

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 21st June, 2000

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

The following Paper was laid on the Table:-

The Statement on Vote on Account for the Financial Year 2000/2001.

(By the Minister for Finance)

NOTICES OF MOTION

APPROVAL OF TAXATION MEASURES

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, the proposals relating to Customs tariffs, Excise duties, Value Added Tax, Income Tax and miscellaneous fees and taxes contained in the Financial Statement for the Year of Account 2000/2001, be approved.

(His Excellency the President has signified his consent to this Motion).

VOTE ON ACCOUNT

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, in accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Constitution of Kenya, the withdrawal from the Consolidated Fund of the sum of Kshs74,973,663,105 representing one half of the total net estimates of Recurrent and Development Expenditure for the 2000/2001 Financial Year, made up in the manner set out in the Vote on Account schedules laid before the House, be authorised for the purposes of meeting expenditure necessary to carry on the services of the Government of Kenya during the year ending 30th June, 2001 until such time as the Appropriation Act for the year comes into operation.

(His Excellency the President has signified his consent to this Motion).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.323

DISCHARGE OF CORPORAL HAJIR MURSAL

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

(a) what was the cause of Corporal Abdi Hajir Mursal's discharge from the Armed Forces was in 1995; and,

(b) why the Ministry has not paid his dues to date.

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

(a) The officer was retired pursuant to Section 76 of the Armed Forces Act on medical grounds.

(b) Service gratuity amounting to Kshs49,020 was paid to him through the DC's office, Garissa, on 7th June, 1996.

Mr. Kathangu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information I have, since I have talked to the concerned officer, is that he has not received the money mentioned here. We would also like to know why a non-commissioned officer in the Armed Forces would get Kshs49,000 as gratuity after working for more than nine years?

Mr. Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information I have here is that the officer did not work for more than nine years. He worked for seven years and 79 days. That is why he was paid Kshs49,000.

However, I want to urge the hon. Member that if the concerned officer is not satisfied with the amount of money that he has been paid, he can actually appeal through the Armed Forces Pensions Appeal tribunal and this matter will be considered.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, between the Minister and the hon. Member, there is some doubt as to whether the payment has been made. Could the Minister provide some proof that this payment has been made?

Mr. Sunkuli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the only evidence that I can lay on the Table of this House is a payment voucher which was made to the above named officer. That was paid on 7th June, 1996.

Mr. Kathangu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a voucher is not payment! It is only an initiation of payment!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Kathangu! Maybe, next time, we would want to know the definition of a cheque; whether it is a form of payment or payment must be by currency. I do not think we should get into that.

Next Question, Mr. Musila!

Question No.321

KILLING OF MR. JOHN MUTHUI

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

(a) whether he is aware that on 7th March, 2000, Mr. John Muthui of Tuvaani Village, Wingemi Location, was killed by thugs and his wife seriously injured; and,

(b) what steps he is taking to have those responsible for this crime apprehended.

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

(a) Yes, I am aware.

(b) One suspect, namely, Mr. Peter Mbundu, was arrested and charged with the offence of robbery with violence and the matter is still pending before the Kitui Magistrate's Court.

Mr. Musila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer given by the Minister is very unsatisfactory. The late Muthui was killed on 7th March, and his wife, who survived this attack, knows who attacked them, and she reported this matter to the police. T

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister is now telling us that someone has been charged for robbery with violence. This man was killed and his killers are known. Could the Minister tell this House why the police have found it impossible to arrest a person who is known? The wife of the dead man was able to identify the killer of her husband, and the police have refused to arrest him. Now they are charging somebody for robbery with violence when somebody has been killed!

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think we have refused to act, unless there is somebody else apart from the name I have given. The suspect has also given us certain leads and we are now following certain people whom we hope to arrest. But if the wife of the deceased is sure of the person who killed her husband, then we will certainly get that individual arrested.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Minister explain why somebody who has killed another person is being charged with robbery with violence instead of murder, if there is evidence against that person?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the penalties are the same and it was found that it may be more difficult to prove murder. If he is proved to be guilty of robbery with violence, the penalty is the same.

Mr. P. Kihara: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one wonders what happened to the reputation of the Kenya Police, which was being rated as one of the best South of the Sahara. Too many Kenyans are dying without the perpetrators of the crime being arrested. Could the Minister consider retraining our policemen so that they can perform?

Maj. Madoka: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think our police officers are well trained.

Mr. Musila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think you heard the Minister saying that since the punishment for robbery with violence and murder are the same, they have an option. I do not think they have that option. This is one out of the many cases in Mwingi District where policemen, when people are killed, collect bodies and dump them in the mortuary and that is the end of the story.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it not time that the Minister took action to ensure that the investigation branch of the police in Mwingi District is overhauled, so that we can have action taken?

Mr. Speaker: I would like to make a voluntary correction here. You can actually be charged with murder, and robbery with violence, and be convicted for both. But since you can only suffer death once, you suffer on the first and the other ones become irrelevant.

Maj. Madoka: If the wife of the deceased identified these individuals positively, the charge can always be changed.

Question No.324

CULTIVATION OF POSITIVE IMAGE FOR KENYA

Dr. Kituyi asked the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation:-

- (a) what specific action the Government is taking to cultivate a more positive international image for Kenya;
- (b) whether he is aware that the decision to transfer Ms. Rose Asumwa Odera from New York, where she was chairing a special session of the UN, to a new station, has caused disaffection among the African Group at the UN and,
- (c) what necessitated this transfer at this particular time.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is not here? We will leave that Question until the end. Next Question, Mr. Murungi!

Question No.185

COMPLETION MUUTI-O-KIAMA HEALTH CENTRE

Mr. Murungi asked the Minister for Medical Services:-

- (a) what happened to the Kshs9 million donated to Muuti-o-Kiama Health Centre by JICA during the 1997/98 Financial Year; and,
- (b) when the construction of the said health centre will resume.

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

- (a) During the 1997/98 Financial Year, JICA did not donate any money to Muuti-o-Kiama Health Centre.
- (b) Construction work of Muuti-o-Kiama Health Centre will resume when funds become available.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister ought to be ashamed of this answer because it is clear that he has not done his homework. I have got here the Printed Estimates for the 1997/98 Financial Year, and Page 579, Sub-Head 461, Item 400 shows that this dispensary was allocated Kshs9 million. Out of this amount, we have already received Kshs2 million, which has already been used in the construction of the dispensary. With regard to the answers given to part "a", could the Assistant Minister change his answer?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that I did my homework very well and I am aware that the money was in the Vote. What actually happened was that, although the money was put in the Estimates for the 1997/98 Financial Year as the hon. Member has said, JICA did not approve the expenditure of that amount of money. The Kenya Government even went ahead to give out the tender and spent Kshs2 million on its behalf.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very unusual answer from the Assistant Minister. How come the Japanese Government would recall the money when they had already provided for it and given it to the Kenya Government?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the procedure is that money from all governments is kept with the Treasury Exchequer. What normally happens is that, when this money is put in the Estimates, we have to spend it and then get approval from the donor. But in this particular case, the Japanese Government did not approve and, therefore, we did not get the money.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the Assistant Minister has already told the House that the Government of Kenya has spent Kshs2 million on this dispensary, and the project has stalled for the last two years, could he tell this House why not a single cent was allocated to this dispensary this financial year? Why start a project which you cannot complete?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that no money was allocated this time. We have about 26 projects in the Ministry and, unfortunately, this was not among the prioritised projects.

Mr. Maore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister explain the reasons why they put money in the district treasury, and when the financial year is about to come to an end, they collect all that money and divert it to other uses?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know of any money which had been allocated to the district treasury. What happens is that we give the field officers approval to tender. The tender was done by the District Tender Board and awarded to Messrs. Newspace Creators of Meru. When we spent Kshs2.5 million and asked for reimbursement from Treasury, we were told that the Japanese Government did not approve. So, we did not get any money and the project had to stall.

Question No.326

DEMOLITION OF CESS COLLECTION BARRIERS

Dr. Murungaru asked the Minister of Roads and Public Works:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Nyeri County Council has been financially crippled following demolition of all cess collection barriers by officers of his Ministry; and
- (b) what immediate steps he will take to redress the situation.

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

(a) The Ministry is not aware that Nyeri County Council has been financially crippled following demolition of cess collection barriers by my Ministry.

(b) It does not arise.

Dr. Murungaru: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as usual, we are being subjected to the theatre of the absurd by some of the youngsters that we get.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, seeing a barrier today and not seeing it tomorrow does not require special investigative abilities. The truth of the matter is that all cess collection barriers in Nyeri County Council were demolished a few months ago, and because of that reason, the County Council of Nyeri, which used to derive approximately Kshs1 million from those barriers, is cash-strapped. Could the Assistant Minister confirm that his officers have gone to the ground and checked whether those barriers were demolished, and what action he will take to make sure that they are back so that the Nyeri County Council does not grind to a halt?

Mr. Speaker: Maybe, it would help the House if the two of you could inform us who has the right to put a barrier on the road. Mr. Mwakalu, can I be allowed to put a barrier across a Kenyan highway?

Mr. Mwakalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the creation of barriers, the causation of dug-up areas, the alteration in any way of the soil or surface of the road; any wilful interference which causes obstruction of that nature, affecting the ditch or drain is contrary to Section 91, Paragraph 1 of Cap.403. And this is exactly what went wrong there. Section 92, Paragraph 2 of Cap.403 further declares it unlawful for the highway authority, Minister for the time being in charge of roads, to remove anything whatsoever which has been placed or erected on a road, or land reserved thereof in contravention of that Act. That Act was contravened.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of the inability of the county council in Nyeri to raise money is actually a direct matter under the Ministry of Local Government, but the Traffic Act disallows anybody to create barriers on the traffic under the Traffic Act.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister consider allowing Nyeri County Council to have their barriers within their roads, classified as "D", "E" or unclassified roads? We are not talking of the main highway. We are referring to the roads which are under the control of the districts. This is the only way they can get cess money from horticultural produce and other produce from farms, to help them continue maintaining those roads.

Mr. Mwakalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not persuaded that before the interference with the traffic and the road, these county councils had no method of raising revenue. It is incumbent upon those county councils to devise methods and ingenuities through which they can effectively collect revenue. If the collection of revenue has to be done by, and through destroying another traffic Act, then we are going to have a problem.

Mr. Wambua: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to read a Section

in the Act which they are not following? We removed barriers in my constituency. Who returned them if there is that Act?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wambua! You are playing around with the rules of the House. Next time you stand on a point of order, make sure you know what you are talking about. That is not a point of order.

Mr. Wamalwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for any law to be properly so-called, it has to be enforced without discrimination. How come then that the Ministry allowed the barriers to be removed Nyeri and yet they are in place all over the country? When are they going to be removed from all over the country?

Mr. Mwakalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that question is pre-emptive. The fact is that, there is now a circular to the effect that, indeed, nationally, all barriers that contravene the Traffic Act, Cap.403, will have some action taken.

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since this appears to be an argument between the Ministry of Roads and Public Works and the Ministry of Local Government, why can the two Ministers not sit down and agree? We do not want more barriers alongside police barriers. Could the Assistant Minister suggest new ways in which the county councils can effectively collect cess without contravening the Traffic Act?

Mr. Maore: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Would I be in order to request the Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works to table the document he is referring to, so that some of us could go through it? We are having, for example, seven barriers on Meru-Maua Road.

Mr. Speaker: I think it is genuinely a very important Question. As the Chair is well aware, any erection of obstructions on public roads is illegal. By the way, it is out of order for any hon. Member to ask the Assistant Minister to pursue an illegality. Where is the circular? It will help all Kenyans.

Mr. Mwakalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the circular is in possession of my Ministry and I need guidance as to when you want it to be tabled in the House. That will be complied with as per your instructions.

Mr. Speaker: Actually, you do not need a circular. If, as Assistant Minister, you say you now direct from the Floor of the House, that is enough.

Mr. Mwakalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per your advice, I now direct.

Hon. Members: Direct what?

Dr. Murungaru: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first and foremost, what has he directed and who has he directed? Secondly, since it has come out clearly that these barriers on selected roads are assisting many county councils to collect money from their only source of funds, could the Assistant Minister give the Nyeri County Council guidance on how they can go about collecting cess if not through barriers? This cess is collected from sale of cabbages, carrots and other small farm produce, and the county council cannot go visiting each and every small-holder farm to collect cess.

Mr. Mwakalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have directed---

Mr. Wanjala: Directed what!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wanjala and company! We cannot behave like that. This is Parliament! That kind of conduct, in this House, is slowly but surely eating into the integrity and seriousness of Parliament. It is about time hon. Members who are not serious kept away from Parliament.

Proceed!

Mr. Mwakalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have directed that any encroachment on a road or any land reserved therefor at the side or sides thereof, by making or erecting any building, fence or breach; or in any way creating obstacles and barriers; or by digging thereon; or by planting or sowing any tree or seed thereon, I have directed; or deposits or causes to be deposited in any manner whatever on a road, or any material or matter other than road-making materials deposited for the purpose of making or repairing the road, I have directed that this will be dug up and removed or altered in any manner on the surface of the roads, or on any land reserve thereof; and at the side or sides thereof or if done for the purpose of moving a vehicle without immediate--- or thereafter making the good or damaging it, I can keep on directing!

(Laughter)

To summarise, I am directing that the Traffic Act, Cap.403, be adhered to in its entirety and strictly.

Mr. Speaker: I think that is enough. Dr. Kituyi's Question for the second time.

Question No.324

CULTIVATION OF POSITIVE IMAGE FOR KENYA

Dr. Kituyi asked the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation:-

- (a) what specific action the Government is taking to cultivate a more positive international image of Kenya;
- (b) if he is aware that the decision to transfer Ms. Rose Asumwa Odera from New York, where she was chairing a special session of the UN, to a new station has caused disaffection among the African Group at the UN; and,
- (c) what necessitated this transfer at this particular time.

Mr. Speaker: Is there anyone from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation? I am afraid there is no one to answer you, Dr. Kituyi. I will, therefore, defer your Question.

(Question deferred)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF COURT ORDER

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that a court order was given in favour of Mavoloni Company and that the District Commissioner, Machakos, and OCPD, Thika, were required to implement the order and assist the farmers to settle in their farms?

(b) Is he further aware that the farmers have had no access to their farms and cannot even pick their coffee, which is rotting in the farms as policemen have been posted to prevent them from doing so?

(c) What urgent measures is the Minister taking to have the court order implemented, and assist the Mavoloni people take possession of their property to avoid further losses?

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I answer this Question, I would like to seek your guidance. Last year, a similar Question was asked and it touched on this very question of this court order. The answer to that Question did not satisfy the House. The Question was referred to the Departmental Committee, which has not reported to this House up to today. This means this issue of the validity of this court order will still come up.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Wambua, is it true?

Mr. Wambua: It is untrue, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: What is untrue---

Mr. Wambua: The Question---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wambua! What is untrue? You have not allowed me to ask you the question. Cool down; relax. Is it true that some time last year, you asked a Question in similar terms, which was referred to the Departmental Committee on administration? I believe the last time they were there was on 5th of this month. Is that true or not?

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is untrue. The Question which I asked last year was about a person who was shot in Mavoloni Farm, but this Question is requesting the Minister to tell the House why a court order has not been implemented. These are two different Questions. On the other one which was referred to, the Minister denied that anybody was shot at. That is why it was referred to the Security Committee to check it. These are two different Questions.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Minister, what is your reaction to that?

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it still involves the same court order. The Question was worded differently, but in the following discussions, even within the Departmental Committee, there was this question of the court order, unless it is a separate court order. I can go ahead and answer, but I know I will face the same problem with that question of the court order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, all of you! I keep all the documents, Questions, HANSARD Reports and all other reports and, therefore, I am able to find out.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is important to hear what hon. Wambua is saying. These are two different matters. This land in question is in my constituency. The court order was given out two weeks ago. The Minister is talking about something which happened a month ago.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I want to satisfy myself.

Mr. Wambua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, can I get you a copy of this---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wambua! I will throw you out now. Why are you doing this? You are alleging one

set of facts and the Minister another. I am supposed to be an umpire. For me to discharge that duty, I must do it with knowledge and facts. I keep the previous Questions which you asked.

Mr. Wambua: I can also provide them!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Wambua, will you, please, be orderly? In essence, I am now saying that since you want to talk too much, the only way I can keep you orderly is to defer this Question while I find out the truth. That should keep you quiet and orderly. The Question is deferred.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Murathe: The Question is deferred until when? It also touches on my constituency and it is urgent because the coffee is rotting in the farms.

Mr. Speaker: I will come back to it as quickly as I can. Mr. Clerk, can you bring this to my attention as soon as possible? Very well.

Next Question!

REPAIR OF NEW NYANZA GENERAL HOSPITAL

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Medical Services the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that strong winds recently blew off the roof of the main block of the New Nyanza General Hospital?

(b) What urgent steps is the Minister taking to repair the damage?

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

(a) I am aware that strong winds blew off the roof of ward two and seven of the New Nyanza General Hospital.

(b) I have directed the repair of the roof using cost-sharing money.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the New Nyanza General Hospital covers a wide area, including Busia, where the Finance Minister comes from. The Assistant Minister is telling us that he has directed that cost-sharing money be used to cover the roof of a whole provincial hospital. Cost-sharing money can be put to other uses like purchasing drugs and things like that. Can the Assistant Minister tell us why he did not provide for this in the current estimates, because this hospital was damaged more than three months ago?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Sungu, let me help you. What is the cost of repairing the roof?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the cost is estimated at Kshs2 million.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the Assistant Minister's reply, there is a much more fundamental question. The wind can only blow off the roof of the New Nyanza General Hospital if it is made of *mabati*. When this hospital was originally built, the roof was made of concrete. Due to Government neglect in maintaining public institutions, a half-hearted job was done to put *mabati* on top of the concrete to help matters. Now that the wind has told you what to do, is the Government prepared to go back and do a proper job of construction and reconstruct the concrete roof, so that it can withstand the wind power that can blow the *mabati* away at any time?

Dr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the roof was made of concrete. However, because of the leakages in the roof, they put up the *mabati* roof so that it can be protected from damage by the rain. It is unfortunate that there was a little problem in the initial building and they thought that, that was the only way to do the hospital repair.

Mr. Ndilinge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that the Assistant Minister has realised that the wind there is causing a problem to the building, can the Chair order the Assistant Minister to order the wind not to disturb that building by planting trees?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ndilinge! I advise you to never assign to the Chair an impossible job.

(Laughter)

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that the Assistant Minister has told us that it will cost Kshs2 million to replace this roof, and that he has ordered for the cost-sharing money to be spent on this, can he tell us how much money is in the cost-sharing kit?

Dr. Wako: I am sure we have more than that. We actually gave this directive because there was some money which we committed for new generators to be bought for the hospital when there was interruption in the supply of electricity, but since the Kenya Power and Lighting Company has agreed to supply electricity to all hospitals without

interruption, this is the amount of money which we want to use for repairing the roofs.

Mr. Sungu: Is the Assistant Minister aware that the hospital has got many pressing issues which the cost-sharing money could be used to solve? Why can he not use money from the other sources of the Central Government? This is because I am aware that the cost-sharing funds obtained during the whole of last year in Nyanza General Hospital was only Kshs2.6 million. Therefore, you are leaving us at the sympathy of purchasing drugs.

Dr. Wako: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not true. The Nyanza General Hospital is one of the best hospitals in cost-sharing, and we normally collect between Kshs2 million and Kshs3 million a month. That money has done quite a good job in rehabilitating the hospital. Therefore, it is not true that the hospital collects only Kshs2 million a year.

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

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Sungu, I hope it is a point of order.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead this House that it is only Kshs2 million that is available in the hospital's Kitty? I know for sure that this Question was asked here on several occasions, and the figure that was given for the New Nyanza General Hospital as having been collected is Kshs2.6 million.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Sungu! That is a point of argument. I think we are totally abusing the whole principle of a point of order. It is becoming meaningless, and it is about time the Chair enforced what a point of order is all about. So please, do not misuse it. You know - and unfortunately in this Parliament, we have not done it - that, any Member who rises on a frivolous point of order will see this Parliament from behind that door. It is about time we enforced that, and may I just say the following: I am getting worried as to what kind of picture of Parliament we want to portray. I am worried at the amount of erosion of the dignity and glamour of Parliament that we are doing every day. Let everybody be worried with me.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Now that we are talking about order in the House, I do not know whether you have noticed that one of the rules of the House, which is breached more than any other is that which provides that nobody shall walk between the Speaker and the Member speaking on the Floor, and that happens all the time. Maybe, you would like you to be more vigilant in future.

Mr. Speaker: That is correct. I think, hon. Members, we are losing the glamour and integrity of what Parliament should be, because, you, as owners, or rather, if I could use the phrase "current tenants" of Parliament, are not observing the rules of the House.

Mr. Murathe: We are---(inaudible)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Murathe, you should now leave the Chamber as a beginning. I will begin with you because you are disorderly and I will order that you be excluded from this House for the balance of the day. Please, leave the Chamber.

(Mr. Murathe withdrew from the Chamber)

Order, hon. Members! Where were we? We were going to the Next Question, but just before that, the hon. Dr. Kituyi's Question was deferred by me because the Minister was absent. Now, since Mr. Minister you are here, first of all, would you also, as my re-introduction of authority and integrity of Parliament, apologise to this House for coming late, before I say anything further?

(Laughter)

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Dr. Godana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise most sincerely and profusely to the House and to you for coming late, and I am ready to answer the Question now.

Mr. Speaker: Sorry! You cannot answer the Question now. I now order that, that Question will be answered tomorrow afternoon.

(Laughter)

Next Question, Mr. Anyona.

IMPLEMENTATION OF FEES GUIDELINES

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Education the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister table the fees guidelines in all public schools for the year 2000?

(b) Could the Minister table the list of schools which have not adhered to the fees guidelines?

(c) What disciplinary measures have been taken against the Boards of Governors (BOGs) and headteachers who have defied the Government order on guidelines?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in continuing to reinforce the order in the House, I would like to bring to your attention that I have not received a written reply to this Question.

Mr. Speaker: Where is the Minister for Education?

(Mr. Karauri stood up in his place)

Mr. Karauri, have you ever looked at the Standing Order that requires you to supply a written reply to hon. Anyona?

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Karauri): Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir. In fact, I was going to beg that I be allowed to answer this Question tomorrow. I do not even have the written reply because there are certain details that I wanted to get.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. You are lucky. Mr. Anyona, what is your reaction?

Mr. Anyona: Well, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I suppose that tomorrow is not too far away as long as we have a good answer.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, and Mr. Karauri, be mindful of the Standing Order that requires you to file your written reply. By the way, I am telling everybody to comply with the Standing Orders because I will not have the rules of the House bent any more. Get it right.

So, next Order!

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am sure that you have been a Minister like me before, and I do not know of any Standing Order which requires me to supply a written reply for a Question by Private Notice, unless you educate me this afternoon.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Lotodo, you have given me a homework, and I will do it and answer you.

POINTS OF ORDER

MURDER OF MAN BY DEL MONTE GUARDS

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, two weeks ago, I demanded a Ministerial Statement from the Minister of State, Office of the President, where on 15th May, this year, guards from Del Monte unleashed dogs on two people in a pineapple plantation, and one of the boys was senselessly beaten and mauled by the dogs and died in Thika District Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am still demanding, for the third time, that the Minister of State, Office of the President, tells this House and the country how this man was killed and whether Del Monte and the Government will compensate his family.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I still want to apologise to the Member because one of the individuals whom we wanted to get a little more details from is on leave, and we are told that he is coming back next week. So, we want to clarify a few points with him.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, because we have so many pending promises in the form of Ministerial Statements to be given by the various Ministers in response to demands by various Members, I wish to give the following advice--

(Mr. Kihara consulted with Mr. Michuki)

Mr. Kihara, are you bored with being in the House? Hon. Members, I would like to advise you on two things. First of all, Members, please, do not misuse a Ministerial Statement. I think there are better avenues, particularly if there are matters that are serious. Try as much as possible to access the House through Questions by Private Notice,

which also gives Ministers time to prepare their written replies and know when they are coming up.

So, please, minimize the requests for Ministerial Statements during the clock of the business of the House, particularly on supply days, as we are already in now. Most of the time, we will not have time for these kind of things, and so, please, minimize them. To the Ministers to whom **[Mr. Speaker]**

these demands are addressed, please, sometimes I know that I may not be able to give you the time, particularly on supply days, because of the constraint of time, but I urge you, when you have been asked to give a Ministerial Statement, please, liaise with me and find out whether I would have the time to allow you to make that ministerial statement. As much as humanly possible, I will try to allow you to have that opportunity, but as of today, let us make this a serious House.

It is good for both sides of the House, for the Front and the Back Benches of the House, and it is good for Kenyans. Let us return dignity to Parliament; to the institution that Kenyans can hinge their hopes and aspirations upon. Thank you.

(Eng. Kiptoon walked into the Chamber)

(Applause)

Order now! Mr. Okemo, you indicated to me that you had something to say about what arose yesterday. You forget about it? I have given you the opportunity now to do so before 3.30 p.m.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES AS A CHARGE ON THE CONSOLIDATED FUND

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the hon. Members yesterday raised the question of the Estimates of the National Assembly being included in the Consolidated Fund Services and, therefore, said that it was unconstitutional for this House to discuss the Estimates in the form in which they are today. But I would like to correct that understanding. As hon. Members are aware---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order. This is a very central issue that the Minister is raising.

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Okemo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as hon. Members of the National Assembly are aware, we enacted the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Act, 1999, on 11th November, 1999. The objective, of course, of this constitutional amendment was to give Parliament autonomy so that it can manage its own operations. According to this amendment, the expenditures of the National Assembly were to be shifted to be a direct charge to the Consolidated Fund Services. However, in order for this to happen, two important enactments are necessary, namely, the Parliamentary Service Commission Bill, and secondly, the Constitutional Offices Remuneration Act. The Parliamentary Service Commission Bill is supposed to prescribe the manner in which the expenditure of the National Assembly is to be managed. In this case, it is meant to be shifting the National Assembly's expenditures to a direct charge to the Consolidated Fund. The second enactment would have included the National Assembly as one of the offices whose expenditure falls under the Constitutional Offices Remuneration Act. I consulted with the Attorney-General and the Controller and Auditor-General on the implications of the two Acts, and we have been advised that as matters stand now, and until the two enactments are done through Parliament, the expenditure of the National Assembly cannot form a direct charge to the Consolidated Fund. On this basis, therefore, I would like to seek your guidance.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, well, I will acknowledge that I have consulted with the hon. Minister.

I am, in fact, the one who raised this matter yesterday. What the Minister has described does not in any way negate the fact that the after you have effected a constitutional amendment whose import is that the expenditure of Parliament should be a direct charge to the Consolidated Fund, any breach of that provision in the Constitution is a breach of the Constitution. What the Minister succeeds in doing is saying that we have failed to keep the infrastructural developments of law in tandem with constitutional amendments. This does not make the printed Estimates unconstitutional. He has a problem about how to make a direct charge to the Consolidated Fund because we have not

enacted the Parliamentary Service Commission Act. That does not change the fact that printed Estimates which are not making the services of Parliament a direct charge to the Consolidated Fund are unconstitutional.

Mr. Speaker: Maybe, I can clear this. This matter arose yesterday and I did, off the cuff, give what they call in law a "*per incuriam*" decision. In total ignorance of the law, yesterday, I said certain things. I must say that I said so in total ignorance of the law. I have since looked at the law, particularly the Constitution of Kenya Amendment Act, 1999, Section 45(4)(e)(i) which states:

"The Commission, among other things, shall have power subject to an Act of Parliament to prepare a Budget for the National Assembly and lay before the National Assembly".

The key words are "subject to an Act of Parliament". The fact of the matter is that in our wisdom, we passed the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 1999, but we have not so far enacted a Parliamentary Service Act to facilitate the provisions of Section 45 of the Constitution of Kenya as amended in 1999. So, the net effect is that the Minister was totally within the law to provide the funds of Parliament in the manner he has. What, therefore, we must do to comply and to be within the ambit of Section 45 of the Constitution is:-

(a) to enact an Act of Parliament to authorise the Commission itself to prepare and present its Estimates; and,

(b) to amend the Constitutional Offices Remuneration Act, to make the services of the National Assembly part of the services recognised by that Act for it to be able to attract funds directly from the Consolidated Fund as per the Constitution.

I think he is right. We are all the wiser of it and we can do these things as quickly as we can. That should rest this matter quietly for the time being.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Who is to blame for not having brought this Act to this Parliament to be enacted?

Mr. Speaker: You! You are an hon. Member of Parliament.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am proposing---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Angwenyi, you are to blame. You are an hon. Member of the National Assembly and you have the right to bring any Bill to this House. Indeed, hon. Oloo-Aringo produced a constitutional amendment although he is a Backbencher.

Dr. Ochuodho: Before he was de-linked!

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Ochuodho, please, you are being disorderly. You must withdraw from the Chamber now. I think you were absent when we said that we are revitalising Parliament and bringing back order.

Dr. Kituyi: He did not hear it!

Mr. Speaker: You will also follow suit, Dr. Kituyi! You must follow suit. You cannot interject the Chair!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Will you profusely beg my pardon?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, profusely, I do not want to prostrate before you, but I was interceding for an errant hon. Member. I should have done that upon Mr. Speaker sitting down.

So, I am sorry for what I did.

Dr. Ochuodho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Dr. Ochuodho, you are now a stranger here.

*(Dr. Ochuodho withdrew
from the Chamber)*

Mr. Michuki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I was wondering whether, within the amended Constitution, the reference to an Act of Parliament could be construed to be reference to the Finance Bill or the Appropriation Bill.

Mr. Speaker: It must mean the Parliamentary Service Act as it does to the Public Service Act. Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS

(Order for Committee read)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

(The Minister for Finance on 15.6.2000)

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 21.6.2000,
Morning Sitting)*

(Third Allotted Day)

Mr. Speaker: Who was on the Floor? Mr. Kibicho, I understand you were on the Floor. Are you still interested?

Mr. Kibicho: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Proceed!

Mr. Kibicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to join the House in extending my sympathy to hon. Eng. Kiptoon. He has been a very good Minister. Before the House---

(Loud Consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order! You are all creating disorder. Those Members interested in withdrawing, please, proceed to do so with dignity and without disrupting the business of the House. Mr. Kibicho, continue!

Mr. Kibicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the House rose in the morning, I did allude to the fact that the plans of this Government have failed because they have been textbook plans; written from textbooks and applied wholly in this country without any reference to the local conditions. I did say that the assumption in the Budget was that since the economy recession, the industry must be awarded and the consumers must pay for the cost.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, even if this Government was to be right and the industries were to grow, there is no way these industries can grow and substitute agriculture as the mainstay of this economy. It means, therefore, that this Government has failed completely to plan for this country. You cannot assume that there will come a time in this stage of Kenya's development where industries shall provide all the money, equipment and capital required. This Budget has failed in addressing agriculture. There is no subsidy for chemicals, fertilisers or any other farm input. It means therefore that agriculture will not grow. If it does not grow, this economy will not get out of recession, notwithstanding these provisions for better times for the industry.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one would have expected the Minister for Agriculture to make provisions whereby coffee, as an important crop in this country, would benefit the farmers. I am thinking of a situation like that which pertains in Brazil, where the Government puts aside some money and if the prices are lower than the cost of production, the crop will be withdrawn from the market and the farmers shall be paid. We have a situation where, about three to four weeks ago, at the Nairobi Coffee Exchange, a bag of 50 kilograms fetched US3 dollars. This was coffee from Nyeri. We would not imagine 50 kilograms of coffee fetching US3 dollars. We, being farmers or Members of Parliament from farming areas, were surprised that the Nairobi Coffee Exchange did not withdraw that coffee from the market, whereas the tea farmers in Nyeri have put a reserve for US10 dollars. I suspect this is the coffee which has been withheld for many years without being sold because of problems with the marketers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this economy was growing, the then Government utilised the policy of import substitution whereby the local industries were protected so that they could produce and provide for goods instead of importing those goods. With liberalisation, this policy was removed. We now have a situation whereby this economy is not growing. This economy was growing when there was control on interest rates and on some goods and services given. The day this Government accepted to be pushed by the World Bank and the IMF, and agreed to remove these controls, is the day the economy stopped growing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you realise that when Europeans came to Kenya and Africa in general, they wanted Africa to be the source of raw materials. As we progressed and the technology became very advanced, they used that technology to exploit our people. Unless we have a Government with a very strong will; a Government which is willing to protect its own citizens, the economy of this country will not grow.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we now have a problem with energy. This country, for a long time, was warned that it was to have undertaken research on whether atomic energy could be viable in this country. They continued using dams and hydro electricity, and there is no way this water will be enough. It is very surprising that when a crisis like this one comes up, you find that the Government is more concerned about cushioning the lifestyles of those people who are very comfortable.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kenyans are now faced with famine and like any other speaker in this House, I concur that it has come about because of bad planning. If you go to areas like Mount Kenya and the Aberdares, from where the tributaries of Athi and Tana rivers originate, you will see a lot of water near the forest. As you go downstream, you will

see no water. It means therefore, that the people using water now in this country are very many and this water is not adequate. This Government has no plans to construct dams along the rivers so that water can be conserved when rains fall. With this type of planning, this country will go to the dogs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one is surprised to see that the pre-occupation of this Government is only politics. This Government is only concerned with survival. It is not concerned with the lives of wananchi. One now wonders what we are going to do next. We are now 28 million people. Very quickly, we are going to be 50 million people. If we cannot plan for 28 million people, what are we going to do when we are 50 million people? I do submit that this Government should forthwith control interest rates. This is because unless that is done, the money which is available in banks in this country, will never enable our people to carry out trade or investments.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when one looks at the type of Budget we have today, one wonders what are we aiming at.

With those few words, I do not support.

Mr. Shitanda: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to this year's Budget. First and foremost, this year's Budget did not lay any concrete strategy for the agricultural sector, which is the mainstay of our economy. Between 1977 and 1987, our agricultural sector grew by 3.1 per cent. During 1988 to 1998, the growth in the agricultural sector was 1.12 per cent. The figure targeted in the current Budget of 4.6 per cent lacks any basis. Given the trend from 1997 up to now, we can only expect the growth in the agricultural sector to go down and not up as envisaged in the present Budget Speech.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to what the Minister came up with in respect of certain expenditures in the Budget, which were to be ring-fenced, there is the issue of what criteria will be used to identify the expenditures which will be ring-fenced and, also, the issue of how they will be prioritised in terms of their impact on the fight against poverty. It is interesting to note that, out of all the ring-fenced expenditures, 37 per cent goes to security. While it is true that security plays quite a major role in the fight against poverty, it is difficult to justify the high percentage on security, while ring-fencing certain expenditures in the fight against poverty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Budget Speech, there is a problem of reliability on statistics presented by the Minister. The Minister alluded to an increase in revenue collected from tourism on page four of his speech. But later, on page 21, he says: "Receipts from tourism declined." It is difficult to tell which is which. Still, on statistics, the figure given for the *El Nino* damage stands at Kshs48 billion, against a figure of Kshs4 billion which was given in 1997. Which is the true figure of the *El Nino* damage? Still on statistics, the Minister told us that Kshs210 million is spent daily on AIDS. This translates to 10 per cent of the annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP), implying that the economy is contracting by 8.18 per cent per year. This would culminate in a situation where we have a negative 8 per cent growth per annum.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on page 14 of the Budget Speech, the Minister states that, in order to arrest the decline of agricultural productivity, and to realise the food potential for the agricultural sector, the Government will undertake a number of measures. Those measures are not outlined or mentioned in any way. So, which measures will the Government undertake to revamp the agricultural sector?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an interesting angle in the Minister's Speech. He talks about emphasis for boreholes and says: "Priority is going to be given on removing silt and rehabilitating existing boreholes in readiness for the short rains." I fail to understand if there is any relation between short rains and boreholes.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the effect of the current drought on the economy is expected to be quite significant in the coming months. While a drought will have a considerable negative effect on the economy, this gives an impression that an assessment will be undertaken to determine the extent to which the drought will affect our economy. This quickly throws the Estimates into a lot of doubts and uncertainty. On page 28, the Minister asserts that there is little doubt the Budget will undergo substantial revision once the assessment indicated by the Minister is completed. If we are going to have a substantial revision of the Budget, why is it being presented to this House for approval?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is the issue of retrenchment. For a very long time, whenever we have run into problems in the manner in which we run our affairs, we always run to the international donors, who prescribe prescriptions that ought to assist us out of economic problems. But, in most cases, their prescriptions have not helped this country. While accepting that, maybe, retrenchment may be one of the solutions to our problems today, what positive impact have the retrenchments that have been carried out in the past had on the economy? The retrenchments that we have had in the past have never helped to change things in any way. If anything, things have continued to worsen.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in as much as we want to implement the Poverty Eradication Programme, we must, as a matter of priority, look at the interests of the poor in accordance with the manner in which resources of this country are distributed, in order to carry out programmes that are meant to benefit the poor and the disadvantaged.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the programmes prescribed by the World Bank for the revival of our economy have completely ignored the agricultural sector and the need to address the key areas---

Mr. Speaker: Your time is up! Mr. Ndicho! Sorry, there are some people from this side as well. Mr. Lotodo!

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to this Motion.

Last week, I was giving reasons why we have power rationing in the country, but my colleagues interrupted me very much. In supporting the Motion under discussion, I would like to say the following:

When the Turkwel Gorge Project was constructed, Dr. Kibua who was a lecturer at the University of Nairobi at that time and who is now the Deputy Governor of Central Bank of Kenya, described Turkwel Gorge Project as a "white elephant". I want to tell the nation now that Turkwel Gorge is the only hydro-power station which is sustaining the country through power provision, not Masinga Dam. The reason being that, when the planners at that time - I think during the second Government in the Republic of Kenya, the hydro-power stations were planned in one part of the country and along one river.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have just heard hon. Shitanda say that Aberdares and parts of Mt. Kenya are bare because the trees have been felled and, therefore, there is no rain and as a result of that, the Tana River which experts at that time thought was a permanent river has no water. It is no longer permanent now. If at that time the planners had spread the planning throughout the country--- We have River Nzoia, which starts from West Pokot through Webuye, Mumias, down to Yala Swamp.

There is a lot of rain all the time in that area and if that was put into consideration, we would not be having the problem of power the way we have today; if three or four hydro-power stations had been constructed on that river. Therefore, I want to castigate those who are so good at blaming the Government for problems they created themselves. You plan wrongly and that is why you are in problems! There are very many people who are very good at---

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

Mr. Speaker: Order! What is it? Order, Minister!

*(Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo remained on his feet
at the Dispatch Box)*

An hon. Member: Sit down! It is hon. Mwenje's time!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, all of you! Hon. Members have no business telling any Member to sit down! I am the only one paid and authorized to do that.

Mr. Mwenje: Is the Minister in order to continue praising Turkwel Gorge Project, which cost three times what it could have cost, thus occasioning power shortage and, therefore, power rationing that we are having in this country currently?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Mr. Mwenje, were you here this afternoon when I warned hon. Members about being frivolous? You are very, very frivolous, and I give you the benefit because you were not present. Next time you attempt to raise a frivolous point of order, you will see the outside of the Chamber as soon as possible.

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): Asante sana, Bw. Spika. I want to tell my colleague and Member of Parliament for Embakasi that, the little power that we have for a few hours every day comes from Turkwel Gorge. He should be thankful!

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I may leave that hot issue and go to the Koech Report on Education, I come from---

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I respect your ruling, Mr. Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Order, Mr. Mwenje! Order, Mr. Minister! Mr. Mwenje, first of all, until I give you the Floor, you are completely unable to speak! The only words you are allowed to shout, is, "point of order", nothing else! So, you are disorderly! Anyway, what is your point of order?

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Minister in order to mislead this House that the power we are using here in Nairobi comes from Turkwel Gorge, when know that it actually comes from Masinga Dam?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mwenje! Do you know the difference between a point of argument and a point of order? Now, you are disorderly and you should go out!

Mr. Mwenje: But he is misleading the House!

Mr. Speaker: Order! You should go out!

Mr. Mwenje: Whether I go out or not, he is misleading the House!

Mr. Speaker: Order! You should be out of the Chamber! Strangers do not make noise in the House!

(Mr. Mwenje withdrew from the Chamber)

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Koech Report on Education recommends that we should upgrade the current primary schools to secondary schools. Currently, we have 17,000 primary schools and 3,081 secondary schools in the country. All of them must be built by parents. I do not know whether the parents are capable financially to put up 17,000 primary schools plus 3,081 secondary schools, totalling to 20,081 schools. All these primary schools should be turned into secondary schools, where laboratories and all other facilities, like teachers' houses *etcetera* should be built. This is the problem! Some of us think that is possible. I am not saying that, the whole Report should not be implemented. There are parts which can be implemented. If the educationists say that, the syllabus is too large, the subjects should be reduced. That is quite okay! But to say that, "let every primary school be a secondary school", it may work in some parts of the Republic.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my colleague hon. Ndicho across there is the subject of the day. He talked about invading land owned by Whitemen, a thing which everybody is happy about. But there are two Whitemen in his area. I think there are two to five farms owned by Whitemen. Supposing you finish invading the five farms owned by Whitemen, what will you do next? Will you go to Lotodo's farm or Mugo's farm?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not a simple thing because if---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Lotodo! Are you now making Mr. Ndicho a subject of your contribution?

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): No, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I was trying to step in---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! You will not discuss Mr. Ndicho without bringing a substantive Motion!

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P. Lotodo): He is not complaining, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

(Laughter)

I would like the Minister in charge of planning to make sure that arid and semi-arid areas, like West Pokot and Samburu, are given the cake. The talk, especially in this House everyday is about tea, coffee and power, and nobody talks about people from arid areas and how they should get water and permanent pasture. It is time the Ministry of Planning drilled boreholes and dams, and provided windmills. That will stop us moving from one district to another. It will also stop us moving from one country to another. Hon. Ndicho may not understand my problem---

Mr. Ndicho: But do not incite me!

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P. Lotodo): You are my friend and that is why I do not want to incite you.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have heard people moving from Ethiopia into Kenya, from Wajir to Isiolo, and from Kacheliba into Karamoja in a different country. It is because of water and pasture and not because they want.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ndicho: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute on the Budget Speech.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the KANU Government must be very happy today because they are governing very peaceful people called Kenyans; people who do not react when arbitrary increases of commodities are effected every other day. I think we are now abhorring liberalisation. We look for the day when the Government used to be the watchdog of the people's wishes, especially when it was controlling the prices of food, unga, sugar and other commodities, including petrol. This Government has left Kenyans in the hands of wolves and hyenas in the name of manufacturers and businessmen.

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P. Lotodo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Member of Parliament for Juja in order to mislead the House that this Government has left wananchi at the mercy of manufacturers, when the entire Opposition were busy talking all the time about

liberalisation? That is the problem you have now; you wanted it.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Order! That is not a point of order.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is my friend and I forgive him. We need a government that will be careful about what the manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers of various commodities are selling to their people. If it was a country like Nigeria, or other volatile country, every citizen could now be out in the streets demonstrating to force out that Government. But because Kenyans are very peaceful people to be governed, anybody can govern Kenyans. Even a Standard Seven kid, if you make him a president, he will rule this country, because Kenyans are very peaceful people. Today, the cost of unga has risen from Kshs45 to about Kshs67 or Kshs68. Many people cannot afford a decent living and yet, we have a Government that comes here to read us budgets. Today, the cost of fuel is so high that, even the middle class are only earning for fuel and transport. The Government must come up with measures to address this issue of inflation. Kenyans have been pushed to a certain extent, but I think they are going to be pushed to the wall and when they react, nobody should blame them, because the cost of living today is too high.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we did not understand what the Minister meant when he lowered duty on commodities where certain businessmen in this country in the name of Asians and whites are the only ones who are benefiting. For example, vegetable oil, textiles and paper. Why did the Minister lower duty on gambling machines? Who is involved in gambling? Can a whole Government forget about its own people and lower duty on such items like gambling machines? What about the generators which we are told were in this country long before the Budget came? They were kept in a godown waiting for the Budget, because somebody was manipulating this Budget, so that the duty for generators could be brought to zero.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, why did the Minister himself and a whiteman called Richard Leakey go all the way to Washington to show our Budget to the whites in Washington and then, they okayed them? Do we have a Government, or are we ruled from Washington? Is this country not ruled from Nairobi? Is Nairobi not the Capital City of the Republic of Kenya? If this Government is defeated, let them give up. But Kenyans are wondering whether they have anybody who takes care of them or not. Today, school fees is a very big problem. A Minister wakes up one morning and sets out the guideline for school fees without consulting other stakeholders. We must help our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now turn to petroleum products. There are small African petroleum dealers in this country who are doing a commendable job. I have talked to several of them and they have told me they buy fuel from the same place with multinationals at Kshs46 per litre, or about Kshs44 to Kshs45. So, when they sell at Kshs48 or Kshs49 per litre, more people can buy from them. But because the multinationals want to make a kill and sell it at Kshs53 or Kshs54 and the small African businessmen are refusing to co-operate, so that there is uniform pricing, they go to the Ministry and threaten the Kenya Government that they are withdrawing their investment if those people are not punished. It is high time that Kenyans are not threatened by investors.

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F. P. Lotodo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Would the hon. Ndicho give me the list of those Africans who have been frustrated by the whites? I am in charge of petrol.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have the whole dossier---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Are you substantiating?

Mr. Ndicho: I will discuss with him, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have got a heap of papers because that is what happened. We should not be intimidated by people saying that they are going to withdraw their investment from this country, if we do not do what they want. Look at the minerals---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Mr. Ndicho, you would not get away with the allegation you made; you have to substantiate. I think that is what the Minister wants you to do.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will go to him, but unfortunately, I do not have the papers with me, but they are in my possession.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): The process of substantiation does not---

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me---You are wasting my time.

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not wasting his time, but I am ready to discuss with him outside the House.

Mr. Ndicho: Yeah, that is what I am saying, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Let me come to something very important because of time factor---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Order! It is the process of getting papers and substantiation in the House. If you want to do it outside the House, you ask yourself out of the House. Proceed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now come to the issue of natural resources. The Government in this country does not control the exploitation of our minerals despite that minerals are a major revenue earner. All the

factories and mineral areas in this country belong to foreigners. I am happy that hon. P. Lotodo threw out miners from his Constituency. Those people were going there to mine gold and other minerals in Pokotland. In the first instance, those miners were not even helping the Pokot people, leave alone other Kenyans. That was an action in the right direction by the hon. Member.

I have in mind the Magadi soda ash being mined from Lake Magadi. That mineral was grabbed by the whites when they came to this country. It was their property before this country gained Independence; it remained their property after Independence; up to-date, it is their property. The soda ash that is mined from the lake is put into containers and railed all the way to Mombasa, and shipped to Europe. The proceeds from the sale of that soda ash never comes back to this country. The Government sunk four holes at the Olkaria Geothermal Electric Power Plant, but only one is being used. Recently, the Government gave one of the remaining three holes to an Israeli. He brought his machines and installed them there, and is now generating electricity. That Israeli pockets the money he makes out of that project and gives us peanuts. When are we going to control our resources?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is another factory which mines carbocid at Lari in Kimende. The owners of that factory do not help Kenyans at all. Also, Kenyans do not benefit from our fish from Lake Victoria. Foreigners fish out our fish, put them in cold storage, take them to Mombasa or to the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA), export them to Europe and pocket the proceeds. What we are saying is that we should have a Government that controls this country's natural resources. This Government does not control the resources of Europe, America, or Asia. Why does it allow foreigners to come and control the exploitation of this country's resources?

Finally, the Minister told us that tourism alone raised Kshs21 billion in one year. However, after spending about eight years, kneeling before the Bretton Woods Institutions, begging for aid, the Government has been promised Kshs22 billion. So, if one sector of this country can bring about Kshs21 billion to this country, why does the Government go to beg and display the poverty situation of this country before whites? When is the Government going to come out in the open and be itself?

With those few words, I conclude my contribution. I neither support nor oppose the Motion.

The Minister for Water Development (Mr. Ng'eny): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to contribute to this very important Motion.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Minister and his staff for preparing a professional, straightforward and a "*wananchi*-friendly" Budget. This Budget has, indeed, not only been professionally prepared, but also touches on aspects of Kenyans' lives, which are extremely crucial to our daily activities. All the foodstuffs, which are the mainstay of ordinary Kenyans have not been affected by this Budget. The Budget has given the low-income groups were allowed substantial tax relief, so as to help them out of hardships.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Budget touches on a very crucial issue affecting the people of this country at this particular moment in time. That is the question of poverty reduction. His Excellency the President put a lot of efforts in telling Kenyans: "This is the time Kenyans should stand together". This is because there is time to debate small matters; there is time to debate big matters, and time to debate everything. Now it is time to debate and think together on serious issues. The meteorologists have told us that the current drought being experienced in this country has never been experienced for the last 40 years; that is quite a long time. That means this is going to be the severest drought that will ever be experienced in this country for most of the lives of Kenyans.

Kenyans who were born some 40 years ago have not experienced a drought of this magnitude before. The population of Kenya 40 years ago was probably six million people, and was easy to handle, because the needs of the people then were few. We are now four, or five times, that number. Utilisation of forest resources, land, water, food, and other resources, has now increased many folds, and yet we have now been hit by the severest drought over that period of time. So, my appeal to Kenyans is that, it is high time we started talking together seriously about this disaster, irrespective of our different political persuasions, race, religion and colour. When things are good, we can afford to talk lightly. However, it is now time for Kenyans to talk seriously about this problem.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Budget has considered the most essential sectors of this country's economy. The Budget seeks to expand agricultural services and increase agricultural production, increase the national strategic food reserves to counter the current famine being experienced, improve the water sector as well as the tourism industry. In that light, I would like to support some hon. Members who have spoken about us being ourselves. I think those sentiments are echoing His Excellency the President's numerous calls to Kenyans to come together and seek solutions to our country's problems.

There is one input in economic development which I would like to highlight, although I am an engineer and not an economist. It is said that there are various inputs which influence an economy's performance. I believe that political input is one of them. The political input brings stability in the country. Even in our own homes, we need stability to educate our children. But for a country, we need political stability. I think we Kenyans should be grateful. I would like to support hon. Ndicho when he says that Kenyans are very good people. I agree with him that we are very

peaceful people because we love peace. This country is peaceful. If we were not peace-loving people, this country would be something else. So, I would like to support hon. Ndicho. I would like to appeal to all Kenyans to love our country more than ever before, so that we will be able to overcome difficulties which are not of our own-making, but they are brought about by nature and we cannot control.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy that despite the drought, my Ministry is doing its best to avail water to wananchi as much as possible. In fact, I am happy that hon. Members whom I have talked to or visited their constituencies, are giving the Ministry a lot of co-operation. I thank them very much indeed. I would like to equally urge them here, to continue conserving water in whatever form. This is because that is a very---

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Minister on the Floor knows very well that a lot of water is going to waste in Budalangi and he has not come up with ways of conserving it.

The Minister for Water Development (Mr. Ng'eny): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to ask us to conserve water which is not there? There is no water in this country. How can we conserve what we do not have?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order! By the way, that is a frivolous point of order because there must be water somewhere.

The Minister for Water Development (Mr. Ng'eny): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a lot of water in this country, but because of the drought, the level of water in our dams is low.

This Budget has done Kenyans a lot of good. This is because listening to wananchi who are the best judges in certain areas, I think they are only commenting on one or two issues. That is the question of VAT. I think for wananchi to comment on one aspect in this Budget, then I would say ours is an excellent Budget. Otherwise, there would be outcry in the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as agricultural sector is concerned---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order! Mr. Ng'eny, your time is up.

The Minister for Water Development (Mr. Ng'eny): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion.

Mr. Ayoki: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity. I rise to support the Motion with a heavy heart. This year's Budget was not "*wananchi*-friendly". Some people have said it was a good Budget. It could have been good, had it not been for the increase of VAT to 18 per cent. The increase of VAT has really injured wananchi in that most of the commodities wananchi depend on, like paraffin and salt among other commodities, have gone up. At the same time, the Minister is saying that they are trying to fight poverty.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, these are hard times for Kenyans. Everywhere in the country, we do not have enough water. Although the Minister for Water Development was saying there is water everywhere, yet, there is no drop to drink.

You are aware of power rationing. This is as a result of poor planning. Insecurity in the country has really affected development in certain areas and many people have lost their belongings in terms of animals and households. People are being killed in northern part of the country and also right here in the city people are being killed left, right and centre. I do not need to talk about famine because it has been declared a national disaster.

These are hard times for Kenyans because HIV/AIDS is killing people at the rate of 500 people per week and yet, probably, those statistics are taken from hospitals where they keep accurate records. What about those who are dying in the countryside where they do not keep such records or where probably people are dying of other reasons other than the HIV/AIDS because they do not want to stigmatise the families which are affected by such deaths?

Apart from the HIV/AIDS, we have corruption in this country. There is no way we can revive the economy or eradicate poverty in this country as long as corruption is not "tamed". If the Government is serious about poverty eradication, there are a few things which we need to put in place. As regards the Budget, I would recommend that a Budget should not be a secret. It should not be a surprise to the people. In fact, hon. Members should be involved in the Budget making, so that after doing that, passing it in the House will just be a formality. We do not have to debate it for a long time.

I think it is high time this country established an office for disaster monitoring centre which can advise the Government in advance. If the Government does not listen, they could easily advise the House of the impending disaster. This Government was informed that after *El Nino* rains, there would be a prolonged drought. They did not take it seriously, so that they could take action which could help wananchi or save them from hunger.

What we also need to do, if we are serious to fight poverty in this country, is to revisit the Government policies of the year 1963 when we gained Independence.

At that time they vowed or pledged to do away with hunger, ignorance and disease. What has gone wrong 40 years later? This is a proof that they have failed. This is not the time to pass the buck. I think what we need now is to go back to the drawing board and formulate new policies which can save this country from the problem we have been

encountering year-after-year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, agriculture is the backbone of Kenya's economy, but because of poor planning - and I believe we have politicised the development or promotion of agriculture in this country - there have been a lot of cries about coffee, tea, the cashewnuts in Mombasa area, the sugar belt is being destroyed and the rice in Mwea is not being taken care of. It has been recommended in this House many times that we need to irrigate our dryland, so that the people who live there can produce food.

The Chair is aware that most of our rivers flow into the Indian Ocean, for example, Tana, which could be used to irrigate that fertile and vast land of Ukambani and Coastal region so that they can be used for farming. I would like to inform this House that, that is done in small bits.

I would like to inform this House that irrigation has been neglected. If you go to the Western part of the country, you will find places like Kano Plains, which have just been developed maybe, a quarter way. Most of the land is dry and, yet, rivers like Nyando and even the lake, for that matter, are lying there with a lot of water unused. There are certain areas in the Western region which could be productive, for example, Mboha Valley, which is in Kisumu Rural Constituency which could still be irrigated and produce a lot of rice and vegetables which can feed some parts of this country, but that has not been looked into. We have places like Yala Swamp, which can feed the entire western Kenya, even this country as a whole, if it is irrigated properly. I would like to inform this House that, that area has been neglected, despite a lot of recommendation and research which has been done there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on hydro-electric power development, I would like to say that the planners who were charged with that responsibility made a grievous mistake. I heard one of the hon. Members here say that the water of Tana River should be "re-cycled" so that it can flow all the way from the last generating station back to Masinga so that it can again generate hydro-electric power there. What is the point of concentrating so many power generating stations on one river whereas we have so many rivers in the West, like Kuja and Nyando?

*(Mr. Wanjala consulted loudly
with hon. Khamasi)*

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order, Mr. Wanjala! If you want to discuss something with your friend, you can walk around and take your seat.

Mr. Ayoki: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Some people are very impatient, they do not sit "tight".

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Awori): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. First, I would like to congratulate the technocrats in the Ministry of Finance for having helped the Minister to prepare a Budget that was very lucid. I also want to congratulate the Minister, particularly in the way he presented the Budget. He used very simple and straightforward language that was understood by almost everybody. The proof of this is the way wananchi right across the spectrum reacted to the Budget. This simply means that they did follow the way he presented it. The Budget was a Government's intention to deal with poverty; that is poverty reduction.

Since we, as hon. Members of Parliament, did not have a hand in the preparation of the Budget, all we can do is to make additional suggestions to see how we can achieve the objective of reducing poverty. Mere criticism, particularly on political persuasion does not help at all, but all it does is to attract media headlines for the critics.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am going to be very brief. A vibrant agriculture would change matters a great deal and reduce poverty in this country, but we want to look at what is happening in that sector. Almost all over the country, there is upheaval and there is a problem. If you look at the tea and coffee industries, rice schemes and the sugar industry, you will find that there are big problems and we want to know why this is happening. To me, it is we, the leaders, who are confusing the issue and are not helping the farmers at all. Most of the big problems that are affecting the farmers are because all the bodies which used to help them have collapsed. The Kenya Farmers Association (KFA), Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC,) and Uplands Bacon Factory are all "dead" and, therefore, the farmer has been left entirely on his own. We need to help the farmer.

Therefore, in addition to what has been put in the Budget for the farmer, we must ensure that the farmer of this country has got access to credit. This is where the biggest problem lies, because the farmer is a businessman like anyone else, and we know that there are very few businesses that can be carried out with the finances of the stakeholders themselves. There must be assistance from banks. So, we would like to ensure that the farmer has got access to credit. The farmer must have a fair share of his produce and, therefore, he must be helped with marketing.

I would like to take seriously the call from many people of giving the farmers their own bank. If you look at the charges by the commercial banks, you will find that there are very few farmers, particularly the small-scale farmers,

who can afford to borrow money from the bank and produce profitably.

If you look at the co-operative societies, they have got the Co-operative Bank which is helping the co-operatives and it is quite successful. I do not see any reason why we should continue refusing to give the farmers their bank.

I would like to revive certain crops that have been successful in the past and can help to alleviate poverty. In this regard, I wish to refer to cotton. We know that cotton grows in a very big part of Western and Nyanza Provinces. If we take our partners in development seriously, popularly known as donors; if they want to help this country, let them help in the revival of cotton. In my own Constituency of Funyula Division with 50,000 acres of cotton, we need eight tractors, ploughs, harrows and planters. With these, we should be able to develop those 50,000 acres of cotton where we should be able to generate close to Kshs250 million a year. A year is only four months as far as the cotton crop is concerned. We require about Kshs40 million or Kshs50 million to access or acquire the machinery.

There is an international organisation called IFAD. We have discussed with IFAD about this but they keep shifting the goal posts; they want certain things done before they can agree. If these donors are really interested in helping this country and they offered just Kshs50 million to one division in the country, there would be Kshs250 million being generated annually from one crop alone. That is the way we should alleviate poverty. Further, we have discussed the question of utilising Lake Victoria waters for irrigation long before Independence. There is no reason at all why we should continue to allow Sudan and Egypt alone to benefit from water which can benefit us too. It is necessary that we should help the farmer.

I would like the Government to do something about the commercial banks that we have. In developed countries, banks are partners with the borrowers. They help them, advise them and give them full service. It is not so here. If you look at the interest rates that they are charging, first of all, it is discriminatory because you will find that they give the base rate plus x, y, z, to smaller industries run by indigenous people. That "plus" is given according to who you are. If you are a small person, it is plus ten per cent. If you are a big person, it is plus two per cent. If you are extremely big, there is no addition to the base rate. It is necessary that these banks should now be controlled. As from 1st of July, they will even start charging for cash deposits. They do not want you to deposit cash. If you do so, they will charge you a certain amount. If you withdraw cash, they will charge you a certain amount. How will a small person trade? We know that if you tender a cheque to a supplier, that supplier will wait for four working days before he can supply you with products. It is necessary for us to look at the banks and deal with them accordingly.

We require Jua Kali sheds to be built in most rural markets. These will help the *Jua kali* people to ply their trade and stop the migration into townships. They will be helping on the social side.

I beg to support.

Mr. Wanjala: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute on this Motion. I wish to support this Motion although this Government has always overlooked the fishing region in its Budget. You will find that every year the fishing industry is not considered in the Budget by this Government. In 1998, the fishing industry earned this Government--

*(Mr. Muchiri crossed the Floor
without bowing to the Chair)*

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Muchiri! If you have to come in between the Chair and the person speaking, you will have to stoop low so that you are not in the way.

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in 1998, the fishing industry earned this Government Kshs6 billion, which is a large amount of money. However, the fisherman is never considered anywhere in the Budget allocations. There is no bank in this country to assist a fisherman. The fishing materials are very expensive for a fisherman. Even in the lake the life of fishermen is insecure. There are pirates from Tanzania and Uganda in the lakes, especially Lake Victoria, who harass our fishermen. The people of Budalangi have lost several motor engines.

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Would the hon. Member declare his interest in the fishing industry before he goes on?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has never declared his interest in cattle rustling because he comes from that area. Today, I stand from Western region---

The Minister for Renewable Energy Development (Mr. F.P.L. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious issue and my colleague cannot get away with it. Can he name just one incident when I was involved in cattle rustling?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was contributing on the issue of the fishing industry. The Minister is only interfering with my speech. A fisherman---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Mr. Wanjala, did you make the claims that he was

involved in cattle rustling?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister wanted me to declare my interest in the fishing industry while he knows very well that I come from a fishing area. In his area, cattle rustling is predominant. He has also severally addressed the issue in this House so, I thought he could also declare his interest.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghio): Order! There are other industries that he could declare his interest in. What industry are you talking about? There is no industry in cattle rustling. Is there?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have said, fishermen/women should be assisted, especially on the side of insecurity around the Lake. They are harassed, and recently, the fishermen/women around Lake Victoria and in Budalangi Constituency have severally lost their motor-boat engines to pirates. But in other areas, like where there are too many cases of cattle rustling, there are anti-stock theft police officers. Why can those fishermen/women not be provided with marine officers around the Lake in order to curb those pirates from harassing them? Those fishermen/women are also taxpayers, and they should be assisted. It is really embarrassing, and with rains---

Whoever will take over the Government in the year 2002 from the Opposition side - because it is possible that somebody from this side will take over this Government in the year 2002 - we are asking that he should consider the plight of fishermen/women there. We do not also want him to embarrass us by asking for food from donor countries when the KANU side made several mistakes. It has not exploited the natural resources within the country. You will find that in Budalangi, we have vast prime farm lands, and even we do not use fertilizers. If you walk over there, you will not get a fertilizer shop, because the land is fertile with plenty of water from both Lake Victoria, River Yala and River Nzoia. The water there is not used, and it is wasted, and destroys the lives of people. People are living in poverty because of that water.

Today, when I complain of floods in Budalangi, I feel embarrassed, because, for the last three weeks, I have not had water in my house in Nairobi. People may ask: What kind of an MP I am? They would say: "Today, he says that there are floods in his Constituency and he says that in Nairobi he has no water." Then, why can we not have this water piped and brought to the city? It is really embarrassing. In the Africa continent, Nairobi is the third largest city. Why should we have no water, whereas there are all types of lakes that we have, including the Lake Victoria? The Government is able to pipe petrol from Mombasa to Eldoret and soon they want to extend it to Kampala, when they do not have water in most of the towns. What plans does this Government have? This is mis-planning, although whoever took over the third Government promised to follow the same Nyayo philosophy. Indeed, he has followed, and enough is enough. Let him now think of distributing the resources to other people.

The Yala Swamp is a very big area, and as the environment changes, there are problems that it causes to the people of Bondo, Alego Usonga and Budalangi Constituency. There are so many snakes, mosquitoes and wild pigs in that swamp, and we cannot even grow yams. Since there is a lot of water, yams cannot do well in that place because of those wild pigs. Severally, we have requested the Government to provide us with game officers, but it has not done so. This Government is quite discriminatory to the people where the state political power does not come from. So, something must be done to help all Kenyans.

On education, I am only 36-years old, and my first born is just now in primary school, and whoever appointed the Koech Commission, we thought that he was assisting this country. Our children are not learning, and they are running mad. That is why you will find that in the universities, secondary schools and primary schools, there are so many cases of riots, which have not been there. The system of education in this country has collapsed, and it is not helping us. Whoever appointed the Commission at that time would also have given his views and not to wait for the Commission to submit its report and for him to claim to be giving his views when already the Report had been compiled. That is why the Report had been thrown under the desk. How many reports shall we keep on having? How will we trust this Government when they have not released the Devil Worship Report, the Land Clashes Report and the Koech Report?

Recently, they came up with an idea that they are going to appoint a one-man commission to look into the boundary dispute between Teso and Busia districts. But let him be serious, because he has created so many problems to Kenyans, and we have these clashes because of these tribal districts. He should not try it in Busia, and he should not even step in Busia. We are ready to fight to the last man, and we will protect the interests of the people of Busia. We will not accept to be harassed throughout. People have rejected that proposal and they are not ready to surrender an inch of their district headquarters.

When Busia district headquarters was built, it was built for the people of Busia, and therefore, it should remain in Busia. Whoever wanted a district, he was shown where to build. So, the one-man commission should not be appointed, and severally, they have appointed several commissions which have not yielded any fruits, and yet they have eaten the Government's money.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Poghio): Order! Your time is up.

Mrs. Mugo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to contribute to the debate on the Floor. I definitely do not support the Budget Speech for the following reasons. This Budget was drawn apparently with one thing in mind; to punish the poor Kenyans even more. The Budget has nothing for the poor Kenyans, rather it is looking after the well-to-do or the middle class, if there is such a thing in this country. Kenyans are miserable, and you just need to see their faces while they are walking on the road. Most of them have not had even a meal, and their children are at home, and they do not send them to school. Others are dying at home with diseases, and then, the Minister for Finance goes and increases the very commodities that those poor parents cannot even afford.

Statistics show that 52 per cent of Kenyans are living below the poverty line. How are those Kenyans now expected to buy kerosene and prepare the little food that they have? Most Kenyans depend on kerosene for energy, and so how on earth can the Minister raise the taxes for kerosene, diesel, petrol and all other commodities, and even increase the rate of the VAT? That will affect the transport system and make it very expensive.

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. I. Ruto): On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not need his information. I will only allow a point of order from him.

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. I. Ruto): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the affluent lady that taxes on diesel have not been increased.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): On what? On another point of order?

Dr. Kituyi: No, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It is a procedural point of order. You will appreciate that hon. I. Ruto has had this phenomenal "metamorphosis", transiting from a youth to an elder without being a young man. We are beseeching him to have better manners than that.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my time is running out.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order! Mrs. Mugo, proceed.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wanted to say - before the Minister rudely interrupted me - that this Budget did not address the needs of Kenyans, which should have been the case. If one is living below the poverty line to that extent, she cannot get food for her family. These children who are at home are not there because they do not want to go to school. This is because their parents cannot afford to pay school fees, yet, we have price increments on commodities which these people need.

I am very surprised to see that on luxury items, for example, beer and cigarettes tax has been reduced. These are not only dangerous to health, but they are also luxury items. Supporting this Budget will be sending Kenyans to the gallows because they have reached the bottom. A lot of my constituents walk to Industrial Area and back home.

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. I. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Lady who actually is very far removed from the ordinary Kenyans to say that we are sending Kenyans to the gallows? She has said that we are sending Kenyans to the gallows by actually supporting a Budget that addresses their needs. Specifically, the Budget has dealt with poverty alleviation and put in place the proper macro-economic framework.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, can you tell the Minister that if he has nothing else better to do, he should, please, let me deliver my contribution?

I take it very seriously when I know that people in Dagoretti Constituency have no water. I know that we have been crying for water for very long and people are walking to Industrial Area in the dark. They trek from Industrial Area to Kawangware and back in the dark because we have no power and they cannot afford transport cost. Those are the areas that have been tampered with. We know that we do not have power in this country not because of lack of rainfall. Unfortunately, the President said on 1st June, 2000, that he does not make rain, but Kenyans have entrusted him with the strings for control of the destiny of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the President let his Ministers, including some senior officers, empty the coffers of this state and we cannot plan and put the money into development where it should be, then he is to blame. Also, he has allowed the felling of all the trees in the forests. Where will the rain come from? I cannot support a Budget that will make the lives of Kenyans, especially people of Dagoretti Constituency---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Mrs. Mugo, you cannot continue discussing the President.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not discussing the President, but I am saying what he said on Madaraka Day where everybody heard him.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): You should discuss the Budget!

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is part of the Budget because I am talking about electricity.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Then talk about electricity.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should do something in this country to get Kenyans out of misery. Unless we accept that things have gone wrong, instead of always trying to justify them, we shall not be able to correct what has gone wrong. Nobody can say that Kenyans are not hungry. Attacking one or two people will not help. When somebody tries to put things right, he is either sacked or something happens to him. We are saying that time has come for us, as leaders, to tell Kenyans how we will get them out of this misery and not how this Government will perpetuate itself in power when it does not deliver services.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know what children in schools will do. They will all fail their examinations because there is no power even to study. They have now gone back to kerosene cans that we used when we were in school.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Karauri): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to say that all school children will fail their examinations? Is that not condemning the children before the examination?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, how will they study? In my house, there is no electricity except for six hours in the dead of the night when the children are asleep. It is common sense.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Mrs. Mugo, it is not possible that all children will fail their examinations.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, well, most of them will fail. Other than those who come from privileged homes where there is electricity throughout, the others will fail their examinations. Some of us are not privileged.

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. I. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to be protected from these Ministers who are so jittery.

I wish all housewives would come out and protest against this Government because they cannot cook for their families and their children are not studying. I am amused because some people do not know whether Kenyans are suffering or not, and they do not care because most of them were not elected, but were rigged in. I will only support this Budget when I see what is in it for Dagoretti people where it concerns water and electricity. We were told that we would have a time-table in Kawangware, Dagoretti Constituency, which is a Jua Kali zone. We do not even have electricity for 12 hours as we were promised. This is because this Government cannot keep its promises to the people. The Government just engages in rhetoric when it says that it takes care of the welfare of all people. But we know that it takes care of the welfare of a few people.

We should blame our economic planners. We know that schemes like Bura Irrigation Scheme have now gone to waste. This scheme was not in the area where some people want to say that development was taking place. Bura irrigation Scheme has collapsed. All the institutions which were planned properly and were running have collapsed. They should be rehabilitated so that those people in that area can have water and the agricultural sector can be revived. The ordinary farmer, who is the woman, should be encouraged to irrigate her land.

With those few remarks, I beg not to support the Motion.

Mr. Muchiri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion.

I rise not to support the Budget for various reasons. First, this Government is not delivering on the promises it has made to the public. This Government promised Kenyans that it was going to provide free education for all. There is no free education. Today education is the most expensive commodity; it has become a liability to Kenyans and the Government is not doing anything.

We were here a few months ago when we were told by the Minister for Education that there were fees guidelines. The headmasters and the principals have refused to comply with these fees guidelines and the Ministry is doing nothing. Thousands of Kenyan students have been sent away from schools because of lack of school fees. The Ministry is doing nothing. I have been, in person, to the Ministry and I have spoken to the Minister. I have requested him to outline the policy of the poor students in this country who cannot afford to pay school fees. The Minister has given no policy guidelines on this and instead, he has advised us to go and hold Harambees in the villages. These Harambees, by coincidence, are impoverishing the Members of Parliament.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mr. Karuari): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We cannot allow the House to be misled that the Ministry of Education gave guidelines on fees and that it is doing nothing to enforce them. We are taking drastic action on this matter. The hon. Member cannot mislead the House that the Ministry is doing nothing about the fees guidelines. I am not misleading

the House. Even today in this House, if the Ministry was doing something---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Let us not delve into that Question. It was deferred until tomorrow.

Mr. Muchiri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The other issue is that this Budget proposes to sack about 33,000 Kenyans. We cannot afford to sack---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio) Mr. Muchiri, the word being used is "retrenching".

Dr. Kituyi: But it is the same as sacking!

Mr. Muchiri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It means the same. Whether you are retrenching, sacking or terminating their services, the effect is that they are going home. There is no difference between the word "sacking" and "retrenching".

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Let Mr. Muchiri continue.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have got enough jobless people in this country. In my own constituency, thousands of Kenyans are idle and yet this Government brings a Budget in this House proposing to retrench another 33,000 Kenyans, who are already employed. Are these people not 33,000 Kenyans.

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. He is talking of sacking 33,000 Kenyans. There is nothing like "sacking". We are talking about retrenchment. Is it in order for the hon. Member to discuss irrelevancies instead of dealing with the entire spirit of the Budget and the micro-economic policies that have been put in place?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Mr. Muchiri, there is a difference between sacking and retrenchment.

Dr. Kituyi: No! It is a matter of opinion, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): There is a difference. So, you walk along the path that is being followed.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the effects are the same. When you look at the performance of the Ministry of Health, we have 607 Kenyans dying of HIV/AIDS daily. We were promised that something was going to be done. Several seminars have been held and nothing has materialised for the last six years. For how long are we going to sit down and observe Kenyans suffering and yet this Government is doing nothing?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when you go to Kenyatta National Hospital, as I am talking now, thousands of Kenyans have been detained because they cannot pay their hospital bills. Dead bodies are being detained in the mortuaries. They cannot be released because Kenyans cannot afford to pay for the dead to be buried. Why is this Government not actually putting into consideration the plight of the poor person in the country?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when you go the Department of Police, there is a lot of brutality in this country. The police have not changed. By coincidence, I happen to be a former policeman. What is happening in this country today is that it has changed from being an independent state to a police state. This Government must change. If you do not change, I am sorry, we are going to change you when the time comes.

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to mislead the House that this country is a police state? The hon. Member confesses that he was a policeman although he has continued giving us a lecture like an ordinary policeman instead of doing so like a hon. Member.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Ruto. I will take aspects of that, but raising a point of order is not usually your safest way to get the attention of the Chair.

Mr. Muchiri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Minister is not even aware that as we talking now, the police are brutalising people at Gatundu. Thousands of policemen have been called from the whole province to go and brutalise people there and they have even killed two Kenyans.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): But Mr. Muchiri, it does not make this a police state. Proceed!

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what we should do in this country is that we should sit down, rectify the past mistakes and agree to unite this country into one nation, one people. Otherwise, what is happening today is pathetic. The KANU side has no respect for their own Ministers. You have read the other day that they were using a lot of scandalising words against the Vice-President of this country and yet---

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): He is ours and not yours!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Ruto!

Mr. Muchiri: No, he is not yours. The Vice-President does not belong to KANU. He belongs to the Kenyans. What KANU should realise is that if they do not respect us and if we do not respect them, we have destroyed

this country. All that we are requesting you is that let us sit down and agree. Where we do not agree, let us reason out and if we do not agree, then let us agree to disagree, and that alone is going to put this country in the limelight. If you look at what is being spoken here today is what we spoke when we came to this House and nothing seems to be materialising. Are we building this nation or destroying it? In my view, we are destroying it and it is high time every Minister took his Ministry seriously. As far as I can see and from my observation in this House for the last three years, Parliament and especially KANU is not delivering any services to the Kenyans.

We have been told that everything this nation ought to do must be recommended by the DDC. My questions are: Under what law was the DDC created? Who created the DDC? Who is publicising outside there that the DDC must recommend development policies? We cannot sit down here and be told about DDC which is non-existent and not within the Constitution.

[Mr. Muchiri]

As we are sitting here, Kenyans are suffering in prison. Hundreds of Kenyans are in remand. Nobody is bothering. When you go to court, the proceedings start at 11 o'clock. A Magistrate deals with one case and then people are returned back to prison. We are mistreating these people. They are not being released on cash bail or on bond. If they are released on bond, the bonds are very high. Why should we not sit down and discuss this? Even if a Kenyan escapes from the court, he will still come back, go to court and be tried.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue is that Government buildings are collapsing. I was very astonished when I went to Mombasa only to find out that there is no single toilet for the public or for the magistrate. I have checked this and all courts in Kenya do not have toilets. Surely, can you sit down and say you are doing the needful to the Kenyans? When you go to the public offices there are no toilets.

I do not support the Motion.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I sympathise with Kenya's Minister for Finance because he came here with a straight face purporting to be presenting a Budget which he knew was founded on premises that cannot be attained. The central message of the current Budget is that we will do the following things if donors give us money. The essence of this Government's governance record and its behaviour since the Budget Day, do not suggest that it will mend its way sufficiently to get half of the money it is begging for.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister was expecting a substantial increase of revenue on the basis of VAT. He is wrong on two or three accounts. The first one is that since there was a shortfall in revenue on VAT last year due to non-compliance, if you increase the level of taxation you also increase the level of non-compliance. There will be a larger non-compliance in VAT remission.

Secondly, it is foolhard to expect that when you expend the ranks of the formerly employed in public service by 33,000, you have husbanded an energy crisis which is accountable for more than that number of people, joining the ranks of the unemployed from the private enterprises. You have occasioned by Value Added Tax (VAT), mushrooming in the cost of basic consumer goods, and you assume that there will be much more consumption of those more expensive goods. Since Budget day, the price of a packet of maize flour has gone up from Kshs50 to Kshs70.

Before the end of the year, more than 50,000 Kenyans will have lost direct formal sector income as a consequence of the crisis in energy and the retrenchment programme. Where does the Minister expect persons with diminished consumption capacity to consume so much more, that realise more revenue because of increased VAT?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are worse problems. Donors will look at you, if they have not been looking at you before, to see whether you have improved your ways, habits and manners. Look at this Government! They have been telling donors that they have listened to what they have been told, and they have tried to mend their thieving ways. They tell us on Budget day: "We are in this together! Let us tighten our belts! We are all poor! Do not think that you are the only poor ones. Everyone is else is poor!" Two days after Budget day, there were a series of Harambees in Keiyo South, and another one in Baringo Central. More than Kshs6 million was raised in each of the Harambees. They tell us to tighten our belts, but they are demonstrating to us how much they have accumulated; whether formally or legitimately, but I have opinions about that. But, of course, most of it is pilfered money! But as they talk about governance and mending their ways, senior Ministers in the Government have started insulting other persons because of their ethnic backgrounds. They go around the country preaching ethnic chauvinism. When the only decent Kalenjin Minister in the Government raises his finger, what happens? They fire him! They would rather have sycophant Ministers; the likes of Mr. Ruto, and not more serious persons like Eng. Kiptoon!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Dr. Kituyi, if you get into personalities, and again cling to your own tribal---

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you understand that I am not playing any tribal card! I am condemning tribalism! I find it shameful that a serious Minister can be fired because he condemned tribalism being practised by his colleagues. I am saying that we should not allow a Government, which rewards mediocrity and sycophants, and punishes people because of what they stand for, to be given money from the taxpayers!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Dr. Kituyi, even the language should

parliamentary. I do not see any need to call anybody a sycophant! That language do not apply to hon. Members. I think you know that.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the level of impunity by the managers of this country is such that---

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could the hon. Member withdraw the words "mediocrity" and "sycophancy?" I do not think those words can be decently used to describe Government Ministers. I think the hon. Member owes us an apology.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I sympathise with this hon. young man! He has not been taught that the word mediocrity is not unparliamentary. But that is not the main thing why I sympathise with him! You see---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Dr. Kituyi, could you---

Dr. Kituyi: He is not a sycophant! I withdraw the claim that he is a sycophant!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Not him! But the use of the offensive language!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have withdrawn the reference to hon. Ruto as a sycophant!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Not just hon. Ruto!

Dr. Kituyi: I have not used offensive language! I cannot withdraw what I have not used!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Dr. Kituyi, you called a Minister--- What was the word?

An hon. Member: Mediocre!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Yes! That is actually the language!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know what, in your version of English, you call persons whose most important credentials is the capacity to organise thugs to stone other Ministers---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order, Dr. Kituyi! It is not going to be my opinion that you seek! It is the parliamentary language and what we can permit in this House! So, those words are going to be offensive. You should withdraw them!

Dr. Kituyi: I withdraw the word "sycophant" that I mentioned. But mediocrity is not unparliamentary! This Government is a mediocre Government! This is even an over-statement for them! A Government which can punish a Minister because he said that, it is dangerous to start talking tribal; I do not know if mediocrity is not even a generous statement to use for them. But there are fundamentals that I am going to talk about.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order! Dr. Kituyi, you are actually playing with words.

Dr. Kituyi: But is that not part of the essence of going to school?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Is that word an over-statement when actually it is offensive? The idea is not to be offensive!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think part of my idea is to express outrage.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Exactly! But without being offensive!

Dr. Kituyi: I want to remain within a given language, and be as offensive as possible about this Government's conduct!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): That should not be allowed here!

Dr. Kituyi: It is not the language! I want to be offensive towards this Government without using very offensive language.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): That is the offensive language that we want you to desist from!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say the following---

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We are asking the hon. Member, who has referred to us as mediocre, to withdraw. Apparently, he seems to be too full of himself and believes that he is super---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order! A point of order has to be used for what it is; a point of order! Dr. Kituyi has already withdrawn the words. Proceed, Dr. Kituyi!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very difficult to reason with a person who has not been endowed with a capacity to be reasonable. I will just stick to what I wanted to say.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Why do you want to protract the war of words?

Dr. Kituyi: I am not protracting anything! Do not reduce me to his level!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Why do you want to protract that? Why would that be more offensive---

Dr. Kituyi: Alright! Let me say what I wanted to say.

(Mr. Ruto stood up in his place)

Can you stop being a heckler?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, both of you!

Dr. Kituyi: Just sit down and let me finish!

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he cannot order me to sit!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Dr. Kituyi---

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are a number of fundamentals that I would like to talk about. I want to talk about more serious things before my time runs out.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Then proceed without being offensive to anybody!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say the following: If Kenyans cannot trust that this Government can mend its ways, and if by the conduct and utterance, it cannot show any capacity for remorse for crimes that it has committed against the people of this country, I think it is even immoral for us to preside over legitimisation of further tax revenue from Kenya taxpayers, to prop and maintain them in their limousines in their dream world. This is a serious matter!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are two other things that I wish to say. At a time of diminishing domestic capacity to employ our competent labour force, it is the duty of the Government to encourage as many Kenyans as possible, to seek and access to external possibilities of employment. Informal employments like being hired by other organisations as monitors and observers in elections, are avenues for seeking greener pastures elsewhere, in a country where the Government has stifled the capacity for one to get those pastures at home.

It is in that context that I was saddened--- In fact, I feel ashamed that President Moi is my President. When I saw the reaction of the Kenyan Head of State over the Zimbabwean Government's decision to bar Kenyans from being observers of elections there---

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Dr. Kituyi: Look at this caricature of a man!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Dr. Kituyi, I am going to ask you to withdraw from the Chamber now! I have been patient enough!

The Minister for Vocational Training (Mr. Ruto): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for him to discuss the person of the Head of State?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Ruto! I have already asked Dr. Kituyi to withdraw from the Chamber.

Dr. Kituyi: For doing what?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Do not argue with the Chair! Withdraw from the Chamber!

Dr. Kituyi: Could you tell me what I have done before I withdraw?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): I have already told you to withdraw from the Chamber!

Dr. Kituyi: For what?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Dr. Kituyi, you may be removed from the Chamber!

Dr. Kituyi: But it is in order for the Temporary Deputy Speaker to state the reason!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): You have already used offensive language! You called a hon. Member a caricature kind of person!

Dr. Kituyi: I did not call him that!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Who were you calling?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you interrupted my speech without listening to what I was saying!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Anyway, the decision has been made! Withdraw from the Chamber for the rest of today's Sitting.

(Dr. Kituyi withdrew from the Chamber)

QUORUM

Ms. Karua: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is no a quorum in the House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Yes, indeed, there is no a quorum in the House. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order! Hon. Members! We have a quorum now. Can we hear from Mr. Sungu?

Mr. Sungu: Thank you very, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Budget Speech. Unlike some other hon. Members, who have contributed to the Budget Speech today, I would like to sympathise with the Minister for Finance because he had a very difficult task, indeed. In fact, I want to say that, this year's Budget was an emergency Budget because it had been drawn up---

(Loud consultations)

Order! Order, I am contributing!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Budget was drawn against the backdrop---

*(Mr. Nyauchi consulted loudly with
hon. Members at the Front Bench)*

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order! Order! Who is that? Mr. Nyauchi, what are you doing there? Order!

Mr. Sungu: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. As I was saying, this Budget was drawn against the backdrop of severe drought in this country which has occasioned various shortages, famine and so on. But, it has become a common practice in Kenya these days to coin new English words. This is particularly common in the NGO sector. May I take this opportunity to coin a new English word because, I think this Budget was actually "donor-driven". This Budget was drawn mainly with donors in mind.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, famine is really ravaging this country and the Minister, in his approach to the Budget, was looking at sectoral issues, particularly, in the agricultural sector and the construction industry. We cannot be talking about famine if there is sufficient food in this country. There are areas in this country which can produce sufficient food for the nation.

The Kano Plains is very fertile large area which is flat and ideal for irrigation, yet the Minister has not addressed the issue of irrigation in this area. Taken together with Busia and Nyatike, the Kano Plains can produce enough rice and other food varieties that are sufficient to feed this nation and surpluses for export. This is an issue that should be taken seriously when we are looking at the Budget. This is because we cannot talk about economic self-sufficiency, poverty eradication or alleviation, if we do not have enough food in this country.

There are some areas, particularly, surrounding Lake Victoria. A good example, is the area around Lake Nyamsoi, which is just outside Kisumu Town. This area is fertile, it has got rich alluvial soils resulting from siltation from the various rivers that drain into Lake Victoria. Yet the Government has ignored pleas from the local people and leaders to make this area an area for food production without waiting for the rains, because the water is just nearby; the soils are there, as my colleague from Budalangi said that you do not have to need fertilizer in those areas. You do not need all those expensive agricultural inputs. The area around Lake Nyamsoi can feed Kisumu.

As I am talking now, in Kisumu, we still import horticultural products from the Rift Valley Province and other areas, including Nairobi. In Kisumu, we spend Kshs250 million every month to import horticultural produce from other regions in Kenya. If we could utilise the waters of Lake Victoria properly, this would not be the case, but we would be self-sufficient in food production.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, allow me to raise an issue which has become contagious here and this is one thing that we must look at as a country. It is time that we called a spade a spade. There is never ever going to be a time in this country when we will ever get forward, if we are not ready to called a spade a spade; if we are not to face the realities of the day. One of the major important things that we know today is about corruption. It is mentioned over and over again, including in the Budget. Right now, we have an example of a Minister, who was the other day fighting corrupt contractors and I am sure those contractors are the ones who are behind his sacking and not what those people are saying. There is one of the contractors in my area, Hayer Bishan Singh & Sons Limited, who is responsible for the destruction of all roads in Western Kenya, say from the Busia to Mumias roads, from the Kisumu to Chemelil in other

towns. These roads are constructed today and six months later, they are potholed. This is pure corruption. The Minister had agreed to blacklist such contractors and yet, he is the one who goes and leave those who are responsible for monumental corruption still sitting in the Cabinet. This is why we have problems in this country and we must stop them. I am on record as having said that this Parliament has a monumental task to do, because we have got two years before the end of this Parliament. If we do not change our attitude towards corruption and other vices, then we are not going to get anywhere.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the essential priorities that were drawn up by the Minister talk about human resource development and one of the issues that was raised was health. In health, we have a lot of funding from outside this country as well as from inside. The HIV/AIDS campaign that is now being carried out in this country is of pertinent interest to me because my area is adversely affected by this scourge. But you find that a lot of money is being used in workshops and seminars. A lot of money is being used in buying big four-wheel drive vehicles instead of going directly to help the people of this country who are in dire need. One of the areas that we must look into, for example, is that of immediate intervention. We must not treat our people like animals, whereby they are crammed per bed and left to die like animals. We must provide drugs. The Government must now look into the issue of using some of this funding which is available to find drugs that can help our people tame the problem.

But of more importance is the AIDS Orphans Association. The number of AIDS orphans in this country is increasing tremendously and yet, in the Budget, this Government is not addressing this issue. It is important to provide for this; otherwise, we will never be able to eliminate poverty. For one, the people who are infected with this disease, one parent goes and the other one follows, are normally in the active age-groups who are working, who are economically secure and who are bread earners for their families. When they go, those children are left without any support whatsoever. No Government worth its salt can sit back and look at the plight of those children and let them suffer. They are never going to go anywhere because, even their education is affected. We are retarding development instead of developing this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a number of issues were also raised and as I said, there was the physical facilities, or infrastructure programme. One of them is air transport. I think it is time this country put its priorities right. It is time we looked at the area that is called Kenya and see where we need what, and where we put what. It is such a shame that Kisumu Airport has been ignored and yet, it is the oldest airport in this country; and yet, it has a big hinterland covering all the way to Isebania, Northern Tanzania, to Busia and Southern Uganda; to Kitale, Kisii and Kericho. This one was ignored at the expense of Eldoret International Airport which was built without parliamentary approval. Where are our priorities? Our priorities are wrong because right now, there is an airport lying idle and yet, Kisumu Airport has a big capacity because there are enough passengers. Even if we had used just half the money that was used on Eldoret Airport, we would be having a facility that we can be proud of and which will be busy enough to pay back some of that money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I note with interest and happiness that, the Minister is talking about improving facilities like the Kenya Ports Authority in Mombasa. This is an important segment of our economy which we must not ignore because we must also look at ourselves in regional terms; look at northern Tanzania and Uganda, and how we can get something from them. Right now, we are trying to import power from them. They should also be paying us for the use of the Port of Mombasa. But if we do not support that Port to be efficient with equipment, manpower and marketing, it will never do so. In that respect, they must go hand in hand with the railway. The railway has been the stumbling block for the development of regional markets for the Kenya Ports Authority. For example, I am talking about the Kisumu Inland Container Depot (ICD) and Eldoret ICD. Those facilities have remained largely idle because of the rail-turn round time. It takes weeks to get just one container from the Port of Mombasa to Kisumu, or Eldoret. This discourages exporters and importers. This is not going to help us in our fight to build a strong economy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, talking about the building and construction industry, I think it is time this Government tried to rationalise what is on the ground, so that we can see how best to use those facilities for the betterment of this country. For example, there are projects which are nearly complete, like the New Nyanza General Hospital, which is 90 per cent complete; the new Nyanza Provincial Headquarters and the Vihiga District Headquarters. Those projects are nearly complete. It will take so little to complete them and yet, the Minister ignored them in his Budget. He ignored those projects and yet, every year, we pay close to Kshs1 billion in terms of rent to various sectors in Kisumu when there is a whole building lying idle. We are paying for its security and it is not being used. These are issues that we must look into. That is not the only one. Coming to water and sanitation---

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this year's Budget Speech. Today's Motion is: That, Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, which therefore, largely covers policy matters that will run the

economy of this country. In this regard, I too want to touch on a number of policy matters by making the following observations.

First, I want to commend the Minister and his team for a Budget well prepared, given the very difficult circumstances and environment that we are currently facing in this country. I consider the Budget well prepared and when we come to the number crunching, we will pick certain flaws therein, which may not necessarily tie in with the policy aspect. However, I would like to commend the Minister because this Budget, in its content, is geared to enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in the management of the economy. Having said so, I wish the Minister and his team the very best.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would now like to comment on a number of policy aspects of the Budget. I will start with the expenditure element, which has, particularly, been captured in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework Paper (MTEF). I welcome the idea for coming up with this particular strategy; I like the way the Ministry involved as many stakeholders as possible, so that the people within the economy could feel that they had a contribution to make in the Budget-making process. This is excellent and commendable. I would like to urge the Ministry to continue consulting every sector of this country's economy in the preparation of future budgets, so that the policy makers can play an effective role in the preparation of Budgets.

In this aspect, I would like to draw the Minister's attention to the areas through which this country has been failed, particularly, the lack of control in spending. We have spent well above the Budget each year. We contract for services without necessarily taking into account the resources that we have. Even after contracting for those services, we do not go back to say: "We cannot pay this bill". So, such bills accumulate massive interest to an extent where the final payment figure becomes three or four times the original contracted figure. This has largely been due to a major failure in the control of this country's limited resources. We have, consequently, ended up spending what we did not have, and exceeded the budget figures by big margins.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, lack of control in our expenditure has resulted in haphazard awarding of contracts and employing people, costing this country more than they ought to have. Projects have cost this country four times their real cost because of under the table payments. I would like to urge the Ministry, the entire Government and people of this Republic to be wary of the culture of get-rich-quickly in an effort to stamp out corruption. Over-expenditure is coupled with corruption. In fact, any of our expenditures, although it may not necessarily be corrupt in itself, is induced, in my view, by corruptible practices.

I hope that, in line with the MTEF, we will, indeed, be able to spend only the money that has been set aside, and that all the monies that will be voted for by this House will be spent on what it has been budgeted to be spent on. We have, many times, had Accounting Officers who, on receiving cheques for moneys voted from the Exchequer, would put them into their coffers and, regardless of the uses that those moneys were intended for, would write cheques from right, left and centre, leaving the objectives for which those moneys were intended without any funds. In my view, this is where we must start from. We have got to put emphasis on the area of control of expenditure. Despite the fact that Government Ministries and Departments have internal audit units and various provisions for cheques and balances on expenditure yet corrupt practices filter through them, and money is over-spent on contracts.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other aspect that I would like to talk about is that of the audit functions of the Government, particularly that of the Controller and Auditor-General. I have said here time and again that it is pointless for us to be debating this House's watch-dog Committee Reports on the accounts for the 1995/96 Financial Year in the Year 2000, some three or four years later. I am glad that the importance of what I am saying has been noticed by the Minister. I have even written papers and memoranda on this aspect to the Controller and Auditor-General, and I would like to urge here again, as a matter of policy, that we must try and get the audits up-to-date.

We must avoid reviewing the Government's accounts for the 1996/97 Financial Year in the Year 2001. We must be up-to-date with our scrutiny of the accounts, so that corrective measures can be taken within reasonable time in fulfilling the accountability function of Government Ministries and Departments. I hope that this will be taken sincerely. Let us have private auditors to come in and help us. We cannot create the capacity of the Controller and Auditor-General and that of the Auditor-General (Corporations) overnight. Let us build that capacity gradually. As we do so, let us try and have the work updated by having it audited by private firms.

Having said so much on the expenditure and audit functions, let me now turn to the revenue function of the Ministry. We have, time and again, heard of large amounts of money in revenue that has not been collected. Large quantities of transit goods have found their way into the local market without taxes having been charged on them. Some of us have heard some of our friends say: "Look, it is only the few of us who pay taxes; the rest of the people are not paying. That is where your problem is". There is this hearsay that we are collecting only 40 per cent of the total revenues we ought to collect. I would like to urge the Minister and his "dream" team and stop dreaming and instead give us something tangible as far as revenue collection is concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am afraid that the increase in Value Added Tax (VAT) rate and other

duties will have a telling a blow on this country's economy. When expenses go up, everyone hikes the price of his commodity. We are on our road to recovery, but I wonder whether the increase in VAT and other taxes will help the economy to recover, as thought by the Minister. I hope that we will achieve the envisaged Gross Domestic Growth rate. I am, however, doubtful whether the increase in the rate of VAT by three per cent will stimulate the growth of the economy of this country. In my view, that is too big a jump to enhance growth and recovery of the economy.

With those few words, I beg to support.

Mr. Githiomi: Thank you, Mr Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion. The time has come for this Government to stop crying foul for lack of funds.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government must start putting in place, measures of stopping corruption in the Civil Service. A lot of money is lost through corruption in this country. Right now we have SWIPCO, which is actually a conduit of looting this country. SWIPCO is being paid over Kshs200 million every month. The company has no specific service that it is supposed to give to Kenyans. They are dealing with valuation of commodities and yet, we have pre-inspection firms which are charged with that responsibility. Customs duties and VAT are pre-determined by pre-inspection firms. We have SGS, Bureau Veritas, and Cotechna among other firms. One wonders what this firm is supposed to be doing and yet, we are every day crying over lack of funds. How can this Government afford to give money free of charge to SWIPCO? If Customs and Excise Department wants to verify values of commodities, they can do so, because they have well trained officers. This Government has spent a lot of money training Customs and Excise Department officers who are supposed to deal with the verification of values of commodities in our ports. However, instead, they have decided to just give money away and SWIPCO is getting money free of charge from the tax payers. This is because, even those people employed by SWIPCO are not specialists. They have employed people who have failed in various clearing firms, not even from the Customs and Excise Department. They have never been trained at all. So, we need this Government - I hope the Minister is writing this down - to realise that unless it has decided to steal from public coffers, then they cannot have SWIPCO in place. They have no duty or responsibilities---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisisio): Order! Mr. Githiomi, mind your language. I think the term "stealing" is unparliamentary.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw the word "stealing" but I replace it with "looting" or "misappropriation".

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisisio): Order! So, which one do you want to use now?

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me use the word "misappropriation" although I think "looting" could also do.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisisio): Order! Mr. Githiomi, please, do not take a lot of our time when you know what you want to say.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think "misappropriation" would do.

All I am saying is that, this Government is seeing public funds being taken away by people who have not given any service to this country. The Government is seeing funds taken away from the public coffers unlawfully. One cannot understand how SWIPCO is being paid Kshs200 million every month and yet, there are no special services they are giving to Kenyans. I think this firm is involved in another Goldenberg scam, if this House likes it. This is because it is just a means of siphoning money from taxpayers without giving services to them. The Customs and Excise Department has tariffs and Kenyans are supposed to adhere to them. One wonders what service SWIPCO is giving to Kenyans because the Customs and Excise Department is supposed to follow up the tariffs. The duties are pre-determined overseas before the importation is done by local ports. So, I am only requesting this Government to make sure that they stop the services of this firm because we do not need those services. If they do not stop them, then it is a clear indicator that there are very powerful people within the Government who may be connected with it because it is not really possible just to pay them public money when they are not rendering any services to Kenyans.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue that I would like to talk about is famine. We have very serious famine in the country. Unfortunately, Central Province, and more so Nyandarua District, is affected by it. The other day, Nyandarua District was given only 1,000 bags of maize. It is far from adequate. We had requested for 10,000 bags of maize because our people are really suffering. It does not serve any purpose to give a whole district 1,000 bags of maize. So, the Government should set aside some money to buy food for Kenyans because this is time most of us may die in large numbers from lack of food. One wonders what has gone wrong with food security in this country? This is because any country worth its salt, should consider having food security. We have many silos all over the country and the Government should have thought of buying food, and particularly when a bag of maize was being sold at as little as Kshs400. One wonders why the Government could not project or plan ahead of time to see to it that we always have enough food to sustain our population. I am saying this because for the first time in our history, Kipipiri Constituency needs assistance in terms of famine relief. I have seen people who are really suffering. The other

day, we only got 150 bags of maize. I urge the Minister to ensure that food is taken to Kipipiri Constituency through the DC because, at the moment, we have no food at all. We have never needed famine relief before because we have always had our own food. It is unfortunate that we have serious famine this year round and we cannot do without famine relief. We should be considered along others in the country, like those people in the North Eastern and some parts of Rift Valley provinces. We should be considered together with those people who had famine for a long time. We represent these people and it is only fair that we be heard by the Government. It is only fair that this Government take food there and not to assume that we have adequate food like we have always had in Kipipiri Constituency. In the past, the Government had abrogated its responsibility and it does not want to do anything. Look at our roads; potholes are the order of the day. You go to hospitals, there is no medicine.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other day I took a patient to Ol Kalau Hospital. I was told to buy an exercise book for the doctor to write a prescription. As if that was not enough, when the medicine was prescribed, I was told to go and buy drugs. It is sad that I was also told to buy a cup for the patient I had take to hospital. So, this Government is not giving services to its citizens. One wonders why they have even to bring a budget here. We have been approving budgets in this House, year in, year out, but no services. The time has come that Kenyans should stop paying taxes for no services. If there are no services that the Government is giving to us, then there is no point of this Government thinking that it is going to get money from us. One wonders what the Government does. From 1996 and I can say this with authority, no single cent has been spent on roads in Kipipiri Constituency. I have put a Question here on the same issue because we have been approving funds for roads in my constituency. One wonders where this money goes to. Who "eats" the money because it must be having some exit somewhere? It is a pity that whenever we ask Questions here, we are given promises that the roads are going to be done. Last year, but one, I was told that they were going to be done by August of 1998. That has never happened. We are now in the year 2000 and nothing has happened. So, what we are saying is that if our people will be required to pay taxes, then we must see the work those taxes are going to be used on. So, we are saying that if our people are required to pay taxes, then we must see the work that these taxes do. We cannot just pay taxes for people to put in their pockets, because it is corruption that has brought about a situation whereby public funds are syphoned out and no physical work can be seen. In actual fact, it is a shame that a whole Budget goes through, but when you go to where the money is supposed to be used, you find that nothing at all has been done.

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

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Dr. Wamukoya): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for also giving me a chance to make a contribution to the Budgetary Statement of this year. Secondly, I would like to commend the presentation of the Minister, but I have got a few concerns which I want to express.

I think this year, the budgetary presentation was quite different from what we have been used to, and I suspect that somebody was carrying out an experiment. The Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) approach may have influenced the people who made the Budget to carry out their experiment to the end. Granted that the process of making the Budget is a long one, they may have started thinking about this year's Budget, maybe, last year and they wanted to do an experiment to find out whether their approach of providing or considering "sick" sectors is going to work. But in the intervening period, everybody realises that there were many crisis which came in; we now have drought, electricity problem and water shortages. I think when these things came up, this team did not think or stop to make variations on what they had put in their planned process, such that now we are having a Budget that maybe, overloading the areas which, as far as I am concerned, in the next one year are not going to make any reasonable changes. They have now favoured manufacturing, industries and insurance companies. They have removed duty from areas --- Somebody would assume that they were thinking in terms of generating employment; that when industries are set up and are fully operational, there would be jobs. But you can only do this if you have money to input into these industries; you can only do this if you have a long time to play with. Already our people do not have employment opportunities and you cannot say that within the next one year, if you jogged around, you would create it. It is not possible!

Therefore, I can only say that the "Dream Team" or the MTEF approach is good, maybe, in countries like the United States of America (USA) and China, where I was told that economic growth is up to 12 per cent, but not in Kenya where we have this crisis. I believe that re-orientation should have taken place very quickly when we realised that we had a crisis, so that we put the little we have into agriculture. Some time ago, agriculture was getting up to 11 to 13 per cent of budgetary provisions, and it was a booming industry for very many people. But over the years, agriculture has been receiving 4 per cent in the Budget, but the actual Exchequer Issue may have come to 3.5 per cent. When we were told that there was a new approach, and agriculture was one of the "sick" sectors to be considered, we thought that this time, the budgetary provision would have been enhanced, but looking at the Budget the situation has remained the same.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I believe that people with food in their stomachs are peaceful, and if you feed a nation, you do not even need to worry much about their health, because food is really a protection to many diseases that afflict people. I would like to say that hungry people are also prone to these diseases. I would have thought that in a situation whereby 60 per cent of the people are poor or are living below poverty line, we should have thought of enhancing agricultural activities in this country. This was not done and now we are talking about privatisation of animal and crop agriculture. This is good, maybe, to encourage the farmer to look after himself, but I believe that at this stage of our development, we are running away from problems which we should help the farmer in. You will find that even in areas where we have got cash crops and organised livestock industry, people are asking for famine relief food. Central Province has got coffee and tea, but we have heard hon. Members tell this House that they are receiving 1,000 bags of relief maize per district. I think such a thing should not be allowed to happen because it is retrogressive and taking us backwards.

I would like to inform this House that when people hear about Mumias sugar belt, where I come from, they think that there is a lot of money there. This is true. I would like to say that Kshs500 million is circulating within Mumias or within the sugar belt, but the farmer does not see that money. We are the best exporters of money and, therefore, nothing remains in Mumias. When somebody says that these people have got sugar and, therefore, a lot of money is circulating in the area, they forget that the people of Mumias and Matungu Constituency, which I represent, are really burdened with poverty. I would like to inform this House that people do not have school fees to pay for their children and food to give them..

So, I believe that this Budget or future budgets must consider agricultural input. Even if privatisation will be allowed to continue so that farmers can carry their own burden, the Government should play a role of removing taxes and duties on inputs. Last year, a bag of fertilizer was costing Kshs1,750 up above the Kshs950 of the previous year. This is a very expensive input. At Kshs700 or Kshs800 difference, we are talking about farmers' profit being "eaten" greatly. We are also talking about the farmer who ploughs his land using diesel, whose price keeps going up. Nobody is considering removing taxes on diesel. That is an input that is very costly to the farmer. With liberalisation in place the Government should consider removing some of these taxes from the inputs so that a profit can be realised by the farmers.

The marketing system is also very poor. We have dwelt a lot on production. How do you produce? We are now asking for the inputs to be improved. If you do not have a cereals board to market your produce, the KCC is not working and all these marketing bodies are in shambles, we are talking of a big problem because of the wastage that will be realised. Even if the farmer harvests his crops the maize will be eaten up by weevils or get rained on and he will end up with his crops being wasted. When we cry about problems of feeding this nation we are talking about a lot of wastage which we can really take care of.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Twaha: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to contribute to the Budget Speech. This Budget was, for the bankers and prepared by the bankers. The so called dream team is made up chiefly of bankers from the private sector. If you look at the Budget you will find that 16 per cent of the Government's revenue goes towards servicing of debts which amounts to a good Kshs30 billion. When hon. Keah talked about people getting rich, I think he was referring to Government civil servants and the usual scapegoats. The real parasites in this economy are the bankers. They are collecting Kshs30 billion and then banks like Barclays Bank and Kenya Commercial Bank are declaring profits of Kshs4 billion. They do not actually produce anything. They do not produce any food, energy, medicine or clothing for that matter. They are raking in all these large profits at the expense of everybody else and essential services that the Government could be delivering to the people.

The Treasury Bill rates are so high as to exclude the private sector from borrowing and investing and in turn facilitating the growth in the capacity and production of the economy and hence, even the Government revenue. If the GDP grows, of course the Government's revenue will also grow. I would like to propose that if possible, the Government should consider even printing money to repay some of these domestic debts. This will bring down the interest element from Kshs30 billion and free some money for the delivery of essential services. We have become the slaves of the local bankers as well as the international bankers; the IMF, World Bank and their clients.

The Assistant Minister of Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Are you serious!

Mr. Twaha: Yes, I am serious. The Government's needs---

The Assistant Minister for Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member really serious in advising the Government to print money?

Mr. Twaha: I am elaborating.

The Assistant Minister for Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): I think he is misleading this Government and the country.

Mr. Twaha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform Mr. Keah that I graduated in economics with an honours degree and he should hear me out. This economy could use a little bit of inflation; it is not unhealthy. It could use some pump priming. That would be one way of doing it instead of borrowing from these institutions. You are also printing money when you pay interest to a bank for doing nothing. When the Government pays interest to a bank, it is in a way printing money. It could print its own money and pay for roads, medical services and other things. It does not have to go through the banks. The purchasing power of the mwananchi is very important if we are going to tackle the issue of poverty.

The power of the wananchi is derived from the power of the Kenya shilling. This same bank, which hon. Keah is defending, is the one which advised the Government to conduct coffee and tea auctions in the US Dollar, when we had agreed that, that would eliminate the demand for the Kenya shilling. Since that time, the Kenya shilling has been in the downward spiral; from Kshs10 to Kshs77, and God knows where it is heading to. The only thing remaining is mopping it up at the high interest rates, which we do not need. If we were to conduct every week these coffee and tea auctions in the Kenya shilling, the buyers all over the world would have had to change their hard currencies and transact business in the Kenya shilling, and there would be demand for the Kenya shilling. Definitely, the Kenya shilling would become stronger and the purchasing power of the mwananchi would rise, the cost of energy would go down and so many good things would happen.

Those are the policies that we need to implement. In fact, we should send hon. Keah - who is my friend to hold some consultations with Prime Minister of Malaysia, Mr. Mahathir Mohammed, on how to deal with the Bretton Woods institutions.

The Assistant Minister for Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Keah): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, why do you not allow me to defend myself?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso): Order!

Mr. Twaha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, so, in order to eliminate poverty, we need a strong Kenya shilling, and in order to achieve that, we need to market our goods in our own currency. If you go to Germany and you want to buy a Mercedes Benz, they will tell you to buy it in Deutch Mark, and not in the US Dollar. If you go to Japan to buy a car, they would negotiate in the Japanese yen, and not the US Dollar. That is why we should invoice our own goods in the Kenya shilling, so that our currency gets some demand *vis-a-vis* the foreign currencies on weekly basis. Otherwise, there would be open speculators in the form of the producers and the bankers.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President for lifting the mild ban on harvesting of mangroves in Lamu and, in general, the Coast Province. That is a very welcome move, although we do not know why the ban was put there in the first place.

If we have to tackle the issue of poverty, we need to ban the importation of *mitumba*. I come from a cotton-producing area and farmers are really suffering due to low prices, but the finished products of cotton cannot compete with the second-hand clothes. As a result, the farmers are suffering and the investment in that sector is low, because how can you compete with clothes which have been sold for Kshs20 when the cost of production of a new one is US\$10? The Government should seriously consider the ban on importation of *mitumba*.

We have a department in Mombasa of the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KBS), and I think there is big contradiction in the work that they do. We have second-hand clothes being allowed into the country and then the properly manufactured goods from the international markets are disqualified as being sub-standard. There is double-standard and hypocrisy there, and either we should have standards or we do not have. We cannot allow importation of *mitumba* to hurt our cotton farmers, and then continue to have the KBS. As far as I am concerned, there is nothing like that.

Still on the issue of poverty, there is the per capita income; the total national income divided by the whole population. We have left our borders open to aliens, chiefly from Somalia, to come and invade this country, and they are affecting not only our per capita income, but also the security situation in the country. In my constituency, we recently had an invasion from Galceel clan, and if you ask the Somalis, they will tell you that they were not known at Independence, or during the Kenyatta and Moi regimes. They are mainly from Somalia, and, indeed, if they are Kenyans, they must state the district where they come from; that is either Mandera, Garissa or Wajir. But they are not Kenyans and some forces within the country are trying to force them upon the people of Lamu. The people of Lamu will reject the settlement of those people in our area, because they are not Kenyans. We have sworn to defend the Constitution of Kenya, although the freedom of movement is enshrined in it, but we cannot allow the freedom of movement for aliens. They should either go home, or we take them to refugee camps, or they should be given asylum somewhere else. This is because we cannot afford to accommodate people who are heavily armed when we do not have enough resources to provide for our basic needs.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Poghisio): Order! It is now time to interrupt the business of the House. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 22nd June, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.