

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 16th October, 1996

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No. 751

VOLUME OF LENDING BY CBK

Mr. Orengo asked the Minister for Finance:-

- (a) what the volume of direct lending by the Central Bank of Kenya to financial institutions including banks, private or public companies and natural persons in 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 was;
- (b) which these institutions, companies or persons were and specific amounts received by each body; and,
- (c) if the answers to "a" and "b" above are in the affirmative, what the policy considerations or reasons for such lending were and if the amounts have been recovered.

Mr. Speaker: Is there anybody from the Ministry of Finance? We will come back to it later on. Next Question, Mr. Farah.

Question 933

NUMBER OF TEACHERS AT SHANTA-ABEQ
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. Farah asked the Minister for Education:-

- (a) how many teachers are teaching at Shanta-Abaq Primary School in Garissa District; and,
- (b) since the admission into our national universities is on merit, why pupils in schools in North-Eastern Province, such as Shanta-Abaq Primary School are denied equal opportunities in the provision of teachers like the rest of the schools in the country.

The Assistant Minister for Education (Mr. Komora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

- (a) There are currently two teachers teaching at Shanta-Abaq Primary School in Garissa District.
- (b) Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not true that pupils in schools in North-Eastern Province, such as Shanta-Abaq Primary School are denied equal opportunities in the provision of teachers compared to the rest of the country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shanta-Abaq Primary School has a total enrolment of 40 pupils only at present with two teachers on duty, which means that each of the two teachers is backed by only 20 pupils, which is too far below the national average of about 50 pupils per teacher. Therefore, it is not true that we are denying any opportunity to this school.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what has really surprised me is that the Ministry has come here with outright misleading information. This is a school that has been sitting for KCPE for the last eight years.

There are about 100 pupils in the school and there are eight classes. Can you deny that there are eight classes in the school? How do you have two teachers for eight classes even if a class has only five or eight pupils?

Mr. Komora: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are eight classes. Standard one has 12 pupils, Standard Two, 10, Standard Three, 10, Standard Four, 0, Standard Five, 6, Standard Seven, 2 and Standard Eight, 0.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Assistant Minister is a big liar. The hon. Kamotho is a liar who comes to the House---

Hon. Member: Withdraw the word "liar".

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I withdraw the word "liar".

Mr. Speaker: Order! I also advise you that if you want to get more sympathy from the House, you should not show that you want to fight the whole House.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with all the sympathy I have had from the House with the Motions which have been passed in here, we still have a situation here when "stand" means "sit" and "red" means "white", because you could not even tell him that this is the body of the Motion and everybody knows that. I am also hearing a similar thing here now. If we revisit the records of KCPE, 1995, it shows that more than 10 pupils sat for their KCPE in that School. Even if it is only one class or three classes, how many subjects are the pupils right now in Standard Seven supposed to sit for? How many teachers can teach that? Even if it is only five classes, how can you have two teachers against five classes?

Mr. Komora: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to advise the hon. Member to help the people of North-Eastern Province to be realistic, because the fewer the students the lesser the ability of the teachers to perform well, because this Government cannot afford to provide a teacher per student, or per three students. We must have a realistic average minimum per class. We have advised the school to send the smaller classes, that is Standard Five to Seven, to boarding primary schools in the neighbourhood. I would suggest that we do the same wherever there is boarding facility to fill the students to maximum capacity and increase the enrolment in the rest of the Province and then we will do well.

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two provinces, that is the Coast and North-Eastern Provinces, which are at the tail in the results of all the national examinations, and the reason is that every year we start with a shortage of teachers. There has not been a single year, for example, in the Coast Province, especially, when we do not start with 26 per cent shortage of teachers. This is a deliberate move by the Ministry of Education headed by Kamotho to see that we remain at the bottom of education in this country. You cannot have five classes against two teachers.

Mr. Speaker: Would you now, put a question, Prof. Mzee?

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to build up the question a little bit. I would like this Assistant Minister, who is answering the Question on behalf of his master, and he comes from the Coast Province, to have more sympathy for us than Kamotho.

Mr. Speaker: Is it a question or a debate?

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister, being one of us, assure the House that this will never be repeated and that enough teachers will be posted to North-Eastern Province? If we have five classes, we make sure that we have enough teachers.

Mr. Speaker: Very well!

Mr. Komora: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that he has no reason to lecture me about the educational principles, because I am qualified and I have got the experience. I also come from the Coast Province. My advice to the Coast Province and my own District is to do exactly what I have said. I have visited my District and Constituency, and I will say it, for the benefit of the others, to regroup schools for bigger enrolment, because the issue in these areas is not shortage of teachers; but shortage of pupils per school.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister says here that it is not true that pupils in schools in North Eastern Province are denied equal opportunity. For the last six years, boys and girls from Santa-Abaq Primary School, in Standard Eight, were doing their KCPE with two to three teachers and occasionally one teacher for the whole school. Did those children who went to school and finished Standard Eight for the last years in Santa-Abaq Primary School with two teachers for the whole school, get an equal opportunity? What is the equal opportunity that they got? And, what do you do with those children because they all failed the KCPE examination because there was no teaching? What do we do with those Kenyans?

Mr. Komora: Well, I have already covered that issue, Mr. Speaker, Sir. If the students are not there in large numbers there is no way they can be given a teacher per student. No Government can afford this type of costing.

Therefore, I would like to assure the Member of Parliament concerned, if you can work with the Ministry of Education and ensure there are larger classes even if it means boarding schools, you will do better in the North Eastern Province.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! Next Question!

Question No.929

CONSTRUCTION OF HEALTH
CENTRE AT BANTA CENTRE

Bishop Kimani asked the Minister for Health, when a health centre will be constructed in Banta Centre in Nakuru.

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

My Ministry has no immediate plans to put up a health centre at Banta Trading Centre. This is because there

is a dispensary run by my Ministry and it is located within Banta Sisal Estate. The dispensary is adequately serving the population in the area.

Bishop Kimani: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer given by the Assistant Minister is really not satisfactory. Banta Sisal Estate Dispensary is not even a dispensary. It is a small building placed there by the Estate owners to assist the workers. I am talking about a whole location that Banta Dispensary would have served, if it was existent. The Assistant Minister should tell this House why they do not have a plan. Does it mean they have forgotten Nyandudo and Ndongeri Locations? These areas are highly populated and they need a dispensary, especially for women who are going to deliver. They have to be lifted and carried on bicycles and carts to Maili Kumi, 12 kilometres from where they are. Can he tell us what plans he has?

Mr. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member is not aware, the normal procedure is that the Government does not really put up health centres. All that is done is cost sharing between the local people and the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, also the District Development Committee within that area has to recommend for that exercise. So far, the Ministry has no information to the effect that they would like to have that particular dispensary elevated to a health centre.

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have read the KANU manifesto and I am happy the Secretary-General is here to help the Assistant Minister. Successive KANU manifestos have put it in writing, provision of health care as one of the major programmes of the KANU Government.

Could the Assistant Minister, with the aid of the Secretary-General of KANU, tell this House whether this Government intends to provide primary health care as an objective? If so, if they cannot do that, they should tell the people of Kenya, that the Government has failed in the provision of health care.

Mr. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really impressed to learn that the hon. Member reads the KANU manifesto despite the fact that he does not support KANU. But, KANU as a Government does mobilise the people to put up these dispensaries in commitment to fulfilling its manifesto to provide health care for the nation.

Mr. Busolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister says that it is not a Government policy to build health centres or dispensaries. Could he tell the House when that policy became effective? Which document, date and which year?

Mr. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a well known fact that, the infrastructures are left for wananchi to put up, and the Government comes in to provide medical facilities. But, building the infrastructure is the responsibility of wananchi.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know if there is something wrong with our Standing Orders or the entire institution as a Parliament which is dysfunctional. But, we have a Minister here, who says that the Government has no policy of constructing health centres when the development estimates for now do indicate health centres. Then he says it is a Government policy. You better be in another House elsewhere; KANU house in KICC or wherever it is and keep on lying like hon. Kamotho and everybody else.

Bishop Kimani: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has completely misled this House. Because, in the DDCs meetings Banta health centre has been recommended. I do not understand him when he says that people have to construct dispensaries themselves.

Our people are highly taxed and the Ministry has all this money. Why do you not come there and construct this dispensary? Can he deny that the Government has refused to help my people by not constructing this dispensary? Now, the Government has left these people to suffer and even die.

Mr. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I challenge the hon. Member to put up that dispensary and I will bring staff and medicine.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question! Mr. Kamuiru Gitau!

An hon. Member: Kamuiru or Kamuyu?

An hon. Member: Kamuyu!

Mr. Gitau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let the concerned Members know that although I am relatively light skinned, my name is black in Kikuyu. But I am light skinned. So let them not make the mistake.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Kamuiru! I gave you the Floor to ask the Question not to tell us the colour of your skin. Proceed!

Mr. Gitau: Thank you, but it is important that they know the meaning.

Question No.941

Mr. Gitau asked the Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage:-

- (a) if he is aware that the Gatundu Children's Home has not had Government support for many years; and
- (b) if the answer to "a" is in the affirmative, what plans he has for extending Government support to this orphans home.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. Lotodo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Gatundu Children's Home is not a public institution. Therefore, my Ministry has no budgetary allocation.

(b) I have no plans to extend Government grants to support the Home.

Mr. Gitau: That answer is very unfortunate because this Home is housed by the Government. These orphans live under abject poverty. These children are orphans who do not have enough to eat and the Government should provide basic requirements like food, education and health which they do not get.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I would want hon. Members to acquaint themselves with the rules governing the asking of questions. It is becoming a habit that instead of Members asking questions, they are making speeches contrary to the Standing Orders. So, could you please go straight to your question so that you have a chance to participate twice or three times and other Members as well?

Mr. Gitau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, bad habits are very tempting. Could the Government consider providing budgetary provisions or allocations for this Home on humanitarian grounds only?

Mr. Lotodo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are many homes like the Gatundu Children's Home which are run privately and if I am going to be asked to provide money for each, I shall have no money for this purpose.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Minister concede or deny that it is highly anomalous in a Republic such as Kenya that we should feed refugees and not feed our own children who are orphans?

Mr. Lotodo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Government does not feed refugees. It is the World Food Programme (WFO) which feeds refugees.

Mr. Wamalwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am left totally perplexed by the flim flam approach of this Government. One Minister stands up and says that the Government does not build health centres but if people build a health centre the Government will help. Now, here is a case where people have established a children's home and one Minister says that the Government will not help. What is Government policy with regard to children's homes?

Mr. Lotodo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have homes which were built by the Kenya Government and these are the ones that we are running but homes like the Gatundu Children's Home was put up by Gatundu people with the help of a missionary. Therefore, this is what I am saying, that the Kenyan Government is not in a position at the moment to do something about it.

Question No. 825

SUPPLY OF WATER IN MATHIRA

Mr. Wamae asked the Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development:-

- (a) whether he is aware that most of the homes in Ruguru, Ngorano and Kirimukuyu locations in Mathira Constituency do not have water in their pipes; and,
- (b) what he is planning to do to ensure that all households get enough drinking water, and also for their animals.

The Assistant Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Mokku): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that most of the homes in Ruguru, Ngorano and Kirimukuyu locations do not get water in the pipes because of the following reasons:-

(i) There is a gross misuse of water in irrigation in the upper areas of Iranyia, Ruguru and Ndiriti.

(ii) The total demand for water in the entire project area is higher than the production capacity of Mathira Water Supply.

(b) To ensure that all the households in the project area and beyond get enough water for the wananchi and livestock, my Ministry, through the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation, is planning to control wastage of water upstream through irrigation and leaking taps by metering all major consumers and by increasing the water production capacity by constructing a second intake in the Sagana ---

Mr. Arte: On a point of order Mr. Speaker, Sir. He has repeated (a) and (b) about four to five times. We are confused! What is he saying?

Mr. Speaker: Well, I have not seen what he is reading. Proceed!

The Assistant Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Mokku): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for your protection from hon. Arte. Let him take time to listen to me so that I can finish.

We intend to increase water production, capacity of the water scheme by constructing a second intake on the River Sagana together with the corresponding treatment works and storage tanks

The first measure is being implemented but the second one will be effected subject to availability of Kshs230 million that is required for the purpose.

Prof. Mzee: On a point of order Mr. Speaker, Sir. My point of order is that this Assistant Minister and the Minister, Hussein Maalim, both do not have water in their homes. Are they the proper people to answer this Question? They all have no water in their homes!

Mr. Speaker: The people of Mathira do have water in their homes and that is why Mr. Matu Wamae is asking. Can we give Mr. Watu Wamae a chance?

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Assistant Minister aware that the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation collects over K£200,000 from water payments and we got only K£20,000 for maintenance of water projects in Mathira in this financial year and, therefore, it is "milking" us instead of helping us?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that the National Water Corporation is "milking" the people of Mathira. Why I have told the hon. Member that we have those plans to meet those needs of the Mathira people is that we get revenue from them which will be utilised in the same area.

Mr. Kamuyu: The Assistant Minister has told us that all the infrastructure required in the provision of water will be put in place provided Kshs230 million is available. Is the Assistant Minister aware that the question of water ranked high in Mathira Constituency in the last General Election and that is why Mr. Kuguru and all the KANU candidates failed and they will fail again in 1997?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that the hon. Kuguru failed because of water. I do not believe that the hon. Member failed because of water.

Mr. Wamae: Could you advise the hon. Assistant Minister that Mzee Kuguru is not the honourable Member of Parliament for Mathira? I am the one who is there now!

Mr. Speaker: Pardon!

Mr. Wamae: The hon. Assistant Minister has said "hon. Kuguru" and I am saying that I am the hon. Matu Wamae.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Mr. Mathenge ask your question.

(Mr. Wamae stood up in his place)

Order Mr. Matu Wamae! You rose to complain and, therefore, I will give the chance to Mr. Mathenge to ask the question.

Mr. Mathenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also happen to know his area very well. Is the Assistant Minister aware that because of Government failure to supply adequate funds for water development in Mathira, Karatina Town today is suffering from lack of water and for a week people who own restaurants, shops and residential houses in this town have been drawing water from Ragati River which is likely to spread diseases like typhoid fever and the rest?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, I am answering a Question on Mathira, but hon. Mathenge is asking me a question on Karatina. **Hon. Members:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Mr. Mokku, can you answer because Karatina is in Mathira Constituency?

Mr. Mokku: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that there is a Government failure and that is why restaurants in Mathira are closed as alleged by hon. Mathenge.

Mr. Wamae: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister not to be aware of anything? Could he tell the House what the Government is doing to raise the Kshs230 million which is required to augment Mathira Supply? What has his Ministry done so far?

Mr. Mokku: We are looking for a donor to assist that project.

Mr. Speaker: Mrs. Asiyo's Question.

Question No.868

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN'S IRRIGATION SCHEME

Mr. Speaker: Is Mrs. Asiyo not in here? We will leave her Question for now. Mr. Mwaura's Question.

Question No. 788

ASSISTANCE TO MATATU OPERATORS

Mr. Mwaura asked the Minister for Transport and Communications:-

- (a) whether he is aware that a fee of Kshs50 is charged every Matatu vehicle for every trip it makes from Murang'a to Nairobi;
- (b) what the number of matatus which operate daily from Murang'a to Nairobi is; and
- (c) what arrangements he has to assist the Matatu operators on this route to form an association to run their affairs and be allowed to elect their leaders.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Morogo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that a fee of Kshs50 is charged every matatu for every trip it makes from Murang'a to Nairobi.

(b) Matatus are exempted from the provisions of the Transport Licensing Act, Cap 404. Therefore, it is not possible to know the number of matatus which operate from Murang'a to Nairobi daily.

(c) Matatu operators do not need the assistance of the Ministry to form an association to help them in running their affairs. The operators can apply to the Registrar of Societies for consideration like any other association.

Mr. Busolo: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This morning I asked a question and the Minister said that they did not have information. This afternoon, hon. Mwaura is asking a Question and the Assistant Minister is saying that he does not have information. On what basis does this Government run its affairs, if its officers do not have any time to get information on anything which is within their jurisdiction? This is an ordinary Question!

Mr. Mwaura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that I have made the Assistant Minister aware of what is happening in Murang'a, can he undertake to investigate and find out the number of matatus that operate from Murang'a to Nairobi on a daily basis, the amount each matatu is charged for every trip and who utilises the money the matatus are charged?

Mr. Morogo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not see any need for my Ministry to know the number of matatus operating from Murang'a to Nairobi. People are free to operate matatus from one town to another.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the Government abolished the Matatu Vehicle Owners' Association (MVOA) some six years ago, many people in this industry have formed themselves into groups which are exploiting other people who are coming into the industry. In view of that, could the Assistant Minister consider allowing all matatu and bus owners to form another body like MVOA, so that they can have a central body controlling the affairs of matatus and buses in this country, and thereby avoid exploitation by individuals?

Mr. Morogo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of associations does not come under my Ministry. As I said, any group of people who want to form an association are free to go to the Registrar of Societies, who has the power to approve or not to approve formation of any such association.

Mr. Mwaura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, over 300 matatus operate from Murang'a Town on a daily basis. If each matatu is charged Kshs50 per day about Kshs15,000 is collected per day, and in a month, you are talking of over Kshs450,000. I think it is a serious matter for a Government Ministry to say it cannot investigate whether millions of shillings raised from Kenyans are being misused by some people. Would the Assistant Minister undertake to investigate whether what I am saying is correct, and who is using that money? Those who refuse to pay that money are victimised by the "mafia-like" group which claims to be in charge of matatu operations.

Mr. Morogo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member asked me for the number of matatus operating between Murang'a and Nairobi, but he has just told me that the number is 300. I am surprised that he asked what he new. As to what is charged, if the hon. Member has any problem to raise and feels that my Ministry can solve it, I would welcome him to our Ministry and we can look into the matter. If he thinks money is being collected illegally, then that is a police matter and he is free to take it up with the police.

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

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ndicho, I think we have given this matatu issue enough time. Mr. Mak'Onyango, can you proceed?

Question No.876

UPGRADING OF ROADS IN ALEGO/USONGA

Mr. Mak'Onyango asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

(a) when he will upgrade the Nginya-Umala-Nyalgunga-Kobara-Ywaya-Rabar-Kabura-Uhuyi and Nyangoma-Pa Oriang'-Ting' Wang'i-Bar Olengo Roads; and

(b) whether he is satisfied with the upgrading work being done on Siaya Nyadorera Road, considering that no murrum is being used to reinforce the road.

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

(a) My Ministry has no immediate plans to upgrade these roads due to lack of funds. However, it will grade Ny'iya-Umala-Nyalgunga-Kobare-Ywaya-Rabar-Kabura-Uhuyi Road during this financial year at a cost of Kshs250,000. The Nyangoma-Pap Oriang'-Ting', Wang'i-Bar Olengo Road is, however, unclassified and is, therefore, not a responsibility of my Ministry. Further, a total of additional 188 kilometres involving various roads in Alego/Usonga Constituency will be graded at a cost of Kshs991,550 in this financial year.

(b) The on-going grading works on Siaya-Nyadorera Road was intended to reshape and rid the road of potholes or gullies, and to improve drainage. I am satisfied that the exercise is achieving the targeted objectives.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell this House what prevents the Ministry from upgrading this road? Secondly, what does it cost the Government to upgrade or grade one kilometre of road? Can he tell the House that he is satisfied that Kshs250,000 will be enough to grade a road of 40 kilometres?

Mr. Mwamzandi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amount is enough.

Mr. Oremo: Is the Assistant Minister aware that in Siaya District we have only one grader which is not in use all the time because of mechanical breakdowns? What is the Minister doing to ensure there is a grader to repair these roads?

Mr. Mwamzandi: We normally repair the graders that are grounded. If any grader is out of order, my Ministry is responsible for repairing those graders.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Arising from the Assistant Minister's reply that the purpose of grading the Siaya-Nyadorera Road was to reshape, rid the road of potholes and gullies; this road was done during the rainy season.

The result is that the road is more shapeless, there are more potholes and indeed, the gullies are bigger than they were before. Is the Assistant Minister satisfied with this?

Mr. Mwamzandi: The road was gravelled between January, 1991 and January, 1992 and at present, the road has been graded and it is passable now.

Question No.923

CONSTRUCTION OF NANGA BEACH-LOLWE ROAD

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

(a) why Nanga Beach is not properly served by a feeder road from Lolwe Market along Namba Kapiyo-Bodi in Maseno Division; and,

(b) what steps he is prepared to take to build the Nanga Beach-Lolwe Road.

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

(a) Nanga Beach is not properly served by a feeder road from Lolwe Market along Namba Kapiyo-Bodi in Maseno Division because there is no classified road.

(b) The question of building a road does not arise because the Ministry is mandated to maintain classified roads and budgetary allocations are based on the same principles.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Questions have been asked in this House several times about roads. If you look at this answer, it is not really an answer because the Assistant Minister is saying Nanga Beach is not served by a feeder road because it is not served by a feeder road. That is not an answer. What I wanted the Assistant Minister to say is why there is no road. There is no need for him to tell me that there is no road because there is no road. Can the Assistant Minister answer my Question by giving an answer?

Mr. Mwamzandi: My reply that this is an unclassified road stands. I would advice the hon. Member to see the local authorities or the Kenya Wild Life Services, even the forest department who do maintain these roads. They are normally beneficial to those authorities.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: You cannot have a classified road before you build a road. The question is: Can the Ministry first build a road before they classify it?

Mr. Mwamzandi: We cannot open that road unless we are asked to. I would advise the hon. Member to take this matter through the DDC so that we can consider opening that road.

Prof. Ayang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you must come to my defence. We come to this House to ask the Government to do its work. If the Minister says the Government is not going to do its work and they expect the hon. Members of Parliament to use the Government Ministry to do their work, these Questions are going to be useless. If Government Ministers do not want to answer Questions, then, let us forget about Question Time altogether and do other things that are more useful in this House.

Mr. Mwamzandi: The DDCs are very important organs to identify actual requirements of a given district. The hon. Member is a Member of the DDC and he should urge the DDC to make it an area of priority.

Question No.888

CONSTRUCTION OF CULVERT ON ROAD E1015

Mr. Ojode on behalf of **Mr. Achola** asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing when a box culvert will be constructed at Nyasare Road E1015 in Migori District.

The Minister for Public Works and Housing(Prof. Nge'no): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

A crossing comprising of Armco Steel Culverts has already been constructed at Nyasare River Crossing on Road E1015 in Migori District at the cost of Kshs1 million.

Therefore, there is no need to provide a box culvert at the same place.

Mr. Ojode: Let me thank the Minister for once, for having given a true answer. Nevertheless, why should the Minister wait until a Question is raised so that they do the construction? This is not the only project. Last time, when I asked a Question on Rangwena Bridge in Homa Bay District, when that Question was approved and put in the Order Paper, they hurriedly constructed that bridge.

Prof. Nge'no: Sometimes when a Member asks a Question, it gives me the opportunity to push the officers to do it as quickly as possible. So, I want to thank the Member for asking that Question and having the thing done immediately.

Mr. Mathenge: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Mathenge. The procedure here is, if you have got a point of order, you do not beckon me with the hand! You should shout a point of order!

Mr. Mathenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is only a simple matter---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Mathenge! I have just said that if you are on a point of order, you should stand up and shout on a point of order! You just cannot beckon me like this!

Mr. Mathenge: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Last week, the Assistant Minister for Public Works and Housing promised to give a list of roads and bridges repaired in the districts. When is he going to produce that list?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mathenge, again, you have got it all wrong! I am advising you that if you want to make a follow up on a thing that was promised in the House, you do not stand in the middle of Question Time and do so. You should wait until it is after Question Time so that you can stand up and ask it. Mr. Munene Kairu's Question!

Question No. 853

TARMACKING OF MWEIGA-NAIRUTIA ROAD

Mr. Wamae, on behalf of **Mr. Kairu**, asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:

- (a) if he is aware that Nyeri District Development Committee in 1993 recommended and prioritised the tarmacking of Mweiga-Endarasha-Embaringo-Nairutia Road and that to date, no work has began on the said road;
- (b) how much the said road is expected to cost and what arrangements he is making to solicit for funds to implement this project; and,
- (c) in the meantime, what steps he is taking to ensure that the road is made all-weather, as it is currently impassable.

The Minister for Public Works and Housing (Prof. Ng'eno): Mrs. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Mweiga-Endarasha-Embaringo-Nairutia Road has been periodically maintained with a view to keep it motorable. However, I am aware the Nyeri District Development Committee had in 1993 recommended its tarmacking. Action has not been taken due to lack of sufficient funds..

(b) The Government priority is to maintain the existing roads in good motorable condition and this includes the Mweiga-Endarasha-Embaringo-Nairuita Road. This road, if it were to be tarmacked, would have cost something like Kshs960 million.

(c) The Ministry will gravel-patch the sections that become impassable during wet seasons and maintain the whole road by grading. These works will be done during the current financial year at a cost of Kshs2,720,000. In addition, junction L3852 to Belleview and junction D558 to Gatarakwa (20km) is being improved at a cost of Kshs23,160,367.50.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while thanking the hon. Minister for being a bit sincere, would he tell us whether he is going to complete these works before the rains which are coming next week? If we do not complete these roads, they are going to be impassable.

Prof. Ng'eno: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot give an undertaking because Kshs23 million worth of works cannot be done in a week. So, the rains have to come, maybe we will have to wait after the rains subside, then we continue. But the work will continue.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what progress has the Minister made in trying to get the funds to tarmac this road? Wherever we ask questions here, he tells us to go to the District Development Committee (DDC). Our DDC in Nyeri passed this in 1993 and yet, you have not brought the funds for this road.

Prof. Ng'eno: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fact that the DDC has passed is a good start because we can say that this has been made a priority. It now makes it possible for us to go all out to look for funds. But I am saying, right now, we have not found the funds, but we have not stopped looking for them.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Next Question.

Question No. 899

COLLECTION OF MONEY BY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

Mr. Michuki asked the Minister for Co-operative Development:-

(a) if he is aware of the existence of a Co-operative Society known as Ikinu Home Industries Co-operative Society;

(b) whether he is further aware that this Co-operative Society has, since 1986, been collecting money from the public allegedly to purchase land in Laikipia for the members;

(c) how much money the Co-operative has collected; and,

(d) whether the land has been purchased, and if so, how many acres.

The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Titi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware of the existence of a Co-operative Society known as Ikinu Home Industries Co-operative Society. It was registered on 23rd May, 1986, and the Certificate Number is 1695, with a total membership of 6,000.

(b) I am further aware that this Co-operative Society has been collecting money from members of the public since 1986 to purchase land for members in Laikipia and other parts of the country.

(c) The Co-operative Society, to date, has collected Kshs.20 million.

(d) No land has been bought in Laikipia. However, the Society has bought 100 acres in Mau Narok District for the members. They have made several attempts to buy other land from Laikipia, but they have not been successful.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that the so called Co-operative Society is led by a KANU Chairwoman in Ikinu location, who has wandered through Murang'a and other parts of this country, collecting money which she has shared with the former Provincial Commissioner (PC), Mr. Victor Musoga?

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is fresh information from the hon. Member, but I am not aware. If that is what has happened, then they should have reported the matter to the police to take action.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I happen to know this Co-operative Society very well because it is in Githunguri Constituency, where hon. Gatabaki comes from and I was born there more than 30 years ago. This woman called Nyokabi, has been collecting this money from members of the public in Kiambu, Murang'a and Nyeri Districts including some parts of Nyandarua district. Since 1986 when this Co-operative Society was formed, she has collected Kshs20 million, but she has only bought 100 acres in Maasai land. Can the Assistant Minister promise to investigate this matter and tell us---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ndicho! What part of Kenya is called like that?

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mau Narok.

Mr. Speaker: I see. Proceed.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, she has bought 100 acres at Mau Narok. As this is a very serious matter, can the Assistant Minister promise to investigate this Co-operative Society and tell us where the balance of the money is? We have private information that, that money was shared between this woman called Nyokabi and Victor Musoga when he was the Kiambu District Commissioner.

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Member for giving me information of that nature. But it is also his obligation to make sure that such a case is reported to the police because this is a criminal act. This person should have been arrested and taken to court. So far, no complaint has been lodged with the police or even with the Ministry about that matter.

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This Society is within my Constituency. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to mislead the House? He knows very well that this Ikinu Co-operative Society was started by the former Minister, Arthur K. Magugu, who was in Government for 24 years, with the support of the former District Commissioner, Kiambu and former PC, Central Province: Is it in order for him to mislead the House---

Mr. Speaker: What is it, hon. Gatabaki?

Mr. Gatabaki: Is it in order for him to mislead the House when it is well known to the Government that this was authorised by a Cabinet Minister supported by a PC to steal money from Kiambu and Murang'a districts for supporting KANU activities?

(Applause)

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious allegation. In fact, he is assassinating somebody's character. I was not asked to go into the details or the background of the case. So, I do not know.

Mr. Speaker: The last one, Mr. Michuki.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people who have reported this matter to me in my constituency number about 55. They have been trying to trace the offices of this Co-operative Society, without success. Could the Assistant Minister, therefore, supply this House with the physical address of this Co-operative Society and also the land reference number of the 100 acres that have been bought in Narok?

Mr. Ndicho: Two things.

Mr. Titi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member because he is aware of what is happening on the ground. So, he is the one to give us more information about it, and then we will take action.

Question No.751

VOLUME OF DIRECT LENDING BY CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, the Question by hon. James Orengo cannot now be reached and so it is now deferred.

(Question deferred)

Question No.868

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN'S IRRIGATION SCHEME

Mr. Speaker: The Question by hon. Phoebe Asiyo has also been deferred to tomorrow afternoon.

(Question deferred)

Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

(Order for Committee read being 15th Allotted Day)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock
Development and Marketing

*(The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock
Development and Marketing on 15.10.96)*

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 15.10.96)

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Keah): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute on this Motion. I wholeheartedly support the Ministry's request that it be granted this amount of money in order to deliver services to the nation.

Agriculture is not only the mainstay of Kenya's economy, but it is, indeed, our hope for development. Indeed, it is the basis upon which most of our industries have been based on and this Ministry does, therefore, require the financial support that the Minister is asking for. In supporting this Motion, I merely want to say a few things which should be taken to assist the Ministry in carrying out its role. Admittedly, we have opportunities to discuss these matters at these various levels, but being a Member of Kaloleni Constituency, it is incumbent upon me to represent the constituents in this House. In this regard, I would like to make the following observations.

The extension officers should show up more frequently in the locations and divisions. Many a times, the services of the extension officers are not available. I call upon the Minister to actually do the following if possible. These extension officers should draw up a duty roster so that villagers can know when an extension officer is due to visit a particular area. That roster should be made public by maybe pinning it up in the chiefs' offices so that farmers in a particular area can know when the extension officers are due to arrive in their particular locations. At the moment, this is not the case. What normally happens is that, when you need that extension officer, you go to his house and if he is not there, you leave a message. Sometimes you may leave a message and he cannot be found.

I would also want to make further recommendation that the extension officers have a base where messages can be received. When they are not visiting farmers, they should have a base where messages can be left for them, and I suggest this base be at the chief's office so that they are made to report there and they can be contacted from there. At the moment, the extension officers can only be found operating from their own homes. This is not good enough.

I would also like these extension officers to be able to pass the knowledge they have to the wananchi. It is true that we have a series of seminars from time to time, but we would like to see these extension officers in the farms actually demonstrating to the farmers how to do the terracing or what ought to be done. This is my recommendation in so far as the extension officers are concerned.

Two, we know that we have liberalized the economy and agriculture has also been liberalized, but we must agree that GMR used to be in only certain specific areas of Kenya, and in those areas, farmers have benefited. GMR was not all over Kenyan and so farmers in other areas did not stand to benefit. Arising out of that cumulative benefit, some of those areas which used to have GMR are well ahead of the other areas that did not have GMR and because of this, those areas have continued to lag behind. What I am calling for is a definitive action for some of the areas that were to some extent marginalized so that we can have proper services.

I am talking about tractors for example. A tractor today costs well over Kshs1.5 million or Kshs2 million. The poor marginal farmer cannot afford a tractor. What I would suggest is that the Minister finds it possible to pool some resources whether through grants or whichever source, so that tractor services can be made available. To leave these tractors to private operators is tantamount to really not assisting the very poor people. Today an acre can only be ploughed at a cost of Kshs1,500 which has gone up from the previous Kshs500. I want to request my colleagues in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to find it possible, and I am talking about Kilifi District, in particular Kaloleni Constituency, to avail the tractor services to enable us increase acreage in those areas.

We need assistance to be provided in one way or another because we find that although we have the Government tractors which we have at Mariakani, the Mariakani Mechanization Services, in any year, we have two tractors to serve the entire Coast Province. This is really not fair. What I am asking for is revitalization particularly of the Mariakani Mechanization Services, so that we can have more tractors available there. Even for the few tractors that are available, there should also be a duty roster showing where they are working. The one ironical thing about Mariakani Mechanization Services, which is in my Constituency, is that they will go and plough land elsewhere other

than in Mariakani. This is the irony of the matter.

I want the hon. Minister to take this matter very seriously. My own 10 acre farm is about four kilometres from the Mariakani Mechanization Services. I have every year filled forms for the tractors to plough for me and they have never been there. I find this too little a matter to talk about with my colleague, the Minister, but I am mentioning it as a matter of policy.

Hon. Members: Address the Chair!

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Keah): I am addressing the Chair. I am saying that the matter is too small for me to go to my colleague and report that I did not get a tractor to plough my 10 acre farm which is only three kilometres from the Mariakani Mechanization Services.

The point here is that if they cannot even come to me, they cannot even go to the wananchi that I represent. This is the message I am bringing from Mariakani. That is really the most important thing.

The other thing about the Mariakani Mechanization Services is that they have bulldozers there which are always broken down. Please, can we have them repaired and let us also have a roster showing where those bulldozers are working because we never find them? I for one, have looked for them to come and do a small dam near my 10 acre farm and I cannot get them. To make matters worse, we have paid some money to the Mariakani Mechanisation Services. It is three years now, and they have not come to do the dams, despite repeated agreements that they will do these dams through the DDC.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, all that I am asking is; the few assets that we have should be used effectively.

With those few remarks, let the Ministry have the money they want.

Mr. Nthenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Minister to know that we in Nairobi and in all the other urban centres, depend on his Ministry. A lot of the people living in the urban areas do not have farms. The whole constituency of Kamukunji lives on what we buy. Therefore, we would like the Minister to make an effort to produce a lot so that food becomes cheaper, and therefore, easily available. We depend on his Ministry all round for milk, meat, grains, beans, and other products. Therefore, I am asking him to make an effort so that we can have over-production to the extent that we will start exporting. Sometime back, we used to be exporters of food, but now, we are slacking. I am asking the experienced Minister in public affairs to make an effort so that we have enough food.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will tell him how to improve the situation. We have lots and lots of land lying idle. This is land which is very good for animal husbandry. When you fly or drive from Nairobi to Mombasa, you will be surprised to see a lot of wasted land. Why is that? It is because our people do not know agriculture. When the British were here, they taught a bit of agriculture, but not everybody got what they taught. What has happened is that they have overgrazed and now the land looks as if it is useless. There is little grass due to over-stocking.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when you do a good thing, even if you do it by force, whoever will be forced will like you. Finally, he will say, "the results are good". So, I am suggesting that all the land that we have should be used, either for crop, or animal husbandry and grazing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you find a Mkamba, Maasai or anybody who is not educated keeping 120 cows where he should keep only 40 cows that would be more productive than the 120. Our duty is to advise these people on how to keep enough cows. When it comes to planting, we plant the wrong seeds and we do not get good yields. It has been experimented in dry areas and it should be known that there is a right kind of crop. If they plant seeds like Katumani, they will be sure of harvesting. But if we let them to do it the way they like, that is too much liberalisation for people who do not know, it is not proper. There must be an element of education and forcing people to the right answer. This is because, if I force you to take the right route, you will never hate me because you are going to arrive at the right destination. So, the idea is for the farmers to be able to produce.

We should give the dry areas the right seeds, and give them at the right time. We should train them to plant before the rains start. When the rains come, they will germinate and at the end, they will harvest.

So, I am suggesting to the Minister to educate people, both theoretically and practically. How can you do it practically? He can go to people like hon. Nthenge, hon. Nyachae and other educated people and use their farms as a proto-type or training centres? Let the people who are neighbours see that I am producing ten bags when they are producing three bags. They are going to copy me. So, you do not have to force them. Just use the farms of a few well educated people in various areas as training grounds to teach them both the theoretical and practical aspect of farming. Once they find that hon. Nthenge is harvesting ten bags, and they are harvesting three bags, they are going to be jealous and do what I do. That way, they will also get ten bags. So, that is one method that I would like the Minister to try. He does not have to use a whip, but he can advise people correctly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other point is that we have a lot of water during the rainy seasons, but we let it go. A lot of that water could be put into canals and blocked so that we can wet the land for longer periods. That way, we will be able to harvest. If we plant the correct type of seeds, everything will be okay. This is because the maize that does well in Kitale is not going to do very well at Makueni or the North Eastern Province. No. Obviously, there are

crops that do well in those areas. Some of these areas can be very rich, if we mainly concentrate on keeping animals. When we talk about quality, I do not want to hear somebody who has got 1,000 cows milking 20 gallons, while another person with only 30 cows is milking more. I want us to go for quality. We are no longer going backwards. The time now is not 1930 or 1920. Every family tends to have a little education. Some of them have children who have been up to Form Four. That is reasonable education. The time you are training the parents, the children will tell them what is right and they will try it. They will find it working practically.

I also want to use irrigation as a means of getting pasture for some of the areas which do not have enough pasture for their animals. This is because if the moisture remains longer enough, the cows of that person will be producing a lot of milk. If he is keeping beef animals, he will also get more meat. So, let us go for quality, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the chiefs, headmen and the agricultural junior officers are all put together and forced to get these things done, I am sure that it will work. It worked in 1930s, when we were very lowly educated. It worked because the Mzungu forced us to do it, using the chief, headmen and the few people who knew a little about agriculture. Now, we have so many people who understand agriculture. This is because agriculture is an academic subject also. Most of the schools are also doing it practically.

So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, let us use a bit of force. I am objecting to the idea that a civil servant must be liked, as if he is a politician. The job of a civil servant is to get the policy implemented whether you like it or not. The chiefs, sub-chiefs, agricultural extension officers and the juniors who are supposed to teach should force people to have contours so that the soil does not go to the ocean. Let us have contours so that our soil is not eroded. We will say these people are very good, now that I am harvesting more. He will say that I sold my bull for Kshs20,000 because the bull used to fetch only half price. Now, it is fetching more, he will know that we are good. Let us use a bit of force and where they have a problem, I am a psychologist by nature. Call me and other politicians and we will talk to them. They will find there is some sense and they will do it. Let us use psychology plus a little force and it will work.

The other point which I would like the hon. Minister to listen to is about disappointments of farmers. We are almost quitting farming because many farmers do not have market for their products. Why? Because of this "individualism" which is prevailing in Kenya that if "I get rich and so on---" We do not say "if the nation gets rich, if my people get rich and so on. Most of us are interested in achieving their own selfish ends. They have no place to sell their produce because individuals imported sugar, maize and so on. The farmers became slack and, therefore, they will produce less and, consequently, will go away from farming and we import food which will be expensive and our people will lack employment.

With these few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Salat: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to join my colleagues in the debate on the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing.

From the very onset, I would like to congratulate the Minister in charge of this Ministry for the executive manner in which he has stirred the affairs of this Ministry. Hon. Nyachae who is the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing is one among the few Cabinet Ministers who are very efficient in managing the affairs of their Ministries. I say this because of late there has been hue and cry about the efficient of the Minister and the efficient of the Ministry. I think it is only out of political malice that many people have been attacking the person of the Minister.

I am not a KCC shareholder and I am not a farmer who sells milk to the KCC, but I am a Kenyan who is entitled to his own opinion, and judging by the way Ministries are run, we are very sure and have a lot of confidence in the manner hon. Nyachae is running his Ministry.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing is a key Ministry in this country. It is the Ministry that deals with the affairs of the farmers, livestock farmers, coffee and tea farmers and so on. We know agriculture is the mainstay of the economy of this country.

Last night, I was watching television when the Minister was challenging anybody to come forward and deny the figures which he had given about the agricultural growth, the growth of economy made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. So, when we are dealing with affairs of the Ministry, we should be very careful not to mix politics and the real issues.

Having said that I would like, first of all, to bring to the fore the problem experienced by the pastoralists in this country. Pastoralism is a means of earning a living for nomads of this country. We are aware that recently there has been a very severe drought in many parts of the country and this also falls under the armpit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing in conjunction with the Office of the President. Livestock population has been wiped out and the most affected areas are North-Eastern Province, Eastern Province and part of Rift Valley. I can assure this House that there is a lot of famine in those parts of the country. We have said this

before that people are dying because of famine due to the diseases that arise due to drought. In those areas, the mainstay of the economy of the people is livestock and if livestock perishes then we do not expect any human being to remain because those people rely on livestock as their only source of livelihood.

One thing that will remain to be the question is. What is the policy of the Government, as far as preventing this kind of catastrophe is concerned, because year-in-year-out, there is famine in those areas? Animals are wiped out and the only thing that the Government will do is to come to the assistance of the people with famine relief. We have to ask ourselves, for how long will the Government keep feeding these people with famine relief? All we are asking is that the Government should come up with a clear policy for those ASAL areas so that when there is famine, at least, a small population of the affected people are assisted by the Government.

We have suggested many times that because the Tana River which is the largest river in the country flows through many of these ASAL areas - it flows through Garissa, Tana, Lamu and then to Indian Ocean - we are not making use of that water which the Tana River is pouring to the Indian Ocean. So, the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, and I know he is very efficient, must come out with blue prints on how best they can assist the people who are living along that river to do irrigation. We know of Bura Irrigation Scheme which is in the Tana River District which would have acted as a model for irrigation schemes in ASAL areas. A lot of money has been pumped by the World Bank into that project, but unfortunately, that irrigation scheme is no more, it has gone down the drain and nobody knows what happened. Recently, we over-heard that the Kuwait Government has accepted to rehabilitate that scheme and we do not even know what has happened so far. Because we also neighbour this river, I am on the Eastern bank of the river, my constituency would have benefitted from that rehabilitation or revitalisation of that project.

The other thing is the question of Kenya Meat Commission. I think this issue has come to this House many times and, in fact, I even moved a Motion in this House some time in the beginning of this Parliament for the establishment of livestock finance corporation because we have Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC). What we have seen through experience is that AFC has been concentrating all its activities on coffee farmers, tea farmers, dairy farmers and so on. Where will the livestock farmers go? When they lose those few herds, they ask for famine relief. So, what the Government said at that time was that they would not establish livestock finance corporation, but they were to convert AFC to farmers' bank, like any other commercial bank, where livestock farmers and agricultural farmers could borrow loans from.

To-date, we have not seen that kind of bank. So, we want to follow up that issue so that livestock farmers can be given equal opportunities like the coffee, tea and sugarcane farmers and all other kinds of industries.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) has been one institution that has been buying a lot of livestock from those arid and semi arid areas (ASAL), particularly during the droughts season. It used to salvage the people so that instead of the animals dying, they were buying the weak animals and slaughtering them. At least, the people were getting some income in return. For the last four or five years, I think, the KMC has been dominant and we are aware that the rehabilitation work has been going on with the Mitsubishi Corporation. The other day a Question was asked here by an hon. Member and the Assistant Minister who answered said that Kshs250 million was required to re-open KMC.

Last year only, Kshs50 million was required, but today, Kshs250 million is required. Next year, we will require Kshs500 million. For God's sake, Kshs250 million is just peanuts and I think the Treasury is able to release that money within a second. If Kshs800 million was released to KCC to pay dairy farmers, why not Kshs250 million to assist the poor livestock farmers in the arid and semi arid areas in order to open up KMC? I am sure that can be done, if there is goodwill on the part of the Government. I am sure that the goodwill is there, and so we only ask the Government that we do not want situations of famine year in year out. Let them re-open KMC and let us have a clear-cut-policy on how we can avert this situation in the coming years.

With those few remarks, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support the Vote.

Mr. Mathenge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think we are now friends again.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I take exception to hon. Mathenge's remarks that you are now friends again. At what time were you enemies? Were you enemies with him really?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mathenge, the Chair is capable of being friendly or unfriendly.

Mr. Mathenge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is very capable of being Mathenge's friend as well as others too. It is only that the "young turk" here does not understand it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing has the responsibility of making Kenya self-sufficient in food supplies, dairy products, beef and mutton as well as poultry, and other food items like ngamia. This Ministry is led by my former colleague, who is very well known in this country as a dynamic, competent, and a good decision maker. But judging from the recent comments he has been making on response to public criticism, the Minister, a son of a former powerful traditional Kisii Chief, Nyandusi, now seems to be finding it

difficult to carry on with his job, because his Ministry is becoming, perhaps, too difficult for him owing to what appears to be political intrigues, ill-will, turbulent and mistrust. This appears to be the case for that Minister.

But I am sure with goodwill, my former colleague can do a good job and make things happen. But he cannot make things happen if he is subjected to such kind of evils I have just mentioned here.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if one was to do a cross dissection of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, the following points will be brought into the open. First, although there is the so-called liberalisation, which people are singing about, there is still left a lot to be done to improve the lots of African farmers. If you take the coffee industry, for example, you will find out that the poor farmers get the left-overs from the sale of their coffee. We have at the top a Government imposed body known as the Coffee Board of Kenya (CBK). This CBK is a drain to the farmers income. In fact, this body does almost nothing, but to milk the farmers. This body should be completely scrapped.

We have the KPCU which processes and packs coffee for sale, and its assets are owned by farmers like Mathenge and others who grow coffee in Kenya. But the CBK imposes tax on coffee, including the Presumptive Tax which the ordinary farmers do not claim for repayment from them, because they do not know what happens. So, we have the coffee grower selling his coffee--

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mathenge!

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Presumptive Tax is not imposed on farmers by the CBK, but it is imposed by this House.

Mr. Mathenge: Granted that that is so, but you are still the Minister responsible for the CBK and everything to do with taxation of agricultural commodities.

Mr. Speaker: How about the House, Mr. Mathenge?

Mr. Mathenge: The House is, of course, here to endorse it, but because on the Opposition side we are outnumbered by our colleagues on the Government side, we suffer from that kind of misfortune. He should have refused to support the Presumptive Tax.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you look at the CBK, you will find that CBK is only a drain on farmers' earnings. The CBK employs more than 1,000 people while the KPCU which is much bigger than the CBK employs only 600 people, and yet, last year, about Kshs2 billion was paid to the CBK instead of having that money paid to the farmers who toiled in the country to produce that coffee. The money being paid to the CBK, should be paid directly to the farmers who toil to produce that coffee.

Secondly, we have the Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA). The producers of tea are languishing in poverty, yet the Minister says that there is liberalisation. Liberalisation does not mean that this Government should give preference to people who grow produce elsewhere and come to dump it in Kenya. We have the responsibility to protect our own people. Even if it is liberalisation, we do not want that kind of "religion" in this country. Our people come first, and they must be compensated for their sweat.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you look at the livestock development, you wonder what the Ministry is doing to develop the livestock, while the Artificial Insemination Centre has collapsed.

(Applause)

We cannot improve grade cattle in this country today, because the semen is now out of reach of the ordinary people. If you want to keep grade cattle, you have to import good semen at astronomical prices.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, now, if you look at the collapse of the Uplands Bacon Factory, up to now, that factory which used to help pig producers has been dormant and there appears to be no hope of reviving the industry. Look at the Kenya Meat Commission, this died long time ago. The so-called pastoral disadvantaged people have nowhere to market their livestock. They are left at the mercy of butchers who pay them at throw-away prices. Is it not time that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing whose responsibility is to market livestock, got the KMC opened so that the surplus livestock can be slaughtered and canned there so that, that will eliminate importation of "mad cow" diseased meat from outside? If our factory at KMC was working, there would be no need to import beef or meat of any kind. But, this Government seems to be suffering from inertia. The way I know the Minister, he is not a lazy man, but he must be suffering from some kind of frustrations and that is why he cannot get the job done properly. He has the ability, but, there must be something that must be holding him back. I do not know whether he can be frustrated that quickly, but if he is, I would ask him to take courage.

Mr. Speaker: By the way, Mr. Mathenge, we are not debating hon. Nyachae!

Mr. Mathenge: No, I am not debating Mr. Nyachae. It is these people who are putting these words into my mouth.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you look at the Naivasha Animal Health Research Centre, it has collapsed. There are no

good cows in that place for any farmer to buy. That has resulted from poor funding that the research used to get, but it is no longer applied.

If you look at the Lanet Cereals Centre, it has also collapsed. Yet the Minister who is my friend is in charge, at the top.

Mr. Ndicho: He says he is not your friend!

Mr. Mathenge: Okay, let him say whatever he wants to say.

Now, look at the Njoro Wheat Research Centre, it is not functioning, the AFC and the ADC. Although my time is up, there is a lot I could tell the Minister. Thank you.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Dr. Manduku): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute towards this very important Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. The Ministry is the backbone of the economy of this country. It is a very important Ministry because without it, I do not think Kenyans would be as happy as they are at the moment. We are blessed that the only natural resources that Kenya has is land and the land can only be made use of by agriculturalists. We depend on agriculture in almost everything and, as farmers, in turn they should be appreciated for the development or the contribution towards sustaining the economy of this country. Foremost, we should compliment the work done by the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing other than condemning them for failures here and there. We should compliment them for the good job they are doing because, lately when we started what we are calling structural adjustments, privatization and all these kinds of modern economic trends, it is agriculture that is holding us. It is agriculture that is sustaining us and we should support the Ministry.

(Mr. Speaker left the Chair)

(Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair)

Why is agricultural growth so low in the whole country? Looking at our population growth, if agriculture is not encouraged or funded properly, our large population will suffer from all sorts of ailments including malnutrition, intestinal infections and the rest. Therefore, let us vote and even add more funds to the Ministry so that it can be sustained.

If I go back to farming areas like Kisii, we contribute quite a lot in terms of foreign exchange earnings by planting and cultivating tea, coffee, pyrethrum and even sugar cane. What is important is to encourage the farmers so that they can be able

to produce more. Coffee and tea are major foreign exchange earners and we should compliment the Government and the President for allowing or ensuring that the tea farmers are paid in foreign currency. This has encouraged particularly the tea farmers, because now they are able to earn more. A few years ago, farmers in places like Kisii had been so discouraged that some of them wanted even to uproot tea because of very low payments. When people in the Western part of Kenya were being paid Kshs2 per kilo---

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to mislead the House that tea farmers are earning more money, when last year they earned the lowest bonus for many years?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Dr. Manduku): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wanted to say that farmers in Western Kenya used to earn about Kshs2 per kilogramme compared with farmers in other areas of the country where they were being paid about Kshs20 per kilo. This had discouraged farmers from the Western part of Kenya. But, due to good management by the KTDA--- I should compliment the new Managing Director of KTDA who has improved the payment so that payments to farmers in Western part of Kenya and the rest of Kenya are nearly at par.

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member of Parliament is talking about good management of KTDA when we have taken the KTDA officials to court for mismanagement and looting of KTDA. Is it in order for the hon. Minister to mislead the House about good management at KTDA when he knows very well that there is no management in KTDA?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Dr. Manduku): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there were times when there was a lot of noise from the farmers until the former Managing Director was sacked and since then, we have never heard any noise from the farmers. So, we should say, there is good management. Definitely, the farmers are happy because they are being paid better now. There used to be a lot of looting or stealing of farmers money, but these days tea farmers are paid better. You can even look at it and even there has been an increase in tea in terms of killogrammes since the new management came in. So, I go further to say, we compliment the new management of KTDA. Furthermore, Transport of tea from farmers into the factories.

Mr. Mwaura: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The speaker on the Floor is misleading the

House. About Kshs50 million was stolen from tea growers in Ikobe area. It is incorrect for the hon. speaker to mislead the House.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Dr. Manduku): Thank you. He wants to agree with me that the stealing has been rampant and it has now been reduced because of good management of Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA).

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I should go further and say that transportation of tea from the tea farms into the factory has also improved because the KTDA has been able to supply motor vehicles to transport tea from the farms to the factories. That should be a compliment. Where compliment is due it should be given. The only problem that we have got in tea areas is that the roads, particularly in areas like Kisii where there is plenty of rain, are in poor conditions. And we would also in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing make sure that the produce from the farms nearby the factories, particularly the tea, is transported without delay.

One other item which I should also mention is encouragement of farmers into pyrethrum growing. Pyrethrum is also another foreign exchange earner but our people have not taken it very, very seriously particularly in those highlands where tea or coffee cannot do very well. We should encourage the farmers to grow more pyrethrum. The prices of pyrethrum are very good at the moment and in most of the areas, we would request the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to put a little effort on the extension officers so that they can encourage our farmers to plant more and of course look after the pyrethrum because it is another quick short-term foreign exchange earner and you find that farmers of those areas value extension staff quite a lot. So, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing extension staff should look into that and encourage our farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Kisii we have bananas with which we are able to feed the whole of this nation but the planting of bananas is much more traditional than scientific. We would request that more scientific methods should be employed. For example suitable fertilizers should be applied for improving the quality and the quantity of bananas. Also a way should be found so that those bananas we grow there in plenty other than being used for only cooking and eating, could be used for other purposes. You know, if we got some kind of industry which can process bananas --- In other countries they produce a lot of juices from bananas. They even produce wine from bananas. They can even make chips and all this kinds of fruit food from bananas. This would help those farmers who have nothing other than bananas in their farms.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, an industry would be very highly required in those areas. Some countries, take Uganda, for example, depend entirely on bananas. We should encourage Kenyans also to start eating bananas. If they start eating bananas then our people would be encouraged to also plant more bananas and then we can sell them throughout the country. And, therefore, I am requesting the Ministry to take more interest in encouraging and improving the production of bananas and maybe establish some industry around those areas where bananas are growing.

Lastly, I would like to touch on the sugar industry. In Kisii, particularly, areas of South Mugirango, we face a big problem in crushing of the cane. The SONY Sugar factory has become too small; it cannot take all the sugarcane that is planted in those areas.

With those few words, I beg to support.

Bishop Njeru: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me this chance to contribute to this important Motion on the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing is the backbone of all other Ministries because without this Ministry, there would be no hospitals because they depend on what is grown through the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. Food is required in schools and in the other private institutions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, because this Ministry is very important, I am requesting the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to consider transferring the rice growers from the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development because in 1956 upto 1990, we were under the Ministry of Agriculture and that is why Mwea people were very rich at that time. We used to deliver our rice as soon as we harvested and we used to take it to Sagana Produce Board and they were paying us promptly and in time. I think, the Minister is aware that rice is consumed in every part of this country. So, in every hotel you go to there is rice and we cannot understand why we should be left in the hands of the National Irrigation Board (NIB) who do not grow rice. It is us Kenyans who grow rice and invest a lot of money in growing rice but because of the repressive laws enacted by the colonialists to rule the Kenyans in Mwea, we are now suffering because the National Irrigation Board (NIB) is now controlling every penny we get and we are not benefitting even during this era of liberalisation. It is not going to benefit the rice growers and, therefore, I am urging the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to carry out a study and find out what is happening. Coffee and tea farmers control their crops. Why not we ourselves? The same applies to maize, cotton and wheat. Why should rice be left in the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development? That is why we Mwea people have been left behind. We deliver our rice from the month of

December to March after our harvesting but the payments come in September that is after eight months. And this National Irrigation Board will not allow the farmer to sell his rice where he wants. He is the one who determines the price.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Government should be made aware, if they are not aware, that the National Irrigation Board has suppressed the farmers for a long time because buying gunny bags, right now as we are talking --- The price used to be Kshs7.50. Today, in the market, I have to buy my bag to put my rice when I harvest at a price of Kshs66. But now they are selling us one bag and they cannot allow us to buy bags at any price we want. We are buying the gunny bags at a price of Kshs90 compared with Kshs56 and that is why we in Mwea do not see the need of remaining in the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development because this Ministry has to do with irrigation. It has nothing to do with growing of rice. Food production should be placed under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing and we Mwea people are very much disappointed to have been left with these people who are called the National Irrigation Board. We cannot buy our fertilizer. They go and negotiate the fertilizer deal at very high prices because there is no spokesman for the rice grower and, therefore, it is very sad and we are living in uncertainty. Which way should we follow in order to be able to benefit like any other Kenyan? Even as I speak now, if a rice grower harvests only 60 bags and delivers them to the National Irrigation Board, he will not get anything because 60 bags will be swallowed by the many deductions and so any farmer who is growing 60 bags will in the end gets nothing. That is why we are saying you must be serious and there is a problem with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing these days. There is a problem with the Ministers these days. When a Minister is vested with power he should be left alone to make decisions and advise the Government. He should not be controlled mentally, otherwise he becomes brainwashed. The best thing for a Minister to do when he finds himself in such a position is to resign because in that way he remains a gentleman. I do not know whether I will accept to be controlled if the Opposition comes to power and appoints me the Minister for Agriculture. I will not accept to be told what to say and what to tell the Government. A former Minister for Agriculture was forced to say that there was maize at Sagana when it was not there. At first he had said in this House that there was no maize at Sagana. But the following day he was told that if he did not come here and withdraw his earlier statement and say that there was maize he would be sacked. It was better for him to have said that there was no maize and get sacked than to have said there was maize when it was not there. That is why we are suffering now.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government should allow those of us in this House to speak our minds without victimisation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Bishop Njeru, you are absolutely free to speak your mind.

Bishop Njeru: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, although many times you hear us speak here, many times we look behind to see who is there as we do so. The Minister said that everybody should keep off the Affairs of the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC), but now you realise that some people have gone home because of just speaking the truth.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Njeru has categorically said that because of the KCC saga, somebody has gone home. Who is this? Can he substantiate?

Bishop Njeru: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are clever and do not substantiate the obvious.

The coffee and tea industries should be liberalised. The Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) has a problem. Over two years ago farmers were given inadequate bonus money. We complained in this House, but nothing was done. We are now saying that the Government should keep off the affairs of tea and coffee industries. Let the farmers manage the industries so that if prices fall, they will have no reason to blame the Government. The people around Kimunye, Kangaita, Thumaita and Kamugunda Tea Factories are growing a lot of tea, but they get very little from main and bonus payments. This is because there is a middleman in the marketing of tea. So, we want farmers to be left alone to manage their tea and coffee, so that even if these industries collapse, they will not blame anybody, not even the Minister.

The money the Ministry is asking for is not enough for the Minister to improve agricultural activities. Next time he comes here for money, he should demand more than what he is asking for now. In fact, there are no grade cows at Ndomba and Kangaru Livestock Stations. Even the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute has sold its 200 acres of land at Mwea Research Station because it had no use for it. This is why we are saying that the Minister should be left alone to make decisions. When somebody is made a Minister he should be allowed to exercise his authority and advise the Government according to his opinion. If the Minister will avoid making decisions for fear of being sacked, he should know that fear is the biggest enemy of any leader. If you are a coward you will always be in fear of dying, going to prison or being sacked. But one cannot hold a position for ever. So, it is better to speak the truth and be sacked.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Minister for being so honest as to say: "Let us put our hands off the KCC". If we do that we shall see how farmers can manage their affairs. That could be an

experiment to show us whether farmers are mature enough as to be able to manage their company through their directors.

With those few remarks I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Criticos): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for this chance. However, I would like to give five minutes of my time to my hon. Colleague from Voi, hon. Douglas Mbela.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Criticos, I am afraid, I think ultimately the Chair has the responsibility for allocating time as equitably as possible between hon. Members. While sometimes we do tolerate the giving of time by an hon. Member to another hon. Member, especially when a Mover is replying to a Motion, I do not think we will want to license you generally to decide who should speak. If you want to speak for five minutes do that, and I will give the next chance to an hon. Member from the other side.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Criticos): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I thought that there was no harm in trying to assist my colleague.

I would like to support this Vote by making the following comments. I would like to say that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing is in a sorry state of affairs. We might have a policy document by the Ministry but I do not see who is going to implement the Ministry's new policies so long as we have the current extension officers being in charge of that work. We hardly hear of any extension officer being dismissed from employment for gross negligence. We also hear that the extension officers are very much demoralised. My personal opinion, as a farmer, is that many of these extension officers are lacking education on a lot of practices. For example, I am growing hybrid cotton seeds on behalf of the Ministry. The other day we were told that we should plant six seeds in each hole in the ground. When I asked whether the Ministry was going to give me some fertiliser, I was told that I did not require fertiliser for my crop. What I am now giving are personal examples.

I also talked about herbicides to the officers but they said they did not know anything about that. They told me that I had to dig the ground by hand. This is why I am assuming that these officers do not have the modern technology, which a developing country like ours needs. We also have the issue of salinity. In an area like Taveta we have a lot of water. When small-scale farmers utilise water that water does not drain away. Therefore, salts come up on the soil. I have 6,000 hectares of land which used to be suitable for irrigation but which has now gone saline. This is affecting a lot of farmers. I want to urge the Minister to set up a task force to check on extension officers and see what they are doing. These officers should be responsible to somebody within the division, or may be to the District Development Committee or somebody else in the area, who has authority.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I personally feel a bit disappointed because the Ministry did not fight for farmers in the last Budget. I am saying this because in other countries farmers get duty exemptions on various farm inputs. I would like to give one example. If you recall very well, in the early 1970's there was hardly any duty on agricultural items. Farmers were almost getting duty-free fuel for their tractors. Furthermore, import duty on fertilizer is extremely high. If you told a farmer that they are paying \$20 for a 60 kilo bag of fertilizer, they would not believe that. The same applies to our pesticides and insecticides which we require, making our input so high that we are allowing ourselves to be a free and open market for overseas countries to come and sell their produce here cheaper than ours. I am not talking about the Western countries alone. In Taveta, three weeks ago, the farmers in Chala Location were complaining that onions imported from Tanzania are being sold at a quarter of the price of onions produced in Taveta. I went to the stores in Chala Co-operative and there were just thousands of bags rotting because the farmers could not sell their onions.

Farmers in Kenya are being overtaxed, this, creating avenues for the western countries to bring their produce here at cheaper rates. When I say this, I am not talking about subsidising the farmers as they do in Europe. I am just giving an example of a neighbouring country which is bringing their produce to Kenya without being paid subsidies. That will apply in Uganda since we have the East African Co-operation in place. So, I suggest that we should look strongly into this matter. I do not believe that we should support the western countries like America, England and Europe to bring their produce here because of people like Steven O'Brien from the World Bank, setting their terms and conditions to the detriment of Kenya. They have put these stringent measures in place, so that they can subsidise their farmers at the expense of the African farmers.

The other issue which I would like to comment on is the AFC. Something has to be done to give the AFC a face-lift. Their job is to support the farmers and not to come and look for money all the time. Currently, they are more of bankers rather than assisting the farmers. When there is a drought in Taita and all the cattle have died in the Ranches in the neighbouring constituency, they are interested in selling those areas to outsiders because the local people cannot afford to buy these Ranches. So, I would appeal to the hon. Minister to look into the issue of the AFC to support the farmers. If we have a problem of the repayment of the loans of AFC, they should take into consideration what the problem is. Take an example of the 1992 drought where all the cattle died; that was not the farmers' fault. I suggest that AFC should come up and give more money to enable the farmers to repay the loans.

Furthermore, delays in paying farmers in this country for example, in the case of KCC, is hurting farmers. Farmers send their various farm products to the various parastatals and they never get paid, or they get paid after a very long time and yet, the farmers are supposed to pay high interest rates. I delivered seeds to the Kenya Seed Company, the contract ended within one month and I was paid nine months later. That is just an example. Somebody like me can afford to continue running but the smallest farmer cannot afford.

In Taita/Taveta District, we have a lot of problems because of wild animals. I am suggesting that the Ministry should act to control baboons which are a big menace right now. This is prevalent in Wundanyi, Voi, Mwatate and Taveta. We also have a problem of people coming to steal bananas and other produce at night in the farms. Many farmers have asked for fire arms to protect themselves and we should also take into account these robberies that have been taking place in the country recently.

Gangsters can afford to buy fire arms and move freely in this country and yet, the law abiding citizens cannot protect themselves. That also applies to what I have just said about wild life. That is the end of my contribution and I would like to support the Vote and to appeal to the hon. Minister to carry on working as hard as he is working, because the farmers are backing him and I believe we have a very able Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing.

With those few remarks, I beg to support the Vote.

Mr. Anyona: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute on this important Vote.

I want to start by stating categorically that I support the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. Secondly, I want also to state unequivocally that I fully support the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. I do not support the Minister because blood is thicker than water. I do not. In other respects, may be I would support him for that reason. But in this particular case, I support the Minister because he is a hard working Minister, he is forthright in his Ministerial Statements and also because he is a very successful farmer.

We have heard stories, some in this House, others elsewhere, about conflict of interests. No single evidence has ever been produced in this House to prove that there is a conflict of interest and I am quite sure that if there is such evidence, it would have been brought.

I want to warn the Minister that he is a target and he is being made a scapegoat for many other failures. I have just learnt this afternoon that a Question on KCC which I had directed to the Ministry of Co-operative Development where we were told to direct it last week, has been referred back this afternoon to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. What we are saying is, if KCC is under the Ministry of Agriculture, then by all means, we want this Minister to make sure that he lives up to the statement which he made in this House last week, which is that KCC belongs to the farmers and nobody else has any business putting his hands there. We want to make sure that he lives up to that statement which he made in this House. We want clear statements from the Government as to why we get such answers. Today we get answers that it is under the Ministry of Co-operative Development and tomorrow we are told that it is under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. We want to be told, once and for all, where it belongs. Maybe, this afternoon, the Minister would like to take the opportunity to tell us the final word on KCC. I want to submit that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing is a very important Ministry. It is important because this is where our people get their food and their livelihood. It is also where our small farmers get their major income. If one messes up agriculture, then, one is messing up and killing Kenyans.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing contributes to the national economy in two ways. It supplies the local market and also the export market with products.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not believe that this nation can take off industrially without a strong agricultural base. Therefore, we would like the Ministry and the Government to develop agro-industrial processes so that the agricultural sector can assist this nation in taking off industrially. I would like to emphasise on the horticultural sector, particularly in Western Kenya, where there is vast potential, which is untapped, about which nothing is being done. I agree that this Ministry is under-capitalised. I happen to know that this Minister is very sympathetic and has the correct balance of the understanding of liberalisation and the adjustment process. He is not one of those who is either one or the other, he is in the middle, and that is where we should be. We must assist the farmers; and we must assist the farmers in making sure that taxes that are levied on inputs and equipment are such that they offer incentives to the farmers. We should not collect tax for the sake of taxation and kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. We want the producer prices of agricultural commodities to be reasonable enough to motivate the farmers even if it means some form of subsidisation. We want this subsidised so that farmers are able to produce more. This is why we must dispute the concept of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAPs) because they will say that it is wrong to subsidise. Yet, if we do not subsidise, we kill agriculture, and this nation cannot take off. I would like to add that the Ministry of

Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing should introduce price stabilisers for all crops, such as coffee, tea, the dairy industry, pyrethrum, sugar, tea and tobacco, and all the agricultural crops.

There is a provision in the tea industry and I want the Minister to take care of this. There is a provision in paragraph 16(l) of the Kenya Tea Development Authority order, where you are empowered to introduce a system of price stabilising mechanisms, so that when farmers are not able to get a good price, when the bonus is down, you can pay them so that they can continue to produce more.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to point out a few problems in this Ministry. One of them is the fact that payments to farmers are not made on time and this has become a bottle-neck. I am told that in the coffee industry, since 1992, and I want the Minister to take note of this, the farmers have not been paid their bonus of second payment or whatever it is. That, of course, kills the morale of the farmers. In 1993/94, farmers were over charged for their fertilisers. We came to this House and the Minister agreed that, that was the case and they said farmers would be refunded. To this day, the farmers, at least the farmers in Kisii and Nyamira, have not been paid their refund. I would like to ask the Minister, through the Speaker, where this money is. Why have they not been paid and the Ministry made a commitment here? The tea factory expansion programme---At least in Nyamira and Kisii, I have been touring the factories there, the factories are not complete. What has happened? We were told we were supposed to get two more factories in Kisii and Nyamira and elsewhere. We would like to make sure that these factories are given.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to spare a few minutes for my colleague here, hon. Farah. So, I want to make one final statement, which is that: the sugar industry is in a total mess and we want this Minister, with confidence that this House has given him, yesterday and today--- We want him to take the bull by the horns and do what is expected of him by the Government, the President and Kenyans.

With those few words, I beg to support.

An hon. Member: Well done!

Mr. Farah: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir for sparing these few minutes for me.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Farah! I am afraid that only one speaker ago, I turned down that kind of sharing out of time without the Speaker being involved. Mr. Anyona has finished, it goes to the side. That is what happened five minutes ago.

Mr. Gumo: Thank you, very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. This is one of the most important Ministries in this country and I must congratulate the Minister. He has tried his best and I am sure farmers have recognised whatever he has been doing. One of the major problems that farmers have had of late, which might not be of his own making, is liberalisation of farm produce. Most farmers have suffered a lot because of this liberalisation. Today, the price of maize in the farming areas is only Kshs500 per bag. Two years ago, the price was about Kshs1,200 per bag. Maize and wheat is the staple food for this country. If farmers are not encouraged to produce more maize, we are going to be in a mess in a very short time. Today, particularly this year, most of the farmers did not plant maize, simply because the price is bad.

An hon. Member: Including you?

Mr. Gumo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, including myself. Most of the farmers in this country from the Western side plant maize, and they are the ones who maintain or who are the backbone of this country. Each time we run out of maize, this country is in trouble. But the main problem has been the importation of maize and wheat. There have been a lot of people, particularly some rich "guys" around, who are not farmers at all, who have been waiting, when harvesting time reaches, that is when their maize arrives. Because of that, the prices of our local maize has always gone down, and this has discouraged farmers. We must look into that problem very seriously.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we might talk of liberalisation, but if you go to places like America, for example, before you land, you are supposed to declare, if you are carrying any seeds, including maize seed. There is a form of declaration and they do not allow you even to bring in a seed or a plant. Here, we allow tonnes and tonnes of maize, some of which are full of weevils that contaminate our local maize. Why do you allow such things to happen when we can produce enough? Can we not stop importation, at least, for once? Why do we allow some greedy people to make so much money when the local farmer does not make anything? Majority of the farmers in this country have an average of about two to three acres per person. That is what they live on and that is where they are getting their school fees and all their livelihood, and now you are depriving them of that by bringing in maize from other countries. This country has now become a dumping area. The other day, the Minister introduced a dumping tax on importation of maize. Some time last year or early this year, that dumping tax was again removed for these importers to make more profit. The moment the importer knows that he is going to make more profit and the dumping tax is going to be removed, he will continue importing, and this is going to ruin this nation. The Minister must take his stand. If he says there is no importation, there should be no importation. We can produce enough food for our country. I am sure farmers are very bitter with this and this might cost this country a lot in the near future. These people are not happy,

particularly, about their maize.

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

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I wish to thank all the hon. Members from the two sides of this House for the overwhelmingly support they have given the Ministry particularly during this debate, yesterday and today.

Before I respond on other matters, I would like to assure my brother, the hon. Member for Nyeri Town, the hon. Mathenge, that I am not frustrated, but I wish to thank him for wishing me well. I want to indicate that many Kenyans are intelligent and they know what is going on.

Some of the intrigues that are being used are done through the Press. Today, the East African Standard Newspaper which has been promoting all sorts of intrigues against me, went as far as taking my photograph when I was advising them yesterday. Yesterday, I was advising them to separate from the two; Nyachae, the politician and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. I told them, "I am Nyachae, the politician. Place any mud on me as a politician and leave the second part, the Ministry of agriculture, Livestock and Development alone". When I raised my two fingers, they took my photograph and they want to demonstrate to the whole country that I am showing two fingers. I have been in KANU since 1960 when I was a DO in Machakos. Hon. Nthenge here knows that. Because I was supporting KANU even as a DO, Brigadier Hughes used to call me "Mtu Mbaya" and we used to call him "Mbeberu". So, I have been in KANU much longer than these young boys who photographed me. They are much younger than my own sons!

Hon. Members: What about ladies?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): No, ladies are good in journalism. They are more honest than men.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the support of hon. Members both here in this House and in the field will go a long way in ensuring that our people are fully mobilized to increase food production to feed the nation and to earn foreign exchange. I wish to assure hon. Members that we have taken note of the issues they have raised during the debate and that we shall put them into consideration as we design our implementation programme.

Many issues have been raised during the discussions on the Vote and many of these cut across the functions of various Ministries. Here I want to emphasize that, for the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to function effectively and successfully, we have to get the support of everyone and of every Ministry. Before I make any other remarks, I would like to say this: In the agricultural research, I would like to assure Kenyans that we are on the right track under the Director of KARI, Dr. Nderitu. He has done a marvellous job and we must give him encouragement. Let us not be hesitant and start wondering whether we should only get the best breed from outside. I think Dr. Nderitu's team is doing a very good job.

I would also like to say how proud I am with the work being done by the Director of Agriculture, Director of Livestock Development and the Director of Veterinary Services under the coordination of the Permanent Secretary, Prof. Karega Mutahi. These officers have coordinated their officers well and all the issues that you have raised here, which are of concern to you are also issues of concern to the Permanent Secretary and the Directors I have mentioned. So, we have no disagreements on the issues that are of your concern. We are united and we will tackle them together.

I totally agree that unless rural infrastructure is improved, we cannot get our farmers to do as much as they can. If they cannot get their vegetables to the market, their tea and and milk to the factories for processing, we will continue frustrating our farmers. Therefore, feeder roads and infrastructure in the rural areas is of paramount importance. I am sure my colleagues who are in charge of these various infrastructures; electricity, water, roads and so on, are listening to what the hon. Members have said. Let us go together and support our farmers.

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

[Mr. Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of irrigation and migration of farmers from high potential areas to low potential areas is inevitable. I think we must be prepared because farmers need to be guided. They should be

encouraged through irrigation programmes in arid and semi-arid areas. There is one hon. Member who mentioned Tana River. Many people, even outsiders, have continued to say and they will continue to say that we are allowing a lot of our natural resources, and especially water, which God has given us from the mountains and highlands, to go down the ocean and to the lakes to benefit other people. The water which flows to Lake Victoria goes to benefit people in Egypt. Water which leaves Mt. Kenya goes all the way through Tana River to Indian Ocean to benefit not only Indians, but the people who are sailing to various other countries.

I would like to assure the hon. Member for Mwea that his concern is a matter that is being looked into between the Ministry concerned with water, which is in charge of irrigation and my Ministry. The hon. Member from Nyanza talked about small irrigation schemes. Irrigation schemes particularly those around Ahero have been successful and we are also doing the same for other areas because the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing is in charge of small irrigation schemes and not just the larger irrigation schemes. In Western Province, we are also taking care of the small irrigation schemes and we do not think farmers there are complaining very much.

As I said, on the policy of planting material, I do not think that we need to be very concerned. I think we have a very well organized team now. Incidentally, the man I mentioned earlier on, Dr. Nderitu, is highly respected internationally and it is only early this year that he was offered an international job. He talked to me and said, "I have reached a stage where I think we are making a way through to help our own people and I cannot go out of the country for more money. I am serving my country". A person like that needs to be thanked and encouraged. He is doing well and sooner or later, through his efforts, we are going to have first-class planting materials in this country. That does not mean that we will not collaborate with other countries. We will collaborate with other countries, but we should feel confident that we can do some of these things here. We have the brains, technology and people who can do the job.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, enhancing agricultural production needs so many other things to be done. Credit must be made available to the farmers. Over the years, farmers have given us enough food in this country. But unless we give them the support, we cannot just expect the farmers to give us the food. We need to give them support and credit is one key area that farmers must be given.

I would like to assure my brothers and sisters here that as regard the support from the Government, it is there.

As I said yesterday, the Government has removed duty on very many items which are needed for farming. On fertilisers and agricultural tractors, there is no duty. But I noted one point which was raised by one hon. Member, regarding taxation on vehicles which transport tea to the factories. I have taken that point and I am going to raise it with my colleagues. When the issue of the major Budget comes next year, I would like the hon. Members to bear that point in mind and give me the support, so that the vehicles which transport tea are also given the same treatment as tractors.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the question of imports, Kenya, like any other nation has magendo people. We have magendo people. I do not think that to deal with a magendo man is a responsibility of one person. It is our responsibility. The main responsibility must be with the Customs Department and the police. But every Kenya has a responsibility to watch on criminal activities. This is because evading taxation and cheating that goods are taken across the border while they are off-loaded halfway is still criminal. Any Kenyan who sees these things happening should report them to the authorities concerned. If they refuse, then you can approach you hon. Member or anybody you meet and tell him that you reported the issue to so and so when you saw it happening and he/she did not do anything. Let us not just maintain the idea of blaming the Customs people, police and the Ministers. Let us all join hands to help those who are charged with that responsibility, to deal with the situation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) and Coffee Board of Kenya (CBK), a lot of useful things and contributions have been given by hon. Members. I would like to assure this House that a lot of work in terms of consultations with the farmers has taken place. We have taken the views of farmers into account because the idea of liberalisation in those two sub-sectors is actually to ensure that the farmer gets the best returns. Without the best returns to coffee, horticultural crops and tea, this country cannot have enough foreign exchange. Therefore, the farmer must be encouraged so that he can give us the highest production, and so that the country can have the highest returns in the form of foreign exchange.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been told about the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC), and I would like to say this: A lot of work has been done with regard to changing the AFC from what it is now, to an agricultural bank. Papers have been drawn up and as soon as all the details have been done, a Bill will come to this House, very hopefully not too far from now, so that the House can approve this change. By this, we will establish an agricultural bank.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on pastoral farmers and the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), the Ministry and the Government are not asleep. We are fully aware of what is needed. The KMC has been rehabilitated and renovated, and very soon, it will be opened. Then, we will start discussions with the pastoralist people and the

people who supply the beef there, on how to liberalise and privatise KMC. But in addition to that, a lot of work has been done towards establishing modern slaughter houses in Isiolo and Garissa. Therefore, the pastoral people have not been ignored. There is a programme being worked out by the Government to ensure that they also benefit as we progress in the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot has been said about the sugar industry. I would like to assure hon. Members here that, sweet as it is, if you cannot handle it well, you can also bite your tongue. Because sugar is sweet, it is one area which is having a lot of magendo people. This has given us a lot of headache. In fact, I have gone to the extent of saying this to the sugar manufacturers: "Can we also assist the police and the customs people by setting up a surveillance team to ensure that no sugar is allowed from outside, unless it is absolutely needed?" For instance, if Coca Cola wanted to import their sugar for the manufacture of sodas, there is no way we can stop them. This is because we cannot go against specifications on the production of soda. There is no sugar we have in this country, which can be used to manufacture sodas. But the headache is not the sugar which is imported by Coca Cola. It is the sugar which is imported and intended for Rwanda, but off-loaded here. This gives us a lot of headache.

There is an additional point. That is why hon. Anyona mentioned about the sugar industry being in a mess. It is true. Yesterday, another hon. Member mentioned that cane has overgrown. I remember, it is hon. Shikuku. It is true and we do not deny the truth. The capacity of the sugar factories, particularly South Nyanza Sugar Factory (SONY) is not much. SONY is not able to cope with all the cane that is being produced now. That is why, we are now planning to have a medium scale sugar factory in Sikawa near Kilgoris and another medium scale industry to process sugar in---

Mr. Ojode: Ndhiwa!

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Not in Ndhiwa, but between Ndhiwa and Wanjari. I think hon. Ojode will understand that geography because he comes from there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to confirm that the problem of over-grown sugarcane in Mumias will be overcome very soon because we have expanded Mumias Sugar Factory. Discussions on the establishment of Busia Sugar Factory are in the final stages because, it was only last week, I sat with the co-ordinator of that project together with the Ministry of Finance in the Treasury and we are working out the timetable of implementation. Therefore, we are not as inefficient as we are blamed by the Press or a few individuals.

I would have wished to say a lot more to explain what is happening, but the truth of the matter is that we are performing and the Ministry is making steady progress through the co-operation of farmers. It is not a question of painting a rosy picture as was put in *the East African Standard* today. The facts which were given cannot be disputed by economists, technicians or by anybody because those are facts accepted by everybody in the country. Anybody who disputes those facts should produce his figures.

I would like to wind up by thanking, again, the hon. Members for their contributions and their support and those who are in sympathy with me. Thank you very much, because you have really boosted my morale today.

I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

[Mr. Chairman took the Chair]

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture,
Livestock Development and Marketing

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, I beg to move:-

THAT, a sum not exceeding K£127,307,310 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1997 in respect of:-

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture,
Livestock Development and Marketing

(Question proposed)

Vote R10 - RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 190, 191, 193, 195 and 197 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 100 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 101 - AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

(Heads 198, 202, 230, 233, 234, 235, 238, 240, 633, 634, 635, 660, 661, 662 and 699 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 101 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 102 - LANDS AND FARM DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 228, 229, 246, 247, 250, 254, 636 and 636 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 102 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 104 AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK EDUCATION

(Heads 255, 257, 258, 260, 310, 462, 463, 465, 466, 467, 468, 471, 472, 473, 474, 477, 638 and 639 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 - LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 217, 224, 232, 236, 265, 266, 291, 305, 306, 324, 407, 408 and 425 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 105 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 106 - VETERINARY SERVICES

(Heads 286, 290, 426, 432, 437, 445, 446, 447, 448, 481, 490 and 549 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 106 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 107 - RANGELAND AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

(Heads 449, 451, 452 and 461 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 107 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 108 - FOOD SUPPLIES AND MANAGEMENT

(Heads 502 and 503 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 108 agreed to)

(Vote R10 agreed to)

The Chairman: We now move on to the Development Estimates from page 126 onwards.

DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 100 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

Head 190 - Headquarters Administrative and Technical Services

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask the Minister to explain to us why he wants this House to approve Head 190, Item 402, about Kilimo House Fire Escape. Could the Minister explain what this expense would be, because Kilimo House was constructed together with this fire escapes and last time, we authorised under this Item K£120,000, and this time he still needs K£450,000? What is he going to do with this K£450,000?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is true that the building originally was constructed with some fire escapes. But we have had a re-check of the premises and the number of people who are occupying the premises, and it is absolutely necessary that certain areas need to be adjusted so that the escape areas are added.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to ask questions on Head 190, Item 520, Loan to Kenya Meat Commission, for which the Minister was given K£5.5 million last year and he is during this year asking the House to give him K£5.2 million. We need an explanation here because it is only last week that we raised a Question about Kenya Meat Commission, and the Minister told the House that the Government required something to the tune of Kshs220 million which he said was not available. Can he explain whether this is part of the money that he requires to make KMC work following the recent rehabilitation or what is this money for?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, Sir, before KMC was placed in rehabilitation, it was in heavy financial problems and it has bank loans. What was answered last week regarding the amount needed to get it re-commissioned was the working capital. But the loans to the banks have to be met.

Head 193 - Developing Planning Services

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Chairman, Sir, also under Head 193, Items 194 and 195, could the Minister explain what kind of training are these which will cost K£3.5 million? Why could they not be amalgamated?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, Sir, one item involves training our staff locally at the various institutions of agriculture and the other item is training outside Kenya.

HEAD 192 - WESTERN DISTRICT BASED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to take the Minister back to Head 192 on Western Kenya District Based Agricultural Development Project.

The Chairman: Which item?

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am referring to the whole of Head 192. Under that Head there are various items that have been listed. There was nothing provided last year and this is the first time the Minister is asking the House for K£3.3 million. Can he explain to the House what this project is all about?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, together with **[The Minister for Livestock Development and Marketing]**

his officers, have been making extensive tours, particularly on rehabilitation of cotton in the Western Kenya area, and in order to get Western Kenya boosted agriculturally, we have introduced this new item to enable better performance of agriculture in that area. I would have thought that the hon. Member should be very happy that this item has been introduced.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Thank you.

(Heads 190, 192 and 193 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 100 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 101 - AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Head 237 - Crop Production

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Chairman, Head 237, item 304 - Coffee Improvement Programme, the Minister is asking for K£8 million. Now, I think again nothing was asked for in this regard last year. We have always had coffee.

Now, what is the Minister trying to do for coffee that was never done last year and, could he explain a bit what this expenditure involves?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this amount is required because the farmers have responded favourably. We want to get back to the original target of 1986. Right now we are producing 90,000 tonnes. In 1986 we were producing 120,000 tonnes.

To accelerate the production to revert to that higher figure, we want now to support the World Bank Coffee Improvement Programme by making available local resources. Farmers have responded well, and we must also support them immediately to continue moving forward, so as to reach the original target.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Chairman, under Head 238, item 220 - Purchase of Plant and Equipment, could the Minister explain what these plants and equipment are? I think last year, we also gave close to K£3 million and this year the Minister still needs K£9.6 million. Are these additional new equipment or what kind of equipment are they?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, the equipment is needed because, as we improve the small irrigation programmes and the dams in the pastoral areas for watering of the animals, we need to purchase additional equipment; not the old ones. Some are being written off, but we need more. More than just replacements.

(Heads 237 and 238 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 101 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 102 - LAND AND FARM DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 245, 247, 250 and 254 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 102 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 103 - INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Head 271 - National Extension Project

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Chairman, under Head 271, Item 410 - Construction and Rehabilitation of FTCs for which the Minister is asking for K£3.8 million. Could the Minister tell us how many FTCs he is putting up to justify this expenditure?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first let me remind the hon. Member that a number of new districts have been created and we have to establish district offices for our officers. In addition to that, there are certain areas in the country which have not been having extension services close to them and we have to put up prefabricated houses for the officers.

(Heads 241, 243, 271, 491, 500 and 501 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 103 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 104 - AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK EDUCATION

(Heads 257, 258, 260, 463, 465, 467,

468, 471, 472 and 473 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 104 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 105 - LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

Head 425 - National Poultry Development Services

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Chairman, Under Head 425 - National Poultry Development Services, Items 100 to 296. I am raising this issue because last year the House granted K£713,000. This year the figure has dropped down to a mere K£63,000. So, what is happening in the poultry development? Is the expenditure going down or going up? It is an important area and it seems you are reducing your interest in this area.

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Chairman, Sir, that is true, but under the Liberalization and Privatization Programme, the Ministry is only guiding the Poultry Industry. We are not having Poultry Training Programmes any more apart from the provision extension services and advice.

(Heads 306, 324, 407, 408, 424 and 425 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 105 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 106 - VETERINARY SERVICES.

(Heads 447, 448, 481 and 490 agreed to)

(Sub-vote 106 agreed to)

(Head 451 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 107 agreed to)

(Head 508 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 108 agreed to)

(Vote D10 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without amendment)

(The House resumed)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

REPORT

Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture,
Livestock Development and Marketing

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am directed to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding K£127,307,310 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1997, in respect of Vote 10 - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, and has approved the same without amendment.

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Deputy Sir, I beg to move that house doth agree with the Committee of Supply in the said Resolution.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho) Seconded.

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, that concludes the business on the Order Paper. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Thursday, 17th October 1996, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 5.55 p.m.