo mhe. Nassir. Kama ni ushirikiano, tutashirikiana, lakini ni vizuri tushirikiane sisi sote kwa kuelewana.

Kuhusu uchumi wa watu wangu, hasa kuhusu maziwa, nina huzuni kwa sababu juzi wasimamizi wa Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) waliingiza maziwa ya kiasi cha Kshs134 milioni. Na walilipia ushuru kwa pesa taslimu. Walipata wapi pesa ya kulipia maziwa ya unga, na wakati huo huo wanalia ati hawawezi kulipa wakulima? Ikiwa Serikali itaingilia mambo haya, yafaa iyaingilie kwa njia moja na hiyo ni ya kuwalipa wakulima. Mambo mengine hatuyataki.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tukitaka kukomesha magendo, yafaa tuanzie pahali magendo yameanzia. Kuna haja gani kumshika askari mmoja anayesimamisha gari na kuitisha Kshs40? Yule askari akikataa, mkubwa wake; OCS, atamwambia "wewe ni mpumbavu, hujui kazi." Hii ni kwa sababu yule askari anatakiwa kila jioni arudi na kitu. Akikataa, watamripoti kwa OCPD na atatolewa barabarani. Tuanze kwa kukomesha magendo kuanzia pahali tunakojua sisi zote yalianzia. Tuzipokubali kuanzia kule juu kunakoanzia magendo, hakuna haja---

An hon. Member: Wapi?

Mr. Sambu: Kwa wale mnaouliza, nyinyi wenyewe mnajua na kila mwananchi wa Kenya anajua. Na, wako wote katika upande huu wa Bunge na pia upande ule mwingine wa Bunge hili.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tunasema kwamba tunapoteza pesa nyingi katika kodi ambayo ingeingia kwa Serikali kutokana na mafuta. Katika Bunge la Saba, tulisema kwamba kuna watu wanaokwenda na kuteka mafuta kutoka kwa magari aina ya Tankers. Badala ya lori hilo kuelekea Uganda, linarudi katika mji wa Eldoret na vitongoji vyake. Ni akina nani hao wenye hivyo vituo vya kuuzia petroli? Ni akina nani hao ambao lazima waambiwe wakomeshe hiyo biashara? Hawa wasipokomeshwa, hakuna haja ya kulalamika eti uchumi ni mbaya. Hawa wakikoma ndio magendo yatakoma. Lakini wakiendelea, kila aina ya magendo itaendelea pia.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, siwezi kukosa kuongea juu ya mambo ya kampuni ya Rivatex ambayo mtu moja anahujumu. Mtu huyu yafaa akomeshwe, kwani tunajua lengo lake. Mtu huyu anataka kuangamiza biashara nzuri ya kampuni ya Rivatex ili baadaye, yeye na wengine wainunue kwa bei ya chini kabisa. Lakini nataka kuwaeleza watu hawa na marafiki wao ya kuwa, hawawezi kununua kampuni hiyo. Hawatainunua kamwe! Mwaka huu wakijaribu kufanya kama walivyofanya huko Nakuru na kwingineko, tutakataa. Tutawaambia raia wawashambilie ili watupiliwe nje kutoka kwa kampuni hiyo. Kampuni ya Rivatex ni mali ya nchi hii na mtu moja hawezi kuichukua kwa bei ya chini kama walivyofanya Kenya Furfurd Company iliyojengwa na Kshs400 milioni. Lakini juzi Mhindi aliuziwa kwa bei ya Kshs16 milioni. Hata ardhi yenyewe ya Kenya Furfurd Company haitoshani na hiyo bei. Ardhi yenyewe inagharimu kati ya Kshs50 milioni na Kshs100 milioni.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nataka kuzungumizia juu ya maskwota. Mimi ni skwota mkubwa kwa sababu ile ardhi niko nayo tu, ni ile ya babangu. Mimi sina ardhi ya kibinafsi. Nataka kuonya watu wa EATEC, Nandi Tea na Agricultural Development Co-operation (ADC) ambao wanahusika na hilo jambo. Mtu moja wa ADC anapewa ekari 500 au 600 za ardhi na huko nyumbani kwake maskwota wanateseka. Hawa wanajidaganya. Nashukuru, Bwana Naibu Spika wa Muda.

The Member for Wajir West (Mr. Wehliye): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Presidential Address. I do not have anything to say about the Address because the area I represent---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): First of all, tell us your name.

The Member for Wajir West (Mr. Wehliye): My name is Aden Keynan Wehliye, from SAFINA Party. I represent Wajir West Constituency. As I said, I am not interested in anything in the Presidential Address because the area I represent is still a disaster zone for the last six months. It is a disaster zone, not because of natural problems, but because of artificial problems. I, would, therefore, contribute to the Presidential Address with some reservation and displeasure because the issues covered in the Presidential Address are purely hypothetical and abstract economic and political issues which, in my considered opinion, will have no bearing now and, even in the foreseeable future, on my constituents.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I say this because of the history of Northern Kenya. Northern Kenya people have been marginalised by both the Government and emerging major Opposition parties. At times, the Opposition likes heaping a lot of blame on the Government but they are not clean of such blames. This morning, the Attorney-General said that he wrote to the representatives of various political parties asking them to nominate individuals to the Constitutional Review Committee that will look into the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission Act. But, I am sorry to say, while KANU is known for marginalising us, the Opposition parties have also joined the fray to further marginalise us. Both KANU and Opposition parties did not forward the names of any MPs from the region. Therefore, sometimes, when I see my friends from the Opposition blaming KANU, I wonder about them, because I feel we are sailing in the same boat. The Opposition parties are emulating the marginalisation concept from KANU and so, there is no difference between them. I want to categorically state that whatever the Committee will come up with, it is not going to be binding on the people of Northern Kenya because we are not represented---

(Applause)

They can come up with their own theories like a Majimbo Consitution or anything else but it is not going to bind us people from Northern Kenya. I am asking those political parties to go back and review the list of those members they have nominated---

(Applause)

They should do this so that they can pick representatives of the nomads who are marginalized. Otherwise, when they come with their version of the Constitution tomorrow, we shall denounce it in the strongest terms possible.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot travel today to the North-Eastern Province by road because the roads are impassable. We have never had any good infrastructure. We have been using camel paths as roads. Today, because of floods, the roads that were partly repaired sometime before the rains, have been washed away. I, therefore, appeal to the Minister for Public Works and Housing to do something about those roads. A company by the name Skanska was awarded a contract of Kshs150 million to rehabilitate some parts of Wajir-Modogashe Road but they did nothing and yet they got paid. This is the section part that is now impassable.

With regard to schools in Wajir, we have had problems. Recently, the only help we got from the Teachers Service Commission was the transfer of up-country teachers from the area who could not travel to their respective schools because of the impassability of roads caused by the *El Nino* phenomenon. Instead of facilitating their transport to their schools, the TSC moved them away from the area. Today, most of the five secondary schools in Wajir have only the headmasters and deputies in classes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I feel that this is a disservice to the people of North Eastern Province and Wajir in particular. Recently, I had the opportunity to accompany the hon. Gideon Ndambuki on a tour of the Province. We are, indeed, very grateful to the Minister because almost 60 per cent of the pledges he made have been fulfilled. I think this is partly because the Minister has a lot of experience in the private sector where there is an element of efficiency. On Tuesday this week, the *Daily Nation* adequately covered the pathetic situation of Mathari Mental Hospital and from today's newspaper, the Minister for Health made an impromptu visit to the institution. Likewise, in February this year, we experienced a myriad of problems in Wajir where over 100 people used to die on a daily basis. It is shocking to learn that the Ministry of Health denied that people ever died in Wajir. We even challenged these people to go to the ground to confirm this, but they went there and

condemned the non-governmental organisations operating there. The Minister just appeared at the district hospital for 15 minutes. In fact, it was a technical appearance. We feel that is an abuse. We cannot attribute that to the Government, it was an individual's visit. Why should we have such an individual heading an important Ministry like the Ministry of Health? That is where we are failing.

(Applause)

The Ministry should be headed by professionals. We have professors and doctors who are capable of heading such institutions. Today, if you asked me to head the Ministry of Health, I may not accept the offer because I do not have the capacity to do so. I would even not be in a position to pronounce some of the medical jargon that is found in the profession. So this is where management begins.

About 50 per cent of the money allocated to the North Eastern Province ends up in the hands of the security forces. I feel this is purely their own creation. Actually, what happens there in a year is less than what happens in Nairobi in a day. So this kind of stereotype takes us back. Before the British came to Kenya, we used to see ourselves as nation states, and today we are going back to the same states. Today, I will talk as a Somali and say this is what the Somalis like, somebody else will say this is what Kikuyus like and so on. I would like to suggest that for us to get proportional representation, we should revert to the Senate so that those who are advocating for majimboism can say they are proportionately represented. On the other hand, those of us who believe in parliamentary representation, what we have in place is adequate. I do not believe in majimboism because we might require a masterplan to come at par with what other Kenyans have achieved for the last 35 years. I feel majimboism is not a reality, it is just an idea which is not applicable. That is why I said that whatever is contained in the Speech is purely hypothetical because we have not yet benefited. We do not have schools and infrastructure. Wajir District Hospital is a relic of the Italian labourers of the World War II. So, what are we talking about? We are talking about abstract issues as much as I would have liked both sides of the House to work together.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as much as we would like to talk about corruption, corruption has many faces; the giver and the recipient. We are in a society where there is total psychological hopelessness. Kenyans have lost hope. This is the creation of politicians, academicians and institutions. I am a poor man and many Kenyans know where I live and the kind of car I drive. But if tomorrow they see, out of the blues, that I have a new car and I have moved from my old estate to a new one without knowing the source of my money, they will query this. This is where our problems start. So, when we talk about corruption, let us identify the real cause. Many of us have contributed by either facilitating it advertently or inadvertently and, therefore, we are also to blame. Let us now look for a solution. That is why I support the hon. Member who talked about the need to have a truth commission in Kenya. Let us start from somewhere as the South Africans. We have had our own problems. If we just keep going on to what we have heard or what has happened, nothing will happen because those people who have acquired property through dubious means will naturally defend themselves. Let us forget about the past and work for a new Kenya, which is in the interest of everybody.

The Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Marimoi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to the Presidential Speech.

Let me first take this opportunity to sincerely thank the people of Marakwet East for electing me to this august House. While supporting the Motion, let me comment on the Presidential Speech.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): Mr. Marimoi, come and address the House from the Dispatch Box.

The Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Marimoi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I will take this opportunity to thank the people of Marakwet East for electing me to come this august House.

While I comment on the Presidential Speech, let me go straight to the issue of insecurity. I have no strength to speak here in this House because of the insecurity facing my people. So far we have lost over ten people, over 5,000 cattle and over 3,000 sheep and goats. This is very serious. It is indeed very serious because His Excellency the President is always singing about peace. There has been no time when His Excellency the President has not talked about peace. Let me take you back to the issue of cattle rustling because most people do not understand that Marakwets are not pastoralists. We are not pastoralists. We are settled people. We are farmers. We undertake irrigation and I do not know whether there is any community which can defeat the Marakwets as far as irrigation is concerned. This is because of the enormous water resources in our area. We have been blessed with good soil geographically, but all these resources have been rendered useless by cattle rustling. It is very

unfortunate because we border these people called Pokots. It is unfortunate because no activity is taking place now in the entire Marakwet District. People's lives have been threatened. Children have deserted their homes. They have become refugees in their country. Our security has been reduced to zero because these people are sophisticated. These are not ordinary rustlers the way people take them. It is indeed absurd because while we were attending a meeting to discuss peace, one of their lieutenants who is a Member of this House told us that whatever had happened in one of the incursions was just a *kionjo*.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): Order, Mr. Marimoi! Will you sit down! I understand the genuine concern of hon. Marimoi just like I understood the concern of hon. Kapten about insecurity, but I insist that the rules here are that we are not going to discuss any individual without a substantive Motion. So, steer clear from referring to any hon. Member.

The Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Marimoi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I did that just because of the bitterness that I have. You know people are being massacred. Sincerely, what should we do? We have no roads. We are completely--- I do not have the stamina to speak because of this issue of cattle rustling.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope something will be done. Let us take these people seriously. Nobody knows where they get these sophisticated weapons. I think we are hiding behind the Government. There is this Kenya Police Reserve which is actually supposed to actually supplement Government efforts in the frontier districts. I think these people are misusing this police reserve. I am requesting that they should be disarmed. I am requesting the Government to disarm these people and deploy regular Government security forces and do away with this Police Reserve Force. This is because in the long run, they will threaten the security of this nation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the personnel on the ground are trying to do something but they should be armed better than these rustlers because they cannot pursue them. The anti-stock theft unit is there, but they cannot pursue these rustlers. This is also because their lives are threatened. So, I do not know where we are heading to. There is laxity among officers. People should do their work the way they are supposed to. Even Members of Parliament are not just supposed to come and talk; we are here to air views which will assist this nation. Whether one is in the Opposition or in KANU, one is supposed to look after the nation. One should not just talk so that people can listen to one. Let us be serious. Let us discuss issues which will better the lives of the people of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would have liked to talk a lot concerning the Presidential Speech because it contains a lot, but where is that strength? I have no strength. I hope the police are doing something as I have been promised. What we want is peace. We have plenty to do, but we have been rendered useless. I do not want to say more points on this issue of insecurity. I hope something is being done.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I support the Motion.

Mr. Murungi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for recognising and allowing me to make some contribution to the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as politicians, we are very good and sweet talkers with flowery language laced with a lot of adjectives. We come here and flatter each other on how we are going to work together and how we are friendly and then at night, we go and organise cattle rustling between the Marakwets and the Pokots. At night we go and organise ethnic clashes and the corrupt deals and when we come together during the day, we start to talk about how we are going to save the economy and all that. I think what we need now is not the past - that culture of flattering each other. We need to be more serious in our work. Let us practise what we say in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have listened to many speeches by President Moi in this House and, I think, if we are genuine, the Speech that we are discussing now is President Moi's best Speech in this House. We in the Opposition should not always condemn somebody because he comes from a certain party or he was a candidate against our candidate. If he talked well, we should say that he has talked well and I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate President Moi for making a good Speech before this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the most powerful message which came from President's Moi's Speech was that we should advocate for peaceful resolutions of our differences in this country through serious and meaningful discussions. The President urged us to be effective and resourceful in resolving our problems. I think if we take that framework more seriously, we can resolve the teething problems that are facing this country. Many people do not seem to realise that our country is in a deep political and economic crisis. We are operating on the brink of collapse of our economy. We are the 17th poorest country on earth. This is not something to be proud of. I think questions of mass action, threats and intimidation are not going to remove this country from the economic morass that we find ourselves in. We should be more resourceful and we should think of alternatives which can remove our country from the crisis. It is in this context that most of us who participated

in the IPPG talks last year said bye bye to the politics of confrontation and threats because we think that having mass action in a situation of poverty does not resolve the poverty issues. If it is poverty, we should confront poverty. I would like to appeal to Members of Parliament to continue the spirit of IPPG which we started in the Seventh Parliament and I was very happy to work in the Committee on the Constitutional, Legal and Administrative Reforms, with people we never used to greet like hon. Kipkalia Kones and many others.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the IPPG helped us to know who those characters are and that is the reason why we now greet each other and we are happy. I want to clear my name because I have been accused by a section of the Press of masterminding the tea farmers strike earlier this year. This is contrary to my style of work. I am the vice-chairman of Coffee and Tea Parliamentary Association (COTEPA). Myline is that one of dialogue, constructive engagement with all the players in the tea industry. We stepped into the tea crisis to resolve the issues and brought a dialogue between KUSTO and Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) and the Government. Do you remember the big televised meeting in the hon. Ministers office? On Monday this week we had a marathon meeting in Meru with the directors of the three tea factories; Githongo, Imenti and Kinoro. It was a twelve hour meeting, and it was attended by all the factory directors, all the leaders of KUSTO and I chaired that meeting. We agreed to increase the monthly payment for Tea farmers in Meru from Ksh6.00 to Ksh 7.50. So, with effect from 1st of July this year, tea farmers in Meru will be paid Ksh7.50 per kilo. As I sought dialogue, we had agreed since this is the farmers money, whatever remains can be paid as bonus. I am just showing how dialogue is operating at a local level.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to constitutional reforms, I would like to urge our colleagues and their constitutional experts in NCEC to join us so that we bring all these ideas together and come up with a beautiful Constitution for this country. I am happy that all Parliamentary parties have now appointed the Committee which is chaired by the Attorney-General and we have asked everybody with ideas on how we can improve the process of collecting views from wananchi and of discussing them so that we have a better Constitution, to come to Bomas of Kenya on the 11th of May, so that we can discuss and see whether, as the President said, we should improve the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission Act, so that we can move forward with speed in this area of constitutional reforms. So, I am urging all Kenyans who have anything to say with regard to the process, whether we should go by a commission, convention constitutional conference, to come to the Bomas of Kenya on 11th of May, so that we can start working together instead of us throwing stones at each other, calling mass action and so on. The NCEC is welcome to the Bomas of Kenya on 11th May.

With regard to the economy, I am happy that Members of Parliament are responding favourably to an initiative for economic dialogue which we are initiating and we have invited all the 212 hon. Members of Parliament to come to Mombasa Nyali Beach Hotel on 24th and 25th of this month. I am happy to say that the Speaker of the National Assembly has agreed to open hon. the Members of Parliament Seminar to discuss economic crisis in Kenya. The Minister for Finance, hon. Nyachae, will be giving a keynote address on the economic crisis in Kenya. That is the way forward. We have invited key people from the private sector, Members of Parliament from both sides of the House for us to sit down together. The IMF and the World Bank should not sit in Washington DC and tell us what to do in Kenya. Similarly, the economy is the business of all us. It is not Mr. Nyachae's business alone, it is Mr. Murungi's business, it is the business of Mr. Murungi's mother and so on. We are all affected by the economy. So, let us sit down together and see whether we can develop a common solution to our common problems. If we can get a local solution, the better.

Mr. Temporary Deputy, Sir, I am urging all hon. Members of Parliament, especially our colleagues in the Front Bench, because they are the ones who are "shaking the earth" now, to participate in this workshop. We need to say very many things about infrastructure, Local Government, research and technology. Hon. Members who are heading those portfolios should come and discuss and see whether we can do things together and move forward.

Lastly, the other day, my friend, Mr. Orenge and I got in great trouble in this House when we mentioned the business of our lack of a Vice-President in this country. President Moi has marketed himself as the professor of politics. We, in the Opposition, are wondering whether the professor has run out of ideas because section 15 of the Constitution says that we must have a Vice-President. So, I am urging my colleagues in KANU to talk to the professor so that we can have a Vice-President. Thank you.

The Nominated Member (Mr. Haji): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninasimama kuunga mkono Hotuba ya Rais.

An hon. Member: What is your name?

The Nominated Member: Ikiwa hunijui, basi wewe si Mkenya!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): Order, hon. Members!

The Nominated Member (Mr. Haji): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jina langu ni Bw. Mohammed Yussuf

Haji.

Ninakushuru kwa kunipa nafasi hii ili niweze kuchangia Hotuba ya Rais---

(Loud Consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Dr. Kituyi): Order! Mr. Haji is making his maiden speech and order will be maintained. Those who want to consult will do so in low tones. Please, give him his respect.

The Nominated Member (Mr. Haji): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, asante kwa uamuzi huo mzuri!

Ningependa kumpongeza Rais Moi kwa Hotuba yake nzuri alipohutubia Bunge hili. Hotuba yake ilionyesha shida nyingi ambazo nchi hii inakabiliana nazo. Aliwaomba waheshimiwa Wabunge katika Bunge hili waweze kujadiliana na kutafuta suluhisho kwa pamoja. Hata hivyo, jambo la kuhuzunisha sana ni kuwa tumetumia wakati wetu mwingi kulaumiana. Ukweli ni kwamba kulaumiana hakuwezi kutusaidia katika jambo lolote. Shida zinazokabili nchi yetu si shida za nchi hii tu, bali tunajua ya kwamba uchumi katika bara la Afrika na Asia una shida mbalimbali.

Jambo la pili, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tunapozungumza juu ya uchumi ni lazima tuimarisha usalama nchini. Kwa mfano, wanaume ambao wameoa wanajua ya kwamba wanapogombana na mabibi zao, wao huwa na wasiwasi mwingi wanapokwenda kazini kwa vile hawajui kama mabibi zao watakwenda nyumbani kwao na watoto na kadhalika. Usalama wa nchi ni muhimu katika shughuli za kukuza uchumi wa nchi yoyote.

Jambo la pili ni kwamba, tukizungumuza juu ya uchumi, ni lazima pia tufikirie juu ya idadi ya watu katika nchi hii. Kama watu ni wengi sana, ni vigumu kupanga uchumi wetu sawasawa. Jambo la kusikitisha sana ni kwamba, watu wetu wanafahamu juu ya ongezeko la idadi ya watu. Watu wameelezwa kuhusu upangaji wa uzazi lakini kuna jambo lingine ambalo makanisa na viongozi binafsi hawakuweza kuzungumzia ili kuhakikisha kwamba idadi ya watu haiongezeki. Kwa mfano leo, tuko na wanawake wengi ambao hawajaolewa na kila mmoja ana watoto haramu kumi ambao wamezaliwa bila mpango wowote. Wazazi wao wanakubali kuwaweka watoto hawa katika nyumba zao hapa Nairobi na sehemu zingine za humu nchini.

Kwa hivyo, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo hili linaleta hii shida ya watoto wanaozurura mitaani ambao hujulikana kama chokora. Sidhani kama kuna mzazi ambaye atakubali watoto wake wazurure mitaani na kula chakula cha pipa. Ukweli ni kwamba hawa ni watoto ambao wako na mzazi mmoja. Na kama hatutazungumuza juu ya jambo hili, basi itakuwa vigumu kwa nchi hii kutumainia mambo mema baadaye.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kama vile Mheshimiwa wa Wajir Magharibi alivyozungumuza, wananchi wanaoishi katika mkoa wa Kaskazini Mashariki, sehemu zingine za Tana River na pia Bonde la Ufa wana taabu kubwa kuliko wananchi wengine wa sehemu zingine za Kenya. Sisi watu tunaotoka sehemu hizo tunashangaa wakati watu wanalia kuhusu barabara, maji na vyakula. Kwetu mambo haya ni kama hadithi. Hapo zamani za kale, tunaambiwa kwamba siku moja fisi aliona nyani akiwa na matako nyekundu, halafu akasema: "Sisi hatulali; mchana na usiku tunatafuta chakula, huku wengine wameshiba mpaka wanafunga chakula kwa matako yao". Sisi watu wa mkoa wa Kaskazini tunastaajabu wakati watu wengine wa kutoka Mkoa wa Kati, Pwani na sehemu za Mkoa wa Bonde la Ufa wanalalamika kwamba wanashida. Watu wenye shida kubwa katika nchi hii ni wale wa Mkoa wa Kaskazini Mashariki, kwa sababu hawana hata mitambo ya kusaga hata mahindi. Pia kuna vijana katika mkoa huo ambao wamesoma lakini hawana kazi na hakuna mahali watapata kazi katika nchi hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mimi ninashangaa kusikia kwamba ndugu yangu hataki majimbo. Mimi ninataka tuwe na majimbo katika nchi hii yetu. Hata kama tutalazimika kula mawe, wacha sisi tule bora tuwe na majimbo ili tujue ya kwamba tuko katika mahali petu na tunaweza kujiamlia mambo yetu sisi wenyewe. Hakuna haja ya kulaumu Serikali kwa shida ambazo zinakumba nchi yetu kwa sasa. Wakati tunakutana katika mikutano ya DDC, makatibu na manaibu wao ambao wana jukumu la kupanga wanafanya maendeleo katika sehemu zao za nyumbani. Kwa kweli leo, kuna Katibu wa Kudumu mmoja Msomali na manaibu wa katibu watano. Je ni nani anawafanyia watu hawa maendeleo?

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninataka kumshukuru mtukufu Rais kwa kujishugulisha na amani ya nchi hii na hata nchi za nje. Kwa mfano, hivi majuzi, mababe wa kivita kutoka Somalia walipoenda kumuona, tunamshukuru kwa kuwapokea kwa sababu sisi Waafrika tunaamini katika undugu. Kama ndugu yako ni mgonjwa, basi hata wewe unajihisi ukiwa mgonjwa.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, amani kwa nchi ya Somalia, ni amani kwa nchi ya Kenya pia. Kwa hivyo, ningependa kumshukuru Mtukufu Rais na kumuunga mkono. Na ningependa kuomba nchi za ulimwengu kumsaidia Mtukufu Rais ili aweze kupata suluhisho kwa tatizo la Somalia. Ninaamini kwamba Wasomali popote walipo, wamamuamini Mtukufu Rais Moi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, *El Nino* imesababisha shida nyingi sana kwa Mkoa wa Kaskazini. Na

imeturudisha nyuma miaka mia moja wakati mzungu alipoingia hapa. Tangu zamani, hatujawahi kuwa na barabara ya lami wala za murrum. Barabara zetu nyingi ni za mchanga tu. Na wakati mvua hiyo ilipokuja, barabara hizo zote ziliharijika. Kule ninakotoka, babu yangu alikufa akiwa na miaka 90, baba yangu amekufa akiwa na miaka 78 na mimi nina miaka 58 na sijawahi kama wao, kuona maji ya mfereji, ilhali mto Tana unapitia kule.

An hon. Member: Laumu Serikali!

The nominated Member (Mr. Haji): Siwezi kuilaumu Serikali. Mimi ninalaumu wananchi wote wa Kenya, kwa sababu, maofisa wa Serikali wakuu wanatoka kwa Upinzani na Serikali. Kwa hivyo, msimu huu kuna haja Serikali iunde kamati maalum ya kuchunguza shida za mkoa huo. La sivyo, Mkoa wa Kaskazini utaitolea nchi ya Kenya taabu kubwa zaidi.

After 10 years, you will not be talking about street children and cattle rustling, but about a more serious problem. Kwa sababu, siyo vizuri kusababisha watu waishi kama hayawani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni wajibu wetu sisi sote kuzingatia amani. Hakuna haja ya kuwalaumu polisi.

The Member for Kisumu Town East (Mr. Sungu): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me this opportunity to make my maiden speech. Like others who have spoken before me, I would like to commend the Presidential Speech. This was a very refreshing reminder that Kenyans are tired of politics of confrontation and that actually, we need to talk peace. We need constructive engagement. We should now have a new beginning, building bridges across ethnic boundaries and have unity in diversity, so as to give hope to the people of Kenya. We must have consensus on both sides of the House in order to achieve this.

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

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problems that face Kenya have been well covered by hon. Members who spoke before me. The challenges are many. Whether we blame them on the *El Nino* or drought, the fact is, we have a collapsed infrastructure, famine is looming large, the economy is on the verge of collapse, and we have a huge domestic debt. Foreign aid has been suspended and we still have problems with human rights and democracy. There is also insecurity instigated by politicians in the name of land clashes and a lot of student unrest in our education institutions due to the 8-4-4 system of education.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are aware, and it is documented in this Parliament that the poverty level is approximately 67 per cent. There is a lot of corruption which is endemic. There is an inefficient health system and unemployment is now the order of the day.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, allow me to mention just one word about corruption. I represent a constituency called Kisumu Town East which is situated in Kisumu Town. The land grabbing mania in Kisumu is worse than anything else in the whole of this country. As I talk here now, the provincial headquarters which is based in Kisumu Municipality, has been grabbed by a former area Provincial Commissioner, a Mr. Joseph Kaguthi and ironically, the Government is now paying rent to this man who has taken over the ownership of this premises. This is corruption of the highest order and which must be stopped. There is no need---

An hon. Member: On a point of order, Deputy Mr. Speaker.

The Member for Kisumu Town East (Mr. Sungu): This is a maiden speech, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is no need for the Government, which needs more money, to pay rent to a former PC who did not take this premises from Kinangop to Kisumu. This is Government premises, and the deal is corrupt without any doubt. Having said that allow me to mention some of the problems in my constituency. The Presidential Address talked about clean water. Let me tell the House that in Kisumu we have an old dilapidated water supply system which was built, approximately the year I was born, in 1954. This water system was meant to supply water to a population of 32,000 people. Kisumu Town now has a population of 650,000 people. As I talk to this House now, we do not have a single drop of water in Manyatta, Kondele, Migosi, Kolua, Kajulu; not even in the hospitals in the area, including the Nyanza Provincial General Hospital. All the water that is supplied in Kisumu goes to Nyalenda, Milimani and some parts of the central town while the rest goes to a firm called Kenya Breweries. The company takes nearly all the water meant for Kisumu residents, leaving the people without water.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with this water problem, you cannot blame anybody if there is an outbreak of cholera, malaria, or typhoid. This is a very important point which I would like to stress, because our people are dying. They are dying of cholera because we do not have clean water. They are dying like brooms.

An hon. Member: What does that mean?

The Member for Kisumu Town East: They are dying like brooms. There is now a new mode. Every rain that falls is followed by an outbreak of cholera because of the shallow wells that we have for drinking water and the shallow sewage system. Whenever water flooding occurs, wastes seep into the drinking-water wells and hence, the cholera outbreak. I cannot fail to mention the fact that my constituency is plagued with perennial flooding. It is not the *El Nino* which caused flooding in Nyanza. The flooding in Nyanza and Busia, and the areas surrounding Lake Victoria in general, is perennial, and it is hardly possible for me to support a policy statement which does not address the issue of flooding.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we are to address the issue of flooding, we would be able to feed the whole of this country with rice and other crops that would be grown in the Kano plains. It is a shame for this country to import rice from Pakistan which is drier than Kisumu and many parts of Kenya. It is a shame for us to import rice from anywhere when the Kano plains can produce enough rice for this country. All we need to do is to control the floods and put in place irrigation projects. No speech can be made in this Parliament by a person who hails from Kisumu without mentioning the problems of the Victoria wetland.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Victoria Wetlands are now called the "Victoria Wastelands," and this is because the Government has ignored the most important resource that we have in this area; the waters of Lake Victoria and its environs. We find that this area is fertile but nothing has been done. When I came to this House, I was asked by my constituents to ask this simple question: "What about the Lake Victoria Wetlands which can be used to feed the population?" We cannot talk about this area without mentioning some of the roads that we have because we do not have any roads. For instance the Got-Nyabondo road which would link us with our brothers in Aldai and hence the Rift Valley is virtually non-existent. Women and children have to climb approximately 2,000 feet in two kilometres, that is a very high gradient, to reach Nyabondo and Serem area and the people of the Rift Valley are our friends and relatives. Apart from the isolated cases of cattle rustling that exist, we are friends and we have never had any battles or anything like that. This road must be constructed to bring our people closer together. We have many bridges like the Bolo-Ogita Road Bridge, the Olando-Mologoro which were wiped out by floods a long way back and over 800,000 families cannot take their produce to the market or buy provisions in the market because they cannot cross swollen rivers due to non-existent bridges. I believe my brother from Bomet is listening to me because I am aware that recently he travelled to my area and corrected a malaise that had eaten the roads of Nyanza. I am referring to the contractor who constructed the road between Kisumu, Miwani and Muhoroni in a sub-standard manner.

Thank you Mr. Minister.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, anybody talking about Kisumu cannot fail to mention the problem of the water hyacinth and the fact that fishermen cannot go to the Lake now from very many points because of this weed. The Jua Kali sector is not receiving enough support from the Government. If we cannot support our dear people yet we have this problem of unemployment, then we are doing nothing. I would, therefore, wish that the Government encourages the Jua Kali sector by providing micro-financing so that the people can go on with their jobs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot fail to mention the fact that due to the recent *El Nino* induced rains, we have had collapsed housing and school buildings. We must receive help from the powers that be. We know that recently the Government installed what is now known as the Disaster Management Committee. I attended one District Disaster Management Committee meeting which seemed to be just a talking shop. Nothing seems to be done. We must address this issue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, having said that about my constituency, let me now mention a problem that has afflicted us of late. That is corruption in Chemelil Sugar Factory. I would like to appeal to the Government to do something about it. As we are talking now, people have been killed because of a dispute there.

Thank you.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Angwenyi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me a chance to contribute towards this important Speech. But first, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Speaker and his Deputy Speaker for being elected into those positions. I also take an early opportunity to thank the people of Kitutu Chache for voting for me in large numbers in that part of the country. I thank the President for having appointed me as an Assistant Minister in his Office. My appointment was appreciated by the people of Kitutu Chache who elected me.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Speech was a great Speech. It gave the outline of the Government's policy and the way forward. The President gave the Government's policy with regard to poverty, unemployment, economy and a co-operative effort in this House to solve the problems facing this country. The policies touched the core areas of our nation. As we know, our country is impoverished and the economy is declining at a very high rate in that, a person who used to afford a kilo of sugar a few years ago cannot afford it today. It is not that we do not have the resources to turn round our economy, but both sides of this House have

allowed a few people to mis-manage and destroy our economy and go scot-free.

We need to do some whistle-blowing. If some money is allocated to a particular project, and we see somebody mismanaging the funds, we should point it out and see to it that, that person is pursued through the legal means of this country. This way, we can stop this scourge of ruining the economy of this country. In fact, it is my view that economic crimes are worse than the capital crimes in this country. When a person takes away Kshs500 million or Kshs1 billion, he is destroying a million people in this country. He is making these people not to afford medical attention and school fees.

We have liberalised our economy. I am talking now as a student of economics. We have accepted every prescription that the World Bank has given us. The World Bank has told us to liberalise housing, and you can hear what the Member for Kisumu East is saying. We accepted liberalisation in this House. The World Bank has told us to liberalise Chemelili Sugar Factory, African Tours and Hotels, and you can see what is happening there. In the process, we are rendering a lot of our people jobless. We are not creating job opportunities by liberalising everything. We have not come out with a mechanism which can give us the true value of what we are privatising. The World Bank and other agencies have come in and told us to liberalise the entire economy, and you can see what has happened.

We are importing a lot of sugar and destroying our own people who have elected us to this House. Very soon, we may import tea from China. But the day we will begin importing tea, I can assure you that the people of Kisii, Meru and Kericho will stand up in arms and say: "No! enough is enough". We are now importing maize. But we must control the importation. The duty which is waived for the people who are importing maize should be given to the farmers. This way, we will grow enough maize for our own consumption and export.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! It is now time to interrupt the business of the House. The House stands adjourned until 2.30 pm, this afternoon.

The House rose at 12.30 p.m.