

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 27th April, 2005

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

Prof. Oniang'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:-

Mr. Speaker: Order! What are you doing? You beg to move what?

(Prof. Oniang'o laughed)

Mr. Speaker: This is not a laughing matter! It is a procedural lapse!

Prof. Oniang'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise. I am doing this for the first time.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, proceed!

Prof. Oniang'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:- THAT, in accordance with Standing Order 101A(1), the Sugar (Amendment) Bill, No.2, be referred to the Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources.

Mr. Speaker: Prof. Oniang'o, what are you talking about?

Hon. Members: *Hatujafika huko!*

Prof. Oniang'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, am I wrong?

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

MEMBERS SHOULD ACQUAINT THEMSELVES WITH THE STANDING ORDERS

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members!

This is called jumping the gun! However, I am really worried, seeing as I did yesterday, Prof. Oniang'o, among others, in a very strange company and, complaining as she and others did, that the Standing Orders of this House need to be changed, when they do not even understand them! So, please, understand them before you propose that they be amended. Wait until the Bill is called.

At least, for heaven's sake, understand the Standing Orders the way they are today before you call for their amendment.

The Assistant Minister for Roads and Public Works (Eng. Toro): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. During the last Session, Mr. Kiunjuri requested the Chair to arrange for a workshop for hon. Members of Parliament to go through the Standing Orders.

Now the Chair can understand why it is important for it to arrange for the workshop.

Mr. Speaker: Well, there is really nothing earth-shaking about reading that document containing, as it does, about 172 rules. It is quite plain and easy to understand.

However, that having been said, we will try to see whether we can redeem the hon. Members in the time left. We hope to try and redeem them sometime in May when we go on recess. Actually, we are targeting 25th May, 2005. In the meantime, could you take hold of your Standing Orders, read and attempt to understand them?

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE TO COME FIRST ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, we have to change the order of Questions on the Order Paper, so that we always begin with Questions by Private Notice. To ensure this is done, Questions by Private Notice will always be first on the appendix.

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

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Angwenyi, will you sit down? That is an attempt again to say you have stood on so many points of order! What is it?

(Laughter)

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe it is my right to speak in this House, or even to rise on a point of order---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Angwenyi! What is your point of order?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe I would not like to be dictated to!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Angwenyi! What is your point of order?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are not being fair to me!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Angwenyi, in the presence of this assembled House, what is your point of order?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this morning Mr. Munya rose on a point of order when the Chair changed the order of events. Yesterday you gave a directive that we will be starting with Questions by Private Notice---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Angwenyi! That is not a point of order! I have just made a ruling and directed the Clerk of the National Assembly on what to do. He will do so under my directive. Hon. Members, you will not assist me in that endeavour to change the format; the Questions by Private Notice come first and Ordinary Questions come second; the rationale being that Questions by Private Notice are urgent by nature and, therefore, must be dealt with first. Ordinary Questions can wait to be deferred in the event we do not reach them. That is the rationale. That is how it will be.

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Raila): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We fully agree with your ruling on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, however, Questions by Private Notice need to, and must be those of urgent nature, particularly those which are dealing with emergencies. They should not be used by hon. Members to jump the queue in order to be asked earlier. For example, I am wondering about two Questions on today's Order Paper. I do not see why Questions No.1 and No.2 by Private Notice cannot come by way of just Ordinary Questions. I do not understand why they are being treated as Questions by Private Notice.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Let me say the following: All of you are actually attempting to no avail. You know, you do not just become a Speaker. You have to be elected. So, Questions are of a private nature if, in the opinion of the Speaker, they appear urgent. The judge is the Speaker! I think whoever approved this Question, whether me or my Deputy, will have deemed it to be right. We

live with it. But, that having been said, I think there is merit in a complaint that certain Questions are being brought as Questions by Private Notice. I have used my discretion in the past and I will continue to do so, to put them in their correct place. If they are not urgent, I will downgrade them. I have always done that! So, shall we proceed now?

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

Mr. Speaker: Out of order! We must proceed now!

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

ATTACK ON MIKINDURI MARKET

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Mikinduri Market was attacked on the night of 24th, March, 2005, property stolen and one person, Mr. Stephen Kairira, burnt to death in his house?

(b) Is he also aware that the attack was reported to Mikinduri Police Station the same day at 10.00 p.m., but the police did not respond until 10.00 a.m. the following morning?

(c) When will a vehicle be made available to the police station as promised to the House last year to beef up security?

This Question is very urgent even though the "Prime Minister" is refusing.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Munya! You are not the Speaker! So, you relax!

Mr. Assistant Minister, please, proceed!

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

(a) Yes, I am aware that Mikinduri Market was attacked on the night of 24th, March, 2005. During the incident, one person, a Mr. Stephen Kairira, was burnt to death in his house while Elijah Mwenda, who had panga cuts, was admitted at Miathene Sub-district Hospital.

(b) The true position is that the police responded immediately after they received the report at 10.00 p.m.; from two members of the public. It is, indeed, the police who rushed Mr. Elijah Mwenda to hospital. He was admitted overnight, before being discharged the following day.

(c) The promise made to the House last year, that a vehicle would be allocated to Mikinduri Police Station, was adhered to. The station has a Toyota Land Cruiser Vehicle, Reg. No.GK A904F, which was, indeed, used during the incident at Mikinduri Market.

Mr. Munya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Assistant Minister for the answer, even though some of the facts he has given are not correct. The police did not respond to the call until 10.00 a.m. the following day. That is because they were busy getting drunk in the market.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we speak now, on 9th, March, 2005, the Chief of Kiguchwa Location was beaten up and cut! He is now lying in hospital. There is general insecurity in the area because the police in Mikinduri are doing nothing. What is the Assistant Minister going to do to make sure that there are police officers who are ready to work at Mikinduri Police Station?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have no information that the police were getting drunk at the trading centre when that matter was reported. We are not aware of that allegation. As far as we are concerned, the police responded as expeditiously as possible and managed to get there on time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as the general insecurity in the area is concerned, that might be a subject of a Ministerial Statement, if the hon. Member so requires. Indeed, he tells me that there was another attack yesterday. We are not aware of any misconduct or laxity on the part of the serving police officers there. If any evidence is brought to our attention, we shall act appropriately.

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the time the Assistant Minister was appointed, there is a remarkable difference from the past. He has been honest and in every occasion when we ask Questions, he says he is aware of the facts concerning security. What is lacking from the Assistant Minister is action. What is the Assistant Minister doing to arrest the general insecurity? Every time, there is an attack and he is aware. Why is he not arresting the insecurity that is in our country?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me thank the hon. Member for the compliment. Let me say that security has many challenges. This morning, His Excellency the President was launching the Community Policing Strategy at Ruai. We also launched the Police Strategic Plan and Reform Programme this morning. That is part of the on-going process.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, but in terms of getting intelligence on crime in reasonable time, we hope that when that strategy works, members of the public will be able to provide us with the relevant intelligence to pre-empt a situation, rather than come here and discuss a situation that is already past. The measures are in place.

Dr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, part (b) of the Question states that the incident was reported at 10.00 p.m., and the police arrived at 10.00 a.m.! Is that what the Assistant Minister calls prompt?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do hope---

(A mobile phone rang)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Can somebody put off that mobile phone? Please, put it off whoever you are!

An hon. Member: Mr. Wanjala!

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I do not have a mobile phone and---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wanjala! I did not mention you at all! Who mentioned your name?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is these Opposition guys!

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Mr. Wanjala, please respond to any hon. Member who has been given permission and authority by the Speaker to ask a question! Do not respond to any other hon. Member! I do not call them like that!

Mr. Assistant Minister, please, proceed!

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to part (b) of the Question, I said that the police responded quite fast. They found the victim at the scene and took him to hospital. We have said that the report was received at 10.00 p.m. and they acted promptly.

Mr. Speaker: Last question! Hon. Member for Tigania East!

Mr. Munya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have stated here before that it is not the police who took the victim to hospital. That is because they reported the next morning. I have also said that the Chief of Kiguchwa Location was attacked on 9th, March by a local thug known by the name of Kobia. Kobia is still free and living in the village. If the police are working, why have they not arrested him? He

attacked and almost killed the local chief who is now recuperating at Meru General Hospital. Is the Assistant Minister prepared to transfer a police officer who has served there for more than ten years? He has even married from the local village!

(Laughter)

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the police officers are, indeed, working. If you look at the incidents that result into those forms of violence, they are basically land disputes. Those were relatives fighting over land. It was very difficult for the police to know or predict that the following day, there would be some fracas between members of the same family.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, however, I have said and emphasised here that, if there is any evidence against a police officer for laxity or failure to discharge his duties, please bring it to my attention. We shall act appropriately.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question! The hon. Member for Amagoro Constituency!

PERSISTENT POWER BLACKOUTS IN BUSIA

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Busia Town and its neighbouring market centres of Bumala, Matayos, Mundika, Alupe, Andorom, Adungosi and Malaba are receiving power supply for a maximum of three hours a day?

(b) What is the cause of the persistent power blackouts in Busia Town and the market centres mentioned and what is the Ministry doing to ensure constant and consistent supply of electricity in these areas?

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

(a) Yes, I am aware that there have been frequent power interruptions in Busia Town and its environs.

(b) Power supply interruptions experienced in the past one month can be attributed to various causes. First, it could be due to unestablished causes, especially during the rainy and stormy weather seasons. Secondly, there could be failure of equipment in service.

Thirdly, felling of trees next to power lines and some incidences of vandalism could cause interruption.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, to reduce power supply interruptions, the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC), has intensified maintenance activities along the lines and has also embarked on a system re-enforcement project which entails extending the 2KV voltage line directly to Busia from Bungoma at an approximated cost of Kshs56 million.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on completion, this will increase the power supply availability and quality in Busia Town and its environs.

Mr. Ojaamong: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Busia Town and its neighbouring towns have permanently been experiencing permanent power blackouts to the extent that institutions and various industries have been affected.

I want to ask the Assistant Minister to tell us who was contracted to supply the sub-standard transformers which are being used to serve those areas. Was the Assistant Minister satisfied that those transformers were good enough?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was not aware of issue of sub-standard transformers.

Once a Question regarding that issue is raised, I will answer you accordingly and with the full facts.

Mr. Wanjala: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Although areas like Budalangi and Funyula are not mentioned in this query, these areas are equally facing the same problem. The areas have no power supply. We have built a fish-processing plant and a cold room which cannot be opened because they are supposed to preserve fish which is perishable. The power supply is unreliable. What urgent measures is the Assistant Minister putting in place so that the economic empowerment of the people of Busia District is maintained?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, most of the fishing lines which do not have power supply are being taken care of in the new programme which is about to be implemented.

Secondly, the line which supplies power to Busia District is 182 kilometres away, which is a very long distance. We experience a lot of interruptions in-between. But, we are now constructing one in Bungoma Town with 132 KV, and I want to assure the House that those will be problems of the past.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.168

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS BY NACC

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

- (a) what the total disbursement available for distribution by the National Aids Control Council (NACC) is;
- (b) how much the total disbursement in the year 2003/2004 was; and,
- (c) whether he could lay on the Table a list of disbursed funds per province, district and constituency.

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

(a) The total amount of disbursement by the NACC under the Kenya Disaster HIV/AIDS Response Project is Kshs3.9 billion. All the amount has been committed under the three components since the Financial Year ending June, 2005.

(b) A total of Kshs579,472,403 was disbursed in the Financial Year 2003/2004.

(c) Yes, I will lay on the Table, the list of the disbursed funds.

Mr. Karaba: Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. What is surprising is that the Assistant Minister's response is different from the reply I have. He is talking of Kshs3.9 million while what I have reads Kshs3.9 billion. He talked of Kshs3.9 million and continues to say that there is a lot of money which was disbursed. In my copy of the written response, the figure of the disbursed amount reads Kshs579 million. I am just wondering whether what he has is what I have. That is my last question.

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the sake of the hon. Member for Kerugoya-Kutus, I will repeat the answer. The figure in the first part of the answer is Kshs3.9 billion. For part "b", I said Kshs579,472,403 had been disbursed.

Dr. Galgallo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the Minister's answer, you can see that, out of Kshs3.9 billion, they were able to disburse only about Kshs500 million. This is because this Department is placed in the wrong Ministry for selfish reasons so that the Office of the President can control funds for the HIV/AIDS Response Project. Having said that, this project only gives Kshs45,000 per month for administration at the constituency level per quarter. This money has not

been disbursed for the past six or seven months. Could the Assistant Minister consider, as a matter of urgency, increasing that allocation for administration and disburse the money in arrears to all constituencies officials so that they can manage the affairs of their constituencies efficiently?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker Sir, if the hon. Member heard me right, there are three components which have been included in the disbursement of this money. These are the NACC units, the public sector which is in all Ministries' departments and institutions, the NACC and its structures including operations and support of implementation of community-based initiatives. The NACC received Kshs702.5 million. The National Aids Control Units in the Ministries received Kshs772.5 million. The NACC and its structures received Kshs907.5 million, and the support community-based initiative projects received Kshs225 million. That totals to Kshs3.9 billion. No, it totals to Kshs2.25 billion! So, the hon. Member's statement is erroneous.

Dr. Ali: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. What is this Assistant Minister telling us? Why is he avoiding to answer the question he has been asked concerning administration, and money concerned, instead of telling us the general history?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member was a bit patient, he would have known that I was trying to answer the first question.

It is true that the amount of money allocated to constituencies--- I want to clear with the Press that hon. Members have not directly been put to handle this money that the hon. Member talked about. The money is little and needs to be increased. I will consider that.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the constituency funds indicated against each constituency are disbursed through the Community-Based Organisations (CBOs). The CBOs then prepare for the considerations by the Constituency AIDS Control Committees (CACCs) of which the hon. Member is only just a patron.

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have seen a very interesting case where the National Aids Control Council (NACC) is even giving money to NGOs and CBOs who are not recommended by the CACC. Some people go and form their own parallel committees to the ones Members of Parliament are supposed to be patrons and yet the NACC continues giving them money. Could the Assistant Minister inform us why this is happening? Secondly, if he is not able to control it, could this money now go to the CACCs so that they can disburse it to the NGOs and CBOs in the constituencies?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member's concern is actually a serious concern that all hon. Members have addressed. However, it is true that most hon. Members of this Parliament, more often than not, are not interested in those committees proceedings. My appeal, therefore, is that every hon. Member participates fully in the deliberations so that, that accusation can hold water. Anyhow, may I get more information from a hon. Member of any CBOs that he knows that might have actually got disbursement without going through the normal procedure?

Mr. Karaba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister inform the House the criteria used to give out this money per constituency?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the NACC does verify the proposals through a technical team. The reasons for the approval must be factorial and it depends on the intended projects most of which are approved by the CACCs throughout the country. However, the present procedure is that the proposals approvals are then funded through the CBOs bank accounts in quarterly tranches.

Archbishop Ondiek: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask Question No.285 although I have not received the written answer from the Minister.

PROVISION OF A VEHICLE TO UGUNJA DO

Archbishop Ondiek asked the Minister of State, Office of the President, whether he could inform the House why he has not provided a vehicle to the District Officer, Ugunja, as promised to the House last year.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry if the hon. Member does not have the written answer. I have already indicated that I had asked my staff to bring it ahead of my arrival here but, with your permission, can I proceed to give the answer?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, go ahead!

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

(a) The District Officer, Ugunja, was allocated a vehicle registration number GK A487A as was promised. However, the vehicle had a mechanical problem and, at the moment, is in a garage.

Currently, the DO, Ugunja shares a vehicle registration GK M174 with the DO, Ukwala, which is within Ugenya Constituency.

Archbishop Ondiek: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is not being honest with his answer. How can a new vehicle have mechanical problems and it is not even a year old? How can he say that the vehicle was sent to Ugunja and yet it has not? It has not been sent up to now. In which garage is this vehicle lying?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I personally talked to the District Commissioner (DC) this morning and I asked him the whereabouts of this vehicle and he told me the problem with it is the turbo charger which will cost them quite some amount of money. However, let me say that the hon. Member is very lucky. He comes from a constituency where literally every DO has a vehicle. He should be very grateful for that. We have a pool vehicle in addition which is a Toyota Land Cruiser registration number GK 427H. That is the one that is being shared between this particular DO and another.

Archbishop Ondiek: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not understand the hon. Assistant Minister. He is not being honest because I do not know which district he is talking about when he says that we have a pool vehicle. Which district is this? I have never seen a district in Ugenya area. We only have divisional offices in Ugenya and the vehicle that he is talking about is not there.

Why can the Assistant Minister not be honest and tell us that the DC is misleading him and he should be able to come up with the correct information?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the word of the DC against that of the hon. Member. I would really appeal to the hon. Member that, once he gets home over this weekend, he should go and ask the DC the whereabouts of this particular vehicle without a turbo charger.

Archbishop Ondiek: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for an hon. Member to go and ask the DC about the whereabouts of a vehicle when he does not have any role in that jurisdiction?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is upon the Assistant Minister to find out from the DC.

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have said that I have found this out from the DC this morning but the hon. Member is contradicting what the DC told me.

Hon. Members: Which DC is this?

Mr. M. Kariuki: This is the DC, Siaya!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Before 25th May, when we shall very kindly facilitate the new and old hon. Members to visit the Standing Orders booklet and to understand rules of procedure, I will ask you, at least, for the time being, to read the booklet and in the meantime, just recollect what

happens in village meetings; whether people shout at one another. So, please let us not shout at one another.

So, if you want to ask a question, stand up. Even in the village meetings, people do not shout at each another.

Prof. Olweny: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister was asked about the whereabouts of the vehicle and he has not given an answer to that question. Is he in order to evade that question?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do hope the hon. Member was paying attention to my answer. I have said that this vehicle, GK A487A, has a mechanical problem with the turbo charger and is currently in a garage.

Hon. Members: Where?

Mr. Speaker: It is somewhere in Kenya!

(Laughter)

We cannot spend all our time on this Question. Next Question by hon. Ndolo!

Question No.164

MANHANDLING OF MEMBERS OF
PARLIAMENT BY POLICE

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

- (a) whether he could inform the House the steps he is taking against police officers who manhandle hon. Members of Parliament while making arrests in and around Parliament Buildings; and,
- (b) whether he could further elaborate how many such cases had been reported since 2002.

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

(a) I am not aware of any hon. Member who has been mishandled by police officers in or within Parliament Buildings.

(b) There are no reports of complaints by any hon. Member at any police station within Nairobi that they have been mishandled in or within Parliament Buildings. Police officers are well versed with the privileges and immunities enjoyed by Members of Parliament while in and within the Parliament Buildings.

Mr. Ndolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is misleading this House. However, I will make him aware. Everybody knows that Mr. Serut was mishandled and arrested. Prof. Olweny was also mishandled.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ndolo! I think we must get everything in the correct perspective. You must understand that the immunity from arrest of a Member of Parliament, either within Parliament precincts or coming to Parliament or going out, only relates to execution of a civil debt. It does not relate to criminal cases. That is what the law says. We must all appreciate that fact. I want to put this clearly because it has returned to haunt this House, on and off, over time. Supposing an hon. Member in this Chamber and, God forbid it, were to stab the other to death, will the law watch helplessly until that Member leaves this House? Obviously not! The law will immediately apprehend that hon. Member. That is the law and that is how it is.

An hon. Member: Which Section of the law?

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Your immunity from arrest is under Section 5, Cap.6. The marginal note reads: "Freedom from arrest for civil debts during session." The full Section reads:

"No Member shall be liable to arrest for any civil debt except the contraction of which constitutes a criminal offence, whilst going to, attending at or returning from a sitting of the Assembly or any committee."

This, in essence, means if you have a civil debt, you cannot be arrested. But if you contracted that debt in a criminal manner, you will be arrested. Forget about a civil or criminal matter; if you try to commit any crime within the precincts of Parliament, you will be arrested. That is the law.

Mr. Ndolo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Just last week, the boss of the Flying Squad came to Parliament and wanted to arrest me! Did I commit a crime when I just went ahead and sung my song? If I can be allowed to sing it in this House, I--

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ndolo! Member of Parliament for Makadara Constituency, at least, I can assure you the following: If you sing it in the House, you will not wait for any police officer to come and arrest you. I will get rid of you long before the police officers arrive.

(Laughter)

Mr. Ndolo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House if singing is a crime?

Mr. Muchiri: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think it is against our Standing Orders for a Member to ask a Question where he has direct interest.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! That is exactly what I told you to desist from; particularly those on my left hand side! Mr. Ndolo, I thought it is not honourable to ask this Question. You had better ask your colleagues to do so on your behalf. This is because you have personalised the issue. In fact, there are rulings that hon. Members should not raise personal and parochial issues. So, this is now becoming too parochial.

Proceed, Mr. M. Kariuki!

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must thank you for amplifying on the law. I wish to reiterate here that the police officers are not out to harass any Member of this House. Also, we have not received any complaints from Mr. Serut, Prof. Olweny and even my very good friend who is also a very good musician. He has not filed any complaint anywhere which can be investigated.

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Ndolo has told us the mistake he made. But what did Mr. Serut do that warrants him to be mentioned every time by the hon. Members?

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Wanjala! Hon. Members, take note that there is a relevant Standing Order that, if you rise on a frivolous point of order, you will see the outside of this Chamber. So, for now I am serving a notice.

Hon. Members: Out! Out!

Mr. Speaker: What is wrong with the Opposition side? Could I have Mr. Billow and company save this House from this unnecessary and unbecoming interruption? Try to sit in an honourable and orderly fashion!

I think we have finished with this Question. Question No.138 by Mr. Shaaban is deferred.

Question No.138

PENSION DUES FOR THE LATE MR. MOHAMMED A. GADAFEY

(Question deferred)

Mr. Speaker: Did the Assistant Minister for Finance get to know that Question No.138 was to be deferred? I am sorry, I did not inform you!

Dr. Khalwale: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to find out why the Chair has not allowed any supplementary questions on Question No.164 because I have one.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Dr. Khalwale! You will be the first one! That is a frivolous point of order. You are, therefore, expelled for the balance of the day! Please, leave now!

Dr. Khalwale: What did I do?

Mr. Speaker: Order! There is really nothing to be stunned about. I gave notice that if you rise on a frivolous point of order, you will go out. Since you have done it, you become the first example. Now, you must leave! You are a stranger now. You have no mouth to speak!

(Dr. Khalwale withdrew from the Chamber)

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Obwocha): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You queried whether we were ready to answer the Question by Mr. Shaaban. Yes, we are ready!

Mr. Speaker: I said that I am sorry not to have informed you in advance. I was asking whether you heard.

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Obwocha): When are we going to answer it?

Mr. Speaker: I really do not know. I think he will come and arrange with the Clerk of the National Assembly.

(Loud consultations)

Maybe, hon. Members, you can give me powers to collectively punish the Front Bench on my left!

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Obwocha): Granted!

Mr. Speaker: I really plead with you hon. Members! Please, relax. Next Question! The hon. Member for Bura!

Question No.059

REPAIR OF BURA-GARISSA ROAD

Mr. Wario asked the Minister for Roads and Public Works:-

(a) whether he is aware that a section of the Bura-Garissa Road is seriously dilapidated; and,

(b) whether he could ensure that the said road is repaired urgently.

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

(a) I am aware that a section of Bura-Garissa Road is seriously dilapidated.

(b) Owing to the state of that road, my Ministry has prioritised it for a major rehabilitation.

Mr. Wario: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for that answer. But my question is: When will the rehabilitation start?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is one of the major trunk roads in the country. The road in question is about 100 kilometres long. So, it requires a lot of money - approximately Kshs190 million - for complete rehabilitation. However, we might not be able to avail the whole amount in one year. So, starting from the next financial year, we are programming that road for continuous rehabilitation. We hope to do it in the next three years.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question! The hon. Member for Wajir North!

Question No.077

LACK OF MEDICAL FACILITIES
IN WAJIR NORTH

Dr. Ali asked the Minister for Health:-

(a) whether she is aware that Bute and Buna health centres have no adequate staff;

(b) whether she is also aware that the said health centres have no electricity and the solar panels are not functional; and,

(c) what urgent measures she is taking to provide drugs, staff and electricity to the facilities, including other dispensaries in the constituency.

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

(a) I am aware that the constituency has two sub-district hospitals and five dispensaries, despite the district's wide staff shortage. But Bute and Buna Sub-district hospitals are fully staffed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry recruited 35 nurses, one clinical officer, two physiotherapists and two medical engineers for the district during the 2003/2004 Financial Year and deployment has already been made.

(b) I am aware that Bute and Buna health facilities have been using solar electrical panels, but they are currently faulty. The District Health Management Team has made arrangements with DANIDA's District-Based Health Support Programme to rehabilitate solar electricity and water works in the two sub-district hospitals in the 2005/2006 Financial Year.

(c) There are adequate drug stock levels----

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! The Assistant Minister cannot be heard and I am sure the Questioner cannot hear the Assistant Minister. So, please, give one another audience, so that we can participate in meaningful discussions.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Konchella): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

(c) There are adequate drug stock levels in all health facilities in the district, including those in Wajir Constituency.

Dr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am laughing because the Assistant Minister assumes that Wajir North Constituency is the whole Wajir District. In part (a) of the Question, he said that it is "fairly staffed"! What do you mean by that?. You said "fully", but your written answer shows "fairly"!

Could you explain what you mean by saying that the sub-district hospitals and dispensaries are staffed?

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, unless I repeat my answer--- I have said that last year, we posted staff to the district. I have a list of some of the staff who went to those sub-district hospitals. In Bute, there is one clinical officer, two nurses, two public health officers, one laboratory technician, pharmaceutical technologist, driver and three casuals. Those officers were sent there to beef up staffing levels. In Buna, there is one clinical officer, two nurses, a public health officer and two casuals who are providing services at the moment.

Dr. Galgalo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you heard the Assistant Minister say that the sub-district hospital is fully staffed. He went on to say that it has one clinical officer and two nurses. Surely, by any standards, a sub-district hospital should have a doctor as a bare minimum and, at least, 16 nurses! What do you mean by "it is adequately staffed"?

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that there are adequate staff to provide immediate and urgent services to the people. If there is need for more specialised treatment, then referrals could be made to the main district hospital.

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry promised to employ over 6,000 health workers this financial year. At the moment, we have a serious shortage of staff in most health centres. What is the progress about on that employment policy? Have you employed or not? If not, when?

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do agree and sympathise with the hon. Member because there is a critical shortage of staff countrywide. We were able to recruit only 300 people this financial year. They were to replace those who have retired, died or resigned. The Ministry is still looking for funds and once we receive them, we shall recruit more staff.

Dr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I request the Assistant Minister that, since we do not have enough staff in most health facilities in this country, and especially in northern areas, to get bright students from those areas and train them at medical training colleges. They will be more willing to work there than those who have been posted there from other areas.

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have always said that recruitment will be based on affirmative action, particularly from areas in North Eastern Province. So, if there are students who are qualified to join medical colleges, let them apply. We shall provide them with the necessary training.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member for Emuhaya. This will be the last question for today. Sorry, the hon. Member is bereaved. I will defer the Question for three weeks.

Question No.097

UPGRADING OF IPALI HEALTH CENTRE

(Question deferred)

Question No.051

SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY TO KURESOI CENTRE

Mr. Cheboi asked the Minister for Energy when Kuresoi Centre in Kuresoi Division in Kuresoi Constituency, will be supplied with electricity.

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

before I answer, I would like, for the last time, to plead with hon. Members to submit their lists. That is why I am issuing the first statement.

Implementation of the projects under the Rural Electrification Programme is currently based on the apparent ranking by the respective District Development Committees (DDCs).

In this respect, a circular letter was sent to the Nakuru DDC in 2004 asking them to submit to the Ministry five top projects per district for funding consideration over the next two to three years. However, Nakuru District has failed to submit its priority list up to now despite three reminders of September 2004, January 2005, and 6th April, 2005. It is, therefore, not possible for the Ministry to indicate when Kuresoi Centre in Kuresoi Constituency will get electricity.

However, the Ministry will consider implementation of power supply to the centre upon its inclusion in the priority list for rural electrification by the Nakuru DDC which is still being awaited.

Mr. Cheboi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very clear that Nakuru District has not submitted the priority list because most of the district does not need electricity. However, Kuresoi Constituency needs this electricity because it has never been considered in the last few years. I know that the Ministry can implement this project without necessarily referring to the DDC. Could he consider prioritizing this as the first project, since it is from Nakuru District and because I have raised the issue in the House which has more authority than the DDC?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member. The Ministry will consider it because of three factors. One, it is true that the Ogieks of this country have never seen a power line pass through their area. Two, the other day the hon. Member volunteered the services of his tribesmen to catch a mysterious animal that was terrorising goats in Subukia Constituency. That means that he is a good supporter of the--- He, therefore, can be considered.

We have two routes which we can use to get power to Kuresoi. For the first one which is the Olunguruone route, we will require Kshs21 million. We also have the Kericho-Chepchir route which is 14 kilometres. This will be less expensive. Once the cost estimates are done, we shall be able to implement.

Mr. Manoti: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems the Ministry of Energy has no control over the Kenya Power and Lighting Company. The Assistant Minister can stand here and promise an hon. Member that his constituency shall be supplied with electricity within a short period of time, but you can wait for a year or two without seeing anything happening in that respective area. Could the Assistant Minister tell us which difficulties he is experiencing with the Kenya Power and Lighting Company?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the past Government had no appropriate policy on capacity enhancement. Therefore, we are faced with an extremely high shortage of designers. We are training designers, and by the end of this month, we shall have trained 30 designers who will go to the field to work with contractors who are capable of contracting lines. We will also give the go-head to private investors or individuals who can contract their own lines to go ahead and we shall only supervise them. Otherwise, I agree that we have been promising hon. Members that we will provide electricity, but we have no capacity at the KPLC.

Mr. Cheboi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the good spirit of co-operation, Nakuru District has got six constituencies. According to the answer by the Assistant Minister, the Ministry is only considering five of the six constituencies. I presume that was because there was still one which was still in the Opposition. What are you doing to ensure that you give districts which are as large as Nakuru, extra slots so that you can cover at least one project per constituency? We have six constituencies and you have only considered five of them. This should be done in the good spirit of co-operation.

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Member has said, the area is co-operating. However, I hope we will be able to support the Bill that is coming before the House and the Bomas

Draft so that equality can be exercised in the whole country. Let us pass the new Constitution in this House so that we can be able to level the ground.

Mr. Speaker: There are three Questions we have not dealt with. These are the Question from the hon. Member for Sotik, the Question from Nominated Member, Ms. Mwau and the one from the hon. Member for Subukia.

I would like to ask Mr. Kimeto, to which day he would prefer the Question to be deferred to. Is it Tuesday or Wednesday next week?

An hon. Member: Tuesday!

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Kimeto not here? He is not here but, nevertheless, I will defer the Question to Tuesday.

Question No.042

LACK OF MOBILE TELEPHONE
SERVICES IN SOTIK

(Question deferred)

Mr. Speaker: The next one is by Ms. Mwau. Is Tuesday next week okay?

Ms. Mwau: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Question No.208

MEASURES TO STOP OFFENDING
MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS

(Question deferred)

Mr. Speaker: What of Mr. Wamwere?

Mr. Wamwere: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Wednesday is okay.

Mr. Speaker: Would you want it answered in the morning or afternoon?

Mr. Wamwere: In the morning. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you remember you said yesterday that this Question will be prioritised? That did not happen today.

Mr. Speaker: I am directing the Clerk-at-the-Table that it be on the top of the list.

Mr. Wamwere: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

Question No.029

DISMISSAL OF MR. GICHOBE WAGURA
BY TWAJENGA HOLDINGS

(Question deferred)

Mr. Speaker: That is the end of Question Time!

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Most times when Questions are deferred you will notice that some Ministries are always the last to

give replies to the hon. Members' Questions.

In any case, the hon. Members are disadvantaged. I tend to believe that you have authorised that whenever Questions are deferred, they should be prioritised. Let the Clerk's office also have a chance to put Questions from other Ministries on the Order Paper in a rotational manner so that we can also enjoy the chance to answer hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! I have no problem with that. We will do the best to ensure that hon. Members get equality and fairness before this House. We will try the best we can. All Ministries and hon. Members are equal before the eyes of the Speaker.

POINTS OF ORDER

RULING ON THE ICAD REPORT ON PERFORMANCE OF HON. MEMBERS

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Raila): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand here---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Mr. Raila has the Floor!

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Raila): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to seek your ruling on a matter which is of great importance and concern to this House. This is with regard to a report which has been given wide coverage from yesterday evening in the electronic media and today in the print media. This is a report purportedly produced by a pressure group called the Institute for Civic Affairs and Development purporting to be evaluating performance of hon. Members of Parliament.

It is not the principle but the manner in which this report has been prepared. Hon. Members represent the people of this country. If someone were to evaluate the performance of hon. Members, he must use a very objective criteria in doing so. Otherwise, he would end up poisoning the minds and views of the public against Members of Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are aware of the roles of hon. Members of Parliament. The media ought to be aware of the roles of Members of Parliament, which is representation, legislation and acting as a watchdog. The work of hon. Members of Parliament is not only contribution to debates from the Floor of the House. Hon. Members of Parliament have got other very important roles to play; for example, in the Committees. We regularly debate here reports produced by Committees of this House. Yesterday was one occasion when we debated a Report produced by a Committee chaired by my friend, the hon. Member for Kabete, Mr. Muite. Such a Report is the product of many hours of deliberation by hon. Members of Parliament.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, other examples are the Public Accounts Committee and the Public Investments Committee work. There are other works that hon. Members of Parliament do. Last year, for example, hon. Members were involved at the Bomas of Kenya for many months, discussing a very important issue, yet somebody could say that Parliament met for only 57 days. Then he goes further to divide that by the salaries of hon. Members of Parliament and to allege that hon. Members of Parliament earn Kshs105,000 per day. This is propaganda which almost equals that of Mr. Goebbels.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another article in *The East African Standard* newspaper goes ahead to rank Ministries by the level of satisfaction of Questioners here. How they know that hon. Members of Parliament were satisfied by Questions answered by Ministers, only hell knows.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to get your ruling on this particular matter because the Report will, as I have already said, poison the minds of the members of the public. Hon. Members are involved in travelling overseas to represent this country in debates with hon. Members of Parliament from other countries. Other hon. Members should not give this very subjective assessment legitimacy by accepting this Report, which says that some hon. Members are notorious, others contribute more, others are hecklers, *et cetera*. This Report should be dismissed with the contempt it deserves.

(Applause)

Therefore, I request your ruling on this one, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ICAD REPORT ON MEMBERS' PERFORMANCE MADE FROM POSITION OF IGNORANCE

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, I am, indeed, a very distressed person, standing as I do from the Chair. You know that my prime duty here is to defend the interests and integrity of this House. In my view, the integrity and decorum of this House has been under unwarranted attack from people speaking from positions of ignorance.

What shocks me even more is that some of our colleagues are used as pawns in the onslaught on the House; that they could sit there, watch and listen as the House and themselves were being hierachyed by children who are their own daughters' ages, and they clapped in the process.

It is really a shame on those hon. Members and a greater shame on those institutions.

(Applause)

Hon. Members, I wish to agree with Mr. Raila Odinga. The world over, the trend is the following, and check it everywhere: The work of the Chamber is getting less and less. More work for Parliament is being performed in Committees. That is a fact. That is how it happens around the whole world. It also happens, in fact, around the country of an unspecified foreigner, standing in that function yesterday. The work of the Committees is getting central all over the world, and Kenya is not an exception. In fact, hon. Members of this House have been engaged, and will continue to be engaged, in serious Committee work. Can it come from the Chair here that it is my intention and business, and I will continue, to ensure that Committees are strengthened to take a central role in the discharge of Parliamentary affairs.

For the interest of this particular institution that purports to teach Kenyans and the world about the working of a democratic parliament, may I say the following: First, could they be informed that by the very nature of their appointment, duties and roles, Government Ministers are not allowed by the rules of the House to ask Questions in this House. Therefore, to expect Ministers to file Questions in this House is a demonstration of utter ignorance of the operation of the House.

(Applause)

Similarly, Members of the Front Bench are excluded by the rules of the House from filing Private Members' Motions. By their very nature, Private Members' Motions are restricted to those hon. Members who are not Ministers of the Government. Therefore, to judge Ministers' failures for not bringing to the House a thing they are forbidden by the rules of the House, is really to be absurd in the extreme.

I really do not want people to look absurd and make Kenyans feel absurd. If you do not have a fact, ask for it. My office as well as that of the Clerk of the National Assembly are public offices, open for questioning to get clarifications. I wish to confirm to this House that this institute has not at all sought any information from my office or from that of the Clerk of the National Assembly.

Hon. Members: Shame! Shame!

Mr. Speaker: They have not even attempted to seek clarification. I wish to further say the following: Indeed, this House has transacted a lot of business. Hon. Members not only attended the business of the House in the Chamber, but they have also attended businesses of Committees, the Bomas Conference and other workshops necessary for the advancement of this nation's agenda.

I wish to clarify other few facts so that we get everything in its clear perspective. This House sat for 121 days. Hon. Members, you know the definition of a day, as provided for in our Standing Orders. You know that we consider the two sittings that we have on Wednesdays as two days. We had a total of 121 sittings. I wish to let hon. Members know that it is actually easy to find out what today's sitting is.

If I ask Mr. Kaindi to look on the top-left-hand side of the Order Paper, he will see a certain number. On today's Order Paper, that number is 25. That means, since this Session began, today is the 25th Sitting of the House. So, it is actually identified. By looking at the last Order Paper before the House adjourned in December, 2004, it is very easy to tell the number of Sittings Parliament had in the last Session. You do not need to sweat to get that information unless, of course, you perspire unnecessarily.

As Members will recall, the House resumed on Tuesday, 30th March, 2004 and adjourned on Thursday, 9th December, 2004. In addition, Committees continued to sit during Sitting Days and also during recess. So, when Members are on recess, they are transacting business of the House and they have continued to do that even today.

I wish also to say that a total of 24 Bills were tabled for consideration in the last Session, 12 of which were debated and passed. There were also a total of 89 Motions which were introduced to this House. Out of those, 56 were passed and ten of them were negatived, meaning the negatively-considered Motions during that Session were 66. The House also dealt with 1,359 Questions lodged by Members of the House. Of these, 912 were answered as Ordinary Questions while 290 were replied to as Questions by Private Notice. Moreover, 91 Ministerial Statements were made from the Floor of this House, obviously by Ministers, because it could not be done by anybody else. A total of 80 Papers were tabled before this House. There were four Sessional Papers that were tabled, while 28 Committee reports were tabled by both the Departmental Committees and the Standing Committees. A lot more business was transacted.

Hon. Members, it is not my wish to engage the media, and particular in this case the organisation, on their reports on the proceedings of this House. But it is my cardinal responsibility and duty to defend this House from unwarranted and unsubstantiated allegations. It is irresponsible to rely on reports that have terrible inaccuracies and which are based on imaginations rather than facts, which are readily available from my office and that of the Clerk of the Natinal Assembly.

Just look at it this way hon. Members. I was profoundly shocked that among the reports there, they said that some Members were ranked number one quantitatively. You sat there, according to this Report, talked a lot of "quantity". You talked too much. So, you ranked number one as "the great talker of nothing". In essence, that is what they were telling you, hon. Members, who were sitting there clapping.

(Applause)

I saw some hon. Members here who were ranked as the greatest quantity speakers, not quality. Then, they also ranked some Members as number one in quality. Now, who was the examiner? Where was this examination done? By who? What is the benchmark? Who is the greatest examiner of Members? It is their constituents, in my view.

(Applause)

It is the constituents to decide whether a Member is quality or otherwise. That is one of the things that I hope will come to an end. If it does not, hon. Members may have to consider it as one of the issues that is bringing this House into disrepute. I will deal with it. I will not allow any person or organisation to bring this House into disrepute. Do you know what it actually means if you bring this Parliament into disrepute? You will visit this nation with catastrophe and chaos. This country is stable because it has a Parliament that is honourable and reputable.

Those waging war on the entirety of this House must be served notice that this House will not sit around and allow what I may consider "idlers" to play plunder on the integrity of this House. I am sorry, I am using a little strong words, but it is my duty and my responsibility to ensure the integrity of this House. Hon. Members know that if any one of you tried to undermine the integrity of this House, the Speaker has been firm and resolute in ensuring that a Member cannot bring this House into disrepute. If I can do that to hon. Members, what about strangers? They had better take us seriously.

I hope that this House does not have to use the law available to it to bring to order those organisations and persons that are bent on destroying the integrity of this House. You may comment on what the House does, by all means. But do it in a way that does not bring this House to dishonour.

Hon. Members, that applies to you. You must, at all times, uphold the integrity of this House. You must be present to debate whatever is there. You must be present in your Committees. But above all, do not lend credence to organisations that have no reputation to assault this House.

Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. While I agree with the bulk of your long explanation, which betrays the relationship between the hon. Member who sought that ruling and yourself, I take exception to being called a phoney.

Mr. Speaker: What do you mean? Mr. Angwenyi, what exactly do you mean?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take exception to being called a phoney. I attended the launch yesterday as a Member of Parliament and a citizen of this country. Sad will be the day when this Parliament will guard itself from public scrutiny. Most of these problems have arisen because we have been unable to reform our Standing Orders.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Members! Order! In fact, the hon. Member on the Floor is one of those Members who uses any chance to breach the Standing Orders, in fact, to get that publicity. You will not be allowed by the Chair to misuse that publicity.

Secondly, hon. Members who speak in this House do so because they have caught the Speaker's eye. May I say that there are many hon. Members who stand day to day and yet they do not catch the Speaker's eye. Also, there are those hon. Members who, because of seeking publicity, will even stand on the most frivolous points of order just to be on record. Now, let me say the following: Hon. Angwenyi, you had better listen to me very, very carefully. I have already issued a warning to hon. Members who will be standing on frivolous points of order. Very soon, a few Members will get their names in the headlines for being thrown out because of being frivolous. Whether that will be an honour or a dishonour, it is up to the constituents to decide. However, that should end the story and I warn Members - I am speaking for my Deputy and those who assist me - that we will not allow frivolous points of order.

We will not allow hon. Members to take short-cuts at the expense of others. Let the Speaker's eye roam freely and the lesser the points of order, the better.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I had not finished!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Angwenyi! Order! You are being disrespectful to the Chair and to the House. In fact, I may state here; and I have said it before, that you have made it your habit to police the Chair which role and duty you have no lawful claim to. So, please, abstain.

POINTS OF ORDER

INCURSIONS BY RAIDERS FROM TANZANIA INTO KENYA

Mr. ole Ntutu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to demand a Ministerial Statement from the Minister of State, Office of the President, concerning a recent invasion in my constituency by the Sonjo community from Tanzania. The invaders---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Members! the business of the House has not even begun. Please, listen to your colleague. He has just said that foreigners came to Kenya and killed a Kenyan. Are you really interested?

Mr. ole Ntutu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the invaders killed one person and took away with them 200 heads of cattle, 300 goats and burnt a primary school and nine shops. I want the Minister to include in his Ministerial Statement what urgent plans the Government has put in place to provide shelter, food and security for those displaced Kenyans.

Secondly, were there any efforts made by the security team on the ground to recover the stolen livestock? This is becoming too much and I wonder whether we have become a banana Republic because the Government is not able to provide enough security.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will issue a Ministerial Statement next week on Wednesday in the morning.

MEASURES TO SETTLE BORDER
DISPUTE BETWEEN THARAKA AND NYAMBENE RESIDENTS

Mr. Munya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to ask a Ministerial Statement on the security problem around Gatithine Market. Yesterday, raiders from Tharaka District raided the market and shot a trader, Mr. Mwenda, with four arrows. He is now in critical condition and there is tension in the area. What triggered the chaos is the fact that Tharaka County Council officers demanded licence fees from traders from Nyambene County Council. I would like the **[Mr. Munya]** Minister to handle the situation very carefully and fairly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Minister to include in the Statement reasons why the Administration Police (AP) camp in my constituency is being run from the other district when one of the camps which is also in the same area which is under dispute is being run from the provincial headquarters. I also want him, since this is a matter with security implications, to intervene and stop the Tharaka County Council from prosecuting people from Nyambene.

The Minister should also include in his Statement specific measures the Ministry is going to take to settle this dispute which is costing lives and making the people of that area unsettled. We need to know the specific steps that the Ministry is going to take to deal with this intractable problem that is making life a hell for the people of that area.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we dealt with the first part of the hon. Member's request for the Ministerial Statement with regard to the attack on Mikinduri Market. However, we will be ready with a Ministerial Statement on the other part next Wednesday in the afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. I suppose that is the end of matters other than business of the House.

Next Order!

BILLS

(First Readings)

THE SUGAR (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE NATIONAL CEREALS AND
PRODUCE BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE STATUTE LAW (MISCELLANEOUS
AMENDMENTS) BILL

*(Order for First Readings Read - Read the First Time - Ordered to be referred to
the relevant Departmental Committees)*

MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF SESSIONAL PAPER NO.2
ON DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO
AND SMALL ENTERPRISES

THAT, this House adopts Sessional Paper No.2 of 2005 outlining Development of Micro and Small Enterprises for Wealth and Employment creation for Poverty Reduction laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 5th April, 2005.

*(The Minister for Labour and
Human Resource Development
on 26.4.2005)*

*(Resumption of Debate
interrupted on 26.4.2005)*

The Minister for Labour and Human Resources Development (Dr. Kulundu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will just take ten minutes or so to finish the speech which I started giving yesterday. The vision of the policy statement is to promote a strong Kenyan economy into which Micro and Small Enterprises are effectively integrated and able to make significant contribution to the production of goods and services.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the overall role of this policy framework is to develop a vibrant Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) sector, capable of promoting and creating durable, decent and productive employment opportunities. It should stimulate economic growth by reducing economic disparities, strengthening linkages between firms and diversifying the domestic production structure and providing a level playing field between the MSEs and the larger enterprises. It should also improve the MSEs sector funding and enhance institutional collaboration and co-ordination of interventions in the sector.

This policy framework, therefore, will provide an enabling environment to

[The Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development]

increase the competitiveness of all MSEs in Kenya.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Sessional Paper is set to provide a policy framework that will support research and development to boost MSEs' access to appropriate technologies, encourage innovations and promote product design development and quality control. It, therefore, provides a policy framework which, when effectively implemented, should enable MSEs to increase their share of both the export and the domestic markets through increased linkages with the larger enterprises.

The MSEs will, in this regard, play a more significant role in contributing to the national goal of wealth and employment creation and the vision of making Kenya an industrialised economy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Sessional Paper is to be implemented within a framework of financed partnership between the public and the private sectors, including MSEs association and development partners. In addition, this new policy framework seeks to support research and development to boost MSEs' access to appropriate technologies, encourage innovation and promote product design, development and quality control. It, therefore, provides a policy framework which, when effectively implemented, should enable MSEs to increase their share of both the export and the domestic markets through increased linkages with the large enterprises. The MSEs should, in this perspective, play a more significant role in contributing to the national goal of wealth creation and poverty reduction. The financial implications of this Sessional Paper are as follows:-

Mr. Speaker, Sir, first, the Ministry of Labour and Human Resource Development wishes to utilise the *Jua Kali* Fund which was established through Legal Notice No.558 of 1998 to facilitate the implementation of the Sessional Paper. The Ministry is already liaising with the Ministry of Finance on the revitalisation of the *Jua Kali* Sector Fund in order to facilitate a range of core activities towards the MSE sector development. The development of the MSE sector is a major responsibility which should not be left to the Government alone, thus a variety of donor support

would also be required as well as the involvement of non-State actors. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in conclusion, in order to realise efficiency and enhance development of the MSE sector in employment creation and poverty reduction, Parliament is requested to discuss and adopt the Draft Sessional Paper on the Development of Micro and Small Enterprises for Wealth and Employment Creation for Poverty Reduction. This will pave way for the implementation of the proposed policies and institutional structures. This will provide a more balanced MSE policy focus in line with the national goal of fostering economic growth, employment creation, income generation, poverty reduction and industrialisation as envisaged in the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation 2003/2007.

With those few remarks, I beg to move that this Sessional Paper be adopted.

I want to ask hon. Githae to second this Motion.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second Sessional Paper No.2 of 2005 on the Development of Micro and Small Enterprises for Wealth and Employment Creation for Poverty Reduction.

Let me begin by congratulating the Ministry for not calling the micro and small enterprises *Jua Kali*. That is a word commonly used by people and they use it in a defamatory manner. It is not something that people are proud of and yet, it is the sector which is moving this economy. We need to congratulate the Ministry for recognising this.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, MSEs are the future for this country. They are the enterprises that are creating jobs. If you look at industries, you will find that they are declaring redundancies, retrenchments and balancing programmes. All these terms mean the same thing because people are losing their jobs. So, we need to encourage the MSEs sector. It is the only one that is actually creating jobs.

This is the industry where many of our youths are involved in; mainly because one does not require a lot of money to start a micro or a small enterprise. So, many of our youths are in this sector. We need to encourage this sector, so that those micro and small enterprises can also grow to become big companies.

Two of the biggest companies in the world are the Boeing Aircraft Company and the General Motors of the United States of America. They also started in a garage and yet today, they are among the largest companies. I am told that the turn-over of the General Motors Company is more than the gross domestic product of all the African countries put together. We need to encourage the MSEs, so that they can grow. If they are to grow, certain things must be done. One of the drawbacks is the cumbersome laws that apply to this sector. It is surprising that if a person in Moyale wants to register a business, he will have to come all the way from Moyale to Nairobi. It is high time that this was changed. We should have provincial registries, as is being recommended by the Sessional Paper. However, in this era of computerisation and the internet, it is possible to have on-line registration.

Again, even after you travel all the way from Moyale to Nairobi to register a business name, it takes a minimum of a month for it to be registered. We need to change this. In other countries, you can register a business name within ten minutes, and that should be our goal. I am glad to say that the Ministry is recommending that they are going to have provincial registries.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other thing is that, even when you come to Nairobi, the registration fee required is a lot of money. We need to reduce the amount if we cannot make it free, so that we can encourage more businesses to register. As a result of all these problems, businesses are not registered and, therefore, no one has any idea of how they can be helped.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other drawback are our banks, which will not lend money to small and micro enterprises and instead, they want to lend money to companies which actually do not need or

deserve the money. In fact, they say that if you have a small enterprise and you want to get a loan, you have to convince the bank manager that you actually do not need the loan, then you will be given that loan. I am glad that the Ministry is proposing that special attention should be given to small and micro enterprises as far as loans are concerned.

More than 50 per cent of our people are living below the poverty line, and it is only this sector that can redeem this situation. Therefore, we need to encourage this sector so that it can assist us in poverty eradication. You will notice that most of the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) are in the rural areas, where there is a lot of poverty. If you are to encourage these enterprises, then you will be able to reduce poverty in the rural areas.

The other problem that this sector faces are the cumbersome laws of the land. Our legal system is not made to serve the poor, as it favours the rich and not the poor. Actually, the poor are unable to access justice because of their poverty. I am glad that the Ministry, in this Sessional Paper, is recommending that some other mechanism be sought for dispute resolution, so that if a dispute occurs, then it does not have to go to our normal courts, because the system is expensive, takes a lot of time and is also cumbersome; they use language that the poor do not even understand and, therefore, they are intimidated by our laws.

One of the enemies of the MSEs are our local authorities because they do not recognize the importance of this sector. That is why you will find that our local authorities are always harassing these MSEs because they consider them to be a nuisance, yet they do not know that what has saved this country from a revolution are the kiosks you see on the roadside. This is because the people who cannot afford to go to the Hilton Hotel and the Hotel Inter-Continental can go there and have lunch during lunch time; those who cannot afford to go shopping in the supermarkets can go to those kiosks and buy what they require. So, we need to encourage kiosks instead of harassing their owners the way we see them being harassed.

One country that has sorted out its kiosks issue is Mauritius, and they did it in a very, very simple manner. They passed a law making all buildings next to a road to be commercial, and that is why you will find no kiosks on the roadside. But every building which is next to a road is commercial and, therefore, you will find that the ground floor is commercially used while the first storey is residential. If we were to do this, we would be able to sort out our kiosks problem.

Once again, as I mentioned earlier, the local authorities do not seem to appreciate the importance of this sector. The Ministry of Local Government came up with a very good system of a single permit but, unfortunately, this has not worked. For example, in Kirinyaga County Council, they are charging rice millers Kshs32,000 per year as a single permit. Now, which MSE can afford that amount a year for a permit? So, the local authorities need to be asked to support this sector by not overcharging them on single permits.

The other problem faced by MSEs is lack of credit, because banks fear lending money to them. Even the micro-finance institutions which we thought would be able to assist this sector have also started having minimum amounts to lend. Some are starting at Kshs50,000 and yet, that is a lot of money to an enterprise that is just starting. So, we need to appeal to the micro finance institutions not to follow the example of banks by introducing minimum amounts that they can lend.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier, this is a sector which is at the moment creating employment. When we were campaigning as NARC, we promised to provide 500,000 jobs a year, and what we meant is that we will create an enabling environment so that this sector can create the jobs, and it is actually doing so. It is surprising that it is only in Africa where they pay people salaries after every 30 days. If you go to, for example, the United Kingdom, salaries are paid weekly, while in the United States of America, they are paid fortnightly. This means that, for the MSEs, the ones who have loaned or given credit for foodstuffs to our people, they have to wait for

30 days before they can access money. I think it is high time we amended our laws so that salaries are paid on a weekly basis like in other developed countries. Paying salaries after every 30 days means that by the 15th day of the month, most of the salaried employees are broke and, therefore, they have to go to borrow money from shylocks to be able to sustain themselves up to the end of the month. So, we can sort this out by changing our payment system by paying weekly salaries.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

We also have a problem when we pay employees on a daily basis. We should emulate countries in the developed world which pay their workers according to the number of hours worked. In those countries, it is possible for a person to have two or three jobs because he will work for two or three hours in one job and another two or three hours in another job. We should change our payment system so that this sector can benefit.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, another problem the workers in the micro and small enterprises face is that the employers deduct the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) money but do not remit it to that organisation. So, when a person who has worked for very many years retires and goes to claim his retirement benefits from the NSSF, he is told that no money was being remitted to the organisation. Therefore, the workers suffer when they work and even when they retire. I appeal to the micro and small enterprises employers to remit the NSSF money, which they deduct from their employees. We have also had the same problem in the co-operative societies. The micro and small enterprises employers deduct co-operative societies dues which they do not remit to the societies. This has inconvenienced those employees.

If we have to support this sector, then we must emphasize the slogan "Buy Kenya, build Kenya". I have looked round and seen all hon. Members, except Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o, are wearing imported suits. We should discourage our people from importing suits from overseas and encourage them to buy clothes made in this country. During the weekends, I do not wear a tie. I wear shirts made in this country by a tailor who runs a micro and small enterprise business. We should encourage such people by buying their products.

I will further say that instead of increasing tax on *mitumba*, we should ban the importation of new clothes so that people can be forced to buy clothes which are made in this country. If we do this, we will have many tailors. Tailors used to be many in this country, but most of them have closed business over time. If we do that, we will create our *mitumba* industry.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a few years ago, KICOMI, and RIVATEX which was located in Eldoret made very good suits and shirts but Kenyans did not buy them because they liked imported clothes. So, some ingenious traders bought suits and shirts from KICOMI and RIVATEX and changed the label to read; "made in UK". Kenyans bought them without knowing that they were made by KICOMI and RIVATEX.

In conclusion, the future of this country lies with the micro and small enterprises sector because it creates jobs and is growing. We must do all that we can to support it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Who is the shadow Minister for Labour and Human Resources Development?

(*Mr. Kipchumba stood up in his place*)

Mr. Kipchumba, are you the shadow Minister for Labour and Human Resources Development?

Mr. Kipchumba: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am the acting shadow Minister for Labour and Human Resources Development because the other one defected to the Government!

(*Laughter*)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is all right!

Mr. Kipchumba: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to contribute to this Sessional Paper. It is gratifying to note that farm activities which were initially excluded from the micro and small enterprises sector have now been included in the sector. This is the case, and yet that is where the majority of Kenyans eke their living from.

Kenya is known all over the world as a sleeping economic giant in the sense that it has all that it takes to take off. We have the resources, for example, human capital and yet we have been unable to utilise it in order to move to the next stage of economic development. We are lucky that our human capital has skills and is very experienced. They are always regarded as experts in many parts of the world. This is something we should guard all the time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the service sector in this country contributes about 40 per cent of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP). From the information I have here, only 14 per cent of our GDP comes from micro and small enterprises. This can be increased to 50 per cent, if we double our effort.

There are so many sectors in this country which have not been exploited, for example, tourism. We cannot be classified as a service or a manufacturing country. We have no comparative advantage over anything in this world. This is unfortunate because we should utilise what we have, especially in the agricultural sector. We have all that it takes for us to be regarded as the best producer of agricultural commodities.

Many countries in the world which cannot be classified as industrialised nations have taken advantage of the service sector and have done very well. I know we are moving in the right direction in the tourism sector but we have only utilised a very small percentage of our capacity. That brings me to the biggest problem we have in this country, which is not our ability to produce. All of us are aware that our people are hard working. Our biggest problem is marketing what we produce in this country. That is why I would wish to see a more comprehensive policy on the marketing of products from this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, sometimes back, there was a production of the famous *ciondo* in this country. We were able to sell these products both locally and internationally. However, we did that only for a very short time as the tourists who came to this country to buy the *ciondo* started to produce them in large quantities in countries like China. Within a short period, this country lost that advantage and we could not sell the *ciondo* anywhere. That should have been a wake up call for the Government and we should have patented that kind of product. We are very good innovators in this country. We produce original material but then for strange reasons - our people do not have the knowledge and capacity - the Government has been unable to assist them to patent these products. If we had done this, I am sure Kenyans would have been earning royalties from mass production of these products. It really does not matter where they produce it as long as royalties earned from the production of these *ciondo* are brought back to Kenya. This would ensure that Kenyans who are the original innovators of these products will, at least, earn something for a very long time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is only one product that I can think of but there are so many other products. The other day, I saw a Kenyan trying to make a plane. He tried to fly it but, unfortunately, he did not make it. We have the ability to produce solar panels and wind mills, products which would otherwise be imported from abroad. Our sectors in this country have the ability to produce some of these products.

I have read through this Sessional Paper and it is detailed in the sense that it gives us an analysis of all the problems that we have in this country but it is short of solutions. Solutions are more critical than identifying the problems. Every Kenyan in this country is aware of the problems that we have and why we cannot take off.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since we have now included farm activities as part of these micro enterprises, it is time then that we addressed agriculture. Agriculture in this country has not been taken very seriously. If you look at our Budget, we only allocate about 5 per cent or less to this very noble sector and yet year in, year out, we always say that agriculture is the backbone of this country. At times we ask ourselves whether, indeed, agriculture is still the backbone of this country. We all realise that it is not. Currently, the micro enterprise and tourism sectors could easily be the backbone of this country. I want us to set our priorities right. Why would we want to allocate only 5 per cent or less to agriculture? This is a very critical sector that can easily create even one million jobs if adequate funding is provided. You will understand, because this country is the only one in the world that would allocate 35 per cent of its revenue to paying wages and salaries. The highest in Sub-Saharan Africa would easily be between 20 and 25 per cent. However, Kenya has 35 per cent and we still want to increase our salaries, and move forward. We cannot do so until we re-look at our policies and Budget, and look at where we can allocate more money.

Horticulture, for which Kenya has been ranked among the top exporters in the world, has not been given the attention that it deserves. I am happy that the other day, the European Union wanted to introduce other conditionalities but Kenya was able to satisfy all the conditions that exist. However, my emphasis on horticulture is the fact that you can only utilise a very small portion of land that you own in this country. Therefore, there will be no need for us to scramble for very large tracts of land which we rarely utilise. That is why I pray that the Horticultural Crops Development Authority should be given adequate funding and assistance. Currently, horticulture is only undertaken by multi-nationals and rich people. This sector could easily employ even a million or more people with little assistance. As it is now, Kenyans look at it as if it is only meant for the rich people. The poor farmers in the rural areas, who are capable of producing quality products, flowers and vegetables, are unable to access the market. I am told that Kenya is even unable to satisfy the market for rose flowers yet we have a conducive climate which gives us an added advantage. It is a natural resource that we have been given by God. No other country in the world can beat us in horticulture because of the advantages that we have. Therefore, the Government must re-look at its policies and spend more funds in sectors where we have comparative advantage, especially in terms of natural resources.

I have read through this Policy Paper and it says clearly that many businesses, especially the micro and small enterprises collapse within three years of their inception. That is true. If you survive after three to five years, it is unlikely that you will collapse. You will understand why these businesses collapse. When we started the *Jua Kali* sector, it was envisaged that it would be able to satisfy this country in terms of production of products that we use here. The entrepreneurs were expected to graduate to the next level of manufacturing. That has been a dream because we have not worked towards it. It was a noble idea and it was decentralised. There were *Jua Kali* sheds all over the country. If you travel all over the country now, you will find that the *Jua Kali* sheds are either under utilised or they have been closed all together. It is time that all *Jua Kali* sheds that were set up

are re-opened so that the entrepreneurs who were using them can enjoy the benefits. We must give those farmers some incentives. Those sheds should be very cheap. Many of our *Jua Kali* people are still working under *jua kali*, from where the acronym came from. When it rains, of course, there are problems and they cannot do their work.

If you read through this Paper, they are clearly saying that there is a missing link. It will continue to be absent because when you start a *Jua Kali* sector and you want it to remain like that forever, then that group will never move to the next level of manufacturing so that they can finally become manufacturers in this country. We can never be an industrialised nation unless we ensure that the *Jua Kali* graduates to the next level.

I want to briefly talk about hawkers. Simple logic will tell you that those who hawk are like children in nursery or primary school trying to learn business. It is from there, they learn basics of doing a business and then they move on to the next stage of establishing a *kiosk*. However, what has this country done for them? The moment they come to the market, they are clobbered by our very good brothers and sisters in the municipality. Within a very short time, all people who initially started as hawkers end up being disadvantaged. I have even seen Nairobi City Council lorries ferrying women and disabled persons. They go and detain them because they have done no other crime apart from selling their wares in the streets. I know it is inconveniencing, but that is administrative. When we collect human beings, pack them in lorries, take them to prison and charge them, probably with a charge of disturbance, it is quite an unfortunate situation. We have become a country that does not allow training of hawkers. In my own view, we have really curtailed entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurs must start at a point.

The Sessional Paper has captured the spirit of hawkers. I know we have talked of moving them to other areas, but we have not addressed issues. We have hawkers who sell sodas, charity sweepstakes and others provide telephone services. To me, those hawkers do not really pose a very big problem in the Central Business District (CBD). The Minister for Local Government should have intervened and left those hawkers to operate within our CBD. When all hawkers are relocated to Ngara, the whole essence of hawking is lost. Who is a hawker? We do not understand the real meaning of the word "hawking". Hawking is not being confined to a certain locality. What we need to do is encourage these hawkers and control them. That can be done because it has been done in other parts of the world. All we need to do is to educate our people. We must educate all municipalities and local authorities in this country because they think doing business is a crime. What they do not realise is that all their income must come from businesses.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have seen that this Sessional Paper addresses the issue of single business licensing. It says there will be designated offices to issue single business permits to business people. How will that work? We must be very sincere because we know there are some licences given by provincial administration. Others are given by local authorities and the Ministry of Trade and Industry. However, I am not sure that we are about to reach there. Single business permits will entail that you go to one place and get all your licences in one shop. I wish that could be implemented yesterday. Our people have had to run from city councils to the provincial administration in search of licences. I do not even know why the provincial administration should be issuing licences. It makes sense, of course, when it is being done by the Ministry of Trade and Industry. I know that even if you want to invest in the petroleum industry, you must get a licence from the Ministry of Energy. This is quite cumbersome and unfortunate. So, I wish that could be done very quickly. This Sessional Paper is very good, but there are certain things which can be done very quickly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Transport Licensing Board (TLB) licences are now given when the TLB Board sits in Mandera, Mombasa, Busia and other parts of the country. I believe this

is a ridiculous regulation. How was it in the first place mooted? How was it made law that you have to follow a board which will run around this country giving licences to the *matatu* sector? I think that is a very archaic regulation that should have been repealed by the Government as soon as the then Minister for Transport and Communications brought in reforms in the transport industry. Other licences that pertain to vehicles are issued by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA). We do not have to drive our vehicles to Mandera District where the board is sitting so that we get licences. All we have to do is take our documents to a given office and get the TLB licence. I have never and will never understand this, maybe if it is done in a simpler language.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also would like to talk about by-laws. All local authorities have their own by-laws. The Minister has clearly said that they will be repealed. When will they be repealed? I wish there was more co-ordination between this Ministry and the Ministry of Local Authorities. The by-laws that exist would require that we, first of all, train officers in local authorities because they are anti-business people; officers who do not want our people to do business in towns.

I would like to briefly mention something on marketing. There is a procurement requirement in this Bill that 25 per cent be dedicated to MSEs. How will that be done? I have even looked at the Bill before this House and there is no provision that 25 per cent of all the procurement will be given to the MSE. I am yet to understand from the Minister how this policy will be carried out. We all know that the Bill gives more advantage to multinationals. I would like the Minister to explain to us when he responds, how that 25 per cent rule will, indeed, be implemented. It is critical and very important to us and all those small enterprises that 25 per cent of all the goods and services be procured locally.

I have also seen this campaign of "Buy Kenya, Build Kenya". This campaign has been with us for a long time. It is very good. However, how will it be implemented? I would expect that we enforce a regulation that will make it compulsory for all supermarkets to store 25 per cent of Kenyan goods. That is practical. It is a pity that we have supermarkets with stocks of imported eggs. It is embarrassing. Very soon, we will be importing meat. Where will we sell our own meat? We produce a lot of milk, but we still import milk. I want to see a regulation that says that in our stores, at least, 50 per cent of products must be from the Republic of Kenya. That will make me a very happy man. It will show that something is being done.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have also seen the issue of duplication. Kenyans are well known all over the world for duplicating. It is a very unfortunate situation. When there was a new skirt design in the market, all the women in the streets wore it. It was at, one stage, called the Kenyan uniform. That is a reflection of what we are.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when there was a retrenchment in 1990, all the retrenched went home and started rearing chicken. That resulted in mass production of eggs. What happened? Competition came in, the prices were reduced drastically and all those businesses collapsed. They collapsed because everybody thought that, that was the easiest business to start and there was no innovation. I am sure everybody ran away after that. Those guys had no clue as to what they were going to do.

Therefore, I thought that we could think on those lines. There must be a policy to ensure restriction on certain businesses. Of course, if there is a market, I have no problem. But there are businesses that will dilute the market. Everybody rushed into the *matatu* industry. What happened? Of course, the businesses will crash, there will be no more money and then everybody will run away. Kenyans will lose and they will not have lasted for one year. That is a loss to this country. I wish the Ministry was more proactive. When you are giving out licenses, you should licence a certain maximum in a particular sector.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to mention an agency that has not done its job! That is the Export Promotion Council (EPC). How many Kenyans have heard about the EPC? Very few. Probably, even some Members of Parliament have never heard about it. That is an agency that is supposed to ensure that they get business for Kenyans in terms of export marketing. However, that agency, in my own view, has been closed and it has not done a very good job. At times, I wonder whether its job is just to market for multi-national companies. The small businesses are not even aware of the existence of the EPC. I was previously thinking that we must create an agency that will assist farmers and small enterprises to market and export their products. But then I thought and said: "There is the EPC!" What is its job? What does it do? What has it done since its inception. Probably, the persons we have employed there are incapable of doing anything. Probably, we have not put adequate manpower. Probably, it does not look to us like it is an important agency in this country. All the problems that we face in this country have to do with marketing.

Therefore, I want to appeal to the Minister to liaise with the Ministry of Trade and Industry, so that, that agency can be revamped, get adequate manpower and open offices all over the country. There is no point of having an EPC just here in Nairobi. I mean, what role does it play? Well, it could have its headquarters here, but it must have feeder offices all over our districts. That way, they can channel all the information they have to the people in the rural areas. That is because majority of our people reside in the rural areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is also mention of exhibitions and trade fairs. Those must also be done at local levels. I know we have had the Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) shows. But if you attend one today, you will realise that it is meant for small school going children. All they exhibit there are basically recreational activities. There is no serious business. We must encourage our business people to benefit from those exhibitions and trade fairs. All trade fairs must not necessarily be in Nairobi. The international trade fairs can be held in Nairobi because it would be difficult to accommodate them elsewhere. But the small ones can be organised by the Ministry of Trade and Industry in the districts, so that our people in the rural areas can benefit from them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is the issue of value addition. Many of our products are exported in raw form. It would make a lot of sense if we could export our products after we have added some little value. That can be done if we create a linkage between our small industries and big industries. Those small enterprises can add little value, take the products to the big companies for export. We have been exporting raw coffee and tea since Independence. For us to realise that there is a benefit that accrues from that, there must be some value addition.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is the issue of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The NGOs that have mushroomed in this country have basically been registered to promote democracy. But we all know that Kenya is now a very democratic country. There is no point of us having many NGOs in the name of promoting democracy. That is something that we already have. I want to urge the Government to put a requirement that, any NGO that is going to be registered in this country, must dedicate a half of its resources to economic issues. What is the point of teaching us about democracy when we have no money in our pockets, we are hungry and the country is stagnating in terms of poverty? It is time that any NGO that is registered conforms to a requirement that 50 per cent of its resources--- We all know that those resources are not necessarily dedicated to that democracy. Seminars year in, year out, cannot take us anywhere. We must empower the people economically. That is why I am saying that, in view of the fact that, those NGOs are vehicles of development elsewhere in the world and that, they get a lot of money, make it mandatory for them to spend 50 per cent of their money on economic issues. The other 50 per cent can be used for democracy, administration or whatever it is. We really do not mind. But our local farmers and business people will have got something from that 50 per cent. That way, we can appreciate that, in

deed, the NGOs have come to do something. We are very democratic at this stage.

An hon. Member: Tosha!

(Laughter)

Mr. Kipchumba: I want to end by saying that development in this country could take off if given a chance. We are like a sleeping child who can take off tomorrow if only we put our house in order.

The Minister has clearly stated that issuance of licences will be decentralised and initially will be given out at the provincial level. They should not be issued at the provincial level. They should be issued at district headquarters. Some provincial headquarters are so far from people. We are not doing any good by issuing the licences at the provincial headquarters. I want to request the Minister to remove the word "provincial" and replace with, "all licences will now be issued at district headquarters", or even "locational level", so that our local business people can benefit from the same.

The issue of credit is critical. I know that some Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have addressed that issue and are doing very well. I want to request the Minister to liaise with the Ministry of Finance so as to give incentives to those organisations. The credit organisations do not follow the many collateral processes that most big banks are fond of requesting our business people to provide. All they need from a borrower is a group guarantee from other business people and the cycle is repeated among many people. This has done very well. If a few incentives can be given to these lending institutions, they would do very well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently, Faulu Kenya issued a Corporate Bond. There is also K-Rep and many more micro-finance institutions. Commercial banks have not done well in this sector. The micro-finance institutions should be given incentives by the Government so that our people can benefit and enable our country to take off. This is the sector that is most capable of enabling our country to take off. There is no doubt about it. However, let us first put our house in order.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Planning and National Development (Prof. Anyang'- Nyong'o): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this Motion. I would like to congratulate my friend who has just spoken for a very good contribution, especially for demanding that the Government decentralises the issuance of licences.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in fact, I think when we adopt E-Governance, there will be no need of decentralisation because people will be able to access licences through the internet. I think we must encourage electrification in the whole country so that micro and small enterprises are able to access electrical energy and be part of the E-Government System in this country.

I would, however, like to make a few corrections to my colleague's perceptions about the market. When we are operating in a liberalised economy, it is very difficult to argue for a free market and introduce controls as well. He suggested that we may require supermarkets to store a certain amount of goods from Kenya. That would be contrary to the liberalisation of the market we are engaged in. We must understand that Kenya exports 49 per cent of its exports to the COMESA countries. If we begin having a regime of regulation here, the other COMESA countries may do the same. The exports we are enjoying, which are earning this country a lot of money may go down, which will be to our disadvantage. In a like manner, although we are a net importer of sugar, we also struggled very hard to get our sugar quota in the EU, so that we can export 20,000 tonnes of sugar per year to earn a much higher rate of return from the exported sugar which brings the foreign exchange we need for doing other things.

I think with the globalisation and liberalisation in the market, we will try to ensure that our small and micro enterprises have access to our internal markets. We must also realise that our small and micro enterprises also need to access the external market. Therefore, our economic policy must be commensurate with this kind of position. Whereas I share the economic nationalism of my friend, I also recognise that it is like that because of the kind of market, both local and international, and even the region we are involved in has strict regulations among the business sector, and to take a certain amount of goods from our domestic producers will be a bit difficult.

However, one thing that the Government can do is to adopt a philosophy of taxation. This is the way to do it: To adopt a philosophy of taxation that aims at making taxation basically aimed at promoting exports and investments. Once we have an incentive through taxation, then we will not be accused of regulating anything. For example, one of the things that my friend could suggest to supermarkets; the Governments could say that all supermarkets stocking a certain percentage of domestic goods be allowed a certain tax rebate for those goods. The supermarkets are then given incentives to do so and for going out and encouraging small micro enterprises to supply them with goods. For example, if we were to encourage our supermarkets to stock agricultural products, for example fruits, vegetables which they have sourced locally, that would mean that they go out to source for outgrowers to supply them with these goods. This would also encourage them to establish small and micro enterprises which process raw vegetables into dry vegetables, something which is not done in this country. One of the reasons why we have a high loss of mangoes is because 45 per cent of mangoes grown in this country rot either in farms or are destroyed by flies on trees or get delayed to get to the markets. This degree of loss for the small and medium enterprises in terms of marketing commodities should mean that we go into a regime of encouraging value addition of agricultural goods before they reach markets. This would really help our smaller and medium enterprises. I say this because my friend jogged my mind when he made some comments which I think were very useful. I wanted to add the aspect of understanding the regime of incentives to achieve the objective he wanted will really help us in maintaining both a liberal and open market. At the same time, it would help us deal with incentives, both in our supermarkets as well as in our small and medium enterprises which are particularly engaged in agro-business.

The other thing I wanted to say is that last year and this year, the tourism, tea and horticultural sectors have done very well. In fact, the Government is getting about Kshs51 billion from tourism, up from Kshs24 billion when it took over. Horticulture has done so well that it is the main source of foreign exchange after tea. This phenomenal growth has to be maintained and carried further. It cannot be maintained and carried further without the support of micro and small enterprises. I concur with what the previous speaker said; that one of the ways we can improve the horticulture and tea sector is by spending more money in agriculture. My friend was right in saying that up to now, we have never spent more than 6 per cent on agriculture. However, in the coming budget, we ought to spend at least 11.75 per cent of our money on agriculture. We will be keeping abreast with the Abuja Declaration that all African countries were committed to, that each African country, in line with the comprehensive agricultural development programme for Africa, must spend at least 10 per cent of its budget on agriculture.

This Government is determined to be faithful to the Abuja Declaration and also ensure that expenditure in agriculture goes a long way to improve agricultural production and support micro and small enterprises. I agree with my friend that we must recognise the presence of micro and small business in agriculture. Micro and small enterprises are described as those which employ between one and 50 people, both in the formal and in the informal sectors. Small and micro enterprises also include the *jua kali* sector. The only difference between a formal and an informal enterprise is that in a formal enterprise, the person dealing with it is registered for the purpose of

paying taxes and getting service.

In the past, owing to the vagaries in markets and the punitive nature of taxes, many people in the small and micro enterprises did not want to be registered. This is because by the time they reached a certain level of revenue earnings, the taxation would be so punitive that they would rather avoid it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now, if we make our taxation policy more user-friendly to the informal sector, it will be good. In fact, this distinction between the formal and informal sector is actually detrimental to the economy. The other aspect of looking at the informal sector is that this is a sector where people do business without receiving the requisite services from the Government. For example, they do not have proper roads, access to electricity, telephones and so on. In that regard, they are existing at the fringes of the economy and that is not good for the Government either because when the Government provides services and makes sure that these people pay taxes, this is the way by which you can create more employment and provide more services. We are therefore moving towards a regime of rationalising the economy and making sure the production is not distinguished between formal and informal although incentives must be given to micro and small enterprises so that they are not too much confined to the bureaucracy of Government. That is important.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my friend also mentioned something which is extremely important to this economy. This is the phenomenon of hawkers. In this Sessional Paper, hawkers are classified as micro and small enterprises. Now, the whole idea of hawking is that the business person who is vending or selling any commodity need not have a fixed abode for which they pay permanent rent or for which they pay for permanent services but collectively they can be provided with services and they can contribute to rent as a collectivity. For example, if you look at the local market we have in our rural areas, they are really hawkers because what happens is that a person comes at 3.00 o'clock in the evening with her bunch of *omena* in a basket and she finds a space within the market and spreads her *shuka* and begins selling her *omena*. When she comes the next day she need not necessarily occupy the same place but she will pay a licence to enter the market. That is basically hawking but hawking in a fixed place. Now, when this is done in a town or a city and when the Minister for Local Government says that we will prescribe a specific place for hawking, this is found to be an abomination whereas in the rural areas we live with hawkers on a daily basis in fixed market places and we do not see it as an abomination.

Now, what we need to understand in urban areas is that in the Central Business District (CBD) of Nairobi, for example, what the Government can do is to regulate hours of hawking. For example, we can say that between 1.00 o'clock and 2.00 o'clock you can walk around Kenyatta Avenue hawking and when 2.00 o'clock comes, please recede because we do not want to jeopardise people with shops who pay licences and so on because at 1.00 o'clock maybe they go for lunch and you have the opportunity to do so. Secondly, it can be said that from 6.00 o'clock to 8.00 o'clock given that security is there, you can hawk. This happens in most cities like New York, Chicago and so on. Secondly, as the Minister for Local Government has done, he has said that on certain days he will be closing certain streets for hawking particularly on weekends. This happens very much in a big city like Mexico where the population is very big. They close certain streets on weekends for what they call the flea markets which is purely hawking. So, I think my hon. friend is right. We must administer hawking properly. We must not harass them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this City, it is quite possible to specify certain fixed abodes for hawking, provided it does not interfere with traffic and formal business. You must remember that the people who have shops pay licences for having those shops and it would be very unfair to be selling suits in your shop for which you buy a licence to sell them in that shop and you pay rent

every month and somebody comes in front of your shop and sells the same suits without paying the same licences or the same rent. This would be inequitable. So, in the interest of equity, my friend is right that what we need to do is to probably administer hawking and not necessary ban it from cities. I think the mode of administration of that hawking is something the Ministry of Local Government particularly for the City of Nairobi is indeed implementing at the moment. I hope that with the proposals and ideas like that of my friend, this implementation will improve and will be user-friendly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been said of course again by my friend that this nation in our Budget, we spend too much money on wages. This is something of which the Government is very conscious. Indeed, the Ministry of Finance has already commissioned a study which is out and I hope Members of Parliament can have access to it one of these days. This study goes into details on how we can deal with the wage bill. However, let me say something. The wage bill is big in proportion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) because the GDP has not been growing. When the GDP grows then the wage bill will of necessity become a smaller fraction of the GDP. That is one fact. So, it is growing already. In fact, when we took over, the GDP growth rate per annum was less than 1 per cent. Now, it is 2.8 per cent. So, you cannot say that it is not growing. The facts are there.

In fact, what is really happening is that there is really a disjuncture in this nation. Whereas the political world is a little bit disorganised, the private sector is very organised and it is making much more progress than the political sector. If you read the business sections of both the *East African Standard* and the *Daily Nation*, you will realise that much more is happening in terms of growth of business in our nation than we are making progress in politics. So, we are in actual fact an anathema to the business sector. We do not seem to know what we are doing while they seem to know what they are doing. In fact, that may be good for business because as long as politicians are not interfering with business but they are interfering with themselves, business can march on. So, as the Minister for Planning and National Development, I am quite satisfied with what is happening.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is really happening is that if you look at our Budget, you will find that as my hon friend said, we are spending 35 per cent of the Budget on teachers' salaries or on education. This is good because according to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), Kenya is on course in meeting our MDGs on education by the year 2015. We are also on course and contrary to speculation, we shall meet our MDG on health particularly if Members of Parliament use the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) effectively. This is one of the phenomenal happenings in this country which is going to have a tremendous effect on this economy in the next three to five years; that is the decentralisation of resources to the rural areas or grassroots or the decentralisation of resources through the CDF, Constituency Bursary Fund, District Roads Fund and Constituency AIDS Control Funds. These are making tremendous effects on local economies and they are really going to lead to the encouragement and boosting of micro and small enterprises in a big way.

Let me give you an example. I do not know what your experiences are. My experience however is that now when I drive along Kisumu rural markets, I find that bookshops are coming back. People are having bookshops and selling books. Why? Because the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology sent money to the schools directly to buy books. Teachers, rather than running to Kisumu to buy books which will cost them a *matatu* fare, will find a bookshop in the nearest market and people are very rational. The moment they know that money is available in schools, they will offer the services that the schools want. Secondly, in terms of equipment, rural workshops are coming back to make furniture and so on because Members of Parliament who are using CDF to buy desks for schools will demand those desks to be made in their constituencies. That is a way of creating jobs and getting political support. So, this is one of the ways by which what has happened is leading towards the regeneration of micro and small enterprises in the rural

areas more than before.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to encourage Members of Parliament to focus on this issue and to make sure that as much as possible, the use of the CDF is linked both to the provision of services that our people need in terms of health and education services and also in creating the jobs that people need in terms of making those equipment that are used in schools locally. I think this is how an economy grows. There is really no foolproof textbook theory on how economies take off. Let us be very frank about this. We may say that we need to take off like South East Asian countries but the way that South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore took off or Malaysia is taking off or India has taken off are very different because we are all subject to different histories and social formations. In that regard, Kenya will take off in a way that is also very unique. As my friend said, we are on the threshold of taking off. One of the elements of that taking off is this decentralisation of funds to rural areas.

Now, what the Government needs to do is to accompany this Sessional Paper with a very strong investment on infrastructure. During the public expenditure review we carried out in October last year, we found that the budget was not really in line with the Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS). However, we have done our best this year to ensure that the Budget will be in line with the Economic Recovery Strategy. If it is, then I do hope that the vision in the Sessional Paper of promoting micro and small enterprises will be supported by requisite investment in infrastructure.

One of the important aspects of this infrastructure are the polytechnics. Over the last 25 years, polytechnics have been a very sad story in this country. About a month ago, I took an extensive tour of the polytechnics in my own constituency---

An hon. Member: Village polytechnics!

The Minister for Planning and National Development (Prof. Anyang-Nyong'o): Whether we call them village or youth polytechnics, they are all polytechnics. I found that in one polytechnic which was closed about five years ago, anthills were growing in the offices and people were generally using the compound for a latrine. It means that it has not been in use and it is really being disabused. This is a very sorry sight and a discouragement to the people. It really shows the people that, we, as a Government, have very little respect for polytechnics.

As my dear friend said when he was talking previously, there is no way we will develop if we do not invest in tertiary education and middle level polytechnics. Fortunately, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in the Sessional Paper that we recently discussed, has an emphasis on this. We too in the Ministry of Planning and National Development are focused on this issue. In fact, as I speak, there is an inter-Ministerial delegation currently visiting Thailand to study particularly this issue following the Presidential State visit to Thailand last year. The point that we must make here is that these things are inter-linked and what we are reading in the Ministry's Sessional Paper is really in line with what the Government is doing within the context of Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation. But as we know, when a vehicle has been stagnant for a long time, the engine and the doors are rusted. In addition, rats and moths are living in that vehicle. So, to get it going we need not only electricians to put together the electrical works in the vehicle, but we need also people to panel beat it. We need people to come in with vacuum cleaners. Then we need to begin tuning the engine and pushing it. Now, the economy of Kenya was in such a state when we took over. It was like a vehicle that had been stagnant for a long time; with rust everywhere and rats and moths living in it. We have put in Motion, through the ERS, the process of restarting it. The fact that we are now recording 2.8 per cent rate of growth as of this year, shows that there is actually success being made.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say something rather global about economic recovery. What Kenyans do not realise is that, an economy will grow if the people have a positive attitude about themselves and if they also have a "we-can-do-it" attitude. But if people adopt a culture of *lalamikaring* all the time, they cannot have a positive attitude about economic recovery. One of the things that encourage me about small and micro enterprises in the rural areas---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Prof. Anyang-Nyong'o, you said a culture of doing what?

The Minister for Planning and National Development (Prof. Anyang-Nyong'o): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said it is a culture of *lalamikaring*.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): What is that?

The Minister for Planning and National Development (Prof. Anyang-Nyong'o): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a culture of complaining all the time. It is a new word in the English language.

(Laughter)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what encourages me about small and micro enterprises in the rural areas is that our farmers are very positive. Over a month ago, I went home and toured the constituency extensively. I found out that 90 per cent of the land had been prepared for cultivation, waiting for the rains. Now, the people know that the rain may or may not come, depending on which side of the bed God wakes up. But they are positive. What is really sad is that last week when I went home, I found that the rain came once and they planted. The crops are up, but the rains have not come again. But our farmers are still positive.

Now, it is us in the Government who must then support them by providing the infrastructure. This is why I think it is extremely important for us all in this House to call for a green revolution in our nation. We should call for an enhanced investment in irrigation and water management. The Ministry of Water and Irrigation can never have been more important to this nation than today. Unless we go the irrigation way, we will disappoint the positive attitude of our farmers who never complain, but season to season faithfully cultivate their gardens waiting for rain. Because we cannot dictate to God what to do about the rains, we can help Him bring the rains by doing afforestation. We are lucky that in this nation, we have my dear friend, Prof. Wangari Maathai, who is a Nobel Laureate on environment. Let us make use of this fortune to engage all the small, medium and large-scale farmers and all the Members of Parliament in their Constituency Development Fund (CDF) to concentrate some of the money on afforestation, so that the rains can come. So, we have two responsibilities to the small-scale farmers in the countryside; to invest effectively in afforestation and irrigation and water management. If we do so, then the 450,000 jobs that are created every year in the micro and small enterprises will even increase. As the MDG experiment has shown in Barsauri Village in Siaya District--- This is a micro-experiment that the Government is doing to find out the kind of resources that small-scale farmers need to meet Millennium Development Goals. It has been shown that, with requisite resources, those small-scale farmers can quadruple their production and produce grains, not just for home consumption, but for the market as well. In which case, the market access that my friend was talking about becomes very important.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like our Members of Parliament to join us in this endeavour; to be positive about our nation and to ensure that when we are talking about Economic Recovery for Wealth and Employment Creation, it is not just for the NARC Government, but it is something for posterity. Unless we do so, our children and children's children will hold us responsible for not having been positive in the development of this nation when we should have been.

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

Mr. Mwandawiro: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, asante sana kwa kunipa fursa hii nichangie mapendekezo haya ya sera kuhusu kuendeleza viwanda vidogo vidogo, biashara ndogo ndogo na uchumi. Kwanza, mimi naunga mkono nia ya mapendezo haya yenye lengo la kutatua tatizo la ukosefu wa kazi, kukwama kwa uchumi, kutoendelea kiviwanda, watu wa kawaida kutoendelea kibiashara na umaskini kuzidi katika nchi yetu. Matatizo hayo lazima yawafanye viongozi, hasa wale wanaoshikilia hatamu za Serikali, kutolala usingizi. Ni matatizo halisi.

Jambo la muhimu ni kwamba, nchi yoyote duniani haiwezi kuweka msingi imara wa kiuchumi ikiwa haijitoshelezi kwa mahitajii yake ya kimsingi kama chakula, nguo, afya na vitu vidogo vidogo vya nyumbani kama vitanda, viti na kadhalika. Watu wanaweza kusoma na wawe na shahada nyingi. Lakini ikiwa hawawezi useremala, kujenga nyumba, kuweka mifereji katika nyumba, kuweka waya za umeme na mambo mengine, hatuwezi kuendelea. Nina furaha sana kwa sababu Wizara ya Elimu, Sayansi na Teknolojia na Wizara ya Leba zimependekeza sera hiyo. Wamegusia juu ya vyuo vya kiufundi. Tusiposisitisa vyuo vya kiufundi, yaani *village polytechnics*, tutakwama. Hatutakuwa na uwezo wa kuendelea. Ukiangalia uchumi wa sehemu za mashambani, unaendelezwa na kushikiliwa na vijana waliohitimu kutoka vyuo vya kiufundi. Wao wanafanya useremala, wanajenga nyumba, *wiring* na mambo yote ambayo ni mahitaji ya kimsingi. Kwa hivyo, ikiwa tunataka kuendelea kama taifa, lazima tulenge kabisa kufanya uchumi wetu kujitegee! Kila mtu awe na mahitaji ya kimsingi.

Bw. Naibu Spika Wa Muda, tukiangalia historia yetu, wengi wetu tumesoma na tuna shahada mbali mbali. Lakini tumeshindwa na mababu zetu. Uchumi wa mababu zetu ulikuwa unalenga kujitosheleza kwa kila hali, hasa chakula. Watu walikuwa na chakula chao, cha kuku na mifugo. Vile vile, walikuwa wanajijengea nyumba kutoka kwa mali ya asili karibu nao. Kwa vile walikuwa na moyo wa kujitegemea, walianza kugundua kuwa udongo una chuma. Waliweza kuyeyusha vyuma vya kila aina na kutengeneza vifaa kama jembe. Walielewa majina ya miti na umuhimu wao. Lakini kuna kasoro na elimu tulionayo sasa, ambayo imetokana na ukoloni, na nia yake ni kuendeleza ukoloni mamboleo. Elimu hiyo pia imechangia hali ya kutegemea. Hiyo ndiyo sababu Waafrika hawawezi kuendelea kama vile Mwalimu Nyerere alivyosema. Kutegemea mtu mwingine kwa kitu chochote kile ni vibaya. Lakini kutegemea mtu hata kwa akili ni vibaya zaidi. Tulivyo sasa, inaonekana kwamba vile tunavyopanga sera za kiuchumi na misingi ya falsafa zetu, tunategemea wazungu weupe, Wajapani na sasa Wachina! Labda kesho, kwa sababu Wahindi wanakuja kutoka India, watatuokoa! Eti tukiwa na demokrasia nzuri, tukiondoa ufasidi ndani ya nchi hii na tukiwa na heshima nzuri, hao watu watakuja kutuokoa. Ndiyo sababu tuko na tume nyingi kama zile za akina Blair na NEPAD. Zinamwambia Mwafrika: "Fanya heshima! Ukichunga haki za binadamu, uwe mtu mzuri ambaye anaangalia demokrasia na uwache ufasidi, hata kama utakubali mambo ya ushoga na uende dunia ya sasa, tutakupatia pesa na kukusadia." Hizo fikra ziko ndani ya Serikali yetu, Mashirika yasiyo ya Kiserikali na hata sera za kielimu na habari zote ambazo tunazisikiliza kila siku. Kabla hatujajikwamua kutoka kwa fikra kama hizo na kujiona kama binadamu wengine--- Mababu zetu waliweza kujitegemea kwa uchache wao. Hata sisi, tukishikana vizuri na kuangalia rasilmali tulizo nazo, mali ya asili na rasilmali ya binadamu, halafu tuweke mikakati yetu ya kielimu, sayanzi, na mipango yetu ya uchumi, tunaweza kujikwamua katika hali

tuliyonayo na kuanza kuendelea kama mataifa mengine. Lakini, hiyo kasumba lazima itoke ndani ya akili zetu.

Tukishatoka hapo, tutafika katika hali ya kujaribu kugundua dunia. Dunia kama ilivyo sasa, inalenga utandawazi, yaani *globalisation*. Tunaweza kuamua kuendelea na sera zetu kwa ujumla. Tunaweza kufuata falsafa ya maendeleo ya kibepari au ile inaangalia hali ya watu, yaani, *socialism*. Tukiamua kufuata sera kama tulivyoamua sasa - ile ya ubepari - itakuwa vigumu kuendelea kwa sababu ya mikataba ya kimataifa tuliofungisha watu wetu bila idhini yao. Muda mfupi uliyopita, tulikuwa tukila *chips* na kuku kutoka kwa mama wetu kutoka Kiambu, Githunguri na Murang'a. Lakini hao pia tumewafungulia mashindano. Sasa, *chips* zinazwa na watu kutoka nje. Hata katika uwekezaji wa rasimali, mpaka sasa hatujaweza kutenganisha maana ya uwekezaji wa watu wetu wadogo na wale wenye pesa nyingi. Lakini sisi tunafungua milango yetu kwa uwezekaji kutoka nje, hata kwa uchuuzi. Kuna watu kutoka nje wanaochoma nyama, kuuza viazi, machungwa, mayai na mitumba wakisema ni wawekezaji. Mipango kama hiyo inapinga juhudi za biashara na viwanda vidogo vidogo kukua, pamoja na kilimo ambacho kinategemewa na watu wengi. Ni lazima tuwe na Sera za kutofautisha wawekezaji wa kutoka nje na wa hapa nyumbani. Wakati mwingine, ni wakora tu wanakuja kufungua kamari zao. Lazima tutofautishe hali hiyo. Uchumi uko na vitengo vinne. Sikubaliani na wanaosema ni makosa kutumia pesa nyingi kuwaajiri walimu, wauguzi au za kuwapatia watu kama mikopo. Huo si ukweli, kwa sababu kuna uzalishaji, uwasilishaji, usambazaji na ulazi. Katika ulazi ndio kuna soko. Tunapigiwa debe kuwa tuna uchumi wa kimasoko kwa nchi hii. Kuna watu wengi ambao wanaishi mashambani na humaliza mwezi kama hawajashika hata shilingi moja. Wanategemea mazao yao ya shambani au wanyama wao wanaowalisha. Kwa mfano, ukienda Kibera na mitaa mingine ya mabanda, utapata kwamba watu wetu ni maskini sana. Hata hawawezi kuingia katika maduka ya Nakumatt na Uchumi. Huo ni uchumi ambao mnasema kuwa ni uchumi wa masoko. Uchumi wa masoko hauwezi kuendeleza nchi hii mpaka tuondoe umaskini. Kuondoa umaskini ni kuwa na sera za maksudi za kuwapatia wananchi fedha mikononi mwao.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tutawapatia hizo fedha ikiwa tutakuwa tukitenga labda Kshs10 bilioni kwa kila bajeti ya kuwapatia wananchi moja kwa moja. Simaanishi kuwa tuwapatie pesa hizi bure. Inafaa kuwaajiri katika kazi ndogo ndogo. Hata unaweza kwenda katika sehemu za mashambani na useme kwamba, mtu yeyote anayetaka kufanya kazi ya kuboresha mazingira, kama kupanda miti au kutengeneza barabara katika mashule ama kwenye miradi mbali mbali, atakuwa analipwa, kwa mfano, Kshs5,000 kila mwezi. Ikiwa kila mtu atalipwa Kshs5,000 na katika kila nyumba kuna watu watatu, watakuwa wanaleta Kshs15,000 kila siku kwenye nyumba hiyo, na wataweza kula nyama, na utanza kuona vibanda vya kuuza nyama mashambani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kawaida katika sehemu za mashambani utapata kwamba, maduka mengi yaliofunguliwa yameanguka. Mwenzangu aliyechangia mbeleni alisema kuwa unaweza kuanzisha biashara leo, labda umestaafu lakini unapata kuwa biashara hiyo inaanguka baada ya miaka mitatu. Kwa nini biashara hazifaulu katika sehemu za mashambani? Hii ni kwa sababu watu wetu ni maskini. Hakuna hela sehemu za mashambani. Watu wanaopata hela sehemu za mashambani ni walimu tu. Kuna watu wachache wanaopata hela ambao wanaweza kununua nyama, unga na vyakula vingine. Kwa hivyo, ni lazima tuwe na sera za maksudi za kuwawezesha wananchi kupata hela. Tukifanya hivyo, tutakuwa na uchumi ambao unakua.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kugusia jambo la biashara ndogo ndogo. Lengo na shabaha ya mapendekezo haya ya sera ni kutoa changamoto ya kuwawezesha Wakenya wajiendeleze kwa kila vipawa, ili waweze kupata riziki na kazi katika hii nchi. Kuna sera zingine ambazo hazihitaji pesa. Inabidi tujikwamue kifikira. Kwa mfano, tunaweza kuendeleza wasanii wetu. Tuna wasanii waandishi, wachongaji, wachoraji na wanamuziki, lakini hakuna anayewakuza.

[Mr. Mwandawiro]

Ukiangalia televisheni za Kenya utadhani uko Sweden. Kuna wakati ambapo mtoto wangu alipotoka Sweden aliniambia: "Mbona hivi vipindi ni vile vile ninavyovitazama kule Upsurla ama Stockholm?" Hakuna tofauti, kwa sababu tumetekwa nyara kikasumba. Hatuna sera za kuwatetea watu wetu, heshima zetu na uhuru wa nchi yetu. Kwa hivyo, utapata kwamba, televisheni zinatonyesha ghasia zote. Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, leo asubuhi tulikuwa tukizungumzia juu ya sera ya kukabiliana na tatizo la makosa ya ngono. Na wakati fulani tabia hiyo inaendelezwa kupitia kwa hivyo vyombo.

Wasanii kutoka Ghana wanang'ang'ana na kujiimarisha katika utengenezaji filamu. Filamu kutoka Ghana zinapendwa sana na Wakenya kwa sababu zinagusia hisia na hali halisi ya Mwafrika. Kwa hivyo, tunapaswa kufanya hivyo makusudi ili tuendeleze sera ya muziki wetu. Katika nchi hii, wanamuziki wanavipawa mwafaka, lakini hawana ala za kuchezea muziki, na hivyo basi wao hunyanyaswa. Kwa hivyo, tukiwasaidia na sera kama hizo, tutajikomboa kitamaduni na kupata njia ya kujiendeleza.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, uimarishaji wa kilimo unaambatana na mipango mingi. Kuna ile fikira ya kwamba, ili tuweze kuendelea, ni lazima tuwe na bidhaa na huduma za kuuzia mataifa ya kigeni. Ni muhimu kuwa na masoko ya nje, ili tuweze kuuza bidhaa na huduma zetu kwa mataifa mengine ndiyo tuweze kujipatia fedha za kigeni. Lakini, uchumi wa nchi huimarika iwapo lengo la msingi la nchi ni kutosheleza mahitaji ya watu wake. Ndiposa ninasema kwamba sera ya kuimarisha uzalishaji wa vyakula vya kienyeji na kuvuza, pamoja na utalii tulionao, unapaswa kuhusiana na uchumi wetu.

Wakati mwingine, ukiangalia vyakula vinavyoandaliwa katika hoteli za kitalii, utaona kwamba vyakula hivyo havina uhusiano wa makusudi na kilimo cha humu nchini. Tukiwa na sera ya kuendeleza uzalishaji wa vyakula vya kienyeji, na tusingitize kwamba kila hoteli ya kitalii humu nchini ni lazima inunue vyakula vinavyozalishwa humu nchini, na kuagiza tu kutoka nje vile vyakula ambavyo havipatikani humu nchini, tutapiga hatua kubwa katika uzalishaji wa vyakula vya kienyeji. Sera kama hizo zinahusisha utalii katika ukuzaji wa sekta ya kilimo nchini.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mimi nimetoka katika sehemu ya Wundanyi, ambayo inapakana na mbuga za wanyamapori za Tsavo Mashariki na Tsavo Magharibi. Ndani ya mbuga hizo kuna hoteli nyingi za kitalii. Lakini ukijiuliza hoteli hizo zina uhusiano gani wa kiuchumi na wakazi wa sehemu hiyo, utaona kwamba hazina uhusiano wowote.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kuharakisha ninayosema ili niwape nafasi Wabunge wenzangu wachangie Hoja hii. Nikiiunga mkono dhamira ya mapendekezo haya, ningependa kusisitiza kwamba jambo la muhimu ni kuzitambua rasilmali zilizoko nchini na kuwaunga mkono wale wanaozitumia rasilmali hizo. Kwa mfano, katika Wilaya ya Taita Taveta, kuna madini mengi sana. Watu wengi sana, hushughulikia uzalishaji wa madini hayo usiku na mchana. Biashara hiyo imenoga na inawaingizia wahusika mabilioni ya pesa kwa mwaka, lakina Serikali haishughuliki kuwatoza ushuru wanabiashara hao ama kuyaunga mkono makundi yanayojiendeleza katika sekta hiyo.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nikitamatisha mchango, ningependa kusema kwamba ninaiunga mkono dhamira ya mapendekezo haya, ambayo ni kuangalia hali halisi ya uchumi wetu ili tuweze kuzikuza rasilmali zetu na kuhakikisha kwamba tumepunguza umaskini nchini na kuongeza ajira. Inafaa tuchunge ili tusije tukaendeleza sera ya ubepari. Sera ya ubepari ina madhara yake. Tukiendelea kufuata sera ya ubepari, nchi hii haitayafikia malengo yake. Tuchukue mfano wa nchi ya **[Mr. Mwandawiro]**

Cuba, ambayo ina rasilmali chache. Lakini, nchi hiyo imezitumia rasilmali hizo vizuri na kuweza kusuluhisha matatizo mengi kama yale yanayotukabili.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaomba kuiunga Hoja hii.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Mwakwere): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, development of a country depends on the output of its people. The majority of our people are poor. But as a people in leadership, we must make sure that we enable them to come up with activities that will generate income for themselves, to improve their lifestyles and contribute, overall, to the growth of the country's economy.

I remember the 19th Century economists came up with factors of production which include labour, land, capital and entrepreneurship. Whatever we do has to revolve around those four factors of production. It is a question of how we develop those factors to ensure that we empower our people effectively. Let us take the question of entrepreneurship. We have small and micro-enterprises all over the country, but the biggest problem is that people do not know how to manage those small enterprises. We need to have institutions that will empower our people to manage their small enterprises. Many of them do not know that they can access capital, yet that is a very important factor of production. We need to have micro-finance institutions, or even at a higher level for those who are advancing to medium-scale enterprises. We need to empower people with knowledge and skills. We have many people who have graduated from youth polytechnics with skills in certain areas, but they do not have the entrepreneurship to take advantage of the knowledge that they have acquired.

It is, therefore, extremely important that in order to give them a kick-start, we empower them with knowledge on how to manage enterprises over and above the skills that we impart to them through institutions. While we do that, it is important that we look at where people are coming from. We need to take advantage of the lifestyles that people are living. In other words, if people are pastoralists, we need to identify activities that will generate income and empower them, and look at the comparative advantage of what they already have and develop what they have to levels where they can market their products for the generation of income.

That brings in the question of marketing. However much skills we give to our people and even if we empowered them financially, if there are no markets for them to sell their wares, then all that effort comes to naught. I am pleased to note that we have, in East Africa, an annual exhibition of micro and small enterprises where we have a look at what people are producing and what can be marketed or sold in the other countries or within the region. The creation of markets is extremely important. But that can only be done with the assistance of the Government, and the Ministry of Labour and Manpower Development, particularly. If we take the example of that Ministry as the most important organ in ensuring that micro and small enterprises are empowered, that people receive skills that are identifiable with the market, that micro-financing is made available, it is unfortunate that we have taken this most important Ministry, which deals with employment and creation of income with a budget of just Kshs700 million and all that money goes to salaries and other personal emoluments. All that money is used to pay salaries and other personal emoluments. We need to raise the amount of money we allocate to the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources Development in order to empower it sufficiently and ensure that youth polytechnics do not just become buildings and wasted areas. The youth polytechnics should be given equipment and teachers so that they can truly turn into institutions of imparting knowledge and creating the desired change. That can only be done if Parliament allocates more money to the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources Development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, since we have the ambition of ensuring that our economy grows at a higher percentage than what is the case at that moment, then, we need to deliberately give the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources Development a number one slot in terms of the amount of money allocated for development purposes. If we fail to do that, we shall not be able to create jobs, generate income for our people to improve their lifestyles and even create

markets within the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have, as an example, a country called Cambodia. It has no mineral resources and it only makes use of its natural resources just like Kenya. However, Cambodia has made tremendous improvements and it is virtually outside the poverty line. Cambodia came up with a policy which it calls: One Cambon, one product. A Cambon is a village; therefore, one village, one product. The villagers assist in the production of goods that can be marketed internationally. If it is basketry, the villagers will concentrate on the weaving of baskets of international standards and even create greater interest in buyers. That is exactly what we tried to do with the *ciondo*, but the far East countries decided to improve on it through a village activity and now records show that those countries are making more money internationally from *ciondos* than where the item originated.

It is important to ensure that all these is done through a co-ordinated approach by the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources Development in constituencies. We have decided to take constituencies as the focal point of our development. The Ministry of Labour and Human Resources Development should be sufficiently empowered to ensure that every constituency has two or three youth polytechnics that have facilities; people are enabled to engage in micro and small enterprises by accessing them money to start these activities; and constituencies are empowered in identifying markets and assisted in all areas related to the generation of income through micro and small enterprises. That way, we shall make tremendous strides in improving not only the lifestyles and incomes of the people in the villages, but also the income and economic development of the country to a very large extent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is important to note that the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources Development, through micro and small enterprise development, can truly generate jobs in this country. In fact, even the promised 500,000 jobs would be an underestimation because with micro and small enterprises people do not wait for jobs to be advertised in the newspapers, they do not have to present their curriculum vitae and application letters to anybody, rather they create employment themselves. It is known that micro and small enterprises can create employment of between 1 to 50 people. This can be done in the villages and it will, indeed, improve the income of our people and their lifestyles. In the process we shall be able eradicate poverty once and for all.

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

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Prof. Maathai): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me this opportunity to contribute towards this very important Sessional Paper.

I want to focus my contribution on kiosks because they are, in many ways, a very excellent form of micro enterprise. It is an area where our people have invested a lot of creativity and a lot of time and energy. We have seen illiterate people and even graduates invest in kiosks. However, I think that we have not, as a Government, supported the kiosk owners.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, kiosks are relatively unkempt. Unless you deliberately want to support kiosk owners, especially the ones that are close to where you live, you do not want to enter in them because they are not enticing. There is disorder and uncleanness. We all know that there is no water and toilet facilities in kiosks. One wonders how kiosk owners, especially in crowded estates keep cleanliness. How clean are the vegetables, fruits and the tomatoes at the kiosk? The City Council, with the help of the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) sector should create pro-type kiosks that are not too big for people to sleep in, but small enough for people to sell goods that can generate enough income. Is it not possible for kiosks to specialise in certain commodities, for example, vegetables, so that we can bring a certain amount of order and

cleanliness in kiosks? If this was done, we could systematically improve kiosks and create many jobs, including jobs for graduates who are not able to get formal jobs. They could probably generate more income from such businesses than they could earn in some formal jobs.

I also believe that if kiosks were better managed, cleaner, in clean environments and were provided with basic sanitary services, it would be possible for many of us to even stop there and have a cup of tea. I must admit that quite often, you do not want to stop at a kiosk and have a cup of tea, *uji* or *githeri*. You do not want to stop there and eat because you just do not feel that there are adequate sanitary provisions. Even before we start thinking of other inventions, we should first improve and perfect this one invention that our people are so good at.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a time when the City Council of Nairobi had made sure that at every strategic place, there was a toilet. Although we do not want to say that we return the toilets of the 1920s, we should have adequate toilet facilities in a city like Nairobi. It is, to a certain extent, a reflection of how we think about ourselves, that we do not provide our people with adequate toilet facilities. It is dehumanising, very frustrating and shaming to see adults standing by the hedge and urinating in a way that should not be done. That is not hygienic. What do you think people think about you when you are urinating next to the hedge? The City Council of Nairobi should provide us with adequate sanitary facilities.

We can generate very many small-scale enterprises through the tourism industry. If you go to countries where tourism is a major sector, you will find that there are many small-scale enterprises that are catering for tourists. We have *ciondos*, carvings and such things in this country which are sold to tourists, and I know that, as a Government, we spend a lot of money going all over the world trying to sell our country as one worthy of visiting as a tourist destination. I am one of those people who is constantly telling people: "Kenya is a great tourist destination." But believe me, we could get even more tourists without going all over the world telling people how beautiful Kenya is by just working hard and, first and foremost, making Kenya a clean country; a country where people will come and say that they have never seen such a clean country. It does not take much for us to decide as a Government, that we shall not allow the production of thin plastic papers, which I have talked about in this House on many occasions and which now make our countryside an eyesore. There is no reason why we should make our country look so dirty and filthy just because we cannot stop the production of that very thin plastic.

There is no reason why we could not ensure that, indeed, when tourists walk through the city and they want to stop at a place where they can see Kenya and Kenyans, they can stop there and they do not have to go into one of those major hotels and confine themselves to those hotels and, therefore, be unable to see Kenyans in the streets. If you have those little kiosks along the verandas and along the corners where you can even sit two or three people but in a clean decent place, then tourists would be very happy to sit there and watch the Kenyan world go by. These are some of the issues that make people want to come back; they will remember how they sat down in a clean and safe place and saw how buses and *matatus* were moving along the streets.

So, even before we think of all the wonderful things that we can do as the Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs), if only we could improve what we already have, first and foremost by investing in making our country clean. Nobody likes to visit a dirty country, and many of the tourists come here because they have everything they want, and now they want to see the world. They are not interested in seeing dirt, dirty people, neglected children, or beggars on the streets. They come here because they want to see a different world and, believe me, when they come and if most of what they see of us is filth, begging, dirty and neglected children on the streets or people who are just interested in snatching their handbags; and when they see how we react to those thieves who snatch their handbags by literally beating them to death, no such tourist will come back to our country, and

many of them will tell their friends: "If you want to see Kenya, make sure that when you get to the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, board a decent and well known company bus and be taken straight to the Maasai Mara or to any other lodges, but for goodness sake, do not stay in Nairobi because while there, you will be mugged, begged, meet dirty neglected children, beggars and anything that you do not want to see."

So, I just wanted to say that it is very good to think about the MSEs and how we can become very creative, but we can just improve what we already have, for example, tourism, which could be a major source of employment in our country and it could generate a lot of income for MSEs. But we actually act in a way that prevents tourists from coming to visit our country, and we end up spending a lot of money by taking people abroad to market Kenya as a tourist destination. I wish they could use that money to clean the city, provide public toilets, remove street children from our streets and deal with the street beggars. That way, when tourists visit our country, they are the ones who will go back to their countries and sell Kenya to the other people. Tourists do not buy and eat the healthy fruits, for example, the apples, which are imported from South Africa when they visit this country because they are sold in filthy *kiosks* and handled by people with dirty hands. If you visit Thailand, which an hon. Member has talked about a while ago, you will find thousands of people selling food in the streets. You will sit by the side of the street in that country and eat food to your satisfaction instead of going to big hotels. If you buy food from the street vendors, you help the micro and small enterprises to develop. You will not see such a thing in this country because of the problems I have talked about.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also very important for us to develop certain values which will help us develop the micro and small enterprises. We must develop the value of honesty and trust so that when people from other countries visit this country, they trust and respect us. We should also be orderly. These are some of the values which make other countries very attractive to tourists. Why do you think a country like Italy receives more tourists than any other country in the world? It is partly because of their culture, buildings and history, but it is also because the citizens of that country know that you are a customer who has visited their country. They will sell a commodity to you at a fair price. They do not rip you off because they think you are a *Mzungu* and, therefore, you have a lot of money. They realised that if they ripped you off, you will not return to their country.

It is also important for us to develop skills, which we have virtually lost, for example, making *ciondo* and baskets. As the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mwakwere said earlier on, making of *ciondo* was our skill. However, we make those products and sell them to tourist. We do not carry *ciondo* but instead we prefer carrying polythene paper bags. It is very important for us to respect our skills because they make us feel proud of ourselves. The tourists who come here want to buy what we produce and do not want to buy the same handbags they can buy in London or Rome. Tourists want to buy something which is unique and Kenyan. We will not make the products tourists want to buy unless we have the skills, technics and confidence. We should be confident and proud of what we produce.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to share an experience I had when I taught economics to women whom I planted trees with. I wanted them to understand why we are poor and how we can alleviate poverty. I asked them to list all the things they would buy if they were going home that day depending on the money they had. They told me that they would buy a watch, clock, radio and a bicycle. Some even became ambitious and said they would buy a television and a torch. All these goods are manufactured in other countries. Nobody would say that they would buy even a *kiondo* that has been made in Kenya. They did so without knowing. I just asked them to list what they could buy if we were to go to the shop and they had enough money in their pockets. I also

asked them where they will get the money to spend. They told me that they would have sold potatoes, vegetables, milk, livestock, coffee, tea and sugarcane. Most of our people get their money from sugar or commercial crops and we all know the history of those crops. Those who grow them are among the poorest in this country for all the reasons that we know. Those who would sell the vegetables and livestock products are scrapping the land that we all know is becoming dessertified, depleted and degraded everyday.

Therefore, when those people put all their money together, they will realise that they have very little money. However, that little money that they get from these sources would be taken to the shopping centre. Whether it is in the villages or in major towns, all that money is syphoned back into the city and into urban centres. Much of it is also syphoned out of the country because the goods we are buying are not made in Kenya. We have become a society of consumers of goods that are made outside our country. Therefore, we will never be rich because whatever we make and whatever little comes from coffee and sugar is syphoned right back where it came from because of the goods that we are buying.

Until we are able to produce goods here, no matter how crooked and unsophisticated, until we have changed our minds so that we are willing to utilise goods that we make in our own country, we will continue to have all our financial resources syphoned out of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, only a few of us will continue to enjoy good quality life but the majority of our people will never rise above the poverty level. As Mr Mwandawiro said, those who are helping us are not helping us to produce but to consume. We must get out of that consumer market completely and make ourselves little producers, no matter how small.

When I was growing up, I remember that people would buy materials and one very popular dress that young girls of that day would buy was called *hariri*. It was Japanese-made. It was very soft and very bright. However, the moment you put it in water, all the colour came off. Therefore, if you wanted that dress to remain nice and beautiful, you never washed it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, today, Japan is not making *hariri*. Japan is the second most powerful economy in the world. They are making the best but they started with *hariri*. I am sure before that, there was something else even less sophisticated. We must stop thinking that we can only survive if we consume the most sophisticated products coming from other countries. We must learn to produce our own goods.

The boxes that are being produced at Gikomba Market have been produced there for years. Why is it that we have not moved from there to another level? It is because we, as a Government, are not investing there.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members! Prof. Maathai, you still have time if you will want to continue. You have a balance of ten minutes when the debate on this Motion resumes.

Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 28th April, 2005, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.