

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 7th July, 1999

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. P. K. Mwangi's Question?

Question No.389

ACCIDENTS ALONG THIKA-MAKUTANO ROAD

Mr. P. K. Mwangi asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

- (a) how many accidents involving vehicles have occurred along Thika-Makutano dual carriage way in the last four years;
- (b) how many people have died or have been critically injured due to these accidents; and,
- (c) what the Ministry is doing to curb these accidents.

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

- (a) A total of 63 motor vehicle accidents occurred along this road.
- (b) Out of that, 26 people died, while 87 people were seriously injured.
- (c) The Government had taken the following measures to curb accidents on this road:-
 - (i) A highway patrol base was established in Makuyu in March, 1999.
 - (ii) Speed checks have been intensified on the road sections.
 - (iii) Crack-down on un-road worthy and defective motor vehicles have been intensified.
 - (iv) Traffic signs have been put up along the Thika-Makutano Road, together with warnings of

the black-spots that are on this section of the road.

Mr. P. K. Mwangi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is quite a very misleading answer. I travel from home to Parliament daily using the Thika-Makutano Road and there is no single road sign along there. Secondly, the work on that road was not properly done, because during the rainy season, we experience the highest rate of accidents. Considering the loss of lives that we witness, and even these 63 motor vehicle accidents---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Ask your Question!

Mr. P. K. Mwangi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister assure this House that grips will be added on this Road to safeguard the security of motorists, because it is quite slippery and there are no road signs?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not agree with the hon. Member that there are no road signs on that road. I am sure that there are many road signs there. It is important that we encourage people to drive more carefully. It is true that during the rainy season accidents do occur more often than during the dry season. So, people have to exercise extra caution when driving during the wet season.

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to seek your guidance regarding which Ministry is responsible for that Question. Is it the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, or His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya responsible to answer that Question?

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! The Question is asking about accidents which occurred, and that is clearly a matter with the Traffic Police Department. The Supplementary Question which Mr. P. K. Mwangi asked relates to the road maintenance, which falls under the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. So, really, the problem is

with Mr. Mr. P. K. Mwangi, who is not following his Question which has to do with the Office of the President. The Minister of State, Office of the President, is right to answer the original Question.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Minister aware that part of the reason as to why there are many accidents on this road is because of the type of construction work that the Road went under? It is not the question of time the season or speed limits, but we need to re-look at that road and see whether really the specifications done are what we need. Could the Minister refer that Question to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing so that we can get a technical evaluation of that road?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have ruled on what should be done if the hon. Members want to get information about the said Road.

Mr. Twaha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Minister aware that along the Malindi-Lamu Road more people are injured by bandits than by motor accidents?

(Applause)

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am aware of that.

Hon. Members: What action are you taking!

Mr. P. K. Mwangi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, well, I agree with the Minister that there has been the establishment of a patrol base at Makuyu. Could the Minister confirm or deny that the officer commanding the patrol base commutes daily from Nairobi to Makuyu? Could the Minister pledge that the Government will construct a residential house for that officer in Makuyu?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are looking at the possibility of doing that.

Question No.126

EXPENDITURE ON 1997 GENERAL ELECTIONS

Mr. N. N. Nyagah asked the Minister for Finance:-

(a) how much money was budgeted/allocated for the last General Elections held on 29/30 December, 1997;

(b) how much money was actually spent; and,

(c) whether he could explain the Government's failure to maintain its budgetary (financial) discipline.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Any one from the Ministry of Finance? We will come back to that Question.

Question No.140

ESTABLISHMENT OF A BANANA PROCESSING
PLANT IN KISII

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Obwocha's Question is deferred because he is out of the country.

Question No.038

SPECIAL CONTINGENCY PROGRAMME
FOR KCPE CANDIDATES

Mr. Anyona asked the Minister for Education and Human Resource Development whether in view of the many 1998 Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) candidates who qualified, but failed to obtain admission to Form, he will consider:

(a) establishing a Special Contingency Programme to admit these candidates to Form 1 as proposed in the Memorandum submitted to him by the Kenya Social Congress (KSC) Ref.KM/03/99 dated 10th January, 1999; and,

(b) abolition of the Kenya Certificate of Primary Examination (KCPE) to provide a basic Universal Primary Education (UPE) of twelve years in the country as recommended in the KSC Memorandum and in the National Poverty Eradication Plan, 1999-2015.

The Assistant Minister for Education and Human Resource Development (Mr. Ruto): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg that I be allowed to answer that Question tomorrow afternoon. I have consulted with my colleague hon. "George."

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Who is your "colleague hon. George?"

The Assistant Minister for Education and Human Resource Development (Mr. Ruto): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am referring to the concerned Hon. Member.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: What is your response, "hon. colleague George?"

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that Question was deferred on the 12th of May because the Ministry did not receive a copy of the memorandum referred to in the Question. I did later supply a copy of the memorandum to the Ministry and it is more than a month since then. I do feel sorry with the hon. Assistant Minister who told me that he just saw the answer to the Question today, and that he does not want to make a mess of himself. I can understand that. But could we have the Question answered tomorrow?

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Mr. Munyasia, Hon. Anyona stood up on a point of order and I am replying him. I am now directing that the Question be answered tomorrow in the afternoon.

Yes, Mr. Munyasia!

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. According to the Speaker's rules, we are supposed to address elected Members by the names of their constituencies, for instance, the Member for Kitutu Masaba instead of "colleague George" and those nominated as "hon. So-and-so". Is hon. Ruto in order to refer to hon. Anyona as "my colleague George?"

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Of course, we can refer to an hon. Member "as hon. so and so" or the Member for X Constituency. But since "colleague George", seems to be comfortable with that title, I see no reason to intervene!

(Laughter)

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I see no quarrel with my neighbour at home, but clearly we have to address Members by their right titles in the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Point taken. Hon. Ruto, do you want to withdraw and apologise or you want to answer?

The Assistant Minister for Education and Human Resource Development (Mr. Ruto): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am going to bring an answer to the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Kitonga!

Question No.273

COMPLETION OF ITHOKANI-IMWAATINI WATER PROJECT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Kitonga is not here? We will come back to that Question later. Next Question, Mr. Magara!

Question No.384

WITHDRAWAL OF NDURU HEALTH CENTRE AMBULANCE

Mr. Magara asked the Minister for Health:-

(a) why the Land Rover Registration number GK 193Q, based at Nduru Health Centre was taken away;

(b) where the said Land Rover was taken and when it will be returned; and,

(c) what measures have been provided in the meantime, to transport patients at Nduru Health Centre, who are referred to the district hospital which is 30 kilometres away.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Dr. Wako): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Land Rover Registration number GK 193Q was taken away for the sole purpose of repair after it broke down.

(b) The Land Rover, 193Q which was based at Nduru Health Centre was taken to Kirangu Motor

Garage in August 1996 when Gucha District was still under the larger Kisii District. It will be returned to the respective station once the repairs are done.

(c) For acute and emergency cases, the health centre depends on vehicles from Kisii District Hospital.

Mr. Magara: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is quite pathetic to hear that a Land Rover, which was taken for repair in 1996 up to this particular moment, is still pending for repairs. Arising from the Assistant Minister's reply, on Monday, 5th July, we had our DDC meeting and the District Commissioner together with the Gucha Medical Officer of Health stated that the vehicle was now vandalised beyond repair. When this vehicle was handed over, we do not know who received it and who handed it over to that particular garage. Could the Assistant Minister tell us who vandalised this Land Rover and what disciplinary action he has taken against that particular person?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not aware that the vehicle has been vandalised. Actually, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing inspected the vehicle on 11th June, 1998 and before it is handed back to the District Medical Officer of Health, it will be inspected again by the District Mechanical Engineer to ascertain whether there was any vandalism.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister said they are using vehicles from Kisii District Hospital. He knows very well that Kisii District Hospital has no ambulance and no vehicles at all. So, which vehicles are they using to help Nduru Health Centre with their problems?

Dr. Wako: It is true that Kisii District Hospital does not have an ambulance, but it does have a vehicle.

Mr. Magara: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have told the Assistant Minister that the Land Rover has been vandalised beyond repair and since I have informed him about the facts from the ground what steps is he taking against the officers who handed over that Land Rover without following the proper procedure?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the District Health Management Board has actually recommended that the vehicle be removed from the garage and be taken to the Medical Officer of Health's compound. Before they do that, we have asked the District Mechanical Engineer to inspect the vehicle so that we can establish whether it has been vandalised or not.

Mr. Otula: Now that the vehicle is still being inspected and it will be taken to the compound of the District Medical Officer of Health's compound, can the Assistant Minister tell us what steps he is going to take to make sure that Nduru Health Centre has got a Land Rover which can be able to assist in that Health Centre?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already said we are going to use vehicles from Kisii District Hospital.

Mr. Magara: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when is this going to be done? Why should this Assistant Minister try to joke around? I have told him that the vehicle has been vandalised. If he wants, I can bring here the Minutes of the DDC to prove to him that the answers he is giving us are not correct. Since it seems that he does not know what is happening in his offices at Kisii, can he undertake to go further and get us further information on the state of this Land Rover? Since he is now aware, can he find out and bring facts here on how this Land Rover was handed over to the garage, who handed it over to the garage and what its condition is at the moment?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as we are aware, the District Mechanical Engineer inspected the vehicle on 11th June, 1998 and said that the cost will be about Kshs2,295. Before the Land Rover is removed from the garage, it will be reinspected again to ascertain whether there was any vandalism.

Mr. Keynan: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Because of the inability of the Assistant Minister to bring a convenient answer to the House and since the Ministry of Health is the lifeline of Kenyans, would it not be in order for the Chair to summon the Minister who has never answered a Question since he was appointed a Cabinet Minister to come and answer this particular Question?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Assistant Ministers are competent enough to answer Questions and I do not see the reason why the Minister has to be summoned to answer Questions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Dr. Wako! The Question was directed to the Chair and the Chair does not answer Questions. So, just ignore it. Next Question, Mr. Ochilo!

Question No.393

REHABILITATION OF HEALTH CENTRES AT RONGO

Mr. Ochilo asked the Minister for Health:-

(a) whether he could list the improvement measures, in terms of equipment, staff and buildings that the Ministry has made to Awendo, Rongo, Dede and Ongo Health Centres in Rongo

Constituency in the last three years; and,

(b) how equipped these health centres are to deal with emergencies.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Dr. Wako): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) My Ministry has done the following improvements to Awendo, Rongo, Dede and Ongo Health Centres in Rongo Constituency in the last three years. As regards Rongo Health Centre; it posted seven enroled community nurses; one clinical officer; six public health technologists and technicians; fencing of the compound; constructing a gate; construction of two wards for male and female is underway. As for Awendo Health Centre, it posted seven community enroled nurses, one registered clinical officer; five public health technologists and technicians; one laboratory technician; fencing of the compound, repairing of the leaking roofs and the provision of all theatre equipment. We posted two enroled community nurses, one sub-ordinate staff, one watchman and provided immunisation equipment to Dede Health Centre. With regard to Ongo Health Centre, we posed two enroled community nurses, one sub-ordinate staff, one watchman and provided immunisation equipment.

(b) With seven nurses each, Rongo and Awendo Health Centres in Migori District are considered to be well staffed. Depending on the availability of the resources, the Government is determined to make available the required equipment to give quality health care. For more serious cases, the patients are referred to Homa Bay and Kisii District Hospitals.

Mr. Ayacko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very dissatisfied with the answer given by the Assistant Minister, particularly on part (b) of the Question. The absence of a doctor in all the health centres is very conspicuous. There is no doctor to deal with any emergency. As I am talking now, there is an outbreak of cholera. There is also no ambulance. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House, how those people are supposed to travel to Homa Bay and Kisii District Hospitals, which are about 90 kilometres away, without being attended to by a doctor, during an emergency?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the establishment of the Ministry of Health, health centres are run by clinical officers and not doctors. Therefore, in Rongo, there is a health clinical officer. In case of a cholera outbreak, the district health team goes out to help in such an emergency.

Mr. Ayacko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has given a list of what the Ministry has done. It is not indicated in the Assistant Minister's list, whether the improvement was effected in the last three years. He has merely given the number of staff that are there. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House what the establishment was three years ago, what has been added, and what is there presently?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Member asked for the improvement in the last three years, and we have given him that.

Mr. Maitha: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to seek clarification from the competent Assistant Minister. He has said that there is a health clinical officer. In medical terms, we have never heard of a person known as a health clinical officer! Could he tell us who the person he is referring to is, in medical terms?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is the clinical officer.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It was the slip of the tongue!

Mr. Achola: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, despite the fact that Awendo is catering for many people who work at the SONY Sugar Company, could the Assistant Minister upgrade the Awendo Health Centre to a full hospital or a sub-district hospital, so that it can deal with all the emergencies?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think we do not have such a recommendations from the District Development Committee (DDC). If we get such a recommendation, it will be considered.

Mr. Ayacko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is not being truthful to this House. In his answer to part (a) of the Question, he said that Awendo has seven nurses. In the last part, he has also said that there are seven nurses. In other words, there has not been any improvement. Were there seven nurses three years ago? Is that the position now? Could the Assistant Minister give us the specific improvements that have been made?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in part (b) of the Question, the hon. Member has asked whether the hospital is equipped to deal with emergencies. We have replied that with seven nurses and a clinical officer, we have enough staff to deal with any emergency.

Question No.126

Mr. N. Nyagah asked the Minister for Finance:-

- (a) how much money was budgeted/allocated for the last General Elections held on 29th to 30th December, 1997;
- (b) how much money was actually spent; and,
- (c) whether he could explain the Government's failure to maintain its budgetary (financial) discipline.

The Assistant Minister for Finance Mr. Arap Kirui): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my apologies for not being in the House when the Question was called for the first time. I was unavoidably delayed. However, I beg to reply.

(a) Financial resources budgeted for the last General Elections held on 29th and 30th December, 1997 amounted to K£158,410,695.

(b) Financial resources actually spent in excess of this amount surpassed by an additional K£10 million, which is yet to be paid.

(c) The over-expenditure on 1997 General Elections did not arise from any failure of the Government to maintain budgetary discipline. It was caused by factors that were beyond the Government's control, which include the following:

(i) The Inter-Party Parliamentary Group (IPPG) recommendations relating to the registration of political parties. This resulted in the registration of numerous political parties, leading to the increased election materials such as ballot papers.

(ii) The detrimental effects of the *El Nino* rains that made our roads impassable---

Mr. Maitha: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. While we are listening to a very important answer from the Assistant Minister, is it in order for KANU C, which has failed to travel to Meru to bury its Executive Officer, to consult in very high voices?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Let us give whoever is on the Floor a chance to be heard. He is answering a fairly important Question that affected all of you who were elected!

Mr. Maitha: It is KANU C---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Maitha! There is no KANU C in this House! That is a joke you are carrying too far! Stop it right there! Proceed, hon. Kirui!

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Arap Kirui): Thank you. As I was saying, there were several reasons for the over-expenditure. The second one was the detrimental effects of the *El Nino* rains that made roads impassable by normal modes of transportation. This prompted the Electoral Commission of Kenya to hire expensive transport services.

(iii) The extension of the election period by one day also resulted in additional costs.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, here is a situation where the integrity and authority of Parliament is being put to question. Could the Assistant Minister explain how K£10 million, which works to Kshs200 million, was obtained and from where?

The Assistant Minister has told us that Kshs3.3 billion was spent on the last General Elections. But he has refused to include in his answer, the amount that was passed by this House, through the Supplementary Estimates. Why was this not done?

Mr. Arap-Kirui: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, the K£10 million has not yet been paid. And it is true that 10 per cent of K£158 million is a very small percentage indeed. But the nature of Estimates is that, when we come to the actual expenditure, the estimates are either less or more. However, to be within a 10 percentage variation is extremely good.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Assistant Minister has told us that one of the reasons why the Electoral Commission had to over-spend was that more political parties were registered, leading to the printing of more ballot papers. I do not understand that explanation. Were ballot papers printed for political parties or they were printed for voters? How could that have been the reason why more money was spent?

Mr. Arap-Kirui: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thought that is a matter of common sense. Those of us who voted in the last General Election saw how long the ballot paper was. A longer ballot paper is more expensive than a short one.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is varying his own reply. He said the registration of more political parties occasioned the printing of more ballot papers. Now, he is describing the longer ballot paper, not more ballot papers. But be that as it may, how does the Assistant Minister account for this difference? He says that they projected to spend K£158 million for that exercise. They borrowed K£10 million, which they have not paid. The Printed Estimates for 1997/98 Financial Year was K£104 million.

Where did you get the shortfall of K£54 million, because it is not part of K£10 million which was borrowed?

Mr. Arap-Kirui: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not have a copy of the Printed Estimates that the hon. Member has. I also do not have a copy of the Supplementary Estimates here with me. However, I am sure that if we add these figures together, they will constitute approximately what I have given.

Mr. N. Nyagah: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister does not want to be serious with us because the Printed Estimates are within his reach. Arising from the answer he has given us, he does not want to come out clean. Could he go back and bring a good answer to this House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I agree, Mr. Nyagah. He is so ordered to come with a comprehensive answer next Wednesday. Next Question by Mr. Kitonga.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Mr. Gitonga--

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Wambua! Where were you when I called this Question for the first time?

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I apologise for not asking it when it was called out for the first time.

Question No.273

COMPLETION OF ITHOKANI-
IMWAATINI WATER PROJECT

Mr. Wambua, on behalf of **Mr. Kitonga,** asked the Minister for Water Resources:-

- (a) when the water project for Ithokani-Imwaatini stall,
- (b) what efforts he has made to recover the items stolen from the project; and,
- (c) what action he is taking to repair and/or to restore the said water project.

The Assistant Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Mokku): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Water Project for Ithokani-Imwaatini stall in 1997 as a result of vandalism coupled with frequent pipe bursts.

(b) Ithokani-Imwaatini Water Project is a community based water supply scheme. It is, therefore, upon the project management committee and other local leaders including the police to ensure its security and recovery of the stolen items.

(c) My Ministry intends to assist technically, the beneficial community, rehabilitate the project as soon as Kshs3 million required is made available.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, arising from the answer given by the Assistant Minister on part "b" of the Question, if he is saying that the Ministry will spend some money to rehabilitate that project, why is it that they are not responsible for the stolen items and restor others?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Member did not listen to my reply carefully. I did not say that the Ministry has Kshs3 million, but I said when that money will be available we will spend it to rehabilitate that project. It is not the Ministry that will avail that money, because this is a community based project funded by the local Catholic Church. So, I think the hon. Member misunderstood that part of the Question. On the stolen items, I think, the responsibility of looking after that project does not lie squarely on the Ministry, but the project management committee, because this is a community based project.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think I need your guidance on this matter. Is it the responsibility of the Ministry to supply water to common wananchi who are tax payers or not? Even if this is a community based project, could you tell us why your Ministry cannot provide the stolen items so that water can be supplied to that area?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, the hon. Member should advise his constituents against this behaviour of vandalising and stealing of items from that project. Secondly, this project is not yet a priority to the Ministry through the DDC. I am asking the hon. Member to forward it as a priority for the community through the local DDC.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

AWARD OF REHABILITATION OF JKIA

(Mr. Gatabaki) to ask a Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) Is the Minister aware of the controversy surrounding the award of the contract for the rehabilitation of the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport?

(b) If the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, could the Minister assure the House that proper procedures were followed and that the Government has not been made to lose millions of shillings by the award of the contract to the Belgium firm M/SLM Chapeaux instead of the lowest bidder, Sofreavia/Basil Read?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: This Question is deferred in agreement with the Office of the President.

(Question deferred)

HARASSMENT OF MAVOLONI FARM RESIDENTS

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that during Easter holidays this year, the District Officer, Yatta and OCS Kithimani Police Station led a group of regular and Administration Police to a private land at Mavoloni Farm where they harassed innocent members of the farm and shot one Mr. Francis Waithaka, who is now admitted at Thika District Hospital?

(b) If the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, what action has the Minister taken to stop the said DO and OCS from entering and interfering with the affairs of Mavoloni Farm?

(c) Could the Minister inform this House the name of the Police Officer who shot Mr. Francis Waithaka, and what action he has taken to ensure that the officer is prosecuted for the offence?

Before this Question is answered, I would like to inform the Chair that this a very serious Question and it is a pity that I do not have the written answer. It has become a tendency of Ministers not to provide written answers when they see serious Questions like this one.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! You have really made your point. That point has been repeatedly made in this House by none other than the Chair.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do apologise to the hon. Member. I believe the answer was sent to the House. If he has not got it, I do apologise. However, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware of any harassment of innocent members of the Mavoloni Farm. But I am aware that on 3rd April, the police officers at Kisimani Police Station went to Green Acres Farm to respond to a distress call from the Green Acres Farm workers who had been attacked by some youths armed with bows and arrows. The armed marauding youths, on seeing the police officers, disappeared into the coffee plantation. None has yet reported to the police that they were shot.

(b) The DO and the OCS were responding to a distress call by workers. Therefore, they were not really interfering with the running of the farm.

(c) Arising from my answers above, part "c" of the Question, does not arise.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. I do not know whether the Minister knows what he is talking about. I am talking about Mavoloni Farm where one Mr. Francis Waithaka was shot on the order of the DO. If you allow me, I am prepared to table the victim on the Table because he is around.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Wambua, you cannot table the victim. If you have other form of evidence, you can lay it on the Table, but you cannot table a man or a woman shot with an arrow or gun. You can never do that.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, by way of evidence and the importance of this matter, is it not possible for the victim to be brought to the Bar so that the House can see the evidence that is being referred to?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! The victim can be taken to the relevant departmental committee and it can then come and testify to this House that, in fact, they have seen the victim. If you want that done, I will order it done.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since the Minister is being informed now that the DO and the OCS went to Mavoloni Farm and not to Green Acres, as he had mentioned, because he was misled to believe that

is a private farm, can he order the DO and the OCS who ordered the police to shoot the innocent farmer to be arrested and charged? In my second question---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Ask one question at a time.

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this individual was shot, he has not reported the matter. If, indeed, he reports we will certainly follow it up.

Mr. Munyao: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is shocking because the evidence has already been given. The patient, Francis Waithaka, is in Thika District Hospital. Surely, would the Minister not have investigated and found out what happened? Is this not a refusal to answer a good question? Can the Minister tell us what efforts he has made to get to Thika District Hospital and check?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, obviously the hon. Member was not listening. I thought the Questioner said the victim is here in this House? How can he be at Thika District Hospital at the same time?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Minister, the Question does, in fact, refer to this patient being admitted to Thika District Hospital. The question that

hon. Munyao has asked is: What steps did you take to establish why this man was in hospital and whether, indeed, he was shot.

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are helping the Questioner. That is not what he asked. You are trying to help him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Minister, in fact, I am helping you just to say if the patient is here after being admitted in the hospital. It is simple.

Mr. Mwhia: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir. This is a very serious issue that has been raised by hon. Wambua because it has been a trend for policemen and administrative officers to keep on harassing and releasing their stress and tension on innocent Kenyans. Is it in order for the Minister to avoid answering the Question? The man in question was shot through the stomach and the bullet blew up the biceps of his left hand. The OCS has been following the man to silence him because he cannot even get the P3 form. Is it in order for the Minister not to address this Question directly since the victim is here with us in this House?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to get more evidence from the Questioner as to whether this victim was actually shot and whether he might have been one of the youths who were harassing the workers in the farm.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Here is a case where a Kenyan has been shot by Government officers and yet the Minister is coming here to defend the people who have shot this Kenyan. Parliament is helpless. I propose that for the purpose of collecting evidence, if the victim is around, he should be brought to the Bar which is perfectly in order. If that is not the case then can we have this matter referred to the Administration Committee of the House give evidence and then the committee brings a report to this House so that these Ministers can take Kenyans seriously?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In fact, I had asked if that is what the Questioner wanted. If he had said so, I would have ruled on that way a long time ago. There is no way we can bring a stranger to the Bar for purposes of seeing a gun wound. I will not accept that. Mr. Wambua, if you do wish this matter to be referred to the committee dealing with administration and security matters, I will so direct. It is you who must decide what you want to be done with your Question. If you find that the Minister's answer is not satisfactory to you, I cannot force him to answer you in a specific way, but I can, in fact, take this matter to the relevant committees for further investigations and it will report to the House.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would wish this Question to be referred back to the relevant Committee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Question will be referred to the relevant committee.
Next Question?

CRACKDOWN ON INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM DEALERS

Mr. Ayako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Energy the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) What is the legal basis for the ban and crackdown on independent petroleum dealers in Nairobi as announced by the Nairobi Provincial Commissioner and the Permanent Secretary, Energy, on June 21, 1999?

(b) Could the Minister confirm that multinational petroleum dealers who feel threatened by competition

from indigenous dealers have had no hand in the decision?

(c) Could he further justify this decision, given that the Ministry imposed the ban without giving the indigenous dealers a hearing?

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) There is no ban or crackdown on independent petroleum dealers in Nairobi. The ongoing exercise is a countrywide crackdown on petroleum dealers whether independent or otherwise who are handling petroleum products in contravention of the law and thereby, exposing the public and the environment to risk. The businesses which have been ordered closed down so far have been found to be in violation of the provisions of one or more of the following laws:

1. The Petroleum Act, Cap. 116, Laws of Kenya.
2. The Trade Licensing Act, Cap 497.
3. The Local Government By-laws.

Action has, therefore, accordingly been taken under these laws.

(b) The Government liberalised the oil sector on 28th October, 1994. This entailed undertaking all the following measures:

1. Allowing consumer prices to be determined in the open market by abolishing price controls.
2. Abolishing monopoly of Kenya Petroleum Refineries to supply light and middle distillate products to the domestic market.
3. Abolishing National Oil Corporation's 30 per cent crude oil supply quota.
4. Liberalising petroleum products, transport modes and attendant tariffs.

This liberalisation has seen the entrance of new players in the sector including independent filling stations. It is, therefore, the policy of the Government to encourage free and fair competition among the players in the petroleum industry and not to protect any particular group or persons.

(c) As already pointed out, the decision to enforce the relevant laws is aimed at all petroleum dealers and not at any particular group. Accordingly, action has been taken and will continue to be taken against all those handling petroleum products in contravention of the law. The question of giving indigenous dealers a hearing does not, therefore, arise.

Mr. Ayacko: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I feel sorry for the Minister. I have a written answer from his Permanent Secretary (PS), which is in direct contradiction with the answer he gave in this House.

On 2nd July, 1999, the Permanent Secretary gave a reply, confirming that there was going to be a crackdown to close certain filling stations. I have that answer here, and I will table it after asking the question that I intend to ask. In that answer, the Permanent Secretary said---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Ask your question!

Mr. Ayacko: I am giving a background to the question---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Look at the time!

Mr. Ayacko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the reasons given by the Permanent Secretary for the alleged crackdown, do not warrant the PS or the Ministry to touch any private property. Those filling stations are private properties. What the Ministry has done is to dismantle them---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Ayacko! A question must not be used as a pretext for a debate. You are now debating. Ask your question!

Mr. Ayacko: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could the hon. Minister tell us under what law does his Ministry operate, when it dismantles and carries away equipment that are supposed to be used for filling stations, instead of ordering their closure?

Mr. Okemo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thought the hon. Member was listening to the answer I gave. The handling of petroleum products is guided by three Acts of Parliament. These are: The Petroleum Act, the Trade Licensing Act, and the Local Government by-laws. If he wants, I can go into more details.

The relevant sections of the Petroleum Act which deal with the handling of petroleum products are very many. But I have four of them here, which I can quickly read out if the hon. Member wants to listen. The Petroleum Act, Rule 13(1) reads as follows:

"No person shall store petroleum except in accordance with the licence issued by the licensing authority, who is defined under Rule 5(1), as every administrative officer in charge of a district."

The Petroleum Act, Rule 17(1) also stipulates that, every application for a grant of a licence, shall be accompanied by specifications and plans in duplicates, indicating the particulars of the premises to be licensed.

Mr. Ayacko: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The question I had put to the hon. Minister is: What law entitles him to dismantle the equipment?

Mr. Okemo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, where human life is concerned and the law has been contravened, somebody has to take action. The Petroleum Act Cap 116 Section 4 empowers the Minister to restrict and regulate the importation, landing, loading, shipping, transportation and the storage of petroleum products and prescribe the systems of licensing for the purposes as aforesaid. He should also give authority to the licensing bodies to inspect and to take action as may be necessary.

Mr. Kajembe: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. In respect of this Question, this petroleum was shipped, landed and licensed. Under what law did the Provincial Commissioner or the Provincial Administration come and destroy the filling stations?

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what the Minister has said amounts to what we call state terrorism, sponsored by multi-nationals to destroy our businessmen. This is because the licences are paid for by our traders---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order!

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the said traders have paid Kshs10,000 to the City Commission and Kshs4,000 to the Provincial Administration, for storing petroleum products underground. They have also been given a trade licence by the same Ministry. Another one is Jeofra Filling Station and another one is---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: What is your point?

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, do you give somebody a licence after he pays Government revenue, and then destroy his business because some people have been bribed by some multinational companies?

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Because that is not the issue, nobody has to challenge you.

Mr. Okemo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, all the cases that I am aware of, have been in contravention of either one or more of the laws that I have specified.

The Assistant Minister for Planning and National Development (Mr. Noor): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Kajwang' categorically stated that the multinational companies have bribed individuals. Could he substantiate that allegation?

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Questioner himself has that evidence. I think, he even has a cheque number paid to Mr. Maina and somebody else in the Ministry.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Kajwang'! You are being challenged to substantiate your claims.

(Mr. Kajwang stood up in his place)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Kajwang', when Mr. Speaker is on his feet, you freeze. Things which are frozen do not stand up! You have been challenged to substantiate an allegation that you have made. Can you, or can you not substantiate?

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shell BP has paid the PC of Nairobi Kshs 1 million!

Hon. Members: Toboa! Toboa!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! Hon. Kajwang'! If you have evidence that Shell BP has bribed some Government officials, and you have been challenged to substantiate, I will ask you now to substantiate, by laying the documents on the Table to support your claim. It is you, hon. Kajwang' and not somebody else. Come up here and table the documents.

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let Mr.----

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order!

*(Mr. Ayacko moved closer to
Mr. Kajwang' to hand him a document)*

Order! I cannot understand---! Order, hon. Kajwang', I want you to substantiate your claims now!

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on 24th June, 1999, at Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) Kipande House Branch, Kshs1 million was paid to Mr. Maina--- This PC is called who?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order!

Hon. Members: Toboa!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Members. I am sure hon. Kajwang' does not need any assistance to understand what I am saying. I am simply saying this: You made an allegation against somebody who cannot come to this House to defend himself. Now, I am requiring you, hon. Gerald Otieno-Kajwang', MP, to lay evidence on the Table that one, Mr. Maina---

Hon. Members: Amesema! He has the papers!

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Karauri): On a point of order! You should maintain order!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have not asked you to help me do my work!

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Karauri): There is no order in this House!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Karauri, one more word and you will be out of this Chamber.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Karauri): But you should listen to what I want to say!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Karauri, I now require you to leave the Chamber for the rest of the day.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Karauri): But you should allow me to make a point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You are now a stranger!

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Karauri): You are not being fair to me!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! When there is a stranger in the House there is no speaking until he leaves!

(Mr. Karauri withdrew from the Chamber)

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Kajwang! When he leaves, I want you to lay the evidence on the Table! No more arguments. Lay your documents on the Table.

Mr. Kajwang': But Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I do that, I need to explain.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order!

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, the Chair has ruled in this House that if you know you are going to mention anybody adversely, you must be prepared to give evidence on the spot. If you are not able to do so, you must withdraw and apologise. So, I cannot give any hon. Member more time when you are besmirching someone, because the damage will have been done. So, lay the document on the Table or withdraw and apologise.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Order! Order! I have given a ruling, and I want you to comply with it before any point of order.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Angwenyi, I have ruled that there will be no further points of order until my ruling has been complied with.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Order! I am dealing with hon. Kajwang' and nobody else!

Hon. Members: He is our colleague!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: He is also my colleague!

An hon. Member: No problem!

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am going to lay this document on behalf of hon. Kajwang'.

(Hon. Wambua laid the document on the Table)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order, hon. Wambua! You are not hon. Kajwang', come and pick up this piece of paper.

(Hon. Wambua picked the document from the Table)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Wambua, you know, and it has been said repeatedly that, when Mr. Speaker is on his feet you all remain seated. Now, I am going to require you to leave the Chamber this minute.

Mr. Wambua: It is you who told me to go and pick the document!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I did not tell you to do anything. I am dealing with hon. Kajwang! Could you leave the Chamber!

(Hon. Wambua withdrew from the Chamber)

Hon. Kajwang', could you lay the document on the Table?

(Hon. Kajwang' laid the document on the Table)

Mr. Wamae: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to draft a document in his own handwriting and lay it on the Table of the House as evidence to accuse an officer who cannot defend himself?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: This is not substantiation. This is a piece of paper which has been scribbled by somebody I do not know. It states: PC, Maina on June 24th, 1999, Kshs1 million, KCB, Kipande House. This is not substantiation.

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what am I supposed to do?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You claimed that a cheque for Kshs1 million was paid into PC, Maina's account.

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Question time is over. Could this Question be deferred?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Murathe, one more word, and I will take action. Hon. Kajwang', do you have it or not?

Mr. Kajwang': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will bring it tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Do you have it or not?

Mr. Kajwang': I do not have it, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Then, you have to withdraw and apologise.

Mr. Kajwang': I will not withdraw!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Then leave the Chamber!

(Hon. Kajwang' withdrew from the Chamber)

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

Order! Order, hon. Members! As you can see, we are well past 3.30 p.m. But I would like to say this: Hon. Members, how would you feel when it is you whose name is being besmirched in this manner? Next time, it could be you. So, the Chair must ensure that people are given the protection they deserve. If you have the evidence to prove your allegation, the Chair will give you time and opportunity to make your claims and allegations. But if you do not have that proof, the ruling is: You either substantiate it on the spot or you withdraw and apologise.

Mr. Ayacko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could you defer the Question?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You can come and see me later on that issue.
Next Order!

BILLS

First Readings

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND
CO-ORDINATION BILL THE
ADJUDICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Orders for the First Readings read -

*Read the First Time - Ordered to be
read the Second Time tomorrow)*

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

(Order for Committee read being Fourth Allotted Day)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture

(The Minister for Agriculture on 6.7.99)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 6.7.99)

Hon. Mwangi Waithaka! Not in?

Mr. Murathe: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I utilise his time?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Dr. Kituyi!

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to say a few things about what used to be a very important Ministry. The Ministry of Agriculture used to be a very important Ministry for a number of reasons. First, for a long time, agriculture provided the fastest expanding source of employment for the citizens of this country.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I seek protection of the Chair from a rebellious corner on the KANU side.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Proceed!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had said that until very recently, the Ministry of agriculture was very important to this country, because it used to give technical back-up and quality supplies to the critical primary production sector of this country's economy. Today, what we are dealing with is a ghost of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we look at the current Government Estimates, the Office of the President has been allocated more than K£20 billion, while the Ministry of Agriculture is seeking for K£4.6 billion. What does that mean for this country? It means that this Government has lost a sense of proportion and priority. Today, the Ministry which used to be considered traditionally as the "Third Ministry" is basically being rated like the Presidential Commission on Music. Why should the Ministry of Agriculture be allotted about one-fifth of the money being allotted to the Office of the President? In fact, most of that money is in salaries. How can this Government launch with much funfair, efforts to eradicate poverty, desires and its policy statements about food security, while at the same time it is reducing the resources it makes available to the Ministry responsible for the most important source of economic income and the most important source of food security? In fact, apart from the global and percentage decline of the allocations for the Ministry of Agriculture, there is a net decline in the amount of money being availed to the Ministry of Agriculture for Recurrent Expenditure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even if we are talking about liberalisation, even the little the Ministry of Agriculture has asked for Recurrent Expenditure coming down from K£181 million in 1998/1999 to K£117 million in 1999/2000, is a very sad statement. In fact, I advise my colleague, the hon. Minister for Agriculture, that the kind of money they are asking us to give him is a statement that the Government is not taking him seriously. If they took him seriously, they would not be reducing this critical Ministry to the level of petty service Ministry. We are soon seeing the Ministry of Agriculture being given the same level of Government allocation as the Ministry of Environmental Conservation; yet, the Ministry of Agriculture, more than any other Ministry perhaps, apart from the Ministry of Health, is the most important Ministry for environmental conservation. The foot soldiers for the Ministry of Agriculture are supposed to be the most important messengers of sustainable and resource utilisation, both aquatic and land resources. But what is happening is a joke. They are pretending that they are asking for money. They are not asking for any money.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a matter about which this Parliament needs to think very seriously. I have had the privilege of looking at the current published schedule of tariffs of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern African (COMESA). Recently, we were all celebrating about creating a common market, lowering tariffs and removing tariffs between us. Our primary responsibility as lawmakers and legitimisers of taxation in this country, is the protection of the Kenyan producer. If we look at the schedule of removing even the 25 per cent tariff level currently assessed for COMESA countries; we are talking about a situation where agricultural produce from Egypt is going to wipe out significant agricultural growth in this country. When the cost of producing sugar and rice in Egypt is much, much lower than in Kenya; Kenyan interests, cannot afford to remove tariffs in line with the COMESA recommendations for Egyptian produce. If this Government accepts the recommendations of the tariff schedule for the COMESA, we are going to destroy all vestige of agricultural expansion in this country. It is about time we thought twice. If we look at Uganda and Tanzania, they are supposed to be smaller economies than Kenya. Because of the national interest, Tanzania and Uganda rejected the zero-tariff rating which was scheduled for the end of this month between themselves and Kenya, because of what was going to happen with the flooding of their markets with Kenyan produce. Now, *vis-a-vis* Egypt, Kenya is in a worse situation than Uganda towards Kenya. Why should Kenya be the driving force behind a force that is going to flood our domestic market, not only with agricultural produce, but also industrial produce from superior economies like Egypt?

But secondly and even more worrying, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the recent past, there have been complaints about cases of sugar and rice imports into Kenya whose bill of lading and routing has been changed on the high seas to reflect that it is a produce from Egypt. But because we do not have the inherent competence to assess the routes of origin, it means that any country wishing to dump agricultural produce in Kenya can pretend that it is sourcing that produce in a COMESA country. It is very dangerous for us to celebrate unity, for the sake of unity without thinking about the consequences it is going to have on the farmers of this country. If we intend to revive the agricultural sector apart from pumping in more money which is the opposite of what the Government is doing right now; the Kenya Government should be leading in going slow on the schedule of goods like sugar and cereals which are included in the schedule of tariffs to be waived under the new COMESA rules.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also wish to say a few other things. If we look at the Recurrent Estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture, under virtually every head, there is an item about expenses for agricultural shows. If we look at the question of: What is the net benefit to agricultural sector deriving from agricultural shows? We see that the same people who have been going to entertain His Excellency the President or who have gone there to show that they are part of the recognised local nomenclatures are the same people who would always be going to those shows, including school boys and girls. What positive effect does it have on agricultural production? Virtually nil. If there is limited resources available, why does the Ministry of Agriculture not transfer the resources being wasted on agricultural shows to extension workers who reach the people who most need that information and the ones who have no capacity to go to those "glorified agricultural shows"? Why should we sustain agricultural shows, just because they have been there all the time without any demonstrated positive impact on productivity and production? In fact, after 30 years of agricultural shows, the quality of produce from agricultural farmers in this country has declined. Why does that knowledge not filter into the prioritisation of public resources when they are asking for money under the Budget?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when this Century is over, one of the sad things that would be said about the agriculture of this country is how from the 1960s to the 1970s, we became the most important country, perhaps, in the whole of the Third World apart from Mexico and Thailand, in investment of public resources in research for improved breed, both livestock and plants. Our Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) Station in Kitale was the best maintained research station in Africa, comparable to the rice research station in Mexico. What has happened? Greed, the reward of high office to persons who cannot even see the importance of research. The contempt with which we treat the facts of people pilfering public resources has combined to show us that, we can actually allocate an individual a Government house which is occupied by a civil servant and order him to pay rent to the new landlord, although he is a Government employee because it is no longer a Government house. That has happened at KARI in Kitale. That, we can subdivide research experimentation farms not even multiplication farms, experimentation seed farms and give them to individuals! As long as they are politically-correct, it can be talked about, but they would bend and let the wind blow over, raise their heads again and wear all the insignia of loyalty and they would continue to enjoy the benefits of that land. Unless the Government can learn to punish the people who have been illegally allocated public research land; unless, the Government can turn around and start seeing again the importance of investment in research, it is ridiculous for us to think that we are going to import sub-standard seeds from other countries in the name of liberalisation and turn around the agriculture of this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is normal that we are supposed to support a desire by the Government to be

given allocation. The Ministry of Agriculture is much, much more important in this country to the economy than this Government is treating it.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you, for giving me this chance to contribute to this very important Vote.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy of Kenya. It is a Government policy that we eradicate poverty in the next 20 years. It is a Government policy that we industrialise in the next 15 years. Those objectives cannot be achieved, unless we prepare ourselves to promote our agriculture. It is through agriculture that we can have food security. It is through agriculture that we can earn foreign exchange through the sale of our cash crops. It is through agriculture that we can get our dairy and beef requirements for this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am surprised that instead of increasing the Vote for the Ministry of Agriculture, in fact, we have reduced the Vote substantially from last year. That shows that the Government is not intent on eradicating poverty. This is because if we are to eradicate poverty, we must make available the necessary basic needs for our people, particularly in the rural areas. We must have food which is a basic requirement for any human being. As we reduce the Development Vote for the Ministry of Agriculture from K£164 million to K£52 million only, we have reduced it by about 70 per cent and yet, we believe that we are going to eradicate poverty. I would have thought that we would have reduced the Vote of these other Ministries and increased the Vote for the Ministry of Agriculture, especially the Development Vote.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for us to promote production of food and cash crops, we must be able to offer extension services to our people; that is, the trained people who can go out to the villages and peasant farms and tell them how to maximise production from their small holdings. From what I see, there are no funds voted for extension services, both agricultural and livestock in this Vote. However, we have voted a substantial amount of money for Recurrent Expenditure on extension services. I do not understand how that Recurrent Expenditure will be spent, if these people do not have movement expenditure to go and implement various activities in our small holding farms.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have seen recently under the guise of liberalisation, the importation of even the small eggs that we find out here in the market being imported from overseas and yet, we have said that we want to eradicate poverty. I thought that to eradicate poverty, we would assist our poultry farmers to produce eggs and sell the eggs and get the money to eradicate poverty. I have now seen in supermarkets, oranges being sold which are from other countries like Egypt and South Africa and yet, we have got vast hectares of land in the Coastal region, Eastern Province and in the Rift Valley that could be used to produce these fruits and thereby, eradicate or reduce poverty.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been talking about sugar importation over the years. It is because the Government has not taken a serious measure to control or stop the importation of sugar. We have destroyed the sugarcane farmers in Western Province and Nyanza Province completely. They are now destitutes. We have visited upon them, absolute poverty. They have not been paid for their sugarcane for the last three years. They cannot take their children to school. They cannot afford the basic requirements for their households. I thought that the Ministry of Agriculture would have given an indication in their Vote, that they are going to spend some money to effect measures that will control the importation of these agricultural products that destroy our agriculture, which is the mainstay of our economy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, farm inputs and implements are very expensive. I thought that this Vote would have included some elements of subsidising the importation of farm inputs, which are the ones that we need to produce more. I would have thought that this Vote would have shown some indication as to how we can supplement the prices of farm equipment for our farmers. In other countries, the Government goes to assist the farmers by subsidising the prices of these important ingredients in agricultural production. As you know, we have no finance institutions in this country that assist farmers to get cheap credit. Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) used to be there and it is no longer there. Kenya Farmers Association (KFA) used to access some little credit to farmers and it is no longer existing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Agriculture should have come up with some programmes, as to how they are going to assist farmers get access to cheap credit. How are the farmers going to be able to plant? How are they going to be able to till their land if they cannot get access to cheap credit? In other countries, the farmers are given an indication as to how much they are going to get, especially for their grains at the end of their harvest, so that they can plan their production of grains. In Kenya and in this Vote, there is no indication whatsoever, as to whether those farmers who have planted maize and wheat will have a market for their maize produce. No wonder, the Minister for Agriculture has predicted that, we are going to have a shortfall of about 5 million bags of grains. This is because last year, we had a bumper harvest and we did not have a market for the produce. So, the farmers made a loss on their production and, therefore, they do not want to indulge in investing in the same production for

fear of experiencing a loss at the end of this year. I thought that the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) should have been revived and given adequate funds, to purchase grains from our farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, like I said earlier, there is an amount voted for Regulatory Management of Inputs and Outputs. I do not know how this money is spent. I agree that they do not spend it in my district. There is a substantial amount of Kshs660 million which is for Crop and Livestock Disease and Pest Control. I do not see how that money is spent. Recently, we experienced the army worm invasion and we did not have the Government assistance to control those army worms. Are we voting money for people to pocket or are we voting for money to assist our farmers and maintain the growth of our economy?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been an amount of K£21 million voted for Monitoring and Management of Food Security. How is this money spent? I hope the Minister will be able to tell us in this House how this money is spent. At least, it is not spent in my province. I do not know whether it is spent elsewhere but from what I gather, it is never spent anywhere in the country. So, we are saying that the Ministry of Agriculture is one of the most important Ministries in our Government and it should pull up its socks, so that it can maintain the momentum for growth. This is because it is the only way that we can eradicate poverty, create jobs and uplift our standards of living.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to mention the scheme of our agricultural production. We must ensure that all our production is processed to the final products in this country. It is through that method that we can create jobs, add value to our production and gain more money from overseas when we sell our products.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I would like to suggest that a portion of the foreign exchange earnings realised from the sale of cash crops such as tea and coffee, which facilitate our importers to buy commodities from overseas, be used to repair the infrastructure of the areas producing these crops, so as to increase their production.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Keynan: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to the Motion on the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Ministry of Agriculture plays a leading role in the economy of this country. Unfortunately, the activities of the Ministry have, over the years, been leaning towards crop husbandry to the extent that, today, livestock farmers have completely been forgotten. Once upon a time, the Ministry used to be called "Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development" although the word "agriculture", might broadly, include livestock farming as well as crop husbandry. I tend to think that the intention of the Government in respect of livestock farmers is not proper. Livestock farming covers over 70 per cent of the total area of this country, yet nothing is being done about the livestock sub-sector; I am sure that even the Minister and the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry will attest to this.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as you might have seen in Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) television programmes, the dairy industry is in a crisis. Livestock farmers in pastoral areas have completely been forgotten. This leaves one wondering whether the Ministry serves any purpose for those of us who come from pastoral areas. Does it serve any purpose for the disadvantaged farmers from pastoral areas? Obviously, the answer is no. During the recent *El Nino* rains, we lost our entire livestock. What has the Ministry done for us? I am sure that the Minister and senior Ministry officials have not even visited the North Eastern Province or any other pastoral area, to assess the losses caused by the crisis. This, in itself, is not fair.

We are talking about the former Livestock Marketing Division (LMD), which used to market livestock. The LMD is no longer there; it has been "killed" completely. We used to have the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), which has also been completely killed. I am sure that even the Director of Livestock has right now been redesignated to a junior position in the Ministry, to the extent that, today, we have the position of Director of Agriculture; we no longer have the position of Director of Livestock. Really, this shows that the Government no longer takes livestock farming seriously. This is something which we can no longer accept. Therefore, the Government must have a tailored programme for livestock farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, livestock farmers no longer get the extension services they used to be given by the Government. Now that pastoralists have realised that they are disadvantaged and have come together, they have been branded "secessionists", "fundamentalists", and detrimental to the security of this country. I am talking about what one of the daily newspapers published in the beginning of this week, and that

was unfair. We, the pastoral communities, are only trying to survive; we are in line with the principle of survival for the fittest.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if there are people who are patriotic in this country today, those people are the pastoralists. If there are people who have the welfare of this country at heart, those people are the pastoralists. How are we going to survive? When we struggle, we are said to have another agenda. If we keep quiet, really, how will we survive? This is the question we ask ourselves.

It is high time the Government revived the KMC. The KMC has been left in the hands of a crooked mzungu who has been chased from his home country. He has resorted to selling even the land on which the KMC stands; he will not leave behind any structure there. This country has very many competent Kenyans; let us revive the KMC. Livestock farmers in Mandera, Wajir and Garissa Districts are now driving their livestock all the way to Mogadishu in Somalia, which has not had a semblance of a government over the last nine years. This is a shame to this country! We are losing a lot of money in foreign exchange just because we are not creative enough; we are losing a lot of money just because we are not doing anything about the plight of some of the disadvantaged communities in this country. Yet, we talk about economic rationalisation and economic problems. There are no economic problems. All these things are man-made!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, how many goats, sheep, cattle and camels go to waste everyday in northern Kenya? These are things we, really, need to address. If the Government wants to call the Ministry of Agriculture, the "Ministry of Coffee and Tea", it is at liberty to do so. The Ministry's activities are only directed to tea and coffee. Even sugar-cane farmers, some of whom the Minister for Agriculture represents in this House, have been forgotten; they have not attracted any attention from the Ministry.

So, if the Government wants to call the Ministry of Agriculture, "the Ministry of Coffee and Tea", we should be told, so that we know that we have no Ministry. Livestock farmers from some pastoral areas are wondering whether we really have a Ministry. We have gone through very many crises. I am on record as having requested hon. Mudavadi severally to visit my northern Kenya area, to see the kind of life livestock farmers are leading, because seeing is believing. I would like him to go and see what is happening to livestock farmers there. He should not just rely on reports he gets from junior officers. That is the only way in which he can familiarise himself with what goes on in different parts of this country. People should stop the habit of just sitting in offices and waiting for reports from the field.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to, again, say that this Government is being let down by civil servants, who are the very individuals who are entrusted with the responsibility of running the various Ministries. You have been elected by virtue of your position and integrity in society, and you have every right to deliver to Kenyans. We need to address the behaviour of individuals shying away from their responsibilities. I agree with the hon. Member who said that, every individual should be let to carry his own cross. We now want Kenyans to be accountable. We are fed up with them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if somebody is given a Ministry to lead, it is upto to that person to lead it well; it is not the duty of the President or anybody else to lead it. It is upto to the particular person to deliver. This is one thing we have not been seeing done well. The culture of buck passing must stop forthwith. There is a food crisis in northern Kenya when maize is going to waste in other parts of the country. Every time there is a problem, we hear of *ad hoc* planning and other things. We do not need these things. We only need to sit down and ask ourselves: "What do we need for the next five years? How many metric tones of maize does this country need for the next 10 years?" We need to plan well; we have the resources. Why do we have to struggle every now and then, and run after the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, when we are plundering our own resources?

It is high time we, first of all, thought. I think very few of us are patriotic to this country. Therefore, on the issue of pastoralists, today 90 per cent of the people of northern Kenya are paupers as a result of nurtured and natural problems. Nurtured problems have resulted from the poor services being rendered by those who have been entrusted with the responsibility to provide the services. Natural problems are due to the very harsh climate in the area, and other disadvantages. The issue of the bad food situation requires a thorough approach by the Government. Most pastoralists depend on Government relief food supplies. For how long can this situation be sustained? There is a lot of underground water in some of those areas. We only need to tap that water for irrigation, and those people will have their own food. These are issues which need to be addressed. This issue having people prepare documents year in, year out should cease; people are getting fed up.

Today, there is even no proper marketing for hides and skins, just like is happening to other livestock products. Today, in the Arab world, or the whole of Middle East, people are yawning for products from these areas. We only need to invest a bit in the innovation of our activities. In Wajir District, we have one of the best airstrips in Kenya, which is second to Moi International Airport, Mombasa. However, that airstrip is idle. It is

only used by one military aircraft per month. We need only to open it up and invite investors. We only need to have two or three abattoirs, and people will be independent. We can transport livestock products from Wajir to the entire Middle East. This is the way things should be done.

You must have heard of a country called "Somaliland", which is right now struggling for its independence. That country only survives on the livestock industry; the bread for of its people lies in the livestock industry. We, too, can change and do the same. So, once again, I would like to appeal to the Minister for Agriculture to try and find out what has happened to the people of North Eastern Province. I am ready to accompany him to that area. I am talking about an area and the situation in which it is, which is actually a time bomb.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this issue of our giving concessions to cheap products from other parts of Africa, in the name of COMESA and regional organisations must cease. Yesterday somebody asked whether we need eggs from South Africa. What is going to happen to the poultry farmers here? These are issues that just require a bit of planning.

Again, the issue of water is a very important one. Because livestock depend on water and medicine, this issue must also not only be left to the Ministry of Water Resources because each Ministry has its own role to play.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Rural Development (Mr. Sirma): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Vote on the Ministry of Agriculture. As we say in this country, agriculture is the backbone of our economy.

Yesterday, when the Minister was moving this Vote, he indicated that there is a looming famine in this country. I know the Minister knows what it means by telling Kenyans that there is a looming famine. It shows that this country is not able to plan. So, if we cannot plan and focus, what are we telling Kenyans? Have we failed them agriculturally? Kenyans depend on us as the Government to ensure that they are properly fed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not going to give in to such statements because previously, the previous Ministers who have been making such statements have always had maize or wheat in the high seas. Once they say that, they want to request the Government to exempt that maize, wheat and all the other food materials in the high seas from duty so that they can now bring it in and flood our market. We are not going to allow this again. We as farmers surely want the Government to take keen interest in other crops apart from tea and coffee which are export earners. But how can we export when people in this country cannot be fed? So, we should take maize and wheat more importantly than even tea and coffee which we say are the backbone of our economy. Without the farmers who are feeding Kenyans, even that tea and coffee would never be grown. We want a lot of interest to be put into what is going to feed Kenyans because if Kenyans are hungry, we are assured of war. We can never have hungry people and expect them to be peaceful. We expect them to bring a lot of trouble.

Food imports into this country, particularly of commodities like maize, wheat and powdered milk have killed our farmers. We cannot talk about eradicating poverty when our farmers are idle because of drought and lack of market for their produce. All these have contributed to the poverty which has hit our people in the rural areas. We have imported even eggs into this country. We should have a very strong policy to restrict all the food products from other countries which come in and flood our market. People have been talking about COMESA, zero-rating all imports and all that, but if we are going to zero-rate and kill our people, we will not accept that. We are going to oppose that with the strongest means possible, so that our farmers can survive.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, talking about the people who have always dumped foodstuffs into this country, we do not want any individual person or miller to import foodstuffs into this country. The Ministry has its own Board which deals with cereals in this country. We want that Board to be given the authority to import foodstuffs on behalf of Kenyans. The National Cereals and Produce Board has a lot of storage. The Government should plan and fill those stores with foodstuffs because those stores were built for storage purposes in order to ensure food security in this country.

The collapse of the agricultural sector in this country has also to do with the financing of the agricultural activities. Kenyans in the rural areas wonder when we are told that the National Bank has been given Kshs4.5 billion. Why not give the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) only half of that amount? Then we write-off those seasonal credits which our farmers are crying to be written-off. We write-off loans which we gave to individuals, but we cannot write-off what we gave to a farmer to try and feed this country. He failed just because of the weather conditions at that time, we should now ask the Government to write-off the debts. If the Minister could come to this House and ask Parliament to approve Kshs2 billion to write-off the loans which were given to farmers, we will support that very strongly. But when we come here and we are told to approve Kshs4.5 billion for the National Bank, it is very serious. We will not be helping our farmers. We want our farmers to come-up and strengthen food security in this country.

Finally, the prices of farm inputs which we get in this country; like fertilizers and the seed-maize, are over-exaggerated. The Government imports fertilizer and when it comes to this place, it is given to Indians who double or triple the prices. If this fertilizer is imported through the Ministry, why should we not give it to the farmers directly and they pay? In most countries, we find that their inputs are subsidized. The fuel for farming there should even be subsidized so that the production cost goes down.

I would like again to touch on the extension officers in the field. The extension officers are idle most of the time. At the moment, they earn salaries for nothing. Why? We do not know. Possibly, there is no activity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the moment, drought is being experienced in the country. But the Ministry of Agriculture should be able to advise farmers about it. If it does that, farmers will plant the right crops at the right time. You will find that farmers plant their crops after the rains have fallen. There should be a good monitoring system of drought that will benefit farmers, by giving them a forecast of the weather conditions, so that they can prepare themselves adequately.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

Mr. Maitha: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mimi pia nina furaha ya kuzungumzia Mswada huu ulioletwa na rafiki yangu, Waziri wa Kilimo, Bw. Mudavadi. Kwa kweli, Waziri huyu anaposimama hapa Bungeni na kuzungumzia mambo ya kilimo, huwa anazungumzia mambo mazuri sana, kwa sababu yeye mwenyewe ni mzuri na anaweza kufanya mambo mazuri. Lakini maofisa wake wamemuangusha. Hiyo ni Wizara ambayo imetuumiza sana kule Pwani; imetukana watu wa Pwani. Eti hawawezi kufanyia kazi watu ambao wanaitwa maskwota. Afisa yeyote wa Wizara ya Kilimo ambaye yuko Pwani ameendelea kututusi sana sisi wakaaji wa Pwani. Hiyo ndiyo sababu sisi watu wa Pwani husema kuwa Wizara hiyo inafaidisha watu wengine. Sisi wanaendelea kutuita majina kama: "Waswahili ni wavivu na hawajui chochote."

Utakuta ya kwamba Pwani ni sehemu ambayo kama Wizara ya Kilimo ingeketi na wataalamu walio Pwani, ingekuwa inawasaidia watu wa Pwani kwa mambo ya kilimo. Mwanzo kabisa, ilikuwa kitu kibaya, na kisichoweza kufikirika, kwa Wizara hii kufikiria kuruhusu korosho na bixa ziuzwe kwa watu reja reja, hata baada kujua ya kwamba wakulima wa Pwani wanaokuza mimea hii wataadhirika. Wakati korosho inapouzwa, kama raw material, kwa mfano, unapoteza vitu vingi sana. Wakati tulipokuwa na kiwanda cha korosho, Wizara hii haikufanya chochote ili kisififie. Korosho ina mambo mengi ambayo ingewafaidi wakulima. Kwa mfano, maganda yake yanaliwa na nguruwe na mafuta yanayotumiwa kwa njia mbali mbali, na Waziri anajua mambo hayo yote. Lakini wao waliruhusu kiwanda hicho kianguke na wakaenda kutafuta tena watu ambao watakinunua, na kutuuu sisi watu wa Pwani. Ni vibaya sana kwa Waziri kuchapisha katika gazeti la Serikali kuwa bixa na korosho ziuzwe nje. Sisi wenyewe watu wa Pwani tuko tayari sasa kuanzisha viwanda vya bixa na korosho ili viwe vyetu na tuwaonyeshe wakulima vile ambavyo wangepaidika, badala ya kuruhusu mimea hii iuzwe tena nje ikiwa kama raw material.

Mkoa wa Pwani umepuuzwa licha ya kwamba una vyo vikubwa vya kilimo, kama kule **[Mr. Maitha]** Kilifi ambako kunasomeshwa wanafunzi mambo mengi sana. Lakini wale watu wanaosomeshwa pale hawatusaidii. Huko Mtwapa kunafanyika utafiti wa kila mmea. Hata ardhi ya utafiti imeuzwa huko Mtwapa. Kule Mwakirunge, Kisauni, zaidi ya hekari 500, ambazo zilikuwa shamba ya mifugo zimeuziwa Kenya Times Media Trust, na kampuni hii imechukua hati ya kumiliki hiyo shamba. Watu wa mifugo hawaweki ngo'mbe tena kama zamani kule Mwakirunge. Ni ajabu kama Wizara inaweza kuruhusu vitu vyake, ambavyo ni vya wakulima, kuchukuliwa ovyo ovyo.

Bw. Naibu Spika Wa Muda, tuna mimea mingi kule Pwani ambayo kwa sasa hatuna mtu yeyote ambaye anatusaidia kuikuza. Kule kwa maonyesho ya kilimo ya Kenya (ASK), utakuta mambo mengi. Wakati huo ndio unaona maofisa wote wa kila cheo katika Wizara ya Kilimo wako pale; kama wale wanaofuga nguruwe. Utaona mambo mengi ya kilimo yakionyeshwa. Kuna "Balcony Agriculture," hata unafuga nyanya kwa nyumba. Lakini baada ya kumaliza hayo maonyesho, hutawaona hao maofisa tena. Wanasema ya kwamba "sisi ni maskwota." Lakini kule kwa maonyesho, wanaonyesha watu kuwa hata wanaweza kupanda nyanya kwa roshani yako. Mbona hawarudi kutuelezea? Eti kwa sababu hatuna mashamba. Maembe yanamea mengi huko Pwani, lakini hakuna mtu yeyote ya Wizara ya Kilimo ambaye ameambia Wizara kuwa ni muhimu kujenga viwanda vya kilimo cha bustani au vya maembe na machungwa, ambayo yanauzwa kule Kwale, au mananasi yanayouzwa kule Kilifi na Malindi. Hata wakulima wetu wanaofuga ngo'mbe, hawafanyi kazi; ngo'mbe zetu zimekuwa zikifa ovyo ovyo kwa sababu ya ugonjwa. Utakuta hata daktari wa ngo'mbe wa Wizara ya Kilimo anapoitwa, huwa anaambia watu: "Nenda ukatafute watu wa kulipwa." Wahindi wamejaa tele Mombasa na wamefungua kliniki zao; eti wao ndio wale wanaotibu mbwa na wanyama wengine. Maofisa wa Kilimo huwaambia watu waende kwa hawa Wahindi. Wale maskini ambao wanafuga ngo'mbe, huwa na shida na ngo'mbe huendelea kufa. Hakuna mzamo kule Pwani. Pesa hizi ambazo tutapitisha zitaenda kwa makao makuu ya Mkoa na kukoma huko na mwishowe zitaibwa na wakubwa wa Wilaya. Ukifuata hizi pesa, hata kama mzamo ulichimbwa kule Mwakirunge, Kisauni, utashtuka

kuwa haukuchimbwa. Ukiwaelezea juu ya shida za wafugaji wa ngo'mbe, hawa wanasema ya kwamba: "Hawa ni maskwota na hawafugi ngo'mbe." Lakini sisi tunatumia zero-grazing.

Hata semina za wakulima ambazo zinatakiwa kwa kusomesha watu wetu hazifanywi. Katika mabaraza za machifu, ukiuliza wananchi wangapi walihudhuria semina za mambo ya ukulima, utakuta ya kwamba hakuna mtu atajitokeza. Na pesa hizo zilikuja lakini watu wengine walipelekwa semina. Ni uchungu kuona ya kwamba Wizara hii ambayo ni "roho" ya watu wa Kenya kwa chakula na kila kitu inazorota kwa sababu ina wafanyakazi ambao hawajali maisha ya wananchi wa Kenya. Hawajali kuwasaidia watu; hata kwa mambo ya kufuga nyuki, au nguruwe. Kuna mahoteli mengi Pwani lakini watu wa Wizara ya Kilimo hawaji kuwaonyesha watu vile wanaweza kufuga nguruwe wengi, ili wauzie wenye mahoteli, kwa sababu hicho ndiyo chakula cha wazungu kila siku. Lakini maofisa hawa hukaa ofisini tu.

Katika Kisauni, nimekuwa na baraza karibu kila siku. Kila saa namuuliza DO: "Mtu wa Wizara ya Kilimo yuko wapi?" Lakini yeye anakosekana. Anakuja wakati kuna ASK Show akisema ya kwamba yeye ndiye anawakilisha Kisauni. Lakini hapa Bungeni, tunaona Vote ya pesa imepita, mfanyakazi kama huyu analipwa mshahara na anapelekwa semina na anafundisha watu mambo ya kufuga nyuki, lakini hatuoni nyuki huko. Saa nyingine mimi hupigwa na butwaa. Nimekuwa na baraza za kila aina. Lakini wale wakuu wa Idara hutuma maofisa wa nyanjani, ambao hawawezi hata kujibu maswali yako. Wale maofisa wa mifugo hawako pia. Maofisa wa nyanjani wanatakiwa kuwafunza wakulima wa korosho vile mimea hiyo inakuzwa na vile watapogoa matawi. Lakini hayo hayafanyiki. Utakuta ya kwamba korosho huwa mwithu mkubwa. Hata wakulima wa bixa, maembe na mimea mingine hawasaidiwi. Natoa wito kwa maofisa wa Wizara hii wachukue kazi yao kwa makini, hasa kwa wakulima wa Pwani.

Ingawa sisi hatuna mashamba, lakini tinalima kwa bidii. Hata ingawa watu wanasema sisi watu wa Pwani tunangojea maembe yaanguke kutoka kwa mti, siku hizi hatungojei bali tunapanda juu na tunatingisha na yanaanguka. Kwa hivyo, lazima tupande mti kama huo pamoja na wale maofisa wa Kilimo, ili waone vile tunavyotingisha na wapeleke somo hilo katika shule zao za kilimo.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono Hoja huu.

Mr. Kajembe: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to support the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture. This Ministry is being run by a very able Minister.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I draw the attention of this House to the fact that when we achieved our Independence in 1993, we never used to import food into this country. At that time, we inherited big farms in this country which used to belong to former white settlers in the Rift Valley. With the produce from those farms, food was sufficient in this country. With the rapid growth of population in this country, there is need for the Ministry of Agriculture to plan food production for the citizens of this country. It is a shame for this country to import food like the ones we find in our supermarkets from South Africa, Holland, Israel and elsewhere.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need for this Ministry to do forward planning, especially for the coming generation. Can we be told why the sufficient food production which we used to have in the early 1960s is not there? Is it true that these farms were sub-divided and allocated to individual people and that the use has been changed from agriculture to residential or commercial? I think these are areas where the Minister should come forward and tell Kenyans what is happening.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need for the Ministry of Agriculture to do consultation with the Ministry of Water Resources. We cannot engage ourselves in agriculture without water. Some of the irrigation schemes in this country have failed like the Bura Irrigation scheme. They have failed because there is no consultation and liaison between the Ministry of Agriculture and that of Water Resources. So, these schemes which had a lot of meaning and would have provided food to Kenyans are no longer there. We should be told by whose negligence these irrigation schemes have failed. What the farmers want in this country are incentives and total support from the Government.

There is a failure between the Ministry of Agriculture and that of Energy, especially when it comes to the aspect of rural electrification programme. We need energy in our farms for purposes of pumping water. Fertilizers which are imported through the Port of Mombasa do not reach farmers in good time. Farming equipment does not reach farmers in good time and this is due to the long documentation and delays in the Port. So, there is need for this Ministry to do consultations with the Kenya Ports Authority to ensure that fertilizers and farming equipment reach the farmers in very good time. For the economy of this country to grow, we need a balancing of imports and exports and we cannot do the balancing if the agricultural sector is not doing well. For this reason, there is need to give incentives to the farmers.

During the *El Nino* rains, many farms were destroyed by rains, crops were swept away from these farms and the Ministry could not give adequate compensation to the farmers. Mombasa District got only Kshs360,000 as compensation during the *El Nino* rains. So, some constituencies, like my constituency got Kshs90,000. We did not

know what to do with the Kshs90,000 and hence we could not utilise that money. We need to give incentives to the farmers. The officers from this Ministry should work with zeal and enthusiasm to the satisfaction of the farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need for this Ministry to come up with a policy on how best we can have adequate production of food in Kenya. Today, if we compare the amount of food that we are importing from South Africa with what we are exporting to South Africa, the ratio is 20:1 and that is not fair! I was very much impressed during the COMESA meeting when His Excellency the President said time had come for us to balance the amount of exports and imports between our country and South Africa.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Agriculture ought to train extension officers. These extension officers in some areas, especially, in the Coast Province, are not enough. They do not attend to the farmer's problems as required. When we look at livestock development in the Coast today, you will see that the sector is not growing because there are not enough officers to train the farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, how shall we develop if the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) is being closed? There is a problem for individual livestock operators to export their products abroad. The farmers used to sell their livestock to the KMC, which in turn sold processed beef to overseas countries. Today, in our local supermarkets, you find chicks imported from Israel and other countries! Can this country not produce chicks? I think there is need for the Ministry of Agriculture to control some of the things which are imported into this country. Such imports demoralise the efforts of the Ministry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you compare the exports of tea and coffee in the last five years, they have reduced substantially. Why have the exports reduced? The Ministry should make more efforts to produce more coffee and tea for export. It is only by exporting more that we can balance our imports. It is important that all the farming equipment which is brought into this country for purposes of farming, and inputs like fertilisers, are duty-free. If duty is waived, we will give motivation and incentives to our farmers. That way, our agricultural sector will grow from strength to strength.

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker. It is good that yesterday, the Minister for Agriculture warned the nation that we were faced by a severe famine. He was only wrong in one sense; that he was attributing this imminent disaster to what he called *La Nina*. *La Nina* was supposed to be a world-wide phenomenon like the *El Nino* was. When we had the *El Nino*, we experienced it everywhere. But what we have at the moment is affecting only certain parts of Kenya. The Western part of Kenya is not experiencing this drought. So, you cannot call it *La Nina*. It is one of the regular droughts that we have been experiencing; and one that this Government should have taken precautions against. So, the Minister should have no excuse for not having taken any precautions against droughts which he has been living with for so long.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we talk about food security, it is true that the Government liberalised the marketing of cereals. It is not seriously involved in marketing. But with foreign assistance, the Government built the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) stores. We have the silos in Bungoma, Moi's Bridge and many other places in this country. Besides those, there are other stores which were built by the NCPB to store food so that, in difficult times like the ones that are looming, the ordinary mwananchi can find easy access to something more manageable. I have been wondering: Why did the Government surrender the stores that it had just built? I am talking about very big stores in Sirisia Constituency, built at Tamlega. I am told that immediately after they had been completed, they were sold. I was told that, and no one should ask me to substantiate. I was told that they have been sold to one Barua Chele, who is a Permanent Secretary in this Government. When they were built, he was the---

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Munyasia: This is not a tribal matter!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Munyasia! You do not know his point of order!

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must object in the strongest possible terms, the habit of my friend---

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

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): Let me just explain!

Mr. Munyasia: It is not a point of order!

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): It is not the first time in this House that my hon. colleague has referred to the names of public servants, who are not here to defend themselves, with specific reference to Mr. Barua Chele. I think it is wrong for my colleague to always drag the

name of that Permanent Secretary in this House! Could he substantiate that the particular store were sold to Mr. Chele?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I told you, it was not a tribal matter! The Member of Parliament for Amagoro happens to be a---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, hon. Munyasia! I did not hear the hon. Member talk anything tribal! Could you please respond to the point of order?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what you do not know is that Mr. Ekirapa is a Teso like Mr. Barua Chele!

An hon. Member: So what?

Mr. Munyasia: That is why he is standing up to interrupt me!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, hon. Munyasia! If you want the Chair to take you seriously, you should refrain from using tribal connotations in your contribution. Could you respond to what hon. Ekirapa raised?

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. But you could see he merely disagreed with me; that I have been a little too often, at this particular Permanent Secretary. But it is because of the activities of this Permanent Secretary in my Constituency! So, if he disagrees, let him wait for his turn to talk about this!

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. My point of order is straight-forward! The name of a public officer has been referred to in his House by my colleague. He has alleged that the officer bought the NCPB stores at Tamlega. I am simply asking him to substantiate that fact. If he cannot substantiate, could he withdraw and apologise to the House?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Munyasia, I think the Chair talked about mentioning the names of people who cannot defend themselves in this House. Now, you said you were told that the stores were sold to Mr. Chele, but if you have no facts, you should simply withdraw and proceed!

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I said that I was told, and that is what the HANSARD will bear me out, I do not have to substantiate. But if I had said that he bought, I would have been required to substantiate!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! We cannot continue like this! I think you know better than that! You know that if you have been told, you cannot continue to say that you have been told while mentioning other people's names, when you have no facts. Therefore, you have been told, but you have no facts. Could you withdraw and proceed?

An hon. Member: He should also apologise!

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I have to tell you who told me, then it is the Depot Manager of Bungoma NCPB. With that, I have now substantiated!

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

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. So, I am saying---

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Munyasia: Can you protect me from the hon. Member?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): I have accepted that he has told us who told him! Therefore, I have accepted!

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that cannot be accepted!

(Mr. Ekirapa stood up in his place)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, hon. Ekirapa! The Chair has ruled! Would you sit down? Proceed, hon. Munyasia!

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa): But you are contradicting yourself!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Ekirapa, you are now arguing with the Chair!

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you very much. I was saying that the NCPB stores should be re-possessed and used for the purposes for which they were built. The Ministry should insist that anyone who leases those stores,

should lease them for purposes for which they were built. This is one way of saving the people from the looming famine. We can use those stores to store food.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to add my voice to those who have already said that the Government must be brave and courageous enough to subsidise the farmers. We should not cover ourselves under liberalisation and say that the farmer will have to fend for himself. We know that a Kenyan farmer is unable to do that. So, we must make our inputs cheaper and affordable to him. In the meantime, this Government has a responsibility to subsidize the farmers. Maybe, in the long run they will have to do that by themselves, but it is important that the Government subsidizes the farmers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also important that the Government extends the tractor hire services to other parts of the country. It is strange that we have the tractor-hire services in areas that are not agriculturally very rich. But in areas like Western Province which can produce food very easily, because there is very reliable rainfall, we do not have access to such services. So, if our ploughing will be restricted because of this particular problem, then we will not produce enough food for this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to talk about sugar cane growing in this country. Yesterday, it was encouraging to hear the Minister talking about the restructuring of Nzoia and Muhoroni sugar factories at the moment in order to make them commercially viable before they are privatised. We have had problems in sugar cane farming areas for a long time. It is sad that even political leaders from those areas are at a loss on how to tackle those problems. So, they get petty, like they did this morning, when, I understand, one of my Directors of Nzoia Outgrowers Company, Mr. Lukas Wataa, was the subject of a Question in this House. They thought that was a way of solving the problems of Nzoia Sugar Company. That is not the way. The problem has been management. Some of hon. Members who were asking questions here know that they get preferential treatment when they supply stationery and other things. They are even paid earlier than the sugar cane farmers. I wish I had been here early in the morning when they raised that Question. The problem that we have is that this Government has now brought in a new management at Nzoia Sugar Company. There is an American company managing it. Most of us from that area were happy when the locals who had been stealing from the factory were removed and replaced with the Management Agency from America. However, this management is being frustrated so that it cannot get credit in order to function profitably as they had anticipated. I understand the debenture holders are unwilling to cooperate with the new management at Nzoia Sugar Factory because they do not want them to get credit. This Government must intervene because it is the biggest shareholder in that particular company.

Lastly, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government must be courageous enough and address the issue of price-fixing for sugar. The problem is, we produce sugar that cannot compete, in terms of price with imported sugar. We fix the price of cane as the farmer is going to plant. It is not the same with coffee. For instance, the prices of coffee are not fixed. So, when the world market has improved, the coffee farmer gets more, and when it is flooded he gets less. But the important thing is that he gets paid much more frequently. Because the price of sugar is fixed, the sugar cane farmers cannot compete against the prices of sugar in the world market. For example, when the price of sugar in the world market is low, ours has to remain high because we fixed it at the planting time. So, our farmers will be unable to sell their sugar. That is the main problem why sugar cane farmers are not well paid.

With those few remarks, Sir, I beg to support.

Mr. Nyachae: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make a few remarks on a very important industry known as agriculture. First of all, I very much appreciate the work being done by the Minister who is running a very difficult Ministry. It is a Ministry which is very important to this country because it concerns our lives by providing us with food. The Minister needs all the support that he requires. If we had enough capital in this country, we would allocate more resources to the Ministry of Agriculture. By so doing, we can adequately address problems in this sector. It does not matter which side you turn, because there are problems all over this sector.

I would like to suggest that the Minister looks into the question of irrigation in this country. I do not think that we can continue to talk about food production if we only concentrate on the current arable land. I think we need to do irrigation in a very big way. When I say 'a big way,' I am not talking about huge irrigation schemes. I am talking about small irrigation schemes that can be set up all over the country. For example, we can set up such irrigation schemes in Ukambani where there is famine. Food can be produced in Ukambani through irrigation. It is a pity that rivers pass through Ukambani, but there is no single irrigation scheme. I remember just before Independence I used to be an administrative officer in Ukambani, we had programmes known as "earth them(?)". Dams were constructed and livestock had access to water. We could divert water from those rivers and grow cabbages and so on. However, all those dams have collapsed and we need to revive

them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a suggestion on how we could start irrigation with our limited facilities. We have the Engineering Department within the Kenya Armed Forces. What do they do? They are very smart and energetic because they eat well, more than the ordinary wananchi. Let us use their equipment. Let them go to Ukambani, to the lower parts of Meru and North-Eastern Province and make dams. I know that they do not fall under the Ministry of Agriculture, but they should serve Kenya because we need their equipment. We see big bulldozers during the national days being displayed in-front of us. What do they do? They only shine during that time. They should be "shining" with soil in those parts of our country. So, I request the Minister to liaise with his colleagues in the Office of the President and make use of army personnel so that they can produce food in Ukambani and other areas with shortage of food. Let them construct dams in those areas so that irrigation schemes can be set up.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need to help our farmers, particularly in the pastoral areas. Let us build slaughter houses for them. I know that we do not have enough money in this country, but if we came up with good projects, we would get soft loans to build slaughter houses in Garissa, Isiolo and other areas so that people can keep livestock. Meat can be transported in cold storage vehicles to Nairobi and other parts of the country. This is possible. Why do we expect somebody from Mandera or Wajir to transport his animals all the way to Athi River? Let us build slaughter houses in Mandera and Wajir. Why are we not starting those projects?

Having worked in the Ministry of Agriculture I know that it has very well-trained people who can initiate these projects. Why do we not encourage them to initiate these projects and then look for money to build these slaughterhouses where they are needed?

On cash crops, I would like to touch briefly on coffee, flowers, tea and so on. Let us have an aggressive programme now of producing the latest varieties of coffee like Ruiru 11, and in other places all over the country. Right now the nursery is only to be found here in Ruiru. Let us have a nursery at Nyanza Research Station in Kisii to produce Ruiru 11 and all over the country.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Nyachae, I am sorry that I have to cut short your contribution because we have 30 minutes remaining for the Minister to reply, unless he wishes to give you some of his time.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is a big farmer in this country. So, let me give him additional five minutes.

Mr. Nyachae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was going to be pained because I am a coffee, tea and dairy farmer. Therefore, I should be allowed some more time. Thank you very much, hon. Mudavadi, for giving me that opportunity.

Let us have access roads for our tea. I want to insist here that it is very unfair that the farmers' sweat is wasted when their cess money is misappropriated by the local authorities. Instead, the money should be given to them to decide on how they will improve their roads so that the tea can get to the factory. The problem in the dairy industry is much bigger than what we are trying to imagine right now. The appointment of committees to run factories and the rest of it is not the answer. The problem is much bigger than that. We need to know how we are going to help these farmers so that they can get out of this mess not only in milk production, but the marketing of the milk and getting the returns.

I want to emphasise one thing. Our farmers are not lazy. They want to see the returns from their sweat. This needs to be considered so that the marketing system is improved. Another issue that I feel very strongly about is related to the co-operatives which deal with the farmers production. They must be transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture because the farmer wants to deal with one organisation only. In the case of coffee the Ministry of Agriculture deals with the production, but when it comes to marketing, another Ministry deals with that. The farmer does not like going to see many masters. He wants to sit down with one organisation and the Ministry of Agriculture is capable of doing that. The Ministry of Co-operative Development can deal with the issues of building societies and all the others, but the farmer should come under one umbrella on all matters concerning him. Interaction with the farmers is needed. More money is needed for the farmers training centres in the districts so that farmers can be invited to discuss with technical officers, get the latest information and know the latest methods of farming.

Finally, I would like to appeal to the Ministry of Agriculture to put more effort and produce research information to the farmer. We want to know the latest type of fertilizers to be used for various crops. We want to know the latest chemicals for various weeds, their usage, the rating of the fertilizers and other seeds so that we are able to do the right thing. At times farmers get confused because they are made to use the wrong variety.

One hon. Member talked about taxation on fertilizers. There is no such thing. Hon. Members also need to know that the Government does take care of farmers because there is no taxation on agricultural inputs. I have

heard some people talking about it. This is just a point of information.

Thank you.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): I will now call upon the Minister for Agriculture to reply.

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

First of all, I wish to thank all the Members who have contributed on this Vote. Had there been more time, one could see that there were still very many Members who wanted to make some contribution on this particular Vote. This is a very good sign that the role of agriculture is really acknowledged and appreciated by this House. The messages being underscored were that without serious efforts in dealing with agricultural problems, then our economy shall not grow. I would also like to point out at the very outset, that not all the officers within the Ministry of Agriculture are bad. It is important that we acknowledge that there have been tremendous efforts by the majority of them in trying to improve or handle their various portfolios as effectively as possible. No doubt, we cannot discount the fact that there could be some bad eggs. One of the things that we need to do is to ensure that those bad eggs do not spoil the majority of the officers who I believe are very dedicated in undertaking their responsibilities.

One thing, however, is that we need to also acknowledge that overall, the amount of resources I am seeking on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture which amounts to close to Kshs4.7 billion is a very small percentage of the GDP. This is something that will definitely have an impact on the ability of the Ministry to deliver its services as effectively as possible. Nevertheless, it is also important to stress that if we can utilise the resources that we have more efficiently, meagre as they may appear, they could go a long way in improving or helping in the concerns that have been expressed by the various Members of Parliament.

The other thing I would like to also touch on at this point in time is that although we do have the Agricultural Society of Kenya shows, I want to put it on record that the Government does not fund the ASK activities. Those shows are financed by the ASK itself through gate collections and some of their other assets through which they earn revenue. Indeed, many years ago, the Government stopped the subvention to the ASK. The amount that appeared in the books as related to the ASK is a very small component which normally is used by the agricultural officers in a given area to set up the agricultural fields in that specific area where those activities are being undertaken. It is not to fund the entire activities of the ASK.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are, indeed, very important points that have been brought up. One is that we must, as a nation move very quickly and shift from the tradition of relying on rain-fed agriculture. This is a very strong message. All the areas that people seem to be focusing on are those that are now heavily populated and those that have right now seen massive sub-division of land. Therefore, it is not possible to assume that we shall see the very high levels of agricultural productivity that used to be there before. We must start acknowledging that the way out is to open up, and move to areas that previously have been regarded as ASAL areas. This calls for realignment of our priorities so that in future, we should all work towards ensuring that there are more resources to open up the arid and semi-arid areas because that is where potential growth can now be realised, in terms of either food production or cash crops and livestock production.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Agriculture is currently making sure that it works very closely with the Ministry of Lands, so that all land that is in the custody of the Ministry of Agriculture is properly identified, alienated and title deeds issued. This is particularly important because hon. Members have expressed concern about land which had previously been set aside either for holding---

*(Mr. Kones consulted with officials
on the Civil Servants' Bench)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Mr. Kones, you cannot hold animated discussions with strangers.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was saying that the title deeds for land that belongs to public institutions like KARI, the Ministry of Agriculture itself or the Department of Livestock and others, should be clearly put in place so that the habit that has become a menace, and which is alienating this land, therefore, making it a problem for other agricultural activities to take place can be put to an end.

The other thing that also needs to come out is that, hon. Members have expressed concern over the cost of inputs. This is true and there are several reasons why the cost of inputs has gone high. It is partly because of interest rates which are extremely high in this country. Therefore, to finance agricultural activities at this point in time is an expensive affair. Secondly, when one looks at the question of importation, he will also find that our exchange rates are fairly prohibitive at this point in time. Therefore, when these inputs are brought in, they are

quite expensive to the farmer.

The other major anomaly which has arisen over the years is that there is no serious farmers' organisation in place. In the past when we used to have strong and well managed co-operatives, some of these co-operatives used to undertake the role of purchasing and having fertilizers distributed to various farmers. But what has happened is that, several of these co-operatives, or farmers' organisations, have either become broke through mismanagement or have completely failed to perform their duties effectively. Therefore, they cannot help the farmers to benefit from economies of large scale when it comes to purchase of inputs. So, this is an area where the Ministry and all hon. Members should try to focus on, so that we can encourage our farmers to set up proper farming organisations and ensure that they are properly managed so that they can assist farmers in getting certain services or inputs at much lower prices.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to stress that there is a major policy conflict on the issue of cess at the moment. As I speak here, my Ministry together with the Ministries of Local Authority, Office of the President and the Treasury, are working out ways so that there can be proper streamlining of this particular issue of cess. This is because as it stands now, the farmers are not releasing the money that they would have ordinarily been paying for cess because they do not trust the local authorities handling these resources properly. This is a very serious issue and there is no doubt about it. The farmers have a point here because in some of these areas the cess money runs into million of shillings. It is, therefore, important that this policy conflict is sort out very quickly to ensure that the farmers have a greater say on how the cess is utilized, so that the roads in our rural areas can be put into better use. I hope that in the next few weeks, we should be able to get a clearer position so that the Minister for Local Authorities can amend his gazette notice appropriately to reflect a more acceptable situation to both the farmers and Kenyans in general.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to pick up on what some hon. Members mentioned about the tariffs. It is important that as we enter into trade arrangements on regional basis, be it with COMESA or the East African Co-operation, as a nation, we should take due cognisance of the sensitivity of some of the industries or sectors that we have in our respective countries. It is, therefore, important that when their tariff adjustments are being made, they should be made very carefully so that each sector is given its due recognition depending on the level of development of that sector and, perhaps, the magnitude to which it impacts on the economy. This is not a problem that is unique to Kenya. This is something that is happening whether you are in the European Union or whether you are talking of regional bodies in the western part of Africa or Latin America. These are issues that are taken very serious, otherwise, they can really cause havoc to our agricultural industry and other sectors. I just want to stress that I do support the concern expressed by hon. Members that these tariff structures need to be looked into, so that we do not have any major difficulty.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to highlight just a couple of points related to the cotton and the oil seed industries. In the oil seed industry, this country spends close to Kshs6 billion on an annual basis to import oil seed or palm oil, which is then used to manufacture the edible oils that we use in cooking. This, indeed, is a colossal sum and there is justification in ensuring that this industry can be developed appropriately because if that kind of money was to be spent locally or earned by local people, it would make a significant improvement in terms of their livelihood. In fact, when one looks at that figure of Kshs6 to Kshs7 billion, he can clearly see that we spend more to import palm oil, or oil products, than what the Ministry is seeking today. I am seeking Kshs4.7 billion for both Recurrent and Development Expenditure, yet we spend Kshs6 to Kshs7 billion just to import oil products or palm oil. So, this is a very clear indication that even what we are seeking here is a very small amount compared to what we spend on some of these products. I just want to say that we are working on a policy position on how we intend to rejuvenate the edible oil industry, which we will soon be making public.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, cotton is another area that has a lot of potential for growth. Over the years, the Cotton Board has let farmers down. Currently, it is "broke"; it does not have any resources; it is heavily indebted. Currently, the country requires about 120,000 bales of cotton and yet our production is just close to 30,000 bales of cotton. This means that, we have to import the difference from neighbouring countries like Tanzania and beyond. So, these are areas which we are working on and we shall again be putting forward some of the possible policy suggestions to try and improve the cotton industry.

If I move further to the Coastal Region, I just wanted to correct one impression that may have been created by one of the hon. Members. This has something to do with the question of cashewnuts and bixa. Over the years these have been scheduled crops. I think it is important that hon. Members understand that currently under the Act, when you regard a crop as schedules, it means that you start regulating the price of that commodity. So, one has to be very careful. When this crop was scheduled, what it meant under the existing laws, was that nobody can export cashewnuts without having to seek permission from the Ministry of Agriculture. This is a complete contradiction of the liberalisation process that we are undertaking.

Indeed, when we tried to impose this, the prices of cashewnuts and bixa collapsed in cost totally, until we de-gazetted the question of the schedule. Once that was done, the prices of cashewnuts and bixa have gone up. And they are fairly reasonable. What is important is to work with the farmers in that area to ensure that they can step up their production and to also do research so that we can have better varieties of cashew nut plant.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, lastly, I would like to stress that, on the question of imports, we would like at this stage to underscore the fact that, the country is liberalized and you can import on a commercial basis and pay the duty that is there. We are not saying that people import products and no duty is paid. I would like to correct that position. I would also like to stress that over the years, we have not been able to meet our entire requirement when it comes to food production. If it is wheat, the maximum we have been able to go to is close to three and a half million bags of wheat, yet our consumption of wheat is well over 6 million 90 killogrammes bags. So, clearly, one can see that over the years, unless we can step up the production and fill up the gap through local production, we shall always have to meet that shortfall through the imports. What is key, is to ensure that appropriate duties are paid, so that the local farmer is not adversely affected, and at the same time, the country does not lose revenue.

The same applies to maize. Our consumption on an annual basis is close to 33 million bags of maize, yet our production has usually been close to 28 million bags, when it is a very good year. So, one can see that there is always some modest shortfall which has been made through imports. I wanted to put this straight so that nobody will assume that when we talk of imports, it is a question of duty waiver and people expecting that they will bring it in without duty. Unless there is a very clear position; it is an emergency and this Parliament has given the authority. I think it gave it in one of the amendments. Only when there is an emergency would such things be done, and they would have to be brought to this House, so that it is clearly stated.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to stress that the Cereal Board, as it stands today, has a specific role of handling the strategic reserves, and at the same time, also participating as a price stabilizer, when the prices are very low. It cannot, for instance, be possible for the Cereals Board to undertake all the purchases of grain in this country. I think we better put this record straight. It should also be noted that if that were to happen, and it used to happen in the past, then it becomes unmanageable. Because, the resources that would be there to purchase all that grain would be coming from the Cereals Board. It is also important for hon. Members to remember that before we liberalized, you could even move ten bags of maize without a permit. Now, all this is gone; it is nonsense; it is behind us. This freedom has helped in the distribution of food in different parts of the country from time to time, such that, previously, where some DCs or some people would wait for some commission in order to give you a permit, these things are all gone. So, we must look at some of those positive aspects that have arisen with the liberalization. We want the private sector to also come forcefully into this market; develop it and participate in the distribution of food in support to the farmers. This is the way the country can grow.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thought that I should highlight some of those points or aspects about the National Cereals and Produce Board, and its role, so that hon. Members can take it in its proper perspective. We should not assume that there are endless resources which can be given to an organization like the National Cereals and Produce Board. In fact, one or two hon. Members mentioned that the National Cereals and Produce Board should be the sole importer of any grain. I think if we went back to that era where you have only one importer of a particular commodity, we are putting ourselves in trouble. We would be creating an environment that would be so suitable for underhand deals to start taking place. So, we must bear in mind that it is important, that, where there is a public organization like the National Cereals and Produce Board, there must be the complimentary private sector so that they all participate in such a programme. But if you were to let the National Cereals and Produce Board be the sole importer, the queues and the movements that you would see, and the lobbying of people trying to go there so that they can be part and parcel of that deal, would be overwhelming, and within a very short time, there would be a lot of problems. At the same time, it would not provide any competition or competitiveness when it comes to the pricing of the commodities that would be imported. I would hope that the hon. Members who had that particular view, will reflect on it and put it behind so that we do not go back to the era of monopolies through Government bodies. I think this is something we are all trying to discard.

With these remarks, I beg to move and also say that I appreciate the comments that have been made by the various hon. Members of Parliament on this particular Vote.

(Question put and agreed to)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker, left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

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

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:- THAT, a sum not exceeding K£117,420,095 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2000 in respect of:-

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture

(Question proposed)

VOTE R10 - RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

Head 190 - Headquarters Administrative and Technical Services

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain why there is a very big increase on telephone expenses on Item 121, page 368 from K£315,392 to K£630,000?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, part of these funds is also going to be used to settle part of the accumulation of telephone bills. These are cumulative, so there has been an increase. There are some pending bills on telephone services.

Head 191 - Agricultural Attaches' Offices

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on Head 191, Item 000 - Personal Emoluments, there is a very big increase from K£67,000 to K£158,000 and yet, the details shown on page 413 show that there is only an increase of one person. Last year, they employed five persons and also this year, they have six. What is the reason for this big difference?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, there is a big difference here. Part of it is attributed to the adjustments that have taken place within the Ministry of Agriculture in terms of salary increments and promotions where adjustments have been made.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 413, it is shown that they would employ one driver at Job Group "D". That driver is listed here as going to earn K£39,000 when two Assistant Directors of Agriculture are going to earn a total of K£26,000 only. What are the details of this Grade "D"?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Can you repeat your question for the interest of the other Members and also for the Minister?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, for a Agricultural Attaches' Offices, the Ministry is going to employ six persons this year and last financial year, they had only five. So there is an increase of one person. But the driver to be employed is listed in the details on page 413 as going to earn K£39,000. What kind of driver at Job Group "D"? There are two Assistant Directors of Agriculture who will earn a total of K£26,000. Can the Minister

[Mr. Munyasia]

explain that particular difference?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Very well. I would ask the Minister to consult, if necessary and explain.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think we need to clarify something here. When we talk of Agricultural Attaches' Offices and the local staff, we are talking of the agricultural officer being employed in the respective country that, that person is deployed. From what I know, when we say local staff, we are employing somebody in that given country where the agricultural officer is attached. The salaries are then pegged to the settled levels within the respective country that we are talking about.

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the explanation by the Minister cannot be

true. Wherever it is, a driver cannot earn K£39,000?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am talking about a foreign country. If you are in Paris today, and you are a driver working on the Kenyan Mission and you are a local staff; you are pegged to the French structure. Let us be honest, the salary levels of the person working in France, if it is a local staff, French person, we cannot say that it would be the equivalent because you might mistake by comparing it with the salaries of our driver here. It is not possible.

Mr. Ojodeh: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Could the Minister explain on Item 364---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Munyasia wants to ask another question about the salary paid to the driver. So could you hold on for a minute, please?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, according to these Estimates, the Ministry will employ only one such local driver. Can the Minister tell us in which country that particular driver is going to be employed?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that is a very, very small detail which I did not contemplate. But if need be, I can make that information available. What is important is that in the Missions abroad, that is where we have Agricultural Attaches. We do not have them on our local basis.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want the Minister to explain on Item 364 on page 368. Last year, we voted K£400,000 and this year, the Minister wants K£1 million. Can he explain why he requires K£1 million? Is he anticipating any outbreak of deserts?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that figure indicates that it is accumulated arrears to the Desert Locusts Control Organisation.

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Minister explain to the House why he is planning to spend K£800,000 this year on IFAD Headquarters instead of IFAD going to the regions, page 368, Head 190, Item 371?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this also is similar to what I said about the Desert Locusts Control Organisation in the sense that we pay our contribution to the IFAD Programmes. We have been in arrears and we are seeking for more in order to update our position.

Mr. Ojodeh: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am just wondering why there is a loan given through the Ministry. Is it procedural to do that instead of giving the loan from the KFA? Why was it necessary for the Ministry to give the loan directly to Nzoia Sugar Company other than through the KFA? I am talking of Item 525, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is reflected and it will also be reflected partly in another Vote when we come to it. The loan here was guaranteed by the Government. If we remember, the Government did guarantee loans to Nzoia Sugar Company and also to Muhoroni Sugar Company. So, what is reflected here was what the Government was called upon to make good its guarantee.

(Heads 190, 191, 193 and 195 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 100 agreed to)

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

Head 229 - Agricultural Machinery and Testing Development Centres

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, could the Minister explain on Head 229, Item 000, which is Personal Emoluments, where last year K£49,522 was spent? Estimates for the next year is K£373,001 which is more than 700 per cent. What is the increase for?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, on the Personal Emoluments, we are also addressing issues that relate to salary adjustments for all the staff that are related to these areas. Secondly, there are also some members of staff who had been on contract and where this was not tenable, they were then taken on board, so that they are no longer on short-term contract.

Head 445 - Meat Inspectorate

Mr. Raila: Mr. Chairman, this is Head 445, Item 000 and Item 050.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): One Item at a time, please.

Mr. Raila: Yes, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman. We can as well take it with Item 050, because they are next to each other.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Okay.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, can the Minister explain this double increase from K£2,072,212 million to K£4,066,024 million and the other one from K£518,784 million to K£976,014 million? Can the Minister explain the causes of these astronomical increases?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, part of the figures that are seen, particularly on the component that will appear as Personal Emoluments, I would like to just point out or clarify one point; that, the Ministry was one of the first Ministries that have been undergoing the restructuring programme. So, there has been a lot of re-alignment in our departments where officers or staff have been moved from certain departments to others and in this case, the Meat Inspectorate Department has received quite a number of new people in terms of the re-organisation that is taking place. Apart from that, there are also some adjustments on the salary increments.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, apart from that--

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Sit down, Mr. Munyasia. Let hon. Raila Odinga continue.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Chairman, I understand what the Minister is saying but we all know that, structural adjustments or retrenchment is supposed to reduce costs and not to increase those costs. Secondly, the Meat Inspectorate Department really should be a Local Government function and not that of the Central Government. So, why should the Government be spending more money on meat inspectorate when this should be done by the Nairobi City Council and other Ministerial authorities?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Chairman, one of the things that I just want to highlight here, is that I do agree that where you would be talking of retrenchment, then to a certain extent, you might see lower figures. But what I am saying here is that, there has been readjustment and before, we just used to have a clear department of livestock and then, we have a clear department of agriculture. But in the re-organisation, we are now having a system where it becomes the Department of Agriculture and Livestock. So, the realignment is the one that is making it appear as if the figures are moving in an awkward manner, but it is because all these people are now being put under one Head.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, on the same Item, what is the Minister's explanation for this; that, on page 418 the details of the persons that you have employed, last year you did not find it necessary to have any Senior Livestock Health Assistant. There is no one who appears there as having been employed but this year, you thought you should have 717. What is the explanation for this? It is on page 418, Meat Inspectorate.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Munyasia, could you repeat for the benefit of Members and the Minister?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I am saying that last year, for Senior Livestock Health Assistants Job Group "H", there was no one employed but this year, there are going to be 717 to be employed. So, I am saying that if they could do without that particular position last year, why have they suddenly thought that they must have 717 of them this year?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I just want to say that in this particular area, previously, this particular unit has not been well-represented in all the districts of this republic. So, what we are trying to ensure is that with this provision, we should be able to have a sufficient number of Livestock Health Officers recruited and then distributed appropriately in all the districts of this country.

*Head 549 - Central Veterinary Laboratory
Services - Kabete*

Mr. Ojodeh: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, could the Minister also explain on Item No.220, Head 549--- I have checked on the details and it is not included. What kind of plant and equipment are supposed to be bought for the Kabete Laboratories?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Ojodeh, is that page 375?

Mr. Ojodeh: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, yes; Item 220 and the Head is 549 which is Purchase of Plant and Equipment. The reason why I am asking this is because we remember in 1997, we passed the same

thing again and I was just wondering whether it is the same plant and equipment which we bought in 1997 or these are going to be different ones?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, what we are seeking here is that, this is the Central Veterinary Laboratory Services and it is important that these laboratories are properly equipped and from time-to-time, you will definitely have to renew some of the equipment in that particular area. But what they are looking for is for instance, to include some aspects like standby generators to be able to make sure that when tests are being conducted and there is a problem with power fluctuation, this is given appropriate support. So, it is nothing out of the ordinary.

Mr. Ojodeh: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I am asking this because in 1997, we also passed a similar amount for Plant and Equipment. Is this amount going for maintenance purposes or for the purchase of new ones and if it is going for the purchase of new ones, what happened to the ones which we bought in 1997 or they were never bought? Can he explain?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, these are central laboratories and from time-to-time, you would either be required to maintain or to purchase new equipment when the need is established.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, on page 370, Head 229, Item 050 on House Allowances. Last year, the Minister requested for only about K£9,380 and now, he is asking close to K£80,000; that is, K£78,330. What is the major reason for that?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you will notice that just above that, there are also substantial adjustments on the personal emoluments, partly because of the re-alignment and, partly, because of increments. So, it follows that with such an adjustment, there would also have to be adjustments on house allowance.

*(Heads 229, 240, 266, 324, 407, 445,
446, 478, 481 and 549 agreed to)*

(Sub Vote 101 agreed to)

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

Head 466 - Mobile Pastoral Training Unit, Isiolo

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I can see that, again, Head 466, at page 379, is for personal emoluments for members of Mobile Pastoral Training Unit. Why was there such a big increment of more than 200 per cent?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, again, this is a reflection on the rationalisation of the staff. It is an indication that there could be more members of staff, who are now involved in that particular aspect.

Head 996 - Bura Irrigation Scheme

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am referring to Head 996, page 380, Item No.100. Could the Minister explain why last year, he required K£250,000 for transport and operating expenses but this time round, he only requires K£100,000?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I pointed out that one of the biggest constraints we have is availability of resources. It has been difficult to get more resources from the Treasury than has been provided for the Item.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am referring to page 380, Head 996, Item 250, which is for Maintenance of Plant, Machinery and Equipment for Bura Irrigation Scheme. The amount has gone down from K£504,000 to K£250,000. My understanding is that, as the machinery and plant grow old, the cost of maintenance also goes up. Why has the cost dropped here?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think this is again a reflection that we are having problems in resource allocation. This is why it is difficult to attain some of

the levels that were there previously. In fact, the whole Ministerial Budget has declined.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is very important that the Ministry maintains the equipment that has already been purchased other than allocating resources to purchase new equipment, otherwise, the machinery will not be serviceable. Why does the Government make provision for maintenance of the plant that has already been purchased?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are trying very hard to get as much resources as possible to ensure that the equipment that is there is maintained. Unfortunately, this is the provision that we have in this financial year. However, we appreciate what he is saying, and it is correct that we need to ensure that we can allocate more resources for operation and maintenance of the equipment.

Mr. Ndwiga: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the whole of Head 996 is on Bura Irrigation Scheme. That scheme has not been functional at all, and that is the information that we have. Last year, the Ministry got K£2.496 million. Upto date, the entire scheme is collapsing. What is the explanation?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, there are some limited activities that are taking place at Bura Irrigation Scheme. We want to acknowledge the fact that the resources being provided here are very inadequate. All I can say at this point in time is that we are trying to see if we can get some assistance from organisations such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), or even BADARE - this is a Middle East-related financing body - to see if we can get some resources that can help in boosting Bura Irrigation Scheme. So, at this point in time, we are really straining, and this is the much we have been able to achieve. So, there is a problem, but there are some limited activities taking place at the scheme.

Head 995 - National Irrigation Board

Mr. Nderitu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to address myself to page 379, Head 995, Item 306, Grant to National Irrigation Board (NIB). This Item has about K£1.3 million, but there is no Item explaining this Head. The next pages, 425 and 426, contain details of Head 996. So, could the Minister explain this? Also, I would like to tell the Ministry and the Government that the K£1.3 million is not enough for the NIB. The amount should, actually, be tripled.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Nderitu, you have not put any question to the Minister. What you have said are things which you should have said when the Vote was being debated. So, what is your question?

Mr. Nderitu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Head 995 has not been explained. Could the Minister explain it? The other point is that K£1.3 million is not sufficient for the NIB. Could this amount be increased?

An hon. Member: No, it cannot be increased!

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, at this stage, it is not possible. I would say that it appears that the NIB is getting a modest amount because, generally, it has been self-financing, and it did not require much in terms of Government subvention or grants, as is indicated here.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I suppose we all appreciate why Mr. Nderitu is so concerned about the Head. Mr. Wafula, proceed.

Head 306 - District Livestock Marketing Services

Mr. Wafula: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, last year, Head 306, Item 194, only K£3,955---

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, which Item is the hon. Member referring to?

Mr. Wafula: I am referring to page 376, Head 306, Item 194, Training Expenses. Last year, only K£3,955 was required for that Item. This year, the Minister has requested for over K£13,000. Could the Minister explain the type of training he intends to put in place, and where?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, when we talk of training expenses at district level, we would like to spread them to the various districts. For instance, if we were to go to Bungoma, we would go to Mabanga Training Centre.

Mr. Ojodeh: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, last year, there was an outbreak of cholera and typhoid at Bura Irrigation Scheme. However, the funds allocated to Item 270 of Head 996, have been reduced. I

understand that, that was done with the aim of reducing costs. However, is the Minister cutting down on the costs at the expense of wananchi? Why is it that even when we voted K£170,000 for the same Item last year, we still had the problem of typhoid? This means that the Ministry did not buy the chemicals required for water treatment. Now that the Minister has reduced the allocation by about 100 per cent, what is he going to do to ensure that water treatment continues, so that the people of Bura will not be affected by typhoid or cholera?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on the question of maintenance of water supplies and sewerage, there are two aspects. One is that there could be a question of reduction of resources because of constraints. But also it is important to point out that we cannot spend the same amounts for maintenance all along. So, if there was some reasonable maintenance that was undertaken last year, then the provision as assessed now, would indicate that maybe, the amount for maintenance should be lower.

Mr. Ojodeh: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Last year we voted K£170 and at that particular time there was an outbreak of typhoid and cholera as a result of consumption of non-treated water. Then he is still cutting the cost by 100 per cent. Are these people still going to take raw water which is not treated by tropical chloride of lime or where is he going to get money for the purchase of chemicals?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it would be very useful if we could direct that specific question to the Ministry of Health because it is largely a health issue. There could have been other factors which could have led to the outbreak of cholera and other things which may not be reflected.

Mr. Nderitu: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I would like the Minister to clarify on the expenditure of the K£1.3 million which he does not admit?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): It is the grant to NIB. You want to know what it would be used for? Is that what your question is about?

Mr. Nderitu: Yes, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would rather supply some of these details to the hon. Member later. I may not have them right away with me. But basically, a grant of this - bearing in mind NIB handles Mwea, Pekera, Ahero and so forth - there could be some aspects or requests which have been made specifically from some of these areas which I may not have with me right away.

*(Heads 305, 306, 425, 462, 463, 465, 466,
995 and 996 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 102 agreed to)

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

Head 224 - Provincial Livestock Production Services

Mr. Wafula: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like the Minister to explain the item on page 381 under Head 224 and 232. If we look at the title at Head 224, it is Provincial Livestock Production Services. When we go down at Head 232, it is District Livestock Production Services. The Minister has talked about restructuring and reorganisation. I am looking at the Provincial and District as having a double--- The Minister is making noise!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman: Order! The Minister is not making noise. Hon. Members do not make noise and you know that. They only consult!

Mr. Wafula: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am trying to say that as opposed to the case of human beings or the Ministry of Health where we have referrals from the district to the provincial hospitals, why can the Minister not scrap the Provincial Livestock Production Services because we only require these services at the district level? Why do we have the Provincial Livestock Production Services?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is important to recognise that there is need to have some level of co-ordination at the provincial level. So, unless there was a major change of policy so that Parliament decides to do away with the provincial structures, so that we go straight to the districts, this is the reason.

Head 635 - District Crop Production Services

Mr. Ojodeh: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to Item 065, page 388, Head 635. I was just wondering what justification the Minister has on the increase of the medical allowance for the District Crop Production Services from K£235,968 to K£425,565? Is it an increase of staff or are there so many staff members who are sickling or what?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as I indicated earlier, with the rationalisation of the Ministry, there have been movement of staff from certain quarters to others and also there have been salary increments and promotions. When these are all put together, we see some adjustments on the emoluments and also the benefits that these members of staff would be getting.

Head 477 - District Livestock Education and Extension Services

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 386, there is Head 447, Items 000 and 050. I can note that the amount of money for House Allowances has been retained at the same level; that is K£188,980. Yet, for the Personal Emoluments, there is some bit of increase which I would like the Minister to explain.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that is a very small adjustment. I do not know why hon. Khamasi makes it such a big issue. That is a very minor adjustment in terms of emoluments for these people. So, it may not necessarily have major implications on the House Allowances in this context.

Head 639 - District Agricultural Extension Services

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not happy with the answer given by the Minister regarding that particular Item. We still have a similar one on page 389, Head 639, Item 065 "Medical Allowance." Last year, it was K£3,984,698 and this year it is K£3,083,901. What is the justification for that? The Minister said that when he has many staff coming to the headquarters from other places, then they give better medical allowances. That is how he justifies the increase. But it is not a must that they be given a medical allowance.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the terms of service of the members of the Civil Service today allow for this medical allowance. We have to bear in mind that we have to make provision in the Budget. Otherwise, we would completely demoralise the members of staff if we tell them that we are employing them, but we will not provide them with any medical allowance. In certain cases, it could either go up, or it could go down.

*(Heads 202, 224, 232, 235, 236, 238, 255,260,
265, 280, 286, 291, 408, 477, 513, 543,634, 635,
638, 639, 660, 661, 699, 198,and 257 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 103 agreed to)

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

Head 198 - Project Development Monitoring and Evaluation

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 391, Head 198, Item 120, the Minister for Agriculture, last year, budgeted for K£100,334 and this year the Minister only needs K£6,500. The difference between the two is big. Could the Minister explain why the difference is so big? Does he have another method of being cost-effective?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, which Item is that?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is Item 120. I do not have my glasses, but I think I have got it right.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Is that about the Postal and Telecommunication Telegrams Expenses?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, whatever it is. I just wanted to know the explanation behind that.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Ojode, you do not just say "whatever it is," because it is--

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that is because I cannot clearly see, since I do not have my glasses with me. I want you to help me.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Mudavadi): Alright.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Musalia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, from what I can see, it would appear most likely that the accumulated bills for those services were much higher than those of the last Financial Year. We hope that this time they will not accumulate and that they will be paid off properly. That is the reason behind it.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you heard the Minister in his answer say "most probably." We are asking the Minister to tell us "what is" and not "what is probable". So, can he tell us what "is" and not what is "probable"?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, hon. Munyasia is very meticulous because he is an ex-educationist! Clearly, the position is that the bills were much higher in the last financial year and since we are just starting this financial year, there is a modest provision being requested.

Head 258 - Embu Institute of Agriculture

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, last year, we voted for K£115,000 and this year, the Minister only requires K£50,000. Does it mean that he will supplement the expenditure from other sources? If that is the case, where will he get those other resources from?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, all I can say is that we have seen a reduction in the number of students coming into these institutions, partly because the resources have been limited. So, we have not been able to absorb as many students as we used to absorb previously. This is why there is some reduction being indicated.

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

(Sub-Vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 - MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF FOOD SECURITY

(Heads 502 and 503 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 105 agreed to)

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

Head 233 - Crop Protection Services

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, my query is on Head 233 on page 401. Last year, we voted K£1.960 million and this year, the Minister only requires K£400,000! Could he explain that big difference?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is clearly a question of lack of resources. This is because last year, we had proposed that we wanted K£1.9 million. This year, despite the presentations that we forwarded to the Treasury, we only got K£400,000.

Mr. Ojode: Still on that, the crops were affected most by army worms this year, as opposed to last year. How is the Minister going to eradicate the army worms, if he only requires K£400,000? Last year, we did not have this kind of problem and he got K£1.96 million. Could he explain how he is going to do the spraying of the army worms, or is he not going to take care of the army worms because of the meagre allocation?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): I think the Chair heard the Minister stating that he had wanted more money. But he did not get more money. I do not know whether you want the Minister to

re-state that!

Mr. Ojode: No! But he has to explain to the House what he is going to do to eradicate the outbreak of army worms this year!

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we must distinguish this: Here, we are talking of a Financial Year. He is talking of a calendar year. Part of this money that is reflected here is what helped us to fight the army worms, which, to the best of my knowledge, struck in the course of the last Financial Year. We are looking at it in terms of budgetary reasons. What I am seeking here are funds to use from 1st of July. We should distinguish that. If you look at it in terms of the calendar year, you will get confused.

Mr. Ndwiga: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am worried about Head 551 on page 406. Last year, the Minister asked for K£1,876,902 and got the money. We had various outbreaks of foot and mouth disease. In several areas, they were not able to contain the disease. This time, he has asked for K£664,244. Could the Minister explain how he is going to manage? If last year, he had more than what he is asking now, and he was not able to contain the disease, how is he going to manage this year?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, that is a very valid point. All I can say is that this is a request that we are making at this point in time. But if our assessment of the need shows that we are under severe pressure, we will have no other option, but to seek more resources from the Treasury to help us to deal with the foot and mouth disease.

*(Heads 230, 233, 290, 426, 431, 432, 437,
447, 448, 490, 551, 552 and 553 agreed to)*

(Sub-vote 106 agreed to)

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

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 406, under Head 551, Item 000 on Personal Emoluments, I wonder what will happen to the staff. Either they were transferred or were taken to the Ministry's headquarters because last year we approved K£567,000. This year, the Minister only requires K£59,000. What will happen to the staff?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Ojode, which page are you referring to?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, page 406 under Head 551.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): We have just concluded that Head. We are now on Sub-Vote 107 from page 407 to 411.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, have we concluded this Head?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): We have already gone through it.

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

(Sub-vote 107 agreed to)

(Vote R10 agreed to)

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! I would like to draw the attention of hon. Members that today is an Allotted Day and we will continue up to 7.00 p.m. So, you do not have to worry about the time of adjournment. We have now finished with the Recurrent Vote on page 411. Let us now move on to Development Vote.

VOTE D 10 - DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

Head 192 - Western Kenya District Based Agricultural Development Project

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to be guided by the

Minister because a number of Items appearing under Heads 190, 192 and 193, should really, in my understanding, be under the Recurrent Vote and not in the Development Vote. Could the Minister throw some light here.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Which one, Mr. Raila?

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, for example, Head 192, Items 100 and 110 are similar to items we have just dealt with in the Recurrent Vote. Why do we have them again in the Development Vote?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, what needs to be underlined here is, that, primarily the Ministry of Agriculture is a service industry, in the context that some of the core functions are extension services. For example, fighting of diseases, research and so forth. So, when you look at it from that perspective, you will see why there are quite a lot of similarities between what appears under the Recurrent and the Development Expenditure. I would like to underscore the fact that we have, through rationalisation, continued to examine some of these functions very, very closely so that those that would very clearly be under the Recurrent Vote will be systematically pushed out of the Development Vote. In future, through rationalisation, this can be sorted out. But hon. Raila has a valid point that the items appear in both Votes. I am just saying that the Ministry of Agriculture is largely service-oriented.

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain to us this huge amount of K£2.8 million on Head 192, Item 184 on Contracted Professional Services? If you will remember, the other day we had a problem with Pakistanis in Muhoroni Sugar Company. I hope this is not a similar thing that will happen in Western Kenya. Could he just explain to us?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would just like to highlight something. You notice that there is also a reduction that is being indicated in there. In the Ministry of Agriculture, we are trying to reduce this particular Item on consultancy services which the Ministry used to have. There used to be very many so-called consultants operating in the Ministry, but we have been systematically reducing this number of fellows so that our expenditure on required consultancy services is now on the decline.

Mr. Achola: No! No, I am sorry, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I do not know whether we are talking about the same Item. There is a big increase there from K£400,000 to K£2.8 million, which is almost three times the previous amount. It is not a reduction.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): This is on page 155, Head 192, Item 184 - Contracted Professional Services - where the figure is K£2.8 million. But let us hear from the Minister.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): I am sorry, we were looking at different Vote Heads.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this particular programme is being worked on jointly with other organisations such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and so forth. Last year, these studies, or services, were not undertaken. So, we hope that we will be able to undertake them this year, because they involve a programme which will enable us seek additional funding from organisations such as IFAD.

Mr. P.K. Mwangi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. On page 155---

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

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Mr. Raila, let Mr. Mwangi finish, and then you could still come back to it.

Mr. P.K. Mwangi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 155, Head 192, Item 194, the Minister wants a total of K£667,409 whereas last year, the House passed K£40,000 for that particular Item. What kind of training is he expected to undertake?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as I said, this is a programme that is coming into place and it will involve training farmers and also extension staff in the various districts that are involved on aspects of agriculture. I also want to stress that it is linked to co-financing from the IFAD. As we stand now, this project delayed because somehow the activities that were supposed to have taken place in the course of last year did not take place. So, we are trying, through this request here, to make sure that we have sufficient resources this time to ensure that the programme can move ahead and, in the process, be able to attract the co-financing that would be coming from the other organisations.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we would like the Minister to throw slightly more light on Head 192, Item 184 - Contracted Professional Services - whose allocation is going up from K£400,000 to K£2.8 million. What are these services that are going to be rendered? We know that consultancy services have become an industry in themselves. What are these services that going to be contracted? Which are these projects and where are they in Western Kenya?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think, if one was to look at the end of this development programme, the districts that are likely to be included in the programme are, I think, indicated there. If one just flips through, he may find that we have districts like Siaya,

Teso, Busia, Bungoma and Kakamega. Some aspects of this Western Kenya Districts-based Agricultural Development Project are going to be undertaken. The co-ordinating centre of this particular programme is, indeed, in Nyanza Province.

The programmes are varied. They involve training, assistance to various farmers in terms of support, maybe credit in certain limited areas, support for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that are all working jointly on this particular project. But we do agree that, in certain cases, consultancy services are exaggerated. But we do hope that in this particular programme, where we are involved with organisations such as IFAD, proper evaluation will be done so that we are sure that the resources will not just go to waste.

(Heads 190, 192 and 193 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 100 agreed to)

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

Head 490 - Veterinary Investigation Laboratory Services

Mr. Ngunjiri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at page 157, Head 490 and Item 152, you will see that it is an Item on farm development. Last year we voted money for this farm development and this year we are also voting money for it. What farms are these and where are they?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are quite a number of veterinary farms scattered in different areas and once in a while some aspects of development take place there so that the animals that are kept in these farms can be kept alive and to reasonable standards. They are many, for example, Maseno, Mtwapa and so forth.

(Heads 324, 407, 481 and 490 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 101 agreed to)

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

Head 237 - Crop Production

Mr. Wafu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 157 under Head 237, Items 100, 110 and 121, why is it that last we did not require any such expenses for transport and so on and now we require such a big amount? Could the Minister explain why he did not require anything last year for these services and this year he has requested for this much?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, if one looks at what we are trying to do here, he will find that previously we had not been able to undertake our role very effectively, sometimes in areas of extension work. Basically, we were not very active last year in this particular area. So, we are hoping that we can be more effective in the promotion of participation between private and public sector development in agriculture. This is why we are seeking resources to enable us to operate this time round.

Head 995 - National Irrigation Board

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 160, Head 995; on the National Irrigation Board (NIB), could the Minister explain why no development funds are being made available for this coming year, while last year we had something for both NIB and Bura Irrigation Schemes?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, if you will recollect, I said that the NIB has primarily been self-funding. The development that has been taking place has never been direct from the Government of Kenya Resources. The amount that we sought and what we were seeking is basically a modest grant. But the NIB has been having its own resources which it channels to all the other areas. On the question of Bura Irrigation Scheme, if you recollect what I said, there is hardly any development taking place there. It is very modest. I did indicate that when we were talking about the Recurrent Expenditure, we were seeking resources just to sustain part of the activity. There is no major development project.

We are still seeking funds.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I just want to be guided by the Minister. He said that the NIB is a self-financing organisation. How do we then account for that money here in the Budget if it is not provided here? This is because the NIB is a Government board.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the NIB is a board set up by an Act of Parliament. When one wants to figure out how they have utilized their resources, the Auditor-General (Corporations) does the audit. Those audit reports are tabled in this House. So, if one wants to have a critical view of how the NIB uses its resources and how much it earns from its activities, we can then make available the audits reports for the NIB.

*(Heads 237, 233, 247, 306, 463,
465, 995 and 996 agreed to)*

(Sub-vote 102 agreed to)

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

Head 193 -Development Planning Services

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, let me take the Minister to page 161, Head 193, Item 403, on Soil Conservation Works. Last year we voted K£320,000 for soil conservation and this year the Minister wants K£1.1 million and yet soil erosion is everywhere in this country, even in Ndhiwa. Where in particular, does the Minister have those projects?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, when you talk of soil conservation, it cannot be in one given area. There are activities which take place in so many areas, and a very prominent area, if I may give an example, are parts of Eastern Province; quite a number of activities are undertaken there, to help in the aspect of soil conservation. In fact, the resources here are very little when it comes to figuring out how we can deal with soil conservation activities. Last year, we were seeking K£320,000, but today, we are seeking K£1.1 million. That in itself, is a very modest amount.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on page 163 Head 408, there is - Rural Dairy Services, whose details are reflected on page 264. All the Items on Sub-head 960---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Just mention the Item you have in mind. You cannot dwell on all Items.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Chairman, Sir, this amount of money was voted for Malava/Lugari District. There is no-longer, Malava/Lugari District, as it were. Malava has been hived to Kakamega. Could the Minister explain whether that money is going to be shared equally, so that part of the money which was supposed to go to Malava/Lugari will come back to Kakamega District?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, where there is such an activity, this will be rationalised so that no

money goes to the wrong place. It is not a new occurrence. Vihiga was an appendage of Kakamega Districts, and I remember, that during the transition period, there were a lot of cross-border issues between Kakamega and Vihiga District, but these were sorted out. So, I want to assure you that it will be sorted out.

Mr. Wafula: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is on page 164, under the same Head 408, Item 402 - Rehabilitation of Dips and Crushes. This figure has gone down, but at the same time, I do not see such services in my home area. Could the Minister explain which areas are covered under this programme?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think the hon. Member has drawn my attention to the fact that something needs to be done in Kanduyi. So, let me look at it appropriately.

*(Heads 192, 193, 241, 243, 260, 271, 408, 424,
491, 500, 501 and 513 agreed to)*

(Sub-vote 103 agreed to)

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

*(Heads 258, 259, 261, 467, 468,
471, 472, 473 agreed to)*

(Sub-vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 - MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF FOOD SECURITY

(Heads 491 and 508 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 105 agreed to)

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

Head 448 - Diseases and Pest Control Service

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, Head 448, Item 154, page 169, you would agree with me that last year, we approved K£7.4 million for diseases and pest control services. This time the Minister does not require even a single cent. Can he tell us whether he got the drugs and they are still in store or he does not care whether there are diseases or not?

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this particular Item related to the rinderpest project which has come to an end. It was partly donor funded as well.

(Heads 447 and 448 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 106 agreed to)

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

Head 448 - Diseases and Pest Control Services

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, on Head 448, page 170, Item 300 - Operational Expenses. Could the Minister tell us where he will get the money from for operational expenses?

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

Mr. Ojode: Page 170, Head 448, Item 300, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Musila): Order! Order! We have disposed of that one, Mr. Ojode. You mentioned that you do not have your glasses; I am sorry. Next time, please, bring your glasses.

*(Heads 245, 246, 250, 254, 451,
995 and 996 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 107 agreed to)

(Vote D10 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without amendments)

(The House resumed)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

REPORT

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture

Mr. Musila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding K£117,420,095 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2000 in respect of Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture and has approved the same without amendment.

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

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Wamukoya) seconded.

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Members, it is now time to interrupt our business. The House, therefore, stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 8th July, 1999, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.55 p.m.