

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 24th July, 1997

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

*[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]*

## PRAYERS

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*Question No.244*

### PERMIT FOR MANUFACTURE OF GUNS

**Mr. Busolo** asked the Minister of State, Office of the President, what plans the Government has to permit and enable wananchi with aptitude for ballistics to venture into manufacturing of guns so that the current expenditure of foreign reserves in the importation of ammunition is curbed.

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

The Government has no plans to permit or enable wananchi to venture into the manufacture of guns as this is prohibited under Section 9, Cap.114, the Firearms Act.

**Mr. Busolo:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, considering the fact that wananchi have this aptitude and that we are in the era of liberalisation in business; and further considering the fact that home-made guns of this kind were used in the fight against the Britons during the struggle of Independence, and the fact that the country spends a lot of foreign exchange on the importation of guns, why can the Government not consider repealing Section 9(1) of the Firearms Act, Cap.114, in line with the reforms that we are talking about?

**Mr. Sunkuli:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has its own way of acquiring guns and ammunition.

But it will never consider a policy where acquisition, manufacture or storage of guns is made so simple. There is no place in the world that I know of where gun control rules have been relaxed. In the United States of America, the big debate is whether to allow more guns or not. I think for the sake of security, it is not possible for the Government to allow everybody to manufacture guns. In fact, we are busy collecting many of these home-made guns because they are a security risk. A situation where guns are available to everybody is not good.

**Dr. Kituyi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell this House why, in the initial contract for the construction of a bullets factory in Eldoret, clauses were included which made it effectively a private enterprise by a few political notables, and it had to take the intervention of the Belgian Government for the contract to be re-written to make it a public organisation?

**Mr. Sunkuli:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government will never permit a contract that tends to give an individual or a company the authority to manufacture guns.

**Mr. Nthenge:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could the Assistant Minister answer the question put by Dr. Kituyi, or is he evading the question?

**Mr. Maore:** Given the fact that the Minister has not denied that there are many people in this country who have the aptitude in ballistics, could the Assistant Minister give an undertaking that the Government does recruit these people to work in the bullet factory rather than trusting the Israelis and the Belgians who are there now?

**Mr. Sunkuli:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that question does not seem to be quite in line with the Question which I have been asked.

**Mr. Maore:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I am afraid that I am going to be very strict. I will only allocate five minutes per Question because today is a Thursday.

**Mr. Maore:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have raised a very genuine supplementary question and the Assistant Minister is adding an old story. Can he actually repeat the answer if he has given any?

**Mr. Sunkuli:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in a situation where the Government wants to manufacture bullets, guns or other ammunition, it will always take very qualified persons.

**Mr. Shidie:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in view of the fact that we have so many illegal guns acquired by many people for the purpose of cattle rusting, could the Minister consider buying those guns with a certain amount of concession instead of importing, so that we can save foreign exchange?

**Mr. Sunkuli:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has granted amnesty to all those people who would like to surrender their guns. In the first place, they are committing an offence under the Firearms Act. We do not want to encourage illegal trade.

*Question No.494*

NON-AVAILABILITY OF TRANSPORT TO FIELD STAFF

**Mr. Mathenge** asked the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing:-

(a) whether he is aware that extension officers in Nyeri District spend most of their time at their offices because they are unable to move around the homesteads advising farmers because of non-availability of motor transport;

(b) whether he is further aware that food production in the country is likely to be affected by lack of advice to farmers due to the immobilised technical field staff; and,

(c) what action he is taking to re-address this issue once again.

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

(a) The Ministry is not aware, since we have allocated 14 vehicles and 9 motorcycles to Nyeri District as well as operating a maintenance fund to keep the vehicles in operation. This is reasonably adequate for the purposes of transport.

(b) The extension officers have done commendable work throughout the country in delivering agricultural extension services given the fact that the ratio of extension officers to farmers is 1:700. In this regard, in 1996 extension officers serving in Nyeri made 60,800 farm visits which is over 70 per cent of the expected performance and the extension officers organised 206 farm demonstrations and 189 farm field days to expose farmers to technologies that can improve their farm production.

(c) My Ministry has embarked on the following steps to improve the extension services. One, establishment and institutionalisation of unified extension service delivery, through restructuring of the Ministry to provide for full-fledged department of extension and adaptive research. Two, undertaking of a number of studies to look into ways and means of improving extension services, for example, agricultural extension service deliveries with special emphasis on the participation of private sector and NGOs in the provision of extension services. Three, preparation of agricultural sector investment programme with a view to co-ordinating and enhancing the contribution of the 14 Ministries which engage in activities related to agriculture.

**Mr. Mathenge:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to thank the Assistant Minister for the answer he has given me. But when were these 14 vehicles and nine motorcycles issued to Nyeri? How many were issued to Nyeri Town and Tetu Constituencies respectively?

**Mr. Kirwa:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot give a definite date because these vehicles have been issued over a period of time. But as we were talking to Nyeri this week, all the 14 vehicles ought to be serviceable and ought to be on the running because there are funds to maintain and fuel them.

**Mr. Mathenge:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister confirm that the vehicles for Nyeri Town and Tetu Constituencies are in operating order?

**Mr. Kirwa:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member has got any information contrary to what I have told the House, he can let the House know.

**Mr. Wamae:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister tell us whether they have got the money for fuel because sometimes these vehicles are there, but they have no fuel? Therefore, the officers cannot go to the field.

**Mr. Kirwa:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry gave the money according to the Votes of last year. So as to whether they have fuel at this particular time is yet another story.

**Mr. Mathenge:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister elaborate on what he has said and let us know of the demonstrations he has mentioned here, how many were undertaken in Nyeri Town and Tetu Constituencies respectively?

**Mr. Kirwa:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as of now, I cannot give the breakdown per constituency, but I can give only the district figure.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Next Question, Mr. Chris Kamuyu.

*Question No.197*

INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICITY IN DAGORETTI

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Mr. Kamuyu not here? The Question is stood over for a moment.  
Next Question, Mr. Henry Ruhiu.

*Question No.116*

UPGRADING OF SOWETO SETTLEMENT SCHEME

**Mr. Ruhiu** asked the Minister for Local Government when the Soweto Settlement Scheme will be upgraded to provide sewerage, roads and street lights in order to make this estate habitable.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is anyone here from the Ministry of Local Government? The Question is stood over for a moment.

Next Question, Mr. Norman Nyagah.

*Question No. 209*

PROVISION OF SERVICE TO RESIDENTS  
OF EMBU MUNICIPALITY

**Mr. Nyagah** asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) when the residents of Dallas, Majengo, Blue Valley, Kawi, Kangaru and Gatunduri of Embu Municipality will be supplied with street lights;
- (b) since the residents of Mbeti North do not wish to be within Embu Municipality, when he will revoke his earlier directive; and,
- (c) what services Embu Municipality provides to the residents of Mbeti North other than higher rates for water and refuse collection.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is anyone here from the Ministry of Local Government? We will leave that Question until the end.

Next Question, Mr. Gitau Kamuiru.

*Question No.448*

COLLECTION OF REVENUE FROM MARKETS

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Mr. Gitau Kamuiru not here? The Question is stood over for a moment.

Next Question, Mr. Philip Rotino.

*Question No.431*

ISSUANCE OF TITLE DEEDS IN  
CHEPKONO AND CHEPARERIA

**Mr. Rotino** asked the Minister for Lands and Settlement what delayed the issuance of title deeds to the residents of Chepkono and Chepareria in West Pokot, yet the survey work was completed more than 10 years ago.

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

The delay in issuance of title deeds to residents of Chepkono and Chepareria was due to the large size of the adjudication area and difficult terrain. The adjudication work, however, has now been finalised and title deeds will be issued as soon as the maps and registers are checked and reconciled.

**Mr. Rotino:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am asking this Question for the third time since 1992. The last time, the answer was that the title deeds would be given within the next four months. I remember that was in 1995, and I asked that Question in July, like this time. He told me that at the end of December, the title deeds would be ready for issuance. Four months have been extended to two years. The question of terrain does not really arise because the Assistant Minister does not even know the area. Now, he says that the title deeds would be issued as soon as the maps and registers are checked and reconciled. How long does it take for the maps and the registers to be checked and reconciled?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of not knowing the area does not arise. I think I know this country very well because I served this country, particularly in the remote areas. I know how Pokot terrain looks like. Apart from that, it is true that there has been a delay in registration and issuance of title deeds to residents of Chepkono and Chepareria in West Pokot District due to what I have said earlier on. Chepkono has an area of 17,335 acres and Chepareria has got 24,990 acres. The adjudication register for Chepkono was completed and published on 26th May, 1993, while that of Chepareria was published on 8th May, 1992. Following the publication of the registers, a total of 1,052 objections were filed; Chepkono had 639 cases and Chepareria had 383 cases. The title-deeds are expected to be ready before the end of this year once the reconciliation of maps and registers is completed. The registers and the maps would then be passed to the Chief Land Registrar to issue title deeds.

**Mr. Moiben:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Chair will agree with me that a period of 10 years is a very long period, indeed. Can the Assistant Minister be serious and tell us exactly when these title-deeds will be issued? How much more time does he need?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that the title-deeds are expected to be ready before the end of this year once the reconciliation of maps and registers is completed.

**Mr. Rotino:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has said that the title-deeds will be ready before the end of this year, and then, he adds, "when the maps and registers are ready". It might take one year to be ready. When will they be ready?

**Mr. Sumbeiywo:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that we expect the registers to be ready before the end of this year and the issuance of title deeds will commence.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Next Question, Mr. Aloo Ogeka.

*Question No.387*

COMPLETION OF KISUMU-CHEMELIL ROAD PROJECT

**Mr. Ogeka** asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

- (a) if he is aware that the funds allocated for Kisumu-Miwani-Chemelil Road and Muhoroni (C34) are inadequate and, therefore, the contractor is unable to do satisfactory work; and,
- (b) if the answer to "b" above is in the affirmative, whether he could consider reviewing the funding to enable the contractor do a satisfactory work.

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

(a) I am not aware that funds allocated for Kisumu-Miwani-Chemelil Road (C34) are inadequate, nor that the contractor is unable to do satisfactory work.

(b) The Ministry has allocated enough funds for the completion of the road in question.

**Mr. Ogeka:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the second time I am asking this Question before the House. The first one is on the quality of work being carried on C34 Road. The second was admission by the Provincial Works Officer that the condition of the road is not satisfactory because of inadequate funds allocated for the road. That was before the Provincial Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, implying that if the funds were available, the roads would be properly done. Can the Assistant Minister tell this House, that due to the condition of the road which is being done between Kisumu-Miwani-Chemelil and Muhoroni, which started in 1986 and was to be completed by the end of the year, is not even half-way through, would be completed and to the satisfaction of the heavy traffic, particularly the agricultural users? If need be, if it cannot be completed with the funds available, can then part of it be done, and the other part await until funds can be made available by this "lame" Government?

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** It is true that the completion date was expected to be 10th February, 1997. However,

there arose an anticipated increase of work in that, the base shoulder and drainage system needed repairs. In fact, we are already setting aside additional Kshs97 million in order to have that road completed.

**Mr. Polo:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister says that they have allocated enough funds. Can he tell this House how much was allocated, has been spent, is still to be spent and whether he is satisfied that this will be carried out according to the specifications?

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the contracted sum was Kshs178,831,200, but we were to add another sum of Kshs97 million to make a total of Kshs275,831,200. So, the road is going to be done satisfactorily.

**Mr. Ogeka:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to contradict himself by first saying that the money allocated for the road was adequate and within a lapse of a minute say that they have done a supplementary budget to the tune of Kshs97 million? Is he in order to misinform this House in your presence? Can he withdraw that statement and apologise to the House?

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** If hon. Ogeka cared to listen to me keenly, I said the money was adequate, but there arose an anticipated increase in base, shoulder and drainage repairs. This was not expected and that is why we had---

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

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Mr. Gatabaki, Standing Orders say that when a Member is responding to a point of order, there shall be no interruption by another point of order unless you are drawing my attention to some very disastrous breach of order on the Floor of the House, which should be self-evident.

**Mr. Gatabaki:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the Minister to mislead this House---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Your point of order is out of order in view of what I have explained just moments earlier. Question 485, by Mr. Ndilinge.

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

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Order, hon. Gatabaki. I think I have to be very strict and you will appreciate this. The rules of the House state in black and white that when a Member has raised a point of order and somebody is responding to that point of order, there shall be no interruptions of that response and you insisted on interrupting the hon. Assistant Minister as he was responding to a point of order. For that reason, therefore, I say your point of order is out of order.

Next Question, Mr. Ndilinge.

#### *Question No.485*

#### TARMACKING OF KATUMANI-MAKUENI ROAD

**Mr. Ndilinge** asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

- (a) when the Katumani-Makueni-Makindu Road will be tarmacked;
- (b) whether he is aware that during the rainy seasons, this road becomes impassable and people from Makueni District Headquarters take about three days to reach Machakos Town; and,
- (c) if the answer to "b" is in the affirmative, what urgent steps the Ministry is taking to ensure that the road is passable.

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

(a) The Katumani-Makueni section of the road in question, which is 69 Kilometres long, will be advertised this year, but the actual construction is expected to commence on May, 1998. In the meantime, efforts will be continued to solicit funds to upgrade Makueni-Makindu section to bitumen standard.

(b) I am not aware that during rainy seasons, the road which is the subject of the question becomes impassable and that people from Makueni District Headquarters take about three days to reach Machakos Town.

(c) Arrangements for the construction of the Katumani section is at an advanced stage while funds for the construction of Makueni-Makindu section will be solicited.

**Mr. Ndilinge:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. We know very well that all the replies we get from the Ministries come from the officers on the ground. The Assistant Minister has already said that he is not aware that people take three days from Makueni to Machakos Town during rainy seasons. If he is not aware, then it appears what he is telling this House is completely out of order. It also appears that what the officers on the ground brought to this Minister to bring to this House as an answer is totally out of order. The Minister could have gone there to see the condition of the road. Now, can he send somebody to inspect the road?

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whatever is given as a reply to this Question is quite in order. The hon. Member should understand what is out of order and what is in order. I have never visited that area during

rainy seasons and that is why I said in my reply that I do not know that it takes three days to get there during rainy seasons. So, I am quite in order to say so.

**Mr. Maundu:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, most Ministers here never travel anywhere in this country to see for themselves the complaints that are brought by hon. Members here. That notwithstanding, can the Assistant Minister tell us what their scheduled programme for this road is, from today up to the time they intend to start tarmacking this particular road? I note that he already has K£50 million in the Budget. Why does he not consider it appropriate to start right away with the amount of money that has been budgeted, other than wait until 1998, with the elections around the corner?

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of Kenya has already entered into an agreement with the Government of Kuwait, through the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, to receive a total of Kshs1,754,604,100 for the construction of Katumani-Makueni Road to bitumen standards. The loan agreement for Kshs1.1 billion was signed in June this year. The Government of Kenya, through our Ministry, will meet the balance.

**Mr. Maundu:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I asked a very essential question. What is their programme of work from now up to the time they intend to implement their work? Where are they beginning? Where are we as far as this road is concerned? The people of Makueni are waiting to hear from you now, so that they can think on how you are going to implement that project.

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** The first programme was for the Government to enter into a commitment on the road. If he wants all the details of the programme, they are as follows:

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I am afraid I will not allow you more than a minute now!

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** From 1st October, 1997 to 30th November, 1997, there will be pre-qualification of tenders and invitations will be carried out. Between 1st December, 1997 to--- As you said, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have one minute and I will not be able to---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Just lay the document on the Table!

**Mr. Mwamzandi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the programme of work on the Table.

*(Mr. Mwamzandi laid the document on the Table)*

**An hon. Member:** On a point of order---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! You know that I have a duty to ensure that every hon. Member whose Question has been put on the Order Paper gets an opportunity to ask his Question. You know that it supplies a Day and one or two matters will be debated. Therefore, I am afraid I cannot do anything. If hon. Members are not eloquent enough to ask their questions effectively, well, they are bound to suffer. Next Question!

**An hon. Member:** But you are referring to one side of the House!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I do inform both sides of the House!

Question No. 212 by Bishop Kimani!

*Question No. 212*

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS TO DEPENDANTS  
OF THE LATE GATHOMO

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is Bishop Kimani not here? We will leave his Question until the end.

For the second time, hon. Kamuyu's Question!

**Mr. Kamuyu:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I apologise for being late, and I beg to ask Question No. 197.

*Question No. 197*

INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICITY IN DAGORETTI

**Mr. Kamuyu** asked the Minister for Energy:-

(a) whether he is aware that there is no electricity in the villages of Gatina, Salim Road, Ngando, Kabiria, Old Mutuini, Ngina Road and Uthiru "87" within Dagoretti Constituency; and,

(b) what it would cost the Ministry to instal electricity in all these areas, and when it would be done.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is anybody here from the Ministry of Energy? The Question is deferred.

*(Question deferred)*

**Mr. Kamuyu:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to seek your guidance. This is a very serious matter. The Ministers have refused to come here to answer Questions. This week alone, I have had two Questions which have been deferred. This is the second time this Question has been deferred already. What are we supposed to do, if the Ministers are not ready to answer Questions? Why does this Government not resign and leave us on this side of the House to form the Government?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** For the second time, Question No. 116 by hon. Ruhiu!

*Question No. 116*

UPGRADING OF SOWETO SETTLEMENT SCHEME

**Mr. Ruhiu** asked the Minister for Local Government when he will upgrade the Soweto Settlement Scheme to provide sewerage, roads and street lights in order to make it habitable.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is anybody here from the Ministry for Local Government? The Question is deferred.

*(Question Deferred)*

**Mr. Ruhiu:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. This Question has been deferred three times in the last three weeks. What do you think I ought to do about this Question, because it concerns the welfare of my people of Soweto, and the Minister is not here? Since I have got a written answer, can we ask hon. Kamotho to read it to this House?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is there any Minister who wants to answer the Question under collective responsibility? Hon. Ruhiu, if you have been asking this Question so repeatedly, you have my sympathy. I am very sincere about this. But all I can do for you, and that is the much I can do, is to assure you that the Question will not go away. I direct that it should be put on the Order Paper for the earliest possible time, that means on Tuesday, next week.

**Mr. Farah:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. We have a Government. KANU is the Government. There is the Leader and Deputy Leader of Government Business in Parliament. Can we have either the Deputy Leader or the Leader to tell us what is happening about these things? They should own up to their responsibility as the leaders of Government business.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! For the second time, Question No. 209 by hon. Nyagah?

**Mr. Nyagah:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am asking this Question for the third time in the last two weeks.

*Question No. 209*

PROVISION OF SERVICES TO THE  
RESIDENTS OF EMBU MUNICIPALITY

**Mr. Nyagah** asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) when the residents of Dallas, Majengo, Blue Valley, Kawi, Kangaru and Gatunduri of Embu Municipality will be supplied with street lights;
- (b) since the residents of Mbeti North do not wish to be within the Embu Municipality, when the Minister will revoke his earlier directive; and,
- (c) what services Embu Municipality provides to the residents of Mbeti North, other than higher rates for water and refuse collection.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is anyone here from the Ministry of Local Government? The Question is deferred.

*(Question deferred)*

**Mr. Nyagah:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Yesterday, when Mr. Speaker was on the

Chair, he ordered this Question to be put on the Order Paper for today. He also said that the first duty of a Cabinet Minister is to Parliamentary business, and not to their Ministerial duties and following the President wherever he goes.

Right now, hon. Kamuren is hiding in the Chambers. We know of collective responsibility. What action is this House going to take so that these Ministers can take their work seriously? We have very many Questions that are pending. Our people are dying with problems that we bring forward to this House. I think it is high time that these Ministers were named. We should ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to bring hon. Kamuren back into the House.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I know of no Standing Order under which I can order the Sergeant-at-Arms to drag Ministers into the House. Hon. Nyagah, as I said earlier in response to hon. Ruhii's concern of a similar nature, all I can do for you or for everybody else whose Question has been asked and not answered, is to assure them that their Questions will not "die", and they will not go away from the Minister. They will appear and re-appear on the Order Paper until such a time that they are responded to. That is the maximum that the rules have empowered me to do. I am giving you that maximum. Next Question!

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** We cannot have a debate on this matter. It has become a debate now! Order, Dr. Kituyi! There are positions where you can freeze, and positions where your freezing cannot be seen to be genuine.

Hon. Members, let us not have a debate on this matter. It is not an occasion for a debate. I note that it is a genuine concern, and I think even Mr. Speaker, when he was on the Chair yesterday, expressed his sympathies in very unequivocal terms. I want to tell you that we share the same sentiments. But as you know, this is an adversarial system of government and I suppose in these times when you are facing elections, you know what is best to do. You can campaign on this issue when the campaign comes. For now really, there is nothing more I can do.

Next Question!

*(Several Members stood up in their places)*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Order! I do not intend to entertain a debate on this matter. I have made my position very clear and I am sure there is still business before the House. There are still Questions which have yet to be asked, and if we have time, we get on with those.

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

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Order, Mr. Ndicho! I do not think you should really stretch the sympathy that the Chair has expressed for your position unnecessarily. I have said, it would be improper for us to convert this opportunity for you to have a bash at the Government side into an opportunity for debate. You have had the bash! I [Mr. Deputy Speaker]

have given you the opportunity for the bash! Do not over-do it!

With that, I give the opportunity to hon. Gitau to ask his Question No.448 for the second time!

Mr. Ndicho, are you asking on his behalf?

**Mr. Ndicho:** Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, and this is now the fifth time that this Question is being asked.

*Question No.448*

#### COLLECTION OF REVENUE FROM MARKETS

**Mr. Ndicho**, on behalf of **Mr. Gitau**, asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) if he could inform the House how much revenue was realised from Kiganjo, Gatundu, Gatukuyu and Kamwangi markets individually in the years 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995; and,
- (b) arising from the above, how much of this revenue has been spent on the improvement of the respective markets.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is the Minister for Local Government here? The Question is deferred!

*(Question deferred)*

**Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the House should accede to hon. Farah's request that since the Deputy Leader of Government Business is here, we should hear from the Government as to what is happening. Are they panicking so much about reforms that they cannot come to the House to answer Questions?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** He has heard! Question No.212 for the second time!



*Question No.212*PAYMENT OF BENEFITS TO DEPENDANTS  
OF THE LATE GATHOMO

**Mr. Kamuyu**, on behalf of **Bishop Kimani**, asked the Minister for Labour and Manpower Development why the late Mr. Laban N. Gathomo's (NSSF No.038763052) benefits have not been paid to his family.

**The Assistant Minister for Labour and Manpower Development** (Mr. Komen): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

The survivor's benefits claims totalling to Kshs62,411.15 in respect of the late Laban N. Gathomo, membership No.038763052, has already been paid through cheques Nos.155747 and 378774 dated, 5th February, 1991, and 29th November, 1996, respectively.

**Mr. Kamuyu:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, up to this time, this family has not received this money. Can the Assistant Minister explain the mode of transmission of this particular cheque? The hon. Bishop Kimani confirmed that this money has not yet arrived. Could they write fresh cheques?

**Mr. Komen:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can assure the hon. Member that as far as the NSSF is concerned a total of Kshs48,870.25 has been paid in full and there is no more money owed to the family.

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have a lot of admiration for the gracious lady, the Minister for Culture and Social Services, and I like very much the way she chooses what to wear and what to carry. But is it in order that she has carried her handbag into the Chamber, contrary to the practice in this House?

**The Minister for Culture and Social Services** (Mrs. Mwendwa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think this is in order because, a lady's head gear and her handbag are never separated from her. I think, we have been doing what is wrong, because in the rest of the Commonwealth Parliaments, ladies are allowed to carry their hand bags with them. I know you are going to argue when I come with a kiondo here, but even if I come with a kiondo, it is my own prerogative as a lady. Thank you.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Order! The Chair fully appreciates the very close and often sentimental relationship between a gracious lady and a bag. But I have to state unfortunately, the rules of our House that were clearly designed for reasons which must be much greater than those momentary reasons for close attachment to the bag, provide that every gracious lady or any gentleman who has a bag will deposit it at the entry, just beyond the bar on coming in.

If the hon. gracious lady thinks it is time we revised these rules, I am sure she can submit her proposals and give all the arguments she can marshal in favour of the ladies keeping their private bags with them, then we shall see what we can do. For now, hon. Minister, would you, please, put the bag there?

*(Mrs. Mwendwa took her bag to the entry point)*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** In the meantime, we have not finished with the Question. Mr. Ogeka!

**Mr. Ogeka:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell this House the policy of the Government regarding those payments which get lost between the NSSF and the beneficiaries with regard to the period taken when investigation is still going on? We have had people who have to wait for more than two to three years because the cheques went astray or were misplaced. What is the Government policy with regard to making the beneficiaries get paid when the cheques are still being investigated?

**Mr. Komen:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member should know that the man was working with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing and later on, had worked with the Kenya Railways. So, this was money owed to him from the Kenya Railways and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

**Mr. Ogeka:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to be irrelevant in responding to the question that I have very explicitly put with regard to the policy of the Government on a cheque that has been misplaced? Indeed, this has nothing to do with a particular person in question. Is it in order for him to deviate from the question I have put before the House?

**Mr. Komen:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is simple, you cancel the other one and write another one.

**Mr. Gatabaki:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister assure this House and the nation that the NSSF which is the workers' pension Fund has got sufficient funds to pay the workers of Kenya and will not be depleted by the KANU Government for the elections? Can he assure this House that NSSF has adequate funds and

they have not been stolen by majority of the front benchers on the other side of the House?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Next Order!

### POINTS OF ORDER

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT SOUGHT:

MALARIA-OUTBREAK

**Mr. Sambu:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise on a point of order in connection with a Question which I asked on Tuesday, 22nd, July, 1997; and another one by hon. Anyona on the same day. Both Questions were answered by the Assistant for Minister Health. The Assistant Minister did say that 178 people have died of the Highland Malaria between April and now. On the same day, the PMO, Rift Valley, Dr. Chebet, told the Press that 333 people had died in the Rift Valley alone. Mr. Anyona's Question was covering a wider area.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want a categorical Ministerial Statement on this persistent Highland Malaria because the Provincial Medical Officers of Health and Medical Officers of Health seem to be giving the Minister totally contradictory information. When we are dealing with death, we have to have the right facts. In Nandi District, they said that 31 people have died and Dr. Chebet said that in Nandi alone, 147 people have died. We demand a categorical Ministerial Statement on this issue.

Secondly, the Assistant Minister answered my Question regarding admissions to Medical Training Colleges.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! I think any agreements you make with the Chair informally, in advance, should be respected. If you intimated that you were raising a point of order, you should rise on that one, and that one alone.

Mr. Nassir, one-and-half minutes only.

### HARASSMENT OF MEMBERS BY THUGS

**The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting** (Mr. Nassir): Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Naibu Spika. Nidhamu yangu ni kuhusu Kenya nzima na mambo tunayofanya katika Bunge. Jana katika Bunge, Wabunge na Mawaziri walipokuwa wakitoka, walisukumwa na mimi nilikuwa nimesukumwa na hata gari langu lilipigwa mateke. Sikuwa na njia ya kwenda. Ninaogopa kwamba, kama ni kufanyia kampeini katika lango la Bunge, hii ni kuvunja heshima ya Kenya na kumvunjia yule mwenye chama hicho ambaye aliwatafuta watoto na kuwaleta mlangoni. Nafikiri kwamba alifanya kitendo kibaya sana na ni wajibu wetu sisi sote kumlaani mtu huyu.

Bw. Naibu Spika, kama ningeumia pale, ningeenda Mombasa nikiwa nimeumia, na ningeulizwa nieleze ni nani aliyenipiga hapa Nairobi.

**An hon. Member:** Balala!

**The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting** (Mr. Nassir): Watu wa Mombasa wanajua kuwa Bw. Balala ana wazimu, lakini watu wa bara hawamjui. Wanataka kumtumia mtoto wa watu, wamtumie mpaka amalizike; shauri yake! Lakini ninasema kwamba mambo kama haya ya kupigana hapa yataendelea zaidi pahali pengine. Ukinipiga hapa na mimi nitakungojea nikupige kama ulivyonipiga. Kwa hivyo, mimi nilikuwa nikisema kwamba mambo haya yanaharibu nchi yetu.

*(Several Members stood up in their places)*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, Nassir! I have told you that you have only one and half minutes, and you may have one or two sentences to finish. But a point of order is not an opportunity to threaten others.

**The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting** (Mr. Nassir): Ijapokuwa watu wanadharauliana na kufanya mizaha, lakini siku moja ukweli utajitokeza na ndipo mtasema kwamba kuna mzee katika Bunge aliyesema mchezo huu ni mbaya. Mtu yeyote leo katika ulimwengu mzima---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Next Order.

### BILLS

*First Readings*

THE KENYA COMMUNICATIONS BILL

## THE POSTAL CORPORATION OF KENYA BILL

*(Orders for First Readings read - Read the First Time - Ordered to be read the Second Time tomorrow)*

**Mr. Michuki:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The First Reading for the Kenya Communications Bill which has been tabled by the Minister for Transport and communications, having been read the First Time, was seconded by the Minister himself. Is that in order?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is there any requirement for secondment at this stage?

**An hon. Member:** No!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** As far as I know, there is no secondment at this stage.

**Mr. Michuki:** That is exactly what the Minister did and I am wondering whether that is procedural. Is it procedural for the Minister to second his own Bill?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! The Minister did not second the Bill because it does not require to be seconded at this stage. The Minister is entitled, and if hon. Shikuku was here, he would have given us a lesson on this because he seems to be very particular about it;--- to indicate that tomorrow he will be prepared for the Second Reading if he was ready, that is all. But no secondment is required at this stage.

*(Mr. Michuki consulted with other Members)*

Mr. Michuki, I am not fore-closing---- If you consult with me, I will consult you. I am certain about it. Next Order.

## COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

## MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 31 - Ministry of Education

**The Minister for Education** (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. speaker do now leave the Chair.

I wish to record my gratitude for the opportunity accorded to me to move the Vote for the Ministry of Education, and I shall start by outlining the Ministry's policy interventions in brief on various education sub-sectors.

In an effort to achieve general goals and objectives of education, my Ministry has prepared a ten-year education master plan, whose implementation strategy takes into account the overall economic policy framework for Kenya, and advocates effective participation of all key stake holders in education and training development. The co-operative strategy is aimed at minimising duplication of efforts, ensuring optimum mobilisation and utilisation of resources to achieve educational goals and objectives as we move towards the 21st century.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Ministry recognises the importance of pre-primary education and has instituted a broader concept of Early Childhood Development Programme, which is currently addressing integrated services for children under six years of age in respect to cognitive educational, health and nutrition and general access to education to children from disadvantaged families. In order to meet the target of universal primary education, the budget for the sub-sector has grown by 33 per cent in 1997/98 as compared to the 1996/97 financial year. The Government has recently formulated the fundamental goal for industrial transformation of Kenya by the year 2020, and my Ministry is determined to improve quality of secondary education through the provision of physical facilities and teaching of relevant skills.

In the same token, the Ministry is addressing the declining enrolment and completion rates through the provision of bursaries to economically disadvantaged students in secondary schools, among other intervention measures. Development of university education and training is crucial for production of qualified manpower, who in turn, will have impact on socio and economic development in the country. My Ministry, is therefore, placing great emphasis on provision of necessary human and physical facilities to institutions under this category. My Ministry will, therefore, require K£1,629,893,500 and K£131,347,705 out of the total Recurrent and Development national

budget for the year 1997/98 to facilitate rendering of national education services. This allocation reflects a gross of 7 per cent and 21.8 per cent for Recurrent and Development expenditures, respectively, as compared to the 1996/97 gross approved estimates.

My Ministry's Recurrent budget is made up of eight Sub-Votes and the allocation of K£1,629,893,500 is distributed in the following propositions.

For Sub-Vote 310 for General Administration and Planning, which caters for teachers' salaries among other requirements, the Ministry will require a total of K£1,341,883,356 distributed in nine expenditure items as follows:-

Head 834 - Headquarters Administrative Services - K£5,203,528; Head 835 - Headquarters Professional Administrative Services - K£2,066,713;

Head 836 - Curriculum Support Services - K£1,530,883;

Head 837 - Provincial Administrative Services - K£2,352,116; Head 838 - Kenya National Commission for UNESCO - K£558,397; Head 839 - Kenya National Examination Council - K£12,840,000; Head 841 - Teachers Service Commission - K£1,229,096,064; Head 862 - District Education Administrative Services - K£13,267,154; Head 863 - Kenya Institute of Education - K£4,943,001.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 311, which caters for the main social dimensions of development projects among others under primary education, will require K£35,044,759 to finance the following programmes:- Head 844 - Primary Schools Boarding expenses included - K£3,879,547; Head 845 - Kenya School Equipment Scheme - K£12,598,633; which includes K£11,880,000 for purchase of school equipment and text books. Head 846 - School Milk and Feeding Programmes - K£18,566,579.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 312 covers programmes and activities of teachers' education. Under this Sub-Vote, a total of K£6,242,418 is required to cater for administrative costs and grants to the following colleges:- Head 847 - Primary Teachers Training Colleges - K£5,212,418; Head 803 - Kenya Science Teachers' College - K£530,000; Head 807 - Kagumo Teachers College - K£500,000.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 313 - Schools for the Handicapped has four budgetary heads for which I will require K£3,052,189 to cater for the following categories of special institutions:- Head 810 - Post-Primary Schools - K£500,000; Head 811 - Special Secondary Schools - K£400,000; Head 848 - Primary Schools - K£719,300; Head 852 - The Kenya Institute of Special Education (KISE) - K£1,432,889.

My Ministry has two main items of miscellaneous nature.

## POINT OF ORDER

### HARASSMENT OF MEMBERS BY HIRED THUGS

**Mr. Obwocha:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. My concern is about the security of hon. Members of Parliament. I have just come in now and there are young boys, who have been allowed to come inside the gate carrying stones. Despite my car bearing an "MP" plate, they have stoned it. Do we have any security in this Parliament? Where are the Serjeants-at-Arms? Can these people be cleared out of here? These fellows have been brought here by Gumo, a thief, who stole from Mumias Sugar Company.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Order! Order, Mr. Obwocha! If you had been here earlier, I think you would have appreciated the mood of the House on this subject. You have just brought it to my attention. It was raised regarding what happened yesterday. But without prejudice to your case, I think it is important that you withdraw the reference you have made to the hon. Member for Westlands and apologise. Could you do that or I will take action?

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know what the PIC report has said. Now, the person who has arranged for this---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, Mr. Obwocha! A matter of privilege for a Member of the House or a question of security around Parliament is a primary matter of privilege. It is really surprising to me that while on the one hand you are doing that, in the same breath you insist on the violation of the same privilege for another Member. I am asking you to withdraw that statement and apologise without any prejudice to your case on which I have to say something. Can you do that?

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope the Chair knows who has organised those thugs.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Mr. Obwocha, I have not come to that. Do you not understand me? Okay, will you just withdraw and apologise?

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will opt to go out. I cannot apologise when the privileges of Members of Parliament, duly elected to come to this House, are being violated within the precincts of this august House and the man who is organising those thugs is in this House. I cannot withdraw my remarks.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Well, hon. Obwocha, if you cannot withdraw those remarks, I am left with no

option, but to order you to leave the Chamber for the remainder of today's sitting.

*(Mr. Obwocha withdrew from the Chamber)*

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Order! Hon. Members, let me state that every Member of this House is presumed to know the rules of conduct of which he should be conducting himself around the House. The privilege of the Members of the House is guaranteed by law. The Chair takes a very strong view and there should be no doubt about this of attempts by anybody from within Parliament or outside to deprive Members of that privilege or, in particular, to deny Members the sense of security and liberty in moving around and going around their business within the precincts of Parliament. I hope no Member of this House is implicated in this matter. We have already heard a Member complain on the Floor of the House earlier before Question Time about what happened yesterday technically outside the precincts of the House, but in a manner which clearly affected the dignity of the House and of Members, as well as of the sense of security by Members. I can only assure you that this is a matter of which I am sure Mr. Speaker is informed and he will take all appropriate steps. You know what avenues are there for pursuing questions of privilege beyond the specific moments when it is said.

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Considering the importance of our jealous guarding of our privileges as Members of this House and considering our duty to taxpayers that when the House is in the Committee of Supply, we must make every expeditious effort to be present in the House to deliberate on this matter and, in view of the statement and sentiments expressed by the Chair, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order No. 23 (1) and do move that the House adjourns for at least 15 minutes and until the way of Members entering and leaving the National Assembly is cleared, the business should not proceed.

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! I fully sympathise with your concern on a matter which is very grave. I have no doubt about this and, I think it is proper that only the Chair will still insist on getting the report of the Serjeant-at-arms. This may be a matter which, in fact, merits a much bigger attention than a 15 minutes adjournment to-date. I am saying so without prejudice to the gravity of the matter. But I will wish that for now, I wait for the Serjeant-at-arms report.

**Mr. Kibaki:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Whereas we accept your ruling, you can hear as you are here that people have blocked the entrance into Parliament and are harassing Members. I have just come through it. Should action not be taken immediately? As a Parliament we cannot sit back and wait for somebody who will take action. We are only pleading that some action be taken.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. I think, Mr. Kibaki, you will appreciate that when the Chair says that it is awaiting the Serjeant-at-arms report, that the Serjeant-at-arms office is expected to have already commenced its work. That is why it is there.

**An hon. Member:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is a matter for the Privileges Committee that deals with the privileges of the hon. Members.

*(Resumption of Debate on Vote 31 -  
Ministry of Education)*

**The Minister for Education** (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 313, Schools for the Handicapped, has four budgetary Heads for which I will require K£3,52,189 to cater for the following categories of special institutions: Head 810, Post-Primary Schools will require K£500,000; Head 811, Special Secondary Schools will require K£400,000; Head 848, Primary Schools will require K£719,300 and Head 852, Kenya Institute of Special Education will require K£1,432,889.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Ministry has two items of miscellaneous nature under Sub-Vote 314 and I will require a total of K£5,906,211 to cater for the following activities: Head 853, Bursaries, Scholarships and Subsidies will require K£5,550,000; Head 854, Contribution Towards Local and International Institutions will require K£400,211.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Ministry is putting great emphasis on the development of pre-primary education. In this respect, a total of K£512,359 will be required under sub-vote 315, Head 816 training of field services. Sub-vote 316, Secondary Education has Head 800 will require a total of K£32,438,708 to cater for bursaries to needy students.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will also require K£25 million to cater for grants to secondary schools of K£7,200

million among other administrative requirements.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the bursary programme under my Ministry is a social dimension of development programme item and has grown by 25 per cent as compared to the 1996/97 allocation.

Finally, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under the Recurrent Estimates is the university education Sub-Vote 318 which consists of five public universities and one university college. The whole Sub-Vote will require a total K£204,813,500 distributed in the following areas:- Head 827, Commission for Higher Education, K£3,531,000; Head 828 - University of Nairobi, K£48,786,500; Head 826 - Kenyatta University, K£28,584,500; Head 832 - University Students' Loan Scheme, K£50,731,400; this includes K£3,500,000 for the administrative budget for Higher Education Loan's Board, Head 833 - Egerton University, K£27,216,000; Head 840 - Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, K£10,307,500; Head 842 - Maseno University College requires K£5,771,500 and Head 867 - Moi University requires K£29,885,100. I request hon. Members to approve that Recurrent Vote of the Ministry of Education.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I now turn to the Development Vote of the Ministry. Having outlined the Ministry's requirements for 1997/98 recurrent provision, I beg to move that Vote D31 on the Ministry's development requirements for 1997/98 which requires a gross total of K£131,347,705 out of the total development national Budget as distributed in the following Sub-Vote be approved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 310 for General Administration and Planning, K£3,396,800 is required to be utilised as follows:- Head 834 - Headquarters Administrative Services requires K£579,000 of which the Government of Kenya contribution will be K£339,000. Head 835 - Headquarters Professional Administrative Services, will require K£1,600,000. This provision is intended to supplement the recurrent provision for Higher Education Loan's Board in procurement of essential facilities to ensure efficient administration of students' loans by the Board. Head 836 - Curriculum Support Services will require K£717,800; Head 839 - The Kenya National Examinations Council requires K£300,000; and Head 841 - Teachers Service Commission requires K£200,000.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 311 - Primary Education, the Ministry requires K£17,595,700 as follows:- Head 844 - Primary Schools requires K£4,095,700 and Head 846 - School Milk and Feeding Programme requires K£13,500,000.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 312 - Teachers Education, requires K£29,230,000 to be spent by diploma and primary teachers training colleges to cater for completion of Taita-Taveta and Garissa Primary Teachers Training Colleges, in addition to settlement of pending bills and expired receipts of education credit of the World Bank.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 313 - Schools for the Handicapped will require K£3,042,972 which includes K£392,972 Government of Kenya funding to supplement the procurement of basic facilities in the institutions under this category.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sub-Vote 315 - Early Childhood Care on Education Programme will require K£4,390,000.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the next Sub-Vote 316 - Secondary Education, my Ministry will require a total of K£8,670,000 which includes K£5 million to finance purchase of science laboratory equipment for secondary schools under ABF2 projects.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the last, but nonetheless very vital, is Sub-Vote 318 - University Education. I will require K£64,259,733 to facilitate the work of the Commission for Higher Education, construction of lecture halls, staff houses and other facilities under the following Heads:- Head 827 - Commission for Higher Education requires K£38,200,000; Head 828 - University of Nairobi requires K£5,105,000; Head 829 - Kenyatta University, requires K£2,738,660; Head 833 - Egerton University, requires K£5,788,183; Head 840 - Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology requires K£3,500,000; Head 842 - Maseno University requires K£4,040,000 and Head 867 - Moi University requires K£4,895,890.

At this Juncture, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to pay great tribute to our major donors such as World Food Programme (WFP), DANIDA, USAID, EDF, EEC, UNICEF, Governments of UK, Japan and Netherlands, among others, who have contributed significantly to this sector of our public life.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with these remarks, I wish to conclude by thanking you and all the hon. Members of this House for listening to me with keen interest as I moved my Ministry's Vote. Now, it is my great honour and pleasure to request the House to approve my Ministry's Vote D31.

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

*(Applause)*

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am aware of my responsibilities as Member of this House. It is part of my responsibility to go out and see what kind of disorder was there. I heard the

Sergeant-at-arms instructing the Assistant Sergeant-at-arms to come and ask hon. Gumo to take his thugs away from the gates of Parliament. I further heard hon. Gumo mention to hon. Matiba that he was going to tell them to go away. Considering that under Standing Order No.88(2) and given the provisions of Standing Order No.89, this is most evidently and most explicitly gross misconduct.

I do now move that hon. Gumo be named.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Dr. Kituyi, I think I made my position very clear. I want to repeat, for the avoidance of doubt that I treat this matter of privilege as a very grave matter. I have stated before and I will repeat it again that I do not consider this matter to have been closed. The Sergeant-at-arms did come to me. When I enquired from him, he indicated to me--- I asked him specifically whether those people who are harassing Members were within the premises of Parliament and he said they were outside the gate. I informed him that I had received complaints that they are within the outer and the inner perimeter and he said they were outside. I further asked him whether the gates were open for Members to get in and he said they had been cleared.

I now want to state that, this is not a closed matter. I will communicate it to the Speaker, so that he can make an important communication from the Chair. Members who feel seriously aggrieved by breach of privilege are welcome to communicate to the Chair, preferably in writing. I think for once, we may need a Committee of Privileges to examine this matter. If there is a Member of this House whose conduct has been prejudicial to Parliamentary privilege, then we can discuss that accordingly. For now, I would like to remind you, hon. Dr. Kituyi that we have to continue with business before the House particularly as stated under Standing Order No.141. We are dealing with a Committee of Supply. What you have told me is not what I have seen with my own eyes. You cannot, therefore, make me to accede to your request to name the Member for his conduct outside the precincts of Parliament, unless I have verified it through other channels including hearing from him. If it had happened here, it could be something before my own eyes which I can make a ruling on.

**The Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Munyi):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to second this very important Vote of the Ministry of Education which has been ably moved by the Minister.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when look at the developments and plans in the current and development Estimates, it is good that the Minister has already explained very clearly about the teacher training colleges which were started but not completed. It is good now that the colleges were constructed and completed. I remember that there was a time when Members of Parliament from Western Province did ask about the teacher training colleges which were started, but not completed. The Government has taken upon itself to make sure that all those teacher training colleges in Western Kenya, Coast Province and North Eastern Province are going to be completed and that is a very big achievement. The Minister did explain very well about the public universities: The University of Nairobi, Moi and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. All that I would like to say is that the students in those public universities should concentrate on their studies and they should not be manipulated by those who want to spoil their university education. That is wrong. They should not be used by some people from outside Kenya who want to interrupt and interfere with the peace in our country. This is totally wrong!

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. You heard as well as I did hon.---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I was busy consulting with hon. Busolo and I did not hear what he said. But whatever he said is on record. What did he say?

**Dr. Kituyi:** Hon. Munyi has just said on the Floor of this House that there are forces from outside this country which are interrupting education at our national universities and considering the pain that this country is going through and that the corpses of university students have not yet decomposed in the graves right now, could the Minister substantiate by informing us which foreign forces are interrupting education in the national universities and how they are doing it?

**The Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Munyi):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even hon. Dr. Kituyi is aware of what I am saying and that is a fact! The other day, when many students from the university went on the rampage and they came here to interfere with the work of Parliament, he was among those people who went to address them.

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I demand that the hon. Minister--- We sometimes appreciate the fact that this Minister speaks like he is inebriated, but that does not allow him to make a categorical statement in purporting to substantiate his claim that foreigners are inciting students, to say that I incited students to cause disorder in the universities. He said that and I demand that he withdraws and apologises. I think he should try to know what he is talking about.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Mr. Munyi, did you say hon. Kituyi incited students?

**The Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Munyi):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that all of us were in this House and some people were outside there and Dr. Kituyi went outside there to address them. That was

before the Saba Saba riots.

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think you should oblige hon. Munyi to answer your question. Did he say I incited students to come here or not?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, hon. Minister. I think you had better be careful. In fact, I did not hear the words you uttered. The problem is that, often, when there is something odd going on, Members take advantage to consult with me and I coincidentally, I end up consulting with somebody but sincerely, I did not hear what you said. Did you say categorically that hon. Dr. Kituyi incited students into violence?

**The Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Munyi):** I did not mention hon. Kituyi in particular. I said that some Members were supporting students to come and interrupt the proceedings in the House. He went outside there to address them.

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it really in order, for an hon. Member of this House and a Minister at that, to deny that he stated that hon. Kituyi was one of those people who incited students? In addition to that, he also said that foreigners were inciting university students! That is on record. Can he deny that?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! I think we have serious differences before the House. Let me say this: Hon. Munyi, if you stated that, it is bound to be on record and it is a very grave matter to state something of such a nature and deny because the record will bring it out. If the record bears out the complaints he has, you can rest assured that the matter will be revisited. Regarding the first matter, hon. Kituyi, I find it difficult to demand a substantiation on a statement of that generality which I think hon. Munyi could only have said by way of expressing his opinion that some foreigners were inciting students in the universities.

**The Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Munyi):** In any case, we do not want foreign forces to direct us on how to run our Ministries, like the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, Ministry of Education and so on. All we want to do is to deal with our problems here in Kenya without being intimidated by foreigners. If we want to make any changes in the 8-4-4 system of education, we can do so in an enabling environment. I want to inform the hon. Members that 8-4-4 is appreciated in countries like Japan, America, Sweden and many other countries of the world. We are the ones who introduced this system of education. We should appreciate something that has been done by Kenyans. That is what we did by appreciating 8-4-4 which was introduced by the Minister for Education.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the current Permanent Secretary is a lady and we are acting according to the resolutions of the "Beijing Declaration". We are happy that she is doing a very good job. Even the other day, she did suggest that those students who have been trained in private colleges should be employed by the Government. I appreciate that because when Kenyans do something good, we should appreciate it. Public universities were started by Kenyans themselves. Which other country has got so many universities like Kenya? We should not criticize for the sake of it, but let us give credit where it is due. The educational system in Kenya is one of the best in Africa, if not in the world. Why are they saying that our educational system is not good? All these officials in the Ministry led by the Permanent Secretary, the Director of Education and other officers, they are people with knowledge. They can advise us if there is anything wrong in the system. Therefore, we need to support what has been allocated for the Ministry of Education in the Estimates. We should encourage our young graduates in the universities to have good morals. We should not give them drugs. Some people are giving these students drugs. This is a very good Vote and I do second it 100 per cent!

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

*(Question proposed)*

**Dr. Kituyi:** Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to make a modest contribution on a very important Ministry. Sometimes it is exciting to listen to persons who get carried by delusions of grandeur and by delusions of performance. But because they see themselves such modesty gods, they cannot understand how pitiable the performance is.

Today, as we deliberate on the Vote of the Ministry of Education, education is one of the three critical social sectors which are faced with a major crisis, larger than we have had since Independence. You can point at an astronaut and say this is a product of our education system. You can point at a professor and say this is a product of our education system. But it is more true that if you point at 65 per cent of Kenyans who are now getting out of our education system without gainful employment, those are the most important products of our education system.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been looking at both the Government Budget, the Budget Statement by the Minister for Finance, the presentation by the Minister for Education, and most disastrously the seconding of the Vote of the Ministry of Education, and something is very conspicuous. There is a total absence of a sense of direction.



There is a total absence of what this education is for. Normally, one would have loved to discuss this, if the so-called 10 Year Masterplan on Education was prepared as a Sessional Paper for this House to discuss. What vision does the Government have on education? We are wallowing in the wilderness, murky waters, where the Government issues statements from one end of the mouth, it is talking about reforms on the 8-4-4 system of education, from the other end, it is talking about abandonment, from the other end, the same Government is praising this as a miraculous system. Nobody is telling this country the reality, that for the first time in the history of higher education in this country, pre-university qualifications in Kenya do not qualify our children for university admission anywhere in the world. That is an inconvenient fact, so, we wash it under the carpet.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a pain is going around this country, because Kenyans sell their little land or use the most meagre family resources to get their children into the school system which are shifted from skill-based to the commitment of facts and figures in memory, snatching the right of youth from the children from a very premature age. Does a standard three kid need education during the school holidays? Does a standard four kid need to do four hours of prep work at home after school? We have robbed our children their youth, of their right to be children and play, and an education system which offers them what? It offers them half-baked conglomeration of figures and committed facts to memories without any coherent defined national goal of the purpose for this punishment. If those kids succeed, they have a fortune to go through secondary school and then university, what are they meeting? They are meeting a university where all pretensions that the university was the centre of learning, a centre of the passage of intellectual excellence, have been abandoned, where the leadership of a country looks at the students like juvenile delinquents. That you see university students as the enemy, you see university students as kids who must be sent to their parents to come and sign documents for them to promise they are of good conduct. We see university students as persons who cannot express an opinion unless they have been incited by malicious people.

**The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development** (Mr. Nyachae). On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think much as I respect hon. Dr. Kituyi, he has made a very serious allegation, that the leadership of this country looks at the university students as juveniles. Can he substantiate this remark because this is a very serious allegation?

**Dr. Kituyi:** With pleasure, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. An hon. Member and a senior Minister of the Government has said it in this National Assembly this afternoon, that the occasion when university students came to express to their elected representatives their abhorrence of a proposed Bill, totally reorganising access to Government funding for university education, it was perceived that either they are being directed by foreigners or incited by hon. Members, including my own person. You can only expect that persons who speak, speak because others have sent them, if you are making a fundamental assumption about their intellectual underdevelopment, their incapacity to think about the situation and articulate their concern for themselves. This is one of the genesis of my concern.

Last year, I was in the team of Members of Parliament who visited the Nairobi University Hall Nine after police had raided the halls of residence. What did I see? Using bayonets, policemen had smashed all doors on three floors of Hall Nine; Tom Mboya. They had beaten students they found on their beds and those studying. This year, this country has lost a student who was killed in an examination hall. It is a collective repugnant thing for us as leaders to pretend that everything is fine and celebrate that we have number of graduates when we are doing this to our youth. We are brutalizing persons who are supposed to be inheritors of leadership of this country. If the instruments of state violence are turned against the better of our youth, who have survived in a very competitive education environment, how can we expect that they will lead this country to posterity? What will posterity say of us if we lower our voices in the face of this total failure of responsibility of our class as leaders in the country?

I wish to turn away from that and talk about other few things related to this Budget. Let nobody cheat himself that Government can pretend to be autonomous in the decision of areas of priority, particularly on developmental matters. If that Government does not show in its own net expenditure allocation of resources for those areas, what is expected to happen? We have seen this Government masquerading as the Government that provides school-milk. If you look at this Estimates, out of K£13,500,000 for School Milk Programme, the Exchequer is to spend K£500,000. Then you will hear them stand here and tell us that this is an independent Government and foreigners cannot dictate to it what to do! Put your mouth where your pocket comes from. Prioritize areas and let us see your developmental agenda on the basis of the allocation of Exchequer resources, not just conditional follow-up resources prioritized by the donors who are involved.

I wish to express my appreciation for the support that has been given to this country by the Government of Denmark in its consistent funding of the Schools and colleges for the handicapped for more than ten years. I wish to suggest that in the aftermath of our commitment to the Social Dimensions Programme - social dimension does not mean building a few classrooms in a school. It means intervention in areas that critically strengthen those who are vulnerable and strengthening the possibilities for the weakest in society in human resource development. I think this Government should allocate most of the resources on the social dimension funding to mainstreaming the recruitment of

handicapped children and teachers of special education into main school, not handicapped schools. There are a lot of children who go to handicapped schools who could actually be socially more redeemed if facilities were created to allow them go into normal schools. Some of the resources for the social dimensional development should have been mainstreamed into that area.

Secondly, the most critical area of education in any country is the formative education system, what in Tanzania they call "Shule ya Vijidudu"; pre-primary schools. It is pitiable that this Government has allocated K£1 million for pre-primary school education. That is an embarrassment when we see how much money is being voted for education. In a lot of those areas, outside the main towns, a lot of children are left behind because they have no pedagogical development of teachers. They have a little classroom, which is often built by a church for a Sunday service where some children go and one of the women in the neighbourhood, who knows how to count from one to hundred, is given a little money to come and teach them how to sing. And they call that pre-primary education! If we want to do justice to the children of the poor, public resources for education should more increasingly be spent on expansion of professional development pre-primary education in the rural areas of this country to make those children have a chance to compete with the children who are having a head-start from urban area.

To finish, I want to say that the Minister for Education should not repeat what he told headteachers in Kakamega that they should not co-operate with Opposition politicians only to leave it to his Assistant Minister to come here and deny on his behalf. Most importantly, he should stop pretending that he has a mandate from the people and, therefore, will decide for the Opposition that KANU will talk to people who have a mandate when his Member of Parliament, hon. John Michuki, has not been given a mandate by anybody.

**The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae):** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to support the Motion.

Listening to the previous speakers, I would like to draw the attention of Members of Parliament, some of whom are young and others old, to a few things. I would like to say that education in this country - whatever you want to comment on its standards - has advanced very much. We should first of all be grateful that this country has grown in terms of providing education to Kenyans all over the country. This is something which was not there before Independence. There are districts where there were no schools before Independence. We should appreciate that. Schools were found in a few districts. We should give credit where it deserves.

There is no development anywhere in the world that can take place without experiencing a few problems. It is for us to discuss the problems and see how we can manage them. I would not imagine that we can go that far in education without experiencing some problems. So, we all accept that there are problems of management, but we should support the growth of education because that is needed and everybody is struggling to get education for his child.

There are areas of improvement which we all need to agree on. As we demand for more education to be made available to our children, it means having more teachers and more equipment including books. I would like to request that more funds be made available to provide textbooks and equipment to schools. We have secondary schools where science subjects are not taught yet we have qualified science teachers. This is because of lack of equipment. So, that is why sometimes at the end of the year, we see some schools taking first position in the national examinations while others do not. We tend to have a feeling that schools that do not appear among the first 100 schools with best performance have more qualified teachers than others. This is not the case. It is not the teachers' fault. If you go back to those schools, you will find that they have qualified teachers, but no equipment. So, teachers are helpless. The schools have no books, equipment and laboratories.

Now, here is where we need to think in terms of a fair deal. There are schools which were equipped, even before colonial days. We have secondary schools in this country which have four or five laboratories in one school, while we have others without a single laboratory. We need to say that we should go back to what we decided at Independence. I know that there are some Members of this House who may not agree with me on Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1965, but if you read that Paper, there is a paragraph somewhere which states that those areas which were left behind before Independence should now be assisted to catch up with the others. Is this happening? This is what we need to accept, particularly in the field of education. We need to accept that those areas which were left behind, and they are struggling to build secondary schools and laboratories should now be assisted to catch up. Kenya belongs to all of us and let us share that little cake more equitably.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister for Education is here and I support his efforts. I know he is running a very difficult Ministry. But you know it becomes very difficult for some of us Members of Parliament in our areas, even if we are Ministers. You find parents asking you; "we understand a grant of so much has been given to support the poor children. So much money has gone to district so and so. Where is our money?" You find it very difficult to explain that kind of situation. This is because somebody comes and says; "sisi watu tunalipa kodi, no matter how poor we may be. What is happening?" The same thing applies when it comes to Harambees. When you hear that

the Ministry of Education has given Kshs100,000 as a donation at a particular Harambee, what about the Harambees we are conducting in our other areas also? We also need to get a little cheque and go and announce that the Minister for Education likes the people in Kisii and gave the cheque of Kshs100,000, the way he has donated somewhere else. This is a fair request. It is not a question of criticising anybody. This is a question of equatability. So, we need to support each other in terms of policy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will now switch off from there and touch on how we should support these young people we are educating, particularly when they get into secondary schools and universities. We leaders, especially the politicians all over Kenya and not in this House only, should contribute towards making these students or young people, responsible people. It is very embarrassing that when we have our own political differences here, we then find ourselves addressing and inciting university or secondary school students, and telling them about our differences as politicians. We go to the students to criticise the Government and the ruling party. On what basis are you really talking to that young person? He is not your political colleague. He is a student! I would like to emphasise a point here that in my home, I will wait until my sons becomes mature and leaders. For the time being, I am the leader. Elected leaders here must accept that they must not---

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to begin criticising politicians and us in particular, when he knows very well that all his audiences, and those of even the Head of State, are mostly school children, and they criticise us? Is he in order to shift his problems to us?

**The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the point here is: To address students about the future leadership is a totally different matter from inciting the students. These are two different things. I am prepared to talk to the students and tell them our traditions and what is expected from them in future, and those kinds of things. But I am not going to tell them; "Look, this is what we should do". I have seen an hon. Member of Parliament, and for that matter, an aspirant for the Presidency, running away from the students, holding her dress. I could see areas which I am not supposed to see! These are some of the things that we must try to avoid as leaders.

With those few remarks, I support.

**Mr. Munyasia:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Ministry is a very important Ministry, as far as the future of this country is concerned. We have heard the Minister decry the declining enrolment of children in primary schools. He did not talk about the dropouts in secondary schools, which is much more serious than the declining enrolment in primary schools.

Having observed that, we would have thought that he would have told us the serious steps he has proposed, in this particular Vote, to meet that particular challenge. There is nothing for this in the Votes. He does not think he should explain anything.

I wish to draw the Minister's attention to Head 853, which is on Miscellaneous Services, and Item 341 - Bursaries. This is on the Recurrent Expenditure. On bursaries, the Minister knows that he has proposed less. He has been given less than what he had proposed last year, in the face of declining enrolment. That appears to be a contradiction. If we are really concerned about this matter, we would have expected to vote more money under that particular Item.

When you look at scholarships, it is again much less.

**The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho):** On a point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Munyasia:** I do not want to be informed. The Minister will have 30 minutes later to answer to what we are raising. He should be taking notes. Under Head 853, Item 342, we have scholarships. Again, he has shown much less this year, than what he had last year. All of us are in agreement that last year, we did not have enough scholarship. So, if you are really addressing a serious problem of dropouts and declining enrolment, then there should be positive action and proposals that can alleviate these particular problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at the secondary school education, Sub-Vote 316, Head 800, Item 311 is again on bursaries. I do not know whether the Minister is saying that there will be different administration of this bursary, from the one which is shown under Miscellaneous Services. But there is only K£5 million added to what we had last year.

Again, if the Minister was serious, he should know the serious problems that parents face. If he was aware of the many children who are unable to pay fees, then he would have increased this particular one. Instead, we see that he has increased the amount that there is, for school milk and School Feeding Programme. We have said here before, and the Minister had defended himself in retaining this particular programme, that this school milk was the one that was responsible for the increasing enrolment of children in schools and now he comes here and tells this House that there is a decline in enrolment. So, the School Milk Programme is not doing anything at all to improve that particular enrolment in schools. So, if you have now come to grips with the truth, what is it that makes you keep this particular Programme and yet we spend so much on it?

*[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]*

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is then the issue of School Equipment - Text Books Distribution. We have said before that this is not being done. Many schools in the rural areas cannot afford to have text books because their parents are poor. I wish this Ministry could carry out a survey and find out, for instance, how many children in rural areas especially in the poor districts will have read a text book by the time they get to Standard Six. I have done that and I have discovered that, for many schools, many children only read what the teachers write on the blackboard up to about Standard Seven. So, this is a serious matter. These people have not carried out any survey, so they sit around and think that things are fine.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have heard people praise themselves, the time the results for KCPE are announced. You will find people saying: You know, we have been carrying out Harambees in our areas, we have been auctioning goats and now you see the difference between our performance and those areas that do not carry out Harambees. Then we ask here a simple question, that hon. Dr. Lwali-Oyondi has asked this Ministry: "Can you tell us how you have distributed the text books?". We have then seen that all schools in Koibatek and Baringo Districts have been given text books. So I wonder what they do with the proceeds of the goat auction and yet, when you compare with other districts, there is hardly anything that has been given.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry must be fair in the distribution of text books and they must now come to the truth and say: Unless the schools have the text books, they are not schools at all. So that matter must be addressed very seriously.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish just to mention something little, about the college that they have been telling us, that it has now been started and the seconder to this particular Motion had even been told that it is now being completed. I do not know whether Kibabii Teachers College will be a pre-primary teachers college. Because, this Minister has said that he has reduced the number of primary teachers colleges. So, if you are reducing those existing, it is unlikely that the one you are building is going to be a primary teachers college. But whatever it will be, the foundation even for that particular main block has not been dug. So, who is this saying that the college is about to be completed? The Ministry must come out clearly as to whether it is being done in Bungoma for a particular family. Because, a father of one of the leaders in Bungoma, who is the Sub-branch Chairman of Sirisia KANU Branch is always there with his handbag as a recruitment officer for whoever wants to take a little job with that particular contractor or whoever wants to supply materials. So we wonder whether this is serving a particular family. And that has not come anywhere at all. So, we still have to see that college take off.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, last year we said there was something seriously wrong in schools as concerns discipline. We were wondering what the inspectors, Provincial Education officers and the District Education Officers were doing. I looked at the salary structure and I found out that many of these education officers earn much less than the head teachers themselves. So you wonder, how are these people who are poorly paid going to inspect and supervise those who are supposed to be their seniors. Up to now, there are only four PEO's - you call them PDE's nowadays, but I understand that they are just deputy directors - are at salary scale P. Yet among the teachers, we have over 300 head-teachers who are at salary scale P. The Minister said they were reviewing the salaries of the education staff. I am wondering whether they are waiting until it is very close to election time before they can come up and say: Okay, all the education officers have been given a salary boost. What are you waiting for? Among the DEO's there are only 49 that are at salary scale N, and they have to supervise head-teachers who are at salary scale P, Q and the rest. How is a junior officer going to discipline or to supervise a senior? So, that particular anomaly must be corrected. If it is not done, you will find problems of indiscipline continuing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, then there is the Presidential Award of head-teachers for secondary schools only. I think this Government had better be advised that the primary school teachers are watching and wondering why secondary school heads are being favoured all the time. Awards have been given, but unfortunately, only those from correct districts have been given those awards. Those from Bungoma who had done interviews and passed were denied those particular promotions. That is an anomaly that the Minister must address.

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in support of this Vote for the Ministry of Education, I would like to say a few things about education in our country as I see it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, education of every country is a catalyst towards economic growth. The Government has made it very clear in the Development Plan that industrialization is where we are going. Because

industrialization is where we are going, I hope that the Minister for Education, while reviewing the content of the 8-4-4 Education System, will include more elements that will show that the future of Kenya is towards industrialization.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am mainly thinking of the way the world is going towards computerization. Everybody is now having a computer elsewhere, and I think we should not lock out our future by not considering this as a compulsory subject. I think it should be made compulsory if we have to be together with the rest of the world.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thinking of enhancing the middle colleges. I think it is Thomas Jefferson who said that we must never develop the pinnacle education at the expense of the base. Because, if we concentrate so much on the universities, I think we will lose touch with what is actually practical. The skills of industrialization will not be necessarily taught in the universities. Majority of Kenyans will have to learn their skills in the middle colleges. For example, our polytechnics and other middle colleges that the Minister may wish to develop.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say something about university education in this country. I have said it before and I would like to repeat that university education in this country is a nightmare. To undergo university education in Kenya is a terrible nightmare.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Dr. Kituyi stated the rigours of undergoing lower education nowadays. It is so difficult. Think of your young son in a nursery school having to undergo tuition during holidays and to do all that. I think that is rigorous enough. But really, once you are in university, one would think that you have to unfasten your safety belts. I think, university education in Kenya is being made unfair by quite a number of things. I think tribalism has not spared the university education at all. I have never understood how it can be possible to take six years to do a masters degree in Kenya, and when you go to a university abroad, you get your degree in nine months.

I was going to do a masters degree, in Aberdeen University for nine months only but the 1992 General Elections came sooner. In the United States, it takes less time to do a masters degree. But here, the lecturers in the university mark your papers considering other irrelevant things. I have told you, since you were my lecturer, that I had an occasion to see unfairness with my own eyes. I think university lecturers should be fair. If you are competent enough to get a first class degree, why can you not be given a first class degree? Why do you have to be told that because you do not belong to this or that--- I used to know that at that time, if you did not have two "Os" in your names, you would never get a first class degree. I used to know of a time when things were like that. Up to today, I know that the ladies in the universities will have to compromise a lot in order to pass quickly. It is a nightmare for our university students to undergo all this.

**Mr. Ndicho:** On point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We are trying to listen to hon. Sunkuli reveal a lot of things that we thought were not happening. He has told us that ladies at the university cannot pass because he is trying to indicate that the male lecturers must demand some things from them so that they can pass. Since he seems to be very much aware of that, could he substantiate? He seems to have a lot and this is the only place where you can expose this. Hon. Sunkuli, please, tell us, what is it?

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member should go to university. I am saying that, what makes it even worse---

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Assistant Minister has just made a very serious categorical statement that female students compromise themselves before they are awarded degrees. That is a very serious and damaging statement. Could he substantiate or withdraw and apologize?

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Sunkuli): I do not think it happens in the Veterinary Department.

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. He cannot escape it.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Murungi): My understanding of what the Assistant Minister was trying to say is that, he was expressing concern. He did not name any specific individuals and I do not think, it is necessary for us to press this point and ask him to substantiate.

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Murungi): You are out of order now.

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Mr. Sunkuli): You are a great Speaker, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

What even makes education a nightmare is the fact that my colleagues in the Opposition have decided that they have to introduce tribalism there. Just imagine that every time a man has grievance to make and he wants to express it, the only group of people he thinks of going to incite are the university students and those who are not in favour of what the inciters want are beaten up. It is real torture to be in our universities today because I know that there are so many students who do not like to riot but they are exposed to a lot of dangers by those who would like to

perpetuate their own tribal interests within the university. I think, it is a very bad thing. Let me not excite my friend from Kikuyu Constituency by pressing that point further.

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

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

On school boards, I think it is time the Minister for Education directed that the functions of the school boards be made more explicit. I know that we hold many Harambees and I personally believe in them because without them, we would not have very many secondary schools today and so many primary schools in the country. But I think that once the community has been able to contribute to the building of a school, it should contribute more to the running of that school. I think it is not proper for a headmaster to usurp all the powers of the board. I think the boards should be composed of persons who are enlightened enough and who know something about education and can be able to run the schools.

Also, I am particularly concerned about the use of corporal punishment in our schools. I think that with the coming of reforms, the educationists in this country must also know that it is no longer possible to use corporal punishment as a way of instilling discipline into pupils in this country. I think, corporal punishment has outlived its purpose. All the time, hon. Muite wants to complain about the police, but this time I am talking about the teachers. I would not like my young boy to be canned for sure. I know that many students have landed in hospital because of being canned. I handled a case, when I was a magistrate, of a teacher who caused nervous injury to a girl because of corporal punishment. Although the Teachers Service Commission Act is very explicit on how corporal punishment can be used, it has been misused and teachers do not adhere to the rule that they should not use corporal punishment in the absence of the head teacher. Corporal punishment has been used irresponsibly. It is important that we look for alternative methods of instilling discipline in our children.

I also want to thank the British Government for the Spread Programme. I hope that the Spread Programme will be utilised properly by the officials of the Ministry of Education to spread education uniformly through the country. I am supposed to say this when the Minister is present, but I think the officers from the Ministry are present. They assist the Minister in formulating good policies. But I do not know who in the Ministry of Education decides that when so many millions of shillings comes into the hands of the Ministry, only Kshs150,000 goes to Trans-Mara in terms of bursaries. Kshs150,000 can only pay school fees for nine student at the rate of Kshs13,000. I think it is really wrong for us, as a Government, to make a good policy only for the officers to go and misuse it to disadvantage other areas.

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

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

Since Independence, our basic goals as a nation have been to fight against poverty, ignorance and disease. I think it is good for us to be honest and say that we have lost the war against ignorance in this country. The enrolment in our primary schools has gone down from about 95 per cent in the late 1980s to 83 per cent in 1997. We need a clear explanation from the Ministry of Education as to why there is this backward curve in enrolment in our primary schools in this country. What has gone wrong?

We also notice that in terms of budgetary allocation, we are not according the Ministry of Education the high priority that we used to accord it in the past. If you look at the current net approved expenditure, you find that we have allocated K£59,577,020 to the Ministry of Education this year, while we have allocated K£173,229,037 to the Office of the President; over K£87 million to the Ministry of Water; over K£181 million to the Ministry of Finance; over K£85 million to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing; over K£76 million and over K£101 million to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. So, the Ministry of Education comes a poor seventh in our priority in budgetary allocation this year. We would like to ask the Minister, because Mr. Kamotho is very good in making noise out there, why have you allowed your Ministry to be number seven, while it has in the past been very high up in the list?

**Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Did you hear hon. Murungi saying, "hon. Kamotho is good at making noise?" Is that Parliamentary? Hon. Kamotho is a very eloquent KANU spokesman, who is not elected by anyone and he does not make noise.

*(Laughter)*

**The Minister for Education** (Mr. Kamotho): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo is completely out of order because as Secretary-General of KANU, I was elected by over 4,000 delegates representing 30 million Kenyans.

The other point is, I do not know where Mr. Murungi is getting the figures he is talking about because I am asking for---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Kamotho, you will answer that one as you reply. It cannot be a point now.

**The Minister for Education** (Mr. Kamotho): I do not make noise.

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was very careful to say that Mr. Kamotho does not make noise in the House; he makes noise out there. I would also like to speak about the issue of poverty because I think it is poverty which has contributed to this low enrolment, especially in our primary schools. In fact, poverty has adversely affected the enrolment at all levels of our education system. The reason why the university students were out in the streets about two weeks ago is because there was a threat that some of them might be expelled from universities for lack of school fees. Our response to this problem has been basically that of Harambee. I know many hon. Members of Parliament here like Harambees because they use them to pass political messages and to campaign. But the Harambee is a foolish and short sighted strategy, and it can never solve this problem. If you look at what happens in a Harambee, you will realise that you have to come from a fairly rich family to attract rich guests of honour.

Students from poor families are not able to get guests of honour who can bring a lot of money. In fact, many of them cannot even dare to organise a Harambee. So the Harambee system is only helping students from rich families, and there is a lot of waste of students from poorer families.

Secondly, the Harambees are turning to appear like gatherings of thieves; people who have stolen from the public are showing up every weekend, giving out Kshs100,000 this week and Kshs200,000 the following week, yet we know the salaries of Ministers here.

**The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development** (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the hon. Member on the Floor has made a very serious allegation, that those of us who support Harambees are linked to thieving. That is what he is implying. Can he identify one person who has conducted an Harambee based on money he has stolen?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Murungi, I think it is dangerous for you to make such sweeping statements because even you, have been organising Harambees.

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I am trying to say is in connection with those who show up in Harambees every weekend when their salary is Kshs100,000, and they are dishing out Kshs100,00 this week; Kshs100,000 the following week, or a total of Kshs500,000 within a month. Those people need to be investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for Kenyans to know where they are getting all this money from.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would recommend that we introduce an education tax, payable by all adult Kenyans, and that money be put in a special fund just like we have the Road Maintenance Levy Fund. That amount of money should be used to further subsidise our education and to pay fees for those students who may not afford. I will be ready to pay up to three per cent of my earnings per annum into that kind of fund. With that kind of fund, we can reach both students from the poor families and from the rich families, and there will be no problem with school fees in this country. So we need to think ahead, let us not be mesmerised by the harambees.

We are also worried about the quality of education in our schools. I think the Ministry needs to come out very clearly because experts have come out to say that the 8-4-4 system should be scrapped because it imposes heavy burden on the students, on the parents and on the teachers. I do not know who really supports this system. Somebody has come up in the press to say that our education is education for un-employment. I think we should look at the values that we are promoting through our education system. We have a Colonial hangover in this system in which the majority of our students are hooked to white collar employment. They think that people who have university degrees should not be employed to do manual work and that kind of thing. I think it is high we equipped our students at all levels with sufficient skills to survive in our harsh economic reality. Students should be equipped to survive in agriculture, which is the major employer in this country and the jua kali sector. The fact that you have a PhD does not mean that you should walk around wearing ties and carrying brief cases all the time. You should roll up your sleeves and do whatever is available for you to do. Even people with a PhD can die of hunger.

We also think that the quality of education has gone down because even our professors are too poor. Today, there are many professors who are busy selling eggs, trying to survive in the jua kali sector, doing tuition and that kind of thing. So they are not spending sufficient time doing their allocated work in universities and institutions of higher learning. We think professors and university lecturers should be paid adequate salaries, so that they can spend more

time doing academic work. In fact, there is a real danger in Africa of intellectual re-colonisation, because we are going to produce professors who have no time for research and we are going to continue relying on research from the West. I think it is high time that we put in more money for the professors so that they can concentrate on research and academic products in this country instead of selling eggs.

Lastly, Mr Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think our education standards have deteriorated because the Minister for Education is very busy. Every week-end, even week days, hon. Kamotho is all over the country, singing the gospel of KANU as the KANU Secretary-General, which is a full time job. So, day and night, Mr. Kamotho is spending his time, not on education, but on KANU politics. I think it is high time because hon. Kamotho cannot cook these two pots effectively, he chose whether to be a full time Secretary-General of KANU or a full time Minister for Education. I think it is in the interest of this country---

**Mr. Sambu:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me this chance to contribute to this Vote of the Ministry of Education which is an important Ministry. This does not mean that the other Ministries are not important, but human resource is a very important one in every nation. To make that resource effective, it has to be given effective education. Whereas, I support the 8-4-4 system of education, I think, it requires not only a review, but a thorough overhaul as far as its contents and in the way that it is administered are concerned. The 8-4-4 system of education overloads the children. Young children in primary schools are completely overloaded. There are too many subjects and the contents of the subjects are rooted deep for the primary school children. These contents to be reviewed, otherwise, we will find that the children just become cramming machines. They study up to 8 O'clock in the evening and also during weekends. Children cannot rest. They cannot play and they just cram books in readiness for Monday.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the pre-primary section also needs to be re-adjusted. I wish to support what other hon. speakers have said earlier on. At the moment, we just pick any lady from the village who is willing to devote her time to teaching these pre-primary school children in nursery schools. The county councils were supposed to financially support these nursery schools, but they do not. They cannot even pay their own staff including the clerk and the councillors. So, how would they pay a nursery school teacher? So, the nursery school teachers are left with their own designs in supporting themselves. I hope the Ministry this Financial Year, will start training and supporting the pre-primary school teachers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have to look at the contents of our university and technical school education. We produce, I think, in my view, too many liberal arts students who cannot employ themselves although the policy is supposed to be education for self-employment. The people who we produce are not good at all to employ themselves when they leave the universities. I think, it is time the Government overhauled its policy and its allocation of the duties. These technical institutes are lying idle. We have one in Nandi District which was completed ten years ago and it is lying idle. I would wish that the Ministry of Education could take it over and use it for more practical purposes than letting it decay the way it is doing now.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also suggest that the Ministry of Education in the field of technical training should diversify into more practical subjects. We have the University of East Africa at Baraton which produces graduates who are technically qualified and can get into self-employment upon completion of their studies. I think that university should be emulated by the Ministry and used as a example to other colleges and universities.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, speaking about the distribution of grants, we are going to vote funds for this Ministry. I wish that whoever is addressing the PS could let the gracious lady hear the point that I want to make. It is a very serious issue which touches on the distribution of grants to schools. We at the DDC and the DEB make recommendations on what schools we think should be given grants. The DEB will make recommendations as to what schools we think should be given grants. This is because we know and we are the ones who are on the ground. It is the wearer of the shoe who knows where the shoe pinches most. However, you find Ministry staff here distributing those grants in a very haphazard manner. Established schools which have equipment are given further grants in a very haphazard manner and you find people coming here and taking the cheques and going to play politics with them. We should not politicise the distribution of grants. It has been politicised and this is quite wrong. All Kenyans are taxpayers equally. I even object to this question of classifying schools like national schools and provincial schools. You find certain schools being given more resources than other schools. All Kenyans whether they come from poor families or whatever background are entitled to equal education if they can academically perform. So, distribution of grants should be done in a better and fair manner. If it does not stop, I will bring a Motion here or I will demand a Ministerial Statement on this matter because people come to the Ministry and they are given preferential treatment on collection of the cheques for distribution to schools.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the question of distribution of equipment and particularly the---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** So, you want a Ministerial Statement?



**Mr. Sambu:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that I will demand one if this practice is not stopped.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Okay, otherwise, you will be out of order in demanding for one.

**Mr. Sambu:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said I will demand for a Ministerial Statement if that practice is not stopped. What are the DDCs meant for? On the distribution of science equipment, I heard the Minister saying that there will be a lot of funds which will be used to buy science equipment in schools. These equipments should also be distributed fairly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of teachers, you will find that many schools lack science and language teachers. Teachers are posted to Nandi District and after two months, they ask for a transfer and they are consequently allowed to move. Why? Kenya is Kenya and when somebody is trained to be a teacher, he is supposed to serve in every part of the nation. They should stick to where they are posted, whether there is housing or not, they can leave behind shops. This is because we have to educate all Kenyans fairly by giving them science and language teachers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Higher Education Loans Board Bill was recently passed in this House. That body should be streamlined. The way the loans are now being given to the students is not fair at all. Children from poor families who are supposed to benefit from them do not do so. Politicians have to do the groundwork. We have to do Harambees with our meagre resources. This distribution of grants should be done in a more fair manner and I would even suggest that the DDCs and the DEBs should be involved. This is because if it is only done at the University level, these people do not know the background of the students. This should also be applicable to students in private universities. We have very good private universities, but their students do not benefit from these loans and yet, there is repayment for them. Even if a student is in a private university, they still have to come and repay them and, I think, the loans facilities should be extended to the private universities either here or even those who are abroad.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of inspection of schools, is very pathetic. I do not know whether it is like this in all districts. In Nandi District, I have only one secondary school inspector who is a lady. She tries but she does not have a vehicle. I have 70 schools which have not been inspected at all since they were started. How do these teachers know they are performing except to see at the end of the year the children failing. I hope the Ministry will allocate more resources, employ and reinforce more secondary school inspectors. They should also have at least higher qualifications or if not, the same qualifications with the secondary school teachers. They should be given resources to be effective. They should mainly be given vehicles and fuel to enable them to travel to the rural areas and inspect the secondary schools in these rural areas. The Ministry only waits until when a problem arises in the schools. That is the time they go to inspect schools. I have Salawi Secondary School which was started in 1976 and it has not been visited by a secondary school inspector. It is very sad because the teachers do not know whether they are performing well or poorly. I believe, that this matter should be urgently addressed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the graduates of private teacher training colleges undergo the same examination as students in the Government teacher training colleges. Since these people are examined by the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) and they pass and perform the same way as teachers from Government teacher training colleges do, I believe and I will ask the Ministry to employ them because they are Kenyans and there are primary schools in the countryside which do not have enough primary school teachers. For example, about 50, 60 or 70 children between standard I and III are forced to share one classroom due to lack of teachers, yet we have SDA college graduates from Kisii whom we cannot employ.

I support, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**Mrs. Asiyu:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this important Vote of the Ministry of Education.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, early childhood education is very important in the development of any child and yet, it is in this area where a lot is lacking. For example, when a child of four or five years, goes to a kindergarten and stays there for a whole day without even porridge, they start knitting and not even playing, play is a very important aspect of a child's development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry will have to find a way of getting the World Food Programme involved in feeding of all the pre-primary schools in the country, if we are ready to develop these children intellectually and also as well as their nutrition and health.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the drop-out of girls was a very worrying issue a few years ago. Today, the boys have started to drop-out even more than the girls are dropping out in certain areas in this country. We know the contributing factors to this problem. I suggest that the Ministry must go back and find out. In fact, it is incumbent the Ministry should now employ qualified child case workers who will work along side the parents as well as the

teachers to go into those homes and find out why these children are dropping out of schools. We know that poverty is the main problem here, but there are also other issues. Like the girl, it is because when the parents cannot afford, they marry off little children in order to raise money to educate their brothers. This really is a very fundamental issue. The Minister has to get down to it and do something about the drop-out of both boys and girls in our primary schools.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of bursaries in secondary schools has been addressed by hon. Members of Parliament. I want to concur that the real needy child is not getting the bursary unless his parents are known, and in the case where they do not have parents, they have nobody to intervene and, therefore, do not get anything. It is very easy for a headmaster to make arrangement with another headmaster to pay school fees for somebody's relative in the school, even where he is not even heading and the other one to do the same. We have seen it happening in some of the secondary schools in the countryside. The Ministry must really monitor the issuance of bursaries now, so that we know and can be sure that it is that needy child who is getting the bursary and not the child who is related to the headmaster, teacher, assistant chief in the area or even related to some of the members of the Board of Governors. This is happening. It is an abuse. We know that some time the Minister is not aware, but if a lot of investigation is carried out, it will really monitor properly and we will be able to stump out this malpractice which is really denying the children who need these bursaries from getting the privilege of going to school.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are also very big disparities in the way the Ministry is assisting secondary schools; giving out of educational facilities, especially in the sciences is a big problem. There are schools that do not have laboratories, leave alone the laboratory equipment, and the Minister is aware of this. But somehow, because maybe some of them are in those zones that are not favoured, they are ignored perpetually and permanently and as a result, there is very big research now. No student from some of these schools can enter university. For example, in Nyanza Province a few years ago, the number of students entering universities were very high. Today, they are not there because the Ministry is deliberately discriminating against that area and because of the poverty, as the marginalisation of that area, the parents cannot afford to build physical facilities or even pay school fees for those children. We have held several Harambees. At one time, I personally talked to the Minister to come and do a Harambee for my secondary school because I was hoping that he would bring the usual contributions that he gives out, Kshs200,000 or sometimes when the area is really favoured Kshs300,000. The Minister found an excuse not to come to my Harambee and he did not even send anything to that Harambee. This is very disturbing because we are all taxpayers in this country and are all trapped in this nation called Kenya. There is no way you can so deliberately marginalise and discriminate against a particular community and expect that everything will be alright. It is a boat we are in all and if we bore a hole in any part of this boat, we will all sink together. It is important that this Ministry realises this and treat Kenyan children fairly because these children are innocent. We cannot blame the children for the mistakes that Mrs. Asiyo or any politician have made in the past or might make in future on this children who are very innocent and who are making no future.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very concerned about the disabled children. Whatever grants the Ministry gives to these disabled boarding schools is not sufficient to pay the non-teaching staff, as well as feed the children, especially in the marginal areas where harvests are not that good. I think we need to provide some basic foodstuffs for all these disabled children's boarding schools, so that they have somewhere to start. Let the board raise money through the community to pay for the non-teaching staff and thus to make sure that these children are fed. There is Nyabuli School which I have written to the Ministry about. This school gets little funding and it is the only disabled boarding school in the entire district. It has about 200 disabled children. But they are not getting anything, whatever they are getting is nothing. Today, that school owes suppliers over Kshs500,000. There is no way I can call a Harambee and raise sufficient funds to pay all the suppliers of foodstuffs and other things that have been given to this school in the past two years. I want to appeal to the Minister to, at least, help Nyabuli School now. Get some funds from somewhere and pay the debts that the Nyabuli School for the physically disabled children has accrued in the past two years. I want also to appeal to Orio Secondary School, teachers do not teach well, to Nyarigo Girls Secondary School which also has done pretty well in the past, to get some assistant from the Government. These schools have no water and they have some old generators which are now very old. If the Ministry could, please, find them generators from somewhere and also get water tanks, they have many roofs to harvest rain water. All they need is roof-catchment water in order for them to do proper laboratory tests. There is no way you can do proper tests when

you have salt water in the science laboratory. Therefore, students are missing a very important aspect of education. Give them clean water, so that they can carry out their science education properly and not the way it has been happening in the past.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are dealing with very sophisticated students in our universities. They are exposed to the internet and electronic media and they can even make bombs. They can even make things like bacteria that can kill. Do not play around with these children. Enter into dialogue with them because they are grown up and mature. Talk to them permanently, so that the crises are prevented before they occur. Students take too long to complete their studies in our universities when parents have sacrificed so much. Others have even sold their cattle and so on, to send their children to the universities and they are battered as if they are criminals and permanently sent out of the university. This really makes the parents to be very, very unhappy with the system. It is the last thing that we want to see in this country.

With these few remarks, I beg to support.

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Education takes a very large percentage of our Budget and it is also a very important Ministry, because it deals with *inter alia* the formative development of our population. It is in this regard that the Ministry should be concerned with all the issues that Members raised here, particularly the ability of poor Kenyans to have access to education.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we did pass here a Bill in relation to loans for Higher Education and we set up a Board called the Higher Education Loans Board. It does appear to me, from the complaints and requests I get for assistance that, these loans are disbursed to the children of well-to-do parents than those of poor people. Every day, we get many children from extremely poor families who are assisted with Kshs6,000 while others get Kshs10,000.

I have examples of children of working rich people who can afford to pay the fees, but they are given full loans or three-quarters of what they require. This is unfair and something must be done. When we passed this Bill, my good friend, the Minister for Education told Parliament, and I did agree with him at that time that, these loans were not going to be the preserve of university students. That these loans were for higher education and that they were going to be acceded to by students in polytechnics, universities other than public universities, universities abroad and so on. To this date, I am not aware of any student in a polytechnic or a middle level college, private university or university abroad who has had access to these loans. The money that is set aside for these loans comes from the taxpayers purse and each and every student in this country wherever they are, must have access to the loans. Hon. Murungi mentioned something which I thought was a very important point, but he left it hanging. He did mention that we should in fact introduce an education tax in this country. I fully concur with that position and further state that much as we have introduced taxation on petroleum consumption, we have taxation on PAYE and many other things, modalities should be worked out on how to raise money for education. I would suggest to the Minister that he should consult with his Cabinet colleagues to think of taxing all employed Kenyans in the same manner as they tax the PAYE tax. I would suggest that a law be passed to ensure that a portion of cess paid on each agricultural product is set aside for education funds. I would also suggest that banks, when charging interest to deposits should have 2 per cent levied on those with money in banks to go towards the improvement of education. After all, banking institutions are beneficiaries to the quality education that we offer in this country and they must contribute to it.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should set aside a portion of the taxes from a booming sector like Tourism to go towards education. For that sector to be sustainable, they need well trained and quality manpower.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, export produce like coffee, tea, horticulture and so on should have a levy imposed on them that should go towards the improvement of education. I am saying this because each and every sector of our lives requires and deserves some trained manpower. Be it agriculture, tourism or public transport. We should tax people at all levels to ensure that we do not only have enough money to cater for our education, but that this money is equitably and evenly distributed all over the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently I toured schools in Bungoma District to look at their infrastructure. It is a sorry state of affairs. There is no single school which has the basics like text books or desks, and many of those schools do not even have teachers. You can find a school of about 20 streams having only 16 teachers,

which means at any one time, five classes are not engaged. This is something which the Ministry can easily do through their officers in the field. Another area which should be looked at is the running of schools by schools' committees and boards. You will probably find that eight out of every 10 schools in the countryside have got a board chairman or school committee chairman who is barely literate - a person who cannot even understand what education is. A person whose only qualification to be chairman, is his close relationship with area Member of Parliament or some other powerful people in the area. This has to come to an end if we have to improve the quality of education. The Ministry should vet all people who aspire to chair boards of schools to ensure that these are people with an orientation to education and people who can make a positive contribution towards the running of schools. In fact, it is with these illiterate chairmen of boards of schools that crafty headmasters steal all the money that we raise in harambees every other day. There was a school in Bungoma, I think it was Kamusinga High School, where a member of the board signed leaves in an entire cheque book and left it to the headmaster to do whatever he wanted at any time he wished to do.

**Dr. Kituyi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I confirm that it was Friends High School, Kamusinga, in my constituency, and the individual concerned is one Rose Masinde, who is a nominated councillor in Bungoma.

**Mr. Wetangula:** Thank you for the information. When we get a situation like that a signatory to the school account signing 100 cheque leaves leaving them blank with the headmaster, how do you stop the temptation to the headmaster to pinch the money? This is routinely done in many schools. I would urge the Minister, and his support staff in the field, to have routine checks on how the school accounts are managed and have spot-checks on how the school cheques and cheque books are kept to stave off this kind of theft.

Another area that I have noticed that requires attention is the need for proper counselling in schools. Many schools do not have counsellors who can advise growing children on what they should aspire to do and how to go about it. I was shocked the previous year when I went to Cardinal Otunga High School in Bungoma, and I found that the student counsellor in a girls school was a man. It does not make any sense because these are metamorphosing children; children who are growing up, who need counselling not only on academic matters, but also on moral issues.

How do you entrust a 12 to 13-year-girl in the hands of a young man who, for all intentions and purposes, may be amorous in every sense? This is very dangerous and the Ministry should ensure that when they send out counsellors to schools, they must be relevant to the gender of the school and the needs of the students in that school.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, last but not least, I want to urge the Minister to ensure that the School Feeding Programme is revamped and extended to all areas. I say this because in Bungoma, our children are chewing cane as part of their meal to sustain them in school. Thank you.

**Mr. Mwiraria:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to add my voice to the voices of those who have supported this Vote of the Ministry of Education because education, perhaps is one of the most important basic needs in any society. It is good that Kenya has given importance to education by devoting a very large portion of the national budget to education.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just want to raise a few issues. The first one is that although the Government has increased the Recurrent Expenditure by over 7 per cent in the current financial year, there is a marked drop in Recurrent Expenditure for university education. In fact, I have worked it out roughly at 8.4 per cent. Given the fact that university education is experiencing serious problems, both in terms of students ability to pay for their education and, also, in terms of having properly equipped laboratories, workshops and teaching facilities, one wonders how the Ministry of Education has managed to reduce the university budget by 8.4 per cent. Unfortunately, I could not, find in the Recurrent Expenditure, the budget for the university; Item 318. It is missing in the Printed Estimates.

The second point I want to raise about university education is that after we had approved the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and sums of money to be given as loans to the students, it is regrettable that most of the students that I see in my constituency, particularly, the ones from very poor families, are the ones who are not getting the bursaries or the students' loans. I would urge the Minister and the Ministry to see whether they can streamline the system or establish a system which will ensure that the HELB has a method of establishing who is truly needy. Today, I can demonstrate from the cases in North Imenti that the students from the well-to-do are the ones who are getting the bursaries and the poor ones are being left in the cold.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me also add my voice to those speakers who have said that some

measures need to be taken to protect our university students. It has become a practice in recent years, and in recent months for the police to vent their wrath on poor unprotected students. I know sometimes young people will go on the rampage in the streets, and, perhaps, demonstrate. But if these students are left alone, they would do nothing harmful to the people. It is only when the police start interfering with their peaceful demonstration, that problems occur. The recent incidents, like the one where the police went to beat students in an examination room are completely unforgivable. We want to hear from the Minister when he is replying whether he intends to have a policy that, perhaps, could establish a small force to keep law and order within the universities so that no police from outside will go into the universities in future to cool riots. We do not need them. Our students are peaceful and I am sure they can look after themselves.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the last two years, we have had a lot of problems with our special schools or schools for the handicapped. The main problem there has been the inability of the schools to pay salaries for their staff, particularly the supportive staff. Given the fact that we all know that many parents of mentally handicapped kids are not very ready to spend a lot of money on these kids. They know that, perhaps, they are investing in children who might not benefit them and many of them may not be willing to pay higher fees. I am happy to note that in the Budget again, there is an increase of 11 per cent. But is this money going to be enough to help all the schools for the handicapped to pay their supportive staff knowing very well that in schools like those for mentally handicapped, it is the people who look after the children, it is the people who feed those kids, those supportive staff who would really count and whose job is absolutely critical? Would the small increase of K£300,000 be enough to meet that cost which has been a really problem in many of our schools for the handicapped?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of the other problems that all our schools, both primary and secondary have, is the cost of textbooks. Since the Ministry has got two parastatals, the Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB) and the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation (JKF) preparing books for schools, has the Ministry explored the possibility of printing cheaper books, perhaps, of getting cheaper paper or getting paper as aid from elsewhere? Without textbooks there is very little that can go in a classroom, and in many of our primary schools, as many as eight to ten pupils share one textbook. I think time has come for us to address the question of textbooks. The other alternative would be for the Ministry to examine the possibility of providing textbooks as the Ministry used to do many years ago. I know we have different economic circumstances, but I am quite sure that if the money which the Ministry gets is put into good use, we can afford basic textbooks for Mathematics, English and Science for both primary and secondary schools.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now address the question of merits in the promotion of teachers and in the recruitment of teacher trainees. I would like to congratulate the Ministry for having established a very good system for recruiting teachers. I can say that during the last three years all the students who had been taken in the initial intake from Meru District, have been taken on merit. What happens to the replacements is a different story. I do not want to worry about that, but congratulate the Ministry for taking those students on merit. It is the only Ministry that interviews people for the intake into teachers training colleges. It does not happen with the medical training school or any other training schools.

On the promotion of teachers on merit, I am afraid corruption is very rampant to such an extent that, Mr. Minister, there are people in the Teachers Service Commission who get money to promote teachers on merit. I think you can look into the issue. I know that TSC takes the largest chunk of the education budget, but it is regrettable that, that happens. Perhaps, that is one area where the largest sum of money we vote for education disappears to year-in-year-out. I am willing to discuss some of the details with your officials, because I do not want to talk about it here, to prove that corruption is rampant.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

#### POINT OF ORDER

THUGGERY AGAINST MEMBERS:  
MR. SPEAKER TO MAKE RULING

**Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am rising on a point of order because although we have come into this House to debate a very serious Motion on voting money for our education system, it was almost impossible to enter this House because at the gate of this Parliament, in full view of the police, some KANU hooligans are busy beating up Opposition Members of Parliament coming into this Parliament. I was---

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

**Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o:** I am on a point of order and this is a serious matter!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Order, Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o! You have no authority

to admonish anybody. It is not your responsibility.

**Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o:** I think what I am saying is very serious and I do not think somebody should rise on a frivolous point of order.

These KANU hooligans not only bashed my car, but had the temerity of opening my door and boxing me. I have never been known in this Republic of Kenya of either advocating, condoning or expecting people to behave in that manner. What is more grievous is that a policeman is closing the gate fast when we reach the gate to the Parliament, ensuring that, that kind of hooliganism is carried out on Opposition Members of Parliament and then opening the gate. They are doing nothing about it. Just about two weeks ago or so, they could unleash canisters of tear gas. They could release gunshots on ordinary wananchi and kill them and yet we are coming to debate serious issues. The police is condoning the beating of Members of Parliament coming to this House. This is because we have so much unemployment in this country and this Government continues to use the money of this Republic corruptly and hiring hooligans to come to beat us up. These people have been hired by none other than Mr. Fred Gumo, who belongs to the other side of the House and Mr. Biwott is aware of this. I think this is serious and we cannot pretend to debate on a Motion when this kind of thing is going on. I ask the Government to denounce this and order the police to make this Parliament safe for Members of Parliament.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order! I do understand that this matter was raised earlier on---

*(Mr. Ojode interjected)*

Order! Ojode, I order you to leave the Chamber.

*(Mr. Ojode withdrew from the Chamber)*

**Mr. Angwenyi:** It is the opposite side---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Angwenyi, follow him.

*(Mr. Angwenyi withdrew from the Chamber)*

Order! Hon. Members, if we want to denounce hooliganism, we must show the lead. We cannot be denouncing hooliganism and behaving like hooligans in the Chamber.

Hon. Members, I do understand that this matter was raised earlier on. I do understand that the Deputy Speaker in the Chair at the time said that the Speaker will make a ruling on the matter, but I want to point out that yesterday there were hooligans at the gate menacing Members of Parliament, flushing two fingers and I saw them assaulting hon. Masinde, the Minister for Labour and Manpower Development who was driving ahead of me. This afternoon as I was coming in, I was menaced by hooligans waving the one-finger salute and they knocked my car several times and only started cheering after realising who I was. Whatever the case, this is a very deplorable situation and I want to bring to the attention of Members of Parliament from either side who are encouraging, perpetuating and hiring hooligans to Parliament, under Section 23 of the National Assembly Powers and Privileges Act, Section 23(d), which says:-

"Any person who assaults, obstructs, molests or insults any Member coming to, being within or going from the precincts of the National Assembly, or endeavour to compel any Member by force, insult or menace to declare himself in favour or against any proposition or matter pending or expected to be brought before the Assembly or any Committee; or

(e) assaults, interferes with, molests, resists or obstructs any officer of the National Assembly while in the execution of his duty, shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on conviction before a subordinate court of the first class, to a fine not exceeding Kshs2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both such fine and imprisonment".

I want to bring to your attention that under Section 20 of the Penal Code, principal offenders include those who encourage, aid and abet the commission of offenses whether they are Members of Parliament or not. I am calling upon those Members whether they are in FORD(K), DP, SAFINA, KANU or whichever party, to respect the institution of Parliament and evacuate their supporters from the precincts and gates of Parliament so that we can carry on our business without fear, favour or intimidation.

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

**Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order! I am not opening any debate on that matter. There is a substantive ruling that will be made by the Speaker. I have just directed that whoever is involved, the Serjeant-at-Arms, should direct the security personnel around Parliament to evacuate those mobs. I do not want to

open any debate on this, but it is a very simple thing, although serious. It is despicable for any one of us, in this House, to bring hooligans to do whatever is being done now or was done yesterday. Mr. Masinde, carry on.

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

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order! Order, Dr. Kituyi!

**The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development** (Mr. Masinde): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir---

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The substance of your suggestion that the Serjeant-At-Arms consults with the police to clear the gate was mentioned by the Deputy Speaker three hours and forty minutes ago when I raised this matter. Hon. Members are stuck in Parliament and they want to go away. How can a statement without being followed by action for more than three hours be enough evidence that people can go home when they want to do so? Can we get a clear order on this and if need be, we interrupt parliamentary business? The Secretary-General of KANU is the Minister who is asking us to give him money right now. Why can he not be obliged to clear those KANU hooligans so that we can give him money? He can tell Mr. Gumo to go there and do that!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Dr. Kituyi! Hon. Kamotho is here as a Member of Parliament and not as the Secretary-General of KANU. Shall we give him that respect? I am not entertaining any debate on this. You know very well that once the Speaker makes a ruling or an observation, he has no capacity to go out there and supervise its execution.

**Mr. Achieng-Oneko:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Achieng-Oneko! Mr. Achieng-Oneko, by virtue of your age, I would be hesitant to shout at you.

*(Resumption of Debate on Vote 31 -  
Ministry of Education)*

**The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development** (Mr. Masinde): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion. It is indeed necessary that we support this request from the Minister for Education. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Minister and his staff at the headquarters for the sort of work they are doing with the money they are asking for. It is obvious that the money they are asking for is not enough for whatever has been outlined by the Minister for Education. However, whatever little is given to the Minister, we hope that it is going to be used properly, evenly and appropriately throughout the country, to provide the required services.

I would like to start off by saying that we need quality education in this country. I am also aware that the Ministry of Education has departments which should provide and assist in the attainment of this quality education. One of these departments is the Inspection Section. We have school inspections all through from the grassroots to national level. I feel that the Inspection Department is either not being funded fully to be able to perform duties properly or it is being funded but not performing duties properly. Right down to the zonal level, we have zonal inspectors and we want to know what some of them do. We feel that they do not do enough and that is why many of the school administrators do not care because they know that the zonal inspectors will not reach them. We also know that some of these zonal inspectors have been in school with these people. Therefore, they are scared of correcting their colleagues because they have been promoted from that group of teachers who are now supposed to be supervised by the zonal inspectors.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other aspect is that they have no excuse because they have bicycles and they are controlling very small areas at the moment. Even if they do not have bicycles, they should be able to go on foot to do their jobs at least near the schools where they are staying if they are committed. They should also be assisted if necessary, by being given bicycle loans and maintenance allowance, to enable them do their job. The same problem applies to the divisions. But, the District Education Office should ensure that the zonal and divisional inspectors of schools are doing their jobs. As much as they would like to, for example, in my own district Busia, there was a time when the District Education Officer had no vehicle to make him move. His own vehicle was out of order and it forced the DEB to approve a special levy to enable him at least repair one of the vehicles in the district for him to be able to move around and see what is going on. Now, I think it is deplorable to see a DEO and his team sitting in their offices reading newspapers day-in-day-out. They are anxious to do their job in the field, but they are not able to do the job because they have no means of transport. Now, surely, some of the money should be set aside to assist these DEOs do their job.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sometimes when results are poor, we blame the education system. I think we should blame those people who are contributing the funds that the Minister is asking for now. They should

be able to go back to the field and find out why these funds are not being properly used and why the officers in the field are not doing their job.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other problem is under-staffing. We know that we have enough teachers. All that we are being told is that we have enough teachers in this country. I know that we have certain schools which are completely under-staffed while schools in certain areas of this country are over-staffed. When we ask for the teachers, those that are being posted to the schools are not trained in the required subjects. I do not see why this anomaly should be there. The Ministry of Education and TSC, should know what subjects are being taught in these schools and what sort of teachers they require.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another issue is that teachers are transferred and not replaced. Sometimes I wonder whether the children in the schools where these teachers are being removed deserve education in this country or not. If the TSC knows that it has no replacement for a particular teacher who is being transferred, why should he or she be transferred? I feel that this injustice should be corrected, so that if a teacher is being moved, he should be replaced. If a teacher is being posted to a school, he should be a teacher who has been requested to teach the subjects that are being taught in that particular school. It is no use replacing a Physics teacher with an Agriculture teacher, when they know very well that the Agriculture teacher may not be able to teach Physics in that particular school. This has happened in some secondary schools in my constituency and I know that it happens elsewhere. Other reasons why there has been poor work, as mentioned by my colleagues before, is lack of equipment, especially the science laboratory equipment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Harambees are done by wananchi to build laboratories. It will take a long time, while those building are there, to raise money again to have another Harambee for equipping these laboratories. I think it is only fair that when the community has fought very hard, through the Harambee and put up the laboratory, this laboratory should be equipped automatically without having to wait for two years while it is not being used, while, as we have heard here, other areas have got as many as four or five laboratories fully equipped. This discrepancy should not be there and I think that, while we are supporting the Minister's Budget, we would like that money to be utilised properly and evenly in the country.

The other issue concerns the auditing of school finances especially in secondary schools where a lot of Harambee money is being raised. There are quite a number of schools which use that money very efficiently and as quickly as possible. However, there are other schools where Harambees have been done year-in-year-out and if you go to those schools, there is hardly any building that can be accounted for as a result of the money for the Harambees that have been done. Why do wananchi have to ask the Ministry to send an auditor to audit certain schools because the board of governors has complained, when it should be automatic that audit is arranged for all these schools where Government and wananchi's money is being spent?

The other point is on the issue of bursaries for schools. I think that the bursaries as they are at the moment, are not serving a reasonable purpose because some students from certain areas in certain schools do not get those bursaries. The bursaries are given to students who are from that community only. I think this is not right. The bursary should be given to deserving children in a particular school, regardless of where they.

We are talking about industrialisation by the year 2020---

**Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo:** On a point of order, Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Minister is making a very serious allegation that there is a certain community which is getting a reserve on-- Could he substantiate before he sits down?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Time is up!

**The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Masinde):** With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo:** Which Community, hon. Masinde?

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the first thing I would like to point out is that education to any human being is a right, it is not a favour and it is the duty of the Government to make sure that its citizens are educated. Having said that, I support the view that we should have an education levy which will enable us to have free education right from Standard One up to, at least, Standard Eight. Also we should have an education that is subsidized heavily at the Secondary and free at the university level.

I have personally calculated the amount that can be spent on university education to make sure that every child who is qualified to attend university can go without bothering his father or mother; whether rich or poor. We need only Kshs2 billion to make sure that every student is given Kshs50,000 that is now being demanded by the Ministry of Education. We do not lack the Kshs2 billion that is needed to support university education because if you look at PAC reports, you will find that we waste almost Kshs50 billion on things that should not be done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is also in step with the KANU Manifesto, which was promulgated in 1963. It wanted to get rid of illiteracy, poverty and disease. I do not need to emphasise that all those things are



now growing in geometric proportions. I understand the Ministry of Education is trying to absorb the trainees from private colleges. That is just fair because most of the trainees from private colleges are just as good, if not better, than some of the trainees from Government colleges. Therefore, we should absorb them because we have also spent money on them.

Inspectors of schools in Nakuru District do not have vehicles or bicycles. Sometimes I see them waiting or hitch-hiking on the road trying to come from Nakuru Town to inspect schools in the countryside. They have to hire a matatu or ask for lifts. That is not the best way of doing it. In any case, the matatu is unlikely to go inland to get to the schools they want to visit. We need title deeds for all schools, be they Government or privately owned, because of grabbers who are now grabbing school grounds, houses and so on. We need those title deeds to be in place, and I think the Ministry of Education should do all it can---

**Mr. Munyasia:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We cannot pretend that we are safe here now. I have just been outside, there are now two groups of youths fighting and I think they are trying to break into Parliament precincts. I would like---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Munyasia, we shall carry on with Business and we shall wait for them to come here.

**Mr. Munyasia:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it might be necessary to break up and---

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mr. Munyasia can take cover. Some of us are used to that. They are not worse than the police who have been clobbering us.

**Mr. Ogeka:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Ogeka, you cannot raise a point of order while seated. You are out of order.

#### QUORUM

**Mr. Ogeka:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no quorum.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Indeed, there is no quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

*(The Division Bell was rung)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order! We now have a quorum. Carry on, Dr. Lwali-Oyondi.

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was just interrupted when I was talking about title deeds. Schools must have title deeds which must never be tampered with by the school boards. The school boards chairmen have been known to tamper with title deeds and that has happened in Nakuru, specifically in Afraha and Langa Langa secondary schools. The chairmen of the boards of governors of these two schools took their title deeds to the bank and collected a lot of money and bought hotels here in the city. In fact, one of them is a councillor. He refused to pay back the money. Now, the two schools are on sale. Now, I think, the Education Act should be modified so that such people do not have power to mortgage or sell schools whether private or otherwise. Immediately a school is established, it becomes a public institution and it should not be messed up by an individual. A former MP for Nakuru Town, at the moment, is trying to grab Nakuru Girls High School land. He is a former chairman of the school and he wants to make it his personal property. This sort of thing should not be allowed to happen in public institutions.

On the 8-4-4 system of education, the Minister is insensitive to the cries of the people. It is not only the politicians who are crying for the review of the this system, but teachers and headmasters and some of the Ministers here do not like this system. Funny enough, it has a terrible connotation. If you read John Chapter 8:44, it is all about satanic business. I challenge the Minister to read this verse and he will be shocked to find out what 8-4-4 is all about. This system is not good for our children. It is punishing---

**Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo:** On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to inform the House and hon. Lwali-Oyondi that the thugs at the gate have now been cleared by "Jeshi la Watu."

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): That is an abuse of the privilege of the point of information. Information must be relevant to what the hon. Member is talking about.

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the 8-4-4 system of education has been pushing children too fast particularly in the mathematics subject. There is almost no student who understands mathematics. They have introduced mathematics that are not easy to teach and for students to understand. It were better if children were taught basic mathematics and then, after acquiring these skills, are introduced to new advanced ones.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we look at the termly school report forms, we see very beautiful results in all other subjects, but not in mathematics. There is something wrong in the teaching of mathematics and it ought to be looked into.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a problem in the introduction of science subjects in our education system. We are losing a lot of students who could easily become professional doctors, engineers and so on, but are misdirected. For example, they take physics and biology and not chemistry. They will never become doctors without chemistry. There is no need of studying biology and mathematics because that leads them to nowhere. Students should be given guidance on what subjects to pursue so that we make use of their knowledge at the end of their studies.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have also students forced at the university level to take subject combination against their wish. They end up going through a course which they do not like and which is not useful to them.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 29th July, 1997, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.