

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 12th October, 2005

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

RAMPANT INSECURITY IN TIGANIA
EAST CONSTITUENCY

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Mikinduri area in Tigania East Constituency has virtually been taken over by armed gangs who seem to have overwhelmed the police in the last two months?

(b) What is he doing to apprehend the robbers who attacked Mwiganda and Athwana villages on 15th August, 2005, Marega Village on 23rd August, 2005, and 17th September, 2005, and Ruuju Village on 19th September, 2005?

(c) Could the Minister undertake to compensate the families of Luka Mateo, Kaberia Ncaili, Barney Kileba, Geoffrey Mururu, Joshua Kanampiu, Kobia Karuti, Douglas Marangu, Julius Muriuki and John Kanampiu, whose homes were attacked on the above dates and property worth thousands of shillings stolen?

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

(a) No, I am not aware. However, five cases of violent robberies were reported in Mikinduri area within the months of August and September, 2005.

(b) Three suspects have already been arrested and charged before court vide CR.475/163/05. Investigations are still ongoing with the co-operation of the members of public to bring all the suspects to book.

(c) The matter of compensation may only arise after the conclusion of the investigations and determination by a court of law.

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you can recall, this is the third Question I am asking about insecurity in this area. In my last Question, I asked the Minister whether he could overhaul the police station at Mikinduri, but nothing has been done to date. The same police officers, some of whom have been serving at the station for seven years, are still there and are the ones colluding with robbers. Some of them participate in robberies themselves! On 19th September, 2005, two policemen from Mikinduri Police Station, a PC Ng'eno and a PC Mutua, took part in a robbery and the victim, Daniel Koome, reported the matter to the police station on 29th September, 2005, but he was threatened when he reported that those police officers had robbed his shop! Those policemen are still working at Mikinduri Police Station!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Could you ask your question, Mr. Munya?

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is the Assistant Minister doing to arrest the two policemen and charge them with robbery with violence?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to assure the hon. Member that the police are not above the law. Even if a police officer has been involved in an act of robbery or any form of crime and the matter is brought to our attention, we will be able to take appropriate action. I will verify whether any report of robbery committed by the two police officers, as alleged, has, indeed, been documented or not. As soon as I verify that information, I will ensure that they are arraigned in court.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when this Government took over, they said that they were going to retrain the police. Police officers are involved in those acts of crime, not only in hon. Munya's constituency, but almost everywhere. Policemen are colluding with robbers! The Government said that it was going to retrain the police, and we have not seen a programme where this is going to be done in order to help the communities.

Mr. M. Kariuki: The retraining of the police is ongoing and all the police officers serving today have undergone a three-week training in human rights and public relations. We are also taking appropriate action against police officers involved in any acts of crime. As I have said before, last year alone, we arraigned in court 58 police officers involved in various offences and 700 police officers were relieved of their duties because of acts of misconduct. So, we are really on top of things; to ensure that the police force is transformed into a better force.

Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The allegation by hon. Munya is that the law enforcement agency of this country is involved in actual robberies and the Assistant Minister is very casual, telling the House that he is going to do this. In fact, because the names of the police officers are known, we want the Assistant Minister to go and confirm, and if it is true, those officers should be brought to book. So, I would like to ask the Assistant Minister to move with speed and ensure that the image of the police force is not tarnished by those two officers.

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not being casual, whatsoever. This is a serious matter where serving police officers involve themselves in crime, and we know it has happened; this is a fact. We are aware that there are even those police officers who have been charged and convicted of robberies and have been sent to jail. We will not condone any act of lawlessness whatsoever, and I have said that, as soon as I get the facts about the two suspects that the hon. Member has referred to, I will be able to report to this House and say what action we have taken.

Mr. M. Maitha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is not the first time the Assistant Minister is hearing about robberies in Tigania East Constituency. What concrete evidence can he promise this House he is going to take to make sure that those police officers are arrested and charged in court?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. M. Maitha! Did I hear you right? Is it "concrete evidence" or "concrete action?"

Mr. M. Maitha: Action!

(Laughter)

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have intensified patrols in this area. I would like to hear from the hon. Member if he thinks that we need to enhance the number of the police officers and regular patrols that we have stepped up. I will be willing to co-operate with him and deploy more police officers in that area.

Mr. Ethuro: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. With your indulgence, I wanted to frame this as a question but it could as well be a point of order!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Ethuro! You are very honest and I like that. However, I wanted to give this chance for a supplementary question. Your question will, therefore, be treated as

a point of order!

Proceed, Mr. Munya!

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problem with Mikinduri is not lack of police patrols. The police officers themselves at the police station are involved in the robberies! Who will do the patrols when the police are involved in crime? The police are involved in the robberies! Moreover, the robberies are taking place during the day! Motorists are being carjacked as they go home from town during the day! I have asked this Question three times in this House and the Assistant Minister has not done anything. Could he tell us exactly what he is going to do in Mikinduri? Could he promise this House that he is going to transfer all the police officers in Mikinduri and bring in a new lot that is not tainted with crime and arrest the two police officers?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Munya, do you want the policemen to be transferred to another area?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is not reasonable to suggest that a police officer who is not performing should be transferred to another area. That is transferring a problem from one area to another. In all fairness, there may be a strong cloud of suspicion about the conduct of these police officers. However, the law has to be followed. I have said that as soon as I get the report about the two police officers to the effect that they have been involved in acts of robbery, we will act.

Secondly, the hon. Member has said that the officers have been there for seven years. There is no police officer today who serves in a station for more than three years. That is the maximum! I am going to investigate that particular allegation. If there is a police officer who has served beyond three years in one station, we will take appropriate action.

(Mr. Munya stood up in his place)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Munya, the Assistant Minister has made it very clear!

Mr. Munya: He does not know!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: How?

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the police officers have been there for five years!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Assistant Minister has said that he is going to investigate and any officer who has been there for more than three years will be transferred. That question has been answered!

Ethuro: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Are we going to allow Ministers to come here and seek information from the House when they should have obtained that information from the Question presented to them?

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the Assistant Minister says that he will seek information, from whom will he do that? Will it be from the same police officers who are committing the crimes? On 19th September, 2005, four cases were reported by the hon. Member. He has only asked about two cases. Is the Assistant Minister in order, therefore, to mislead the House? He should be serious!

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we prepare answers in response to the Questions as framed. Other supplementary issues arise, for instance, how long a police officer has served in a particular station. This is not information that I can come before the House with unless I have prior notice. I have said that the policy today is that a police officer can only be in one station for a maximum of three years, then he is transferred. Anybody with information that a particular police officer has served for more than three years in a particular station, he should bring it to my attention.

SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME
SUPPLIES FOR MAKUENI DISTRICT

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Education, Science and Technology, the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that schools in Kilome, Kasikeu and other divisions of Makueni District have not received supplies for the School Feeding Programme from September, 2005?

(b) Is he further aware that pupils have stopped going to school due to lack of food?

(c) What urgent measures is the Ministry taking to address the problem?

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mrs. Mugo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that schools in the ten divisions of Makueni District including Kilome and Kasikeu that were under emergency operation initially for six months from October 2004 to March 2005 and was later extended to August 2005, did not receive food supplies for September 2005. However, 333 schools spread in the eight divisions covered under regular supply are currently receiving their Term-Three supplies.

(b) I am further not aware that pupils have stopped going to school due to lack of food. The district organised an inspection team in the field between 19th and 30th September, 2005. There was no evidence of pupils not attending school due to lack of food.

(c) The Ministry is currently carrying out a survey to establish which of the 255 schools previously under the Emergency Operation Programme may require a further extension of the emergency operation so that they too may be provided with food.

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to first of all thank the Assistant Minister for this honest answer. Makueni District is a food-insecure district. Could the Assistant Minister clarify what criteria the Ministry uses to classify some schools under the Emergency Operation Programme and others under the Special Food Programme? Is it that some schools should be treated as having second-hand pupils? Could the Assistant Minister, please, clarify this issue?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is completely not possible to supply food to all schools. That is why the poverty pockets are established so that the food can be supplied. It is our intention to supply all needy schools. There was a special programme, as I correctly said, during the last drought that necessitated us to give more food to more schools. We have also received this complaint and the Office of the President and the country office of the World Food Programme that supplies schools with food is studying the report that has been presented to us. As soon as this report is completed, even those schools that need the emergency programme to be expanded will be considered. It is in our interest that all children who need food get it and we keep them in school.

Mr. Ndambuki: Makueni has over 800 primary schools. Out of these 800 schools, the Ministry has chosen 330 schools. We do not really know the criteria of choosing the 330 schools. How come that when the situation was even better, we were supplying food to all primary schools? As we speak, the area is totally dry and they have terminated the programme. Why did they start it and why are they terminating it when people are in dire need?

The Minister for Health (Mrs. Ngilu): On a point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could I give the Assistant Minister some piece of information?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Madam Minister! If you wish to do that, you can do it in consultation with the Assistant Minister but not on the Floor of the House!

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need to plan. Sometimes we do not know whether there will be drought until it strikes. There are some areas, even in other districts, which receive food. Food cannot be given to one area. When there was a shortage of food in that area, an emergency programme was established. That programme was later extended for another six months.

That is why I said that the Office of the President, my Ministry and the country office of the World Food Programme (WFP) have carried out an inspection to determine how long we need to extend this programme. The plans are under way. It is not that we were giving food and then we stopped. The schools that regularly receive food continue to do so under the extra emergency programme. However, all emergency programmes come to an end and then they can be expanded. That is what we are doing now. By the way, the poverty index comes from the Ministry of Planning and National Development, and the Office of the President.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mrs. Mugo, I could also assist you with regard to the question asked by Mr. Ndambuki, because I happen to come from an area which is similarly affected. The question is: You choose certain schools from the same area and leave out others. How do you determine which schools from the same vicinity should benefit from the school feeding programme and not others?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the district steering committees and the district education boards are the ones which choose the schools to benefit. As I said, this policy is being reviewed and any one with special complaints can present them to those committees so that they can be included. All hon. Members are members of their respective district education boards. So, they should be able to sort out those issues even at the district level.

Mr. Mwandawiro: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Ministry should take research seriously and establish the truth on the ground. For instance, with regard to the designation of certain places as hardship areas in Taita-Taveta District, certain schools in some areas of Mwatate and Voi have been designated as hardship areas while some very needy schools in Taveta and Wundanyi are not. So, even in relation to whatever the Ministry is doing, it needs to go to the ground and gather more information.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is exactly why we have the district steering committees and the district education boards. The two are supposed to put together all the needs of the respective districts and forward them to the Ministry headquarters. Unfortunately, what is emerging is that hon. Members do not attend meetings of those committees. Otherwise, they would have raised the matter there, and the information would have reached my Ministry.

Mr. Karaba: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is good that the Assistant Minister is telling us about food distribution to schools in ASAL areas. Kenya is a signatory to the Dakar Protocol and we aim at making education free for all by the year 2015. That is what Kenya has always tried to do. Is Kenya preparing to make education accessible and free, so that by 2015 all Kenyans, including those who are suffering from hunger will access education? How prepared are you?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that provision is in the proposed new Constitution. If we pass it, that for sure, will be catered for. Once we adopt the proposed new constitution, that is the first thing we will do. I believe that this House is aware that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology cannot feed each and every child in this country. Even parents and the communities have the responsibility to feed children. However, children who come from areas which are adversely affected by poverty or drought, need food. We are planning to keep them in schools by continuing with the School Feeding Programme in such areas.

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am made to understand that the information supplied to the emergency programme is gathered through aerial surveys. Consultants use aerial surveys to interpret data. Wherever they see green vegetation, they assume that people in such an area are well-fed, yet they could have seen mango trees.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also made to understand that the World Food Programme has not been notified about the 255 schools which were left out. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that the 255 schools will be supplied with food immediately?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot do that immediately, because we do a lot of planning in the Ministry. Even in your home, you cannot do things haphazardly; you have to plan.

However, the Makueni District Education Board submitted the list of all schools in the district on 11th October, 2005. That list is being studied by the management of the National School Feeding Programme. It will, thereafter, be forwarded to the Office of the President and the country office of the World Food Programme who will facilitate the provision and movement of the food. We undertake to do that as soon as is humanly possible.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.188

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON RELIEF FOOD IN WEST POKOT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, by the indulgence of the House, I will skip Question No.188 by Mr. Rotino and go to Question No.541 by Mr. Koros. We will come back to it.

Question No.541

DEATH GRATUITY FOR MR. SIMION KEBENEI'S DEPENDANTS

Mr. Koros asked the Minister for Home Affairs:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Mr. Simion Kebenei (Prison Warder No.216067) was involved in an accident in a Government vehicle on 1st December, 1994;
- (b) whether he is also aware that the warder sustained injuries that led to his death in 2002;
- (c) whether he is further aware that the parents of the deceased have been pursuing death gratuity as well as other entitlements of their son since 2002 without success; and,
- (d) what steps he is taking to ensure that the benefits due to the deceased are promptly paid to his next-of-kin.

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Mr. Simion Kebenei, former prison warder, was one of the prison officers involved in the ill-fated accident along Thika Road in which 39 warders lost their lives while being ferried to Nyayo National Stadium for the Jamhuri Day parade rehearsals.

(b) I am also aware that the late warder sustained injuries during the accident, for which he was treated and recovered. He, however, died on 22nd February, 2002, at Kenyatta National Hospital due to other causes not related to the accident.

(c) I am further aware that the Government paid out death gratuity in respect of the deceased warder on 5th June, 2003, when a cheque of Kshs181,478 was issued to the Assistant Public Trustee, Eldoret. The Government further paid the late warder Kshs1,375,000 as compensation for the injuries sustained during the accident.

(d) The Ministry has done all that it could to ensure speedy settlement of the deceased warder's dues and entitlements. It is in this light that death gratuity was paid out to the Assistant Public Trustee, Eldoret. It is equally in view of our concern about the officers, that the Ministry released payment for compensation to the deceased through the Attorney-General's Office for settlement.

Mr. Koros: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for the good answer. However, so far, the family of Mr. Kebenei has received only

Kshs181,478, and not the Kshs1,375,000. What is the cheque number for which this amount was paid out, what is the date of payment and who collected the money on behalf of the deceased's family?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the cheque was released through the Attorney-General. I have not got the cheque number, but I can let the hon. Member have it and the date that it was released. In fact, I can do that by tomorrow morning.

Mr. Marende: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister, in his answer has, among other things, said that the Government is taking measures to ensure speedy payment of compensation to the warders. This accident took place in 1994 and it is now 11 years since then. What speed is he talking about? Could he indicate to the House when these warders will be compensated? Their dependants continue to live in misery.

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think it is common knowledge that the lawyer who was representing the warders, Mr. Kinyanjui, was paid about Kshs55 million which he pocketed. Of course, we know that he was taken to court but, unfortunately, he was sentenced for a very short term. But even after that the Government has taken the efforts to make sure that the warders are compensated. So, the long time that it took was because the money had already been paid out through the lawyer who was representing the warders.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Marende, if you ask a question and you want to ask another one through a point of order, the Chair may not take that kindly. What is it?

Mr. Marende: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to ask another question. I want to seek your guidance because the Minister has not answered my question. When will the Government ensure that this compensation is paid? He says the Government is taking measures to pay. So, he is not answering my question!

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member asked why it has taken 11 years and I told him that in spite of that, the money has been released. All I need is to give him the date and the cheque number.

Mr. Koros: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope the Minister will give me a photocopy of the cheque, the number and the name of the person who received it, by tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Koros, you must be reasonable. If the cheque was issued where is the Vice-President going to get you the photocopy from? He has undertaken to give you the number of the cheque and not the photocopy.

We will now go back to Question No.188 by the Member of Parliament for Sigor Constituency, Mr. Rotino.

Question No.188

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON
RELIEF FOOD IN WEST POKOT

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

- (a) how much money the Government spent on relief food in West Pokot District in the current financial year; and,
- (b) what strategy the Government is putting in place to ensure that the recurrent famine is brought to an end.

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

(a) The Government has spent Kshs15,542,720 in West Pokot District for purchase and distribution of relief foodstuff of about 552 metric tonnes between July and September, 2005. The

amount excludes the Government's contribution towards emergency operations spearheaded by the World Food Programme. The Emergency Operation Programme (EMOP) intervention in the district stood at 484 metric tonnes of assorted foodstuff worth over Kshs20 million in the same period.

(b) Among the activities to be undertaken to ensure famine is controlled will be: Drought early warning to prepare the people to manage their livelihoods against drought effects; rehabilitation of Olua and Kokwomeses boreholes in Sigor; strengthening bee-keeping activities in Lomut and other centres; rehabilitation of canal intakes for irrigation purposes in Lomut, Marich, Sebit and Chepkondolo irrigation canals. Other activities to be supported include introduction of fish farming in Turkwell Dam which will be done in collaboration with Moi University and the Kerio Valley Development Authority to enable the community to have an alternative source of livelihood instead of depending on livestock alone, especially, during the drought.

The Government intends to spend Kshs15,893,100 during the current 2005/2006 Financial Year to finance these activities through the ALRMP programme.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Assistant Minister for the answer-

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(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! In order that we can hear questions and answers, could you consult quietly, please?

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Assistant Minister for the answer he has given. There are two sets of food relief here. There is the one provided by the World Food Programme (WFP) called the IMO. I have no quarrel with that because it comes and it is distributed through a lead agency which is the Anglican Church of Kenya. But I have a problem with the food worth Kshs15 million supplied by the Government. As leaders of the district, it is surprising to learn that Kshs15 million has been allocated in terms of food to West Pokot by the Government. Nobody has ever seen this food. It is pathetic that we get food worth Kshs15 million and we do not see it as leaders. It has never been mentioned in any of the meetings that we hold.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Please, ask your question, Mr. Rotino!

Mr. Rotino: Could the Assistant Minister consider giving this money to the district, so that we can buy animals to replace the ones we lost during the drought, instead of buying food that has not been seen by people?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, indeed, I am surprised by the hon. Member's complaints because the *modus operandi* in the distribution of resources, in terms of alleviation of famine, is usually done on the advice of the district steering committees and the Provincial Administration plays a very small part. It is a community participation exercise. I would only plead that the hon. Member should participate in these meetings. Maybe, I will set up a machinery to investigate what the hon. Member has actually told me today.

Mr. Sasura: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is not telling the House the truth. What is happening in West Pokot is happening even in Marsabit District. The district steering group he is referring to at the district level has been meeting until, even last week, in Marsabit and the Office of the President is telling us that there is food that has been sent there. But if this goes on, nobody will vote during the referendum because of hunger in that district. Could the Assistant Minister, if he is really serious, give us an inventory of how much food they have sent to all the famine-stricken districts and table the information, so that we can follow it up with the respective district commissioners? Until yesterday, the District Commissioner (DC) in Marsabit said he had no grain in the stores.

Dr. Machage: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, indeed, hon. Sasura's sentiments are not light. If, actually, what we distribute at the district level does not reach the people, that is a serious allegation

and I will not take it lightly. I will order the district commissioners, on the Floor of the House, to tell us what is going on in every district that has participated in this exercise. But I will endeavour to investigate the same. All I can say is that I could table data relating to the resources that have been given to all the other districts at a later date, because that was not part of this Question. However, I can inform hon. Sasura about what we have distributed to his area by tabling part of my supplementary information because it is a bit too long for me to read out at this time.

Prof. Olweny: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The question of relief food is a burning issue to many of us. There are several cases of relief food being siphoned away from deserving cases by civil servants and other people. Recently, there was a case in my constituency where civil servants were implicated in stealing relief food. What is the Ministry doing about such cases? Relief food is provided to help the citizens of this country. But those who are supposed to help in distributing the relief food take it away from the people.

Dr. Machage: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are aware that not all civil servants live up to their standards while carrying out their duties. We have taken a few officers to court after similar complaints. They have been convicted and sentenced by the courts. If the hon. Member has information of the same conduct from his area, let him make a formal written complaint, so that I can take action over the same.

Prof. Olweny: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Prof. Olweny! This is not a matter of argument! You have asked a question and it has been answered.

Last question, Mr. Rotino!

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are many complaints about relief food. However, in answer to part (b) of the Question, the Assistant Minister outlined a list of strategies to avert the ever-recurring drought. But, he has mentioned things that are really not--- He has just given information. He has talked about the rehabilitation of boreholes in Olua. There are no boreholes in my area. I am pleading with the Assistant Minister to take time and visit Sigor Constituency to verify the things that he is talking about. They are not there! That way, we can come up with a good policy and a strategy to avert the recurrent drought.

Dr. Machage: I will endeavour to do that; either personally or through my officers. I would like to confirm that there has been rehabilitation of Nayapon, Kamketo, Thogun and Samak water boreholes. I will do that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question by the hon. Member for Lugari Constituency!

Question No.155

INVENTORY OF BROKEN DOWN EQUIPMENT
IN DISTRICT WORKS OFFICES

Dr. Kibunguchy asked the Minister for Roads and Public Works:-

(a) whether he could give the House the inventory of all the machineries and other equipment that have broken down in all provincial and district works offices throughout the country; and,

(b) why the Ministry has not repaired them or disposed of those that are beyond repair.

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

(a) I, hereby, wish to table before the House the inventory of all the machineries and other equipment that have broken down in all the provincial and district works offices throughout the country. The summary is as follows:-

Status of Broken Down Machinery

<u>and Equipment</u>	<u>No of Units</u>
Under repair	127
Economical to repair but waiting availability of funds	753
Recommended for boarding	1,045
Boarded awaiting advertisement and disposal	433
Sold but not collected	4
TOTAL	2,362

(b) My Ministry has, since 1983, endeavoured to repair most of its fleet through Recurrent budgetary allocations. But because budgetary allocations have been inadequate, we have not been able to repair and maintain all the equipment to the desired levels.

However, my Ministry is currently repairing 127 machineries and equipment. About 753 more have been identified for repairs when funds become available. A total of 1,045 have been recommended for boarding, while 433 have already been boarded, but awaiting advertisement and disposal.

(Eng. Toro laid the list on the Table)

Dr. Kibunguchy: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Assistant Minister for that fairly comprehensive answer. With over 2,000 equipment and machinery lying idle, it just confirms the picture that we always see at provincial and district works offices. Is there a policy in the Ministry to buy one type of equipment so that, when it comes to repairs, they have spares or one equipment can be cannibalised to repair the other? For example, when you look at the graders, they have Komatsu, Champion, Caterpillar--- I do not know whether there is a policy to go for one type of equipment, so that repairs could become easier to obtain.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a policy on how to buy equipment. The Ministry does not buy equipment that is not in Kenya, or which it would be difficult to get spare parts for. However, the main problem has not been the issue of the type of equipment that we have. The problem has been lack of funds to repair the equipment. But the position is improving now because we have established a Mechanical and Transport Fund in the Ministry. That revolving fund will be under the Chief Mechanical and Transport Engineer. It will be used to maintain all the equipment that we have. Once that has been addressed, there is going to be a very big difference.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Last question, Dr. Kibunguchy!

Dr. Kibunguchy: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I look at this list, all the equipment in Lugari District is unserviceable. Is the Assistant Minister going to make a deliberate move to give us some new equipment to maintain our roads?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think we are going to do better than what the hon. Member has asked. At the moment, the Government has entered into a loan agreement with the Government of South Korea. That Government is going to give us US\$25 million to purchase various equipment. The Kenya Government will have a counter-fund of Kshs5,540,000. The equipment that will be bought will comprise the following:-

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Is that a long list?

Eng. Toro: It is not a long list. It is just a short list. I want to read it, so that the hon. Member can be satisfied that we are going to---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the list was read yesterday!

Eng. Toro: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, but he was not here! But since it is a short list, let me go through it.

We will buy 91 dump trucks, 19 flat bed trucks, 18 wheel loaders, ten tractors, ten low bed trailers, 16 excavators, 16 breakers, three track-mounted cranes, one track mounted crane of a bigger

capacity, 12 motor- graders, 75 double cab pick ups, 32 bulldozers and 32 water tanks with pumps. From the counter-funding by the Government, we will buy an additional 32 graders.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that equipment will be distributed to 16 regions. So, the current provinces will have two regions each, so that, that equipment can be accessible to all constituencies. That is different from the current setup where the equipment is located in provinces and in poor conditions.

So, all that new equipment will be available for use by all the constituencies. It is going to make a big difference.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question by Mr. Mwanzia!

Question No.400

MISAPPROPRIATION OF FPE FUNDS
FOR KATHIMANI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is Mr. Mwanzia not here? Question dropped!

(Question dropped)

Question No.577

EXPENDITURE ON RECOVERY
OF MONEY/ASSETS STASHED ABROAD

Mr. Omingo asked the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs:-

- (a) how much money has been spent on the recovery of money/assets stashed abroad;
- (b) which company was awarded the repatriation contract and on what terms; and,
- (c) how much has been recovered since then and what are the prospects of recovering the full amount.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Kshs20,471,038.65 has so far been spent on the recovery of money and assets stashed abroad.

(b) There is no company contracted to repatriate money or assets stashed abroad. However, Kroll and Associates of UK Limited was contracted to trace the whereabouts of the stolen money and assets.

(c) Nothing has been recovered so far but the process is ongoing and there are very good prospects that money and assets stashed abroad will be recovered.

Mr. Omingo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is yet another scam of wastage of public resources when, indeed, the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs told Kenyans and the world that they had actually identified US\$1 billion, an equivalent of Kshs87 billion and that we are now spending Kshs20 million! Is this one way of this Government handing over some lucrative jobs to its friends to collect "oxygen" or "air"?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this was a very well calculated risk in the sense that if you have to spend Kshs20 million and hope to recover more than Kshs80 billion, to me that is a very good investment. Secondly, I can assure this House that Kroll and Associates is a UK-based firm and there is not a single friend of the Government who is in that firm. So, the issue of friends being given lucrative jobs does not arise. Thirdly, this exercise is very sensitive and, obviously, there is some information that has to be held in a confidential manner otherwise it will jeopardise even the little chance we have of recovering this money.

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this debate has now taken about three years. Could the Assistant Minister clarify the specific sources where this money was stolen from because that is where we should begin? Where was this money stolen from? Was it just Goldenberg money?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have not gone into the basis of where this money came from. The first priority is to, first of all, get the money and then we now deal with the question of how this money reached these destinations. The fact is that there is stolen money abroad.

Mr. Serut: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister telling the House that they are working on speculation and that there was no actual money stolen from this country?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the fact is that there is definitely money which was stashed abroad and it is still hidden there. That is a fact. What is not very clear is where this money came from. It is also very clear that unless there are superhuman businessmen, it is not possible to acquire money and assets worth Kshs87 billion in such a short period of time.

Mr. Omingo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think this country and Kenyans are being taken for a ride. Is it morally upright for a Government worth its salt to speculate that there is money when they do not know its source and they cannot trace it? Could the Assistant Minister confirm to this House that they actually engaged Kenyan taxpayers on a fraudulent deal and that this Kshs20 million should be refunded back to the taxpayers?

(Applause)

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we started this exercise of trying to trace and also repatriate the assets and money held abroad, we underestimated it. We are dealing with people who have got tonnes of money, who have got the ability to hire the top-notch lawyers and very smart people who, the moment they get a little hint of where the Government is going, they start transferring money from one country to another. What is clear is that this money originated from Kenya. Part of it is the Goldenberg money. Part of it is the money which was acquired through grabbed land in this country. Some of that money belongs to the run-down parastatals. So, the most important thing is to acquire the money; which is what we are trying to do. We have said that we shall not speak about this issue any more until we have been able to get some money and tell Kenyans that we have received so much.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question by Mr. Wanjala!

Question No.526

VEHICLE FOR MUHOBOLA HEATH CENTRE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Wanjala is not here! The Question is dropped!

(Question dropped)

Next Question by Mr. Ethuro!

Question No.664

IRREGULAR WITHDRAWAL OF MONEY
FROM LODWAR MUNICIPALITY ACCOUNT

Mr. Ethuro asked the Minister for Local Government:-

(a) whether he is aware that some Kshs800,000 was withdrawn from the KCB

account of Lodwar Municipal Council under mysterious circumstances on 25th July, 2003;

(b) if he could table the beneficiaries of the funds in "a" above;

(c) what action he has taken to recover the money and punish the chief officers who withdrew it; and,

(d) if he could consider annual audits by independent firms for all councils in the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Minister for Local Government is not here. The Question is deferred to Tuesday next week.

(Question deferred)

Next Question by Mr. Mwandawiro!

Question No.405

WATER PROJECTS INITIATED IN
WUNDANYI SINCE 2003

Mr. Mwandawiro asked the Minister for Water and Irrigation to name the water projects that have been initiated by her Ministry in Wundanyi Constituency since 2003 to date.

The Assistant Minister for Water and Irrigation (Mr. Munyes): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

My Ministry has initiated several water supply projects in Wundanyi Constituency in 2003. Some of these projects have been co-funded directly by the Ministry and the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) while others have received financial assistance from various donor agencies including Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Plan International, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the European Union (EU). These projects are at various stages of completion as follows: Changa-Mukanderini, 100 per cent complete; Tangaza-Vigongoni, 95 per cent completed; Mwanza, 5 per cent completed; Wundanyi-Witu which is under rehabilitation is 10 per cent complete; Mungeleni Dam is 5 per cent complete; Ariganga is 30 per cent complete; Gongolulu Primary School is 100 per cent complete; Chanyonyi-Kiroro is 5 per cent complete; Katumaisha-Mbololo is 10 per cent complete; Dafu is 5 per cent complete; Chazeni-Faragha-Mlila is 50 per cent complete.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as my Ministry is continuing with the implementation of the above water supply projects, in addition, through the Coast Water Services Board, it will rehabilitate one dam and sink one borehole in Kishushe Location of Wundanyi Constituency during this financial year.

Mr. Mwandawiro: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for answering the Question. The reason why I asked this Question is that, in my constituency, half of the money allocated to the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) goes to water projects. Up to now, we have not seen the Government's hand in these projects. All these figures indicate that there are some projects which have been completed, but, in the real sense, none of them has been completed. In fact, none of the projects can be said to be 95 per cent complete. How much money will the Government actually put directly into the named projects so that they are completed during this financial year?

Mr. Munyes: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said before, the Government, in collaboration with other agencies, is doing a lot with regard to this matter. This financial year, we will embark on the rehabilitation of all rural water supplies at a cost of Kshs5 million. The Government also intends

to spend Kshs11.5 million on the conservation of water structures which are mainly dams. On ground water development, that is, construction of boreholes, we will spend Kshs12 million during this financial year. The other projects are already ongoing and it is not true that the Government is not doing much. In fact, it is the Government of Kenya which is digging the Saghasa Vighombonyi borehole at a cost of Kshs18 million. The total budget for the project is Kshs23 million and we have spent Kshs18 million.

Another case of Government intervention is the Aringanga Water Project where we had proposed to spend Kshs1.5 million. In the Kakimwaita Water Project, we are supposed to spend Kshs37 million, but we have only spent Kshs1 million up to now. In the Chazeni-Faragha-Mlila Water Project we have planned to spend Kshs200,000. All these projects are possible as a result of the Government's intervention.

Mr. Mwandawiro: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the water project at Ngiraini Dam is very important in Wundanyi Constituency. It covers three locations and part of Mwatate Constituency. Could the Minister consider putting all the money available in the water project this financial year? We will be ready to collaborate with the Government in that respect even if it means adding some money from the CDF towards that project.

Mr. Munyes: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I appreciate that move. I have already discussed with the hon. Member the importance of that dam. We agreed that we would shift resources towards the water project at the dam and he could give part of the CDF money towards the same.

Question No.258

ELECTRIFICATION OF MARKET
CENTRES IN MOLO CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Mukiri asked the Minister for Energy when his Ministry will provide electricity to Mau-Narok and Naishi centres in Molo Constituency.

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply. Mau-Narok Centre is projected to get electricity under Phase II of the French-funded rural electrification programme whose implementation will commence in the Financial Year 2005/2006. With regard to Naishi Centre, the Ministry of Energy will consider implementation of supply of power to the same centre since, so far, we have already received an amended priority list from the Nakuru District Development Committee (DDC).

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to amend the written answer that the hon. Member was given since it does not contain the information I have just given to the House.

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to thank the Assistant Minister for the answer. However, he talked of Phase II of the French-funded rural electrification programme and we all know that, that is donor money. The Assistant Minister has already set a period within which the programme should commence. Could he confirm that the money has already been received now that donor money is subject to conditionalities? Could we possibly say that the money is there?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the French themselves are implementing the programme. I assured the House that we signed the agreement in May, this year. They are already on the ground carrying out survey work and, by the beginning of next year, the actual construction work will commence.

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has not answered my question. I asked him whether they have access to the donor funding. I wish also to know why the Ministry keeps on relying on the DDCs when at one point we were told that, that is not the policy of the NARC Government. Could we, then, say that projects will never be supplied with electricity unless and until they have gone through the respective DDCs?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think I answered his first supplementary question. I said that we are not receiving the money directly as a Ministry. The donor himself is going to implement the project, but with our support. The hon. Member should rest assured that this project will take place. This has been done before elsewhere and it is not a new thing that we are implementing.

With regard to the DDCs, we have not come up with any other good method of implementing projects per district. At the end of the day, we are supposed to harmonise these projects in every district, otherwise some constituencies in the district would be left behind and thereby feel discriminated against.

Question No.129

TITLE DEEDS FOR KAITI
CONSTITUENCY RESIDENTS

Mr. Ndambuki asked the Minister for Lands and Housing whether he could inform the House when residents of Kaumoni, Kivani and Watema locations will be issued with title deeds.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr. Mungatana): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

The land owners of Kauti Adjudication Section in Watema Location can collect their title deeds from the District Lands Registrar.

Kaumoni and Kivani locations as well as Kasunguni Adjudication Section in Watema Location, are still at various stages of the adjudication process and residents are advised to be patient until the process is completed.

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for the answer. However, I wish to remind him that Kauti Adjudication Section is in Kithembe Location and not Watema Location as he has put it.

Kaumoni adjudication was done in 1975. The reason why the Ministry has not issued title deeds to the people of Kaumoni is that there is a section of the forest which the Ministry claims people have encroached into. Recently, the District Commissioner, Makueni, toured that area and they agreed with the Forest Department on the boundaries. Could the Assistant Minister now consider releasing the title deeds now that it is 30 years ago since adjudication was done?

Mr. Mungatana: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, land adjudication section in Kaumoni was temporarily stopped because of the boundary dispute with Thangu Forest. The hon. Member has just informed the House that the DC visited the area and they agreed on the boundaries. However, I would like the hon. Member to note that it is the Forest Department that must communicate to us. So, if they do that, then I will ensure that the title deeds are issued. However, this information has not formally come to our Ministry.

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the DC did not visit the area this year or last year; he did so in 2002. In fact, I was among the people who visited the area together with the DC, Makueni. It was agreed that the District Forest Officer writes to the Ministry of Lands and Housing to confirm our agreement. What has happened now is that more people have been sent on the ground and they are now taking more land from the citizens. Could the Assistant Minister stop this act so that we can follow the agreement that we entered into with the DC, Makueni, and the Forest Department?

Mr. Mungatana: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to repeat that if the hon. Member can ensure that we get the formal communication, we will ensure that the title deeds are issued. We do not want to have a situation where we get into conflict with the Forest Department. It has

happened before whereby either the Ministry of Lands and Housing or the Office of the President starts the process of demarcation and then the Forest Department claims that the forest land was allocated illegally. A conflict, thus, ensues. I would request the hon. Member to follow up the matter personally and we shall assist him.

Question No.214

TERMINAL DUES FOR FORMER
TIMBER SIZERS WORKERS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. C. Kilonzo is out of the country with the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) Committee. Therefore, this Question is deferred generally.

(Question deferred)

That ends Question Time! Under Standing Order No.69, hon. Nyachae has requested that he makes a Personal Statement, through the indulgence of the House.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

ALLOCATION OF LAND TO SANSORA
OIL MILLS LIMITED

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a Personal Statement on land allocation to Sansora Oil Mills Limited.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I seek your indulgence to make clarification on an issue which cropped up during the debate on the Motion about land, last week on Wednesday Morning. During the debate, hon. Muturi alleged that Sansora Oil Mills Limited, of which I am its Chairman, was allocated public land in Kisii in July, 2005. Clearly, hon. Muturi's allegation was based on political mischief and was made in bad faith. The correct position is that Sansora Oil Mills Limited was allocated an industrial plot to build an oil mill in 1985. The plot is behind Nyanza Research Station and next to Kisii Bottlers. Construction of the factory was completed and commissioned by His Excellency the retired President in 1986. The company has not been allocated any other plot since then. Hon. Muturi and his friends are invited to visit the factory to see and assess whether it was constructed after July, 2005.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to comment on the document, which was tabled on the basis of mischief by someone who has no background information as to when the project was started and how long the factory has existed. However, for the sake of clarification to this House about the factory, I wish to lay on the Table the relevant document to show that the allocation of the plot was procedurally done. For the information of this House, Sansora Oil Mills Limited is part of Sansora Group Limited, which has substantial investments in various sub-sectors of this country. It employs hundreds of Kenyans and, indeed, contributes substantially to its tax obligations. We pray and hope that cheap politics will be kept out of our economic activities and investments. In this case, the allegation was made simply because the Chairman is a politician. I will table the document which proves when the land in question was allocated.

(Mr. Nyachae laid the document on the Table)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well, as hon. Members are aware, Personal Statements, under Standing Order No.69, are not subject to debate. Therefore, we will move on to the next Order.

MOTIONINTRODUCTION OF NEW LAND
TENURE SYSTEM

That, in view of the fact that many Kenyans lack land and aware that there is a wide disparity that exists in land ownership in this country and conscious that land is a resource-based commodity which is an important factor for agricultural, industrial and commercial development of our country; this House urges the Government to review the land policy in order to establish a new land tenure system to fix a ceiling on the amount of land that an individual can own depending on the type of use and where the land is located.

(Dr. Awiti on 28.9.2005)

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted
on 5.10.2005)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am informed that there is only 30 minutes remaining for this Motion. Therefore, I will call upon the Government Responder to respond to the Motion. Is he here?

An hon. Member: No!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: If he is not here, we will move on with Debate. Mr. Biwott, you can take 10 minutes!

Mr. Biwott: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to begin by rejecting this Motion and hope it will not see the light of day. This Motion has ill intentions and does not, in any way, support the development of this country. It is true that land is a vital resource, yet it is scarce in this country. Not every Kenyan possesses land. However, land is one of the sources of capital for development. It is necessary that it be used for economic purposes and be utilised to the maximum for the benefit of all Kenyans. The only way that land can be utilised to the maximum is if it is being used by people who are capable of managing and putting it into productive use. To limit the amount of land someone can own arbitrarily is not right. The right thing for us to do is to allow communities to continue owning land, which they have been owning and allow it to be managed the same way it has always been managed. Private property should be managed properly for the well-being of this country. Land ownership should only be limited; if it is not well utilised or abandoned. However, where land is productive and the owners have title deeds, it should be honoured. Title deeds should be respected because they are sacrosanct. The moment we cancel title deeds, we discourage the initiative of investors who ensure that land is utilised properly.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

I am surprised to learn that a very prominent Member of the "Orange" team is propagating this issue, yet it is---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Biwott! The remarks you are making concern matters which should be discussed outside this House.

Mr. Biwott: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was not my intention to bring up the issue because I do not like attacking anybody. I was only saying that this is precisely why the

Kalenjins are opposed to the proposed Constitution. They fear that their land will be expropriated and limited. They think that the whole process will be done in an arbitrary way, such that they might be given a minimal amount of land which can only be used for subsistence economic production. They fear that the greater part of it may be given to other people. This is the scare which is going on in the Rift Valley Province. The reason why people in this area have joined the "Orange" team, in its campaigns, is because the team seems to be sharing the same ideas with them.

The reason why the orange came in is because they are also to blame. They were complaining about the Draft Constitution saying that it is not catering for the interests and welfare of Kenyans. I am therefore, opposing this Motion because it is not promoting the interests of Kenyans. Rather, it is discouraging Kenyans from investing in land while other countries in the world are investing in the most efficient way in large farms.

If you go to Europe today, the land is becoming larger rather than smaller. In a developed economy the number of people employed on the land will be nothing more than 3 per cent or 4 per cent. That is an indication of a progressive economy. If you start dividing some land you will then reduce the entire country into a subsistent economy and, therefore, people will not achieve much.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Hon. Members, we had indicated that the time left was for the Government Responder and the Mover. I will now call upon the Mover to respond.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr. Mungatana): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to thank Dr. Awiti for bringing this Motion to this House. This House has, on many occasions, raised the issue of inequitable distribution of resources in this country. One of the basic resources in this country is land. Time and again, we in this House have been informed through Motions and Questions that there are many Kenyans outside there who lack land and are living as squatters in the midst of a lot of land that is available within the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir the question has remained begging because, how can some Kenyan citizens own large tracts of land in the midst of so many other Kenyans who have continued to remain poor and landless? Since our Government took over, we have done what we have been able to do within the limited legal framework to try and settle as many Kenyans as we can. One of the things we have been doing of late is to accept and acknowledge that although the NARC administration has the good intention of settling the landless and redistributing these portions of land and settling squatters all over the country, we have had to contend with the fact---

QUORUM

Mr. Serut: On a point order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We are debating a very important Motion on land. If I look around there is no quorum.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): You have raised the matter and that is sufficient. I stand advised. There is no quorum and, therefore, I order that the Division Bell be rung.

(The Division Bell was rung)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisio): Hon. Members, due to lack of quorum, this House is adjourned until this afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.30 a.m.