

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 19th July, 2000

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

NOTICE OF MOTION

LEAVE TO INTRODUCE AUCTIONEERS
(AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-
THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill for an Act of Parliament entitled "Auctioneers Amendment Bill".

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.451

ISSUANCE OF WORK PERMITS TO FOREIGNERS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is Mr. Kajwang here? We will come back to this Question.
Let us proceed to Dr. Kituyi's Question.

Question No.351

PROLIFERATION OF RELIGIOUS CULTS/SECTS

Dr. Kituyi is also not here; we will come back to this Question.
Let us proceed to the next Question.

Question No.247

MURDER OF MR. WANG'KIO

Mr. Onyango is not here? We will come back to this Question.

Question No.513

IMPROVEMENT OF LODWAR PRISON

Mr. Munyes asked the Minister for Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports what steps he is taking to improve the living conditions in Lodwar Prison.

The Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

Lodwar Prison was built in 1956. Structurally, its buildings are still in good condition. The prisoners accommodation and the staff houses are in good condition. Some staff houses are of temporary structure, but are being maintained to make them habitable within acceptable standards. Every year, Kshs1 million is set aside for maintenance of prison facilities throughout the country.

Mr. Munyes: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform this House that while Kshs1 million is set aside for maintenance of prison structures every year, the condition of Lodwar Prison is quite poor. Prisoners are

crowded, and they experience a lot of problems while there. It has been reported that in order for a prisoner to be seen by his relatives at that prison, uniforms must be borrowed for him from another inmate, so that he may be seen. Also, the staff there are having a lot of problems; one room is shared by four warders. So, something must be done. So, what action will the Assistant Minister take to improve the conditions at that prison?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I acknowledge the fact that Lodwar Prison needs to be expanded. There is need to put up new buildings to cater for the increasing population of prisoners. However, it is not possible to do so presently, due to financial constraints. As soon as we get enough funds, we will rehabilitate that prison and others throughout the country.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell us the inmate population of Lodwar Prison and the number of inmates occupying each cell?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not have the figures rightaway, but I will bring them in the next few days.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. When we talk about prisons, the question of numbers is critical, because that is

what determines how prisoners live in there. If the Assistant Minister does not have the basic information on population of that prison, really, are we serious about this matter? I would propose that we be given that information, because the question of prisons in this country is a very serious one?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not say that we do not have that information. I only said that I do not have them rightaway, and that I will bring them to the House later.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, you acknowledged that the prison is in need of expansion which, really, indicates that you know that it is over-crowded. In your reply, you said that there is need to increase accommodation facilities at that prison. So, how did you determine the need for expansion of those facilities?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that we are going to expand the facility, because the current buildings were put up a long time ago, when the prison population was very small. So, what I am saying is that we have the facts but, unfortunately, I do not have them here with me.

Dr. Kulundu: Given the fact that year after year, prisoners die of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, typhoid, cholera, and others, is the Assistant Minister satisfied that Kshs1 million for the rehabilitation of all prisons in this country is enough to cater for prisoners' needs?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kshs1 million may not be sufficient. We have been asking for additional funds from the Treasury, but all that we get every financial year is about Kshs1 million.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell us whether there are any plans to facilitate informing of prisoners on what happens in the country by providing them with television and radio sets?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it would be very good to do so. However, currently, we are short of funds. As soon as we get funds, we will provide prisons with such facilities.

Mr. Shaaban: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since the Assistant Minister has stated that the prison requires rehabilitation and expansion because of overcrowding, could he tell us exactly when funds will be availed to the Prisons Headquarters in Lodwar, so that it can be expanded? The Assistant Minister admitted that this prison required expansion long time ago and it has not been expanded. Could he tell us the exact financial year when funds will be available and the amount of money that will be available?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are taking all the prisons in totality. I am saying that as soon as we get additional funds--- We have been asking for funds year-in-year-out, but the little that we have got is only Kshs1 million which has been used to maintain these prisons. As to when the rehabilitation will take place and the amount of money that will be required, we do not have that information right now.

Mr. Munyes: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. We realise that this is an old prison that was built in 1956. I would like to inform this House that even the Founder Father of this nation was actually jailed in Lodwar. If you see the structures, they are so tinny that if people are congested inside, it is just like killing them. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have been to Lodwar Town and you know that the temperatures there are very high and one can suffer in that prison. In fact, it is like hell. Why can we not destroy these old structures that were put up in the colonial days and were meant to torture people? Why can we not improve these structures? Why can we not destroy them or get more funds to improve them?

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would be the happiest Assistant Minister, if we would get funds to destroy those structures and put up new ones. I do not want to ridicule or disagree with my brother, hon. Munyes, but I have never been to hell and I do not think that hon. Munyes has been to hell to say that conditions in Lodwar Prison are like the ones in hell. I am sorry, I think we have to wait---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That is purely figurative.

Mr. Sumbeiywo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think that as soon as we get funds, we will put up new buildings.

Question No.231

UPGRADING OF BUNA/BUTE TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Ali is not here! We will come back to that Question. Let us move on to the next Question by hon. Mbela.

Question No.473

INSTALLATION OF BRUCE HOUSE LIFTS

Mr. Mbela: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to continue with the Question because it has been overtaken by events.

An hon. Member: Which events and, yet, this Question is the property of the House?

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to withdraw the Question when it now belongs to the House?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: He is in order.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, can he explain the events that have made him to withdraw the Question?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Angwenyi, you are now asking that hon. Member a question at Question Time. Let us move on to the next Question.

Question No.438

PAYMENT OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO MR. MARITIM

Is Mr. Kimetto not here? We will come back to that Question later on.

Question No.093

DETAILED STATEMENT ON RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Mr. Anyona asked the Minister for Energy:-

(a) whether he could make a detailed statement on Rural Electrification Programme in Gucha, Kisii and Nyamira Districts on the basis of each constituency;

(b) whether he is also aware that residents of Nyamira District (West Mugirango and North Mugirango) have not been paid compensation for properties destroyed during installation of electricity; and,

(c) whether he is further aware that consumers of electricity in Nyamira District are forced to pay their bills at extra cost and inconvenience.

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

(a) The undermentioned projects in Kisii, Nyamira and Gucha Districts have been identified for Rural Electrification Programme, but we are handicapped because of lack of money although there are other projects that are going on now.

(b) I am aware that some residents in Nyamira District (West Mugirango and North Mugirango) did not turn up for payment when they were requested to do that, although Kshs783,312.55 was spent to compensate some people and there is a balance of Kshs49,081 to be paid out. I have a list of people who should go to the Provincial Administration Headquarters to get their payment. I will give it to the hon. Member so that he can advise them. I would like to inform this House that the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) has again written to them and made arrangement for them to go to the Provincial Administration Headquarters for their payments.

(c) I am not aware. However, I am aware that the KPLC operates an Account No.256970101 at the Kenya Commercial Bank, Nyamira Town, into which customers around Nyamira may pay their electricity bills.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Assistant Minister where this money is? Is it in Nyamira District or in Kisumu? Can the list be tabled so that we can tell these people to go and get their

money?

Mr. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier on, the money is with the Provincial Administration ready to be paid to these people. I have a list here which I can give to hon. Anyona in order for him to advise these people to visit the Provincial Administration Headquarters to get their money. I would like to table this list.

(Mr. Manga laid the list on the Table)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! But hon. Anyona wants to know--- The Provincial Administration Headquarters could be the PC's, DC's or DO's Office, Kisumu. Which office do they need to go to?

Mr. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they should go to the DC's office, Nyamira.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell us the estimated cost of these programmes that have been identified for rural electrification in Gusiiland, and when the money will be made available to implement those projects?

Mr. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will talk about the allocation for this financial year. I would like to inform this House that Kisii, Nyamira and Gucha Districts have been allocated Kshs11 million respectively. I would like to table the list of these projects per constituency. I would like to say that the estimates are being worked out and funds provided, as I have said.

(Mr. Manga laid the list on the Table)

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like the Assistant Minister to clarify to this House exactly how they finance the Rural Electrification Project, because if you go to Ethiopia, you will find that peasants in the countryside in their little huts have electricity and telephones right into the homes. Here in Kenya, there does seem to be a bias of supplying electricity only in rural-urban areas and not the real people. Could the Assistant Minister explain to this House exactly how he finances Rural Electrification Programme and why he requires poor peasants in the countryside to pay so much money as downpayment before he supplies them with electricity? What is the rationale behind saying that the Government wants to fight poverty and, at the same time, it wants the same poor people to pay money when it gives them infrastructure like electricity?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, it is not a policy to ask people to pay 10 per cent. But where there is no provision and people really want electricity, they pay 10 per cent through cost-sharing, in order to assist the Government to provide them with electricity. Otherwise, projects are done according to the recommendations of the DDCs in the country. After they recommend to us the projects they want to fund, we consider which project to implement first

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Did you understand him because I did not? Could he answer my question? What is the policy of providing rural electrification to poor peasants who cannot pay 10 per cent or the down payment as demanded by the Ministry? Do you have any policy of supplying electricity to poor people in the rural areas, if you are fighting poverty? Those people are poor and they cannot pay the 10 per cent. What is the policy?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our policy depends on how projects are prioritised and forwarded to us by the DDCs.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is not the policy but procedure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Eng. Manga, we are dealing with a very sensitive issue. I do not contribute towards the purchase of a petroleum pump. Do I have to contribute towards the purchase of a transformer?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as said, this is the other alternative of cost sharing where people come together and contribute towards a project because funds are limited. If they want electricity, we ask them to pay 10 per cent. Otherwise, when funds will be available, we will provide them with electricity in accordance with the Government policy of supplying electricity to its citizens.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a very impressive list of the projects. The list of the Kitutu Masaba is what I have submitted to the Ministry, and I have listed down the projects that have been identified by the DDC. Nevertheless, could the Assistant Minister tell us; of those projects, for example, in Kitutu Masaba, how many are on-going right now?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have laid a document on the Table, regarding the on-going projects. These are Esani Primary and Nyakongo Secondary Schools, Nyamarambe Division Headquarters, Sameta Market among other projects. They have surveyed and the projects are at an advanced stage.

Mr. Magara: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to

mislead the House by saying that Sameta is in Kitutu Masaba, when it is in Bobasi Constituency?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am answering the question on which projects are going on in the district.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when he talks about Nyakongo as one of the on-going projects, I do not take him seriously because Nyakongo is a self-help project. People paid money to KPLC, but they have been unable to provide them with services. He cannot say this is a Government-sponsored project. Could the Assistant Minister, with all seriousness, go back and tell us what is happening? As far as I know, in the whole of Gusiiland at the moment, there is no rural electrification programme going on anywhere at all.

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Nyakongo is a self-help project. It is a cost sharing project between KPLC and the people. Therefore, it is one of the on-going projects.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister then tell this House what happens to the cases that follow the laid down procedures? For example, in Dagoretti, we have over six community projects by people who paid their money to KPLC more than two years ago but they have never been supplied with electricity? The DDC in Dagoretti took over the matter and forwarded all the cases again to the Ministry, but until now, no services have been provided. We have not received any reply from any quarter even to acknowledge or to say when the programme will start. So, what is the Ministry doing to make sure that those people get services because they have already paid their bit of cost?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, these projects are in stages. If those people have paid their bit of cost-sharing, I am sure the survey must be done and the posts have already been taken there. It is very difficult to know when the project will start, unless you see the posts being erected. There are many stages that are involved and money is required here. If it is a cost-sharing project, then some work is being done that can be seen on the site.

Mr. Omamba: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of electricity is a very serious one in most of our districts. Many times, we have recommended areas to be supplied with electricity, but when you go to those areas, you do not find the personnel to tell you what is happening. The same thing applies here; there is no personnel in the area. How does the Government determine 10 per cent? How much is remaining? There is a lot of confusion, as far as rural electrification programme is concerned. Could the Assistant Minister tell us the Government policy on Rural Electrification Programme?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know which question to answer because he has put so many questions at the same time. Could the hon. Member be specific?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Omamba, what is your question?

Mr. Omamba: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is the policy of the Government on the rural electrification and how much is the 10 per cent?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have replied to that question. It is the policy of the Government to provide electricity to all its citizens. However, this depends on the availability of funds. The 10 per cent issue is another alternative way, where people assist the Government by paying a certain amount of money. That is what is called cost sharing. By the way, we are now getting out of it because by the time people raise their 10 per cent, the cost of the project will have escalated. So, that 10 per cent business will actually be scrapped.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, maybe, the only useful answer we can get is for the Assistant Minister to tell us how and on which projects we will use the Kshs10 million in each of the said districts?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the estimated Kshs11 million given to each district, pending the Exchequer issues, will be used according to priorities that the DDCs have given, and they will be chosen accordingly.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is my friend and neighbour. I asked: Which districts will be given the first priorities, because we do not know?

Eng. Manga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had given a list of all the projects that have been listed, and that list is done according to priorities. There are also some projects that have started and are in their initial stages and they will take priority. Then, survey has been carried out and there are other stages like way-leave and all that.

Question No.484

SEWERAGE FACILITIES FOR CITY ESTATES

Mr. Muchiri asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) what plans he has to provide Githurai, Zimmerman, Ruaraka, Thome, Garden Estate and Mwiki areas with proper sewerage facilities; and,
- (b) When he will commission water schemes in the aforesaid areas.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kiangoi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Ministry, in liaison with the Nairobi City Council (NCC), has already concluded feasibility studies and designs for the proper sewer network to serve Githurai, Ruaraka, Thome, Garden Estate and Mwiki areas.

(b) The Government, in liaison with the NCC, again, has already constructed a 900 millimetre water pipeline from Kiambu to Kasarani and a water storage tank at Kasarani with capacity of 11,000 cubic metres. Also, from Kasarani, another pipeline of 700 mm to serve Mwiki and surrounding areas up to Njiru is under construction and will be commissioned very soon.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from what the Assistant Minister has said, it is more than obvious that the whole of Kasarani Constituency does not have sewerage facilities. The NCC has been charging rates on the residents of Kasarani and we have a population of over 800,000 people living there. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House when he will provide those facilities, the amount set aside by the Government and will he commission that water pipeline that he has told this House about?

Mr. Kiangoi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, plans in place now are that the feasibility studies have been concluded. The total estimated cost is about Kshs4 billion and the Government is looking into ways and means of raising that money so as to provide those facilities to those areas in Kasarani.

Mr. Gatabaki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in addition to the provision of the sewer facilities in those emerging areas, what plans has the Ministry got for the provision of water and road network in those areas?

Mr. Kiangoi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as soon as the Minister identifies the emerging residential areas, the Ministry gets into communication with the NCC or any other authority that may be having jurisdiction over the area to set a plan and submit them to the Ministry in order that the Ministry may, again, begin to finding out ways and means of providing those services like water and sewerage.

Mr. Muiruri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is avoiding answering the question. He is referring to the feasibility studies, and he is not very specific. The question is: There are about 800,000 people in those areas and there is no single sewerage in all those estates. He is saying that there is a feasibility study that will cost the Government Kshs4 billion. In the process, he also mentioned the NCC, and so, as per the question, when will that be done?

Mr. Kiangoi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not get the question very clearly because the hon. Member was speaking in a low tone. I tried, in fact, to get it, and with your indulgence, I would ask him to repeat.

Mr. Muiruri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is avoiding answering the specific question. He is referring to a feasibility study that will cost the Government Kshs4 billion. There are 800,000 people in all those estates mentioned above and there is no single sewerage in all the area, and it is a very serious situation in view of the diseases like cholera and so on. The question is: Could the Assistant Minister specifically tell this House when this project which will cost Kshs4 billion will be implemented?

Mr. Kiangoi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not avoiding answering any question, or making reference to any specific question. The hon. Member will appreciate that with mushrooming areas, like in Kasarani, the Government would not have had plans beforehand to put sewer facilities in place. But now that they have been identified---

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead this House by saying that the areas being referred to are mushrooming areas; in other words, spontaneous settlements, when we know that Zimmerman, Ruaraka, Thome, Garden Estate, Mwiki and Githurai have been part of the Nairobi City for over two decades? In Ruaraka, we have the ICIPE International Centre, the International Centre for Mapping and Survey, the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani and the Safari Park Hotel, are they mushrooming areas? Could he explain to this House why the plans by the Japanese Government to finance water development in this city have not actually been actualised because of the corruption on the other side?

Mr. Kiangoi, are they mushrooming areas, and why are you corrupt?

Mr. Kiangoi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will not go into the issue of corruption, but the hon. Member had not even let me to continue. I was just saying that in reference to the question about mushrooming areas, I had not specifically come to the areas which are referred to. I am saying that already, a feasibility study has been carried out and I have given out the estimated figure that will be required. I have said that the Government, in collaboration with the NCC, is looking for sources for that colossal amount in order to put up those facilities, and that will be done as soon as we get the funds.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister in order to tell this House that the Government will only provide money for the provision of water--- Could he consider providing sewerage facilities in that area where the water pipe is passing through?

Mr. Kiangoi: We gave water first and we are looking into the issue of giving sewerage facilities.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Kajwang's Question for the second time?

Question No.451

ISSUANCE OF WORK PERMITS TO FOREIGNERS

Is Mr. Kajwang' still not here? The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Kituyi's Question for the second time?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg the indulgence of the House for coming late.

Question No.351

PROLIFERATION OF RELIGIOUS CULTS/SECTS

Dr. Kituyi asked the Minister of State, Office of the President, what action the Government is taking to protect gullible Kenyans from the acts of conmen behind the proliferation of religious cults and sects, in the light of the genocidal events which happened in Kanungu and Kalingo townships of South Western Uganda.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleague was to come and answer it. I believe he may still be on the way.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what evidence do you have that some colleague is on the way, 40 minutes into Question Time? Normally, we receive written replies before the sitting of the House. The fact that I do not have it and his colleague is taking more than 40 minutes to get here causes some anxiety about the veracity of that statement.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I will defer this Question to Tuesday, next week.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Onyango's Question for the second time?

Mr. Achola: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to apologise for coming late.

Question No.247

MURDER OF MR. SUNA WANG'KIO

Mr. Achola, on behalf of **Mr. Onyango**, asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

- (a) if he is aware that Mr. Suna Wang'kio from Mihuru Central, Mihuru Division, was murdered on 17th December, 1999, at Wata Petrol Station in Mihuru Customs; and,
- (b) what action he has taken to bring the murderers to book.

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

(a) I am aware that Mr. Benson Suna Wang'kio, a watchman at Wata Petrol Station, was killed by armed robbers on 17th December, 1999, while on night duty at the petrol station. As a result of that death, police visited the scene of the incident and Migori Police Station Investigation File, CR663/139/99, was opened and is still pending under investigation. Unfortunately, so far no arrests have been made.

Mr. Achola: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister satisfied that the police officers in Migori are doing their best to arrest the murderers of this gentleman because it is now seven months since the crime was committed? Similarly, yesterday I asked a question on a person who was murdered and it has been one year and no arrest has been made. We know the police are very quick when they are collecting corruption money. How come it is taking so long to arrest people who have murdered innocent citizens?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I believe strongly that the police are doing their best to apprehend the culprits in this particular case and in any other case that the hon. Member has mentioned.

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister tell this House what assistance they are

getting from the Intelligence Service regarding the commission of crimes in this country?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as a policy, all arms charged with the security of our country liaise in order to bring the security situation under control.

Mr. Achola: Could the Assistant Minister give an undertaking as to when some sort of arrest will be made in this particular case?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unfortunately, I cannot give an undertaking on some sort of arrest to be made. However, I do undertake that every effort will be made to apprehend the culprits.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Ali's Question for the second time?

Question No.231

UPGRADING OF BUNA/BUTE TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

Dr. Ali is still not here? The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

Mr. Kimetto's Question for the second time?

Question No.438

PAYMENT OF RETIREMENT
BENEFITS TO MR. MARITIM

Mr. Kimetto is still not here? The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

MEASURES TO CURB DRUG TRAFFICKING IN BUSIA

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

(a) What steps has the Minister taken to curb drug trafficking in Busia District?

(b) What urgent measures has the Minister taken to provide security personnel in the area with vehicles in order to curb the drug menace?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, up to now, I have not got a written answer.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Samoei): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I apologise to the hon. Member that he does not have a written reply.

However, we have posted a special Anti-Narcotics Unit to Busia District to join forces with the regular police and Administration Police. Those security personnel are working closely with their counterparts from the neighbouring country with a view of checking cross border drug-trafficking.

The Anti-Narcotics Unit has an Isuzu Trooper in Busia District which is occasionally supplemented by three other Land-Rovers from the regular and the Administration Police. There is also a police boat which patrols the potential drug-trafficking routes on Lake Victoria. More vehicles are needed and will be made available as and when I find them.

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, drug-trafficking in this country, especially in Busia, is at a very high rate. Sometimes this Government delays stopping drug-trafficking because senior Government officers also participate in it. There are only two Land-Rovers at the district headquarters which are grounded. Due to the bad roads in Busia District the police officers cannot chase the drug traffickers. Can the Assistant Minister, as a matter of urgency, provide Busia District which has got three police stations and five police posts with vehicles for these police stations?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot guarantee that that will be available. However, in the Budget this year we have made provisions for vehicles, especially for the Anti-Narcotics Unit. I will see what can be made available.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I heard the MP for Budalangi correctly, he did request the Assistant Minister to explain to this House how the Government can fight drug trafficking when very senior Government officers and Ministers are involved in it. This is a very important issue. If indeed, Government Ministers and senior Government officers, politicians and KANU barons, are involved in drug trafficking and protecting drug traffickers, how will the same Government fight drug trafficking? Can he explain to this House in very simple and clear terms which Government Ministers and senior officials are involved in drug trafficking and how they are protecting, abetting, encouraging and undermining the fight against drug trafficking? This is a very important matter of national importance and the Assistant Minister must come out with ocular proof today, very clearly on how this is going on and why the Government is so heavily involved in drug trafficking?

Hon. Member: How can he do that if he is one of them!

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o to refer to senior Cabinet Ministers and senior police personnel as involved in drug trafficking? Is that in order without bringing a substantive Motion? We know that the Government of President Moi has Cabinet Ministers who are involved in serious crimes!

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unfortunately, the allegations made by the hon. Member do not have any proof or backing of any facts! The Government is committed to fighting drug trafficking. As and when we find police officers, whether senior or junior, who involve themselves in drug trafficking, we take action. We have dismissed very senior police officers. We have taken to court all manner of persons who have involved themselves in the menace! Our commitment is unequivocal. I did say that this year, we have made provisions in the Budget for the Anti-Narcotics Unit to provide means in terms of transport, to enable them to deal decisively with the menace. If there are any specific KANU or SDP barons involved in the menace, I would like to know so that we can deal with them squarely.

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Last year---

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

Mr. Wanjala: I have a point of order!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You know the risk you are running into!

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last year, a GK vehicle from the Ministry of Health went to Busia to collect drugs, and was caught in Nakuru with them. What steps has he taken up to now? Is that the reason that they are denying that there is no problem, so that they can use Government vehicles to traffic drugs?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Wanjala! That is not a point of order! That is a question. Do you want me to allow that it was a question, or rule it out of order?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was a question!

(Laughter)

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did say that, that is not the only incident. Just in the last three months, we have had 17 cases detected by the Anti-Narcotics Unit. Bhang worth Kshs1.4 million was confiscated in the course of the three months. We are firmly dealing, not only with the case that the hon. Member has raised, but all the other cases relating to drug trafficking.

Mr. Kamau: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the Government is as serious as it claims, how was it possible that people opened up plantations of bhang in Mt. Kenya forest? What has the Government done so far, about the plantations of bhang in the Mt. Kenya forest?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member knows very well that we supervised the destruction of bhang in Mt. Kenya forest. We arrested some people who were involved and arraigned them in court.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister said that when police officers have been found to be peddling drugs, they have been dismissed from the Police Force. It is very scaring to believe that, that is the official position of the Government. Once they find you committing that crime, you are just dismissed from the Police Force. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House whether the Anti-Narcotics Unit have ever investigated "TSS", the pro-KANU tycoon of Mombasa?

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that they are dismissed from the Police Force and charged according to the law. Unfortunately, we have not found any reason to victimise anybody, when we do not have facts that he is involved in drug trafficking.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to say that they have been investigating senior Government officers involved in drug trafficking, when we know that since 1993, when the Kenya Army Corp was being mobilised to Yugoslavia or one of those troubled countries in

Eastern Europe for peace-keeping, a police officer alleged very seriously that one of the reasons why he was withdrawn from the Police Force was because he, himself, had alleged that, a very senior Criminal Investigations Department (CID) officer, was being paid U\$20,000 a week to protect drug trafficking in the Government? This was a police officer who arrived from Eastern Europe. I got the information in 1993. How far has the investigation gone in the Government, to investigate that? Is he really in order to say that there are investigations and yet, since 1993, that particular case has not seen light?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is not the only one!

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: It is not the only one!

(Laughter)

Mr. Samoei: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has made a specific allegation. That allegation has never been brought to my knowledge. But I would like to say that, that is not the only allegation. All the other allegations that have been made have been investigated and, to the best of my knowledge and practice, I think we have dealt a great blow to the menace that has engulfed our country in terms of drug trafficking.

RELEASE OF FUNDS TO TEA FACTORIES

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

(a) Could the Minister confirm whether the Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) is holding a sum of over Kshs1,400,000,000 which belongs to the 45 tea factory companies countrywide?

(b) Could the Minister give a breakdown of the ownership of the monies per factory?

(c) When will the money be released to the respective factories?

The Minister for Rural Development (Mr. Mohamed): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to apologise to the House. The answer is not ready. I will answer this Question tomorrow afternoon, if it is acceptable to the hon. Member.

Mr. Muiruri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is that the Minister for Agriculture?

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I will defer this Question to Thursday afternoon. That is the end of Question Time. Next Order!

(Question deferred)

MOTIONS

SELECT COMMITTEE TO STUDY LIVE AUDIO-VISUAL BROADCAST OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:-

THAT, in view of the fact that proceedings of the House are open to members of the public; noting the great interest Kenyans have shown in the proceedings of this House, in particular through the *Today in Parliament* Programme; and noting further that the resolution of the House of 1991 authorising working out of the modalities for live audio-visual broadcast of the proceedings of the House has yet to be implemented; this House resolves to establish a Select Committee to study all matters pertinent to live audio-visual broadcast of the proceedings of this House, including all Select Committees, and that the following shall constitute the said Select Committee:-

The Hon. Musikari N. Kombo, MP.

The Hon. Dr. Shem Ochuodho, MP.

The Hon. Dr. Abdullahi I. Ali, MP.

The Hon. Samuel L. Poghisi, MP.

The Hon. Ochillo-Ayacko, MP.

The Hon. Kipruto arap Kirwa, MP.

The Hon. Mwangi Kiunjuri, MP.

The Hon. Njeru Kathangu, MP.
The Hon. Josephine Sinyo, MP.
The Hon. Ngenye Kariuki, MP.
The Hon. Peter Maundu, MP.
The Hon. J.B. Muturi, MP.
The Hon. Basil Mwakiringo, MP.
The Hon. Soita Shitanda, MP.
The Hon. Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o, MP.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Motion desires to do a number of things. One, is to accord the public a chance to understand the programmes that go on in this House. As you can see, this Motion is divided into two parts. Apart from the audio visual coverage of the House proceedings, we are also concerned about the proceedings of the Select Committees of the House. We are concerned about this because the proceedings of the Select Committees of this House and the transaction of its businesses have been shrouded in mystery. This has been a deterrent for the public to understand what their leaders are doing in Parliament. That is why in a number of occasions, members of the public have passed judgement on the Members of this House because they do not understand the procedures and programmes of the House.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this has happened elsewhere in the world. In Britain, it took place more than 40 years ago. The proceedings of the House of Commons were covered by the media. It was initially tailored in such a way that all the programmes of the House were received and edited by a Committee of the House and passed to various broadcasting institutions. In other countries like Tanzania and Uganda, these programmes have already taken place. So, the question of resources should not be a matter for us to worry about. We should open up for the public to understand what is going on in this particular House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are a number of things which we ought to consider when dealing with such a Motion. Democracy by its very nature demands that an informed public is a better participant in the democratic process. For democracy to be complete, there is no way we can say an institution such as Parliament has met the minimum standards unless we make the public understand what we are doing in this House. So, it is for that reason that for us to be fully democratic, we have to allow this House to be understood by the public.

The other thing is that the public has a right to know how their taxes are appropriated in this particular House. The core function of Parliament is to appropriate taxes on behalf of the public. It is important for us to make the public understand - when we are appropriating over Kshs200 billion to be expended for the next one year - the process that takes place.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also important for the same public to understand what their Members of Parliament come to do, how they vote, where they vote and why they vote. In some countries, it is an open secret and people from the various constituencies can write to the House to ask how their Member of Parliament has been voting on various issues and that record is provided. When this is done, the electorate in the various constituencies will be taking a position based on the issues their Member of Parliament has stood for. So, we need to provide the opportunity for Kenyans to understand and to see what their Members of Parliament are doing in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, experience has shown that in countries which practise this mode of broadcast, the quality of debate has not only improved, but also steered away from personalities and concentrated on issues. This is an aspect that we need in this particular House because debates for the last couple of months have been centred on individuals and personalities. We do appreciate that personalities are an important component of the political environment, but we do feel that these individuals are not the most important. It is in fact, the issues which are more important than the personalities. So, for that very reason, the public will understand when hon. Members are consulting while others are contributing. It is also important that we add some caution because what has happened in the past is that when we open the floodgates for this House to have some live broadcast, the Press focuses on side-shows instead of focusing on the hon. Member contributing. So, the Standing Orders should provide for the Press to focus on the hon. Member contributing instead of general occurrences in the House. It was seen in some other democracies that the Press, instead of focusing on the person on the Floor, they focused on some side-shows. The same thing was experienced in this House during the Budget Speech. A lot of side-shows have been taken to be the focus of

the Budget to the extent that Members of this House are ridiculed in the public, not knowing that the Budget presentation is, but the beginning of a process and many of the contributions will be done for the next five months. These are some of the issues which we need a Select Committee to look into so that we do not open the House for live broadcast and after a few months, we will be restricting the Press on what to do and what not to do.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there have been questions by a number of hon. Members, as to whether the Committee is necessary. It is necessary because we are having it for the first time and we need to understand the entire process. That is why I thought it was high time we did some of these things for this country to understand what is happening elsewhere.

On the issue of expenses, we may need to modify some of the public address systems to provide for the smooth transmission of the message from this particular House. This is a very important process and even if we have to spend billions of shillings, it is a worthy cause because it is a way of trying to open up debate for Members of the public to understand.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a need, particularly for the implementers of Motions like this one to act. Every Wednesday, we dispose of one particular Motion whenever there is time for Private Members' Motions. Many of these Motions form part of the archives of Parliament because nobody takes time to implement them. This is evidenced by the fact that a similar resolution of this House was brought in 1991. I brought it to this House and it resolved in the affirmative unanimously. It has taken ten years for the House to revisit the same issue. If there was any attempt to carry out implementation of this Motion, we would be spending this Wednesday morning doing something else instead of discussing over a matter that we brought here before.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Motion is important because we are here to be paid, on behalf of the public, to discuss issues that affect their lives. So, there are a number of other issues involved and I do hope that in the course of our deliberation, the Minister responsible for responding to this particular Motion will understand and take stock of all these issues.

With those remarks, I beg to move. I request hon. Ochilo-Ayacko to second the Motion.

Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you, for giving me this opportunity to second the Motion. I wish to thank the Mover of this Motion and to state from the onset that this is a very important Motion and it has come at the best time. It has come when we are moving from the last millennium to this new millennium. So, the issues of trying to modernise debate in this House and to be more accountable to the people who elected us are at the forefront of trying to democratise this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what the success and the implementation of this Motion will do to this House, is to make Members of this House more accountable for what they talk about in this House, for how they talk about it and how they dispose off business in this House to the electorate. There are Members of this House who have been heard to brag that they are "clean" and "total" but the totality of these people must be seen by the electorate and in the context of how they transact business in this House. I do not want to belabour the importance of this Motion because Kenyans have a right, having voted for all of us who are here overwhelmingly or having voted for the authorities that nominate some of us to come here to know what their representatives do.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have had occasion to visit some countries where audio-visual broadcasts or debates in the House are made public. I have had occasion to see how the public is allowed to assess Members that they elect to transact business on their behalf. In those countries, people get elected on the bases of how they legislate and how they stand firm on issues that affect the electorate. However, right here at home, people get elected for how much disinformation they can propagate and how much money they can circulate in order to compromise their supporters. So, for the sake of the future and posterity of this country, there is need to have elected leaders accountable. Time and again, our Government has stated that the destiny of this country rests with its leadership and we know the leadership of this country gets elected because of the kind of information that Kenyans have on the leadership of this country. So, to put in place a Motion whose intent and implementation will bring to public light the activities of the Members of this House, would very well institutionalise democracy in this country and would ensure that people who find their way into this House are people of integrity, unimpeachable character and who have the kind of know how that is necessary for legislation in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in other countries where this programme is available, you will find there is no need of trying to call press conferences. As you will have noticed, after a Motion or transactions in this House, Members rush and try to call the Press and try to tell them in their own distorted versions what they were trying to do in the House. However, once this Motion passes and the Government implements it, then there will be no need for Members to call the Press and try to distort what they did here or try to give excuses that may not have been the underlying reasons for their activities in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that all of us are supporting this Motion because we all value democracy and know that it is important for Kenyans to get the right picture at the right time and the reasons for which

things go the way they do.

With those few remarks, I beg to second this Motion.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion which I think is very important. It is important because in 1991 we passed a similar Motion requesting the Government to institute this programme and now nearly ten years later nothing has been done. It is for this reason that we get worried when we discuss important motions in this House and the Government just puts them in a shelf and nothing happens. This is because if the Government had acted on this or indicated which problem exists for not implementing this live TV programme entitled: "*Today in Parliament*", the Mover would not have moved this Motion today. However, because the Government sat on this Motion, nothing was done and it just kept quiet, consequently, the Members of this House were frustrated.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of showing, indicating and publicising what the Members of this House are doing is the right thing to do because wananchi who brought us here should know what we are doing. The public should know the hon. Members who do not contribute in this House. They should also know how hon. Members vote towards Motions, particularly yesterday was a very important day. I hope that the Press will publicise the full list of how every hon. Member of this House voted yesterday. This will show those hon. Members who voted for corruption and those who voted against corruption. That is the sort of thing that we want to be seeing. Then the public can decide---

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Maizis): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. If Mr. Michuki who owns Kilima Hotel---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! What is your point of order?

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Maizis): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, how can Mr. Wamae refer to us as having voted for corruption?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Maizis. I get your point. Mr. Wamae you are completely out of order to discuss what happened yesterday. Will you proceed without discussing yesterday's proceedings because that is not what is before us now.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was only stating the matters which the public would like to know about. Those are the sort of matters which the public would like to know. I regret that the hon. Member does not even know my name. So, if he does not know my name, then I am sure he is not talking about me either.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, these programmes which we see in other Parliaments, for example, in the United Kingdom, the Question Time is aired live. These programmes are very important to the people of those countries. May I also state here that this Parliament should earn money by giving concession to a particular television station which should be allowed to broadcast Parliamentary proceedings live. It should not be free. Television stations should compete and we see which one has the highest rating to be given concession to broadcast Parliamentary proceedings live. That way, this Parliament will also earn income because that programme will be very popular to the wananchi. It would attract one of the highest ratings in the country. Consequently, the station will also get more advertisements and so, it will generate more income by publicising the proceedings of this House. Also, this Parliament will generate income by selling concession to the station which will have the highest rating.

I also note here that it is required that we have a Select Committee. Of course, Select Committees are not really the solution. The issue of forming a Select Committee is possibly being put here only because of the frustrations that hon. Members feel that despite having passed a similar Motion before nothing happened. Hon. Members, therefore, feel that maybe, a Select Committee will force the House to be more serious in its deliberations. But we also know that Select Committees cost this House a lot of money. Some cost Kshs5 million and others Kshs7 million or Kshs8 million. Whether really we need a Select Committee to work out a programme of this nature, which really requires experts, is debatable. This is an area where we require experts to come up with proposals, then we issue tenders so that we can have the willing stations to put forward their bids. I am not very clear in my mind whether we need a Select Committee. But I really know that Parliamentary proceedings should be broadcast and televised live. We should also decide which proceedings we want broadcast and televised because it may not be necessary that all proceedings be televised. Maybe, the Question Time and when we have important Motions can initially be the proceedings which should be televised, and later on, we can see whether live coverage can be extended to other proceedings.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I support the Motion, I am not quite clear whether we need to have a Select Committee for this purpose. If the Government would come out clearly and state that it is willing to work out a plan with experts on how this can be done, maybe, the Select Committee would not be necessary. The

proceedings of this House are very important. They indicate the feelings of the nation because we are representatives of the country as a whole. Therefore, the views we express here are expressions of what the country needs. We do not always have to be unanimous in our decisions, but at least, we allow the minority to have their say and the majority to have their way. This is democracy and there is nothing anyone can do about that because it is the democratic way of doing things. This is in the sense that when we come to voting, whatever side wins by the majority, that is the decision of the majority. It is the same way in which we are voted in our constituencies. Even if a person wins the election by one vote, he will still have won. That is the democratic method of indicating the wishes of the people and it does not have to be an unanimous decision.

I support very strongly the question of having a live-audio visual broadcast of the proceedings of this House and the Government should come up with a programme of implementing it. If the Government comes up with a programme of how we can implement and accept this Motion, then I hope that we will not insist on having a Select Committee. Then we will accept a programme of that nature so that we can then sit down and implement it. As I said, running a Select Committee is expensive and it does not have the technical expertise which should be necessary to work out a programme of this nature.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

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 Motion.

I support the spirit and the contents of this Motion because it is, indeed, a right of the Kenyan public to know what goes on in this House live. This is because some of the information that is fed to the public, is sometimes biased. If these proceedings were live, in my view, the members of the public would judge for themselves whether they have been fed with the correct information or whether they have been fed with doctored information. Some of the times, the media tends to be biased and this bias tends to distort the real situation that takes place here.

But while I support this Motion, it is imperative, as the Motion suggests, that extensive discussions are held with the relevant Ministries, such as Finance, for although I envisage that the bulk of the expenses will be incurred by the companies that will be buying the air time, I still see a situation where Parliament may have to do certain adjustments which will involve finances. While it is a pity that a similar Motion was passed in 1991 and was not implemented, I imagine that the issue of finance has been a major constraint. As you can appreciate, 1991 was about the time when donor funding started drying up in this country. So, there is need for that Select Committee that would be looking into this aspect to discuss extensively with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that there would be adequate budgetary support and provisions, as well as with the Ministry of Information, Transport and Communications.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, like hon. Wamae, I have problems with these select committees. I would have wished to see this Motion amended to say that Parliament, or the Speaker's Committee, establishes a committee of experts to advise Parliament on this matter. Without having any misgivings about select committees, because we provide for them, I feel that the role of a select committee can only be there to make sure that what we want is actually implemented. Indeed, my problems with select committees---In fact, I would like to see in the future, that such Motions should suggest the number of people to serve in the Select Committees, but not to mention the names. The names of the select committees should be a responsibility of the parties themselves, so that they can choose their best soldiers into those select committees, rather than the Movers of the Motions, who may themselves want to have their own friends in those respective committees.

I find this to be very pertinent point because, you may find a select committee not containing proportional representation of the strength of the parties in this House. Whatever arithmetic you want to apply, but sometimes you would find that the arithmetic is unbalanced, with regard to the people who are suggested by the Mover of the Motion. So in that respect, I want to strongly say, for this Motion, let it be so. But in the future, I would urge the House Business Committee to make sure that such Motions do not come up with the names of the people to represent parties. We would like to have the number, but in terms of who should fill in the part of the parties, those should come from the party whips or the parties themselves.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would want to strongly support this Motion, because countries such as Tanzania, do have this kind of programme where certain aspects of the House debates are broadcast live. In the older parliaments, we find television and radio coverage. But I would want here to say that, we must have measure of control to a certain extent, because we do not want again bias brought into what is actually relayed to the public. Although the media is liberalised now, it is quite possible to get Media A only broadcasting what is injurious, perhaps, to the Opposition and never really broadcast what is good from them, and also *vice-versa*. There is need for proper control of what actually needs to be broadcast live just to make sure there is fair presentation of what goes on in the House. If it is left to each media house to do what they want, they can also be biased. So, it is important that when this comes to fruition, we actually do have a House committee that will be involved in the balancing and monitoring what is actually broadcast, to sure make there is proper balance and that, no bias is contained.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, having said that, I do not think there is much more to add here, except to stress on fair presentation and coverage for all the proceedings. I do not know how we are going to get this committee of experts as hon. Wamae has suggested, but for me, that committee is imperative. Perhaps, the best way forward is to urge that when this Select Committee is set up, it should ensure that they have a committee of experts that advises them. In fact, there is no timing given for this Select Committee. We do not want it to take three years and spend all the money. We would like to see this coming, for example, after a period of nine months or so. We must really restrict them, and if we give it to the experts, we will get good value for money. But I would like to see this coming back to the House and even nine months, in my view, may be too long, but the timeframe should be somewhere around six to nine months.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I beg to support this Motion. This is a very important Motion in the sense that the conduct of this House, to an extent, would no longer be compromised. What has been transpiring in this House has shown that Kenyans are supposed to know exactly the kind of leaders---

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Maizs): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is he in order to speak from the Dispatch Box? He should address the House from his rightful place.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kiunjuri, just go to where you normally address the House from.

(Mr. Kiunjuri retreated to the Back Bench)

Mr. Kiunjuri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Our party has a way of appointing---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Kiunjuri! This House is not run by parties; the Chair is in charge and not the parties. So, would you continue? Do not tell us about what your party does.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The importance of the Motion is that, for example, what has just transpired right now, the country will see what is going on in this House. For the last three weeks, it has been very interesting to see Cabinet Ministers, especially the tallest and the shortest in the Front Bench, behaving in a manner likely---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Mr. Kiunjuri, would you stick to the Motion that is being debated? I did rule earlier when Mr. Wamae was contributing that, he was referring to matters of yesterday. That is exactly where you are heading to and I would like you to stick to the Motion. Would you continue?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The essence of discussing this Motion is the conduct of this House which has really been compromised.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Kiunjuri! You are making a serious allegation against this House; that this House has been compromised. You know it is completely out of order and I would require you to withdraw that remark and apologise to the House.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw and apologise to the House, although I talked about the conduct. It is important that Kenyans see and be able to judge the kind of Members who they have elected to this House. Before this Committee is set up, it is important that all other stations, like the Nation FM, Citizen and Kenya Television Network (KTN), be given frequencies to broadcast all over the nation. This kind of monopoly where only one broadcasting station is allowed to broadcast all over the Republic; that is, "The KANU Broadcasting Corporation", or The Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC)---

(Laughter)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Order, Mr. Kiunjuri! Mr. Kiunjuri, I would like you to be serious with what you are saying. The Chair does not know of any organisation called "KANU Broadcasting Corporation".

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Ndicho! I have just advised Mr. Kiunjuri to comply with what I have said first, before I allow any other point of order.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was just saying that, all radio stations should be allowed to broadcast all over the country so that, at least, we have a fair competition. This is because if one radio station airs something that is controversial and inconsistent with other radios stations, we shall then have an opportunity to know which one is telling us the truth and which one is not telling the truth.

Secondly, this will allow Kenyans to know what exactly is going on in the country. If there are live broadcasts of Parliamentary proceedings by all channels countrywide, it will allow Kenyans to know the policies which the Government is articulating. Some Members in this House will be covered contributing live, especially those who are alleged to have been corrupt and those ones already facing criminal charges in court and are still sitting on the Front Bench---

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Keah): There are no corrupt people seated on the Front Bench here!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kiunjuri, I do not know why you keep on diverting from the Motion. I have just ruled that, you should not keep on referring to yesterday's activities and talking about people who are corrupt. Could you please, stick to the Motion?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have really limited me, but the most important thing is that, we cannot talk of live broadcast without pointing out what we want Kenyans to hear about. We should point out what Kenyans should be shown and they should be able to listen and see what is going on in the House. It is very important to broadcast our proceedings live.

However, what I was trying to say is that, the way we conduct ourselves in this House; the way we behave as bootlickers and court poets---

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Keah): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to say that there are bootlickers in this House? Could the hon. Member withdraw his remark? This House is a House of hon. Members and not a House of bootlickers!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kiunjuri, I have kept on interrupting you and I have been cautioning you and you do not seem to take heed of the Chair's caution. You have heard what hon. Keah has said. Certainly, there are no bootlickers here. You should withdraw that remark and apologize. I must also warn you that, if you persist, I will have to compel you to discontinue your contribution.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw the remark and apologize, although I did not utter that word.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Kiunjuri, you do not have to put a condition on an apology. If you have apologized and withdrawn, you should not put any condition. Would you now withdraw and apologize without condition?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Without condition, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw and apologize.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Then you can continue!

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when you will initiate a programme to broadcast live the House proceedings, you will not get this kind of interruption. The Chair will enjoy its work now that hon. Members will be limited naturally. They will not come up with arguments; there will be no irrelevant points of order because if Members raise such points of order people will definitely know that, these Members are non-performing because they have not gone through the Standing Orders. Members will be defending themselves here and even journalists and everybody will be comfortable. It will be a very harmonious working relationship and Kenyans will be able to judge. At the same time, it will also assist us in the Opposition because for the first time, we shall be able to campaign on an equal ground with the ruling party, as it will be live coverage. Every Kenyan up to the grassroot will be able to get the true information.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans at the grassroots are only using one channel which is tuned accordingly. It will always tell them that, "everything is working properly." They can report that, "today there was sunshine all over the nation" when it was raining! Kenyans have been subjected to--- Even today the old women and men in the village believe that the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation is always preaching the truth only and they get convinced. But if we allow other radio stations to come up and broadcast all over the country, the KBC will take caution because the "congregation" gathered on the ground will definitely know that they do not have a High Priest again and they will question their integrity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Select Committee should be allowed to do its work and be guided. If the other side knows that we shall spend millions of shillings and then it will be opposed on the other side because somebody on that Bench will know that, he will be the first culprit of live broadcasting, then it would be a waste of time. I am very sure now that they are changing their conducts and they know that time is catching up with them--- With those remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Koske): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say that, it is time the proceedings of the House were actually broadcast live. I am saying this because time and again, you find that, when hon. Members are contributing in this

House, unless you stand to contribute on an issue that is going to catch the eye of a reporter, who actually covers Parliamentary proceedings, or it is a headline grabbing pronouncement here, you are most likely not going to appear on the pages that these papers devote to the proceedings of the House.

Consequently, our constituents might not know that we also do come to the House and contribute. But I believe with a forum like this, when it is going to be covered live, the constituents are going to appreciate and know that, their Members of Parliament actually come to House and work.

I think it will be in order for the House to go out of its way so that these proceedings reach the people. It is also a way of actually articulating Government policies because we know that, most of the times, Government policies are formulated here. It is also a way through which people will know what the Government is out to do for them since they are paying taxes to the Government. Time and again, we come here to deliberate on the Budget allocations to different Ministries. So, they should be able to know the amount of money which each Ministry has been allocated and for what purpose. Consequently, they should be able to appreciate and pay the taxes that the Government requires them to pay.

Having said that, I think I would want to take issue with the way we appoint Members of the Select Committees of this House. Time and again we find that, those who are allowed to move their Motions will always come up with the list of Members they would want to propose to be in that Committee. You would, therefore, find that, there is usually disharmony in this House because a Select Committee is supposed to be a Committee of the House and it should be unanimous in its operations. But then you find that, time and again, a conflict arises because adequate consultations are not taken into account when nominating hon. Members to these Select Committees. Because of this, you find that, some parties may not go along with the findings of that said Committee. So, it should be in order that, whoever wants to move a Motion, that may require the appointment of a Select Committee, I think the House should actually look into this issue so that parties are left to decide on those who are supposed to be in that Committee.

In this case, whatever the findings of the Committees are going to come up with should be adopted by the whole House because at the end of the day, enough consultations would have been taken into account.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another issue that needs to be looked into is the need for us to call in experts to work and advise these Committees. This is because at the end of the day, we would want to find ways and means of reaching every part of the country.

Whatever is deliberated in the House should be in the interest of the whole nation, and thus necessary to receive this live broadcast. So, an expert should be drafted into this process so that its work is speeded up. Time and again, select committees of the House have tended to take a lot of time. It is appropriate to have live coverage of Parliament proceedings so that Kenyans can be able to follow them. I think the Motion is timely and it should be supported by all. I am sure everybody understands the power of the media.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, most people in the rural areas tune to the radio, and you will be surprised to note that the programme *Leo Katika Bunge* which is aired after the 9.00 p.m. news is widely received by the rural folk. They are able to know what has happened in the House. So, if every media house is given a chance to air it, they would be able to get value for their money. An hon. Member talked of budgetary allocations, but I believe if we used the expertise in marketing to sell the rights for live broadcasting, we would get ready market because, for example, *Leo Katika Bunge* has a wide audience in the rural areas. I am sure whichever media house will seize the opportunity, will be able to recoup whatever they invest in covering the proceedings. As I said, in awarding the coverage rights to the media houses, we should look for media houses that have the ability to cover the whole country. This would be one of the ways in which Parliament would generate money and lessen the burden to tax payers. At the moment, budgetary allocation to Parliament is sourced from Treasury. If we were to sell broadcasting rights, we would be able to generate some income. Since we are now autonomous, this is one way Parliament can go out and make some money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Members have taken issue with the funding of the select committees. I would like to say, that if funding is given for a good course to these committees, I do not see any reason why somebody should take issue with it. I remember yesterday, there was a lot of acrimony---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Koske! I have already ruled that you should not debate what happened yesterday. You should stick to the Motion before the House. So, do not tell us what you remember about yesterday.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Koskei): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I really did not want to dwell on what happened yesterday. I was actually dwelling on the issue of funding for select committees of the House. I believe, for this Committee to work effectively, it has to be given enough funds. If it is found that within the budgetary allocation of the House there are no enough funds and yet there are donors willing to ease the work of the select committee through funding, they should be allowed to. I believe this is done in good faith, and if the consent of the Speaker is sought and given, nobody should take issue with the source of funding, because at the end of the day we

want this select committees to do thorough jobs. We should not come later on and disparage the work that they do. If they got some funding, we should in fact, congratulate the committee for a job well done. We should not tie them by denying them funds and then turn around and say they have done a shoddy job. I would like to repeat that for this select committee to do a good job, a team of experts should be incorporated in it so that they can undertake the exercise speedily.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion. This Motion has been on the Order Paper for long, but we have never had the opportunity to discuss it. Now that it has come, I believe it will be supported by everybody, and once it is passed, modalities for making sure that its recommendations are implemented will be put in place.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a Parliament of Kenyans, and they need to know, see and here what is going on in this Parliament. It is important because we are not unique. If you looked around as to what is happening in the neighbouring countries, for example, Tanzania, it is doing very well. They have both live radio and television transmission. I think we should follow suit. There is no reason why we should be left behind. This has been going on in the neighbouring countries for some time, but what we have done in this country is to give it lip service. We have made promises that this is going to happen, and yet nothing happens.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the print and electronic media will have to cover the proceedings of the House. It is high time we started talking about liberalising the air waves. The Government has been very unwilling to liberalise the air waves. We believe this is deliberate to confine Kenyans to the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) news. If the air waves are liberalised it would enable the *Nation* Television, the Kenya Television Network (KTN) and the others a chance to cover the whole country without any problems.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we know that there is quite a number of hon. Members in this House who, more often than not, mislead the nation. Such hon. Members do so with very hard faces. They would know that they are misleading the House and the nation, but would stand tall in this House and do so with hard faces. We want those hon. Members to be seen from our homes. We want the public to see which Minister says what in this House. The people out there will know that such a Minister said whatever he said with a hard face, knowing very well that he was misleading the House. It is necessary for Kenyans to know this.

I would now like to talk about the question of funding. We know that when this Motion is passed here, one of the reasons that will be advanced for its not being effected is lack of funds. I would like to say this: Now that Parliament is autonomous - I hope that a Bill will be brought to this House soon to formalise the independence of Parliament - I would like to appeal to the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) to ensure that it sources funds for the implementation of this Motion. I do not think it will be necessary any more for this House to go back to the Treasury and negotiate for funds for the implementation of this Motion. We would like the PSC to solicit funds from the donor community. We know that institutions such as USAID and the Department for International Development (DIFD) of the British Government are willing to facilitate some of these programmes. I would like to appeal to the Chairman of the PSC to ensure that he gets the necessary funds for the implementation of this Motion once it is passed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to the selection of the Members of the Select Committee that has been proposed in this Motion, I have gone through the list of names. I am very satisfied with the proposed names of the Committee's Membership. This list comprises very honourable Members of this House, who have past experiences in various fields. Therefore, I would not have any complaints about it whatsoever. I would like to urge the Members of the PSC to ensure that they solicit whatever funds will be required once this Motion is passed, so that we can have the proposed programme in place.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that hon. Kiunjuri has gone out. In support of this Motion, I want to agree with him that the main reason why we should introduce live television coverage in this House is so that members of the public can see him contribute to the debate and compare his speech, perhaps, with that of my learned friends, hon. Wamalwa, among others, and make judgement on the quality of debate in this House. Now that he has gone---

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Are you satisfied with what the Minister is saying here? He is judging hon. Kiunjuri's contribution on the debate. He is implying that, compared to other hon. Members' contributions on the debate in this House, that of hon. Kiunjuri is inferior. That is the implication the Minister is trying to raise. Are you satisfied that the Minister can judge hon. Kiunjuri's debate in this House to be inferior to that of hon. Wamalwa?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): The Minister's assertions were directed to the Chair. I am not satisfied that what you have said is exactly what the Minister meant. I do not think that the Minister implied in any way that there was any inferior Member in this House. So, that is not a point of order.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was going to say that if, for example, these proceedings were being covered live by television, members of the public would enjoy the wise humour that we often receive from, for instance, Dr. Omamo, which they would appreciate. We would tell members of the public that there is something good in Parliament.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, covering Parliamentary proceedings live is the practice worldwide nowadays. In many developed Parliaments, this is what happens. This practice has helped a lot in enhancing the quality of debates in Parliaments. In Parliaments where debates are covered live by television stations Members learn to restrict themselves to the matters before them, and avoid being frivolous just for the sake of it. Really, it is not that Members of Parliament do not want to be frivolous; they fear negative public opinion. If Members of Parliament could be exposed to public opinion, directly, in itself, this would be an act of censorship for them. So, I think it is important that we take the cue.

I think although this Parliament has not started going on air live yet, I must commend the work being done by the Kenya Television Network (KTN), especially. Among the media houses that cover the proceedings of this House, it is KTN that gives Parliament more air time. Even before we start broadcasting the proceedings of this House live, I think it is important that the Media - be it print or electronic - devotes adequate air time, or newspaper space, for Parliamentary reports. Most media houses publish just a single line of all that is said by a hon. Member during debate in this House. They say: "Mr. X said such a thing" and proceed to say what another hon. Member said in another one sentence. Very few news reporters pay attention to analyzing what Members of Parliament have said here. Sometimes the *Daily Nation*, and the *East African Standard* analyses a whole week's proceedings of this House. However, it is important to note that every day of Parliament's proceedings has its own uniqueness. So, I think it is important that media houses devote time to analyse what has been said, so that members of the public can digest all that transpires here for themselves.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish hon. Kirwa had brought this Motion, seeking the establishment of a Select Committee of this House, without going further to propose the composition of its Membership. Proposing the names contained in this Motion raises a few questions. Firstly, this is a continuation of the negation of the principles of proportional representation. In a Motion like this one, hon. Kirwa, who comes from the ruling party, should have paid attention to the fact that we are the majority in this House. He should have given KANU a majority in this Committee. That would have reflected the majority in this House.

Dr. Ochuodho: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to refer to proportional representation without telling us the Standing Order he is referring to?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): No, no, Dr. Ochuodho!

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is a friend of mine. I do not know why he appears annoyed with me when I said that KANU ought to be given majority seats in the proposed Select Committee since it is the majority party in this House. The principle that we have always adopted in determining the Membership of such Committees has been that of proportional representation. Why has the Mover of this Motion given 10 positions to the Opposition and only five to KANU? Really, the other way round should have been the case. That would have reflected the way this country is represented in this House. The artificial majority that the Opposition has received is, in fact, not good. I am supporting the Motion nonetheless. However, I hope that, in the future, when we form Select Committees of this House, their Membership will reflect the principle of proportional representation. Or else, hon. Members should only bring Motions seeking the establishment of such Committees without proposing the names of their Membership. I do not know whether the hon. Mover actually took time to see whether the Members were interested. Since this is a matter on the media, maybe, he should have asked them: "Are you interested in matters that are related to the media?" Otherwise, very soon, you will get hon. Ndicho being put on a Legal Committee and he may go there and be in weather. I think it is good to attach importance to what people are generally interested in.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. If I am selected to a Legal Committee, I will do very well because I am doing very well at the university, in the Law Department. I am getting my "B" and "B+". So, I will get on very well. Is he in order then to refer to me adversely like that?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Sunkuli, what hon. Ndicho is telling you is that he is studying law now.

(Laughter)

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in that case, I wish to apologise to him and wish him the best in that very impossible duty that he is just performing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to take much of the House's time and, therefore, I beg to support the Motion.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Motion. First and foremost, I agree with hon. Sunkuli that the composition of the Members of this Select Committee should have been people who have got some relevance in the media, like hon. Gatabaki, who is the owner and proprietor of the *Finance Magazine*; myself, who is the owner of the *Thika Times*, and other hon. Members who might be interested in this field. Possibly, before we finish debating the Motion, we might ask the Mover to allow some amendments to include these very important names.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, KANU ought to have been taken to the International Court of Justice for denying the majority of Kenyans the right to information emanating from this House. This is because 40 or 50 kilometres radius from Nairobi, Kenyans are locked out from any other media other than the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC), and all that the KBC says is anything that is pleasant to KANU. So, I do not know why we are talking about liberalising airwaves when they have already been liberalised. What the Government has done is to refuse media houses to broadcast outside Nairobi City. It is immoral and criminal because they fear that the majority of Kenyans will know what they do here.

I also support the composition of the Members of this Select Committee and completely disagree with the Minister. I would like to inform this House that KANU is only the majority in these four walls, and the Opposition is the majority in the whole country. He knows very well that they are the minority.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Ndicho in order to mislead the House about who is the majority? First of all, you know that we formed the Government because we are the majority. Secondly, outside this House, out of the 42 tribes in Kenya, KANU has 42 while the Opposition has a small membership from among very few tribes.

An hon. Member: Shame!

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you combine the votes that hon. Wamalwa, hon. Ngilu, hon. Raila and any other person got outside this House and compared them with President Moi's, you will find that we are the majority.

(Applause)

This is simple mathematics. I hope that he did that in the School of Law when he was doing---

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, are you satisfied that majorities in this country are judged by what the Presidential candidates got or what the combined hon. Members of Parliament got?

Mr. Ndicho: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to say that it is important for the proceedings of this House to be covered live. I would like to give one example of Citizen Radio and Television, which wrote a letter, that I have here to the Speaker of the National Assembly, applying to be allowed to broadcast live from this House, but up to now, the Speaker, or this House, has not responded to that letter to tell them whether we agreed or disagreed.

An hon. Member: Shame!

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is wrong with the proceedings of this House being broadcast live? It will cost nothing to the Government. In any case, the live broadcast will improve the economy of this country because people will take prime time to advertise their products because they know that many Kenyans are interested in parliamentary debates and politics. That will mean that these media houses will generate more revenue, which will ultimately improve the economy of this country.

I am not amused by the so-called "Economic Recovery Team". Recovering and dreaming from what? We do not need dreams; we need ventures like these ones to generate revenue. But when you go and bring a "Dream Team" which is dreaming during the day instead of dreaming during the night--- We have read in today's media that these people have so far spent Kshs200 million. That is not improving the economy; they are dreaming in the negative during the day. When you see day-dreamers, you realise that they destroy things more than the night-dreamers. I am saying that this venture could have improved the revenue base both for the media houses and even for this nation. But when we now go into ventures that are destroying the economy more than improving it, then we are going backward in this nation, rather than going forward.

I have gone to the House of Commons in London, which is covered live. I would like to inform this House that Channel 4 broadcasts parliamentary proceedings live from 2.30 p.m up to midnight or whatever time they finish; the most interesting time being the Question Time, because this is the time when Questions are asked and Ministers are required to answer them. This is the time that the quality of the Leader of Government in Britain is measured; whether he is fit or not. If live coverage of proceedings is introduced in this House, Kenyans will see for themselves the quality of answers that we get from Government Ministers, and their constituents will get an opportunity to see the kind of

Member of Parliament they have and decide whether he will be re-elected or not. KANU is refusing that to happen because it will lose most of its Members because of the debate and answers that we get from the other side of the House.

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

An hon. Member: Yes, Baba Dennis!

(Laughter)

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is giving me an interesting name, but is the Chair satisfied that the hon. Member is not misleading the House because, all of us in KANU are, in fact, supporting this Motion? So, why is he saying that KANU is opposing it?

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not going by what is happening today.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): I think he is referring to the fact that a previous Motion was passed in 1991, and it has not been implemented, but not this one.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is so. We are not debating what is happening at this particular moment, where KANU Members are supporting the Motion; we go by what has happened in the past.

We must also encourage this kind of venture. The dissemination of the HIV/AIDs information and the pronouncements that the Minister for Health makes here - I agree with hon. Sunkuli possibly because of limitation of space in the dailies and time in the electronic media - do not reach the majority of Kenyans. This is because some of the Ministerial Statements are made from research done by technocrats and well-informed individuals in the Government. But due to the limitation of time; and I will not blame the media houses for this because I know how difficult it is to allocate many items into a limited space in a newspaper or even in electronic media, if we have that kind of venture, our constituents will know all that is happening in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I support this Motion.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Affey): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute in support of this very important Motion. I stand to support this Motion because I know it is critical for our constituents to know the performance of their respective hon. Members.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is one programme in this country which is very popular among all our constituents, and this is: "Leo Katika Bunge". I support this Motion because I know how popular that programme is in my constituency. However, we have very serious fundamental problems which we should address before we air proceedings in this House. This is because, even if you were to broadcast live proceedings of this House on television, there are areas in this country where television has not even reached. So, first of all, it is important, and I am glad that the Deputy Leader of Government Business, who is also the Minister in charge of the information portfolio, is in the House. First of all, I would like to appeal to the Government to make sure that certain programmes are put in place, so that all districts in this country could have access to television. This is because in the whole of North Eastern Province, I think it is only Garissa District which can effectively receive frequencies on television. The rest of us can only follow programmes on radio. So, it is very important to put that one in place.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also support this Motion because it will address contribution of individual Members in this House. You made a ruling that we do not have to relate to what happened yesterday, but I think it is very important to have live coverage of proceedings of the House, so that hon. Members will be very careful in the manner in which they contribute to debate into this House. This is because we are about to reduce the dignity of Parliament. In fact, some of us might have already reduced it greatly. Quite a number of us, and I do not even know how they managed to come to this House--- Probably, they rigged themselves to this House. This is because you cannot refer to an hon. Member as a "thief" or a "thug" in the House and get away with it. If the constituents were watching individual performance of their respective representatives on the television, I am sure many of the hon. Members on the other side would not see this House again.

Dr. Ochuodho: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to mislead the House that the mere fact that an hon. Member on the other side is not referred to as a "thief" will make him a clean man? If you are a thief, you are thief whether you are referred to as one or not.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Affey): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am only saying that it is unparliamentary to do so and that we have rules that guide behaviour of hon. Members in this House. Therefore, if you are not behaving like an hon. Member, then there is no business for you to be in the House. That is all I am saying.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other aspect which my colleagues have echoed is allowing electronic media to air this programme free of charge. We should not allow direct free airing of proceedings of this House by media houses. We should commercialise it, so that we get the best television stations. For example, if it is KBC and they are ready to pay dearly for it, we give them the right to do so. They can pay Parliament. We should not allow free coverage of proceedings in this House.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order, Mr. Ndicho! It is only fair to allow Mr. Affey to continue with his contribution.

An hon. Member: He is misleading!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Affey): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not misleading. I think that will greatly contribute to fair reporting because what we have are incidences--- In fact, most times, what is reported by media houses might not necessarily be what is so important to this country. Somebody will make an outrageous remark and the following day, it becomes the lead item in the local newspapers. But if an hon. Member's contribution is aired live, maybe, his contribution will not be outrageous.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let us rise above petty politics when we start airing our proceedings. This is because this Parliament will be judged harshly by history if hon. Members reduce the debates in this House to triviality.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Osundwa: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is very loud consultation between hon. Mwenje and hon. Biwott at this corner.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Affey): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, precisely, that is why we require to air our proceedings live, so that we do know what happens in the House when hon. Members are contributing.

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

Mr. Wamalwa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will try and be very brief in my contribution. I rise to support this Motion fully. I think, with the removal of Section 2A from our Constitution, we opened up the Kenyan society and we want Kenya to be an open society in every aspect and sphere. And contributions of people's representatives in the people's House should be opened and be accessible to anybody who chooses or is interested in hearing what their representatives are saying. Parliament is not a secret society, and proceedings of Parliament should not be treated as proceedings of a secret society. Being a voice of an open society, the public and taxpayers ought to see how their representatives conduct themselves in this august House, what contributions they make, and who they consult with, among other things. So, as far as I am concerned, this is a move that is long overdue. The rest of the world has already undertaken this sort of programme and the sooner we get ours on track, the better for all of us.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the question of the composition of the Select Committee, I would like to observe that when a private Member brings a Motion here, he is using private members' time and he wants to canvass an idea. The Mover of that Motion, surely, under the rules of natural justice, ought to have the right to seek and bring together, the people who will support him.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Wamalwa, you have 10 minutes to make your contribution.

Mr. Wamalwa: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Having made a hurried start, I suppose I have to stretch my steps a little now.

When we held the IPPG consultations at a time when our country was threatened with all sorts of adverse circumstances; at a time when we seemed to be pulling in the opposite direction, and at the risk of destroying our country altogether, we agreed on a number of things. One of the things we all agreed on was that there would be equitable distribution of airtime, particularly on KBC which is funded by the public. Since that time, I think any keen observer or watcher of KBC television, or listener to the KBC radio, will see this agreement has not been honoured whatsoever. In fact, the KBC spends more time covering Government activities and, by extension, KANU activities, than it does for other parties. In fact, all you have to do is to listen or watch the KBC programmes and you will find that it is about KANU, and only one-quarter about other parties. That is so well known that one day my little nephew, who loves to watch news, made an extremely far-reaching observation when a certain regular personality who appears on TV showed up. The boy nudged me, and asked: "Uncle Mike, does this man live in the TV?"

(The light on the Sand Glass went off)

I thought you have given me a full 10 minutes.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! The Clerk-at-the-Table, I did ask hon. Wamalwa to continue.

Mr. Wamalwa: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. So, you can see, even little innocent kids know that there is disparity in the distribution of airtime on the KBC TV. When we bring TV---

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Wamalwa says that there is a regular person who appears on the KBC TV who, his nephew felt, lived in the TV. Would I be in order to ask him to tell us who that is?

(Laughter)

Mr. Wamalwa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think there is only one major superstar who appears on the KBC TV, particularly during hours of news. If hon. Munyasia thinks a little, he would know whom I am talking about.

Be that as it may, when the proceedings are covered on a candid camera, it will have a certain effect on the performance of hon. Members in this House. I am quite sure that any hon. Member speaking here, and conscious of the fact that his or her electors are watching him or her, first of all, will dress better, and, secondly, make sure that he or she sharpens his or her skills and comes across extremely well, thereby raising the standard of debate in this House. Also, live coverage, and let it be by all news agencies, should not be restricted to any particular TV channel or whatever; let all of them be allowed to cover, and those which do not have enough programmes might find it fit to air parliamentary debates for as long as they like. I can assure you that there will be very popular programmes on the televisions, just like they are on radio.

I wanted to touch on the question of quorum. Also, during live coverage, I think there will be an incentive to have quorum all the time so that hon. Members are not seen by their constituents to have played hooky. But we would want to insist that if there is an hon. Member dozing, we must make certain rules, so that a TV station does not cover those little indiscretions by hon. Members in the House.

On the question of composition of Select Committees, I am a little surprised that, that has already reached the Floor of the House, having only been discussed last night. I think there is something to be said about parties having a say in who serves in those Committees. In a multiparty era, the parties, in fact, use opportunities like those, I suppose, to reward faithful Members and to sort of wave the rod against the errant Members, and parties should be given the opportunity to do so. But I would like to say a word for the Movers of these Motions. I think somebody bringing up a completely noble idea that he or she wants it to be passed by this House will, definitely, be bound to look around for people with similar minds. He or she would want so-and-so on his or her Committee, knowing that he or she would support that idea. It will not be in his or her interest to have on that Committee, somebody who will be opposed to the idea and, perhaps, causing it to be still-born before it reaches the Floor of this House.

I would like to suggest the Mover be given the discretion to select those hon. Members that he or she wants to serve on the Committee, but bearing in mind that he or she must consult with the parties, from which these hon. Members come; should consult with the whips of those parties to make sure that the party itself has nothing against the hon. Member that he or she is trying to include in the Committee. So, we have to strike a happy balance, where the Mover is not denied the right of selection of whom he or she wants to serve, and, at the same time, the parties are not denied the right to comment, like saying: "so-and-so served on such and such a Committee, and we feel that this time, so-and-so should come to your Committee."

Through consultations, particularly between the whips of the various parties, the composition of membership of the Select Committees can quite easily be solved. It should not be a major problem. To wind up, I welcome most heartily the idea of live coverage of parliamentary proceedings, and that will bring us in step with the rest of the world. It will bring an extra programme on our TV stations, and also on our radio stations. For example, I enjoy listening to the radio coverage of the parliamentary proceedings in the Tanzanian Parliament, and they are totally fantastic. We hope that technicians and artists who will be covering these programmes will bring all the expertise that they are capable of, to make this programme extremely successful.

With those few words, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): It is now time for the Government Responder.

The Minister for Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Mudavadi): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I just want to reiterate the position that we support this Motion moved by hon. Kirwa, and I will just focus on two points; one that relates to the aspect of financing, because some hon. Members have, indeed, spoken and given the impression that upon approval of this Motion, there may be no serious financial

implications involved, but that is to the contrary. Definitely, that will have financial implications, and it is important that we acknowledge it from the very beginning, so that as the Select Committee goes about its work, we bear in mind that somewhere along the line, we should be called upon, as the Government, to appropriate the necessary resources to facilitate the implementation of the outcome of the recommendations.

In the House of Commons, there is already a Select Committee which handles broadcasting issues, and it will be important that the Select Committee also works on modalities of ensuring that we shall have such a Committee, which will, perhaps, look at some of the ethical issues related to the transmission that will be emanating from this House. It is also important for us to acknowledge that we would want to have this process done in a competitive way, and Parliament will, obviously, have to own the cabling and some of the TV cameras that may be fitted here. That is crucial because we do not want a situation where Parliament will be held at ransom by any individual TV station. That is, definitely, an issue that will cost money. In some of the Parliaments which have live broadcasts, it is clear that, that--

(Mr. Biwott consulted with Messrs. Kirwa and Too)

Mr. Kombo: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you can see what hon. Biwott is doing over there.

(Laughter)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Order! Can we have order there?
Proceed, Mr. Minister.

The Minister for Information, Transport and Communications (Mr. Mudavadi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was just saying that it will be important to have TV cameras installed in all the rooms, which will be necessary for any of the transmission of the parliamentary business, and that might involve the Committee Rooms and this particular Chamber. It is important that we establish proper modalities on how we will get a competitive process of getting some of the TV and radio stations, and then, competing for the time in order to make sure that there is a proper arrangement between Parliament and those stations. We would not want, at any time, for Parliament to be subjected to a process where the owners of a particular station will tilt or twist the proceedings of the House, based on their editorial policy. It is important that what emanates from this House is conveyed in a format that is factual, not biased whatsoever, or not bent to the whims of the editorial policy of any particular station. It is clear that all over the world, whereas the instruments of dissemination of news may sometimes propagate the view that they are doing so independently without bias, that is far from the truth. Most of them have some particular philosophy that they will subscribe to, and if we are not careful this Parliament can be subjected to some philosophical leaning that may be detrimental to ensuring that the public is getting the information it should be getting in a manner that it is presented.

I can only urge that once the Select Committee is in place, it should get under way and we will be happy to have the report within the shortest time possible because it is long overdue. A lot has been said about what would happen in terms of attendance, the quality of debate and the need for MPs to be seen to have done some research when they are contributing to issues. It is common knowledge that over the years, we have had some seasoned contributors to various matters in this House, like the late Dr. Zachary Onyonka who would make very incisive contributions on matters that relate to economic and other social issues. You would find that hon. Onyonka would get a fine one line coverage after having made a very constructive contribution to this House, while a person who walks in and simply catches the eye of the Press gets a major front page, and yet, his contribution in terms of content, value and adding to the debate on the Floor was completely insignificant. These are the follies of an editorial policy that is, perhaps, biased and is more focused on commercialising and earning money from the sale of the newspapers as opposed to disseminating what the Kenyan public should be really thinking about. We want to reflect a Parliament that is now more focused on ideas and issues rather than personalities. This is where we hope that this process and this Motion can lead us to.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we had some consultation with hon. Anyang'-Nyong'o and I wanted to cede three of my minutes to him.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to support this Motion and to make three points. I am happy to hear that the Minister responsible for this Ministry, who is also the Deputy Leader of Government Business, has agreed that the Government will move fast to implement this Motion once a Select Committee has done its work. This is good because, quite often, private Members' Motions become a sheer matter of ritual in this House. We pass so many of them during any session of Parliament and very few ever see the limelight or are implemented. I would like to compliment the Minister for putting his money where his mouth is

over this Motion.

Secondly, when this Motion is implemented, many Kenyans who travel long distances to come and watch Parliament in action will be saved the trouble. They will be able to sit at home, in cafes and shops, and watch Parliament in action. They will, therefore, be part and parcel of the democratisation process in this country. This is extremely important and I do hope that it is done in the spirit of engaging Kenyans in the debates in Parliament so that information, criticism and ideas reach the public. Thirdly, this particular Motion will provide the opportunity for our parliamentary reporters to be trained and given the chance to have speciality in parliamentary reporting. I do know that the mass media in this country hardly gives special training to their parliamentary reporters to have parliamentary reporting as a skill, vocation and profession.

I do not think that the Kenya Institute of Mass Communications specialises in giving certificates and degrees in parliamentary reporting. Parliamentary reporting has become a special profession in the world; a vocation. I do hope that when this Motion is implemented, those journalists who report in Parliament will do it as a vocation and something in which they are particularly trained. Fourthly, verbatim reporting of parliamentary procedure will make it possible for journalists not to be in a hurry to rush back to the newsroom and report back on Parliament. Quite often, things which are said in this Parliament after 5.00 O'clock do not give our journalists enough time to go back to the newsroom to do proper editing and report these things.

In my other life, I have doubled as a journalist ever since I was in college and I know what it takes to edit a newspaper and an essay. I know what it takes to try and get the gist of a story so that it becomes not just newsworthy, but substantive. The verbatim reporting of the procedures of this House will be very useful to journalists for accurate and substantive reporting of what happens in this House. I would like to make an appeal to the Minister; we say that as many mass media houses and newspapers will be allowed to come here and use the facilities of Parliament in reporting. We know today that very few radio and TV stations cover the whole country. To be precise, it is only the KBC which has an AM radio station and a TV station covering the whole country.

This is not in the spirit of democracy. This monopoly of electronic waves is anti-democratic. We need to ensure that the Kenya Communications Commission licences as many radio and TV stations as possible which want to do national coverage. Let the market work. At the moment, Telkom Kenya Limited has been given a monopoly in Nairobi. KBC has been given a monopoly to cover the country. It is important that if we are really going to democratise and let our Kenyans listen to a station of their choice, let us not just license FM radio stations here and there; let us make sure that the whole country is covered. Finally, it is extremely important that in licensing Kenyans to broadcast to themselves, we should also license them to broadcast to the rest of the world. The rest of the world wants to know what is going on in Kenya from the Kenyan point of view.

If Radio Tanzania and Radio Uganda can have an external service, Nation TV and Radio should also be allowed the same so that from the Kenyan point of view, we also give what we are discussing to the external world. I hope that when this comes into being, Tanzanians and Ugandans will be able to see our Parliament in action. In that way, we shall have a much more fruitful and real East African Co-operation in this region. With those few remarks I would like to hand over to hon. Kirwa who graciously allowed me his time to contribute.

I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Mr. Kirwa, you have your full ten minutes. Although you had agreed, Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o had it in his own right. So, you have your full time.

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank all hon. Members who made their contributions towards this particular Motion. Even those who may not have made any contribution were, in spirit, with the intentions of the Motion. I greatly feel honoured and would like to thank all the Members from both sides of the House. I would like to, particularly, thank the Front Bench for supporting the Motion fully, despite the problems they had about the Select Committee. They came to support the Motion at the end. This is the spirit that should always be there. If this spirit was there, this country would be having fewer political problems, and would concentrate on the economy.

Having said that, we cannot over-emphasise the question of airwaves that has been echoed by many Members of this House. It is imperative that the Government understands the need to free the airwaves of all the broadcasting stations. As we are talking now, some stations are capable of broadcasting all over the Republic, but for very strange reasons, we do not understand why they have not been allowed to do so. It is only the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) that reaches all parts of the country. Most of the other media stations are only restricted to Nairobi and Central Provinces. This is a scenario that is very dangerous! It is dangerous to lead a population that is not informed, particularly, as far as their leaders are concerned. It is important for KANU, and the Government, for that matter, to understand that there is need for them to be understood also by those who support them in the rural areas. This is the only way they can make in-roads in some of the areas where the public are sceptical about them. I do agree with Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, that: "Let us forget about yesterday." Yesterday is such a bad day that we do

not want to remember. I concur with your ruling. I am happy for having taken that particular position.

As far as the Select Committee is concerned, my intention was very noble. I went to a number of Members who were willing to be part of my Committee. Some of the Members had actually moved a Motion similar in nature and intention. We felt that there was need to amalgamate. The hon. Musikari Kombo is one such Member. He became a Member of my Committee because he intended to move a similar Motion. I know some people may not be happy to see his name appearing first in my Committee this morning. But that was not intentional because even the other Committee had not taken off. As you heard, this particular Motion has been on the Order Paper for quite some time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as the ruling party is concerned, I was very magnanimous because it was a Private Member's Motion. I had requested the party to sponsor it as a party Motion, but, without de-whipping me, they did not give me a chance to present it as a party Motion. So, despite that, I said that I was going to be generous to the ruling party and gave them five positions, including that of myself. But I think the hon. Minister forgot that I was also a Member of KANU! I am still in that particular party. This explains why he thought the number was smaller than it should have been. This is a good Motion, and I wanted us to look at it this way.

The KBC, for heaven's sake, should understand that the taxes we pay to run that particular station come from all parts of the country. The leaders in this House are elected from all corners of the Republic. Therefore, all corners of the Republic have the right to listen to what their leaders say. Any denial to a section of the leadership of this country, just because they happen to hold an opinion contrary to the opinion of the Government, is denial to a taxpayer of his right to hear what his leader has said. It is dangerous, and I do agree with hon. Wamalwa that we should not restrict ourselves to only one station. The moment we restrict ourselves to one station, we will be saying that the KBC has got the largest network. We will end up in the same quagmire that we are trying to run away from.

The other thing is the question of parties having the right to choose Members to the various Committee. I do agree with that because I believe in democracy. But there is one danger, and it may be a good lesson to some of the parties. I am not complaining as a person because I appear only in one Committee. That is just because my own party does not think that I think along its line. But I am useful because I think differently from them. That is why we are here. That is why we have three constituencies in Trans Nzoia District. Otherwise, we would be having one constituency if all of us were thinking alike. So, I am a useful Member of KANU. I can talk to the other Members of the Opposition and bring them to think like you, or to think along with you. I can also make you to think right. So, I am trying to tell my party that--

Mr. Kajwang: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for hon. Kirwa to discuss the internal politics of KANU in a matter which is national?

Mr. Kirwa: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do appreciate that, but I do not want to touch on the issue of co-operation because it is also an internal matter between the National Development Party (NDP) and KANU!

(Applause)

But I was just making a reference. I am not trying to discuss any issues to do with KANU, but those are important aspects of our parliamentary life; that once you are Member of a political party, unless you have been de-whipped, you should also have a chance to serve in as many Committees as possible. They should realise that the experience we have in this House is slightly more than many Members can assume to have. That experience is useful because experience is the best teacher. That is why we have been teaching our party to be more democratic. Yesterday, they were very democratic despite whatever they did. They realised that they lost eight of their Members. I am happy, although I do not want to remember yesterday. I am sorry I do not want to remember yesterday, but I was just making a reference to that.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

THAT, in order to enhance protection of the right to life, this House urges the Government to introduce the necessary legislation to abolish capital punishment in Kenya.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Is Mr. Murungi not here? His Motion is dropped.

(Motion dropped)

LEAVE TO INTRODUCE FAMILY PROTECTION BILL

THAT, this House do grant leave to introduce a Bill entitled "The Family Protection Bill" to consolidate the law relating to maintenance, provide for protection against all forms of domestic violence and to provide for distribution of matrimonial property.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, there have been consultations between Ms. Karua and the Attorney-General to the effect that this Motion be deferred. Therefore, the Chair orders that the Motion be deferred.

(Motion deferred)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Musila): Hon. Members, it is now time to interrupt the business of this morning. The House, therefore, stands adjourned until this afternoon, at 2.30 p.m.
The House rose at 12.00 p.m.