

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 29th July, 1997

The House met at 2.30 pm.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Leshore's Question.

Question No.471

DISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND

Mr. Speaker: I can see that Mr. Leshore is not yet here, and we will leave his Question for now. Mr. Nthenge's Question.

Question No.355

PROVISION OF RELIEF FOOD IN NAIROBI

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Nthenge is also not here? We will move on to Mr. Musyoki's Question.

Question No.044

FINANCING OF RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Musyoki not here? We will leave his Question for now. Mr. Kamuyu's Question.

Question No.198

PROVISION OF PUBLIC TOILETS IN DAGORETTI

Mr. Kamuyu asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) whether he is aware that the City Council of Nairobi has not provided any public toilets in the whole of Dagoretti Constituency; and,
- (b) when this important facility will be provided.

Mr. Speaker: Anybody here from the Ministry of Local Government? Mr. Ruhii's Question.

Question No.116

UPGRADING OF SOWETO SETTLEMENT SCHEME

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

Mr. Speaker: I can see that there is nobody here from the Ministry of Local Government, and so we will move on to Mr. Gitonga's Question.

Question No.039

INSTALLATION OF STD FACILITY AT KAGWE

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Gitonga not here? Mr. Shidie's Question.

Question No.443

TARMACKING OF GARISSA-MANDERA ROAD

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Shidie also not here? Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo's Question.

Question No.163

TARMACKING OF KENDU-HOMA BAY ROAD

Mr. Speaker: I can see that hon. Otieno-Kopiyo is also not here. We will move on to Dr. Lwali-Oyondi's Question.

Question No.171

ALLOCATION OF PLOT TO MR. KAMAU

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi asked the Minister for Co-operative Development when Mr. Johana Kariuki Kamau, share certificate No.200, will be allocated his plot in Kikapu Farmers Co-operative Society Limited.

The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Titi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply. Mr. Johana Kariuki Kamau, who is alleged to be a member of Kikapu Farmers Co-operative Society Limited, cannot be allocated any plot in the Society's farm since he is not a genuine member of the said Society.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has alleged that this person, who has the official receipt from the co-operative society, is not a member of the society. Could he tell this House how he came to that conclusion?

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the information I have I think there was a special general meeting of the society, at which the membership of the society was found to be 466. However, after a scrutiny of the membership it was found that 46 members, who included Mr. Kamau, were not genuine.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how did this particular person get the official receipt No. 200? Has the Assistant Minister checked and found that there is no counterfoil receipt No. 200?

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot really dispute what the hon. Member has said. But I cannot say whether Mr. Kamau's receipt is genuine.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the Assistant Minister's reply that this particular gentlemen is not a genuine member of this particular co-operative society, what, in his view, constitutes genuineness or otherwise?

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think what I can say is that the whole responsibility of determining genuine memberships lies on the society itself. It is for the society to scrutinise the genuineness of its members. The information we have in the Ministry shows that this man is not a genuine member of the society.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that some members of this society were selling plots of the poorer members to rich people and thereby cheating those members of their plots? The rich people were corrupting officials of the society to sell off these plots. Is he aware of that?

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that allegation.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Leshore's Question for the second time.

Mr. Leshore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to apologise for coming late.

Question No.471

DISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND

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

- (a) whether, in view of the recent distribution of National Youth Development Fund, he could state how much has been allocated to Samburu District; and,
- (b) what criteria and standards were used to equitably distribute the same countrywide.

Mr. Speaker: I can see that there is still nobody here from the Office of the President and so we will defer the Question.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Nthenge's Question for the second time.

Question No.355

PROVISION OF RELIEF FOOD IN NAIROBI

Mr. Speaker: Since Mr. Nthenge is still not here, his Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

Mr. Musyoki's Question for the second time.

Question No.044

FINANCING OF RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECTS

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Musyoki still not here? His Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

Mr. Kamuyu's Question for the second time.

Question No.198

PROVISION OF PUBLIC TOILETS
IN DAGORETTI CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Kamuyu asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) whether he is aware that the City Council of Nairobi has not provided any public toilets in the whole of Dagoretti; and,
- (b) when this important facility will be provided.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kamuren): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to apologise for coming late.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

- (a) I am not aware.
- (b) Nairobi City Council has provided public toilets in Dagoretti Division as follows: Kangemi Market - 2, Kangemi Dispensary - 1, City Inspectorate Offices, Dagoretti - 3, Kawangware Market - 1 and District Officer's Office, Waithaka - 1. The total number of public toilets in the division is eight.

The council will make efforts, depending on availability of funds, to construct more public toilets in the area.

Mr. Kamuyu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, had hon. Kamuren not been my friend, I would call this answer total nonsense. But since he is my friend, I would not do that. There is a lot of ignorance here. Kangemi is no longer in Dagoretti. The City Inspectorate Offices are located in Lang'ata, not in Dagoretti, although they are saying City Inspectorate Offices are in Dagoretti. Kawangware Market has only one toilet which was built by money we raised through Harambee. Again, we conducted another Harambee and put up another toilet for the DO's Office which he

uses alone. It has nothing to do with the City Council of Nairobi whatsoever. Currently, about 17 residents of Dagoretti have died of typhoid, and now with the total laxity in the Council allowing for the supply of chalk instead of chlorine, we do not have any public toilet. Therefore, hygienic standards are too low in Dagoretti and over 300 residents of Dagoretti have no public toilets at all. Considering the fact that this Question has been deferred twice, can the Assistant Minister tell us whether he is willing to proceed with the answer in the light of the information I have just revealed to him, that Kawangware is no longer in Dagoretti, and the fact that there is not even one single public toilet built by the City Council of Nairobi? Does he want to proceed or does he want to ask for more time?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said once funds are available, then we will construct more toilets.

Mr. Kamuyu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You will agree with me that in view of the information I have given to the Assistant Minister, he is aware that Kangemi is not in Dagoretti. Yes, I agree with him that once funds are available, they would build more toilets. But currently, can he confirm or deny that there is no single toilet at all built by Nairobi City Council in Dagoretti, forcing the residents to help themselves in the bush?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do not expect the residents of Dagoretti to help themselves in the bush.

In the light of that information, I am sure my Ministry will look into the matter very carefully and immediately we get money from anywhere, we will construct more toilets for the constituents concerned.

Mr. Ruhui: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that Dagoretti has no public toilets and there have been no public toilets for many years. Four years ago I visited my friend in Dagoretti and when the evening came, I wanted to help myself. I asked my host if he could show me where the toilet was, but he asked me whether I wanted to go for a long call or short call. I said: "a long call". He gave me a pail to help myself. He told me: "Over there!" Then I asked him: "What do you mean?" He told me to help myself in the field and then cover it up when I am through! How long are you going to take to provide public toilets to Dagoretti residents?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a result of my friend hon. Ruhui having been subjected into a very difficult situation when he was attending to a call of nature, I will ensure that I call upon the Ministry officers to make sure that at no time should an hon. Member be subjected to such a situation.

(Laughter)

Mr. Raila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is fortunate for hon. Ruhui that in his area, they have got plenty of trees. In Kibera slums, the situation is very pathetic. I asked a resident of Kibera a similar question. I was actually faced with a similar situation in Kibera because in the middle of the slums, there are no toilets. I asked the gentleman what to do, and then he said: "Here in Kibera, we help ourselves on a piece of newspaper, wrap it and throw it into the river". The situation is very pathetic, so, it calls for urgent attention. Can the Assistant Minister tell this House what kind of emergency measures the Ministry plans to take to make sure that in the light of the outbreak of cholera and typhoid in these areas, more public toilets are going to be constructed immediately?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a very serious allegation for a Chairman of a Party to wrap it up and go along with such a thing in his hand; it is not healthy. I would like to inform the House that I will look for the money from anywhere to make sure that we do not allow such a situation to happen to a chairman of an organisation.

Mr. Kamuyu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You realise that the Assistant Minister has left this Question still pending. Is he in order to say that he would look for the money from anywhere in a very loose manner, including from his own pocket and constituents instead of saying specifically that he is going to look for Kshs2 million or Kshs3 million and put it in the current financial year or next year's budget, so that this matter is sorted out once and for all? It has become a perennial question. I have asked this question annually for the last 10 years. Can he now commit his Ministry with a specific amount of money?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why I said I would have to meet the technocrats in the field who would then discuss it with the Ministry and immediately we get any amount of money, we will go into it.

Mr. Speaker: For the second time, Mr. Henry Ruhui's Question.

Question No.116

UPGRADING OF SOWETO SETTLEMENT SCHEME

Mr. Ruhui 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 .

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kamuren): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply. Nairobi City Council is aware that there are no infrastructural services of tarmacked roads, street lighting,

water and sewer in Soweto Settlement Scheme. These services will be provided as soon as funds are earmarked for the project.

Soweto Settlement Scheme has a road and footpath network of approximately 16 kilometres. The cost of providing adaptive infrastructural services is as follows:-

<u>Services</u>	<u>Kshs</u>
Roads and storm water drainage	115,000,000
Street lighting	35,000,000
Wholesome Water	20,000,000
Sewer	<u>30,000,000</u>
Total cost	<u>200,000,000</u>

Mr. Raila: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Can the Assistant Minister clarify which "Soweto" he is talking about because there are several Sowetos around? There is a Soweto in Embakasi and also in Kibera. Which Soweto is he referring to?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the "Soweto" that I am referring to is what is reflected in the Question by hon. Ruhiu.

Mr. Ruhiu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am perturbed by that answer, the reason being that it is in the HANSARD that I asked the same Question in 1994 and I got the same answer: "When funds are available..." There is no infrastructural facilities in Soweto Settlement Scheme. Why is it that when we ask for development of slum areas in the so-called African Republic, we are told that funds are not available, yet if the question was pertaining to the so-called elite and affluent areas, money is made available? Why do we keep on marginalising our own indigenous people like the Colonial Government? What is Kshs200 million?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a lot of money involved here. We are looking for that money and as soon as we get it, we will do the work. We want to assist our people, particularly in Nairobi.

Prof. Ouma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the two answers concerning sewerage by the Assistant Minister, may I ask him if he knows the following question: That Improper sewerage disposal is a big problem in this country, especially in areas bordering lakes and the sea. One only needs to go to Homa Bay, Mombasa and until recently to Nakuru to see that the sewerage systems are overloaded with sewerage, with the result that raw sewerage flows into the water. As long as this goes on, we will not get rid of typhoid and other gastroenteritis. Right now, we have an outbreak of cholera and typhoid in Migori District and you can trace it back to improper disposal of sewerage. In Mombasa, you will find Kipevu sewerage works being vomited into Port Reitz. If the Assistant Minister is aware of the seriousness of improper sewerage disposal, what priority does the Government give to improve sewerage systems, so as to improve environmental health?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has got priorities based on the requirements, particularly on sewerage. The question asked by Professor Ouma is different because we are not dealing with Mombasa or Homa Bay, but Nairobi.

Prof. Ouma: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Among the several questions asked every other week, most of them are on sewerage. This shows that there is no priority given to sewerage treatment. That is why I am asking that question giving examples from different parts of the country. Is he in order to refuse to answer my question?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member should come up with a Question on the sewerage systems in Mombasa and Homa Bay and I promise to answer him accordingly.

Mr. P.N. Ndwiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kayole Estate borders Doonholm and these estates lack sewerage systems. Could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that the reason why these estates lack sewerage facilities is because of lack of proper plans? If the Assistant Minister tells this House that a sewerage system will be provided when funds are available, how is money going to be found if in the first place there are no plans?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, funds will be found because my Ministry is committed to making sure that people in Nairobi are catered for.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we know that the World Bank had given loans for the rehabilitation of roads in several urban centres in the country, Nairobi included. We also know that disbursement of this money has been suspended because of the shady ways in which tenders were awarded to certain contractors countrywide. The World Bank has, therefore, given the Government a deadline of tomorrow evening, to come out and explain how these contracts were awarded. Can the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that this contract had been awarded in a shady way to certain persons called June and Joshua Kulei and that this is why this money was suspended and as result, we continue to have potholes on our roads?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that fact.

Mr. Speaker: For the second time, Mr. Gitonga's Question.

Question No.039

INSTALLATION OF STD FACILITY AT KAGWE

Mr. Mbeo, on behalf of **Mr. Gitonga**, asked the Minister for Transport and Communications:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kagwe in Lari Constituency has no Subscribers Trunk Dialling telephone services; and,

(b) If the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, what immediate plans he has to install this facility for ease of communication.

Mr. Speaker: Is the Minister for Transport and Communications in? If he is not, the Question is deferred.

(Question deferred)

For the second time, Mr. Shidie's Question.

Question No.443

TARMACKING OF GARISSA-MANDERA ROAD

Mr. Shidie asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing whether he could consider tarmacking the road between Garissa and Mandera to facilitate trade and commerce in the region.

The Assistant Minister for Public Works and Housing (Col. Kiluta): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to apologise for coming in late.

I beg to reply.

The Ministry will consider tarmacking the road between Garissa and Mandera in future as and when funds become available. In the meantime, this road will be regularly maintained to make it reliable for motorists.

Mr. Shidie: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Assistant Minister is killing our hope by giving us this kind of answer. He says that this road will be done when funds become available. North Eastern is the only province that does not have a tarmac road. Actually, people from North Eastern Province do not know how a tarmac road looks like. They think it is found in Heaven. Having said that, could the Assistant Minister tell us when these funds will become available? He has also told us that the road will be maintained. As far as we know, this road has never been maintained. Half of the year, that road is closed down. Can he tell us when these funds will become available?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you are probably aware, this is not a small road. It stretches over a distance of 733 kilometres and to do it, we require quite a substantial amount of money. However, while we look for this money, we have set aside Kshs149,464,091 to maintain the road until we get the sum required to tarmac it.

Mr. Shabaan: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that Kshs150 million had been allocated for this road in 1994/95 financial year and not even one kilometre of the road was done? Can the Assistant Minister tell us how that money was used and what action he has taken on the officers who misappropriated that money?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that Kshs150 million was spent and no work was done. However, if that statement holds water, we will investigate the matter and come back to give him our findings.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, given that, that is the only province in Kenya that does not have any tarmac road and given that district headquarters like Wajir and Mandera do not have tarmac within the towns themselves, can the Assistant Minister consider, as an immediate priority, and as a form of trying to win back the people of North Eastern Province because now they are ready to vote KANU out of office, appropriating funds to tamarack Wajir and Mandera Towns?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question he has asked might be relevant to what he is saying. I was not a part of this question but we can look into that.

Mr. Salat: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister knows, and he has already stated that between Garissa and Mandera, it is a stretch of nearly 800 kilometres. We know very well that the whole of North Eastern does not have even an inch of tarmacked road. We know a colossal amount of money is required to tarmac this road from Garissa to Mandera. What we want the Assistant Minister to tell us is what plans he has to tarmac this road. There is no way the Government can wake up in the morning and have money to tarmac 800 kilometres. They must have some money to tarmac the stretch between Garissa and Modogashe, then between Modogashe and Wajir and finally,

Wajir and Mandera. What plans does the Assistant Minister have to tarmac the road partially, until it is completed up to Mandera?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, we are trying to look for money from the Drought Recovery Programme to tarmac the sections that we think are worse, while at the same time, looking for more money.

Mr. Farah: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Can the Assistant Minister tell this House what connection there is between drought recovery and tarmacked roads? The money which is supposed to be for drought recovery will now be used to tarmac roads in North Eastern Province, at the expense of assisting the people affected by drought. Can he tell us where the connection is?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is not a point of order. It is a point of argument!

Mr. Shidie: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that this road is on an international route? It is on the Pan African Highway, which stretches from Cape Town to Cairo. Is he aware that Kenya has not accepted its international obligation of tarmacking this road up to Somalia? The other sides are tarmacked. Why is our side not tarmacked?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo?

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of Kasipul-Kabondo would like to apologise to the House for my coming late.

Question No. 163

TARMACKING OF KENDU-HOMA BAY ROAD

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

- (a) when the Kendu-Homa Bay Road will be tarmacked; and,
- (b) why the work on this road stalled halfway between Katito and Homa Bay.

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

- (a) There are no immediate plans to tarmac Kendu Bay-Homa Bay Road due to lack of funds.
- (b) The project to tarmac Katito-Kendu Bay Road did not include tarmacking the Kendu Bay-Homa Bay section. Consequently, the question of the project stalling halfway between Katito and Homa Bay does not arise.

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why we are saying: "No roads-no votes for KANU", in this area. The Government must have an economic concept and rationale for the provision of infrastructure. We cannot develop a road between Katito and Homa Bay and stop at Kendu Bay. This is because there will be no economic justification for that action. But be that as it may, how much are the funds you are looking for; where are you looking for them; and when do you expect to get them?

Col Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, to tarmac that road, we require about Kshs365 million. The Government is looking for money from donor countries to fund that section.

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to know from the Assistant Minister, how much money he is looking for, and from whom? When does he expect to get it?

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

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have asked a question and he did not answer it! That is why I am asking through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg your indulgence; I want the answer for the question I asked!

Mr. Speaker: Order! If you must stand on a point of order, then it has to be a point of order. That is a supplementary question!

Prof. Ouma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am surprised that the Assistant Minister says that the tarmacking from Katito to Kendu Bay did not include a continuous plan to Home Bay. I was part of the Government at that time, before I was rigged out. I know very well that there was talk, but I do not want to mention the big people who were there. The road was graded from Katito, and all the way to Mbita. Whereas the Homa Bay to Mbita section had not reached top grading, Katito to Homa Bay was complete. It was only waiting for the other section to be completed. We were told that it was just a matter of two years before it was done. Where did the rest of the funds go? I am not being told things which I do not know. I was within the Government. Where did the funds go and when will they be recouped

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member was part of the Government, then he failed his people. It is his mistake because the only amount that was approved was Kshs285 million for the section between Katito and Kendu Bay.

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from whom is the Assistant Minister looking for money to tarmac the

road between Kendu Bay and Homa Bay? When does he expect to get the money?

An hon. Member: The money was diverted!

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, where we look for money is not his business. His business is to have the road tarmacked. We will look for money and construct the road!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wonder whether the Assistant Minister is aware that on the map of Kenya, it is shown that this road is already tarmacked? This road was tarmacked up to Kendu Bay and then the contractor and somebody from the Government differed on the commission. That is why this road stalled. Could the Minister confirm or deny to this House that when the 'Government', visited Homa Bay, he had already ordered a former Permanent Secretary to tarmac this road all the way to Homa Bay?

Col. Kiluta: The map I have here shows that, that portion is not tarmacked. If your map shows that it is tarmacked, then I am sorry, I am not aware. I am also not aware of any arrangements, prior to what I am telling you, showing that there was a plan to tarmac that section.

Mr. Achola: In 1989, when the President visited Homa Bay, he directed the then Permanent Secretary, Mr. Wambura, to tarmac the section between Homa Bay and Kendu Bay immediately, as he always does. That is eight years ago. What problem has stopped the Ministry from carrying out the Presidential directive, as it is normally done?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that directive. But if it is there, it will be done immediately.

Mr. Farah: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to seek your guidance. When we ask Questions in the House here, the Government has either to agree or disagree with them. When somebody says he is not aware, who is supposed to be aware? What is he aware of? The President gave a directive and he is not aware! So, who should be aware? You are the Government of the day. You either say explicitly that it will not be done or when it will be done. We need a concrete answer for this Question. Do not keep on running around!

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member wants me to give him the answer immediately, let him write it. I will read it for him.

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to hon. Achola's question, the Assistant Minister has said that if there is a directive from the President, the road will be done immediately. Where does he expect to get money from, to undertake that directive?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I expected the hon. Member to ask me: How immediate is my "immediately"? But as soon as we get the money, we will do the road.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN BUNGOMA PRISON

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage the following Question by Private Notice.

- (a) Is the Minister aware that 22 inmates have died in Bungoma Prison since January, 1997?
- (b) What have been the prevalent causes of these deaths?
- (c) What urgent steps is the Minister taking to avert this problem?

Mr. Speaker: Is the Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage not here? We will defer the Question to tomorrow afternoon.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Mwiraria!

SUB-DIVISION OF JUA KALI PLOT

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Local Government the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that Meru Municipal Council, vide Minute No. MIN.TPWH/2480/95 of 16th February, 1995, allocated a plot along Baibutu Stream (Part Development Plan Ref. MRU/107/94/2 to 44 Jua Kali artisans who were being moved from a plot they had previously occupied?

(b) Is he further aware that the same plot has recently been sub-divided into three plots and allocated to individuals against the wishes of the Council and the Jua Kali artisans who have already developed their plots?

(c) If the answers to "a" and "b" are in the affirmative, what corrective action does the Minister intend to take to avert this conflict of interest which could lead to bloodshed?

The Minister for Local Government (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Meru Municipal Council set aside in February 1995, the plot in question for 44 Jua Kali artisans.

(b) It is true that the Commissioner of Lands has allocated the said plot under Ref.PDP No.167/96/39 dated 5th June, 1996. This was done against the advise of the Council.

(c) The Council has already alerted the Commissioner of Lands regarding this irregular allocation.

Mr. Mwiraria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the facts of the matter are that, the 44 Jua Kali artisans were moved out of a plot which was given to KANU and the Council allocated them 44 plots. I have the minutes and I am ready to lay them on the Table tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, those Jua Kali artisans who were named and shown their individual plots occupied and developed them. They are carrying out business like garages, making odd things and, they have built houses although some of them are temporary. This was done by the Council, which then asked the Commissioner of Lands to issue titles, but the Commissioner of Lands did not issue titles. Instead, he has allocated the land to three individuals while those people are still occupying the land.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the Minister knows that land in municipal and county councils should be allocated by the council, what action is he taking to ensure that the conflict of interests between the Commissioner of Lands and the Council is brought to an end to avoid such incidents?

Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information I have here is that, on 17th January, this year the same Meru Municipal Council wrote to the Commissioner of Lands vide a letter Ref. No.MCM/MKT/6/1/17 asking the same Commissioner of Lands to cancel that allocation and give the same land to the 44 Jua Kali artisans.

The Ministry of Research, Technical Training and Technology also wrote to the Commissioner of Lands on 4th July this year, asking him to issue a letter in favour of 44 Jua Kali artisans. So, I do not know what the hon. Member is talking about.

Mr. Mwiraria: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Does the Commissioner of Lands have the powers and the authority to allocate land in a municipality against the wishes of the council? If he has, what is the Minister doing to make sure that the Ministry of Lands and Settlement and his Ministry are working together, not in conflict?

Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, unfortunately the Commissioner of Lands falls under another Ministry. If he was under me, I would have told the hon. Member what I would do. But at the moment, this is a man I cannot punish because he is not under my Ministry, although we have written to him to cancel the other allocation so that the plot goes to the 44 Jua Kali artisans.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, regardless of which Ministry the Commissioner of Lands falls under, there is no provision in the law which gives them authority to allocate land that is in the jurisdiction of a municipal authority. That being the case and this being the Ministry which is supposed to protect the interests and rights of local authorities, apart from a council writing to notify the Commissioner of Lands, can the Minister give some more definitive cause of action his Ministry is going to take to protect the authority and autonomy of the municipal authority in Meru?

Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a few minutes ago, I said that the Commissioner of Lands falls under a different Ministry and I cannot punish him. I can only write a letter to him to allocate the piece of land to the 44 Jua Kali artisans. I cannot do what hon. Dr. Kituyi thinks I can do. I can neither box or sack him. He Should know that.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Members! That should end the Question time. I wish to make the following communication.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

HARASSMENT OF MEMBERS NEAR PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, I wish to refer to the incident of Wednesday, 23rd July and Thursday, 24th July 1997, which happened along Harambee Avenue, outside the main entrance to Parliament Buildings.

These two incidents were caused by what appeared to be hired thugs and inconvenienced many hon. Members who wanted to enter or leave the precincts of Parliament Buildings. It is clear to me that during both occasions, the hooligans came here at the instigation of some hon. Members.

I have requested the security agency to make sure that the area is free of strangers and that, hon. Members should be facilitated to enter and leave Parliament Buildings without molestation at all.

Secondly, I have instructed the security wing of my staff, to take such other measures as are mandated by the Powers and Privileges Act and the Speaker's Rules, to ensure that the security of hon. Members within the precincts of Parliament is assured.

Thirdly, I wish to state very firmly that any hon. Member found acting in violation of the provisions of Powers and Privileges Act and the Speaker's Rules, would immediately be referred to the Privileges Committee for disciplinary action.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of clarification, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Thank you for that ruling. I was a victim on that day and my car was very badly damaged. Out of anger, I made certain allegations which I was required to substantiate and I have the substantiation here. Now, is it in order to go ahead and substantiate?

Hon. Members: Go ahead!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! I think hon. Members must have heard really what I have said. I am angered as Mr. Speaker, of this House. I am annoyed with the use of hooligans by hon. Members to intimidate others and to lower the dignity of this House. Hon. Members may make any reference of any issue concerning a Member who may have contravened the Powers and Privileges Act to that Committee. But as of now, my office will take very, very firm action against any hooligans hired by any Member to come and intimidate Members in this place. And, may I be taken very seriously, that I will not spare any individual Member who has committed thuggery against the House.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Thank you very much for raising that matter. If you refer to the HANSARD, it is not just Wednesday and Thursday, but this madness started on Tuesday and continued through Wednesday and Thursday. I raised the matter here, seeking that a certain Member be named for facilitating this facile indolence, which has so much lowered the dignity of this House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, would it be in order to have an undertaking that even before a Member who is involved in this primitive conduct is referred to the Privileges Committee, that such a Member should automatically be named when it becomes known that Members are involved in this kind of primitive conduct?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I think hon. Members must take me seriously on this issue. I am dead serious! Any Member who infringes the rights of other Members, to enter and exit freely from this House, does so at his or her peril. That should be heard loud and clear.

Next Order.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

(Order for Committee read being Sixth Allotted Day)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 31 - Ministry of Education

(The Minister for Education on 24.7.97)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 24.7.97)

Mr. Speaker: Who was on the Floor?

An hon. Member: Mr. Keah, but he is not here!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Keah is deemed to have concluded. I, therefore, give the Floor to Prof. Mzee, the Education spokesman for FORD(K).

Prof. Mzee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Education is very important for human survival and for the survival of this country. Any nation which does not invest wisely in education, research and pursuit of new knowledge, faces the danger of extinction. Here we are talking about the survival of this country.

The survival of this country in the competitive world depends very much on what education we give to our children. The most important trait in modern biological evolution favoured by selection forces and, therefore, survival of the fittest, as a nation, is the acquisition of new technology and the ability to easily adapt to the existing technology. The ability to adapt to an existing or new technology, depends on what type of education we give to our children now. This can only be achieved by giving our children good basic education.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the present 8-4-4 system of education, I must say, is a bad mutation which is being maintained inspite of its obvious detrimental effects. Almost a full generation now has gone through the 8-4-4 system and are left in a very, very great disadvantage as compared to the rest of the world. Sycophants, the like of our Minister of Education, have subjected a whole generation to a disastrous system of education, 8-4-4, which puts a heavy financial burden on parents.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Prof. Mzee! Two points of order are directed to you. First of all, you should debate and not read. Secondly, you have no business calling your colleagues sycophants. You are not entitled to judge others. Withdraw that word and keep your notes away. Refer to them if you must.

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do withdraw the word "sycophant", but it does not change the fact that the 8-4-4 system is putting a heavy financial burden both on our Government and on the parents. It is a very expensive system to the parents, taxpayers and the community as a whole. In spite of the fact that a colossal Vote has been allocated to the Ministry of Education, the parents are also required to pay, under the cost-sharing system, various levies to keep the schools going. Also, the politicians are required to hold Harambees to subsidize education. In actual fact, about 80 per cent of the Harambees which have been undertaken by politicians are specifically for education purposes and 40 per cent of our Budget, whose net expenditure is about K£5 billion, is mostly used to pay salaries to the staff and teachers in the Ministry of Education. We have a very expensive administration system which includes the Ministry of Education, the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) the Ministry of Local Government Officers who are agents of the TSC and various other bodies.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, building of new schools and the expansion of the existing schools and their maintenance is completely left out in this present Budget. As I stand here now, and when I look at the Budget, you have to believe this; in Development Expenditure, Mombasa District has been allocated only Kshs114,000 which is equivalent to K£5,700, for building and construction of schools. This is totally unbelievable and this is what is going to come to Mombasa District, as far as maintenance, building and everything is concerned; out of 40 per cent allocation of the entire Budget of this country. Parents pay school fees, buy books, pay numerous levies but still they get sub-standard education, while the teachers in this country are the poorest in terms of remuneration. They cannot rent houses and feed their families inspite of the fact that, about K£1.2 billion out of the amount which has been allocated goes into paying salaries, yet the teachers remain to be the lowest paid.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the 8-4-4 system includes a lot of subjects. There are a number of subjects in the 8-4-4 system syllabus which, I must say, are less useful to our community at the present time, for example, Arts and Crafts in which our students spend a lot of time making mud houses. A lot of time is used for music subject in dancing. The students spend a lot of time in training and singing propaganda songs for the Head of State and politicians when they go for Harambees. A lot of time is spent in cooking, stitching and sewing instead of putting more time in subjects which should make these students really educated. A lot of time which should have gone to science, mathematics, communication and other useful subjects is spent uselessly under the 8-4-4 system. That is why under this system, we are producing bookworms, half-baked students with half-baked knowledge. The 8-4-4 system is not doing a good job to prepare students for the university entrance. It is also unknown internationally. Our old system which was, seven years in primary school, four years in secondary school, two years in the High School and three years in the University; is well known all over the world. If somebody goes out with an 'O' Level Certificate from Kenya, it is known that this is equivalent to the American Diploma and he immediately goes to university. If somebody comes out with an 'A' Level certificate, it is known in all Commonwealth countries, including Great Britain and other countries, that this person is qualified to go to University. We have a lot of problems when our students apply to join foreign universities on how to judge the 8-4-4 system. The problem is not only restricted to judging it, but the material which it produces has sub-standard education. That is the problem. It does not produce a well-rounded up educated person for any purpose. Going through the 8-4-4 system has become a punishment. Instead of education being a pleasant experience, it has become a punishment to the students.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, most of our students, both in primary and secondary schools, have to buy a large number of books. You find young children carrying books on their backs, which are too heavy for them. They are like donkeys carrying books and they do not know what these books contain. The worst thing is that the list of these books changes yearly. Our children have been turned into totally useless bookworms. Even after they have got their university degrees, they cannot be employed. There are more university students now tarmacking than at any other time in the history of this country and anywhere in Africa. We have more graduates who are ill-prepared for any type of employment and they cannot get jobs anywhere. There is no incentive for parents to send their children for education because it puts a lot of stress on the students and in the end, they come out to be educated zombies. That is exactly what they are.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to point out one aspect of the Votes which have been allocated - Sub-Vote 311 - School Milk and Feeding Programme, which takes about K£12 million from the current expenditure under Vote

31. This is money wasted. It should have been put to a good use elsewhere.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to speak on this budget line on the Ministry of Education.

To begin with, I would like to say something very specific, that the frequent closing of our institutions of higher learning is not doing these institutions any good. Not only is a lot of time wasted, but a lot of resources are also wasted. It leads to the demoralisation of the students, the lecturers and the professors. This is, indeed, very detrimental to our development. With the recent closure of the public universities, the Government should move very fast to re-open them so as to avoid the losses we are experiencing, which in the end will lead to escalation of budget costs. When you have to recover the time you have lost, you are paying two or three times what you should have paid for the services rendered at the universities.

Secondly, when we have these crises which usually are not produced at the universities - they are national crises students should not be victimised. I am particularly thinking of the Kenya Polytechnic whose problem was really internal but escalated into the external environment. When the polytechnic is re-opened, students have been faced with some amount of victimisation. I would appeal to the Ministry that this should not happen. First, because the students at the Polytechnic pay their way, they really pay a lot of fees to be there. For other intents and purposes, the students there are privately sponsored. So, when something like that happens, they should not lose that opportunity, but arrangements should be made so that such things do not happen again in future.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is also another problem at public universities, and this is a problem which has been perennial. It was there when I was teaching at the University of Nairobi and it continues. This is the problem of espionage at the universities. The Kenyan Government still finds it necessary to have spies at the university, people who attend the university, but never graduate. It reminds me of a story of a professor, who was teaching and saw a dog come in. The dog came in and sat on the floor. Then the professor asked one of the students to ask the dog to go out. The students asked: "Why should the dog go out?" Then the professor said: "Well, that dog attended the course last year and failed, so he should leave." A lot of these people who go to the university are spies who sit like that dog in the classroom. They never take any exam, but year in year out, they are there in the university, occupying rooms, lecture halls and so on. For all intents and purposes they are a burden to the university budget. I would ask the Government to reduce espionage in the universities; all these Special Branch officials and others. They should not be there at all because the students should have the maximum amount of academic freedom, and the lecturers too. I think it is an unnecessary cost that the Government is bearing by having all these "dogs" there, sitting in the universities and reporting on people.

Further, I would also like to talk about something which has cost the universities very dearly, and this is police brutality. During the last crisis - and the Centre for Brutality Against Women has documented this very precisely - a lot of female students were raped, and many others lost their properties through robbery by the security forces. A lot of people who went in the university when there was a crisis were not necessarily formal police officers, but they were part and parcel of this "third" force in our security system, which is causing a lot of problems. If you introduce this kind of thing in universities, the insecurity that the students will have will mean that staying on campuses is going to be risky for students, and they too are going to be tempted to take security measures to defend themselves. This is not good as a culture in our universities. I would like to ask the Government that whenever there is a crisis any any the university, it should be treated with a lot of care because, first; these are young people and they should not be visited with such amount of violence which leads, not just to the loss of life as we saw, but also to a mentality of being brutalised, which is a terrible culture. This kind of wild raping can also expose the students to the risk of contracting the HIV infection. I must say that one of the university campuses is in my constituency, this is Maseno University College. From very reliable sources, the HIV infection is spreading very fast on campuses. I think this is something that the Ministry of Education should pay attention to because it is going to really hurt human resources to development in our universities.

One of the reasons why we have health problems in the universities is because of the congestion in the halls of residence. I have been to Maseno University College and I find that if you go to the halls of residence, you will realise that there are no good bathrooms. The number of students per square foot in those halls of residence is rather too high, the services which are available to the students in these halls of residence are rather poor and there are no proper extra curricular activities because the kniversity is not given sufficient budget to run these activities. Hence, there is general frustration in the universities. When there is a lot of frustration, people tend to let it out by drinking and doing other things. As the Christians say, "an idle mind is the devil's workshop." So, I would think that there should be sufficient room and resources in the universities for the students not just to learn academic subjects, but to get involved in extra-curricular activities so that they can lead healthy lives on campuses. If that does not happen, we are going to see tremendous deterioration in the health standards in our universities. So, I would appeal to the Government to look at this very carefully.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, leaving the universities alone, I now come to another very important area, and this is basic education. There was a time when the Ministry of Education was divided between Ministry of Basic Education and Ministry of Higher Education. I thought the logic was to give special and proper attention to basic education, beginning from the kindergarten to primary and lower high school. I must say that over the last ten years, basic education has really suffered in this country because, first; the Government thinks that capital development for basic education should be borne by parents through harambee. This is absolute balderdash. Any responsible government should invest in capital development for basic education; that is why Kenyans pay taxes. Any responsible government should ensure that there are proper classrooms and proper teachers in all primary schools.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, any cost-sharing should come at the level of expendables and not at the level of capital development. If this happens as it is happening now, then finally, a terrible system of uneven investment in education will arise. In those areas, the politically well-connected people will harass wananchi to contribute to Harambee to build classrooms and so on, in their schools. So, areas which are not politically well-connected then suffer very backward capital development. I think the Ministry of Education should come up with a policy which should go to the capital development expenditure of schools. When we debate development expenditure in this Parliament, there should be a special vote for capital development for basic education. Otherwise when we begin introducing inequalities at primary school level, then that will continue for the rest of the students' lives and then we will find a society of very terrible stratification. It will be social stratification based on ethnic groups or regions which, in the end, leads to a very violent society.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, once people begin identifying their problems on ethnic lines, politically, there is the seed for civil wars and civil strife. This can easily come in the way in which we are stratifying our education system. So, I think, that when we come to developing the expenditure, if not in this years budget here, then in next year's budget, there should be substantial capital development expenditure for basic education.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, that also leads me to another matter which I have had the occasion previously to discuss with the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education. This matter is the withdrawal of activities fees in high schools and primary schools. I think, it is primary schools mainly. It defeats all logic for anybody in the Republic of Kenya, especially that person in the highest authority in the land, to say that activity fee is withdrawn from schools and then to expect the students to participate in activities like drama, music, football competitions and all kinds of competitions. You cannot expect them on winning at the divisional, district or provincial levels, come to Nairobi for the national competition. Teachers are expected to finance these activities from nothing.

What happens is that Members of Parliament are harassed whenever they go back to their constituencies by a 101 schools saying: "We have won this or that competition and we want to go to Nairobi, and we want you to conduct Harambee for us to go to Nairobi". Members of Parliament are not in this House to conduct Harambees for activities in primary schools. Members of Parliament are in this House to debate the laws of the land and to ensure that this country is properly governed. If the Ministry of Education is failing to underwrite activities in primary schools, they should stop these activities and not frustrate these people. On the basis of what is currently going on, we need a Ministerial Statement so that we can know exactly how the Ministry activities are going to be carried out in Nairobi so that people do not suffer the way they are suffering.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mrs. Nyamato: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

I am glad that the Minister for Education is here. There is a very big problem in Kisii regarding teachers from private teacher training colleges. I hope that the Minister will look into this problem. These students come from colleges which were licensed by the Ministry to operate as private teachers colleges. Most of those graduates have not been posted for the last four years. It does not make any sense for the Ministry to continue recruiting year in, year out, students to join teacher training colleges when we have graduates from some other private colleges who have not been posted. It is becoming like a punishment. Most of these teachers who are affected by not being posted, come from Kisii, Nyamira and Gucha districts. The first lot graduated in 1993. This is 1997. They have not been posted and the number is increasing. It is becoming a very thorny and political issue in the Gusii community.

There are two issues that have been very touchy in the community. One was the Kisii-Chemosit Road. I am glad to say that construction on this road has started. Everybody is very happy. The other problem now is that--

QUORUM

Prof. Ouma: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Since education is such an important issue and it is everybody's business, then we should realise that we do not have a quorum. There are only 13 Members in here.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I suppose you are right. We have no quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

Mr. Speaker: Order! We have a quorum now. You may proceed, Mrs. Nyamato.

Mrs. Nyamato: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my contribution was about the teachers from private teacher training colleges who have not been posted for the last four or five years. I am appealing to the Minister for Education to consider posting these teachers because they come from colleges that were licensed by the Ministry to operate. If these colleges are operating outside the law, then the best medicine for them is that they should be closed down because they are still admitting students, year in, year out. If these students are not going to be posted, it is becoming a burden to the parents who are spending so much money to have their children trained in private colleges only to end up not being posted anywhere. This is a very, very serious issue. It is becoming a problem to the Gusii community. Everybody is talking about it and I am making an appeal to the Minister for Education to consider posting these teachers as soon as he possibly can.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it does not make sense for the Ministry to recruit and train teachers in Government teachers training colleges while it is not employing those who have already graduated from private teachers training colleges. This is an issue that the Ministry should take very seriously. It should employ these graduates from private colleges.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appeal to the Ministry of Education, in collaboration with local universities, to consider admitting to universities students who complete their education in the local private schools. At present, there is no provision for them. These are students who complete their studies in private schools where they undertake 7-4-2-3 system of education and do the overseas examinations. The only chance left for them after completing their education is to look for admission to overseas universities. They could be admitted to the local universities provided that their parents pay school fees. I am appealing to the Ministry of Education to consider this because it will save the parents of these students from paying exorbitant fees overseas and this country could save the much-needed foreign exchange that is spent on sending students to overseas universities. Mr. Speaker, Sir, learning conditions in our local primary schools are very bad. Teachers' houses are very bad. Some of the pupils are infected by jiggers in some of these schools and so on. The Minister for Education should improve, at least, the poor conditions of some of these schools. They are extremely depleted and we find that it has become a problem for hon. Members of Parliament to raise funds for buying chalk, exercise books, building and so on. It is not even understood where this large allocation for the Ministry of Education is spent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the funds from the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) to university students are not given to the deserving students. Students from the poor families do not get this loans. The hon. Members of Parliament are called upon to raise funds for their maintenance in universities. Priority should be given to students from poor families. There are even cases where children of hon. Ministers have been given loans while students from poor families are denied. So, it does not make sense when the children of Ministers are given loans and those from poor families are denied. This should be avoided.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are also a lot of frustrations in our local universities. As a result of these frustrations, leaders have taken advantage of those poor students. They incite them to demonstrate in the streets for their own political ends, and in the process, some of them are killed by policemen. I am appealing to politicians here, in this honourable House, not to use university students to meet their own political ends. They should not use them as "tools" when there is a problem in the country. It is a well known fact that some politicians dish out money to university students in order to incite them to demonstrate in the streets and cause havoc. This is not the thing politicians should be encouraging students to do. They should encourage them to take their studies seriously and not to take part in hooliganism.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are so many secondary schools mushrooming in the country, but without facilities. It is pointless increasing the number of secondary schools in the country if we are not able to provide them with facilities. Most of them do not have laboratories, but buildings called "laboratories" without equipment. It would be advisable if the Minister for Education does not encourage the mushrooming of private secondary schools that do not have facilities. Most of these schools do not at all produce students with an average of C grade because of the pathetic conditions.

The Ministry should also look into the question of discipline in schools. The common trend is that most

teachers are posted to schools near their homes. They spend all their time running their business and doing all other things besides teaching. The standard of education in the country has gone down because teachers do not concentrate on what goes on in their schools. We are having several cases of early pregnancies in primary schools because of lack of supervision by school heads who are not in school most of the time. The Ministry should reconsider the old system where teachers were posted outside their home districts. Teachers teaching in schools around their homes get involved in local politics, business and so on. This is an issue that the Ministry should consider. If teachers are posted out of their districts, they concentrate on their work. The teaching profession was respected in those days when teachers were teaching away from their home districts.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry should also consider to post as many graduate teachers as possible to secondary schools so that they can improve the quality of teaching in those schools. Most of our secondary schools are manned by teachers who never went to university and that becomes a problem because there are certain schools where subject like maths and sciences have no teachers. Therefore, many of the students who join universities to do engineering courses do not come from rural schools because they do not have facilities. They can only produce very poor students in science subjects because of lack of qualified science teachers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier, the conditions of most of primary schools are extremely bad. The Ministry should look into their inspectorate section. Nobody understands whether inspectors ever go to inspect conditions of schools or teaching and so on. They were known before, but today they are not known because they do not go to inspect activities in the schools. If they were going to schools, they would, at least, come up with a report to show the deteriorating conditions in most of the primary schools and secondary schools in rural areas.

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

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is one of the very vital Ministries in this country. But unfortunately, the Ministry just talks about policies and when it comes to implementation of the same, we never see it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in 1994, there was a Motion which was passed in this Parliament on the review of the 8-4-4 system of education. The Ministry promised that within that year, a total review of the 8-4-4 system of education was supposed to be done. But upto today, nothing has been done and the Minister for Education had the courage to move the Vote of his Ministry. He should have told the people why the Ministry has been cheating the Kenyan public about the review of the 8-4-4 system of education. Why is it that the Ministry has been forcing this stinking system of education on the people of Kenya? This system of education is one which everybody, including the Head of State has said that it should be reviewed. But the Minister says they are ready to implement this review. For how long will this be?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have voted money in this House for the School Milk Feeding Programme. This is another system like the National Development Fund for Women and National Youth Development Fund which are used to milk Kenyans. The areas where the milk should be supplied never receive it. In my constituency, there has never been a drop of that milk and yet every year, money is voted for this Ministry in respect of the milk programme. Where does that money go? This is why we are saying that, unless we get rid of these corrupt officials right from the top--- We should get rid of this institutionalised corruption, where the Minister brings Estimates here, we approve and at the end of the year, the actual expenditure is just on paper.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have seen the way the TSC has been ineffective. When we go to Co-operative House where the TSC is situated, we wonder what is happening. The entire teaching community has abdicated its responsibility and ran away from schools. They are queuing to see officers at the TSC. What has happened to those people who are supposed to be solving teachers' problems? Why should they come and camp at Co-operative House? It is a waste of time, and; the children are also losing when their teachers come and queue at TSC. If one wants to go to Co-operative House, it is difficult for one to enter into a lift because the teachers are scrambling to enter the lifts in order to get to the TSC offices. The other day, those officers at TSC deliberately burnt files in those offices. This was because of the corruption which has been going on in those offices. Unless the TSC team is removed and replaced with people who have the interest of the teaching community at heart, this Ministry cannot be said to be working. You cannot afford to have a teacher coming to Nairobi and he finds his file missing and yet, he has a simple problem to be sorted out. For that teacher to get the file produced, he has to part with Kshs150, which is a minimum tip. Immediately that is done, miracles happen and the file is produced.

The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member has made very serious allegations that a specific amount of Kshs150 is paid to officials of the TSC in order for files to be made available to the teacher. Can he substantiate that this kind of illegal transaction is taking place?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am a representative of the people. These are the problems which are brought to us, day in, day out by the teachers. The teachers even come to queue outside here for

their Members of Parliament to give them fare back, because the money they had was taken by those officers in order to produce those files. This is a fact! Hon. Komora---

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Mulusya has been asked to categorically substantiate his claim. If he is not able to do it, he should withdraw.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when cattle rustling starts again, he will disappear for more than the three weeks he disappeared last time.

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think hon. Mulusya is becoming naughty. He should be able to substantiate what he has been asked. He should not divert from that. That has got nothing to do with cattle rustling.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Mulusya, we have nothing on record to link hon. Rotino to cattle rustling!

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that he will disappear when cattle rustling occurs in order to evade arrest.

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Mulusya is fond of making those funny statements. He should substantiate what he is being asked and stop being cheeky!

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir are you satisfied that I am being cheeky? I have never run away from the police and I have never gone to court to ask for bond, so that I do not get arrested, and there is no cattle rustling in my area.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The purpose of the requirement for substantiation has been lost sight of. It is a requirement of our Standing Orders and for a very good reason. The reason is that, when one substantiates, then we have real evidence to be able to deal with problems! So, why do we want to run away from it?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I have been---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Mulusya! The requirement on you by hon. Nyachae, hon. Rotino and hon. Anyona, is something to show that teachers pay Kshs150 to TSC officials to get their files out. Can you substantiate that?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I am saying is that, I as the Member of Parliament for Kangundo, have had on several occasions to give teachers from Kangundo fare from here to Kangundo because the money they had was taken by those officers at TSC. What else does he need? I can bring them here.

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could a dictionary be found for hon. Mulusya so that he can check the meaning of the word "substantiation"?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): What is your point of order, then?

Mr. Rotino: My point of order is that a dictionary should be provided for hon. Mulusya.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what we are saying is that corruption has to be stamped out. If the teachers have to use their time usefully for the benefit of the children of this country, we have to stamp out corruption. Even today, when it comes to approving which set books are to be used in schools, one has to pay to have the set books approved and become a part of the---

The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the respect for this House is going to be lost. If a Member makes a very serious allegation about corruption, and he is asked to substantiate and he does not do so, then he is required to withdraw and apologise. We cannot just have a Member going round, and round making allegations which he cannot substantiate.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Nyachae, I agree with you entirely, but his time is over.

Mr. Rotino: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to the Vote of this very important Ministry. We are dealing with an important Ministry. This is the Ministry of Education. Forty per cent of the entire Budget goes to this particular Ministry.

I want to deal with very specific issues that affect my district. One is the problem of boarding primary schools. We have 21 districts in this country that have boarding primary schools. One of those districts is West Pokot. Subordinate staff in these schools really suffer. I am very happy to say that several times I have gone to the Ministry to talk about the problem of subordinate staff who go without money. They are given some subsidy or allowances. These people are employees of the boards of governors of the schools, but the Ministry gives certain grants for payment of allowances to these subordinate staff. I am very happy to note that two weeks ago, some of them were paid. I will urge the Ministry to continue paying these staff members.

However, I will ask the Ministry to have a clear-cut policy on these employees who consist of watchmen,

cooks and matrons. They provide essential services and they must be paid. They earn a maximum salary of Kshs3,000 a month and a minimum of Kshs1,500. But they do not get this money regularly. I plead with the Ministry to come out with a clear-cut policy on these employees. Many times the Ministry says that these are employees of boards of governors. I know that, but something must be done about their problem because they provide essential services to boarding primary schools.

In West Pokot District, we have a big problem of understaffing, especially in remote zones. Some zones are inaccessible because there are no roads. The primary schools in these zones are always understaffed. The TSC normally posts teachers to urban centres while remote areas remain without teachers. Teachers who are used to good roads and other services do not accept to go to schools in remote areas. I will urge the Ministry to ensure that it admits into teacher training colleges candidates from remote districts like West Pokot, Turkana, Sumburu and North Eastern Province. On qualifying, such candidates can be posted to their home areas where they can manage to work very comfortably. In my own constituency we have inaccessible zones and I urge the Ministry to consider admitting to colleges teacher trainees, even if they are not highly qualified, from these zones.

There are also what I call "political teachers". This does not mean that such teachers are employed by politicians. These are teachers who do not do their job, particularly during the run-up to elections, like now. These teachers spend most of their time engaging in politics. I will urge the Ministry to advise zonal inspectors to ensure that teachers remain in their work stations. It is a policy of the Ministry that teachers be posted to their home areas. However, such teachers should avoid raising political temperatures in villages or schools. When they do this, they become partisan. A good example is that, during the last general elections some voters voted for candidate A and others for candidate B. Consequently some children were discriminated against by teachers who felt that their parents had not voted for the teachers' candidate. This issue should be taken very seriously because it affects the education of our children.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in respect of extra-curricular activities, a big burden has been left to the parents. In West Pokot District we are very active in music, traditional dances and other activities. These activities are not actively being pursued by students because of lack of activity fees money. Maybe, parents pay a minimal amount, but this fee is not being paid nowadays. Pupils have different talents. Some pupils are not good in class work, but they can be good in extra-curricular activities like music, football or volleyball. We need to develop these talents in pupils. So, if extra-curricular activities are not undertaken in schools, then we will have a problem. Something should be done about this. I do not know what can be done. As one hon. Member said, a big burden has been left to hon. Members. Every time an hon. Member goes home, especially during this second term, he is met with requests to attend many mini Harambees to collect money for sending students to district, provincial and national championships. Last year, West Pokot District did not participate in the music festival and sports because there was no money to take the children to the provincial and national championships. Something must be done so as to develop the talents in our children.

As one of the hon. Members said, we have a big problem in the distribution of the national cake. Education is going to be for the rich. Some districts like West Pokot used to be considered closed and accessibility to many things did not exist. The Ministry has now left every activity in the provision of education to parents. Building of schools and other capital projects have been left to the parents. Even buying of chalk is the duty of the parents. The Government provides only the teachers. I consider this to be very unfair to certain remote districts. This may be a good thing for districts like Kiambu in Central Province. But it is a disadvantage for districts like West Pokot, Turkana and Sumburu, which have been marginalised right from before Independence.

Turkana District may have led in national examinations, but it is not really Turkana children who lead in examinations. This is because boarding facilities in the district are being used by children of outsiders. In the last three years, no Pokot child has gone to Alliance High School. Children from other districts go to use facilities in West Pokot District and end up taking up the chances meant for Pokot children. This is happening because financing of education right from the kindergarten has been left to the parents. Parents in poor districts cannot afford to build a good kindergarten. At the same time a child from Kiambu or Western Province gets a good educational background. When he goes and sits for his examination in West Pokot District, he passes well and takes the chance meant for a Pokot child. This should be discouraged. We have seen children attending schools in Nairobi until the second term of their Class Eight when they move to a school in West Pokot District, just for the purpose of passing the examination in that district.

It is true that students in rural areas score poorly not because they are not intelligent like those students from Nairobi or other urban centres, but because they do not have the required facilities. So, the Ministry should be able to give instructions, through the respective Provincial Directors of Education (PDEOs) and District Education Officers (DEOs) Offices, and they should discourage immigrants from other centres so that they do not erode the few facilities they have.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Prof. Ouma: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have always spoken on education after every Budget Speech. This year, I will mention only three problems which, I think, are serious. I will mention them in the light of what the Minister for Education, hon. Joseph Kamotho, told us last week; that there is a ten-year master plan which guides what he is saying.

What bothers me most is that, and I say this with a very good heart, hon. Joseph Kamotho is presiding over "educational malnutrition" in this country!

(Applause)

I wish hon. Joseph Kamotho, who is my friend and namesake, listens carefully as to why I am saying this. We are going through a very critical period of "educational malnutrition" and I will illustrate what I am saying by looking at basic education and university education where malnutrition is complex. First, if we are going into the next century and we are having a master plan for education, we cannot have that masterplan without a critical and comprehensive review of the state of education, especially since the 8-4-4 was instituted in 1984. The 8-4-4 system of education should have been periodically reviewed and the results made public to the people. Let us not have a dog and even if this dog is bad, we do not criticize how bad it is. The 8-4-4 system is our dog. We got the ideas from the Canadian professor who recommended the second university, Moi University, and just as an appendix, he threw this in 8-4-4. The 8-4-4 should have undergone periodic reviews and readjustments. This is systematic and professional management.

I would like, in his reply, the Minister to tell us if there have been periodic reviews of a new system of education and what the results were. I may be ignorant because I did not hear them. But if there were reviews and there were positive results from those reviews, I would be very glad to hear them because education is my life, and the life of all the people of this country. I must criticize that Ministry because it has not done us a service. We cannot go on for over 10 years without a review of a new system of education.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, whom I respect because he handles a very delicate Ministry, told us that his vision of the next century of education is to enable Kenya to be industrialised by the year 2020. How can he say that without a review, while knowing our mistakes? Our educational system is full of mistakes. It is clogged with mistakes. I will mention some of the mistakes.

First, I will take Nyanza Province as an example of the first type of mistake. The 8-4-4 system of education requires several things to be done by the parents. The hon. Minister, like all of us, knows that this country is not uniformly rich or uniformly poor. The 8-4-4 system of education favours those areas where people have got a little thing called property and riches. Therefore, when education favours certain areas because they can organise Harambee, it is unfair. What Harambee can come out of a person who has sold tomatoes and some eggs? Ndururu au shilingi! A very different type of Harambee will go on in areas like where hon. Kamotho comes from! When a school is going to be built and furnished with equipment on the basis of Harambee, especially Harambee which is overloaded with things like 8-4-4, that school or community is dying. That is why education in Nyanza Province is dying.

Nyanza Province is suffering from an endemic system of education--

The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Prof. Ouma not misleading the House when he criticizes the 8-4-4 system of education when he is among those people who were the key members of the 8-4-4? It is not fair for the hon. Member to blame the Ministry alone. Let us admit here that we should not just blame the Government for the sake of it. We are misleading the House that the problem is on this side. Members who are on that side were in this system. My point of order is that the hon. Prof. Ouma is misleading this House to the extent that the 8-4-4 system of education is killing certain schools when he himself contributed to the creation of the 8-4-4 system.

Prof. Ouma: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have got every respect for hon. Nyachae, but not today.

It does not mean that if we agreed on a system to come, we do not review it to see whether it is going well or badly. I am not denying that we accepted 8-4-4, but all I am saying is that we have not reviewed it and I hope my friend will say it. I was illustrating how the 8-4-4 is killing certain places, and if it was reviewed, the mistakes would have been discovered and rectified. For example, Nyanza Province, is a poor place not because of the Ministry of Education, but it is poor because of other complexes which we all know. But the result is when it comes to managing education through the 8-4-4 system which demands Harambee, Harambee system in Nyanza is very poor. The result is that a poor place has got poor provision for 8-4-4. Then the children do not pass their examinations and there would be two people able to pay big money for Harambee. They continue to get poor and poorer. It is a downward spiral of the community.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is true. I have done an educational research for five years continuously at the instigation of leaders from Nyanza, practically in the whole of South Nyanza, and I have got the report. The report shows very clearly that the biggest problem we have in Nyanza is 'poverty syndrome'. When that syndrome is there, it has to be addressed in an educational system which is going to survive. We have not tailored that educational system to ensure that those places with the poverty syndrome shall rise.

Nyanza is not alone. Even Coast and North Eastern Provinces are affected. What we are going to have is a systematic marginalization of certain areas because of the type of education we have. Nyanza Province used to produce many students for our universities, but not any more. Has the Ministry of Education asked what has gone wrong? He is the Minister for Education for Kenya, not for certain parts. It is his duty to review systematically what is going wrong in certain parts of the country and come up with a solution even if it means introducing an education levy, bursary and so on.

Let me come to the next issue. First, education in our primary schools is also very poor because the Ministry cannot build workshops, supply books and so on. Pupils read very little beyond what the teacher gives them because they cannot buy textbooks.

I have been in the university for long and I know how it should be. Our universities today are very backward. First, the lecture theatres are too small for the large number of students. Students take notes through windows. Laboratories have got very few chemicals. Sometimes there are only a few instruments. If you visit the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in the University of Nairobi, you will find a few students looking at one machine. Sometimes it is the demonstrators who use them. What I am trying to say is that our universities do not have enough equipment, laboratories and other essential commodities and that is why lecturers do not have enough money to do research. They are just high technical college teachers. The result is that the students get brown notes from brown papers year after year. A lecture is supposed to assist a student, but the libraries are empty of journals, magazines and books worth reading. Other books which are there have been mutilated. I am asking the Ministry of Education to give us medical students who can operate on our wives in confidence.

Our universities are going to score very low in the international standards because of malnutrition. Students do not have enough to read. Lecturers do not have enough to read or research. Students sell mandazi and cakes. They go for jua kali things to survive. Let us stop this malnutrition and ask the Minister to find a solution so that our education system can help us industrialize in the next century. If we move at this pace, we shall not industrialize even in the next two centuries.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Osogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to support this Vote. I have got a few observations to make. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the new Permanent Secretary appointed in this Ministry for the manner in which she has acted from the ordinary. Immediately after her appointment, she started touring provinces and districts to see for herself what has been happening there in as far as education is concerned. Probably, she is doing this because before her appointment, she had been the Chief Inspector of Schools and she had already made herself used to travelling outside. All the Permanent Secretaries who have been in this Ministry, right from the time we had a Permanent Secretary of European origin, never move out of their offices. They stay in their offices and do not know what is happening in different schools. I would like to thank her for doing that. This has made many managers of schools to be sensitive to their work. I would like to appeal to the Minister to do the same because the Minister for Education is not like any other Minister. The Minister for Energy does not need to travel around, but the Minister for Education should travel around. He should be able to know where Osieko Secondary School is. It is one of the schools in the most difficult areas and one where not a single inspector has reached. If the Minister went there probably it would make the inspectors reach that school and find out the difficulties in that school. What the Minister is accustomed to doing is to accompany the President when he visits schools to hold Harambees. In places where the President does not go, like Bunyala, they will never be able to see the Minister and he will never be able to know the difficulties they face.

In the printed Development Estimates, Head 836, Item 22 - Family life Education for Schools, covers schools and teachers training colleges. I see that, that item is not provided with any funds this financial year although last year it had K£850,000. I do presume that the Minister heard the cry of many people who did not want that subject to be included in the school curriculum. If he has not, probably he has provided for it elsewhere. It should be noted that what is called family life education, and which is associated with family planning and other things, is as a result of the Ministry not having taken the moral education of our children seriously. We are now turning around and saying that our children must be taught about sex and family life education in general because we have spoilt them. When I was at school, we had special teachers who were responsible for teaching religion and moral education. These teachers were experienced in teaching moral education. We grew up knowing how we were supposed to carry ourselves around and

there was nothing to say that we were taught sex. Sex was left for old women to teach girls and old men to teach the boys. It was not brought into the school curriculum as the Ministry of Education is intending to do.

I would like to warn you. I am speaking as a parent and a teacher. The current teachers in teachers training colleges are children. They have no authority to teach sex education to our children. We cannot subject our children to a situation where they are taught by other children about sex. It should be understood very clearly that old parents like ourselves are going to object to and stand firm in objecting the introduction of sex education in schools. If the Ministry wants, let it consult us and we will advise them to bring back the subject of moral education in schools as it used to happen and then the morality of our children will be cultivated. Telling them to use condoms, or any other family planning methods at this time, does not help them at all.

I can see that I am running short of time, but I want to say something about the low-cost boarding primary schools. The Ministry is looking at the districts as my Pokot friend said. We have primary schools that are also boarding and are not in hardship areas, but have been neglected. They are not being financed at all. One of them is St. Cecilia Girls' Primary School, Port Victoria. It is a new school that has done KCPE just twice now. It has not been given any aid or grant from Head 844, Item 150, in the Printed Estimates.

The other issue is on taxpayer's money that the Teachers Service Commission is using for paying rent for their offices. The Printed Estimates reflect an amount of over K£2 million provided for paying rent. This is a lot of money. I am wondering why the Ministry has not found it necessary to try and allocate land to the TSC to build a humble office, and move away from Co-operative Bank House, where they are paying all this money. A humble three storeyed building can be able to accommodate TSC, rather than paying all this money to a private developer, who is the owner of the Co-operative House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me come now to the question of school equipment. When the Minister will be replying, I hope he will tell us what equipment he is providing K£11 million for, for the schools. I am saying this because we as parents have appealed to schools year in, year out to provide books. It is lack of books which is making it difficult for our children to perform well. Many parents cannot afford books. But the Ministry is not able to provide standard books, as it used to do in the old days. There were authors in those days. But in those days when we went to school, mathematics had only one book. Everywhere, all the schools had Clement Durell as a text book for maths. It was an authority for maths, both in algebra and geometry. We had the Denglish(?) Sums(?) for geography which was a standard book. But now, what do we find? Anybody who authors a book, even if it is copied from other books, approaches the Ministry of Education, money changes hands and his book is brought into the curriculum. If you go to any headmistress or headmaster of a school, he or she will give you list of books that are wanted. Another year, you get another list. The following year, you will get a different list with different authors. One wonders how parents who have got many children, like myself, are going to cope with buying books. I have got children who are still in school. In fact, despite my age, I have got one who has just left nursery school. These children cannot benefit from books of their older brothers or sisters because of these changes. So, I urge the Ministry to put standard books under the school equipment. They should also purchase books for teachers. I remember in my school days, I had a book which belonged to a teacher who taught me.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

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

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Mr. Muite: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the President because, about two months ago, when he was talking at Kenya Science Teachers College, he stated very affirmatively that the 8-4-4 system of education is going to be reviewed. In so speaking, the President was contradicting, as he is entitled to do, his Minister for Education, who previously had arrogantly stated that the 8-4-4 system would not be reviewed. So, I would like to pay tribute to the President and say that the review of the 8-4-4 system should come today, and not tomorrow. The review should be left to professionals and not politicians.

I would say that the education system in this country is in a mess. The Ministry of Education is a very important Ministry in this land. Part of the reason why the Ministry is in a mess is because it is headed by a nominated Member of Parliament. When you are nominated, you are not sensitive to the views and wishes of members of the public and the parents. When you are elected, then you know that these are your masters and you listen to them, seek their views and if they want the 8-4-4 system reviewed, then you review it. The President would really do this country a great service if he ensured that the Ministry of Education is headed by an elected Member of Parliament. Nominated Members can go to---

The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Masinde): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to mislead this House that the Ministry of Education is in a mess because the Minister heading it is a nominated Member, when we know that there are many governments in Africa where Ministers are actually nominated and they are not even politicians? I would give the example of Cameroon!

Mr. Muite: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is the Minister's opinion, and I am also expressing my opinion. He should not say that, that is a point of order! I am saying that any elected Member of Parliament heading such an important Ministry will be sensitive to the views and wishes of his bosses, who are the electors; a sensitivity that a nominated Member obviously cannot have!

By observing all the levels of education from primary school, high school and university, it is clear that the education system in this country is on the verge of collapse. Everybody knows that! I passed through the Kabete and Kikuyu campuses and I saw a very sad situation. I invite the Minister for Education to visit these institutions so that he can see with his own eyes. The students at the campuses are leading destitute lives.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Are you satisfied with hon. Muite? Is he admitting that he passed through Kabete and Kikuyu campuses to incite students? This is because he has no business going to interfere with the university programmes.

Mr. Muite: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is surely not a point of order! First and foremost, Kikuyu Campus is in my constituency. I have got a responsibility for those students. I went there and I am inviting the Minister for Education to go there and see with his own eyes that these students are leading a destitute life because they cannot afford to buy meals in their kitchens there. They buy their food in the kiosks that have sprung up next to the campuses. The reason for this is that, clearly, this Government does not have the money to run the public universities. It does not have the money to even run high schools.

The Minister for Education is on record in this House--- It is in the HANSARD. When we were debating the Higher Education Loans Board Bill, he said that no Kenyan student will fail to get university education because of lack of fees, and that adequate loans were going to be provided. What has happened to that undertaking? As of now, there are many young men and women who have been expelled from our public universities and yet I would like the Minister, for example, to deny or confirm that a son of Permanent Secretary, Mr. Kimalat, was given a full loan when other children from poor families are not being given loans.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Higher Loans Education Board is being mismanaged by this Government. This Government can only be able to run education in this country properly and especially the public universities, if they get the economy right. They cannot get the economy right as long as they---

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not wish to interrupt the hon. Muite. But he made a very interesting remark, that whereas poor children got no loans at all, the son of the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the President got a full loan. I have not heard any response from the Minister. Is that an indication that the Minister agrees with him?

Mr. Muite: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I saw the Minister taking notes and I am sure he will have the opportunity to do so. I have a letter from a student complaining that the parents are unemployed and yet, his classmate, who is Mr. Kimalat's son, got a full loan.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, until this Government gets the economy of this country right, they are not going to have enough money to run our public universities and they cannot get the economy right, as long as they are not willing to eradicate or contain corruption. It is no use this Government running at the eleventh hour pretending that they are now doing something about corruption, just because the US\$37 million is about to be cancelled on Friday. They are now busy with press conferences, transferring people and making all sorts of promises as always. Who are we fooling as a nation? We undertake no steps until the World Bank says: Unless you do x, y, z, then, we are going to cut off the loans. Then in the eleventh hour, we pretend to be restructuring the Energy Sector while at the same time, we are removing those who are fighting corruption at the Port of Mombasa.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am confident there is no way in which the IMF is going to be fooled by these cosmetic rushed steps in the eleventh hour. If that loan is cancelled, this Government will be absolutely responsible. It is not the Opposition which is calling for the cancellation of that loan. The US Dollar is going to exchange at Kshs70 and Kshs80 by next week, if that loan is cancelled and there is that manifestation. This Government must take full responsibility because of the corruption and the incompetence in the manner in which they run this economy. That is why the children are suffering, the education system in this country is collapsing and will continue to deteriorate. Even when they have the money, the left hand does not know what the right hand is doing. There is no co-ordination. For example, I imagine that much of the money we are passing will be used to import laboratory equipment. If it is the Ministry of Education which is going to import the equipment, they should be exempted from duty. But because there is no co-ordination in this Government, those items will perhaps lie at the bonded warehouse for months and months.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are many patients who are dying on a daily basis because of highland malaria.

The documents I have here show that drugs for malaria have been lying at Embakasi for the last two months. I would like to lay the documents on the Table.

(Mr. Muite laid the documents on the Table)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Shidie, you have only five minutes before the Minister is called upon to reply.

Mr. Shidie: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Mathenge: So, we have been wasting our time here?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am not wasting anybody's time!

Mr. Shidie: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, part of the reason why we got our Independence was to fight ignorance. If we are going to be very serious and if we, indeed, want to develop this country, we must put emphasis on education.

We have seen countries like Japan, Puerto Rico and Malaysia, which do not have natural resources, put their money in education.

It is high time we allowed most of our budgeted funds to be used for the development of education. As it is now, most of the money goes to salaries for teachers and other facilities; Recurrent Expenditure. We expect the Minister to ensure sure that part of the money goes to school development, text books and desks. As it is today, all the schools are collapsing. They have problems and the only option now is to raise funds through Harambee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is high time that we emphasised on education and voted for the Ministry more money, so that we can develop education. In North Eastern Province, enrolment is going down as a result of drought. There are many school drop-outs, since most of the schools are day schools with very few boarding schools. This means that when these nomads are moving from one place to another, they waste most of their time. We would like the Minister to develop boarding schools for those areas, so that those children from pastoral areas can be helped.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister should set aside a special education fund for marginal districts, because those areas are poor and far off with few teachers. So, we expect the Minister to prepare a marshal plan to uplift the education standards in these places. Other parts of Kenya have developed and it is only the North Eastern Province that is under-developed and yet, the only way out of under-development is through education.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are poor because we are not educated and cannot afford education. There are very many school drop-outs. You do not expect people, who are recipients of relief food, to be able to pay school fees. So, I would like the Minister to waive school fees in these areas, because of drought in 1996 and 1997, and because parents are recipients of relief food.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, student performance in that area has been poor since the 8-4-4 system was introduced. Since students are from very poor primary schools, they end up joining secondary schools which are very poor. The "A" level education system was the only place where somebody could improve, and now that we do not have it, it is very difficult for our children to improve and qualify for university education. On that note, I would like to ask the Minister to again introduce the quota system, because when we get only one student from a district like Garissa qualifying for university education, it is really despicable. You have been doing some work and finally end up failing. It is like farming without any harvests. If we introduce the quota system, we are sure that some of the boys and girls who are bright and do not have the opportunity of getting good facilities and teachers, will find their way into the universities.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the 1960s, there was airlifting of students. We would like the Minister to organise airlifting of people to and from that area, so that we can at least have, for example, 10 doctors, 10 lawyers and 20 engineers. That should be done so that the Province can develop. But the way it is now, we are very poor because we do not have a proper education system in the Province and there are many school drop-outs. The number of students who qualify for university education are very few. Which means that it will be a vicious circle. We are going to remain under-developed throughout.

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

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me another chance to reply to Members who have spoken during the two days' debate on the subject of the Ministry of Education.

May I start by thanking all the hon. Members who have made very constructive, positive proposals and suggestions on what the Government should address itself to in the education sector. I do agree with Members that the Ministry of Education is extremely important and that it has a lot of problems and every one of us knows that some of these problems cannot be solved overnight. Hon. Members making their contributions did raise very pertinent issues about inadequacies of inspection of schools throughout the country. We, in the Ministry of Education, are aware of this problem and one of the reasons why we have a problem of inadequate inspection is because we do not have adequate funds to be able to provide enough transport and we do not also have enough personnel to be able to cover the large

number of schools throughout the Republic of Kenya.

For example, on the side of primary education, we have over 16,000 primary schools. It is not easy to be able to provide regular inspection of these schools unless we have adequate funds, transport and personnel to be able to do this work. Also, on the side of secondary education, with about 3,000 secondary schools, we need enough number of inspectors and enough transport to be able to do this work. But I can promise this House that discussions are under way with Treasury, and also our donor friends, to assist us in order to be able to build capacity in the inspection of schools so that we can be able to provide adequate and quality education throughout the Republic. At the same time, I would like to inform the House that the Public Service Commission is currently interviewing a number of applicants to be appointed as inspectors of schools and this will definitely ease the current problem of inspection of schools.

The other area, which, literally every hon. Member has spoken about, is this question of the 8-4-4 curriculum.

I would like to repeat once again that any curriculum, or any education system anywhere in the world, is a dynamic system and a review goes on throughout. Since the inception of the 8-4-4 system in 1985, a lot of things have taken place. For example, in the secondary curriculum, we have reduced the number of compulsory subjects from six to five. A lot of subjects have been dropped in the curriculum. On the side of primary curriculum, we did reduce the number of subjects from 13 to 10. Literally, every year we are continuously reviewing the 8-4-4 curriculum.

Recently, because of technological challenges, through these reviews, we have been able to introduce a computer education programme for secondary schools as an optional subject because the Government has decided to move towards making this country an industrialised nation by the year 2020. The objective of the education master plan is to carry out more or less an overhaul of our curriculum in order to be able to achieve these goals and objectives.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to remind hon. Members in this House that thousands and thousands who were doing extremely well, have already graduated through universities. Some are doing their postgraduate studies here at home and abroad; from the 8-4-4 system. One cannot stand up in this country and say that those graduates are useless; they are not useless. Also I would like to state categorically that, the Jua Kali industry, the informal sector, was largely as a result of the restructured education system which produced the 8-4-4 system. This sector employs about two million Kenyans who are earning a living from that sector. I would like to tell hon. Members in this House--- I am very surprised that the hon. Member for Othaya Constituency, Mr. Kibaki, who happens to be my neighbour at home and who was by then the Vice-President of this country in charge of the Ministry of Finance, did not criticize the 8-4-4 system then; he is criticizing it today because he is in the Opposition. He has no other reason and, therefore, should own up to his responsibilities.

Mr. Muite: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Minister for Education, first, to cast aspersions on another hon. Member and, secondly, to say that he did not criticize the system at that time when he knows that there was no freedom of expression at that time, but today there is freedom of expression?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to be personal, but I can see a lot of personal things in hon. Paul Muite, who I do not know what he was at that time. Maybe, he was in school and, therefore, he has no reason to make the kind of statements he is making because a Vice-President cannot claim that he has no freedom to make a contribution.

Mr. Kibaki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to express whether, where and when I expressed a very firm view about having a syllabus which had 28 subjects at that time and it was extended to 30. But, definitely, my view has been known since before the 8-4-4 system was introduced, that the children of nine, ten and eleven years could not bear the weight of that syllabus. It is not necessary for me to produce that evidence because if the Minister for Education wanted to know, I can tell him where to refer to. But he is only cashing in on politics or something. I still respect the normal secrecy in Government; I do not know whether he does.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to go into that subject any more on the education of our own children, but one must live up to his responsibilities.

All the hon. Members have made a lot of proposals about the strengthening of special education. I must say that we are also concerned on our part because we do not have adequate funds to be able to do as much as the country would like to see us doing on the side of the handicapped children and special education. But, to indicate the concern which the Ministry and the Government has, this particular year we were able to have an increase of about 12 per cent of allocation to special education, which is not adequate at all. It is my hope that as we progress, this country will make greater contribution towards the education of disadvantaged children, the handicapped and on this particular sector of special education.

On the side of teacher education, I must say we have done well and we are continuing to do well. Currently, we have a number of Teacher Training Colleges which are just about to be completed. We have Garissa Teachers College, which took its first intake last September, and it is about 95 per cent complete. But we have funds in the Budget which will make the completion of that college during this financial year possible. We have Kitui Teachers College, financed by the Government of Kenya. The college is 45 per cent complete and it is our hope that with the

allocation which we have, we will be able to complete the college as soon as practicable. Then we have Kibabii Teachers College, whose construction has just started and we hope that it will be completed so that we will be able to admit the first students in 1999.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to mislead this House by saying that construction on Kibabii Teachers' College has started when only stores for the contractor's equipment have been built and no foundation has been dug for the college itself? Is he in order?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am neither an engineer nor a technician, but the contract has been awarded. The hon. Member has confirmed he has seen some structures on the site. What does that mean? It really means that the work on the construction of the college has already started.

On this particular---

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

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): No, I do not need it. Some hon. Members have raised this question of employment of graduate teachers from private teacher training colleges. May I give an assurance to this House that, currently, we are carrying out an exercise of taking all those who have graduated during the last three years.

(Applause)

But, we had no obligation whatsoever, when those colleges were registered, of providing employment to teachers from those private teacher training colleges. This is because the sponsors gave us an undertaking that they would not run to the Government to provide employment to those teachers. But on humanitarian grounds, the Government has decided to, once again, take in those teachers and they will be posted to places where there are shortages of primary school teachers in the Republic of Kenya.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I had hoped to get a chance to speak on this Vote, but I did not. There is one message I was going to give to this Minister, and I would like to find out whether the Minister is in order to contradict directly, on the Floor of the House, a directive of the President, particularly as regards the three colleges in Kisii, that is, Nyanchwa, Nyabururu and Kamagambo. This Minister must know that there is a feeling in Kisii that he is against the community because that is one directive he has defied. He defied the other directive on Kisii Campus, which is supposed to be a University College. Is in order to contradict the President on the Floor of the House?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is not a point of order, it is an argument, and there is no contradiction. I have made a very categorical statement in line with the Presidential directive that we take in those teachers and at the same time, ask those concerned to start thinking about the future of graduates from those colleges. This is because, at the same time, we are reaching a saturation level over public teacher training colleges, primary---

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I seek assistance from the Chair because the Minister is saying something very important, but he is also contradicting himself. He has told us that this Government is very interested in the physically handicapped. That is why they have voted them K£245,000 for a financial year. His is telling us that the Government has now accepted to employ teachers from private teachers training colleges and because of saturation, that means there is no idle capacity in colleges, he does not explain to us why the Government is putting money into construction of other teachers' training colleges when there is a saturation of teachers. Such money could be used for the physically handicapped, whom he is saying Government supports. Does he see this contradiction?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, I suppose he will respond but, strictly, you know that, that is not a point of order.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the point I was making is that the sponsors of private teacher training colleges have to start re-thinking about those private primary teacher training colleges. Even this year, we are reducing our intake into our public teacher training colleges.

Dr. Kituyi: Then why are you constructing more?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we can also convert the colleges we have to other uses.

Hon. Members: No!

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is nothing to prevent us from converting some of our teacher training colleges to other uses as we have done in the past. In the past, we have converted teacher training colleges to University Colleges. We have new programmes in the education sector, which

can also be carried out in our existing teacher training colleges.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Therefore, the point I was making, and following what hon. Anyona said, is that the directive of the President not only concerns the three private teacher training colleges in Kisii, but all the private teacher training colleges. There is one in Mbeere, one in Tharaka Nithi and another one in Taita Taveta. So, that affects all those graduates from those teachers training colleges. The Mombasa one has not yet graduated any students yet.

The other point, which hon. Members have discussed at length is about grants and bursary funds to secondary schools. The distribution of bursaries and grants is done equitably. I would like to table, for the use of hon. Members in this House, the list showing the distribution of all bursary allocations from 1994 to date, per district.

(Mr. Kamotho laid the list on the Table)

The formula we use is absolutely equitable, because it is based on student population in secondary schools, per district.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we go a little further for the more disadvantaged arid and semi-arid areas. 25 per cent of the total bursary allocation is distributed to those districts on top of the national formula. When this money goes to the districts since hon. Members of this House are *ex-officio* members of district education boards. I, as the Minister for Education, and the Government expect hon. Members to sit in those district education boards. At the same time---

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order that the hon. Joseph John Kamotho is telling hon. Members to sit in the district education boards and do other things that are supposed to be part of the public duties on the development of education when it is the same Minister who in March, 1997, in the presence of his senior civil servants, while addressing heads of schools in Western Province at Musingu High School, said that no head of institution should co-operate with leaders from the Opposition? Could he tell us which Kamotho is speaking here? Is it the one who spoke in Kakamega or this is another one from Mathioya?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, hon. Members are also *ex officio* members of the board of governors of secondary schools in their areas.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Shamalla): On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Kituyi talked of hon. Kamotho having been in Musingu High School, in March this year. Hon. Kamotho has never been in Musingu this year. That is the point of information that I wanted to give him.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in addition, hon. Shamalla was in that meeting in Mukumu Girls. Hon. Dr. Kituyi was not there. He is talking about what he read in his petty newspapers. As I said, it is wrong for hon. Members who abrogate their own responsibilities of serving their people through the board of governors and district education boards to come and make unsubstantiated statements here in Nairobi and in this House.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister now in order to deny something that he said in my presence in Mukumu? He is misleading this House that he did not say that. In fact, I looked at him and I said: "Joseph, aah, a man of your age cannot make such kind of inciting statements!" I then asked the PC, Mr. Kiilu, that he gives me the chance to react to those provocations by this Minister. He heard me say this. He is now coming to this House to deny what he said before us. Could the Minister withdraw that particular denial and own up by saying that it was a slip of the tongue? I am prepared to forgive him.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot deny or accept that I said what the hon. Member is saying. This is because those who were there knew the spirit with which I put that message across there. I still stand by what I said.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. He said that he has an eternal spirit!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Dr. Lwali-Oyondi!

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, therefore, with regard to this issue of claiming that the bursaries given by the Government are not distributed fairly, Members of Parliament of this House should take the blame for their failure to participate in the deliberations of bursary allocations in schools in their own districts.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other point is this question of university loans. Members should know that the money voted for loans for university students is not adequate. Poverty in this country and generally in third world countries, has gone up. The poverty level in this country, as I am told by statisticians and economists, is now at about 46 per cent. Why is this so and yet this goes across the whole society? While the bursary fund and the loan fund given is only about 6.5 per cent, the money given and allocated by the Government is not adequate. The money, therefore, cannot be given to students in middle-level colleges, private universities locally or overseas because it is not even enough for public universities. But with the work that Higher Education Loans Board is doing of recovering the large amount of money which was loaned out but has not been recovered. The amount owed is over Kshs3 billion, if that money is recovered, then the loans board would have a comfortable revolving fund which can then be disbursed to students in public and private universities and also to middle-level colleges. But as of now, that money is not enough.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the allegations that that money is given to children from rich families at the expense of children from poor families are mere allegations and I would wait and receive the report from the Higher Education Loans Board. This is because I would also not subscribe to a situation where students from the well-to-do families are the ones that are benefitting from the public coffers while the students from the poor families do not benefit. So, I wish to assure this House that I will go deeper and look into this matter. But as of now, students do apply and there is a prescribed form where students apply and their applications are assessed and those who are deserving get the money.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. In view of the fact that a specific allegation was made by the hon. Muite about Mr. Kimalat's son and we expected the Minister to give a specific response to that, and now he is saying that he will look into it and come back, will he undertake to come back with a response to that particular allegation and say when he will do that?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we did not come to this House for name calling and also try to smear the names of the people of this country. I will check on that, but I will not make a public statement to that effect.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): I cannot allow you to raise a similar point of order because the Minister's time is over. There is nothing for you to challenge. Order! I have not put the question.

(Question put and agreed to)

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

IN THE COMMITTEE

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

Vote 31 - The Ministry of Education

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:- THAT, a sum not exceeding K£844,710,870 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1998 in respect of:-

Vote 31 - Ministry of Education

(Question proposed)

VOTE R31 - RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 310 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

Head 835 - Headquarters Professional Administrative Services

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 835, Item 200 - Replacement of Motor

Vehicles. The sum is not very big, but which are these motor vehicles in view of the fact that in the country there are no motor vehicles?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is true that we have a shortage of vehicles in our provincial and district education offices. Even some DEOs and inspectors do not have vehicles. Some of vehicles have broken down. Others have not had vehicles because they are new districts and the money referred to here cannot even replace them or I do not know how many vehicles it can buy. We need much more money than is indicated in this item.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, of course, I am very surprised that you can replace a vehicle with such a little figure, but nevertheless, I want to know which one does he want to replace, if he can replace it? It is "which" not "how much". I could have asked that, but what is the point you have not asked for more.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Mr. Minister, do you want to clarify?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, how can I know where that vehicle is? But K£200,000 is equivalent to Kshs4 million, if we are going to buy two or three vehicles--- Unless the hon. Member wants me to say whether the vehicle will go to Nyamira and so on. Otherwise, the vehicles will go to inspectorate in some parts of the Republic of Kenya.

Head 838 - Kenya National Commission for UNESCO

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain to the House on Head 838, Item 112 - Kenya National Commission for UNESCO, external salaries and accommodation expenses amounting to K£254,000? The Ministry has budgeted for K£254,000 and yet there was nothing last year. Why is this?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the work of Kenya National Commission for UNESCO involves a lot of travelling in the region and this maybe is because we must be having a lot of conferences sponsored by UNESCO both in the region and also to carry out activities in headquarters of UNESCO which offices the whole Government. The National Commission for UNESCO co-ordinates all UNESCO activities of all Ministries like Information and Broadcasting, Culture and Social Services and Ministry of Education. Last year, we did not have as much work for travelling by our officers outside as we are going to have this year.

Head 863 - Kenya Institute of Education (KIE)

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain under Head 863, Item 187 - Vehicle Insurance, why the expenditure has increased from last year by six times?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, insurance charges must have gone up and I am sure the KIE has also bought new vehicles which require additional insurance cover. That is the reason why it has gone up to K£180,000.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 863, Item 275 - Kenya Broadcasting Corporation - School Broadcast Airtime. Could the Minister explain why there should be double increase in the previous expenditure?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the school broadcasting was to be discontinued. It had been discontinued for quite some time, because of pending bills which the Ministry was not able to pay to KBC. In other words, for the debts owed to KBC, Treasury was able to allocate us more funds to be able to pay those pending bills in order to revive this particular programme which was to be discontinued because of lack of money.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, recently, the Minister up-graded S1 diploma teachers from salary scale H to J and graduate approved teachers from salary scale J to K. That leaves 198,640 P1, P2, P3 and untrained teachers not up-graded. I know that the Teachers' Service Remuneration Committee presented recommendations to the Minister on 2nd July. When is the Minister going to up-grade the P1, P2, P3 and the untrained teachers and, if they are going to be up-graded, is it provided for in these estimates or how is the Minister going to solve that particular problem, because it might cause unrest?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Members, we are dealing with the heads which are called here. If you want clarification on any of them, you are entitled to it, but to raise a question which is outside what I called for, I think the Minister has got no responsibility to respond. Which item are you referring to?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is on page 1512 and 1513. Those are the details---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): But we have not reached there!

Mr. Munyasia: But that is what we are dealing with, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Mr. Munyasia! We are dealing with the heads and the items called for here and not the details. Which item are you dealing with here?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I am talking about emoluments under Head 841, Item 000! That is on personal emoluments.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): What clarification are you seeking then?

Mr. Munyasia: What I am saying is that in the middle of the year, the Minister up-graded certain categories of teachers, and I know that the Minister has received recommendations from the Teachers' Service Remuneration Committee under Section 14 of the TSC Act, and he is bound to act on those recommendations. So, I am asking whether this has really been budgeted for?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman Sir, if the hon. Member looks at the total allocation for the TSC during this year, it has gone up by about K£100 million. The only thing that I can give is what I have been given by the Treasury. I have no other money so far, apart from what is provided for here. The allocation for this year is higher than the previous year. The report I received from the Teachers' Service Remuneration Committee is under active consideration by the Ministry, DPM and the Treasury. Therefore, I cannot pre-empt the outcome.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain item 060 - General Administration and Planning - on the promotions of the Deputy Director, Assistant Director---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Members! I think we are not going to get through with the Vote if that is the way we are going to do it. We are specifically dealing with heads and items. If you want clarification, you have to seek it on those heads and items. If you want to go to the details, you should have done that when you were contributing and, therefore, I am not going to allow you to mislead the House by referring to the details. Which item are you referring to now?

*(Heads 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839,
841, 862 and 863 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 310 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 311 - PRIMARY EDUCATION

Head 845 - Kenya School Equipment and Scheme

Mr. Achola: Could the Minister explain why we have had a massive increase from K£8 million to K£11 million when we know that school equipment is not funded the way it used to be?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this year, we have a loan from the African Development Bank for purchase of school equipment to supply school equipment to 1,225 secondary schools. That is why the figure--- Sorry, that item is mainly for text books on the programme for social dimensions. Therefore, this year, as I stated when I was moving the Vote, there is a higher allocation than in the previous year.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not quite sure of how we are proceeding. I thought that in the past, if hon. Members had questions on each Head they got the opportunity to ask them. I thought we should go down systematically, but now we are moving from one head to the other and I am quite lost. I do not know whether now I should raise all the issues that I have at ago, or whether I should raise one at a time. I do want to raise an issue on page 1499 with regard to the Kenya School Equipment Scheme. Lack of equipment is one of the most serious problems this nation faces. Schools have no equipment as such. This House, year in, year out, votes money for this purpose, but nobody knows where it goes. So, I would like to have a general explanation from the Minister about what this scheme is all about. Where does the scheme work? Under Item 221, I would like to know what that money will be used for and where. What kind of equipment will the Minister buy? Is it text books, exercise books or pencils? What is the scheme all about and where does it work? The items I have referred to do not exist in the country. I have another issue under Head 846, but I do not know whether I should raise it now or later on!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Mr. Anyona, you will raise one at a time. But I am afraid to say that the one you have raised on page 1499, under Item 221, has already been dealt with by the Minister. So, you can go to the next one.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I am entitled to ask my own type of question, even if the

Minister answered whatever question was raised.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Mr. Minister, do you have any additional information on that one?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as I said, this is a social dimensions of development item. This money will be used to purchase text books and equipment for primary schools, in particular in arid and semi-arid areas and also in pockets of poverty in high potential districts, including urban areas.

Head 846 - School Milk and Feeding Programme

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am referring to page 1500, Head 846, Items 161 and 162. I want the Minister to justify the allocation of this colossal amount of money to the tune of K£12.5 million and K£5.6 million to this programme, whose benefit we do not see. We do not see any milk being distributed in many provinces. This programme is not as important as the bursary programme to which only K£4.5 million was allocated.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, school milk and school feeding programmes are there. Unfortunately, quite a large number of urbanised Members of Parliament like Prof. Mzee, who do not travel, do not know that many schools are given milk and food for lunch. These programmes are financed jointly by the World Food Programme and the Government. Therefore, I do not know what the hon. Member meant.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Is the Minister in order to mislead the House by saying that milk is actually supplied to children in schools? Could he point out any constituency where milk is given. Is he in order to mislead the House? No milk is being given out in Nakuru District!

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have gone around and I have witnessed children taking their lunch. As I said, hon. Dr. Lwali-Oyondi from Nakuru Town is lucky that he is leading a fairly wealthy Constituency. Therefore, feeding children during lunch hour or giving them milk does not even come to his mind.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was going to raise that issue substantively under item 846. But now that it has been raised, is the Minister in order to say that milk is being supplied and that he has witnessed children drinking milk in schools he has visited when, as far as I know, since he became the Minister five years ago, he has not visited the three districts of Kisii? So, how does he know that there is milk? I am a parent in Nairobi Primary School, there is no milk there. Which schools are these? Are they in Mathioya or where?

(Heads 844, 845 and 846 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 311 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 312 - TEACHERS EDUCATION

(Heads 803, 807 and 847 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 312 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 313 - SCHOOLS FOR THE HANDICAPPED

(Heads 810, 811, 848 and 852 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 313 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 314 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

Head 853 - Bursaries, Scholarships and Subsidies

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to head 853, item 341 - School Bursaries. It is evident that the estimates for this year is reduced from K£4,181,000 to K£4 million.

Could the Minister explain why he has reduced the estimates for bursaries when there is increased demand for bursaries?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, hon. Members may confuse bursary with the other allocations for our local public universities. This is mainly bursaries and scholarships, and subsidies to students studying overseas and some of them in our public universities. But they are not the general bursaries allocations and loans to our normal university students. We have been trying to reduce dependency of Kenyan students studying abroad on Government funding because the Government cannot afford to provide all the money required for overseas education.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to refer to Head 828, Item 300 - University of Nairobi. Could the Minister explain why there has been a reduction in the grants-in-aid to the University of Nairobi? They are being reduced from K£53 million to K£48 million.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, my Ministry, together with the Minister for Finance, and the individual universities, are involved in very active discussions to see what can be done. We have been trying to reduce allocations to universities so that some of these resources can be utilized to improve the quality and support of universities at the basic education level. As I said, we are aware of that and there is currently a very active discussion between the universities, the Ministry and Treasury to see what can be done.

(Heads 853 and 854 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 314 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 315 - PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

(Head 814 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 315 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 316 - SECONDARY EDUCATION

(Head 800 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 316 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 318 - UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Head 842 - Grants and Grants in Aid - Maseno University College

Mr Achola: I understand what the Minister is saying, but could he explain why on page 1504, Head 842, Item 300 - Grants and Grants in Aid - Maseno University, there is a reduction of more than 50 per cent when other universities have nominal reduction on their grant? That looks a very big reduction compared to what Moi University has.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as I said, this is part of the discussion. Maseno has already made their own presentation and the officers of Maseno University College together with the Ministry and Treasury are holding discussions to see how this can be remedied because it came about as a result of the problem of computation grant formula which, I think, is currently being reviewed.

Head 828 - University of Nairobi

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want to raise two issues. I am on Head 828 - University of Nairobi. There is a building at the Kikuyu Campus, on the right side of the road, which has been standing there for years now, and it is falling down. What is the Ministry doing to get that building completed?

An hon. Member: What else did you want to talk about?

Head 833 - Egerton University

Mr. Anyona: Under Head 833, Item 300 - Egerton University, I did talk a little earlier about the Kisii Campus which is part of Egerton University. I would like to know specifically how much money has been allocated to

that campus?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I did explain that we are aware of the reduction of allocations to universities and my Ministry and the Ministry of Finance and universities are discussing ways of resolving the problem. I thought Kisii Campus is incorporated in the budgetary allocation of Egerton University. Unless the hon. Member wants us to go into the details of how much is allocated to Kisii Campus or any other faculty, I think he can check and get the figures from the books.

The other point about the stalled project of the University of Nairobi, we have quite a number of projects of that nature in all our public universities. The Government is looking for money to make sure that these projects are completed.

*(Heads 827, 828, 829, 832, 833,
840, 842 and 867 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 318 agreed to)

Vote R31 agreed to)

VOTE D31 - DEVELOPMENT ESTIMATES

SUB-VOTE 310 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 834, 835, 836, 839 and 841 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 310 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 311 - PRIMARY EDUCATION

Head 844 - Primary Schools

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under provisions of Standing Order No. 142(3), I have given notice of the following Motion, and I now do wish to move as follows:-

THAT, an amount of K£1 be reduced from the total sum of K£844,710,870 to be issued to Vote 31,

Ministry of Education, and that K£1 be reduced from Item 222 Supply of School Textbooks.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, in moving this Motion, I am painfully aware of why it is important that we build schools through a comprehensive equipment supply programme. I am totally convinced about how it is important that national resources in the education sector, particularly at primary school level, be focused on expansion of capacity for competent education, particularly in disadvantaged areas.

But I express outrage at the amount of pittance being allocated to Item 222 Supply of School Textbooks for two critical reasons. If the Government has a policy which has a sense of priorities, the allocation of public resources should reflect that prioritisation. For one reason, I am saying that we are getting so little for textbooks that it is an insult to those who see how important this component of education is. But at a more fundamental level, I have looked at the statistics given by the Ministry of Education, about the distribution of textbooks in the country.

In reply to a Question before this House on the 24th day of June, 1997, the Ministry of Education tabled a list of schools across the country by district.

*(Mr. Masinde consulted loudly
with other hon. Members)*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, can you save me from the Deputy Leader of Government Business?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Order, hon. Masinde! I think you can do your consultations a little bit quietly.

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you. On the 24th day of June, 1997, the Minister for Education, in reply to a Question by hon. Dr. Lwali-Oyondi---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Dr. Kituyi, I would like to remind you that you have got only two minutes! You are running out of time!

Dr. Kituyi: He tabled before the House a list of districts and the number of schools in each district which had been allocated textbooks. There were a number of strange things. First, Busia District, which is the poorest in the whole country, with 67 per cent of the people living below the poverty line, according to United Nations statistics, did not receive a single book for any of its schools. Ostensibly, 352 schools in Baringo District received books. The schools in Koibatek District which received books were 456. What is the truth? Baringo District has 318 schools, which is less than the number listed as having received books. When we turn to Koibatek District, books were officially given to 456 school, and the total number of schools in Koibatek District is 137! This means that you are stocking up resources for future allocation to some schools, while schools which are much worse off are not getting any books.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: You do not need a seconder in Committee!

(Question of the reduction proposed)

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not understand how you can run education in the country without equipment. I do not understand how this Government can expect parents, the majority of whom are poor people in this country to provide equipment, textbooks, exercise books and everything else.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is not quite clear from the policy of the Government whether the Government intends to provide equipment including textbooks, exercise books and the rest. From what I heard from the Minister's previous answer, this facility is only available in areas that they regard as disadvantaged. I would expect that there would be a minimum standard for the whole country, but with something extra for areas that deserve extra support. But, I cannot understand how this Government can tell Kenyans that they are providing education when they do not provide anything. All I know is that, in primary schools, parents put up buildings and buy everything. All that the Ministry does is to employ teachers. Many schools are even under-staffed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think we need to hear about a clear policy from the Minister today because, when Kenyans hear that this Parliament has passed the Budget--

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Order! Hon. Anyona, time is up!

Mr. Anyona: Which time is up?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Can you wind up? Your time is up! You have only two minutes on this one. Can you, please, wind up?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I did not know that there was a time limit.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Yes, can you sum up?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I will sum up in my own way. These are serious matters and Kenyans are going to hear over the radio that we passed billions of money and they will hope to get equipment in their schools and yet, that is a great lie. Can we get a clear statement from the Minister about how much money he is going to allocate to each school in this country in terms of textbooks and other equipment?

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

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like hon. Members to understand this particular point: For primary schools, in particular, we have over 16,000, primary schools in this country. Even if the allocation was to be divided to every primary school, this would not be enough to buy a text book. Therefore, the programme of this particular item is scattered over a number of years. If you check, there are a number of primary schools literally in every district which are assisted with textbooks. Therefore, I think, it is unfair for a Member to stand here and say, maybe because his village school was not provided with textbooks, schools were not provided with books.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! I think the point for and against this proposal has been made and therefore, I am left with no alternative but to put the question.

(Question of the reduction put and negated)

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I am seeking guidance from the Chair. Under what Standing Order are we being limited to two minutes contribution in this debate?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! It is for the convenience of the hon. Members because we have time to finish--

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! I have not finished ruling on that.

It is for the convenience of the hon. Members so that, at least, we cover what were supposed to finish this afternoon, and I was trying make sure that everybody gets a chance to say something, Dr. Kituyi.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

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

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! What is it, Prof. Mzee?

Head 846 - School Milk and Feeding Programme

Prof. Mzee: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I am standing on a point of order, under Standing Order No.142, subsection(3), to move the following Motion which concerns Head 846, Item 163:-

That, an amount of K£1 be reduced from the total sum of K£844,710,870 to be issued to Vote 31, Ministry of Education and that the K£1 be reduced from the Item 163 of Head 846, under the Development Estimates.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, in moving this Motion, I wish to express my disgust and outrage on the poor and inequitable distribution of milk and food in this country and also to express my outrage on the waste of resources under this Item. I have never seen any of this milk or food being distributed in districts in Coast Province.

Also, the food and milk programme does not solve the problem of malnutrition in this country because it is not distributed constantly and when it is needed. Moreover, most of the arid and semi-arid areas, where the Ministry claims this milk goes, the people there are cattle keepers who have plenty of milk. They can provide this milk for themselves. I would have wished to see this money spent on bursaries to help the poor students in this country to pay school fees and reduce the burden on the parents rather than have this amount being wasted on this programme.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Thank you, Prof. Mzee, you have made your point. Mr. Minister, what do you have to say on this?

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: I wanted to second it. It has not even been seconded and you are proposing the Question.

(Question of the reduction proposed)

(Several hon. Members stood up in there places)

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Hon. Members, when you stand after the Motion has been moved by a Member; by merely standing up, that is confirmation of secondment. Therefore, there were about three or four Members who were on their feet seconding the Motion and I have decided to give the Floor to the Minister for Education.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, in response to this particular Motion, this particular item--

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo!

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, you are flouting the rules of this House!

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you are flouting the rules of this House!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo!

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: No! You cannot flout the rules of the House! You are managing this House wrongly!

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Members that Government contribution to this particular item is only K£500,000. This other amount of money is provided by the World Food Programme (WFP), and it is wrong to deny what the hon. Member imputed that he has never seen anything like this in the Coast, when Tana River and Lamu districts are some of the biggest beneficiaries from this particular programme. That is why I said earlier on that a person who represents a very wealthy constituency like Mombasa Town will not know the plight of the millions of Kenyan children in rural areas. Therefore, any hon. Member of Parliament here from rural areas who is opposed to the food programme--

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Mr. Kamotho. You have made your point.

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. You are supposed to run this House according to the rules. But right now, you are not doing it according to the rules. We want to raise issues, because this is the whole purpose of the Budget.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): What is your point of order?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, we still want to cover some of these items, and you are putting the Question before we do that. I know that sometimes people do not obey the rules, but we must obey the rules. I want to raise a matter on Head 857, Item 952, if that is correct.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Mr. Anyona! We have not reached Head 952 yet.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not know where we are because the way you are running the House, it is chaotic. I am not following.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order!

(Heads 844 and 846 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 311 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 312 - TEACHERS EDUCATION

Head 847 - Primary Teachers Training Colleges

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 847, Item 952, there is a provision for direct payment from ADB (African Development Bank) of K£6,597,500 during this year, while last year, it was K£4,950. I would like the Minister to explain this particular item because, as far as I know, the ADB offered a loan to the Kenya Government and a tender was issued. The tender number was EDUC/ADF/2/1/9495 and the loan number was F/10/ADUC/92/17.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the loan was supposed to help the Kenya Government to provide science equipment in 1,225 schools in Kenya. Now, the tender was floated on the 6th July 1995 and, thereafter, there were serious procurement irregularities as a result of which the African Development Bank froze and withheld the disbursement of the fund. Since that time there has been studious silence from the Ministry of Education about this tender. It has been treated as a closely guarded secret of the Ministry of Education. It now appears in the Estimates and I would like the Minister to explain whether this loan was disbursed last year because there is a figure of Kshs4 million. As this tender now been processed since the money is available? Thirdly, which schools out of the 1,225 in Kenya are going to benefit and what criteria is he going to use to decide which schools those are? I would like him to explain that.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is true that there was a problem with the tenders for science equipment for 1,225 secondary schools. Those tender documents have been revived and they are now worth ADB. The Ministry together with the Ministry of Finance and ADB will be going to tender for the same as soon as possible. Every district has already forwarded a list of schools within their districts which have constructed laboratories, but do not have science equipment. Science equipment are meant for those schools with laboratories in every district of the republic.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not understand when the Minister says that the tender process was not completed. Is he admitting that there were irregularities which made the Ministry silent? If ADB has not released the money, how come it is in our Estimates? How does he explain that?

(Hon. Kamotho spoke while seated)

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Hon. Kamotho, do not answer when you are seated. Come to the microphone.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have said that is going to be re-tendered because there was disagreement in the---

Mr. Anyona: So, where is the money?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): No! The money cannot be released until the tenders have been processed.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! I think you have clarified the point.

Mr. Achola: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Chairman, Sir. On page 1149, under Head 800, Item 408, Construction of Strathmore Education College, I can see the Ministry is going to give this college a lot of money to the tune of Kshs3.5 million and yet Strathmore is a private school. Could the Minister explain how this comes about?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this money is from the EEC and the Government is only a conduit to Strathmore College. Otherwise, this is not local money from the Treasury.

Head 847 - Primary Teachers Training Colleges

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Under provisions of Standing Order No.142 (3), I did give notice of a Motion and I wish now to move the following Motion.

THAT, an amount of Kshs£1 be reduced from the total sum of K£844,710,870 to be issued to Vote 31 - Ministry of Education and that the said pound be reduced from Item 406, Head 847 on Page 1148 which is for constructing Primary Teachers Training Colleges.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, you will agree with me that if the Minister for Education in requesting for resources for constructing teachers' colleges he preambles his request by telling us that there is already existing idle capacity. We have over constructed teachers' colleges. He says the Government has acceded to absorb teachers who have been trained in private teachers colleges; and then purports to justify his request for money for construction of teachers' colleges by saying that we can convert those colleges into something else. It is an outrage, it is an outrage for this House to vote money to be used for construction of teachers' houses which, we know, one, are going to be under-utilised and eventually when they are properly utilised, they will be something else other than teachers' colleges.

We would prefer rather that the Ministry comes to us to ask for money, if they want to build constituent campuses of universities, or if they want to build other institutions, but if you ask us to give you money to build primary school teachers colleges and, in the same breath, you tell us that you already have idle capacity in existing colleges; and that already with capacity in store in private sector there is an over production of primary school teachers, it is an outrage, to ask to legitimize, giving you a single pound! As expression of that outrage, I want to request for reduction of K£1.

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

(Question of the reduction proposed)

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, in supporting this Motion, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister that a lot of private individuals are building private teachers training colleges. In this age of cost-sharing and wanting to shift the expenditure from the Government to the private sector that the Minister stops any further construction of any teachers training colleges and let the private developer do this under cost-sharing.

With those few words, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to support the Motion moved by Dr. Kituyi.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as I said earlier, some of this money is to be used for completion of Garissa Teachers Training College which is 95 per cent complete. It is also for completion of Taita-Taveta, Voi Teachers Training College.

Can the hon. Member, Dr. Kituyi, tell this House whether he is actually opposed to the construction of Kibabii Teachers Training College which is in progress?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, with those few remarks, I oppose.

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The Minister is getting into this habit of evading certain issues being raised by hon. Members. For example, he has talked about the excess capacity. Why are we constructing new teachers' training colleges when we have excess capacity? In fact, some of the graduands of last year from Kamagambo Teachers Training College have not been absorbed during the current year. Why are you spending Government money to train more teachers?

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

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Dr. Kituyi. You have moved your Motion and it has been seconded. The Minister has put his case. It is all a question of argument. I will now put the question.

(Question of the reduction put and negatived)

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. Under what Standing Order was the Chair purporting to allocate two minutes to an hon. member to move a Motion? There was no clear explanation except a claim that it was in the interest of Members. Speaking on behalf of this side of the House, I do not know of any interest on this side which warrants Members to rush through this matter. Secondly, I used one and a half minutes in my contribution because I discussed with my colleagues who said they had a lot of things to say about this matter. You will notice that I took one and a half minutes and then, the Chair transferred that to the voting machine. Is it for the interest of the House or those who are here to say: "AYE" and "NO" as it suits hon. Biwott or in the interest of those who have genuine interests of the taxpayers?

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Kituyi! I think you have already dealt with your first point. I gave you the Floor to move your Motion and we have disposed of the Motion and I will now put the question--- I am going to give the Floor to Mr. Munyasia if he has something to say.

Head 810 - Post Primary Schools

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Head 810, Item 230 - Purchase of Furniture and Item 260 - Renovations of Buildings, could the Minister tell us how he is going to apportion this money because it is so little and yet, there are so many schools that would be in need of this furniture. I do not know whether it is being introduced to favour a few schools as we approach the elections?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, these are meant for the few schools of the handicapped. It cannot be apportioned. I can provide a list of those schools that are supposed to benefit from that grant. There are a few schools of the handicapped spread all over the country. Otherwise this money cannot be enough for all schools in the country.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want to ask a few questions beginning with the one he has just responded to. There is a school in Kisii for the handicapped and it has a lot of problems. I have personally written to this Minister many times and he has never responded. The school has collapsed and yet, it is the only one in Kisii. Hon. Nyachae is the patron of the school. He is a senior Minister in this Government and that school has collapsed. I would like the Minister to state categorically what he is doing about that school, when he is going to reply to my letters and he should assure us that, that school is going to be supported. The second question is this---

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): One question at a time, Mr. Anyona. What Head were you on? We would like the Minister to respond to specific questions on particular Heads because this is not Question Time?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I sought your guidance and you never gave us any.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Mr. Anyona, I am asking you to tell us the Head which you are referring to.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, I am on page 1148, and I have just raised my first point. The second point which I was going to raise is on Head 847, Item 951. So, if you want me to raise one at a time, I will stop there. If you want me to raise both questions so that he can respond to both I will do that.

The second one is that there is a direct payment from IDA of K£7,020,000 this year and K£6,600,000 last year. I would like to seek clarification from the Minister regarding this particular issue because I have another tender by IDA. It is tender No. EDUC/IDA/UIC/LCB/1-6/1996/97. The tender was for supply of computer software to Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenyatta University, Moi University, Egerton University and Maseno University College. This is yet another tender that was riddled with irregularities. As far as I know, the tender was first floated on 30.9.92, but because of irregularities it lapsed. It was floated again on 19.3.94. Ever since then we have not heard anything about it. I would like to know whether these proceeds are from that particular tender or from another tender and what happened to this particular tender.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think there are very many tenders for supply of computer hardware to universities. Recently, I think quite a number of them were opened and are being processed.

However, I cannot give any more details about them. But I know that there are several tenders which are under valuation by the relevant university authorities.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. I raised a specific tender and gave the Minister its number. I am not talking about several tenders. I want an answer to my query.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Ndotto): Order! The Minister cannot deal with the tender issue

now. That issue should be raised in a normal Question and the Minister can supply details.

(Heads 803, 807 and 847 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 312 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 313 - SCHOOLS FOR THE HANDICAPPED

(Heads 810, 848 and 852 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 313 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 315 - PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

(Head 816 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 315 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 316 - SECONDARY EDUCATION

(Head 800 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 316 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 318 - UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Head 827 - Commission for Higher Education

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, under Item 220 - Library, Printing and Computing, could the Minister explain which library or university will benefit, and what kind of computing this will be, for which he requires K£14 million?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this money is for the Commission for Higher Education and not for a specific university.

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Chairman, Sir, could the Minister explain why, under Head 827, Item 184, we are paying so much money for contracted professional work for the Commission for Higher Education? The amount is double what we paid last year!

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Chairman, Sir, because of the large number of externally financed projects by the World Bank, IDA and other bodies many projects of the Commission for Higher Education hire professionals to do particular work. This money is provided by the World Bank for these purposes.

Mr. Achola: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, could the Minister say whether this money is in form of a loan or a grant?

The Minister for Higher Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, some of it is in form of a grant and the other portion is a soft loan.

Head 842 - Maseno University College

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, under Head 842 - Maseno University College, there are various construction of buildings. I would like to know if the construction process has started and whether the controversial tender awarded to Womi Consultants who were implicated in another scandal involving the National Council for Science and Technology has been awarded the tender to undertake this work?

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, these are on-going projects at Maseno University College like any other as I said. We have quite a large number of on-going projects which are incomplete, so this is money to enable Maseno University College to continue with the construction work.

*(Heads 827, 828, 829, 833, 840,
842 and 867 agreed to)*

(Sub-Vote 318 agreed to)

(Vote D31 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without amendment)

(The House resumed)

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

REPORT

Vote 31 - Ministry of Education

Mr. Ndotto: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding K£844,710,870 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1998 in respect of Vote 31 - Ministry of Education, and has approved the same without amendment.

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

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! Order, hon. Members! It is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, 30th July, 1997, at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 6.50 p.m.