

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 27th April, 1999

02

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS IN SPEAKER'S ROW

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members. It is with great pleasure that I welcome our distinguished guests from the Parliament of the Republic of the Gambia now seated in the Speaker's Row. They are the hon. Omar K. Mass, MP of the United Democratic Party which is the Chief Official Opposition Party and leader of the delegation; Hon. Sheikh O. Njie MP and hon. Kebba Touray, MP of the Alliance for Patriotic Re-orientation and Construction (APRC) which is the ruling party. They arrived on Sunday April, 24th 1999 and they will be with us up to April 30th, 1999. During their stay they will be on a familiarisation study of our procedures and practice. I would, therefore, like on your behalf and on my behalf, to wish them an enjoyable and fruitful stay. Thank you.

(Applause)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.001

ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICE STATION IN MUTITU

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kitonga not here? Next question.

Question No.014

DISTRIBUTION OF PRESIDENTIAL BURSARY FUNDS

Mr. Obwocha asked the Minister for Education and Human Resource Development whether he could table the breakdown of the Presidential Bursary allocations for all the districts for the years 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 and the criteria for such allocations.

The Assistant Minister for Education and Human Resource Development (Mr. Awori): Mr. Speaker, Sir this Question should really have been directed to the Office of the President, but because of the time factor I will answer it.

The Presidential Bursary Fund is administered by the Office of the President and no fund allocations were released to the districts in the years 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998. However, some individual districts which had not exhausted their allocation from the amount disbursed by the Office of the President in 1991 and in 1992 continued to distribute the fund money to needy secondary school students from 1995 to 1998. The criteria used by most districts during the years when the fund was in operation to identify needy secondary school students who hailed from within the districts but attended schools in other parts of the country was through committees established by the district commissioners scrutinising performance reports filed by the students. The amount each successful needy student received depended to a large extent on the need and in most cases the cheques were prepared and sent directly to the school.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you have heard, the Assistant Minister has not answered this

Question satisfactorily. I asked this Question because I wanted to know what is the allocation per district and that has not been given. One district which is experiencing a lot of problems as far as these bursary benefits are concerned is Nyamira. I am unable to ask a supplementary question because he has not given that list. Could you compel the Assistant Minister to provide a list, district-by-district, of the allocations? He has evaded that by going back to 1991/92. I am currently asking about the period from 1995 to 1998.

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was no allocation from 1995 to 1998. Secondly, even if there had been, the districts that the hon. Member is referring to at the time when the Presidential Bursary Fund was in progress, were not in existence.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is incorrect to say that those districts were not in existence. Nyamira was established in 1989. Even if the allocation was given out in 1991/92 then an allocation should have been set aside. He cannot say that.

Mr. Awori: Really, the hon. Member should then have asked a question about 1991/92. He has asked about the period from 1995 when there was no allocation.

Mr. Kajwang: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what were the sources of the Presidential Bursary Fund? Can he confirm that the Fund is now dead?

Mr. Awori: In 1989 His Excellency the President carried out a big Harambee and the money was collected countrywide from wananchi. That was the source of the Presidential Bursary Fund.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Although there is some kind of confusion as to whether the Presidential Bursary Fund still exists and when it ceased to exist, it did, indeed exist. This is a very important issue particularly when you consider the question of fair distribution of resources across the country. Although technically the Question does not cover the years the Assistant Minister is talking about, would it be in order to request the Assistant Minister, in view of the importance of this Question, to liaise with the Office of the President and give us figures for those years when the Bursary Fund actually did exist? I do not think we can leave it in abeyance like that.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Anyona, I do not think the Assistant Minister is bound to answer what he was not asked. If you want to ask about those years that were relevant, you are at liberty to do so.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister answer part (b) of the Question? Now that he has failed to give the breakdown of the bursary allocations to various districts, what is the criteria that they used to distribute the money during the year 1991/92?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, unless I have got the wrong Order Paper, there is no part (b) of that Question.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, we must leave that now. Question 013!

Question No.013

CLINICAL ATTACHMENT FOR NURSE TRAINEES

(Question dropped)

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 005 Mr. Sifuna?

Mr. Achola: What about Question No.013? We can ask it on his behalf!

Mr. Speaker: There is no such Member in this House.

Question No.005

TRANSFER OF CHIEF OFFICERS

Mr. Sifuna asked the Minister for Local Authorities:

(a) whether he is aware that services in various councils have deteriorated and yet residents of these councils pay a lot of taxes and;

(b) since the chief officers of the councils are transferable, whether he could make a rule that no chief officer of the council remains in one council for more than three years.

The Assistant Minister for Local Authorities (Mr. Sasura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply:

(a) I am aware that local authorities are having difficulties in providing essential services to wananchi as expected. But I am not aware that residents pay a lot of taxes.

(b) The transfer of chief officers is done on exigencies of the service. Consequently, the Minister cannot make a general rule that chief officers be transferred within a specific period of time.

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the sad reply from the Assistant Minister - I do not know whether from Uganda or Canada - is the Assistant Minister aware that Kenyans living in various areas do pay for trade licences and other taxes like Services Charge, market fees, park tax, pay-as-you-earn and even the so-called pay-as-you-breathe and yet there are no services at all? Is he aware of that?

Mr. Sasura: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am aware that Kenyans pay taxes but not all Kenyans pay taxes and it is not true that there are completely no services provided by the councils. Services are there.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Assistant Minister aware that some of these chief officers are keeping two receipt books; one for the council and one for themselves? This fact has been proved in Nyeri County Council and we are happy the Minister agreed to sack those chief officers. Would the Assistant Minister agree that where councillors are satisfied that these officers are corrupt, they should be removed immediately?

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that chief officers keep two receipt books. If they do, that has to be dealt with by the police.

[**Mr. Sasura**]

Secondly, it is not granted that, where all councillors agree that chief officers are corrupt, those chief officers are removed. This should be subject to investigation.

Dr. Ochuodho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, despite the deterioration of the services offered, the Assistant Minister is probably aware that in some councils, rates have recently been exorbitantly increased. For example, in Homa Bay, the traders have given two weeks notice that unless the Government reduces taxes they are going to riot. Can the Assistant Minister tell this House what action he will take to ensure that, that riot which is certainly going to take place, does not take place?

An hon. Member: He does not know!

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that is a different question.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am surprised that the Assistant Minister does not know that people pay taxes, whereas the people pay very heavy taxes to have services delivered to them. Can the Assistant Minister tell us what services the Nairobi residents receive? The garbage is everywhere, the sewerage is not working, there is no water in the pipes, the schools are all stinking, the roads are impassable, the lighting is not there--- Can the Assistant Minister tell us what services are being provided?

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not true that there are completely no services. It is also not true that Nairobi residents do not get water, electricity or even roads. The only thing is that, maybe, the garbage was not collected in time or it is not collected adequately but it is still being collected. There is electricity, but there could be blackouts. If rates are not paid, the water must be disconnected. Otherwise, it is not true to say that there are completely no services provided in Nairobi. In any case, the hon. Member is not a Member of Parliament for the whole of Nairobi, she is a Member of Parliament for Dagoretti.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to tell us that there are services provided by the Nairobi City Council when, in fact, I have not received water for the last one-and-half years and yet I pay my rates and Services Charge?

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, like Mr. Angwenyi, I also live in Nairobi and I receive the services he is talking about. If there is a specific problem about an hon. Member or an individual, this can be reported and it can be sorted out.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is seriously misleading this House and I wonder why the Government should keep such a Minister in office if he cannot tell the people the truth. He passes through Nairobi and he sees what is happening. Is he in order to mislead this House? He should tell us the truth; that the money has been eaten.

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot say that the money has been eaten because I do not know what money she is talking about. But I am certainly in order to say that Mrs. Mugo is not a Member of Parliament for Nairobi but for Dagoretti.

Dr. G.B. Galgalo: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. While all of us here are Members of the National Assembly and we can ask questions about anything that affects Kenyans anywhere, is the Assistant Minister in order to say that Mrs. Mugo is not a Member of Parliament for Nairobi?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Assistant Minister, where is Dagoretti?

(Applause)

The Assistant Minister for Local Authorities (Mr. Sasura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mrs. Mugo was talking about services in the whole of Nairobi. I wanted her to refer to Dagoretti or a specific area in Nairobi.

Mr. Shidie: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very well known fact that chief officers in this country do not give services. Actually, they are the most corrupt individuals in Kenya.

Can the Assistant Minister allow these officers to be elected so that we know that in such place there are officers elected?

(Applause)

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, to be elected is not a guarantee not to be corrupt. Certainly, we shall not allow elections for chief officers.

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the funny reply from the Assistant Minister who stays in Eastleigh, is he aware---

Mr. Sasura: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Sifuna, who has not decided whether to comb left or right in order to say where I stay?

Mr. Sifuna: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that the Assistant Minister stays at Garissa Lodge in Eastleigh and I have seen him there several times.

(Laughter)

Now, is he aware that, particularly in Bungoma County Council, the Treasurer has been there for the last 20 years without being transferred. Why has he remained there for 20 years without being transferred when chief officers are subject to transfer to any part of the country?

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do not transfer chief officers depending on the time they [Mr. Sasura] have stayed at a particular place. We consider so many things like the work-load. So, it is not guaranteed that if Mr. Sifuna does not want the officer to stay there, we shall transfer him. He could be a good officer.

Mr. Shill: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to deny that people do not pay taxes to councils, while even in his home area, Marsabit and everywhere else, we know that taxes are being paid by wananchi and there are no services being rendered? Is he sincere enough to say that, even when the people of Marsabit are listening to him?

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Member is dragging me to the wrong direction. Certainly, besides only hearing about Marsabit, the hon. Member does not even know where Marsabit is, let alone the services being rendered there.

Question No.044

MURRAMING OF MBONDONI-MIGWANI-KABATI ROAD

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

- (a) how much it cost the Government to murrām the Mbondoni-Migwani-Kabati Road, C94;
- (b) if he is aware that the road became impassable even before the contractor left the site; and,
- (c) what immediate plans he is making to re-do this road and ensure that it is passable as was intended.

Mr. Speaker: Minister for Public Works and Housing! Next Question.

Question No.020

ESTABLISHMENT OF MOLASSES FACTORY AT MUMIAS

Mr. Osundwa asked the Minister for Industrial Development if he could consider putting up a molasses factory at Mumias Town to process thousands of tonnes of molasses which go to waste every year leading to loss of millions of Shillings.

The Assistant Minister for Industrial Development (Mr. Kimkung): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

In 1997, molasses at Mumias Sugar Company totalled 74,137 tonnes. Out of these, only 3,279 tonnes were recorded as wastage, while 35,000 tonnes were sold to Molasses Processing Company at Muhoroni. The balance of 35,858 tonnes were sold to the various buyers including those exporting to the neighbouring countries. Although it is noted that not huge amounts of molasses go to waste, there could be some merit in considering putting up a molasses factory in the area, as more molasses can be sourced from the other nearby factories.

My Ministry will co-ordinate and facilitate the undertaking of a feasibility study in order to enable private sector investors decide whether it is worthwhile putting up a molasses factory at Mumias.

Mr. Osundwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Assistant Minister for the good reply. However, he notes in his reply that 35,858 tonnes go to some neighbouring countries, in effect, exporting jobs. Could the Assistant Minister give an assurance to this House that his Ministry is going to immediately start the feasibility study so that this plant is established in Mumias?

Mr. Kimkung: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do assure the House.

Mr. Speaker: Question No.001, for the second time.

Question No.001

ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICE STATION IN MUTITU

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kitonga still not here?

(Question dropped)

Question No.044

MURRAMING OF MBONDONI-MIGWANI-KABATI ROAD

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

- (a) how much it cost the Government to murrām the Mbondoni-Migwani-Kabati Road, C94;
- (b) if he is aware that the road became impassable even before the contractor left the site; and,
- (c) what immediate plans he is making to re-do this road and ensure that it is passable as was intended.

Mr. Speaker: Nobody from the Ministry of Public Works and Housing!

Mr. Musila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I received a written reply, and therefore, I cannot understand why they cannot answer this Question.

Mr. Speaker: I really do not know! I will defer the Question, to tomorrow afternoon.

(Question deferred)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

IMPORTATION OF CEMENT

(Mr. Maitha) to ask the Minister for Finance:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that a Company M/S HYDERY (P) LTD has imported 3000 tonnes of cement without following proper procedures and that the company is about to ship another consignment of 30,000 tonnes?

(b) If the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, what urgent steps is the Government taking to protect the three cement factories in Kenya from collapsing as a result of these unjustified imports?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Maitha's Question by Private has been deferred to tomorrow morning.

(Question deferred)

DYSENTERY OUTBREAK IN FAFI

Mr. Shill: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Water Resources, the following Question by

Private:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that 35 people have died within one month in Fafi Constituency from dysentery as a result of drinking contaminated water?

(b) What is the Minister doing as a matter of urgency to open the Fafi borehole which was drilled by UNICEF last year?

The Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Ng'eny): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that 35 people have died within one month in Fafi Constituency as a result of drinking contaminated water.

(b) My Ministry is currently test-pumping and conducting water quality analysis for Fafi borehole, in readiness to equip it. At the same time, the borehole's pump and the accessories have been bought for immediate installation.

Mr. Shill: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very unfortunate that a Cabinet Minister does not know that 35 people have died because of drinking contaminated water in Fafi, while it is a fact, and I am sure the Minister for Health knows that.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this borehole was drilled before Independence by the Colonial Government, and after 35 years of Independence no improvements have been done on that borehole. The United Nations Children's Fund only started to improve on it last year. Could the Minister tell this House why it has taken so long for the Government or his Ministry to go and do test-pumping and quality analysis only after 35 people have died because of drinking contaminated water? Is that really fair?

Mr. Ng'eny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the boreholes were drilled much earlier, but because of the *El Nino* phenomenon, there was plenty of water in the area, and therefore, difficult to carry heavy equipment for testing in that area until recently when it was dry. We have now tested the borehole.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The main substance of this Question is that 35 people died because they drank contaminated water. That is the allegation or the assertion by the hon. Member asking the Question. But the Minister says that he is not aware.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is left in a very embarrassing situation where an important matter like that cannot be resolved in one way or the other. Would I be in order to invoke the provisions of Standing Order No.76, since an allegation has been made, so that the MP can produce evidence for substantiation to which the Minister can be held accountable?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Ng'eny, what is your reaction? Are you not aware or they did not die?

Mr. Ng'eny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that 35 people have died as a result of drinking contaminated water from that borehole which we drilled.

Mr. Shidie: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate the answer given by the Minister. However, since the *El Nino*, we have not had any rain. Most of the boreholes have collapsed as a result of discharging of the *El Nino* water. There are only two boreholes in that region - one is in Habaswen, and the other one is at a place called Kulan, in my constituency. Those two boreholes need urgent rehabilitation, because the residents of that area are suffering. So, could the Minister respond to this issue and assist us?

Mr. Ng'eny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the boreholes that have been referred to by the hon. Member collapsed. They collapsed because there was too much water in the ground. Boreholes collapse when there is too much ground water. However, we have rehabilitated those boreholes. They will soon be operational, and people will get adequate water.

Mr. Wehliye: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the borehole that is in Habaswen borders my constituency. Nothing has been done on that borehole for the last six months. Last Thursday, I also lost seven people at a place called Argajan. It is time that the Ministry of Water Resources either said that it is not concerned with the North-Eastern Province, or we got a relevant and convincing answer from the Ministry. For a very long time, we have been getting answers which are not tailored towards benefiting our people. Could the Minister tell us what he intends to do to ensure that people in the North-Eastern Province also get clean water?

Mr. Ng'eny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you must have noticed that the boreholes that have been badly affected by the *El Nino* rains are in one region. We are doing our best to rehabilitate all the boreholes in those regions. The borehole that has been referred to by the hon. Member is, in fact, in our hands, and we shall soon rehabilitate it.

Mr. Shill: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are talking about people who have died. I thought that the hon. Minister would have led this House in observing a one-minute silence in honour of those people who have died because of drinking contaminated water. The Provincial Medical Officer of Health (PMOH) visited the place, saw the people who died, and advised the residents of that area to boil water from those boreholes before drinking it. I am sure that if people from elsewhere had died of the same effects, the whole Government would have rushed to that place.

It is very unfair when---

Mr. Speaker: So, what are you asking?

Mr. Shill: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what I am asking is this: Could the Minister tell us how long it will take to install the equipment to make the boreholes operational?

Mr. Ng'eny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said before, rehabilitation of boreholes requires heavy equipment, which cannot reach those places during the rainy season. We all know that for a long time, those places were wet. So, while I sympathise with those who lost their lives due to drinking contaminated water, at this moment, I do not have---

(Several hon. Members, stood up in their places)

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

Mr. Kajwang: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Minister has been talking of heavy equipment meant for testing the water. What is this equipment he has been talking about? I thought that it is supposed to be just a small laboratory. So, could he give us the name of the equipment he has been talking about?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Mr. Kajwang, that is neither a point of order nor a supplementary question. Proceed hon. Minister!

Mr. Ng'eny: I have finished, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

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

Mr. Speaker: What is it?

Mr. Parpai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the Minister to mislead this House? He started by saying: "There are people on site". He went on to say that he is going to send the machines and people very soon. He is now talking of rains being very heavy there and, therefore, being unable to send the machines. So, where do we stand, Mr. Minister?

Mr. Ng'eny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if my hon. friend was following what I was saying, I did say that there has been plenty of water for a very long time in that region, which is now drying up. I further said that we are now getting equipment to that region. That is why we are now able to rehabilitate those boreholes, and people in the entire region will soon get water.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, I think that is enough for that Question.

SALE OF LAKE VICTORIA FISH LTD. ASSETS

(Mr. Sungu) to ask the Minister for Industrial Development:-

(a) Arising out of the Ministerial Statement given to the House on 28th October, 1998 regarding the plight of Lake Victoria Fish Limited (in receivership), is the Minister aware that the Company's assets have now been advertised for sale?

(b) Is the Minister satisfied that the Receivers and the Bank acted professionally in this matter, noting that there was no attempt to run the factory to prove its viability and thus denying the owners a chance to get their factory back?

(c) Could the Minister stop the sale and give the owner a chance to run the factory in order to pay his debts?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, Question No.3 by Private Notice is deferred to tomorrow. So, that concludes today's Question Time.

(Question deferred)

POINTS OF ORDER

LOCKING UP OF FOREIGN TOURISTS

Mr. Mwakiringo: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Speaker, Sir. I stand to demand a Ministerial Statement from the Ministry of Tourism as to why African Safari Club in Mombasa locked up their foreign tourists in their hotel between 20th and 24th of April, 1999, while there were no insecurity incidents in Mombasa and the in the national parks.

BROKEN SEWEGE IN WUNDANYI PRISON

I am also seeking a Ministerial Statement from the Ministry of Home Affairs, National Heritage, Culture and Social Services on the danger caused by human waste overflowing from toilets at Wundanyi Prison. The prison, which is overcrowded, has its toilet overflowing and draining into River Wundanyi. The waste eventually ends up in River Voi. The water from those rivers is normally used by people in that area for drinking and washing with. The water is also used by the wild animals in Tsavo National Park.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

(Order for Committee read)

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

[Mr. Chairman took the Chair]

MOTION

APPROVAL OF 1998/99 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - AND STATEMENTS OF EXCESSES

- (a) THAT, a sum not exceeding K£217,094,771 be granted from the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1999, in respect of Supplementary Estimates of 1998/99 (Recurrent) having regard to the reduction of K£53,964,086 therein appearing.
- (b) THAT, a sum not exceeding K£212,954,579 be granted from the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1999, in respect of supplementary Estimates of 1998/99 (Development) having regard to the reduction of K£44,388,460 therein appearing.
- (c) THAT, a sum not exceeding K£40,304,693-11 shs-20 cents be granted from the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1994, in respect of Statement of Excesses No. 1 of 1993/94.
- (d) THAT, a sum not exceeding K£33,183,294-15 shs-20 cents be granted from the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1995, in respect of Statement of Excesses No. 1 of 1994/95.

(The Minister for Finance on 21.4.99)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 22.4.99)

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Members, this is a continuation of the Motion on Supplementary Estimates, which was interrupted on 22nd April, 1999. Hon. Kihara was on the Floor then. So, could he continue?

Mr. Kihara: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion. I rise to oppose the Motion on the Supplementary Estimates mainly, because after going through the printed Supplementary Estimates books, I have seen absolutely nothing that looks after my constituency.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, one wonders whether the District Development Committees that we attend every month are worth attending if the priorities we identify for our respective areas are not looked after in the Supplementary Estimates. These Estimates are usually brought in to look after those items which may not have been anticipated. However, new projects have now been put into the estimates.

Mr. Chairman, therefore, we are wondering whether those projects we have identified in our area DDCs are not in these Supplementary Estimates. The projects that we have identified in our areas if I might just mention a few is one; roads. When looking through the book, I see nothing with regard to the roads that we have identified in our areas as priorities. I would like to mention just a few roads which are absolutely not motorable now, whether it rains or shines. One road is from Naivasha to a place called Mayela which is very well-known because

it was a refugee camp for the people evicted from Enoosupukia. The other road is from Naivasha to a place called Ndabibi which is again not motorable. Another unmotorable road is from Naivasha to Njabini through Maraguchu. If I go to Gilgil Division, there is a road from Gilgil to Kiambogo which is again unmotorable. We have to carry our dead on our shoulders when they die in order to take them to their burial places. Another unmotorable road is from Gilgil through the former late Member of Parliament J. M. Kariuki's home through Gitare to Tumaini. There are places which are totally inaccessible like a place called Gatamaiyu. We would wish that these projects, because we have identified them in our DDC, are looked after.

Mr. Chairman, another project that we have identified as our priority concerns water and I am sorry the Minister for Water Resources seems to have just walked out, because Naivasha Town is one town which suffers from an acute water shortage. We have three boreholes, which were drilled but filled. We wonder why this water is being kept and for whom and for when. There are sealed three boreholes which are already sunk which would take care of our water requirements in Naivasha Town. The other one is water from the National Youth Service Camp at Karati. A lot of this water has been diverted and is now being used by some Mzungu up there, to grow flowers instead of it being supplied to our people in our very town. The other one is a geothermal water tank which was built on top of Eburu hill. We believe this water can be reticulated to places like Kiambogo, Old Eburu Station, Navum and Kongasis so that, those people get water. We have very few flowing water in that area. Places like Longonot have no flowing rivers and we would like that water for example from the lake to be supplied to those areas for use by those people.

Mr. Chairman, another project that we have identified concerns health. Naivasha Hospital as you know is on transit to Western Kenya and when accidents occur, many people are admitted to this hospital. This hospital is very ill-equipped. It has no linen and equipment and in Naivasha Hospital Mortuary when the unfortunate happens and somebody dies, the corpses are eaten by rats. It is very small. The cooling system has broken down and we would wish that something is done about it. I see the provision in the book reading about K£120,000 for the rehabilitation of mortuaries and that is not even enough for the Naivasha Hospital Mortuary. There is a health centre which was built at Mai-Mahiu by European Economic Community (EEC) funds. It has stayed there unopened for the last four years. I took the Minister for Health there sometimes last year. I appealed to him to get this health centre to be operational. It was financed by foreign donors and it is standing there and it is a shame. Most of the health facilities that we enjoy in that area are in former Mzungu houses in that area and they require a lot of assistance, so that they can provide the services. Particularly because of the poor roads of this area, we require those health centres because they act as first aid places for our people.

Mr. Chairman, another problem that we have identified is insecurity. I think insecurity has played a very major role in making our people as poor as they are, because they are unable to farm. There is a lot of cattle rustling. There is a lot of illegal grazing in the area. Those travelling towards Western Kenya must have seen it happening on the Old Escarpment Road. There are a lot of people who have come to occupy those lands, denying their legitimate owners the opportunity to farm.

Mr. Chairman, the other area which I would like to mention is the co-operative and land buying companies. I have spoken to my friend opposite, the Minister for Co-operative Development about those farms which were bought by land buying companies. The problem with these land buying companies is that, they have now sub-divided their land. The people have got their titles and we are now in the process of liquidating them but the process of liquidation is riddled with a lot of corruption. The Government appointed liquidators in collusion with the former chairmen of these societies who are colluding to defraud the members of those areas which were reserved as common areas for the benefit of the members and I have sought the intervention of the Minister and I will be bringing a delegation of those farms facing those problems, so that we can discuss with them and see whether something can be done to assist them in the area.

Mr. Chairman, speaking in my capacity as the Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs I would like to mention something about our embassies overseas. I see a lot of money is also going towards these embassies and I see Kenya being a poor country as it is. We really cannot afford the number of embassies that we are trying to support everywhere. South Africa can be accredited with one ambassador based wherever and the same case to Northern Africa and Western Africa. However, we have embassies dotted all over. I think it is not economical for us. I also see in the book that we are spending K£3.5 million for acquisition of land in Dar-es-Salaam. Are we buying farms in Dar-es-Salaam or does an embassy require land costing K£3.5 million or what is that money being spent for? My appeal is that, the Minister for Foreign Affairs should look at the possibility of multiple accreditation of our ambassadors, so that we can cut down on the cost of maintaining these embassies. Embassies are some of the most expensive things that I know and most of them are actually achieving nothing. We do not know what they are achieving. So, I would appeal that this is something that we can look at together and see whether we cannot go for multiple accreditation of ambassadors.

Mr. Chairman, I would use the last few minutes of my time to appeal to the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development to look at the issue of teachers. We were told that teachers are plenty in my area but the distribution is what has not been fair. I would like to appeal that, if the distribution is what has not been unfair, let the teachers be fairly distributed so that, those schools where teachers are in very short supply are looked after because our parents are having to employ their own teachers and it is something which they can not rely upon.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to oppose.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, Sir. We have had a problem with this particular business since last week. When we started, Members had not been given the copies of the Estimates and I do not really understand how Members can debate a serious matter like this without copies of the Estimates. I do not know whether those copies have been supplied but right now, Members do not have copies of the Statement of Excesses. I have to go and look for one myself but how can this Parliament seriously debate the Supplementary Estimates without having sight of the Estimates of the Statement of Excesses? I think something has to be done. This Parliament has to take itself seriously and it will work. I just do not know how we will proceed that way.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, hon. Anyona, for expressing that concern. Well, as we sit here now, 10 Members have contributed to this debate and I should imagine that they were doing so on the basis of the information they already had. I do agree that Members must have documents relevant to the debate in the House. Unfortunately, I was not here last week when this debate started, but I am assured that Members have received their copies of the Supplementary Estimates books. I do not know anything about the Statement by the Minister, but I should imagine that, that Statement would also be available in the library or in the HANSARD or wherever. But the point is that now that we have reached at this stage and all I can do is to agree that there is necessity for Members to be supplied with information they require to enable them to contribute to debate effectively. But debate must go on because of the stage we have reached.

Mr. N. Nyagah: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I would probably like to enlighten the House on basically what happened on that particular day. When the Members complained that they did not have the Supplementary Estimates books which was correct, it was ruled that they be brought and placed on the Table. That did happen. Also, because I spent the whole day here, that day, on Thursday, and the Statements of Excesses were then also brought before the House and placed on the Table. Maybe what we should probably be asking, is that we get more copies of those books so that Members can look at them. Thank you.

Mr. Anyona: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. In view of what I have just said, I think I would take a general approach to the debate on the Supplementary Estimates.

The theme of this year's Budget was "balanced budget and economic growth". From what we are hearing now from various sources, there has been neither a balanced budget nor economic growth. I think the Minister is duty-bound to explain to the House how come the Ministry of Finance and the Government was unable to achieve the objective of a balanced budget and economic growth. For laymen, and in this matter, I consider myself a layman, a balanced budget means that revenue and expenditure are balanced. If it is true now that possibly this budget is not balanced, either there was something wrong with the revenue collection or with the expenditure. In a balanced budget, we do not expect that there would be Supplementary Estimates. We do expect that projects that are budgeted for would not stall, they would be implemented and yet, as I said again, the presentation of the Supplementary Estimates is evidence enough that, that objective was not achieved. We would have thought that with a balanced budget, the question of Supplementary Estimates would be a thing of the past. Supplementary Estimates is a new form of budget. It is a new taxation, we are taxing our people more. We must be able to explain to them why we have to tax them when we gave them a budget. I imagine household budgets were geared to that particular budget.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, therefore, we want to hear from the Minister in his reply about the situation of revenue collection. I notice that in the Printed Estimates, there are funds which have been set aside to strengthen the process of revenue collection. We want to know whether the Ministry and the Government has collected the taxes that were anticipated. If they have not, we want know why they have not. Is it because people are evading paying taxes? Is it because the Government does not have effective machinery to collect taxes? We also want to know whether expenditure has been kept within the limits of the budget. We want to know whether there has been overspending because this has been one of the problems of this nation, that it lives beyond its means because they cannot control expenditure.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when you look at this Budget, there are deductions all over the place. We want to know from the Minister what criteria he uses to decide that he would take this amount of money from this Ministry or from this project and put it in another project. This is where this country went off the road because funds were taken away from projects that had been budgeted and were placed in projects that were

politically-convenient and, as a result, this country ended up with many white elephant projects. At this point in time also---

Mr. Chairman: Order! Order, hon. Orengo!

Mr. Anyona: It is another Ugunja!

Mr. Orengo: I was talking to this stone-carrier here!

Mr. Chairman: Order! Order!

(Mr. Orengo consulted loudly with Mr. Gumo)

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not think we want to make Parliament the theatre of the absurd. I think it is not fair.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I refer to the Statement of Excesses. This book contains the Statement of Excesses for 1993/94 and 1994/95. I notice from the Supplementary Estimates, that the Minister is seeking provisions to clear the past lot of excesses. I would like to know why it has taken so long for the Ministry and the Government to clear these excesses. But, as I said earlier, we want Excesses to be a thing of the past. I think a question of budgeting and planning is a question of priority. We must budget for projects that are beneficial to our people and the country. We must budget for projects that, for one reason or the other, may not have taken off in the previous Budget, so that we can complete them. But, as I said, right now, the country is littered with white elephant projects. For example, the famous or the infamous Kisii-Chemosit Road. Even as we are sitting here this afternoon, that road is stalled. Why does the Government not set aside enough money to finish that project?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I can also tell you of another project which is quite close to your heart and to my heart; the Kisii-Kisumu Road. It was done upto a point---In fact, it was done and stopped exactly at the boundary of what is sometimes called the Luo-Nyanza. They never call it the Kisii-Nyanza, I do not know why. It is only called the Luo-Nyanza and yet, in Nyanza, we have Luos, Kisiis, Subas and Kurias. It was done upto the boundary of the Luo-Nyanza and the other side of Nyanza was left out. There is no bad blood at all between us as a people. So, we do not know why somebody is bringing up this kind of distortion which would tend to---

Dr. Ochuodho: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, Sir. You probably heard the hon. Member talk about Luos, Subas and so forth, while he knows very well that Subas are a sub-tribe of Luos. Is he in order to differentiate them?

Mr. Chairman: Dr. Ochuodho, you are eating up hon. Anyona's time for a point you ought to know the answer to! Proceed.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the genealogy of the Suba, the Kisiis and the Luos is very clear. It is a mixed equation because although there is a very strong umbilical cord between the Suba and the Kisiis, now, a lot of Subas have a umbilical cord with the Luo community. So, we are one people. All I am saying is that, if you do that road upto the boundary of the creation called Luo-Nyanza, because quite frankly, we who come from either side of Nyanza, have never been categorised as Luo-Nyanza or any other Nyanza. This creation has been brought about---Then the road is done upto the boundary, if I may now use the correct language, of Kitutu Chache and Rachuonyo District. The rest of the road from there upto Kisii Town, which is I think about 19 kilometres, is totally impassable. I cannot understand why we would have, and I have seen in these Supplementary Estimates, there is some K£500,000 - I do not know whether this is money which has already been spent on the Ahero Section or whether this is "new" money to be spent on the remaining section? We are saying that we are tired of talking now about Ahero-Kisii Road.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if I give you another example, if you go to the Industrial Area Police Station, there are beautiful residential buildings there which are stalled. They are almost totally complete. Why does the Government not complete them? I can give you another example. Go to Nyamira Divisional Police headquarters, and you will find that buildings are now falling down; buildings that should have been constructed and into which a lot of money has been sunk. Why do we do this kind of planning? There is an estate here called Nyayo Highrise. There are beautiful houses there.

Now, it is a shame when you pass there everyday and see those buildings falling down. Those are resources of this nation! Why do we allow it to happen? Yet, we come here and we say that we have Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no justification at all really for the current Supplementary Estimates to be granted. No justification at all in the context of a balanced budget. The only justification that is there is one major one: The constitutional reform process. I would imagine that, that was not in the main budget because we had not decided. I am very grateful to the Government for at least the token gesture of goodwill because Ksh300 million

may not be a lot of money for this exercise. But the goodwill has been shown.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to support.

Mr. Raila: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I want to echo some of the sentiments expressed by hon. Anyona. Everyone knows that Kenyans are going through very hard times today because the economy is not performing well at all. The balanced budget that we are trying to achieve is at the expense of development. That is, you are balancing at zero development. I think that this is something that ought to be a stop-gap. It cannot be a policy of a Government to achieve a balanced budget by stopping all kinds of development.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are now almost three-quarters through this Financial Year, and certain conclusions can be made. For example, there is no point in us here, as hon. Members, to come here, deliberate on a Budget and after the Budget has been approved, the money is not disbursed to the respective Ministries. Money has been approved here but the Ministries do not receive it. So, they do not have money to spend. The Treasury should speedily act and release money to the respective Ministries so that they can use it to implement the projects that have been approved here. But this is not happening. More importantly, we should be able to see the effect of the money that we have approved here. But we are not seeing it. When you go out there in the rural areas, in the dispensaries and hospitals, you will find that there are no drugs. Yet, we have approved a lot of money for the purchase of drugs. There is no improvement on roads. The roads are in a terrible state of repairs despite the fact that a lot of money has been approved for road maintenance.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been told that there is an improvement in revenue collection. But we do not see it. Why is the Government trying to mislead the public, that there is improvement in revenue collection when all the available evidence points to the contrary? It is true that there is some slight improvement in terms of income tax collection. But the case of the Value Added Tax (VAT) Department still leaves a lot to be desired. Even the Customs and Excise Department has not improved in terms of revenue collection. That is reflected in the way the Government is able to make out payments.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the domestic debt has almost remained stagnant where it was. It is standing today at Ksh157 billion, that is where it was. We are not even servicing the domestic debt. It is standing where it was. The Government is not paying debt. The little that is being paid is being paid so haphazardly. The businesses that are owed money are suffering. We are causing very many bankruptcies. The Government is causing very many businesses to go under because of non-payment for services that have already been rendered to the Government. Why can this Government not come up with a systematic policy of paying so that at least everyone who is owed money gets something rather than paying at the dictates of the "big fish"? You have to know Mr. so and so to be able to get payments from Government Ministries.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the non-performing loans in commercial banks, particularly, in banks where the Government has got controlling shares, is something that is of concern to all right-thinking Kenyans. These people who owe huge sums of money to these financial institutions are denying other Kenyans, particularly the business community, the use of that money. The point has been made so many times here that action should be taken by the Government to make sure that these people are compelled to pay back this money. We want the Minister for Finance to tell this House what action the Government is going to take.

We know that the National Bank of Kenya (NBK), is owed a lot of money by people who are known. The National Social Security Fund (NSSF) was forced by the Government to convert part of its investment in NBK into equity so that it did not go under. But NSSF money is workers' money! The workers themselves were never consulted when the Government decided to convert their contributions into equity in the NBK. They could have got more value for their money had this money been invested in some liquid financial institutions. The NSSF, as a result of this, is now insisting on even appointing directors of the NBK. But the NSSF itself is in a very bad financial status. So, something ought to be done about the management of the NSSF itself. I would like to see the Government going really into proper fiscal and monetary discipline.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like the Government to look at the expenditure of the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK). The ECK tells us that it cost them Kshs38 million to conduct a by-election in Makueni. What was involved in conducting a by-election in Makueni and yet, a voters register existed? Mere printing of ballot papers for 50,000 registered voters; paying the polling clerks, agents and a few Electoral Commission officers at Makueni cannot by any stretch of imagination exceed Kshs5 million! Why is the Electoral Commission being allowed to loot public funds in the so-called by-elections? We are now being told that they spent Kshs34 million in Mutomo and Tigania West and yet they spent Kshs38 million in one by-election? Something ought to be done because the Electoral Commission is loosing a lot of money and yet, the Chairman of the Electoral Commission has the impudence to go public and tell us that they have not paid some of the people who rendered services during the last General Elections when they spent over Kshs2 billion to conduct the General Elections. The Electoral Commission has become an industry that is being used by some people to loot public funds and

this matter ought to be investigated.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are concerned about the establishment of the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority; and nothing is really going to deter us from pointing this out. We have not been told what crime Mr. Harun Mwau committed. We not also been told the fate of the people he took to court to be prosecuted. What is the fate of those cases? We believe that something much more practical, rather than cosmetic exercises ought to be done to deal with the cancer of corruption and that is why we are soon going to bring a Bill before this House for the establishment of a code of conduct for public servants. This code of conduct is going to require all officers in the public service to declare their wealth and the source of their wealth. In this, I am in agreement with hon. Nyachae when he says that every public servant, including Members of Parliament and Cabinet Ministers, should be made to declare their wealth and the sources of their wealth as a starting point in dealing with corruption. It is also going to go beyond that, and require public servants to declare also the wealth of the members of their immediate families, for instance, their children, sisters-in-law and many others.

With those remarks, I support the Motion.

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Angwenyi! Before I give the Floor to hon. Angwenyi, let me remind Members that we are debating the Supplementary Estimates. Members should try to confine debate to the matters that are stated in the books; for instance, why the Minister has increased the money in certain Votes and reduced the money in others. Please, let us move away from general debate because that took place during the Budget Debate.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are being called upon to approve the Revised Estimates and we are being called upon to authorise expenditure in excess of what was approved in our Budget. The question which one would like to pose is: Do we really have these funds in the Consolidated Fund or had we over-collected in our revenue so that we can meet the expenses that we are told to approve money here today?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Kenyans are tightening their belts so that they could have a balanced budget that would bring down some important elements in our economy, for instance, inflation and interest rates so that people can borrow and do business. Whenever we seek to spend money from the Consolidated Fund, we must look at the objective of the expenditure. Are we going to create more jobs, more wealth for our people; or are we going to create wealth to a few individuals who are corrupt and misusing funds of the Kenya Government? I have looked at some aspects of these Revised Estimates. I have seen, for example, an expenditure of K£300,000 to rehabilitate Afya House when we are reducing the amounts that were earmarked for the purchase of ambulances. I do not see the urgency of rehabilitating Afya House instead of buying ambulances. We have also reduced the expenditure of Medical Training Colleges where we train our nurses and other paramedics by K£500,000. We are doing that while increasing by K£44 million the expenditure on the construction of NHIF building. Those are confused priorities! Our priority should be to serve our people and not to construct structures!

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as you know and as every Kenyan knows today that people make money by constructing buildings and roads, then they would prefer to build buildings instead of medicine to treat our people. If you go to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, and I am glad that the Minister has already said that the Ministry is rotten and always, a rotten thing must be thrown away. Maybe we should discard that Ministry and have another one which can work. We have the Ahero-Kisii Road which has been resurfaced upto the border of my constituency and that of Kasipul/ Kabondo Constituency. We have done 75 kilometres, but there are no funds to do the remaining 14 kilometres. Even the small amount of money which had been voted for this road has been withdrawn. Is this a punishment to the Kisii people? Why can they not get their rightful share by having this road done? We are a very hard working people and our work is never rewarded! When the road got to the border, it could not be done. As if that was not enough, the Kisii-Chemosit Road which we have spent so much money has had murram scooped out of that road and now we have red soil which makes the road impassable during the rainy season. I have seen here that an increment of Kshs27 million has been sought to pay outstanding bills on this road. But as we all know, nothing has been done on that road to warrant a pending bill. For how long are Kenyans going to be treated like this? For how long will the taxpayers money be used to pay companies owned by people who make decisions in this country and do not do work for the money which they are paid? This is happening all over the country. If you look at the Mau-Narok Road, they require about Kshs230 million and yet there is no work done on that road whatsoever. The same goes to the Busia-Mumias Road. Nothing has been done there and yet they want over Kshs200 million to pay pending bills. I do not know what these pending bills are meant for. I think this House should stand up and demand that all these expenditures should be accounted for. We may have to amend our Standing Orders so that before the Budget is presented to Parliament for approval, we must be satisfied that work has been done.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been told that people should repay the money they have taken away from banks. When NSSF was forced to invest in the National Bank of Kenya, the value of shares was Kshs24 but today, it is going for Kshs7. The loss of Kshs17 is a loss to the workers of this country. We do not want to see that. If

that bank was to go under receivership tomorrow--- If the NSSF was to realise the sale of their investment in the National Bank, they would lose Kshs17 to every share they bought those many years back. This House must stand up and work out a plan whereby public funds are not misused by approving estimates without looking at them. We should not come here and just talk about estimates. We should come here and talk about issues that benefit our people. We must put a stop for Parliament to be used to plunder the resources of this country. How long are we going to do that?

Mr. Chairman, I heard earlier, the Ministry of Local Authorities spending so much money, but when you go to Harambee Avenue, between the Treasury Building and Bima House, you see a mould of rubbish. It is on that main street and yet a Minister has got the guts to say that they are providing services! Just walk across the Tom Mboya Street and see what type of road you will see there. You would think that there must have been an earthquake or a volcano on those roads and yet, the Ministry of Local Authorities is saying that it is providing services. In fact, the Ministry of Local Authorities is only providing services for corrupt people who trek between Jogoo House and City Hall, and yet, they are spending money that we pay as taxpayers. Mr. Chairman, the Minister for Finance - I cannot blame him. He has joined in. When he is preparing the Budget, he will go into these issues so that he can pluck out those loopholes that the Ministries use to plunder the resources of this country. I would propose that in the next Budget, when we allocate funds for development, we must allocate the funds on the basis of our constituencies. I will know in my constituency, how much I have received for development for the year, and actually see what work has been done. The system of allocating funds for various projects in the Budget through Ministries cannot work any more. This is a system which favours the people who would like to plunder our resources. So, I am suggesting, and I hope the Minister will take that into consideration, that in the next Budget, let it be based on our constituencies. This will make the Members of Parliament, before they approve the estimates, to know what has been done in the constituencies. The idea that resources must be dished out by a DC, who does not even know the area well, and whose criteria for appointment is not known, should not be used. The DC is not responsible for the people. That system must stop forthwith. We must have the representatives of the people to decide how the resources of the people would be spent.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also wish to contribute to the debate on the Floor. We are being asked to approve the Supplementary Estimates for this year. I am very happy to note that we are all in agreement because the sooner these Ministers go to the Back Bench, they speak our language. So, we have no problem. It is only when they are in the Front Bench. They can agree that we agree to support the Kenyans who have elected us, and we speak the same language so that we could improve the services to our people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a problem because I know the Ministry of Finance has very educated people with vision who can draw the Budget. Yet, year-after-year, we come earlier, even before I came to Parliament, for Supplementary Debate. For us, when we make the Budget, even as a real business person as I am, you always allow a certain amount for inflation, increase in prices and other factors. I am sure that, that has been done. But the biggest problem is because this money that we are approving, instead of going where it should go, it always seem to find other loopholes, and then we are called here, under the disguise of Supplementary Estimates, where the money has been put in the wrong place. That is called corruption and we keep on talking about it day-in-day-out.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the things that are worrying Kenyans at the moment are basic needs. That is to make Kenyans have something to eat, shelter, clothes and water. These things are not there. They have problems in accessing medicine. Going with this Supplementary Estimates request, you do not see where the common steps in. I would like to hear that from the Minister for Finance. Looking at the request here, of the Kshs4.3 billion we are asked to approve, half of that, 47 per cent is going to State House and State House Lodges; that is the Office of the President. I wonder because we know Kenyans have no food. They are living in abject poverty. Is that really a priority? I should have thought now--- In fact, the President's children have grown now. The prices there should be going down. Costs for running our State House should have gone down because the family is of age to look after themselves. So, I would ask this House, instead of approving so much money to go to State House, we reduce that money and put it in the Ministry which our people derive direct services which they require. I have in mind Ministries like the Health and Agriculture, which under these Estimates, are being allowed a mere 15 per cent; that is Kshs657 million. We know that in the hospitals, we have no medicine. When the patients go there, they have to carry their own bandages and syringes. I have people in my constituency who have to take to the hospitals their own medicine to get an injection. What is more urgent? Putting this civilian money in this posh place just to give more comfort--- Who is being surveiled? Why? The President does not need to be surveiled wherever he is going because--- I need to understand what this money is for. Is it for excessive security? What we need is general security for everybody in this country so that it can be secure.

This will mean that the money is spent for everybody.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development is only--- In fact, it is a reduction! There is no addition for the Ministry! Can the Ministry be able to lose Kshs150 million to be put to State House, Office of the President or wherever? The teachers are already crying. They have been crying for their salaries. In fact, they have threatened to go back to the streets. Instead of releasing the money to the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, and adding a bit more, we are reducing it by Kshs150 million. It does not make sense to me. In my constituency, I have many children roaming on the streets. They cannot afford to pay for their education. Some of this money could be put for bursaries, especially the girls' bursaries, which were promised in this House; that we will get Kshs200 million. I would like to know how much of that has gone to the girls' education.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to touch briefly on the Development Vote, where I support the money which is being suggested for important Ministries like Agriculture and Health. I would like to know how much of that money will go to the small farmers. We know that there is not enough food. There is no food security in the country. Can some of this money go to guarantee production of food and buying the farmers maize, as opposed to going to some other areas where it does not benefit the small farmers?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have noted that most of the Ministries have lost Supplementary Appropriations-in-Aid which totals to about K£3.2 billion. Our minds are very fresh with the news of withdrawal of support by DANIDA from the health sector. It is very serious because that money would have gone to immunization of our children. The mortality rate of children had gone down because of the immunization programme. It will now rise because there are no good health facilities and clean water. There will be a lot of water borne diseases in this country. In addition, the aid in the health sector has been withdrawn. All that this Government has done in these Supplementary Estimates is to remove money from some important Ministries and re-allocate it to the Office of the President and State House. We should now think about the ordinary persons in this country. What will happen to medicine supplies and the immunization programme now that the Danish Government has withdrawn its support? I would like to hear from the Minister for Health, what provisions have been put in place to make sure that our children will not suffer as a result of withdrawal of support in the health sector by DANIDA. Will our children be immunised? This has happened because of corruption in that Ministry. The Government has not implemented the reforms as demanded by donors because of corruption. Now that the Government has failed to stop corruption, can the Minister tell us how the immunization programme will be carried out in this country? Should we take some of that money from the Office of the President and put it in the Ministry of Health?

As far as the Ministry of Health is concerned, there is an outcry about the sub-standard drugs that are being sold in this country. Our people are dying because of those drugs. They buy their drugs from the chemists.

Some of those drugs are not even certified by the Ministry of Health. They do not even know the expiry dates of those drugs. We would like to know what the Ministry will do to make sure that the standards for procuring drugs in this country are regularised and streamlined because we do not want our people to be in danger as a result of taking expired drugs. Expired drugs are poisonous in their nature. It is better for our people not to take those drugs. This again is a result of high level corruption.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the last Budget, there was provision for women groups of Kshs200 million to help them carry out their economic activities. That has been dropped in this Supplementary Estimates. I hope if this Government has extra money somewhere, it will assist those women who have children to take to school, buy medicine and so on. We should consider more the single mothers who have nobody else to turn to. I hope that this year's Budget will be gender sensitive and that Kshs200 million will be reflected. We hope the next Budget will consider those shortcomings. When we vote money in this House, we believe that it will be utilised properly.

With those few remarks, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to support.

Mr. Poghiso: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to begin by citing some items in the Supplementary Estimates, especially the Development Vote, on West Pokot ASAL. I noticed that K£1.5 million allocated to West Pokot ASAL roads has been removed completely as if there is another project in place. It will be good to know if there is a replacement or a fund that will cater for the construction of those roads in West Pokot.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the other hand, if you look at the Minor Roads Programme, again West Pokot has been excluded. In fact, you will find that some districts, for example, Turkana, have been allocated certain amounts of money. There is Lodwar District which has been allocated some money on Minor Roads Programme.

We do not have Lodwar District in this country. West Pokot District does not feature anywhere in the Minor Roads Programme. I think the people who advise on what programme should be affected and what amount of money should be reduced, do not really look very seriously at areas that are most deserving. I will support Supplementary Estimates if only they will boost my constituents or help to develop a project in my constituency.

If the money for ASAL roads has been removed completely and West Pokot District is not included in the Revised Estimates on minor roads, then it becomes a very difficult thing for me to do.

When I look at the Recurrent expenditure on page 166, which refers to the Ministry of Agriculture, there is an amount for holding ground services, that has been reduced greatly. I think the reason for that is that there are no holding grounds any more. It really affects us. The pastoralists depend on the sale of livestock, but holding grounds all over have been run down or grabbed. We hope that when this year's Budget is presented before this House, the holding grounds will be considered so that we can market our livestock. This is where they are held for transportation to market places.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if you look at the Ministry of Water Resources, I find that the allocation for the construction of water supply for livestock programme in West Pokot and water supply at Kacheliba has been reduced. Both of those projects were originally allocated K£30,000 each.

Now, they have been revised downwards to K£6,000 each. Those are places that are known as Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL). Those are the places that this Government should pump all its money into, in order to provide water for the residents of those areas. It sounds as an advice given by the Minister that that amount had to be reduced for those water projects in Kacheliba. Who else would need water? These are places that do not have springs or rivers. There is no clean water supply in those areas. This Government had allocated K£30,000, but it has been revised downwards. Personally, I am involved in this water project. We have even requested for pipes, but we have not been provided with them. If that money was not spent and since we know it was allocated for the construction of Kacheliba Water Supply, we ask that this revision be reconsidered so that that project can take off. The fact that a water supply is meant for livestock and that amount has been revised downwards indicates that this Government does not take the importance of livestock very seriously.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to look at the item on sub-district construction. I see completion of divisional, sub-district and other district headquarters.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we, in Alale Sub-district of West Pokot District have been building a sub-district headquarters, and we are now exhausted on our own. We really hope that this kind of supply will come to our benefit. This is because we do not understand how this has been done because we have been left out. Although we have such a thick book with so many details here, if we look at specific areas it gives you one kind of trend. We wonder why there has been very little time to revise this book and come up and support this particular request. I would like to say that in my own area, when I look at the Ministry of Health expenses---

More emphasis should be put in areas that are known to be prone, for example, to malaria and other diseases.

More emphasis should be put in a constituency like Kacheliba where there is a very high infant mortality rate. Naturally, these statistics come from the Ministry of Health officials because they know the areas with the highest infant mortality rate. More money needs to be pumped into those areas where there is more emphasis on immunization and primary health care. I think priorities should go with needs. Therefore, I do agree with the hon. Member who proposed that, maybe, constituencies should be the unit for consideration in the allocation of money from the Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the highest number of people who come for blood transfusion from Kapenguria are anaemia victims and victims of other diseases. These are diseases which have very high mortality rate. We, in Kacheliba Constituency, happen to be the highest in the number of people who are admitted to those hospitals. We have tried to promote our only health centre so that it is up-graded and enabled to offer blood transfusion. That kind of development need the boost from the Government. Therefore, when I say that we need to consider areas that are prone to some of these diseases--- These areas should be the ones which should benefit from the Ministry of Health Estimates. Revised Estimates should be up in those areas.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when it comes to water, the places that are called Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) should be the ones that benefit most instead of losing. So, I do support the Motion. I would like to say that the people who advise on the revision of estimates need to consider those areas when they are preparing them.

Thank you.

Mr. Mwiraria: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I would like to contribute to the debate on the Floor of this House. First, let me start by making a few preliminary remarks on Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, unless the Government has changed its rules and regulations, you would recall that when you were a Permanent Secretary (PS) that Supplementary Estimates were only allowed to meet unforeseen expenditure and emergency cases. Unfortunately, this does not seem to be the case today. For instance, could the Minister tell us that a few months ago he could not foresee 30 per cent of the Development Budget, which we are being asked to dealing with in Supplementary Estimates? In other words, I am saying that the Minister is asking this House through Supplementary Estimates to increase Development Budget by 30 per cent. Were these projects unforeseen, or are they emergency cases? The point I would like to draw from this is that in recent years,

Supplementary Estimates have been abused. I would like to give one example. The Government has projects which are on-going, money is voted for them and then in Supplementary Estimates, the money is removed and allocated to new projects. Today, one of our biggest weakness in Kenya is investing in too many incomplete projects.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a project in mind called Timau Health Centre, which has been under construction for 15 years! I have talked about this health centre for the seven years I have been in this House. I have also asked the Government for funds to complete it, but each year a little sum of money is put in for it and then it is removed during Supplementary Estimates. I would like to appeal to the Minister to stop this abuse of Supplementary Estimates. Let whatever funds have been budgeted be put to the use they were budgeted for.

Secondly, I would like to congratulate the Minister for lowering interest rates on Treasury Bills. The interest rates have come down substantially but, unfortunately, the Minister has not done what he is supposed to do following the reduction. The interest rates on Treasury Bills have been reduced from 27-30 per cent to nine per cent. I think they are now below nine per cent. Following that major reduction in interest rates on Treasury Bills, the Minister should make sure that-- During the Budget day we were being told that commercial bank interest rates were very high because of the high interest rates the Treasury Bills were attracting. These interest rates have come down but the commercial bank rates have not followed suit. Commercial bank rates have come down, but not as much as we want them to be. I would like to suggest that the Minister and the Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya should intervene to ensure that commercial banks lower their interest rates. This happens in other countries except in Kenya! Maybe, it is not happening in Kenya because we are scared of the donor community, for example, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and other people.

Thirdly - I make this point with humility - I would like to say that in most countries, international banks are not allowed to conduct local business and take away their earnings. In Kenya, we have many foreign banks which are doing nothing apart from conducting local business. In foreign banks where Kenyans own shares, they own minority shares. I think the Minister is duty bound to look at these problems and ensure that Kenyans, and there are many who can afford it, establish local banks which are authorised to do business here.

(Mr. Biwott consulted Mr. Mudavadi)

I can see hon. Biwott talking to the former Minister for Finance, but maybe, he is one of those few Kenyans who would benefit if local banking was supported.

Now, let me turn to the Supplementary Estimates. I will talk very briefly about the Ministry of Natural Resources. This is the only Ministry in the Government of Kenya, which either has people who do not understand what their mission is, or which has set itself to destroy what the majority of us expect to be protected. The Ministry of Natural Resources officials are systematically destroying Mount Kenya Forest and I hope that they are not doing the same elsewhere, because I have not travelled everywhere in this country. Why do I say that the Ministry is systematically destroying Mount Kenya Forest?

Mr. Chairman, they are systematically selling indigenous forests to local farmers who are going in, cutting all the trees, whether for timber or other uses and burning those trees for charcoal. That charcoal is being transported by the Ministry of Natural Resources, at least in Meru. They pretend they are confiscating it and then, they go and sell it themselves. They are doing the same, in fact cutting indigenous trees, cedar, cypress and so on. This is being done with the full knowledge and blessing of the Ministry officials. Now, when we get to the water catchment areas in that forest destroyed--

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Mwiraria, please try and keep to the terms of the debate.

Mr. Mwiraria: I am, Mr. Chairman. They are getting K£14.3 million supplementary money. Is this to go and destroy further what is left? This is the question I am asking, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry, I am really worked up, because if you come to my constituency, you will cry because of the damage which is being done. The Minister visited us, planted trees, but the destruction is even worse after the Minister's visit. What do I understand from that? The beams of indigenous timber we arrested on the day of the Minister's visit were sold and we know who got the money.

Mr. Chairman, anyway, let me change perhaps a little and go to the Office of the President. The Office of the President controls the police and insecurity is a very big problem in my constituency. I have Buuri Division which borders Isiolo and Laikipia where, because we do not have arms, our people have lost all their livestock to the cattle thieves. In recent months, they have started losing all their household belongings and more than 70 per cent have ran out of the area. When the people get invaded at night and they go to the police, the police do not have any transport. Now, when I saw an increase of K£103 million in the Office of the president and an increase of K£42 million for the police, I said maybe, this time the police have got transport to help them maintain security. Unfortunately, transport has got only K£1,7 million. So, the story will continue. My appeal here is that, where the

police are unable to work, let them give us Kenya Police Reserves. We have got citizens who are trustworthy and can look after themselves. All I am saying is that we have Supplementary Estimates, but to me, they are not being used to do the right job for this country at this time of trouble.

Mr. Chairman, I would have wanted to say more, but I would challenge the Minister for Information and Broadcasting--- I will talk to him afterwards.

I beg to support.

Dr. Ochuodho: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would want to begin by requesting that the House considers reviving the Estimates Committee. We do talk about these Supplementaries here. We debate them, suggestions are made, but my short experience is that it is more like what in some languages would be called the cries of a frog. The cows still continue drinking, even if frogs make noise. This seems to be the experience also in reference to what has been brought to the House. I would want to endorse the feeling that we need to revive soonest possible, the Estimates Committee, so that thorough work is done on the Estimates.

Mr. Chairman, however, having looked at the estimates as it stands now, I am a bit saddened that coming from Nyanza, it has been clearly sidelined in terms of roadworks. The reason I say this is because I see a pattern that KANU Zones seem to have been the beneficiaries in the Supplementaries that are being requested and I can mention a few. The most outstanding example is Narok District. There is Narok to Amala River. Previously, they had an allocation of K£12 million. It has been added a further K£2 million. That was one of the highest allocations, Mr. Chairman. Also in the same District, Narok to Mau Narok; they had K£11 million and they have been added another K£11 million. In Mwingi, they had Mwingi-Kalanga Corner with K£7 million and an additional K£3 million is being sought. In Kitale, they had Kitale Road; they had K£4 million and they are being added K£11 million. Finally, turning to Busia, there is the Mumias-Busia Road; they had K£1 million and they are being added K£11 million.

Mr. Chairman, you can see a pattern that these are KANU zones. It would have been better if the Government put it in black and white that there are certain parts of the country that cannot be surely considered for development. I say Nyanza in particular, has been left out in these estimates. In fact, even the little that was previously allocated has been taken away.

Mr. Chairman, I also wanted to touch on the issue of water hyacinth. We have been told that we only need about Kshs300 million to remove this weed from the lake. I do not understand why this Government, if it really believes in helping its people, cannot get this Kshs300 million from somewhere and yet, if you recall about a year and a half ago, Kshs800 million was got readily to bail out the dairy sub-sector. We also recall earlier this year when Kshs2 billion was advanced to National Bank of Kenya to handle issues that were not caused by ordinary Kenyans. Even more recently, Kshs400 million was advanced to the maize farmers in Eldoret, without coming through Parliament. I fail to understand why a mere Kshs300 million cannot be found to help the people of the lake?

Mr. Chairman, I also have other matters which I feel the lake folk are being discriminated against. The issue of Muhoroni Sugar Company comes to mind. I am a bit glad that something, a drop in an ocean is being advanced to help bail out Muhoroni. Kshs100 million has been allotted to it. I also note that Nzoia is going to get a similar amount. However, I must mention that to Muhoroni, Kshs100 million is nothing. What they want is at the very least, about a billion or more. Again, I must mention that these are loans that Muhoroni did incur not for their own cause, but for reasons of other institutions. I can dare mention the Kenya Sugar Authority, which I also have reservations on.

Mr. Chairman, I also wanted to request for hastening of the prosecution of corruption chiefs. I have in mind the issue of the sugar corruptly being brought into the country. We know there is an on-going case in Mombasa and *sub-judice* requirement cannot allow me to talk about it. But I would like to appeal to the Attorney-General and the Judiciary to ensure that this process is hastened. Indeed, I may extend further that even in the case of the goldenberg; we have been told in this House that a Motion had been forwarded to discuss the conduct of a Member. I fear that if the goldenberg issue will not have been through by that time, we will be constrained to discuss the conduct to the full potential possible. so, I would therefore, want to request the Judiciary and the Attorney-General to hasten those corruption cases that are going on in court.

Mr. Chairman, I also note in the Estimates that National Sea Quality Control, which had K£200,000 has been removed. We all know the problems that the fisher folk have recently faced when this Government very recklessly banned fishing in Lake Victoria, causing untold suffering to the people. It still continues even long after the ban has been lifted. One would have thought that if this Government is serious in convincing the European Union that they are doing everything to control the quality of fish, this is one entity that would have been increased, rather than reduced. So, even that paltry K£200,000 being removed defeats all logic. If it was appearing like we wanted to do for the European Union, then by these estimates that we are Tabling here, we are not helping

to bolster that position. I would, therefore, want to request the Minister to have that provision reviewed. If we are truly genuine in trying to improve the quality of fish and fish products in the country, a higher allocation should be made.

I also wish to draw the attention of the Minister to my constituency, and Homa Bay Municipality in particular. I do appreciate that through a World Bank support Homa Bay was earmarked for road repairs among other towns. However, despite many cries including an ultimatum that was given by the DDC, that if the contractors do not start work within one month we would rise against them--- I dare say that the one month notice is expiring next week and I would want to renew the notice and mention that as a representative of the people from that area we are giving them one extra week. If within two weeks the contractor who has been on site for about three or four months without doing anything, does not start the work, we will do the needful. If it means ejecting him out of the place, we will do so. But I hope that the Ministry will take action so that such a repugnant move may not become necessary. Along with that I dare mention that in that same municipality recently there have been major increases in rates to the extent that the butchers for example, now travel 10 kilometres to Rodi Kopany Town with their cattle for water and then bring them back to town for sale. I would also want to endorse here the sentiments that our District Commissioner expressed. Again, as a representative of the people I want to assure them that I am fully behind the traders who have given notice that if within two weeks these rates are not revised they are going to rise against the municipality. I want to assure the House that I will be there with them to make sure that if there is an uprising, I will be part and parcel of it. I hope the Minister concerned will take action so that we do not come to that level of confrontation; we should try to move away from it.

I must also state that although we bother so much about cutting down expenditure, we do not seem to be doing enough to increase revenue. A case in mind is the telecommunications sector. We seem to be dragging our feet in liberalising the sector. A lot of things could be said about this. The Minister has 60 days to constitute a Commission. As we are talking today, as far as I am concerned, no Commission has been legally constituted because three members were mentioned recently - I do appreciate that - but the law requires that at least five members be appointed. As far as I am concerned, although it seems this Commission is going on illegally the full requirements of the Telecommunications Act have not been fulfilled.

I also wanted to draw the attention of the House to the Electoral Commission expenditure on computerisation. I think one area where this country has been robbed is in the area of computerisation. Over Kshs200 million, was utilised in computerisation at the Commission offices. I would like to request the Ministry to investigate if this money was properly utilised. Although I must add that maybe Kenyans should be moving towards the direction that other countries like Brazil have followed because they have almost entirely computerised their electoral process. I do not see why in Kenya here something close to that should not be done. Maybe that would minimise the rigging that takes place in a number of our constituencies.

I also wanted to make an appeal to the Minister because after looking at the provisions for computer requirements in every Ministry, I find almost nothing is being provided for this sub-sector and yet we know that the millennium bug is round the corner. What I read in this is that the Government is doing very little, if anything, to tame this millennium bug. I would want to appeal to the Minister to ensure that a better provision is made to deal with the millennium bug. Finally, I would also want to appeal to the Minister when he does his budgetary work, that appropriate allocations are made so that computerisation---

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Shidie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to contribute to this supplementary estimate. First and foremost I would like to congratulate the Minister for taking up this important portfolio. The Minister has a very hard job. Budgetary rationalisation and financial within the Government is a very difficult task. But nonetheless the Kenyan taxpayers are heavily overtaxed today so that you will realise that we do not have a progressive tax system. The higher the income the more the tax. That should be the case. If tax is spread all over in this country such that each and every person in this country pays the tax we will not have much problems. Secondly, if the economy was generating wealth or creating employment this country would have got more tax. Today it is very difficult to do business in this country first and foremost because of taxation. When you bring a car into this country you are taxed almost two times the prize of the car you bought. That means that you will not be able to move. For you to move from point A to B to boost the economy of this country you require a vehicle and fuel. Take, for instance, the case of fuel. People are overtaxed. For one litre of premium which costs about Kshs40, the Government takes over Kshs30. That means that we are paying more for tax than for the fuel itself. Are we really now moving about, doing our business or paying more tax?

In Uganda if you bring a car into the country you will pay less tax. What they do is different from our style. The road levy and the road licence might be higher which means that the Government will be making more money at the end of the day. Tax should be progressive. It should not be impeding the economic progress of this

country. If we are really organised in this country we would not have lost a lot of money. Take the case of the National Bank of Kenya where Kshs2.6 billion went down the drain to people we do not know yet the people in Northern Kenya are suffering. They do not have provision of water, electricity and good health system. This money would have changed the face of that area. That money would have been used to utilise for those people. As I speak to you, because the rains failed many people are today really anguishing from hunger. People are really suffering. The few people who went with the Kshs2.6 billion just want to make sure that this country suffers. It is very important for us in this country to think of our people and not about few individuals. We do not want to create elitist system whereby few people fill up their pockets and the rest of the people are suffering.

The National Cereals and Produce Board was given Kshs500 million. What happened to KMC? When the KMC collapsed, nothing was given to revive it. I tell you this very clearly that when the KMC collapsed the economic lifeline of the entire people of Northern Kenya who depended on the KMC has now been relegated to oblivion. They do not have anywhere to sell their animals. People think that we depend on milk and meat. We are big consumers of cereals. We sell our animals and buy these cereals. We buy maize, rice and other commodities. But when the KMC was closed down we had nowhere to take our animals. We became under the mercy of these butchers in Dagoretti. You bring animals from Mandera, by the time they come here they are emaciated and they have lost kilograms. You cannot take them back. If somebody tells you to take Kshs600 you have nowhere to take the animal. You have to take the Kshs600 and incur a loss. These are the things that we need to look at. Why was KMC not given money? If the Minister is very serious we want KMC to be revived so that we can have abattoirs on the ground.

The Ministry of Agriculture, for instance, takes care more of agriculturalists than the livestock farmer who has nothing. When you bring goods to fertilizers the taxation is very low. They get exemptions. Maize is brought duty-free sometimes when there is calamity but where is the interest of this pastoralist farmer protected?

Mr. Chairman, it really burns us. Whereas we are in the Government and majority of us support the Government, we are never taken care of. We have a lot to say. I travel from here to Garissa and from Garissa to Mandera; there is no single tarmac road. We have only 11 kilometres of tarmac road. This is the only province in Kenya which has no tarmacked roads.

Secondly, the Electoral Commission was given Kshs300 million. If we had budget rationalisation, we would not have spent that money. We want counting of votes to be done at the polling stations not at the centres where people move from very far. In the House of Commons, in the United Kingdom, for instance, we do not have agents. These agents are a source of corruption in our election process and we must avoid this source of corruption. We must make sure that counting of votes is done at the polling station so that we clear away the agents. If you bring agents to the centre, the entire system cannot work.

Mr. Chairman, we want the Minister to set aside some money in his budget because the rains have failed. When rains fail, animals will die and eventually the people will also die. We do not want that scenario; God forbid! We want the Minister to put some money aside. In addition, he should find a way of helping the people of Northern Kenya and people in Arid and Semi-arid Lands (ASAL). This is because people who live in ASAL areas beg for food day-in-day-out. Each year we beg for food because droughts have become a common phenomenon. They are so common that today, anywhere you go in Kenya, particularly in the ASAL areas, people are looking for food hand-outs. These hand-outs have dehumanised us and have made us "less Kenyans" than the rest of Kenyans. I think it is time the Government looked for a comprehensive plan of action to safeguard these people because they are Kenyans. We cannot have Kenyans who are poor and others who are so rich and so fat that they suffer from obesity. In fact, they are having heart problems because of fatness. They are having other disease related to good eating. We want the national cake to be shared equally in the sense that those areas which have really suffered as a result of drought, poor infrastructure are, at least, compensated. We do not want to feel that we do not belong to this country.

Mr. Chairman, last weekend, when I travelled to my constituency, I felt hopeless; I felt that I cannot help these people. We use an infrastructure which is impossible. All the vehicles are stuck, you cannot move. We are no longer using the roads that were built by the Government. We are using panya routes or what is called "Waregi" in other words. Before you reach your destination, you have to move up and down looking for a better place to pass. Time has come for us to tell our people that this is not the way things are done. There must be affirmative action for our people. Affirmative action in the sense that money should be voted from the Consolidated Fund to help those people. Otherwise, you will reduce the Maasai and the Somali to watchmen when the rest of Kenyans are living a better life. I think this scenario must change. All the people in the Opposition side have the best roads in this country. I wondered when I went recently to Tigania for a by-election. Why are these people in the Opposition? They have the best roads and other infrastructural facilities and yet these people do not want to vote for the Government. It really beats me! It is illogical that those people who have received the fruits of

Independence and who have the best share of this country are today anti-establishment. I cannot go to the Opposition in my area because Opposition is nothing; it is emptiness, it does not help my people.

Mr. N. Nyagah: What are you talking about?

Mr. Shidie: Mr. Chairman, Mr. N. Nyagah and I were there and he knows it, we defeated him hands down. Sorry, do not worry about that.

Mr. Chairman, these are the real situations that cause problems in this country. Those people who have benefited from the previous governments and this Government are in the Opposition while we people in the marginal areas are in the Government. We are in the Government because we know that in the Government there is shelter, hospitality and we can get our things done. It really defeats logic that some people can be in the Opposition and they get the best roads. I think time has come where the winner must take all; where the winner must be given the bread and butter and these guys must be denied. I think time has come for us to take stock because---

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Shidie, talk about the Estimates and not what you---

Mr. Shidie: Mr. Chairman, this is about Estimates, it is about money and it is about food. We must talk about this. We cannot take things for granted. In our party, our support cannot be taken for granted and that is why we are saying that the Minister for Finance must plan and rationalise the budget. He must rationalise it in the sense that the person who voted for him must get the national cake. And that the hon. Member in the Opposition must get emptiness. Mr. Minister, however new you are, we want you to make sure that, that money goes to those people who supported this Government and not to the person who is opposing it.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Chairman, whereas I do not want to be drawn into a debate with hon. Shidie, let me thank you for spotting me. Before I prove to various hon. Members and the Cabinet why I am in the Opposition and I do not agree with the rationalisation of the Supplementary Estimates, let me thank the Leader of Government Business assisted by his deputy, for having accepted that we extend the debate on this Motion to today, despite the fact that, on my side we had only 20 hon. Members whereas the Government side had 52 hon. Members. He displayed wisdom.

Having said so, I would like to basically talk about two Ministries. I will touch on the Ministry headed by none other than the deputy leader of Government Business. First of all, I would like to commend my good friend and Minister for Local Authorities from what I am looking at in terms of how much money he wants to spend on the roads within Nairobi. Recently he went around Nairobi and he saw that Nairobi has a major problem with the roads which I saw in his statement and I am sure he is going to look into this. Let me remind him that he has done fairly well in my constituency on the tarmacking of the roads. I can commend him for what he has done but the moment I say so, he will go to sleep. So, I would like to push him to contribute more in Kamkunji, my Constituency.

In Eastleigh, a region in my constituency, the roads are in pathetic conditions. If we were to go there, particularly, the First Avenue and Second Avenue--- If the Minister was to go there in his big GK vehicle, it will drown there and it will not move out. He will need to go in a helicopter. Let me request the Minister that he should ensure that the Kshs33 million that he has put aside for Eastleigh is actually put into some actual realisation of that.

Let me request the Minister for Local Authorities, through the Minister for Finance, to ensure that the Kshs15 million that has been set aside for the Second Avenue is put to good use. Also the Kshs39 million set aside for road that passes by Majengo to Gikomba, should be put into some good use. Obviously, one thing my good friend the Minister forgot is that, there are very many feeder roads within Eastleigh which need to be looked after. I know that because of that good working relationship the people of that area have, the Minister will consider doing a good job for them.

Having said so, let me issue a quick challenge to the Minister. We have a major crisis with the Fire Brigade within Nairobi. The fire brigade that can reach a maximum of 26 floors, is only one and it is out of order. And the few vehicles that we have for fire fighting equipment need to be repaired and increased because we only have about two of them that are functional within the whole of Nairobi.

The other aspect that worries me is about garbage collection in Nairobi. I noticed that you have reduced the Kshs1.8 billion in the Printed Estimates to a very minimal figure of Kshs900 million. We know that Nairobi contributes 47 per cent of the GDP - and the Minister will bear me witness to this - and yet the status of our City in terms of cleanness calls for address.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I was a young man, many years ago, Nairobi used to be swept and cleaned by a vehicle. Now, that to us is history. We would like the 14 vehicles or so, that are charged to this particular

department put into some good use. Nairobi needs more of this. In fact, I do not want to pre-empt a Question that I have here, about the Services Charge and the cost of bins that people of Nairobi are being charged.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me now go to a Ministry that I said is very dear and close to my heart; the Ministry of Health, to which I am the shadow Minister. It is most unfortunate that my counterpart in Government is not here, because I would have loved to challenge him from what I have seen in the Printed Estimates. It is great shame that the Ministry of Health can think of reducing the budget by K£40 million in terms of curative health, preventive medicine and so on, and putting it into the National Health Insurance. We know a lot about the NHIF. First, they have sacked the boss because of his inefficiency. Are we saying that the K£40 million that we are removing from the Ministry of Health's budget of preventive and curative medication is going to redeem what an individual has done, instead of the Attorney-General taking this man to court? That is the first question. I have no quarrel with the Kenyatta National Hospital which is getting just over K£2 million. It is a referral hospital and in fact, it should have been given more money than what is in the Printed Estimates. Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me also talk about those rosy and very sexy words being used when they are talking about sexually transmitted diseases, which is the avenue of siphoning money out of this country. How do we do this?

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Criticos): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, Sir. Could the hon. Member substantiate his claims that money is being siphoned out?

Mr. Chairman: Order! Proceed!

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Chairman, Sir, he wants to play about with my frame of mind which is balanced and---

Mr. Chairman: I allowed you to proceed without reference to hon. Criticos.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to answer Mr. Criticos and I will not even talk about those very rosy beautiful words on sexually transmitted diseases. Let me talk about what his own Minister said on the Floor of the House.

First we know that according to Government procedures, anything above Kshs10 million must go through open tender. What did they do with the Kshs95 million that went into a private bill which was done internally by the officials of the Ministry of Health? The Minister told us - and I quote verbatim - that: "The cancellation of the original payment, voucher was made when it was realised that there were inadequate funds in Recurrent Vote to cover this transaction". How beautiful? The truth of the matter is, the Recurrent and Development budgets were put together, and that bill which the Minister talked about here, was cancelled forthwith, having been paid. I have it here, with the voucher number, I presented it before this House and it says, paid. For the sake of the Minister to see I can lay it on the Table of the House.

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Nyagah, that matter was dealt with exhaustively during the last Sitting of Parliament. So, if it is a new matter that you want to raise, you are at liberty to do so. But certainly, not under the Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have looked at the Supplementary Estimates very carefully. Here we are removing preventive and curative drugs to take it to the National Hospital Insurance Fund. For example, if you look at page 305 under the Ministry of Health's Development Expenditure, item No.151 - Drugs and Equipment for various places there is no money allocated to it. That is the point I want to prove to them. Unfortunately, I was away in London, and therefore, unable to answer the Minister when he came up with this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to talk about eight companies that have been paid by this Ministry without having supplied drugs.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Criticos): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I asked Mr. Nyagah to substantiate what he said on the STD Programme. It had nothing to do with what was discussed here in November, before we went on recess. So, I would like him to substantiate what he said on the STD Programme which he mentioned. What he is referring to is the Bulk Pharmaceuticals.

Mr. Chairman: What is he going to substantiate now?

Mr. N. Nyagah: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I honestly do not know what this Assistant Minister wants from me. He wants to take a lot of my time so that I do not reveal the eight companies that they have paid without having supplied the drugs. But I want to remind him - because I will be bringing it later on the Floor of this House - that part of the reason USAID has refused to fund this Ministry is because of taking money away from sexually transmitted diseases to other areas where they themselves as officials of the Ministry benefit.

I beg to support.

Mr. Kibicho: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the idea of Supplementary Estimates has to be discouraged because it indicates that the Government is inefficient and cannot plan ahead. That leads Kenyans to lack confidence in the Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, nevertheless, if you look at the Supplementary Estimates, one would have expected that these Estimates coming so soon, after the Government had launched a plan for reduction of poverty, would have been geared towards production. What we see is money being sought, so that it can support consumption costs and not production costs.

Nevertheless, if you look at the other aspect of this Motion, this House is being asked to approve money which was spent in 1993/94 and 1994/95. This trend must stop, because it merely makes this House a rubber stamp. Money has been spent and we are being told to validate it in form of a Motion, many years after it was spent, when most of us were not even hon. Members of this House. In any case, even if that omission of not bringing this matter in the House in time was done, one would have expected that the omissions which were there are monies which were spent for development of this country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if you look at the Excess Vote for the year 1993/94, they relate to the Ministries recurrent expenditure and none for development. It relates to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Culture and Social Services. None of the Ministries which have this excess vote contribute any money for development of this country. It is only in 1994/95 when there is a little money which was spent by the Ministry for Agriculture, where one expects a bit of production.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, though I know that this Motion is going to be passed, I want to be on record as having condemned this procedure of Government which spends money on consumption and not on production.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, one would expect the Ministry of Agriculture Vote to be allocated more money than it was allocated during the Annual Estimates in that the Minister for Agriculture had given a clear indication that the money would enable Kenyans to grow more maize, coffee, tea, et *cetera* and, as a result, improve the standard of living of our people. If this continues, it will reflect inefficiency in terms of the way the Government conducts its affairs, or some corruption. Probably, some of the money being sought is for covering this up.

If this happens, this country will never alleviate poverty. We will only be having a piece of paper and big conferences. We will be telling Kenyans: "We need 15 years, and Kenyans will be having more food and a happier life than you have", but in the end of it all, Kenyans will in a worse situation than they are today. The money that was voted in the 1998/99 Budget should have been put into use in a manner one can see. If you go to the countryside, you will never see any resource that has resulted from the money that we have allocated.

Ordinarily, one asks for additional money after he has done something noteworthy with the money that was allocated for a particular project in the in the Budget. This trend must come to an end because, after all, we are the custodians of the welfare of Kenyans. It is only through this House that we can improve the standards of living of our people. We cannot continue with our consumption alone. I was very disheartened when I looked at my district and my constituency. Some money was allocated to the Ministry of Works and Housing for murraming the road linking Baricho to Kibirigwi. However, the Ministry's Roads Department murramed only 8 kilometres of that road and moved to another road. It defeats common sense. If you cannot complete a road, why do you do a portion of it? I would like the Minister to ensure that whatever job is done is completed. The contractor who was undertaking that project has already moved to another road. Are they doing this to show that they are undertaking very many projects, so that they can get kickback?

As far as the Ministry of Water Resources is concerned, I would like the Minister to pay attention to the rehabilitation of Ndia Water Project. Some pipes are worn out. Last year, I was promised that Kshs14 million would go to repairs of that project but, upto now, nothing has been done, and the financial year is about to end. If you look at the Votes of the Ministry of Health and the allocations for Kirinyaga District, you will have expected that, after the Budget was read, the Ministry would pay water bills amounting to Kshs13 million to the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation.

The hospital has not paid that bill, the toilets have no water, and patients have to go to the hospital with their own water. Are these reflections of a serious Government? It is not caring about the peoples' rights. Old women go into those toilets bare-foot and go back to their beds with human waste on their feet simply because there is no water. Is this not a matter of urgency for the Minister for Health to take into account and pay up this bill or, at least, deal with whoever is concerned, so that water is reinstated?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, this country has very many projects which are not being co-ordinated. As a result, you cannot reap the benefits of your investments. The management of our affairs requires attention. I would like to say that whatever the Minister does, he should make sure that the moneys we are voting are put into proper use, and are not put to waste.

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

Mr. Ayacko: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. We have a very serious problem as Members of Parliament.

Mr. Musila: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Chairman, Sir. I feel that this matter has been

exhaustively debated. So, I would like to propose that we now call on the Mover to reply.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Poghio): Since hon. Ayacko is already on the Floor contributing to the Motion, I will let him proceed.

Mr. Ayacko: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, for allowing me to contribute to this very important Motion. I was saying that as Members of Parliament, we do not have access to researchers who would research and give us expert advice on matters of importance such as the one we are currently debating. When we were elected to this House in the last general elections, we were told that we would have offices, and we hoped that we would have research assistants and persons who would help us make meaningful contributions to such important matters. As I talk here now, we do not have such persons. Last week, we were ambushed and provided with these very voluminous documents to study within a short time and contribute to this Motion. I must confess that we are at a great disadvantage and difficulty in respect of discussing this Motion.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the point I am raising is very serious, because the Sixth Parliament was made to approve things they did not understand. The hon. Members of that Parliament approved something they did not have time to look at critically. They ended up approving moneys related to what came to be known as the "Golden Berg Scandal". They approved compensation rates which had not been brought to their attention earlier. This happened because they did not have research assistants or offices where they could look at documents and get to know what they were passing.

As I speak here, I am positive that the hon. Members who contributed to this Motion have not thoroughly gone through the Supplementary Estimates that we are debating here. So, they have been unable to verify what is right and what is wrong. That is terrible and very bad for this country. Those contributions may appear expedient, or good, to those who are on the Government side of the House since they are ruling. However, time will come when the same will not appear very good to them. They may find themselves on the Opposition side next time, as the rules of democracy provide.

Now, we are supposed to approve the Supplementary Estimates when as I speak here now, the road to my constituency has never been repaired for the last three years.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I find myself very reluctant to be supportive of approval of funds that are not coming to my constituency. Take for instance, the road between Kericho to Isebania. That road is in a terrible state. If you drive there twice, your shock absorbers will not be able to support the car. Take for instance the road from Homa Bay Town to Rongo Township. You will find that, that road is in a terrible state but we are being asked to approve funds and we are not being shown what previous approvals have been applied to do. That is very bad and if we take for instance, Awendo Hospital or Rongo Hospital, those places have not seen drugs for a long time. Those places have not seen additional staff for a long time. Now, I find it very bad that we are being asked to approve funds and these funds are not beneficial to our people. When we go down there, these very people ask us: Where is the doctor that is supposed to treat us? Where are the teachers that are supposed to teach us?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, on what we are being asked to do today, we are doing but we are doing it reluctantly. We are doing it reluctantly because funds that we had approved previously, were not applied to the best use that Kenyans expected us to do. But as I had said earlier, we are greatly disadvantaged because we do not have researchers or offices from where we can read these documents and be able to bring up constructive arguments. With those few remarks, I beg to support this Motion.

Mr. Musila: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman Sir. May I call upon the Mover to reply.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Poghio): Order! Go ahead Mr. Odoyo.

Mr. Odoyo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. My comments will reflect the fact that as a member of the Finance Committee of this House, I have already had the opportunity to discuss the Supplementary Estimates with the Minister and I as a member of that Committee, we agreed that we shall support the Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, my comments initially will be general. First of all, I would like to support the sentiments of the chairman of the Finance Committee that, the late delivery of this document defeated the purpose of the committee being set up by Parliament which was to give us enough time to review the proposals before they are published by the Minister. In this case, as my chairman pointed out, we did not have this opportunity. That is an error but in view of the fact that there will be other Supplementary Estimates, I believe that we shall live with this one but we shall wait for the Minister for the next one to give us the proposals before he publishes the documents.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, it has just caught my attention that in the reduction of the

Government expenditure, 10 per cent of the reduction in the whole of the expenditure is attributed to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Whereas my colleague has spoken about roads, the strategic thinking behind the Minister's idea to reduce expenditure on roads by 10 per cent, this Ministry's Vote defeats any normal thinking, because roads are our biggest problem. Why is it that while *El Nino* roads have not been repaired, the Ministry of Finance is reducing the Vote of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing? For example, I noted that Nyando District has been completely omitted from the Supplementary Estimates. All the roads in Nyakach District have been omitted. Why is the Ministry of Finance not taking a strategic view of this country? We have a whole district cut off because the Minister for Finance has decided to do what is called a desk-top reduction. That is to just reduce the figures, without paying any attention to the actual situation on the ground.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, in Nyakach District, the Kanyamlori-Kibogo Road, Pap Onditi-Onyongo Road and the Sondu-Nyakach Girls Road are in a pathetic state, whereas the Ministry's Vote is being reduced. If I look at the reductions again, I find that the Ministry of Health expenditure has been reduced by 33 per cent. Of the total reduction, the expenditure in the Ministry of Health expenditure has been reduced by 33 per cent in the Development Vote and I quote in the summary page: "The total reduction is K£44 million. Ministry of Health expenditure has been reduced by nearly K£14 million". That is; a third of the reduction of Government Votes is attributed to the Ministry of Health, whereas malaria and AIDS are killing people in Nyakach. AIDS is finishing people but the Government Vote is being reduced even further, for the Ministry of Health. I fail to understand why a strategic assessment is not being done, because the main problems that we have in this country are roads and health. Roads are getting very little money and expenditure on health is being reduced. For example, Pap Onditi Hospital is not anywhere, whereas it is being used as a district hospital for Nyando District. It does not even have a computer code. It is time for us to ask the Minister: to, use his well-known skills in economics to take a strategic view of the total budgeting of this country rather than doing what is called a desk-top chop, chop, chop, or add, add, add, or up, up, up?

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Keah): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman Sir. Can we get an interpretation of that language chop, chop, chop, add, add, add, and up, up, up, please?

(Laughter)

Mr. Odoyo: Thank you, Mr. Assistant Minister. It is true that the word "upcountry" refers to a certain part of this country, rather than the Coast Province. So, when it comes to up, up, up, I am afraid that when it comes to the budgeting, most of the money goes to the Coast Province. Could this be because the Member is the Assistant Minister for Finance? The "up" is to refer to the way in which the reductions are going up when they are supposed not to be going up and the Supplementary Estimates which are being requested are going down, whereas they are supposed to be going up.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I fully endorse the fact that the Minister has done a great job within a very short time but I request again that in the future, the Minister gives us the opportunity in the Finance Committee to debate and analyse estimates before he publishes them; to give this House time to make adjustments.

The Recurrent Estimates book has over 2,000 pages and it is about time that we asked if someone is going to ask you for Kshs9 billion, then he should give you, at least, the very minimum, three weeks. We are being asked to spend Kshs9 billion whereas the House Committee has been given a very short time. I wish to request the Minister to continue with the good work he is doing, but he should look at Nyando District. Nyakach is deliberately being left out. Is there a serious conspiracy to kick out Nyakach from this particular Estimates? Not a single, not a single health centre, not a single project, not a single building in the Development Estimates is in my constituency. These Supplementary Estimates will be spent with no particular feeling for the people on the ground. Wananchi are suffering, especially in Nyakach, yet the Minister has for various reasons decided to reduce the Government expenditure without paying any attention to Nyakach Water Project, Nyakach Hospital, Nyakach roads, the STD in Nyakach, the co-operative department in Nyakach and pay no attention at all to issues dealing with rural development. In fact, if anything, even under Social Services, we do not have anything in Nyakach. Why is the Minister deliberately fighting the hon. Member for Nyakach through deliberate manipulation of the figures to such an extent that not a single cent of these Supplementary Estimates, Kshs9 billion, will be spent in Nyakach apart from salaries which should be paid to the DC and the others?

With those few remarks, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to support the good work the Minister is doing. But next time, we shall be there with him!

Mr. Muithia: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to the debate on the Supplementary Estimates. As we debate and as we go ahead reducing monies from one

Ministry and adding it to the other Ministries, we must ask ourselves pertinent questions. In the last Budget, June last year, we did vote monies for the various Ministries and we expected that the Ministries would implement that Budget to the letter. The Minister for Finance has come back with Supplementary Budget shifting monies from one Ministry to the other. I would like to ask the Minister for Finance to tell us why he took savings from the Ministry of Agriculture and gave it to other Ministries?

The Ministry of Agriculture in this country should be the main producer of our foreign exchange. I have in mind that wayback, in accordance with the ACP Agreement Lome (V), we were supposed to be given Kshs15 billion to support agriculture, mainly in the revitalisation of coffee production. Todate, I do know that we have received about Kshs650 million for electrification, Kshs600 million for coffee advance payments and Kshs120 million for electrification of the coffee factories. But the money for electrification which should have been Kshs360 million, from the European Union, has not been released. Then the Minister goes ahead and removes the little we voted for last year and shifts it to other Ministries. Over and above the money which was supposed to have been released to us through the European Union--- I do not know why no one has explained to us what is happening. Why is the money not being released? Is it because it is going to the areas which produce coffee and tea? What do they want to do with the balance of the money that was given by the European Union?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to comment on rural access roads. I did notice in the Supplementary Budget that the Minister has removed all the money which was voted for rural access roads. As I am speaking here now, I have just come from Gatundu South Constituency which I represent and not a single rural access road has been graded let alone being tarmacked this financial year. If you expect the farmers to produce coffee and tea to support you on the other side, how do you expect the farmers to go ahead? We need that money for the farmer and it should not be taken to other Ministries which are not giving us services. I do not think that the Government is serious.

On health, I have also seen that the Minister has shifted money from the Ministry of Health to other Ministries. The funding for health should have been implemented with the support of the Health Policy Framework which was agreed in 1996. The donor communities are lamenting why we are not implementing the Health Policy Framework to the letter. That is why DANIDA has withdrawn until certain measures or certain agreements have been arrived at. The Ministry of Health up there is notorious for corruption, tendering and siphoning money meant for the poor Kenyans on the ground. I do not know why money should not be voted for the Ministry of Health. We should decentralise health services from the Headquarters to the districts. As we move on towards the next budget, he will come back here and ask us to vote for more money. Why do we vote for this money if it is not going to help our people on the ground? Is it because we are coming from Central Province? I just wonder whether it is necessary or whether we should go ahead and talk about budgets that we cannot stick to.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the teacher training colleges which are now earmarked for sale, I do not know who is going to be given, maybe, Mr. Kamotho is going to get the one in Murang'a and turn them into hotels; why should we close down teacher training colleges when we have more children than the teachers on the ground? I think there is something completely wrong. I think that these Ministers here do not know what they are doing. They have refused to do their work and have relegated them to the Permanent Secretaries (PSs).

An hon. Member: That is why they are committed secretaries!

Mr. Muithia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, if this trend continues, I think, sooner than later, we shall have just clapping Ministers. It is high time they took their responsibility and refused to be dictated to by the PSs. I have been to several Ministers offices and seen they cannot access their PSs. What is going on? What is wrong with the Ministers on that side of the Government? If a Minister cannot take control of the Ministry's affairs, who else is going to take control?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not want to dwell on these issues because I think it is high time that the Minister for Finance sat down with all departments in the Ministries so that the Budget we come up with will be implemented, year-in-year-out. That is the only way we can forge ahead.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me the time to speak. I have no choice but to give the Minister for Finance the go-ahead because I know he cannot survive.

(Laughter)

Mr. Kariuki: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to comment on the Motion. I would like to make a few comments. One is, of course, to hope that the

new Minister for Finance is going to face the challenges that were left by his predecessor in that very challenging office. Hopefully, through his expertise, as a former civil servant, he will help improve the performance of that Ministry. More so, he will help create a good relationship with the international donors, in particular to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

We have had a very bad reputation in the management of the affairs of the State and, more importantly, the management of finances. He has a very important, but very difficult job to do in view of the fact that the country is riddled with corruption, mismanagement and lack of accountability and transparency in handling of finances. Issues like corruption will give him a very difficult job. In particular, because it has percolated right through the system and has gone right into the rural areas. Therefore, it becomes very difficult to know how to address that issue, in particular because he does not have in place a proper infrastructure of checking on proper utilisation of funds. The internal audit systems have collapsed and a proper accountability of funds received is also becoming a major concern.

As I speak, there is a lot of misappropriation of funds by civil servants who are never taken to court even after being caught red-handed. I do not know whether for once the Minister can be serious in ensuring that whoever is arrested misappropriating public funds is taken to court, prosecuted and convicted.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, one of the problems which I think the Minister is going to face is that one of the District Focus for Rural Development which gives the responsibility of utilisation and accountability of funds to the district. Corruption has now moved from the headquarters down to the district levels which makes it very difficult for the Minister to address and contain it. I think, of importance, would be for him to put in place, as I said, a proper auditing and accounting system. We find that in certain areas of Government, for instance the Local Authorities, there are no proper budgets, proper returns and accounts are not kept. Therefore, funds end up being misappropriated. I think unless we have a proper accounting system and people who are competent and professionally qualified to be able to handle finances, it becomes very difficult to just get graduates leaving the universities and being charged with huge responsibility of taking care of finances. It is, therefore, important that the Minister addresses the issue of proper management of funds. We will be wasting a lot of time here talking about finances which are not properly accounted for.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, looking at the various departments, the Office of the President (OP) raises a lot of concern. It is spending about 50 per cent of the total budget. One wonders: What does the OP have to do with the Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS), the National Youth Service (NYS), the Immigration Department, and things like that. There are no Ministries that are properly and technically qualified to do those jobs properly. I think Ministers should advise the Head of State that there are certain things that are sitting on his shoulders which should not. A case in point, as I said, is the KWS. Why was it shifted from the Ministry of Tourism to OP? Another case in point also is the *El Nino* Emergency Fund for reconstruction of roads that were destroyed by the *El Nino* rains. What has the OP got to do with roads? I think there is total misapplication of funds to departments that are not relevant. I think that it is important for Ministers to advise the Head of State accordingly. It is not for him to be overloaded with jobs that he cannot do or his office cannot do. Despite the fact that there are various Ministers of State who are supposed to do them but they have more important and relevant duties to do other than taking on responsibilities which are not theirs. This is why there is a lot of inefficiency: There is no co-ordination at the top. The OP is so overloaded that there is nobody to supervise the various Ministries. I think it is important that the OP is left with the duties it should be doing, and should leave alone the Ministries to deal with their areas of specialisation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I speak, I think there are Ministries which require special attention. We have Ministries like the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health. The Ministers are not given due importance by ensuring that they have enough resources to be able to man those very important Ministries. In the area of education, certainly, we had last year a major strike by teachers. That issue has not been fully addressed. I find that we are sitting on a bombshell if we do not address that issue which is still pertinent. The same goes for officers in the Ministry of Health who are also discontented with their salary structure. Their plight should be considered. I have always said, and I repeat it here, that agriculture is the mainstay of this nation. The Government is not giving agriculture its importance. We need to produce enough food for this nation to be able to feed our increasing population. At the moment, I think we will have a major problem in future if we do not address agriculture and, particularly, harness the water that flows right up to the sea without being properly harnessed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I speak, the issue of roads is very close to our hearts, in particular, in the areas that are producing major products like coffee, tea and horticulture. Ignoring Muranga-Makutano Road, Kahuiya-Kangema-Othaya Road, Muranga-Murarandia Road and others within the Republic of Kenya that are serving major areas of production of primary agricultural products is a major issue that

the Minister ought not to have forgotten. I find that, instead of allotting money to these areas, he has in effect reduced the allocation to those very vital roads. I think those roads should not have been neglected. It does not matter whether an area is an Opposition stronghold and that it does not support the Government. Those people are still remitting revenue to the Government. The Central and Eastern areas are producing about 75 per cent of the total revenue in this country, directly or indirectly. They also deserve fair treatment irrespective of their political inclinations.

The Minister should not fall prey to political manipulation by relying on Treasury allocations. We also contribute greatly towards the well-being of this nation. By ignoring those areas and by having their roads totally neglected, does not reflect very well on the part of the Government. That is why when you ask yourself why areas like Central Province or Eastern Province do not support the Government, it is because they do it to hit back since the Government does not support them either. I think this element of reflecting animosity and confrontation between the Government and the people of those areas does not help. We are serving the nation and we should be fair in the allocation of resources of this nation irrespective of an area's political inclination. I hope the Minister will be kind enough to ensure that roads that have been neglected are allocated funds that can be able to maintain them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the other issue is that of implementation. I think we are having a problem here. We vote funds for particular projects but by the end of the year, we find that all that money has been returned to the Treasury without being utilised. I think there should be an arm in the Ministry of Finance to ensure that funds that have been allocated in the various Ministries are utilised. It looks like the Civil Service is collapsing and it is important for the Minister to ensure that there is a department which will ensure that the other Ministries do implement the various projects which money is voted for rather than having the funds returned to the Treasury at the end of the year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to comment on the issue of security. Although funds have been allocated to the Police Force, we do have problems within the Police Force, with regard to their remuneration. The police officers simply live from hand to mouth and as a result of that, they are becoming more and more corrupt. I think it is important to look at their package again so that we can try to mitigate or reduce the corruption within the Police Force. The police should also be provided for adequately in terms of petrol, proper housing and also in terms of additional police posts. Security is a major concern and I think we should not ignore it. We should ensure that there are adequate provisions to ensure that the Police Force in this country is properly funded so that it can be able to carry out its very important task of ensuring that there is security within the borders of this nation and beyond; particularly, when we are threatened by our neighbours. We do hear of attacks and atrocities being committed against our people by Ethiopians and so on.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Poghiso): There being no other Member willing to make further contributions to this Motion, I will now call upon the Mover to reply.

The Minister for Finance (Dr. Masakhalia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, let me begin by thanking hon. Members for their very valuable contributions to the Motion on the Supplementary Estimates of 1998/99.

I wish to assure hon. Members that their comments have been noted and corrective action will be taken where necessary. Let me respond to some of the observations that have been made by hon. Members.

First, the total Government expenditure has been increased from the net printed level of Kshs113,450,000,000 to a net revised level of Kshs120,084,000,000. That represents an increase of Kshs6,634,000,000 of which Kshs3.4 billion is Recurrent Expenditure and Kshs3.3 billion is Development Expenditure. Hon. Members have indicated some misgivings on the Supplementary Estimates being significantly different from the initial Estimates. I should like to share the concern that this should not be the case. However, due to some unforeseen situation that arise after the Estimates have been finalised, it becomes necessary that modifications should be made. Our budgetary system is not flawed. It is just that we face situations which prompt that some modifications should be made in the initial Estimates. So, we hope that hon. Members will bear with us.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, as a result of a non-anticipated shortfall in Government revenue from the estimated Kshs173 billion to a revised projection of Kshs169.7 billion, it was found necessary to review the overall financing of the Budget this year. Because of this, together with additional expenditures we have had to provide for, the Budget is now expected to register a deficit of 0.6 per cent, compared to an earlier projection of a balanced position. I should like to indicate that this is not a major departure from our original target.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, let me make brief observations on security. I appreciate the hon. Members' concerns on the issue of security. I want to assure them that the Government is equally concerned about this matter and that is why additional funds have been provided for under Vote R01, Office of the President, to

counter the rising cases of insecurity in various parts of the country and also to reduce the rising crime rate in major cities and towns in the country. This will equip the security personnel with the necessary equipment to combat crime.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would also like to make a few observations on corruption. The Members for Kiharu and Kinangop, have referred to corruption in Government and parastatals. I would like to reiterate that the Government has moved further and constituted the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority by appointing its Chief Executive and members of the Advisory Board. We are now in the process of recruiting directors and other members of the secretariat. This is a testimony that the Government is prepared to stamp out all forms of corruption in both the private and public sectors. In addition to that, the Government has gone ahead and carried out major reforms in the procurement process to enhance transparency and accountability. The tendering system has been completely overhauled by reconstituting the Central Tender Board, the Ministerial Tender Boards and the District Tender Boards.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would now like to move to the financial sector. I have noted the concerns expressed by hon. Members regarding the performance of our financial sector. Of great concern is the recent rescue of the National Bank of Kenya by the Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, the collapse of the bank could have triggered panic, and could have led to the collapse of other banks. It is because of the liquidity difficulties of the bank, panic withdrawals by its big depositors and the effect of non-performing loans that the Government had to come to its aid by paying Kshs2.3 billion, to redeem part of the debt owed by two State Corporations, which could not honour their obligations. This action enabled the bank to stay afloat and, indeed, it was in the best interest of this country. A process for payment of loans to the National Bank has been set in motion. I would like to emphasise this: That the non-performing loans should be repaid.

While still on the financial sector, I wish to reiterate that the Government is committed to see interest rates come down, in order to restore investor-confidence and stimulate investment. This is a point that has been made on the Floor of this House. Indeed, this was the reason why the Government planned for a balanced Budget for the 1998/99 Financial Year. In order to ensure the sustainability of low interest rates, the Government will continue to borrow less from the public. I hope this development will continue pushing interest rates down and influence commercial banks to lower their base lending rates. I am happy to report that some banks have already reduced their base lending rates, although not in a significant margin as we would have wanted. But this is a process that we will continue to pursue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, may I say a few words about domestic borrowing. I wish to state that the issue of domestic debts is being given serious attention. No economic recovery can be recorded when the Government is taking away money from the public, to finance its expenditure. That is grinding out the private sector, which is a major catalyst of economic growth. It is for this one reason, that the Government expenditures are being limited to available resources, and only a limited net domestic borrowing is being allowed.

Let me now come to the main topic on road infrastructure. Many hon. Members have complained about the deterioration of our roads network across the country. Over the recent years, the situation of our roads network has deteriorated, thereby, imposing high operating cost on motor vehicles. This has resulted in serious delays in delivery of goods and services. This is not a conducive environment for business community. I, therefore, take this opportunity to assure hon. Members that sufficient funds have been allocated for rehabilitation of roads. To be precise, funds have been provided under Vote R01, in the Office of the President, for the *El Nino* Programme, under which Kshs901.4 million has been allocated.

Mr. Muithia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Chairman, Sir. Is it in order for the Minister to mislead this House by saying that *El Nino* funds have been allocated for rural access roads, whereas there is not a single cent allocated for Central Province?

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Masakhalia): What I have stated is this: I have indicated that the *El Nino* Programme has been allocated Kshs901.4 million, and this will cover those roads which will be in that programme. I have not indicated what areas of the country or what particular sections of the roads will be covered by the programme.

If I may continue, in Vote D13, that is roads funded under the Fuel Levy, a Kshs5.3 million programme is in progress. Under this programme, as you might know, 80 per cent of this allocation will go to the Ministry of Works and Housing; 20 per cent will go to the Ministry of Local Authorities for urban roads---

An hon. Member: And ten per cent?

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Masakhalia): There is no ten per cent! I also noticed that hon. Members complained quite considerably, about projects which had been included in the original estimates, which now have nil allocation. It is a very long list. Most of these roads which were in the original estimates are rural

roads. For instance, in Kiambu District, there is Gatukuyu-Matara Road; in Kirinyaga District, there is Kibirigwi-Baricho-Kagio-Kerugoya Road; in Murang'a District, there is Gatanga-Ndakaini-Njiris Road; in Nyandarua District, there is Magumu-Njabini-Ol Kalou Road; in Nyeri District, there is Kagumo-Mukurweini-Gakonya Road; in Kilifi District, there is Mariakani-Kaloleni-Kilifi Road. It is a long list. All these projects have zero allocation now. They will be covered under the Fuel Levy.

Mr. Kariuki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Chairman, Sir. Is it in order for the Minister to misguide this House that Gatanga road to Njiris is in Murang'a District? That is in a different district altogether!

The Temporary Deputy Chairman (Mr. Poghiso): Mr. Minister, what is the reading?

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Masakhalia): You know, a road can cross districts. Maybe, part of it is in Murang'a and part of it is elsewhere. It is a road which spans quite some place. Roads cover districts.

Anyway, be that as it may, I would like hon. Members to note the fact that most of the roads that have zero allocation in the Revised Estimates, will be covered under the Fuel Levy Programme, which I have referred to.

May I now, make a few observations on the agricultural sector, which has received considerable comments from hon. Members. On the agricultural sector, and particularly the sugar sub-sector, the Government has raised tariffs to discourage importation of cheap sugar into the country. This measure would increase the consumption of locally grown sugar, enable the local factories to sell their produce and also give incentive to local farmers to grow more sugar cane, through prompt payments by the factories.

The question of why the Government had to give money for the purchase of maize has been raised. I would like to indicate that this was necessary in order to replenish depleted strategic reserves. Again, it was necessary to have sufficient stocks in readiness for the impending famine in some parts of the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, allow me to say something about fish farmers. This, incidentally, is an activity on which Dr. Ochuodho made some comments. The Government will ensure that fish farming is not spoilt by unscrupulous businessmen. Events of the last few weeks have been saddening and could bring an economic catastrophe to the people who depend on fish farming for their livelihoods and incomes. All measures required to save this sub-sector will be instituted and I trust that the events of the last few weeks will not recur.

While dealing with the remarks that were made by Dr. Ochuodho, I would like to indicate that in allocating natural resources, we do not take political affiliation into account. It is the needs, various potentials and the broadness of the sectors that motivate us to allocate resources.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, an hon. Member raised a question on the railways. I would like to say that substantial funds voted under Vote D14, Ministry of Transport and Communications are to service a contract for locomotives rehabilitation by General Electric Company of USA and Canada. This is part of a rehabilitation programme being undertaken by the Kenya Railways Corporation to improve its services to the public and the business community.

The health sector has been commented upon by a number of hon. Members. Good health is a basic right and a prerequisite for rapid socio-economic development. Our health policy revolves around two critical areas. These are how to deliver a basic package of quality health service to a growing population. Secondly, how to finance and manage these services in a way that guarantees their availability, accessibility and affordability to those who need them. Hon. Members have expressed their concern about the reduction of provisions within this sector. This was occasioned by some donors revising their commitments for the 1998/99 downwards. The same amount will be re-voted during the next financial year.

Hon. Members made comments and expressed concern on the education sector. I would like to say this: Education still claims a large proportion of our budgeted resources. At present, it accounts for 36 per cent of the total Budget. Out of this, the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) claims over 80 per cent. The reduction in the vote was occasioned by the increased Appropriations-in-Aid thus reducing their net demand from the Exchequer.

The need for clean water to every Kenyan cannot be over-emphasised. The Ministry of Water Resources will continue to play a central role in the development and provision of clean water. The Ministry will also encourage the participation of community based institutions and the private sector in the exploitation of water resources. The revised Budget has included several programmes, all aimed at providing clean water to the Kenyan public.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, may I make a few observations on the energy sector. There have been a number of reforms undertaken in the energy sector. The electricity sub-sector leads the way in this sector and generation and transmission reforms have been completed, save for division of assets and liabilities. The petroleum sub-sector has also been liberalised. The Government also continues its efforts in oil exploration. We have also opened power generation to the private sector through independent power producers. The major increases in the Development Vote of the Ministry of Energy cover project activities in petroleum exploration,

construction of liquid petroleum gas facilities, electric power generation and rural electrification.

A word on the constitutional review: It was necessary to provide adequate funds for the Constitutional Review Commission to undertake its task. I believe that once this Motion is passed, it is likely to influence the impasse that exists now and pave the way for Commissioners to begin their work.

On the issue of the general reduction on provisions of some projects, as I said earlier, this was found necessary in order to accommodate more urgent expenditure which could not be postponed to the next financial year. These reductions were effected on those projects where no work has started and was not likely to start in this financial year.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to reiterate the fact that resources will continue to be used effectively and efficiently.

With those few remarks, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move.

(Applause)

(Question put and agreed to)

(Resolution to be reported without Amendment)

(The House Resumed)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

REPORT

APPROVAL OF 1998/99 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND STATEMENTS OF EXCESSES

Mr. Poghiso: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Supplementary Estimates of 1998/99 on the Statements of Excesses and approved the same without amendment.

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

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Mudavadi) seconded.

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

ADOPTION OF SESSIONAL PAPER NO.1 OF 1999: NATIONAL POLICY ON WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

(The Minister for Water Resources on 21.4.99)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on 22.4.99)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Nderitu was on the Floor. Is he not here? If he is not here I will give this chance to hon. Poghiso to contribute to the Motion.

Mr. Poghiso: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to contribute to the Motion on the Sessional Paper No.1 of 1999 on National Policy on Water Resources Management [Mr. Poghiso] and Development. I would like to make a brief contribution, by way of thanking the Minister for bringing this Sessional Paper for consideration in this House.

I would like to suggest that the water resources available to the people of West Pokot, and especially to

the people of Kacheliba Constituency, are enormous. The perennial swampy river, which is otherwise downstream regarded as the Turkwel River--- This river can, when well developed, supply water from Kacheliba Divisional Headquarters all the way to Konyau and even beyond. This will take care of about half of the people living in that constituency. This is the same river, whose water has been harnessed for the generation of electricity. This is where the Turkwel Dam has been constructed to supply electricity. In the process of this dam being developed a man made lake has been created. This lake is the source of the water that drives turbines to generate electricity.

I would like to suggest that this water, which I am sure is in excess of what is needed to generate electricity, be pumped up to some height, because we have some hills and mountains, so that it can be supplied to the nearby Division of Kasai and even Alale. We have no reason to be fussy. We also have no reason for our animals to lack water because we have the water resources there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a way ought to be found whereby the Pokots can benefit from this man made lake called Turkwel. This water is part of our resource as the people of Kacheliba Constituency. This water is what generates electricity, which is handled by the Kenya Generation Power (Ken Gen). The electricity which is generated earns this company a lot of money. The electricity which is generated is supplied by the Kenya Power Company, and it also earns this company millions of shillings. As the people of West Pokot, and especially those in Kacheliba Constituency, we feel that there ought to be a way of sharing some of that income with the local people. After all, if that water resource was not there, there would be nothing to benefit the Ken Gen and the Kenya Power Company. I think a way should be worked out within that water resource so that the Pokots can benefit, either through their county council or the areas surrounding that particular man made lake.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a small water project called Kacheliba Water Project. We have a generator along the river swampy, but it has since ceased to work. Now, the whole Township of Kacheliba, where the only health centre is, the District Officer (DO) for that division stays, our only secondary school in the constituency is, where two primary schools are located and where the only police station which serves the constituency is, has no clean water. All the people who live there drink contaminated water, which they draw from the river, because there is no source of clean water. I would like to ask the Minister to urgently send his team to develop the Kacheliba Water Project. This will enable the large number of people, including the patients in the hospital, get clean. There is even a tuberculosis manyatta, and these patients still drink that contaminated water. We feel that, that is an urgent thing that the Minister could consider dispersing quickly some funds to get the generator going and piping laid so that the people can begin to take drink clean water there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been endowed with resources. Just because we come from arid and semi-arid areas does not mean that we do not have water resources. We have underground water. I hope that the Minister will consider drilling boreholes in the area. I propose that a master plan of possible borehole pipes be developed, and made available for any donor, who would like to come and help us to drill boreholes. This will ensure that when people are sent to drill boreholes, for example, in Kodichi, which is languishing without water. It is a small community that has never had water for many years now. They will simply pick up a well developed master plan. If we have this master plan then it will be very easy for us to ask the donors to drill boreholes for us, because they will know that, the area has been surveyed by the Ministry and that water is there.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order hon. Members! We cannot hear what the hon. Member is saying because you are consulting loudly. Can you give him time to finish his contribution?

Mr. Poghiso: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if that is done, and is coupled with the rivers that are there, sub-surface dams and excavation of other dams, which our nomadic people will use--- Those are our resources.

We also have springs that can be developed in the area. I can cite an example of Mount Kalabata, which is on the northern part of my constituency. Enough water can be obtained from the springs in that place, and it can be supplied by gravity. The Ministry can do an investigative report on that. We will be very glad to help, so that, that water can be brought down by gravity and supplied to the entire plains of Sasak and other nearby areas. This will enable the people, who are otherwise nomadic pastoralists, to undertake irrigation. Many of our people are coming out of nomadic pastoralism. We have now started to allow a section of the family to stay behind and till the land and produce food. This is because we have known that the resources for cattle rearing are dwindling. We have started to adjust ourselves. Those people will benefit from this water, if it is brought down from the mountain by gravity, by simply building huge reservoirs near the villages. We look forward to the day when our people will turn on those taps and fetch clean water for the first time in more than 150 years since they settled there.

We know, as I have said before, that the areas like Kacheliba Constituency are known by everybody all over the world that it is an arid and semi-arid area. The human resource for repairing boreholes and desilting

dams is not there. That is where they should be. That is where they should have all the equipment for repairing boreholes; the portable rigs for drilling boreholes. That is where they ought to be. The men who go round repairing boreholes. That is what ought to be happening in West Pokot District, especially in the drier parts like in my constituency. I suggest that the Ministry revives the Kacheliba Water Department and improve it. They have good facilities already built there and it is a matter of reinforcing it with personnel so that they can be ready. Right now, our boreholes that are broken down are being repaired by private contractors and some of those who are repairing those boreholes do not have much training like the personnel in the Ministry of Water. They have the qualifications and they should be sent there to help repair these boreholes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the solar system and windmills are built in this country. Windmills are built here in Thika and they are a good technology for getting water in some of those areas that have so much wind energy. I think for those of us who have seen the benefits of wind power, we think that they should be used in those areas. More wind-pumps should be availed in those areas, because there is no electricity and generating using diesel power has become so expensive and yet, we have these wind pumps. If you went to my constituency in an area near Kiwawa, which is right in the middle of my constituency, there are about three of those. Those people have benefited from that because you do not have to worry about buying diesel. That should be a recommendation that the Ministry considers working very closely with those who manufacture wind pumps and then, have their teams trained, so that this can be accomplished through the Ministry.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to commend the Minister again for this Sessional Paper. I see a number of things that have been recommended. But there is need for a liaison department within the Government, so that when for example, the question arises that we think really belongs to the Ministry of Water, but happens to be a situation that could have been dealt with probably by another Ministry, maybe, like in constructing water dams--- Such liaison needs to be established, so that work is not delayed. There are so many departments that are dealing with water and I think such a move is necessary. We have a programme called ASAL in West Pokot. It has been a good programme for a long time. But for the last two years, it has been very slow and I think the programme has been responsible for helping people work with communities in cost-sharing when it comes to construction of boreholes and maintaining them. Now, I see that the Ministry is putting an emphasis on cost-sharing and commercialising water. Now, I hope that within that policy, there is room for staggering it. There are those communities that have no other source of water and for them this water is their primary source. They have no other ways of getting water and have not been hitherto accustomed to billing, or are nomadic, for that matter. Commercialising should be done in such a way that it does not really become equated to the commercialisation in urban centres. I hope that is going to be understood. When you sink a borehole in a certain area, that control or commercialisation should be a community thing, not individual billing. I hope they will know that the environment around which nomadic people live in is such that, today, you may have 20 people using the water and the next day, you may have 100 and next time, you may have none, because people move for security reasons and other reasons. That is why I am thinking that consideration should be based on different conditions of setting.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, again, I would like to mention the issue of infrastructure connected with water. The Ministry of Water may have good plans to give water to everyone by a certain year in this century or next. But if the Minister for Public Works and Housing does not keep up with the same, they cannot fulfil that. Where will you sink the boreholes without the roads? They need to liaise together, so that where the boreholes are going to be put, there must be roads for people to work very successfully.

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

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Arap-Kirui): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this important Motion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like, first to commend, the Ministry of Water Resources for putting together a comprehensive document on water and the plans that the Ministry has in the development of water resources in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I also take the opportunity to congratulate the Minister for Water Resources for the very able manner in which he moved the Motion on the Sessional Paper.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will join my colleagues in underscoring the importance of water not only for life, but also for all basic human activities. While the Sessional Paper is a very well researched and produced document, I think it is a lot more important and I hope that, the Ministry will be able to move into the action bit before long. References to committees to consider this or that, or for a workshop on this or the other, I think is the sort of thing that we would like to avoid. There have been and we know, the way committees and workshops work. First, they make proposals and then the proposals are evaluated and then, maybe, there is an implementation committee which also makes further proposals on how things remain and evaluate and so on. We hope that we

will move into action on this Sessional Paper. I know the Minister is a man of action and that, he will be able to cut through the red tape and deliver on this programme.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my concern, however, is the rather general approach to water resources in this country as presented in the Paper. It is my belief, and I believe I may have put across the same views at one time or another, that development in this country has been lopsided and the only way it can be corrected is by adjusting the lopsidedness. I think it would be unfair to see resources being distributed equally even to areas that have benefited quite a lot in the past. Many Members have touched on this. The immediate speaker before me touched on the very serious needs of his constituency and I would like to voice the same serious concern for my constituency.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of our business. The House, therefore, stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 28th April, 1999 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.